

## No animal testing

LAURA RUPPEL  
staff writer

How much thought goes into the items you toss into your shopping cart and purchase while at the store? Evaluate the criteria for which brands you select while perusing the countless shelves and aisles.

Do you go with the cheapest? The one recommended by a friend? The one everyone else is buying? The one with the cutest packaging and look? The one you saw endorsed by a familiar, famous face while watching television the night before?

Have you ever bothered to skim through the product's ingredients and information on the back? I'll be the first to admit I've been guilty of not doing my research in the past, but now the deciding factor for everything I buy is determined by one concise, yet important phrase: "this finished product is not tested on animals."

Millions of Americans purchase products experimented on animals daily, not because they support these behaviors, but because they are oblivious as to which corporations conduct such trials. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, (PETA), has compiled lists located on their website, updated weekly, of both businesses that do and do not test their goods and merchandise on animals.

According to PETA, well-known companies on the "do test" list include: Axe, Clean & Clear, Clorox, Colgate, Coppertone, Crest, Dial Soap, Dove, Downy, Febreze, Garnier, Gillette Co., Johnson & Johnson, L'Oreal, Listerine, Maybelline, Nair, Neutrogena, Old Spice, Pantene, Suave, Sun Silk, Tide, Vicks, and

Windex.

Popular companies on PETA's "don't test" list include: Abercrombie & Fitch, Avon, Burt's Bees, Bath and Body Works, The Body Shop, Boscia, M.A.C. Cosmetics, OPI Nails, Revlon, Smashbox Cosmetics, Stila Cosmetics, Tarte Cosmetics, Too Faced Cosmetics, Trader Joe's Company, Urban Decay Cosmetics, Victoria's Secret, and Yes to Carrots.

Both lists in their entirety can be found on [www.peta.org](http://www.peta.org) under "companies that do and that don't test on animals." The businesses located in the do test category rightfully belong due to either the fabrication of animal-tested products or failure to adopt a perpetual "no animal testing" policy. Pharmaceutical corporations are not added onto the do test list because the law requires animal testing on such materials.

When you cannot find a particular brand or business on either list, you can research or contact the company as a concerned consumer. While deciding to write a letter or email straight-forward, PETA's website also provides suggested, helpful questions designed to receive the answers sought after.

If you have already purchased items involved with animal experimenting, finish what you're already using and simply avoid purchasing the same brand again. If the product has yet to be opened, you can return it and buy a cruelty-free alternative. You may also choose to donate what you have and select animal-friendly substitutes. Consider your options.

With so much variety stocked on those shelves, you can make the right decision and support the sale of cru-

## Two-faced religious leaders need confession

BRANDON BOYD  
opinion editor

Hypocrisy in religion is alive. Not that it has ever been dead, of course.

While I believe in God and consider myself to be a religious person, it's hard to take advice on how to live life and pray when pastors (not all, mind you. Probably not even most) are engaging in questionable activities.

Actually, questionable is a bad word. Illegal and completely immoral is more like it.

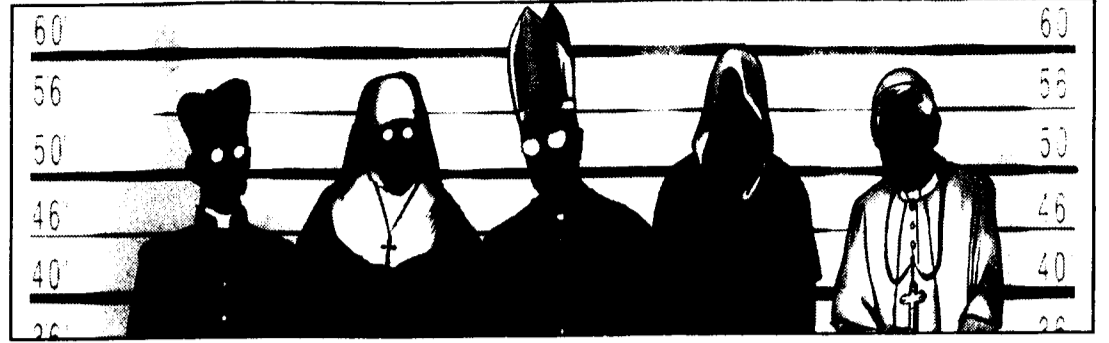
If you are unsure of what I am hinting at, I am referring to pastors taking advantage of underage boys.

With the addition of Atlanta-based pastor Eddie Long to the list of those accused of molesting underage boys, I feel the need to address the problem.

The list of pastors has grown as quickly as the list of celebrity women who would never go for me (at the top of the list: Katy Perry) and it's getting out of hand.

Then again, any number over one is getting out of hand.

Religion is a tough topic to tackle. Having to tackle those



who preach about it too, makes it even more difficult.

Though, now that I think about it, they likely wouldn't want me tackling them -- they go for younger guys.

In response to the allegations and the three lawsuits filed against him, Long, of course, issued a denial.

"I have devoted my life to helping others and these false allegations hurt me deeply, but my faith is strong and the truth will emerge," he said.

Thursday, something other than Long's comments emerged: pictures of Long in tight fitting shirts taken in a mirror that look similar to those pictures taken by teenage girls.

After the pictures were released, Long's attorney said the pictures did not substantiate the claims.

Of course they don't. Attorneys claim their murder clients are innocent too.

If the photos leaked, they were obviously sent to someone from Eddie Long. Why would Eddie Long send those type of photos to anyone for any other reason than to seduce them?

If someone is taking photos of themselves in shirts that look like they belong to someone much smaller and send them to underage boys, it's not going to be just to show off how muscular they are.

The media has made a big deal about the abuse in religion, specifically Catholicism within the past few years, but it still hasn't seemed to have stopped.

How can people listen to

those who preach about religion and then engage in those types of activities? I'm not a perfect person either, so this isn't a "holier than thou" spiel - but c'mon.

Enough is enough. The hypocrisy is practically dripping from the rooftops of churches.

"I have been through storms and my faith has always sustained me," Long said.

And while his faith may sustain him, hopefully, the law doesn't.

Better start saying your prayers, Mr. Long.

That is, of course, if he is guilty.

And I've already gone ahead and assumed that he is. I told you I'm not perfect.

## NFL: Unpredictable

BRANDON BOYD  
opinion editor

When it comes to the NFL, it seems as though when we figure out all the answers, they change the questions.

In fact, the only thing we can expect from the NFL is that football will be played during their games.

Also, we can expect that the New Orleans Saints will be good.

Nearly everything else, however, has been surprising. The Tampa Bay Buccaneers, led by Josh Freeman, are 2-0.

That's two more wins than the Dallas Cowboys and Minnesota.

Combined, Tampa Bay is not that good, and Dallas and Minnesota are not that bad. Things will return to normal soon enough. Maybe.

The Houston Texans, with one of the best offenses since the St. Louis Rams' "Greatest Show on Turf," are 2-0 as well.

I, of course, am not surprised.

Then again, I'm a Houston Texans fan, and I think they will play well every year.

One thing I didn't expect, though, was that Texans runningback Arian Foster would lead the league in rushing after two weeks.

Believe it: The Texans are for real this year.

The same goes for the Steelers, no matter how bad the offense currently is.

Luckily for Steelers fans, their defense has stood tall, wreaking havoc on offenses.

With that kind of defense, they could put a Coke machine back at quarterback and still win.

Unfortunately, if they put a

Bills quarterback in, the Steelers wouldn't stand a chance.

No offense to Bills fans, but seeing Trent Edwards and Ryan Fitzpatrick play doesn't exactly inspire images of Jim Kelly.

Don't laugh, Cleveland Browns fans. Your team sucks too.

Speaking of sucking, how about the NFC West?

We could see the division winner sporting a losing record. If it happens, we'll change the 49ers to the 7-9ers.

In two weeks, we have also seen numerous quarterbacks (even for a game), Jason Campbell and Kevin Kolb could prove costly for the Titans and Eagles.

Speaking of the quarterback situation in Philadelphia, how about Michael Vick starting?

So let me get this straight: he beats dogs and gets arrested, but yet when he beats Lions he gets the starting job? Why the double standard?

While talking about teams with mascots that can fly, the Falcons look like they could be completely average. Or decent. Who knows?

The Jets and Ravens are in a similar scenario. We could see Super Bowl quality teams, or teams that fizzle out.

Other Super Bowl contenders not mentioned: Colts, Bengals, Packers, Bears, Redskins, Chargers.

Pretenders: Everyone else. There you go: opinions on 32 teams.

But with the unpredictability of the NFL, I'm sure to be wrong.

And I love it.



## Fashion faux pas causes pain

TALIA FINOTTI  
staff writer

We know it happens: it's that disturbing wardrobe malfunction that makes everyone cringe and shudder when we notice it. As we begin our day we see the people who wear clothes that they just should not wear... AT ALL.

One morning while drinking my chai tea latte, the only thing that gets me through the day, WHAM, I see it! A young woman, a more robust girl, had decided to grace the day in daisy dukes with her delicacies appearing to be out in the open. It was like a train wreck! It just came out of nowhere, and at those times you're not sure what to do. So you do the one thing that makes the most sense. Look

away. No sooner did I look away then BAM! an older gentleman, most likely a jogger, wearing a sweatshirt. As my eyes glance down I noticed the tightest and smallest gray jogging shorts in the world. Covered in sweat and exposing everything from his Chewbacca hairy legs that were bare until you reached the whitest part of his high thigh.

Then the worst part; all of his "goods" were bulging from every seam and opening of the pants. As he jogged the shorts bounced in the wind

and I could feel my eyes begging for mercy.

I walked away, well, more like ran away, and as soon as I felt that I found salvation it was quickly crushed. A young male wearing sagging oversized jean pants walked past me, and as he bent over there it was... NO BOXERS! NOTHING! I had finally let out a small disgusted sound completely appalled; I was surrounded by fashion idiots! I didn't wake up this morning to see peoples' junk! Usually I'm all about "what-

ever makes you happy," but there are some things you just DON'T do. I'm a bigger girl, but I don't get up in the morning and start thinking, "Hmm, I think I'll put on a mini skirt and a belly shirt." No, I would scare people away if I did that. I don't want to embarrass myself, and I don't want to make people run away from me.

It's all about having some dignity for what you are wearing. Maybe I'm old fashioned, and a little, well probably a lot more modest than some people, but the thing is there are just some things you don't wear. If it doesn't fit and you're questioning it, don't wear it! It will make things easier and less harmful.

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