

# NAMING THE NAMELESS

A new organization is fighting to bring the world's attention to abducted children forced into battle.



## WHIFF

The TCU Baseball team loses to Baylor Tuesday in Waco.

# TCU DAILY SKIFF

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2006

VOL. 103, ISSUE 89

## Religion department remembers professor, mentor

By SONA THAPA  
Staff Reporter

Daryl D. Schmidt, a John F. Weatherly professor of religion and former chairman of the religion department, died of colon cancer Tuesday morning.



SCHMIDT

David Grant, professor and current chairman of the religion department, said Schmidt was "a wonderful pres-

ence in the department." "Dr. Schmidt was a gentle, thoughtful, engaging scholar of the New Testament," Grant said. "He was a wonderful teacher and mentor to students and a bridge-builder among scholars with different approaches to the Bible."

Schmidt began his teaching career at TCU in 1979, teaching Hellenistic Greek and the New Testament and acted as the department chairman for six years. He finished his term last May and had been in Cali-

fornia on research leave since then.

Jack Hill, associate professor of religion, said Schmidt had a gentle spirit and a deep moral courage.

"I remember Dr. Schmidt as someone who was always creating community, especially among faculty and students in the religion department," Hill said in an e-mail. "He was also really committed to racial diversity and worked hard to open the process of hiring new faculty with new

perspectives and gifts in the department."

Grant said Schmidt was scheduled to go to Europe to study ancient biblical manuscripts and was planning to return to TCU in the fall.

He said Schmidt was the first person he met in the religion department almost 25 years ago and had many fond memories of Schmidt. Grant said he would often call Schmidt in California to ask for his opinion on things.

"He was a marvelous lead-

er of our department," Grant said.

Yushau Sodiq, associate professor of religion, said Schmidt will be missed by the department.

"He was a very nice colleague, dedicated and human compassionate," Sodiq said.

Sodiq said one of Schmidt's contributions to the religion department was developing a new TCU core curriculum that was implemented last fall.

Sodiq said he remembers

Schmidt as an approachable person who was willing to extend a helping hand to anyone.

Laurie Loken, administrative assistant of the religion department, said Schmidt's door was always open to his students. She said if a student came to Schmidt's door, he would stop what he was working on and give the student his full attention.

Plans for services were unknown at the time of publication.

## KNOCKOUT KNIGHTS



MEL EVANS / Associated Press

TCU's Jenna Lohse (40) and Vanessa Clementino are dejected as they stand with their teammates. The Lady Frogs fell to the Scarlet Knights 82-48 in Tuesday night's NCAA women's basketball tournament. Go to the Skiff online at [www.tcudailyskiff.com](http://www.tcudailyskiff.com) for complete game coverage.

## Friedman: Education, borders top concerns

By MICHAEL DODD  
Staff Reporter

Garbed in black and waving his ever-present cigar, independent gubernatorial candidate Kinky Friedman peppered publishers of Texas' largest newspapers in downtown Fort Worth on Tuesday with his campaign-related one-liners.

In a question-and-answer forum hosted by the Texas Daily Newspaper Association titled "How Hard Could it Be" — one of the Friedman campaign's primary slogans — Friedman entertained publishers using humorous anecdotes and quipped strategically about his three main platform issues: education, legalized gambling and border control.

"We're falling behind in public education ranks," Friedman

said. "We need to reverse that trend."

The education budget is the big concern, Friedman said, and legalized gambling can assist in increasing it.

Legalizing gambling is essential in Texas, Friedman said, who joked about the absurdity of its absence.

"The place that invented Texas Hold 'Em cannot even play it," Friedman said.

Shifting toward the question of border control, Friedman outlined his tentative Five Mexican Generals Plan. The plan calls for financial incentives to the Mexican government to patrol the border for illegal immigrants and drugs slipping into the United States.

See **FRIEDMAN**, page 2



TY HALASZ / Staff Photographer

Texas gubernatorial candidate Kinky Friedman fielded questions from members of the Texas Daily Newspaper Association Tuesday morning at the Worthington Hotel in downtown Fort Worth.

## House rejects plus/minus resolution

By ANDREA BEARCE  
Staff Reporter

After much debate, the House of Student Representatives voted against a resolution to support the implementation of a plus/minus grading system.

If passed, the resolution would have given the

House's endorsement to TCU's intent to invoke the grading system as early as fall 2007.

In the plus/minus system, a teacher would have the option of giving a student a grade with a plus or minus attached to it instead of just a base letter grade.

As a result, a B-plus would be given greater weight in calculating a student's GPA than the standard three points for a B, and a B-minus would be given less, for example.

Jason Ratigan, who authored the resolution, said the system would more accurately reflect

students' work in the classroom.

David Grant, professor and chairman of the religion department, said 80 percent of the top 118 schools use the plus/minus system, which Ratigan, a senior representative, said places TCU

See **SGA**, page 2

## Prepare for climate changes, speaker says



TY HALASZ / Staff Photographer

Geography professor at Michigan State University Harm de Blij lectures students and faculty about the importance of geography Tuesday morning in Dan Rogers Hall.

By MICHAEL BISHOP  
Staff Reporter

The world is in an ice age right now, a geography professor told a group of students and faculty members Tuesday morning in Dan Rogers Hall.

"Over the past billion years, the planet has, every several hundred million years or so, been going through an ice age," said Harm de Blij, distinguished professor of geography at Michigan State University. "We don't realize it because it is so salubrious and pleasant

and predictable out there, that we kind of can't imagine that we might fall off a cliff all of a sudden, environmentally."

The ice age was only one of many topics de Blij spoke about during the event, which was sponsored by the department of history and geography.

He discussed how the study of geography and climate has affected and will continue to affect world economic, political and social issues. De Blij said there are a few key crises

See **DE BLIJ**, page 2

By JOHN-LAURENT TRONCHE  
Staff Reporter

One California-based researcher said Tuesday he and his colleagues may be able to reproduce real-time brain activity in an artificial model the size of a human brain using just under 1 million computer processors by 2016.

Eugene Izhikevich, an award-winning researcher at The Neurosciences Institute in San Diego is a published author and specializes in nonlinear dynamical systems.

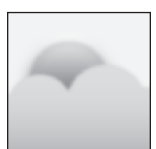
John Hopkins, a TCU graduate student in physics, said dynamical systems can be separated into two catego-

ries: linear systems and nonlinear systems. Hopkins said a network of nerve cells can be thought of as a nonlinear system.

Izhikevich's lecture, titled "Simulating large-scale brain models", showcased his research, which includes spiking neurons and using micro-circuitry to represent a part of the brain.

At The Neurosciences Institute on Oct. 27, Izhikevich and other researchers became the first in the world to simulate one second of activity in their artificial, human brain-sized model.

See **BRAIN**, page 2



### WEATHER

**TODAY:** Mostly Cloudy, 55/40  
**TOMORROW:** Partly Cloudy, 55/35  
**FRIDAY:** Sunny, 59/37

### FUN FACT

Striptease Artists Australia labor union has won rights for strippers to have overtime pay, rest period, meal breaks and maternity leave.

—ASSOCIATED PRESS

### TODAY'S HEADLINES

**OPINION:** Can you afford to keep coughing? page 3  
**FEATURES:** Exposing a rocker behind the lens, page 4  
**SPORTS:** Owens' arrival in Dallas ill-advised, page 6

### CONTACT US

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**FRIEDMAN**

From page 1

Through this plan, money would be placed in the bank accounts of five Mexican generals all overlooking a certain zone on the border of Mexico and the United States, Friedman said. As illegal immigrants are caught or drug rings are discovered by U.S. officials, money will be taken from the offending zone's general's account.

"Something has to be done," Friedman said, turning more serious. "Nothing has worked so far."

Friedman may be tackling difficult issues, but the question remains whether voters see him as a serious candidate.

Political science chairman James Riddlesperger said that while there are four main candidates running for governor, he thinks the incumbent Rick Perry should have a baseline 30 percent of the vote, a tough obstacle to overcome considering Friedman is still trying to get the necessary 45,000 signatures to get his name on the ballot.

Although the Friedman campaign is not releasing the actual figures for the petition, it is on track to even surpass the minimum count, campaign spokeswoman Laura Stromberg said.

"We have always planned on exceeding the requirement," Stromberg said. "We want to have extras in case the state invalidates a number of our signatures."

Riddlesperger said he understands why voters feel he is less serious than a governor candidate is expected to be, but he said he thinks Friedman may be misunderstood by the population.

"This may be slightly for self-promotion, and people might be put off by his jokes," Riddlesperger said. "But I read somewhere that he said he is most serious when he's joking. Kinky is going after the vote of the disillusioned voter; he's going after the 'honky-tonk' vote."

Friedman rounded out his discussion by saying that if young people vote, they can run Texas. He referenced the weight of young voters, a group he said he needs in order to take the governorship.

**DE BLIJ**

From page 1

which are of concern now.

The first of these, based on patterns of Earth's warming and cooling, is that the earth will again cool, very rapidly, and perhaps within a human lifetime, de Blij said.

He said although humans are contributing to global warming through pollution, it will not prevent the drop in temperatures.

"If we think that we can override nature's grand design, we really are more arrogant than we all speak," de Blij said. "Other creatures, in the past, have created huge alterations in the atmosphere and ... have been overpowered by these grand cycles."

De Blij said the change in climate must be considered in developing future strategy.

"We should be preparing not only for oil crises and terrorist crises, but we should be planning also for environmental change," he said.

Another key crisis he discussed involves China's future impact on the world.

Unlike the United States, China has allies in closer geographic proximity that could provide needed resources in the event of an extreme decline in global temperature. This would give them an advantage in this situation, de Blij said.

Knowing what is going on in the world can

best help its citizens prepare for the future, de Blij said.

"When it comes to geography, knowledge is power. There is no better way to get a picture of where we are in the world today, than through the lens of geography," he said.

Students expressed similar reactions to de Blij's speech.

"I think the whole world should hear it," said Lindsey Danielson, a senior general studies major.

Joseph Arnold, a junior history major, said he enjoyed the speech.

"He did a good job of making it both informative and entertaining," he said.

Arnold said de Blij discussed topics that had been brought up in other courses he is taking.

"The talk coincided with political issues we discussed in my Chinese military history class," Arnold said.

James Stevens, a senior geography major, said geography influences many subjects.

"(Geography) is interdisciplinary — topics such as economics, government and politics are all affected," Stevens said.

One student said she liked the way de Blij used a globe and hand-drawn diagrams to illustrate his points.

"Geography is a visual social science," said Lauren Geffert, a junior environmental science and geography major. "It was great to see what he was trying to explain."

**BRAIN**

From page 1

Using their two-hemisphere model, the simulation took 50 days and 27 3Ghz computers to process more than 10,000 terabytes of data.

Izhikevich said over time and with more research, he and his colleagues can learn more about the brain and its actions. He said this research may lead to explanations of what causes epileptic seizures, and how one day they may be preventable.

Born in Russia, Izhikevich said, a childhood dream of building artificial intelligence lead him to Moscow and eventually the United States, all the while learning as much about the human brain and mathematics as possible.

Now in San Diego, Izhikevich and his colleagues work to create autonomous robots, or as one of Izhikevich's fellow researchers refers to them, "nonbiological organisms."

While researching at the Mayo Clinic, TCU physics professor Bruce Miller said he read one of Izhikevich's research papers and became interested in his work.

Miller invited Izhikevich to speak as the 10th Annual Joseph Morgan lecturer.

The Joseph Morgan Lecture series allows for a guest speaker in the academic field of physics.

The lecture attracted about 30 students and faculty.

**SGA**

From page 1

in the minority.

Sheldon Pearson, representative of the School of Business, said that just because the top schools use plus/minus grading, does not mean the system is right for TCU.

Pearson voiced concern with the fairness of the system for students because teachers would decide individually whether to use plus/minus in their classes.

Multiple teachers may teach the same class, and one professor may use plus/minus while the other one would not, he said.

"We have to be fair to students," Pearson said. "I just don't like

that scenario."

Justin Brown, representative of the College of Fine Arts, said the current system does not accurately represent students' grades.

Under the existing system, a student with an 80 and a student with an 89 in a given class both have B's, which does not accurately reflect either student's grade, he said.

"People that are GPA motivated will still keep taking initiative and will get rewarded for it," Brown said. "Let's keep encouraging hard work, and let's try and discourage people that just stop when they know they're in the range of what they need."

Lindsay Beattie, representative of the junior class, said that while students would have to work hard-

er under the plus/minus system, it would serve as a motivating factor.

"We should try to push ourselves and try to work a lot harder, versus taking an apathetic route to our grades," she said.

Beattie said the plus/minus system would be in the best interest of the university and an overall better change.

Despite well-voiced support, the House failed the resolution with a vote of 28 to 9.

Ryan Johnson, representative of the College of Communications, said the failure of the bill simply unifies SGA's voice against the administration's decision to switch to the plus/minus grading system.

**"A PLUMBER, a POLICEMAN and a DOCTOR WALK INTO a BAR..."**

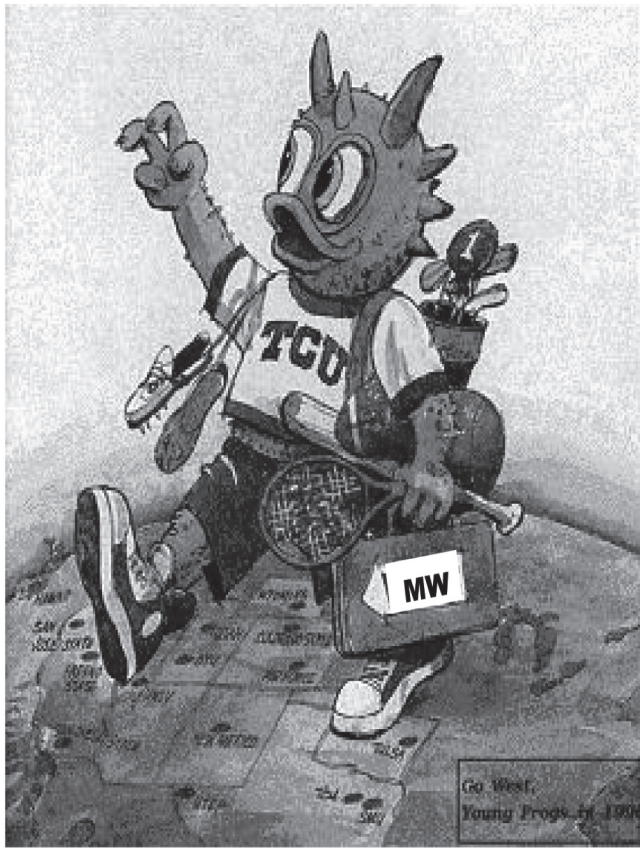
But it wasn't a bar for long. The local Police Department shut down Joe's Lounge for illegal drug activity. Instead of condemning the property, they contacted their local community coalition. The coalition brought in contractors who donated their time to renovate the building. And the doctor got his hospital to volunteer services for families that need drug counseling.

It's empty what happens when we all work together. Community coalitions become a better place for everyone, especially our children. Community coalitions bring other community groups together. And getting involved is easy. Just contact [www.heartcommunity.org](http://www.heartcommunity.org) or 1-877-8025-313. They'll tell you how your group can help. They'll be surprised how much you can accomplish.

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Office of National Drug Control Policy

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## SHAKY GROUND...

Only 14% of Californians have earthquake insurance; many think if the Big One comes, the government will come to their rescue.

— Associated Press

### THE SKIFF VIEW

## Student advising helpful addition

Toward the end of every semester, students head to their academic advisers to decide which classes they should take or to discuss the directions their degree plans are taking.

But what about the student with multiple majors or minors? Or the premajor? Or the student considering various options and doesn't know which direction to take?

Advisers may not be able to help these students sufficiently. They cannot necessarily answer questions about issues or classes outside the department, and they may not have time to fully discuss career plans and various options within the school.

Advising can significantly affect a student's process toward his or her degree and future. One bad class suggestion can make the difference between four years and five. Bad or one-sided information can lead students onto paths that won't take them where they want to go.

Academic advising, while helpful, is not always enough. Sometimes students need a different type of advice.

Now TCU offers peer advising, today through Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. in Sadler Hall 203 — not to replace academic advising, but to complement it. Students will be able to discuss with other students next semester's class schedules as well as career plans and issues outside their majors.

Now, instead of, or in addition to, contacting an adviser to discuss whether to finish writing emphasis courses within a major or outside of it, a student can discuss options with another student who has been there. Students may learn valuable lessons from others' experiences they will not be able to get from teachers.

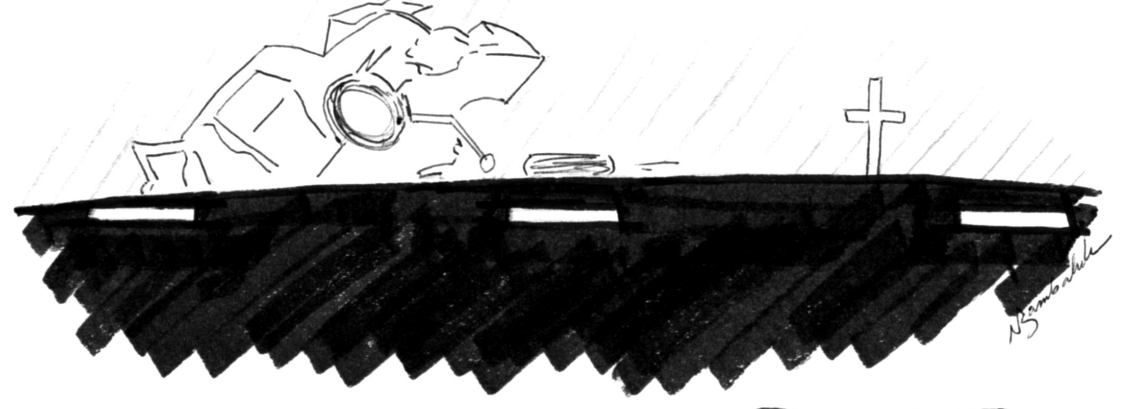
Adding an extra (optional) element to the advising process, as long as students continue to visit their academic advisers, is a step in the right direction. Having one student tell another student, "Watch out for this; I made this mistake, so you should avoid it" can be a valuable contribution to a college career.

As advising improves, so will students' academic experiences.

*Opinion editor Stephanie Weaver for the editorial board*

### NEWSREAL • NICHOLAS SAMBALUK

## THE ROADSIDE IS PAVED



## WITH VICTIMS OF DWI

# Human value equal; health care should not exclude

When you are halfway through your last semester, things can get a little stressful.

Whether you are the senior taking 20 hours just to finish things up or the one retaking the class after taking one too many tests with a hangover, it is a time for begging our bosses at internships to keep us on and sending out résumé after résumé hoping the next one will finally lead to an interview.

Parents only make things worse.

As if the almost daily check to see if you are applying for jobs isn't enough, some of them like to drop in the fact that, in many cases, come June 1, you won't have health insurance. Some insurance companies and state laws give a bit more time, but generally speaking, if you aren't a full-time student, you don't have

health insurance through your parents anymore.

Try as I might to retreat into that I-am-only-22-and-perfectly-healthy mind-set, stories of high school friends undergoing treatment for various types of cancer have a way of throwing reality back into my face. I can only hope their cancers can be treated. But if their cancer comes back years later after they've switched from their parents' insurances to those of their employers, chances are the cancer will be labeled a pre-existing condition, and they will have to pay for treatments out of pocket.

This shouldn't be something anyone has to worry about. It seems too simple: Get sick or injured, go to a hospital and get treated. Massive amounts of debt should not be a factor, but that is the nature of modern medicine. Treatments cost more and more, and health insurance is the only way the majority of people in this country can ever afford to be treated.

In the case of auto insur-

ance, this line of thinking is acceptable. If you are a careless driver, insurance companies won't take the risk to cover you because accidents aren't merely a high probability; they are inevitable.

It, however, is not ethical to apply the same logic to a human life.

There was once a time when if your house or business caught fire, the fire department would not put it out if you did not pay dues. But somewhere along the way, we accepted that it was the job of the government to provide public services for the good of everyone. Letting a fire burn down a building is a risk to public well-being. I would say that letting someone walk around untreated for tuberculosis or hepatitis because he or she doesn't have health coverage or money to get treatments is an even greater risk.

How is the person that lucks into a nice job right out of college, pays the premiums and then gets sick any more

deserving of treatment than the person who tries hard to find a job and gets sick before getting hired by a company?

I believe very strongly in the idea that those who work harder deserve more comforts in life. They deserve the nicer cars, the nicer houses, the frivolous but ever-entertaining consumer electronics. This person's life, however, is no more valuable than anyone else's.

This isn't a communist or socialist idea. It isn't an idea from just the Democrats. Republicans believe this deep down beneath the so-called conservative facade.

Wait until the debates leading up to the November election start, and see how many gubernatorial candidates talk about how Texas ranks near the bottom in health coverage for its citizens, specifically for children.

We all may disagree on how to get health coverage for everyone, but everyone, on some level, believes in the intrinsic value of human

life and seeks to protect it through health insurance.

Is the answer nationalized health care? Should the Medicare system be opened up for everyone?

It is true that everyone would be taxed more in this case, but I personally have no problem eating a box of mac-n-cheese a couple more times a week instead of a Chipotle burrito if it means I can walk into a hospital and get treated.

Those who believe health care should remain private will feed you stories about long lines and month waits for doctor's visits in England and Canada. To those individuals I say, ask someone with an HMO if he or she can get in to see a doctor for an annual checkup quickly. Regardless of your level of health coverage, slice your finger open, head down to the John Peter Smith emergency room on a Friday night and see how long it takes before you get stitches. Do this and tell me how guaranteeing health coverage will worsen our waits.

Maybe nationalizing the system is extreme. Maybe the answer is making all health care strictly nonprofit. Make it illegal to profit from the suffering of others unless you spend years in school learning how to treat the sick and injured. Bring to an end the days of executives and investors deciding who is deserving of treatment.

As it stands now, our system is severely flawed. If we are such slaves to bottom-line thinking that we are willing to sacrifice the individual on the altar of free enterprise, then maybe this nation is nowhere near as great as I so firmly believe.

Perhaps it is no more than another Rome, and efficiency is the fiddle our leaders play as it burns to the ground.

I believe that it is just a matter of time until everyone collectively agrees yet again: Efficiency be damned if it only results in suffering.

*Managing editor Brian Chatman is a senior news-editorial major from Fort Worth.*

### YOUR VIEW

## Fair Trade supports cost of coffee

I am writing in response to the article "Group pushes coffee campaign further" in the TCU Daily Skiff on March 8, 2006. Frogs for Fair Trade appreciates the recent coverage of our cause. However, we were upset to see that there were certain misconceptions about Fair Trade that the article treats as facts. Not only is Fair Trade not a brand, it will not destroy the Jazzman's brand or cause Jazzman's to go out of business.

Fair trade is a certification put on products — coffee, tea, chocolate, cheese and bananas to name a few — by TransFair USA. This certification shows that the product you are buying has been created in an environmentally friendly way that offers small-scale coffee farmers a fair price for their goods, almost like the minimum wage enforced for jobs in the United States. When consumers buy organic foods, they are not buying a brand, but a type of food, certified by the United States Department of Agriculture. Similarly with fair trade coffee, tea, and other products, people are buying a product that has been certified by TransFair USA. Fair trade is a certification not a brand.

While Fair Trade can cost

more than regular coffee, most brands that are certified do not. Currently at Jazzman's, the fair trade certified drip coffee is the same price as the regular drip coffee. The March 8 article discusses the current profits of Jazzman's:

"Jazzman's makes approximately \$16 from fair trade coffee each day, while it earns \$180 from regular coffee."

It should be noted that Jazzman's currently offers fair trade certified coffee only as a drip coffee; it cannot be put in the popular "fancy" coffee drinks using espresso or iced coffee. Considering this, it is impressive that fair trade certified coffee accounts for approximately 8 percent of Jazzman's daily profit. Let's give Jazzman's some credit. It is a business. It would not consider switching to a fair trade certified coffee brand if it thought it was going to put it out of business. If Jazzman's were to carry a full line of fair trade certified coffee, it is highly unlikely that it would go out of business because students would buy coffee just as they do now. Its sales may even increase because most customers are likely to buy a product when they know their money is not only appeasing their caffeine

addiction, but also helping people out.

Some people feel very far removed from the plight of these farmers. It is hard to comprehend the poverty of the rest of the world when most Americans have homes, jobs, cars, computers, etc. It is hard to find the motivation to find ways to help because it takes effort and sometimes a little extra money — money that we here at TCU can all afford to part with. Many people donated blood when Carter BloodCare came to campus this week. Students said they wanted to do something good and make a difference. This was a shared attitude across campus, the desire to help others and do something good. Supporting fair trade certified coffee, tea, and other products on campus, whether in Frog Bytes or in Jazzman's, is another way to do this. Buying fair trade coffee is not hurting anyone; it is not putting Jazzman's out of business and it is not taking away the prestige of other brands. It is helping poor, starving, exploited farmers feed their families and invest in their communities and futures.

*Kelly Hanson, freshman, co-programming coordinator for Frogs for Fair Trade*

### YOUR VIEW

## Lenten meaning represented in column

I enjoyed Kathleen Thurber's column "Make Lenten resolves count" very much because she touches upon some very important truths about the Lenten season. An important recognition is that we, as Americans, live in great abundance and surplus. That includes American Catholics, so when Lent rolls around, many times the Lenten sacrifices we end up making is only from our surplus, so, as Thurber pointed out, it's really not a sacrifice.

What this demonstrates on the part of most American Catholics is a lack of understanding on what constitutes "sacrifice" in the Lenten understanding of the word. Thus, while giving up chocolate for Lent may seem like a sacrifice to some folks, they are actually only giving up something that is surplus. What does giving up chocolate teach them, ultimately? That they can give up chocolate.

Does that put them closer to an understanding and appreciation for Christ's life and his sacrifice on the cross (one of the purposes of Lent)? Let's see, giving up chocolate versus dying on a cross. Spiritually speaking, it's not much of a comparison, is it? I'm not at all suggesting that Catholics need to

die on a cross to understand Jesus' sacrifice, but that they can do more than merely give up from their surpluses. So what to do? Thurber's column is a start. She highlights how often our sacrifices for Lent are actually "sacrifices."

The next thing to learn is an understanding of what is meant by a sacrifice. While we fast and abstain during Lent, what else can we do? How about going to Mass on Sundays on a consistent basis? How about going to confession on a consistent basis? How about reading Scriptures and books on Catholic teachings on a consistent basis? Already doing all that? Then how about donating time to homeless shelters or making visits to hospitals or prisons? Already doing that as well? Then how about the following?

Instead of fasting and abstaining only when we have to, why not push it further? How about fasting and abstaining for the whole Lenten season, and offering up that sacrifice for a certain cause? In this land of plenty and surplus, that would be a very big, noticeable sacrifice to make. And by letting others know what you're doing; they can help you and encourage you on your Lenten journey. The example that

you set could inspire them to look at their own life and how they are living it.

Such a sacrifice would be a real eye-opener, not just for you, but for others around you. And this is only one example. There are other things that you can do, but anything you do has to come with an examination of your act — to test if you are truly sacrificing or if you are doing something equivalent of giving up chocolate.

The way to sort that out is to ask, "Will it hurt, or merely be an inconvenience?" Giving up chocolate, while it may seem painful for some, is actually only an inconvenience. However, fasting and abstaining for all of Lent will hurt — it won't kill you, but it won't be easy. That will be the test if you're sacrificing, or just merely giving up from your surplus. Another indicator is how you've changed. After Lent, if all that's changed about you is the measurement of your pants size, then your sacrifice was lacking; but if you had a change of heart, then you did the sacrifice right.

I thank Thurber again for a wonderful column that will make a person think about what it truly means to sacrifice during the Lenten season.

*John P. Araujo, TCU Library*

### COURTNEY REESE

MIKE DWYER  
ADRIENNE LANG  
TRAVIS STEWART  
STEPHANIE WEAVER

### Editorial Policy

The content of the Opinion page does not necessarily represent the views of Texas Christian University. The Skiff View editorial represents the view of the five-person TCU Daily Skiff editorial

board listed at left. The Skiff View is the collective opinion of the editorial board and may not reflect the views of the individual writers. Signed letters, columns and cartoons represent

the opinion of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editorial board.

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e-mail it to LETTERS2SKIFF@TCU.EDU. Letters must include the author's classification, major and phone number. Skiff reserves the right to edit or reject letters for style, taste and size restrictions.



## PUPPY LOVE

Is your pet pawing at the door for some exercise? We take look at some students who balance class with pet ownership on Friday's Features page.

### SXSW COVERAGE



Courtesy of Barsuk



Courtesy of Barsuk



Courtesy of Barsuk

Austin musician John Vanderslice returned home from an European tour with Death Cab for Cutie for performances at this year's South by Southwest Music Conference.

### VANDERSLICE'S PHOTOGRAPHY



# Bringing indie rock down-to-earth

*Songwriter John Vanderslice balances pursuits in music and photography*

By SHERMAN DONEGAN  
Staff Reporter

In the world of indie rock, Austin-based musician John Vanderslice is an anomaly.

Over the past decade he has established himself as a jack of many trades through his accomplishments as a meticulous musician, prolific photographer and owner of the successful Tiny Telephone recording studio.

After the 2005 release of "Pixel Revolt," his fifth full-length album, Vanderslice toured Europe with rising stars Death Cab for Cutie before returning home for a handful of shows at last week's SXSW music conference.

While the touring schedule may seem intense, Vanderslice admits he stays pretty busy on the road.

"I spend more time on tour shooting photos than playing music,"

Vanderslice said.

Much of Vanderslice's photography focuses on the minute details amongst the grandiose. He seems to prefer the floor of an ancient cathedral or the beams of a skyscraper to the greater whole.

"Photography seems to me to be about selecting tiny windows of your visual and emotional life," said Vanderslice.

Fortunately for fans, Vanderslice's photography, in addition to his music and blog updates, can be accessed online at [www.johnvanderslice.com](http://www.johnvanderslice.com), a Web site dedicated to all of Vanderslice's creative endeavors.

When he's not touring or taking photographs, Vanderslice returns to Tiny Telephone, his sought-after analog recording studio in San Francisco's Mission district.

Established in 1997, Tiny Telephone boasts an impressive col-

lection of hi-fi analog recording equipment in addition to a growing clientele comprised of reputable record labels such as Matador, Merge, Saddle Creek and Sub Pop.

Tiny Telephone provides financial security for more risky artistic ventures, Vanderslice said.

"Tiny Telephone has allowed me to be more disorganized and more fussy," said Vanderslice. "And because it's now a semi-successful business I don't have to worry as much as I used to about paying rent and overhead for touring."

Vanderslice's two most recent albums, "Cellar Door" and "Pixel Revolt," were recorded and mixed at Tiny Telephone by longtime collaborator and friend Scott Solter.

Unlike other artists he's worked with, Vanderslice is always trying out new instruments and sounds,

Solter said.

"It's an egoless event," Solter said. "Where he's song writing, I'm sound designing, and there's a lot of bleeding over."

His humble attitude seems to extend to his personal demeanor as well. In an October article in the East Bay Express, Michael Alan Goldberg said Vanderslice "has a well-deserved reputation as one of the nicest, friendliest, most down-to-earth musicians in all indie pop-dom."

With the respect and admiration of numerous fans and fellow artists, Vanderslice has successfully carved out his unique niche in indie rock.

Does the notoriously do-it-yourself have any advice for aspiring musicians?

"Record quickly, and with resolve," Vanderslice said.

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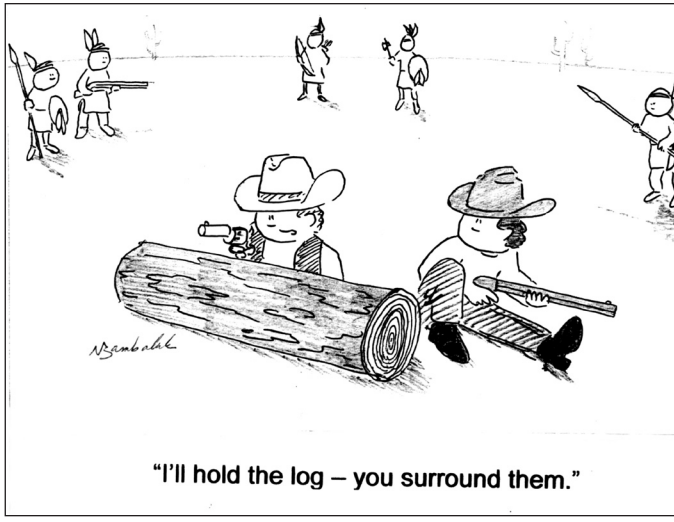


**FAMOUS QUOTE**  
 "Smoking is one of the leading causes of statistics."  
 — Fletcher Knebel

**TODAY IN HISTORY**  
 1974: The equal rights amendment is passed by congress. It is later defeated when too few states ratify the would-be 27th Amendment.

**Three Dimensions**

by Nicholas Sambaluk



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

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

See Thursday's paper for answers to today's Sudoku puzzle.

**Tuesday's Solutions**

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

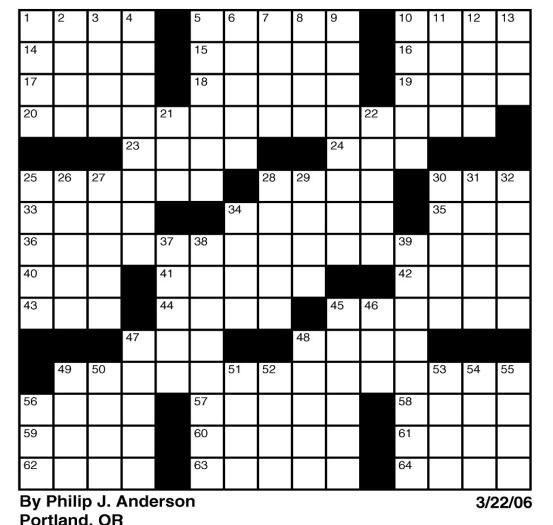
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- ACROSS**
- Husker from Minnesota
  - Victorious Super Bowl IV coach
  - Soprano Gluck
  - Give off
  - Crownlet
  - Requirement
  - "Two Years Before the Mast" author
  - Leek's relative
  - Sawbucks
  - Crow
  - Sock parts
  - Gumshoe
  - Engraver's instrument
  - Bambi and kin
  - Carpentry tool
  - "Dies"
  - On the wagon
  - Rocky peak
  - Hunt
  - Moving vehicle
  - Negatively charged ion
  - Part of B.A.
  - The Greatest
  - Tears
  - Admonition
  - May celebrant
  - Woody Guthrie's boy
  - Cap
  - Provocative look
  - Speckled fish
  - "la Douce"
  - Run off
  - School for Pierre
  - Aunts in Acapulco
  - Hardy girl
  - Warning words
  - Salinger lass



By Philip J. Anderson  
 Portland, OR

**Tuesday's Puzzle Solved**

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

See Thursday's paper for answers to today's crossword.

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## TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY

1888: English Football League established  
 1903: NY Highlanders (Yankees) tickets first go on sale  
 1934: 1st Masters golf championship began in Augusta, Ga

### COMMENTARY

## Valley Ranch too small for Terrell Owens' ego

And just when we thought the Dallas Cowboys might be getting better.

After the 2005 season's dynamite rookie draft, strong free-agent signings and signs of a decent run at the playoffs, America's team was poised to once again topple the NFC East and reclaim the championships of the glory days.

And then Jerry Jones pulled the biggest pistol he could find, loaded it, cocked it and shot himself right in the foot.

Despite all the inside reports and leaked rumors that the Cowboys' administration was considering signing superstar wide receiver Terrell Owens to a deal, those with any ounce of common sense steadfastly refused to believe it. There was no chance that a stickler like Bill Parcells would ever agree to coaching a petulant — yet remarkably talented — childlike T.O. There was even less of a chance that Dallas fans, who have developed a brooding hatred toward Owens, would ever accept the coming of a player that has so blatantly disrespected them in the past.

Or have we so quickly forgotten? Was it not six years ago that Owens — still donning the red and gold of the first team he destroyed — pranced his way to the central star of Texas Stadium to celebrate a touchdown catch?

Then did it again ... in the same game.

I'm not a Cowboys fan, but if I was, I'd sooner start supporting the Redskins than accept a team that "welcomes" a spot for a guy like Owens.

A guy who throws class-acts such as Eagles quarterback and ex-team-

mate Donovan McNabb under the bus. An obvious egomaniac who is far more concerned with the manner of celebrating a score than achieving one. An athlete who, while impossibly dedicated to his own fitness, fails to offer the slightest bit of loyalty to his teammates.

I still remember Owens' actions back in 2000 at Texas Stadium, when he ran to the Cowboys' logo and stretched high and wide, apparently basking in his self-made glory. But perhaps that outward thrust of the arms and backwards tilt of the head were not as much an affirmation of his abilities, but the birth of the cancer that we now know as T.O.

Although the 49ers are worse now than they were before Owens left in 2003, it is only in the standings — no one in their locker room would ever deny that. After one glory season in Philadelphia, the T.O. affliction struck again, leaving the Eagles out of the playoffs.

Guess who his next victim will be.

*Sports editor Travis Stewart is a junior broadcast journalism major from Sugar Land.*

### INCIDENTS IN OWENS' CAREER

2000: Celebrates two scores by standing on Cowboys' logo at Texas Stadium

2001: Accuses head coach of losing on purpose to protect opposing coach's job

2002: Signs football with Sharpie after touchdown, claims punishment racist

2003: Refuses trade to Baltimore Ravens; instead moves to Philadelphia Eagles

2003: Insinuates former teammate Jeff Garcia is gay, later recants statement

2005: Publicly criticizes teammate Donovan McNabb and Eagles organization

2005: Involved in altercation with Hugh Douglas; deactivated by Eagles, later released

### BASEBALL

## Baylor Bears crush Frogs

By TRAVIS STEWART  
 Sports Editor

The Horned Frogs didn't just find a way to lose in Tuesday night's game at Baylor — they found a lot of them.

In a game that featured a dizzying variety of errors, contested calls and sloppy play, TCU fell to an early deficit that would prove too much to overcome in a 10-4 loss.

Neither head coach Jim Schlossnagle nor TCU players were available for comment after the game.

Despite taking an early 1-0 lead, the Frogs' first-inning defense set the game's tone, as a series of unusual events left the Bears in a position to get on the board. Senior right-hander Shawn Ferguson walked outfielder Chase Gerdes to start the inning, who moved to second on a sacrifice bunt. Baylor catcher Zach Dillon then singled off the glove of sophomore shortstop Bryan Kervin to put runners at first and third, and outfielder Seth Fortenberry hit a ball off the infield umpire to load the bases.

Then things really began to fall apart.

Designated hitter Matt Sodalak hit a hard ball to Kervin, which was mishandled, allowing Sodalak to reach first and a runner to score. Kervin then also made an errant toss to second, allowing Fortenberry to reach second and Dillon to beat a throw to the plate to put the Bears ahead 2-1.

After the throw home, two Baylor runners were tied up near third base, but sophomore catcher Andrew Walker was charged with an error on the play when he curiously jogged through the infield instead of attempting to throw either out.

Ferguson's next pitch was wild,



STEPHEN SPILLMAN / Photo Editor  
 TCU baseball head coach Jim Schlossnagle debates with home plate umpire Mike Morris on a call he made during the second inning. The Frogs lost 10-4 in Waco Tuesday night.

then he hit a batter to load the bases. Infielder Ben Booker singled to bring home Baylor's third run before Ferguson ended the inning with a strikeout.

The second inning would prove to be nearly as ugly as the first, as Ferguson again led off the inning with a walk, then buzzed shortstop Beamer Weems, who appeared to be hit by the pitch and trotted to first.

However, the umpire ruled the pitch did not hit Weems, and he was called back to the plate — but not before the baserunner jogged home during the confusion. Despite Schlossnagle's protests, the umpires upheld the call, leaving Baylor ahead 4-1.

The Frogs were unable to escape the third unscathed, as well. After a hit batter, single and two stolen

bases, infielder Jeff Mandel recorded a two-run single to end Ferguson's night.

Sophomore pitcher Zach Ashwood was brought in to stop the bleeding, but another infield error — this time on a failed rundown at first — preceded a towering two-run homer off the bat of Kevin Sevigny to stretch the score to 8-1.

The Horned Frog offense scratched across another run in the fourth and two in the sixth, but was unable to put together any other serious threat during the game.

Ferguson's loss dropped him to 2-3 on the season, and Baylor pitcher Randall Lineaugh improved to 2-0. The Frogs' next game is against Central Florida at 7 p.m. Friday at Lupton Stadium.

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