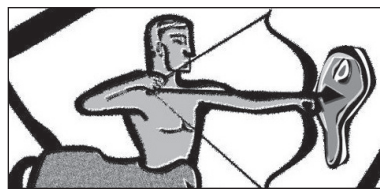
**NEWS**

A majority of voters wants a president with biblical ideals of leadership, according to a poll.  
**TOMORROW**

**FEATURES**

Find out if the trend of Astrology is just a myth from the stars.  
**PAGE 6**

**SPORTS**

A TCU rugby player travels overseas to represent his country in his sport.  
**PAGE 8**

**TCU****DAILY SKIFF**

EST. 1902



TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2008

Vol. 105 Issue 102 www.dailyskiff.com

**TEACHERS WANTED**

JUSTIN ANDERSON / Staff Photographer

After the final bell on Friday, students gather around outside of Paul Lawrence Dunbar High School. The TCU Center for Urban Education is working to train education students to work in urban schools, such as Dunbar, that face the challenges of serving students with diverse backgrounds. TCU education students begin a practicum their sophomore year to get hands-on experience.

**College trains future educators for life in urban schools**

By DAVID SPENCER  
*Special to the Skiff*

Each day, students of different races, genders, ethnicities and socioeconomic backgrounds enter the nation's classrooms. Unfortunately, for some, these factors may work against them — especially in urban areas.

According to TCU's Center for Urban Education, urban schools — those schools with low socioeconomic and/or predominantly minority students — have the most critical shortages of qualified teachers and, therefore, the most open-

ings for college graduates.

The center is designed to help meet this need by training future teachers to help them succeed in urban schools.

"Urban communities are in the state of making sure that all children are successful," said Jennifer Brooks, director of TCU's Center for Urban Education. "We must work and make sure they have teachers who are qualified and have experiences to make them successful."

A study by The Education Trust, an advocacy organization based in Washington, D.C., found that in

the nation's high-poverty schools, 34 percent of secondary classes in core academic subjects are assigned to teachers who lack a college minor in the subject.

To ensure that TCU students are prepared to teach in their subject areas, the College of Education requires them to take a substantial number of courses within those areas.

For example, a middle-school math education major is required to take 32-33 hours of math classes and receive a C or better in these courses, according to the TCU cata-

**INSIDE**

Learn more about urban education and the university's solutions for problems.  
**PAGE 4**

log. A secondary science education major is required to take 56-57 hours of science classes.

Even with these academic standards in place, TCU educators say, it is also important for students to become aware of cultural and other differences between them and their future students.

See **URBAN**, page 4

**Theatre department to produce 'Hamlet'**

By EMILY ALLEN  
*Staff Reporter*

"To see or not to see," that is the question Theatre TCU is asking the community in its presentation of "Hamlet," the last show of the 2008 Main Stage season.

The show is the first Shakespearean play to be produced on campus in four years and will be performed in the original text, said Andrew Milbourn, who is playing Hamlet. The play would normally run more than four hours, but it has been cut down to save time, he said.

The show is set in the 1800s, allowing for the cast members to wear costumes from that time period rather than the tights and dresses of the Elizabethan era.

"The Regency period was very proper — think *Pride and Prejudice*," said Meg Bauman, who plays Ophelia.

Like most college performers, the actors have more work than just learning lines. Milbourn said he watched other versions of the show to learn more

**FYI Times**

**When:** 7:30 p.m. April 15 to 18; 2:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. April 19 to 20

**Where:** Hays Theatre

**Price:** \$10 for public; \$5 for students, faculty, staff and senior citizens

**CORRECTION**

In an April 10 story about an on-campus electrical accident, medical information about the two injured employees from Lt. Kent Worley, a Fort Worth Fire Department spokesman, was attributed incorrectly to Tracy Syler-Jones, associate vice chancellor for marketing and communication.

**New scholarship to benefit three rising senior students**

By SHALEY SANDERS  
*Staff reporter*

A new scholarship will give three rising seniors a chance to cut back on costs before graduation.

Chancellor Victor Boschini and TCU Transitions worked together to create the TCU Mission Statement Scholarships, which will give \$2,000 each to three rising seniors, said Chuck Dunning, dean for the class of 2008 and director of TCU transitions.

"It benefits students who have worked hard to embody the TCU culture and we want to give a valuable, tangible award to let those students know how much we appreciate their work," Dunning said.

When the senior transitions team learned it had extra money in the budget, its immediate thought was to create an annual scholarship, said Jenny Cureton, chairwoman of the senior transitions team.

The scholarship is available to juniors who will graduate in December of 2008 or May or August of 2009, have a 2.0 GPA or higher and are in good standing with the university. The individual does not have to be eligible for financial aid, Dunning said.

"You don't really think about having one last chance to get financial assistance before you graduate," said Cureton, who is also the

**FOR YOUR INFO How to apply**

**Application deadline:** April 30

Applications should be sent to the Mission Statement Scholarship Committee, TCU Box 297350.

Applications can also be hand delivered to Student Development Services.

assistant director of University Career Services.

Transitions is a behind-the-scenes collaborative alliance made up of four teams, one for each year of the traditional college experience, Dunning said.

See **SCHOLARSHIP**, page 2

**New exhibit displays 'stolen' artwork**

By EMILY ALLEN  
*Staff Reporter*

Department store surveillance cameras were looking straight at her, and yet artist Ann Messner continued to put one T-shirt on after the other. Unbeknownst to other shoppers, Messner was performing for the cameras.

The TCU-owned Fort Worth Contemporary Arts' new exhibit titled "Lifting" is a show revolving around artwork that appears to be the product of theft. One of the pieces in the exhibit, Messner's 1978 short film, is about testing social boundaries within a German department store amidst a huge sale to see others' reactions.

"I was intentionally putting myself within the arena of surveillance," Messner said. "That is what you would do in a store if you weren't

behaving and acting normal."

The second exhibit since the gallery's opening earlier this year, "Lifting" opened to the public Friday evening. The 14 pieces range from a small pile of wooden doorstops to a collection of automobile hubcaps.

"Lifting" is the brainchild of Atopia Projects, a partnership consisting of Fraser Stables, a Scottish curator, and Gavin Morrison, curator of University Galleries.

Morrison said the concept for the exhibit came after an artist friend told her she found herself stealing from other artists.

The Igor Stravinsky quote "Lesser artists borrow; great artists steal" is inscribed on the wall of the gallery, serving as a summary of what Morrison said the exhibit

is about.

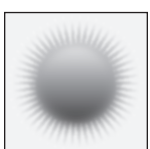
"It's really a negotiation of where that changes from theft and what it really means to steal within an art practice," Morrison said.

While some of the pieces are simple, others required planning. One of the more intricately planned pieces caught the eye of senior communications major Ashley Townsend.

Joel Ross' piece entitled "Room 28" is a depiction of the artist's claim to have vandalized a motel room in one night as shown by two photos and a statement. The placard accompanying the work explains that "it puts the viewer in a position of speculation."

"I liked the one in which they stole all the mirrors, furniture and fixtures in

See **GALLERY**, page 2

**WEATHER**

**TODAY:** Sunny, 74/53

**TOMORROW:** Cloudy/windy, 78/60

**THURSDAY:** Scattered storms, 75/51

**PECULIAR FACT**

**NEW ORLEANS** — A man took the Acme World Oyster Eating championship title by slurping 35 dozen in eight minutes.

— Associated Press

**TODAY'S HEADLINES**

**NEWS:** Living poor struggle to get by, page 5

**OPINION:** Puppy mills cruel and unnecessary, page 3

**SPORTS:** Baseball team to take on OU at home, page 8

**CONTACT US**

Send your questions, compliments, complaints and hot tips to the staff at [NEWS@DAILYSKIFF.COM](mailto:NEWS@DAILYSKIFF.COM)

## Top student positions chosen for campus paper, magazine

By VALERIE HANNON  
Staff Reporter

The Student Publications Committee selected the new editor-in-chief and advertising manager for the Daily Skiff for the fall 2008 semester and editor-in-chief of Image magazine for the 2008-2009 school year Friday.



CRUMP



HAYGOOD



SHIFFLER

Bailey Shiffler was selected to be editor-in-chief of the Skiff and Kerry Crump was selected to be advertising manager.

"These were incredibly competitive positions, and both of them had impressive qualifications," said Ron Pitcock, chair of the Student Publications Committee. "We look forward to seeing what they do."

Shiffler, a junior international communication major, was selected from among three candidates for the position of editor-in-chief. She previously worked for

the Skiff as news editor and is the current managing editor.

Shiffler said she wants to work as editor-in-chief to keep improving DailySkiff.com and to increase circulation by increasing the credibility of the Skiff and covering news that interests students, but she said she feels the Skiff needs no major changes overall.

"The paper is great as it is; we just need to keep improving the little things," Shiffler said.

Crump, a senior advertising/public relations major, was selected as advertising manager. She is currently an account executive and was the only applicant.

Crump said motivation is the biggest need in the advertising division.

"This is not an easy job," Crump said. "We need people who will be here every day and understand that this is a real-world operation."

Crump said changes she will make include making it mandatory for advertising representatives to meet with clients three days a week and creating a points system to motivate representatives.

Robert Bohler, the student publications director, said character is the most important qualification for any editor.

"There are going to be a lot of people that have the

technical skills," Bohler said. "The chief characteristic to look for — whether it's in an editor-in-chief or a staff reporter or a staff editor — is good character and the ability to work together and to step in when nobody else is there."

Jordan Haygood, a junior news-editorial journalism major, was also selected Friday from among two candidates as editor-in-chief of Image magazine for the 2008-2009 school year. He currently works for the Skiff as features editor.

Haygood said he wants the Image staff to not be afraid to cover more hard-hitting material, including potentially taboo subjects, to give students a different image of the campus.

"Image didn't become No. 1 student magazine in the nation by (the Society of Professional Journalists) by 'good' design and 'decent' stories," Haygood said. "We need to keep up the quality of the magazine."

Haygood said even though the magazine only comes out twice a semester, he would like to get content on the Web site monthly. He said he will be picking staff members with experience in design, photography and writing.

"The staff will all be making decisions together, not just me," Haygood said.

## HAMLET

From page 1

about performing the title role in addition to learning to fence.

"He is such a big character and there are so many sides to him," Milbourn said. "There's a lot of research going into it."

For two days during Spring Break, Catherine Weidner, director of the Shakespeare Theatre Co. at George Washington University, worked with the cast to help them understand their lines through discussion and some research with the

Oxford English Dictionary.

"The same stuff that took us two days to do would've taken me easily weeks by myself," said Babs Ipaye, who plays King Claudius.

Having worked with Theatre TCU previously during the 2004 production of Shakespeare's "As You Like It," Weidner said she was invited by theater department chair Harry Parker and production director T.J. Walsh to work with the "Hamlet" cast.

"To allow another director to come in shows a tremendous amount of professionalism and

lack of ego," Weidner said. "I think it says a lot about (Parker and Walsh)."

According to the Theatre TCU Web site, the most recent department production of "Hamlet" was nearly 50 years ago, which has some cast members excited about the changes that each production brings.

"This is the same school, same age group, same department, and yet it's completely different," Ipaye said. "It's 'Hamlet,' but it's our show that we get to share with whoever comes to see it."

## SCHOLARSHIP

From page 1

There is a transfer dean with a student assistant, but not a full collaborative team that helps transfer students make the adjustment to TCU and identify with a specific graduating class, Dunning said.

Each of these teams looks at what is happening in terms of students' experiences through focus groups, individual interviews and surveys before they decide what it can do for the students' holistic development, Dunning said.

The senior transition team will donate \$2,000 to the scholarship, an amount that does not come solely out of TCU Transitions, but comes through Stu-

dent Development Services, which is a department in the Division of Student Affairs, Dunning said.

"There are many departments and offices in the university that produce programming for students, each with its own budgets, and they may or may not be working directly with Transitions," Dunning said.

When Transitions does work with those other entities, it is typically to assist with thinking about the development aspects of its programs, facilitate collaboration with other offices, help with marketing or providing volunteer assistance, Dunning said.

Boschini said the other \$4,000 will come from anonymous donations.

A nine-member selection committee will review the applications and choose six finalists whose applications will be reviewed by Boschini and Provost Nowell Donovan, who will both choose the three recipients of the scholarships.

The six finalists and three winners will be recognized at a ring ceremony during family weekend, Dunning said. The three winners will have the choice of receiving the money in the form of a check, payment on a student loan or on the individual's TCU bill.

"The finalists and winners of these scholarships are going to be role models for everything we hope to see in the culture of TCU," Dunning said.

## GALLERY

From page 1

the hotel room in one night," Townsend said. "They paid cash for the room so they couldn't be tracked down so I find it pretty humorous."

Townsend found the hotel piece funny, but the topic of theft may cause different opinions of the artwork. Messner's short film implies that she stole the multiple T-shirts that she put on, but she said that she would never reveal whether she

actually committed a crime.

"It takes away from the tension of the work, which is that you don't know," Messner said. "It doesn't actually become theft until you walk outside the door, and you don't see me do that."

### 11TH ANNUAL FORT WORTH

# RUN RUN

## April 19, 2008

### 10K, 5K and 1-Mile Fun Run

Register at [www.fortworthzoo.org](http://www.fortworthzoo.org)

## TCU College of Science & Engineering

### Student Research Symposium

# April 18, 2008

Activities on-going from 12-6 p.m.  
TCU Tucker Technology Center

You are cordially invited to the sixth annual Student Research Symposium (SRS) of the College of Science and Engineering at Texas Christian University. The Symposium will showcase both undergraduate and graduate research from departments throughout the college. In addition to outstanding research, there will be live entertainment and refreshments!

For a detailed schedule or for more information, visit  
**[www.srs.tcu.edu](http://www.srs.tcu.edu)**



**QUOTE OF THE DAY**

"Be honorable yourself if you wish to associate with honorable people."

— Welsh Proverb

**THE SKIFF VIEW**

**Center helps bridge education gap**

The nation's urban schools are suffering. Education, one of the elements that form the foundation for a stable society, isn't equal for children in urban areas.

But the university is doing something about that inequality.

The College of Education is operating the Center for Urban Education, which aims to balance that inequality by fixing the broken urban education system.

According to the center, schools with low socioeconomic and/or predominantly minority students, have the most critical shortages of qualified teachers.

The center aims to satisfy the need for qualified college graduates with graduates who know the issues facing urban schools.

Jennifer Brooks, the director of the Center for Urban Education, said it's necessary for students to experience the problems in urban schools, and that's why teachers do observations and internships that expose

them to those issues.

"That is what helps the most — actually being there," said Chelsea Edge, a graduate student in the College of Education. "We can talk about it all we want to, but actually seeing and doing it makes a difference."

There is also an effort to help students from urban schools be part of the solution, by encouraging them to pursue a career in education.

It's impossible to close the gap between rich and poor or fix the problems that are plaguing urban communities and spilling over into troubled schools overnight. But by addressing issues like education, the university is chipping away at one challenge and giving young people in urban communities a fighting chance.

Maybe they'll even come full circle and help the next generation — or even better, maybe by then there won't be a gap to close anymore.

*Editor-in-chief Andrew Chavez for the editorial board.*

**BY JEREMY ARNOLD**



*Jeremy Arnold is a junior religion major from Sugar Land.*

**Puppy mills should be illegal; adopting pets better solution**

While watching Oprah's April 4 expose on puppy mills — a show that she dedicated to her beloved dog Sophie

**COMMENTARY**  
Heather Moore

— I thought about all the darling dogs who've shared and enhanced my own life. My dogs didn't come with "papers" — they came with unconditional love, loyalty and a genuine zest for life. With so many sweet, lovable dogs in animal shelters, on the streets and in abusive situations, it's hard to comprehend why some people still buy animals from pet stores or breeders.



*SXC.HU*

About 99 percent of pet stores in America obtain dogs from puppy mills, according to "The Oprah Winfrey Show." The dogs are confined to small crates or wire cages; they're deprived of exercise, adequate food and water, veterinary care and attention. Many are emaciated and sickly with crusty, oozing eyes, ear infections, swollen teats, gangrenous skin and/or abscessed feet. Many have pneumonia, kennel cough, mange, ringworm and other diseases. Some spin maniacally in their cages, cower in fear or slump in severe depression. Female dogs are typically bred every time they go into heat and killed when they can no longer produce puppies.

"It is my belief that when you actually see this, America, with your own eyes, that you are not going to stand for it," Oprah told her viewers.

To get video footage, Oprah's correspondent Lisa Ling and Main Line Animal

Rescue founder Bill Smith visited several mills in Lancaster County, Pa., the puppy-mill capital of the East.

They went into one building, according to Oprah.com, that was full of cramped wooden crates stuffed with dogs. "The spaces are so small," says Ling, "the mothers are stepping all over their babies." In another building, dogs were packed inside wire "rabbit cages" stacked to the ceiling; the dogs' fur became soaked with urine and covered with feces from the dogs above them. Most dogs in puppy mills never leave their cages; they can barely walk. Some even have their vocal cords cut so they won't bark.

But that's only half of the problem. Every time a breeder brings another animal into the world, an animal sitting in a shelter loses his or her chance at finding a loving home. Between 6 million and 8 million animals enter U.S.

shelters each year; half must be euthanized. Many — about 25 percent of dogs who enter shelters — are purebred. With so many animals dying for homes, it should be illegal to breed more dogs.

If you're thinking of adding a dog to your family, go to an animal shelter, visit Petfinder.com or contact a reputable breed rescue group.

And always have your animals sterilized. Spaying or neutering one dog prevents hundreds of thousands of unwanted births. Imagine how many lives would be saved and how much suffering prevented if we all had just one animal spayed or neutered and never patronized puppy-selling pet shops. If your dog (or cat) isn't already sterilized, why not start with him or her?

*Heather Moore is a senior writer for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. This column was distributed by McClatchy-Tribune Information Services.*

**New president should consider long-term costs of war in Iraq**

To appreciate the debate over U.S. policy toward Iraq this week, first you have to understand the different

**COMMENTARY**  
James Klurfeld

agendas of the players. And then try to move beyond those agendas.

Start with President George W. Bush.

He is simply not going to admit that his policy in Iraq is a bust by beginning a major withdrawal of troops before he leaves office. I'm not suggesting a purely cynical motive here — more likely the president believes that he can still leave a more stable situation to his successor if he maintains a larger troop presence. Or, put another way, he cannot bring himself to admit failure. Besides, at least in the short run, the surge of troops has brought a decrease in violence.

Sen. John McCain, the presumptive Republican nominee, has a similar view to the president, albeit from a different time perspective. Bush and McCain believe that establishing an Iraq regime with some semblance of democracy would be good for the region and for U.S. interests there. Looking at the short-term gains of the surge, McCain is ready and willing to make a longer-term commitment. His position has been clear for years: If we do it right, we can still win.

Obviously his chances of winning the November election are tied to a belief that things will not fall apart before then. But it's clear he's talking about more than November. He needs to be

pressed harder on just what he means.

Sens. Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama — trying to appeal to Democratic primary voters who believe the war has been an abysmal failure, and unwilling to admit the surge has any portent for future stability — are committed to bringing troops home as soon as possible.

"We need to move beyond the immediate political agendas and start asking these questions now: How much longer a commitment? At what cost? And what type of withdrawal of forces would least damage our long-term interests?"

**James Klurfeld**

But "as soon as possible" is not an exact phase by any means. Obama stressed during Tuesday's congressional hearing with Gen. David Petraeus that he was not talking about a "precipitous" withdrawal. His agenda is to appear to be sober about protecting American interests without abandoning his opposition to the enterprise from the beginning.

Clinton, because she originally supported the war, has been in an even trickier spot, reversing her position without appearing to be politically craven — her weakest point to many people. But still we need a better sense of what each of them propose.

This leaves me listening very closely to Petraeus, the commander on the ground in Iraq, who chose his words carefully in his testimony. He

did not claim victory, but said the gains so far are "fragile and reversible." Petraeus is under a crossfire of pressure: from his commander in chief, who gave him the chance to implement his plan, the surge, to a horde of Army generals who say the nation's armed forces are spread too thin and that resources may have to be used elsewhere. If there was a message in Petraeus' testimony, it was that he won't commit to any withdrawal timetables because it's going to take more time to find a way out of the mess.

After five years and more than 4,000 U.S. deaths there, we all know better than to believe there's an easy way out of this situation. But the question I have is what the cost will be to the United States to sustain the effort there to the point that it is no longer "fragile or reversible." One of Bush's greatest mistakes in this whole episode was not leveling with the American people about this war's costs, nor understanding them himself. The next president, whoever it is, will need the support of the American people to sustain what will continue to be a painful policy. We need to move beyond the immediate political agendas and start asking these questions now: How much longer a commitment? At what cost? And what type of withdrawal of forces would least damage our long-term interests?

*James Klurfeld is a visiting professor of journalism at Stony Brook University. This column was distributed by McClatchy-Tribune Information Services.*

**Joining international awareness groups can help make difference**

America's cluelessness on the international front is well-documented.

A survey last year by the Pew Research Center showed

**COMMENTARY**  
Barbara Shelly

that respondents' knowledge of both national and foreign affairs had remained about the same since 1989, despite the attacks on America, our entry into wars in the Persian Gulf and Afghanistan, and a proliferation of

news sources. Three of 10 people surveyed couldn't name the vice president of the United States. Fewer than four in 10 could identify Vladimir Putin as the president of Russia.

Susan Jacoby, a scholar and author, ducked into a New York City bar seeking respite the day the World Trade Center was destroyed. She listened to a conversa-

tion in which one man told another that Pearl Harbor was "when the Vietnamese dropped bombs in a harbor, and it started the Vietnam War."

That overheard snippet led Jacoby to write a book, "The Age of American Unreason," in which she argues that Americans are growing dumber about world affairs and, worse, are proud of it.

That might indeed be the trend. But the happier news is that it's being bucked by efforts large and small.

This week I listened to Pamela Couture, academic dean at St. Paul School of Theology in Kansas City, tell an amazing story.

In January, Couture took a month's research leave to study peacemaking processes in the Congo. She wanted to respond to the kindness

of people there with a gift. Her school's dean of development, James Glass, got on the case. One phone call led to another. He was in touch with the U.S. Department of Defense and a host of relief organizations.

The upshot is that, in less than two months, Couture and Glass and their newfound partners delivered \$14 million worth of pharmaceuticals to the Congo's

Katanga region.

It doesn't take a great deal to shine a light in the darkness. Just willpower, energy and links with likeminded people. Efforts like this one can erase, if nothing else, our reputation for having our collective heads in the sand.

*Barbara Shelly is a member of the Kansas City Star editorial board. This column was distributed by McClatchy-Tribune Information Services.*

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# INSPIRING EDUCATORS



JUSTIN ANDERSON / Staff Photographer

Several students gather outside of Paul Lawrence Dunbar High School on Friday afternoon. Twenty-five Dunbar students are participating in the Aspiring Educators Initiative program. The TCU Center for Urban Education program is designed to encourage students to finish high school, go to college and become teachers.

## High schoolers recruited for teaching

By DAVID SPENCER  
Special to the Skiff

Urban schools need more qualified teachers, but odds are against students from those schools ever becoming teachers themselves.

Out of the 13 million children living in poverty, only about half will graduate high school, according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

The assessment shows even fewer will go to college, and even fewer will pursue careers as teachers.

To bring change, the Center for Urban Education has created the Aspiring Educators Initiative.

The initiative reaches

out to three area high schools with a high minority population, said Jennifer Brooks, director of the Center for Urban Education.

Currently, the program is at Paul Laurence Dunbar, Polytechnic and Oscar Dean Wyatt high schools in Fort Worth.

The program began in summer 2007 with a luncheon for 75 high school sophomores, followed by small-group sessions to answer students' questions. As high school juniors and seniors, the students then attend a series of events geared toward exposing them to the possibility of attending college and becoming teachers.

"We are looking at building our own in terms of educators for the future," Brooks said. "We talk to them about the future and education, so that we can make sure we have a group of students ready to take my place and others when we are ready to retire."

Cecilia Silva, an associate professor of education, said she hopes the program will add diversity to the teaching population.

"Most educators are white-middle class," Silva said. "It is important that students see people who look like them in teaching roles."

There is some evidence the program is working.

"It has really impacted my life," said Kayara Watts, a senior at Dunbar. "Before this program, I only considered getting a minor in education. Now, I want it to be my major."

Watts said the program inspired her to apply to West Texas A&M University to major in elementary education.

Barbara Novero, lead counselor at Dunbar, said 25 students from her school participate in the program.

Watts said her favorite part of the program includes trips to TCU and speaking with Brooks about a teaching career.

"Most of us want to major in education," Watts said of the Dunbar students in the program. "She teaches us what ropes to go through and issues we will deal with. She asks us how we feel about being an educator, what our future goals are and what aspects of education we are interested in."

The Aspiring Educators Initiative has a positive impact on students, Novero said.

"The students appreciate others' coming and taking the time to recognize them and lead them in discussion," she said.

Students also like the certificates of achievement, treats and TCU spirit wear they have received, Novero said.

The center expects an additional 75 to 85 high school students to take part in the program during its second year, with numbers predicted to double during the third.

For her part, Watts said she took seriously what TCU education students told her when they spoke at Dunbar.

"I learned that if they can do it, I can do it," Watts said.

"...I think the school offered a total of five AP courses. Part of the day was going to AP calculus, where the few seniors in the class were given Sudoku puzzles to play while the juniors filled out TAKS math worksheets. Since then, at TCU, I have had to retake calculus three times."

— **Filicia Hernandez**, a sophomore criminal justice major who attended Diamond Hill Jarvis High School



HERNANDEZ CASTELLANOS

"At Diamond Hill, most students don't really care about going to college. This attitude affects the way teachers do their job. I had some teachers who were brilliant, but since the students didn't care to learn, I feel like they had to lower their standards for us."

— **Carolyn Castellanos**, a sophomore engineering major who attended Diamond Hill-Jarvis High School

## URBAN

From page 1

"The first thing is to make sure that they have the opportunity to work in schools in urban settings," Brooks said. "They are doing observation and internships. It is unfair to place a teacher in an environment and expect them to be successful if they have never seen a child on free or reduced lunch or if they have not had that type of experience and exposure."

According to federal guidelines, students can qualify for free- or reduced-meal programs if they are in a household of four that earns less than \$38,203 a year.

"If you are in a home where the lights are not on or in a home where you do not have food to eat for dinner, oftentimes your thought will be on 'I am hungry' rather than 'I need to do this math homework,'" Brooks said.

To provide diverse experiences for its TCU students, the Center for Urban Education has established relationships and connections at different schools in the Fort Worth Independent School District. One of these schools is Stripling Middle School, where a math class gives the TCU students an opportunity to not only teach but also to learn about the community, said Cecilia Silva, an associate professor of education.

"We target different schools for different experiences," Silva said.

Education students begin their placement in urban schools starting their sophomore year, said Chelsea Edge, a graduate student who is in the College of Education's 3-2 program, which enables

LIZ DAVIS / Staff Photographer  
Students in Cecilia Silva's class learn about some of the communication situations that unfold while teaching in an English-as-a-Second Language environment.

students to graduate with both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in five years.

"That is what helps the most — actually being there," Edge said. "We can talk about it all we want to, but actually seeing and doing it makes a difference."

Yvonne Garcia, another graduate student in the 3-2 program, said her training makes her feel she will enter the classroom after graduation with more experience than a typical first-year teacher.

"The program has given me a lot of insight and education on diversity because education is not the same anymore," Garcia said.

Because there is no such thing as an "average" student, the TCU program teaches its students how to teach in different ways and modify lessons to reach every possible child, Garcia said.

It is only through the practicum experience that TCU students come to more clearly understand the lives of their future students, Edge said.

The experience gained through the program produces students who are sought after because of their educational training, Silva said.

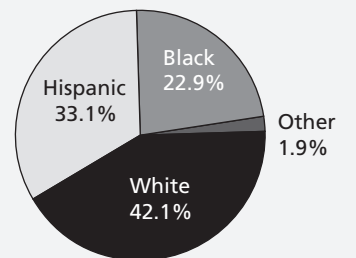
"The Center for Urban Education wants effective teachers working in the classroom and teachers who are prepared to work in the Metroplex," Silva said. "Part of it is helping our students view diversity not as a deficit."

Said Garcia: "The United States has every culture, every nationality and every language. Though I may not speak the languages, with what I have learned, I can attempt to reach them and teach them without making them feel uncomfortable in the classroom."

## Snapshots of area high schools

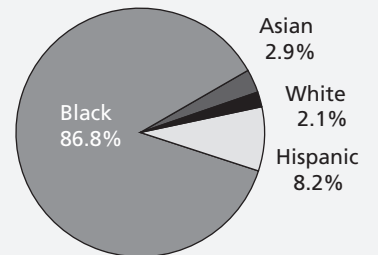
### Arlington Heights

Address: 4501 W. Rosedale St.  
Distance from TCU: 4.4 miles  
Economically disadvantaged: 33.5%  
Average SAT score: 1039  
Percent college-ready: 50%  
Dropout rate: 7.4%  
Academic rating: Acceptable



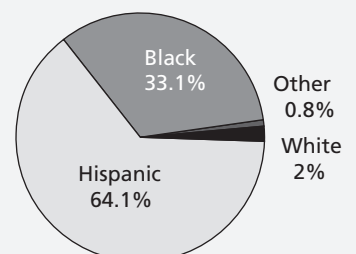
### Dunbar

Address: 5700 Ramey Ave.  
Distance from TCU: 13.6 miles  
Economically disadvantaged: 53.9%  
Average SAT score: 869  
Percent college-ready: 17%  
Dropout rate: 17%  
Academic rating: Unacceptable



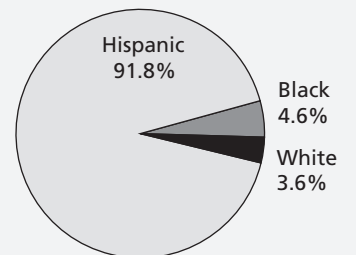
### Polytechnic

Address: 1300 Conner Ave.  
Distance from TCU: 7 miles  
Economically disadvantaged: 72.4%  
Average SAT score: 765  
Percent college-ready: 6%  
Dropout rate: 21.6%  
Academic rating: Unacceptable



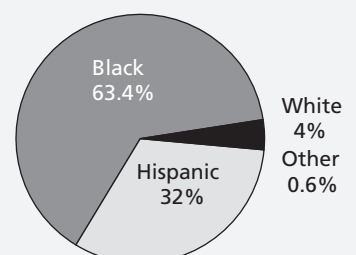
### Diamond Hill

Address: 1411 Maydell St.  
Distance from TCU: 10 miles  
Economically disadvantaged: 80.9%  
Average SAT score: 830  
Percent college-ready: 20%  
Dropout rate: 17.6%  
Academic rating: Unacceptable



### O. D. Wyatt

Address: 2400 E. Seminary Drive  
Distance from TCU: 5 miles  
Economically disadvantaged: 67.5%  
Average SAT score: 794  
Percent college-ready: 9%  
Dropout rate: 14.2%  
Academic rating: Acceptable



SOURCE: Texas Education Agency

## By the numbers

- Tarrant County state records show 83.2 percent of public school students as minorities — 26.3 percent black and 56.9 percent Hispanic.
- The Fort Worth Independent School District classifies 71.3 percent of its more than 79,000 students as economically disadvantaged.
- Nationwide, 45 percent of white SAT test takers in 2003 had taken trigonometry in high school compared with 36 percent of black SAT test takers, according to the Journal of Blacks in Higher Education.
- Additionally, more than a quarter of white SAT test takers had taken calculus in high school compared with 14 percent of black SAT test takers.
- The journal also stated that 32 percent of white students took honors courses before the SAT and only 18 percent of blacks did the same.
- According to CollegeBoard.com, in 2003, black test takers scored about 100 points lower on each section than did white students. White students also outscored Hispanics by about 80 points.
- According to a 2000 New Jersey study, 20 percent of suburban parents and 44 percent of urban parents felt unwelcome to participate in their children's schools.

## Campaign 2008: In their own words

### Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill.

"No Child Left Behind has been false advertising. And there doesn't seem to be a sense of urgency about improving the education system. ... Across the board we're going to have to recruit a generation of new teachers. We're going to have to pay our teachers more, we are going to have to give them more professional development and we're also going to have to work with them rather than against them to improve standards. We've got to improve early childhood education."

SOURCE: Huffington Post Mash-Up, Sept. 13, 2007

### Sen. Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y.

"I support school-based merit pay. We need to get more teachers to go into hard-to-serve areas. We've got to get them into underserved urban areas, underserved rural areas. The school is a team, and it's important that we reward that collaboration."

SOURCE: Democratic Debate, Nov. 15, 2007

"Our families have to be their

child's first school, and every parent has to understand they are their child's first teacher. And we need to help parents do that job. That's why I started Early Head Start. That's why I expanded Head Start when I was first lady. That's why I want to have universal free kindergarten for every single 4-year-old."

SOURCE: 2007 NAACP Presidential Primary Forum, July 12, 2007

### Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz.

"If a failing school won't change, it shouldn't be beyond the reach of students to change their schools. Parents should be able to send their children to the school that best suits their needs just as Cindy and I have been able to do, whether it is a public, private or parochial school. The result will not be the demise of the public school system in America, but competition that will help make public schools accountable and as successful as they should be in a country as great and prosperous as ours."

SOURCE: JohnMcCain.com, April 11 speech transcript

# Nation's working poor struggle to provide for families

By ALFRED LUBRANO  
The Philadelphia Inquirer

PHILADELPHIA — Twenty-five dollars. That's all Sandra Walerski can spend in the Save-a-Lot today for a week's worth of groceries.

Walerski, 47, who lives in Trainer, Pa., travels over the Pennsylvania line to shop in tax-free Delaware — part of a mighty fight to keep her family of six afloat as the hard-time economy grows wide and deep.

Food and gas prices soar while the dollar weakens and employers shed jobs. People like Walerski are among the worst casualties — a rising number of working poor, generally defined as families with one or more workers making no more than twice the poverty level.

Being working poor is like living in another America, a lesser country where you go to a job, pay bills — do everything right — and still teeter close to the edge.

"Working poor is what I am," says Walerski, who possesses a broad, smiling face and a fighter's demeanor. "There are lots of us, and we look like everyone else."

Some weeks, Walerski spends as much as \$45. But overall, her precious dollars seem to buy less while her four kids are eating more.

Her carpenter husband works to pay the mortgage on the family's cramped house, down the street from a refinery. But there isn't enough.

Meanwhile, a growing tumor

in Walerski's brain, as yet unbiopsied, prevents her from being employed. She used to put in 50 hours a week, juggling a day-care job with telephone-survey work. She prays that the cancer that resulted in surgery to remove her breasts does not return.

Her husband, George, 32, grosses \$28,800 annually. Marc, 20, a son who lives in the Trainer house, is a student at Delaware County Community College and kicks in a little; he pays his tuition and covers his mother's cell-phone bill. Walerski wants him to keep most of the money he earns as assistant manager at a local store.

The family often faces months in which they owe about \$800 more than they take in. They always pay the water bill; they're slowly paying off the \$1,500 they owe the electric company.

And that \$1,000-a-month mortgage monster keeps eating. All told, basic monthly expenses come to about \$2,500. After taxes and support for a child in Arizona, her husband takes home about \$430 a week or \$1,720 a month, Walerski says.

This does not take into account the needs of a 26-year-old daughter who also lives in the house and whom Walerski describes as mentally disabled. Her son Kristopher, 8, has attention-deficit issues, among other difficulties.

Her husband has health insurance. Walerski is covered by a state plan for the physically disabled, and the younger kids are enrolled in the federal Children's Health Insurance



Susan Walerski, 46, of Trainer, Pa., shops for groceries with a limit of \$25 with her daughter Gianna, 3, in a Wilmington, Del., grocery store in March.

Program. The working poor can afford little beyond the absolute basics. And often not even those.

Nationally, there are roughly 52 million working poor people, says David Elesh, a sociology professor at Temple University. "And," he adds, "it's getting worse each day because of this recession."

Federal guidelines set the poverty level for a family of four at \$21,200. To be considered working poor, such a family could make as much as \$42,400 annually. At first blush, that may sound ample, but it turns out to be meager wages.

When the shopping is done, the total is \$24.03, just below the \$25 limit. Walerski declares the day a success.



Susan Walerski, 46, of Trainer, Pa., purchases \$24.03 in groceries in a Wilmington, Del., grocery store in March. Whenever Walerski shops, she must balance her family's limited income against endless debt.

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## MARKETING

From page 8

didn't know too much what to expect, but we felt the numbers were good," Byrne said. "We felt that the people who came had a good time, and that was the most important part."

The marketing department anticipated lower ticket sales

than last season, Byrne said, but the numbers have still been good. The deadline to renew season tickets was set for May 1 before being pushed back to May 15 after the team's schedule was announced.

"When the schedule comes out, we want to make sure the fans have adequate information while they do make that deci-

sion," Byrne said. "We hope they renew based on support of the program, but we understand there are other issues they may need to take into consideration."

Byrne said the marketing department has plans for the fall campaign to work with different athletes and incorporate the program's historical

achievements, such as the 1938 undefeated national championship season in which the team was led by Heisman Trophy-winner Davey O'Brien.

"We're further along than we feel like we were in the past as far as some of the elements that we're doing, but we're pretty much tracking the way that we wanted to," Byrne said.

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--	--

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24 PC Boneless Wing Strip Family Pack.....31.99	

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**DANCE OFF**

A sophomore parlayed dancing talent in getting her own hip hop class.  
**FRIDAY**

# Recent trend has students looking to the stars

The razor-sharp claws of the Cancer crab, the majestic presence of the Leo lion and the two identical faces of the Gemini twins are three of the 12 horoscope signs astrologers use to aid in their interpretation of heavenly bodies.

Astrology, the study of how heavenly bodies supposedly affect human life and behavior, continues to counsel people on life decisions despite critics who claim that it is pure superstition.

**Controversy**

Critics like John Blanton, webmaster for The North Texas Skeptics, say astrology is not a real science and claim stars and planets have no effect on human behavior.

"It's interesting because it comes from astronomy," Blanton said. "But astrology derives from it by saying stars are magical, omnipotent and their effect on our life is magical."

TCU's chair of the astronomy department, T.W. Zerda, claims astrology is a "bunch of nonsense."

Astronomy is the science and study of the stars and universe, planets and its motion; it has no interpretation of what a star's position in the sky could mean in people's lives, Zerda said.

Yet among those who believe a star's location could foretell the future, Los Angeles astrologer Terence Guardino makes charts for clients in which he shows how planets were aligned on the day they were born.

Guardino claims that alignment explains the relationship between the universe and human life and why people behave the way they do. His Web site with astrology forecasts for the 12 sun signs gets about 1,000 hits a month. This number excludes the hits he gets from YouTube, where he said he received about 40,000 hits in the past year.

Unlike other Web sites, Guardino said, his pages provide astrological forecasts in a video format and include descriptions of the 12 horoscope personalities.

**Skeptics**

The North Texas Skeptics has been in existence since 1983 under a different name, and its goal is to test theories and claims to provide people with the truth.

Blanton uses the term pseudoscience, a field that does not use the scientific method, and said people believe in things with paranormal links because it relieves them of personal responsibilities.

"People have reasons to believe, and it's good to blame someone else for something," he said.

Beyond throwing out personal responsibility, John Thomas, director emeritus for the NTS, said beliefs do not have to be true and it's a matter of bringing comfort to people.

Blanton gives an example of a divorce — if a person's marriage ended, it could easily be blamed in the stars and was therefore meant to happen.

"There is no consistency, it's not established," he said. "Authors who realize there is good money in this area could easily make something up and be perfectly all right."

Thomas said astrology works because of confirmation bias, where the person who gets a reading hears something and will remember an event in his or her life, making the statement true.

"It's cherry-picking the evidence," Thomas said. "But people think it's very comforting."

Blanton said astrology is harmless, but people can get carried away and risk away things they may never get back.

"Don't let it run your life," Blanton said. "It's a good recreational sport."

**Biblical Perspective**

Beyond a recreational sport, astrology can be linked with the occult. Deuteronomy 18:10-12 says "let no one be found among you ... who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens ... anyone who does these things is detestable to the Lord."

Ky Carrigan, professor at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, says astrology is a form of divination, the practice of uncovering hidden secrets. He said the main issue concerning astrology for biblical scholars was ethics, not effectiveness.

"The Bible tells us not to engage in astrology — it's clear in what it says," Carrigan said. "Followers of Christ are not to follow divination."

Ken Horton, pastor at McKinney Memorial Bible Church, recommends seeking God's advice, rather than seeing an astrologer.

"You're better off getting counseling from people who know you, rather than a speculation from a stranger," Horton said.

Astrologers practice something called cold reading, a term that is given to magicians and psychics who use intuition to read how people react to different trigger words and actions, Horton said.

"There's nothing magical about it," he said.

As for the accuracy, Carrigan said it's based on the odds of getting it right, making sure to incorporate emotional strings into things.

"There are intuitive people out there that listen well, look carefully and it works," he said.

Carrigan said the effect of the reading is usually good because people go in wanting to believe.

"Hope is a powerful thing — it's unfortunate for some of us who have hope for no good reason. Hoping someone will give us insight," Carrigan said.

**Astrology's Validity**

The American Federation of Astrologers, founded in 1938, provides safeguards and certification for astrologers, Guardino said. The group certifies astrologers on the AFA student, professional and teacher levels.

Kepler College in Lynnwood, Wash., authorized by the state of Washington to give out academic degrees, offers a bachelor of arts and a graduate program in astrology, said Jolee Worones, registrar at Kepler College.

Worones said although Kepler College isn't accredited they hope to have accreditation by the summer and are currently in the process of being accepted as a candidate by an accreditation agency. She would not disclose the name of the accrediting agency.

**Supporters**

June Clark, who writes under the name June Rifkin, is senior associate for FinePrint Literary Management and a fan of Guardino's forecasts.

Clark said her fascination for horoscopes and astrology started when she was a child, about 10, reading the horoscope section in magazines and reading books about the topic.

Her interest grew into belief and Clark co-authored "The Complete Book of Astrology," with Ada Aubin, an astrologer. Although Clark says she is no astrologer, she takes her astrological forecast into consideration for her lifestyle.

"This is one of the few 'new-age' beliefs that has a more scientific approach and it's accurate," Clark said. "It's much more reliable and there is a historical basis and has scientific flare — interpretation and artistic."

Clark says knowing the astrological forecast is comforting to her, when she realizes there is a planetary reason to why her day is going the way it is.

Another supporter of astrology is Emily Lampport, introduced to the world of horoscopes by her best friend. Lampport, a 2007 alumna, started reading the horoscope section in the back of "Glamour" magazine.

Lampport said she never got into astrology until she was a sophomore at TCU.

"The Only Astrology Book You'll Ever Need," a book she purchased at the TCU bookstore, provided Lampport with a personality description that made her a believer.

"It describes my personality perfectly," she said. "I'm a Gemini and it was so cool to see what it said."

Lampport said she's become more intuitive through the book, recognizing personality traits of people.

"Instead of asking people what sign they are," she said. "I ask them for their birthday."

Lampport, who grew up in the Catholic Church, said she is "not religious" but believes in God.

"How lame would it be if you stuck to one thing and floated through life?" she asks. "Without questioning any thing like what's going on with you and your life?"

For her, astrology is a way to prevent being narrow-minded.

"I can't stand people who are narrow-minded — it's just they only know certain ways, they don't want to think different," Lampport said.

**Still Believing**

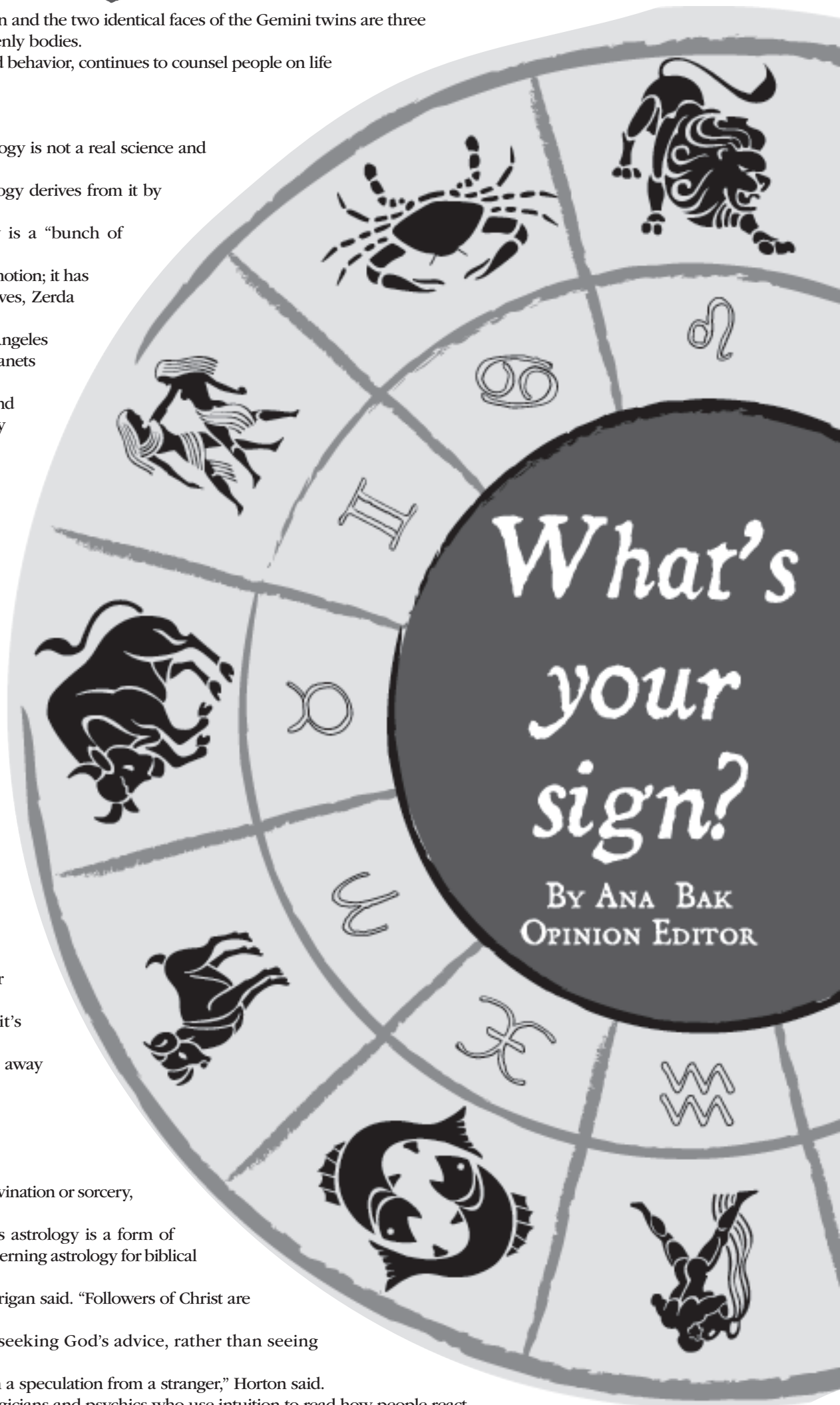
"What works for me, works for me," Clark said. "Everyone has their own opinion."

With her experience in writing an astrology book, Clark is a strong advocate despite what skeptics say.

"I'm a huge fan of astrology — it gives insight and hope to life and I encourage people to follow it beyond the daily horoscope stuff," she said.

Having dedicated his life to astrology, Guardino says, looking at the solar system is a profoundly accurate way of understanding human personality and behavior. He said astrology is one that entails knowledge in psychology and other sciences and the ability to interpret signs.

"I don't have to prove it — their comments just wash over me, I've been doing this for 30 some years," Guardino said.





**TODAY IN HISTORY**  
 1947: Jackie Robinson becomes the first black player in Major League Baseball.

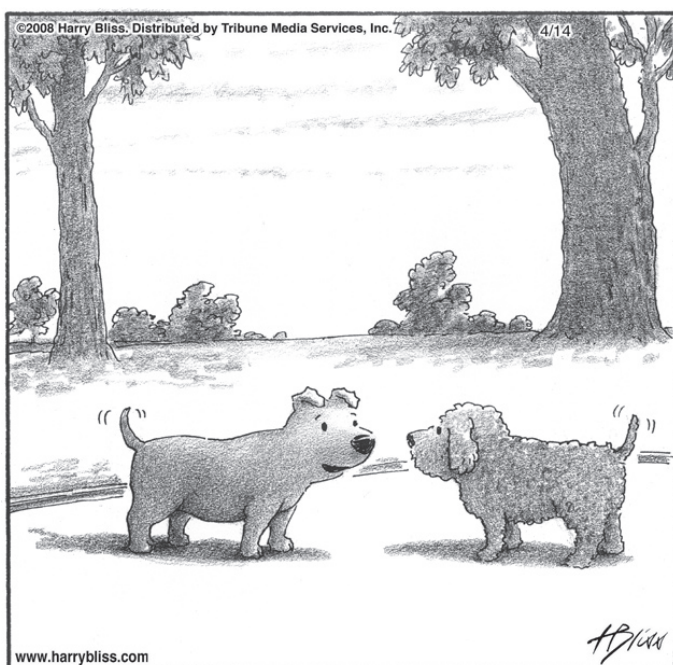
**WORTH A LAUGH — BUT ONLY ONE**

**Q:** Why don't ducks carry spare change?

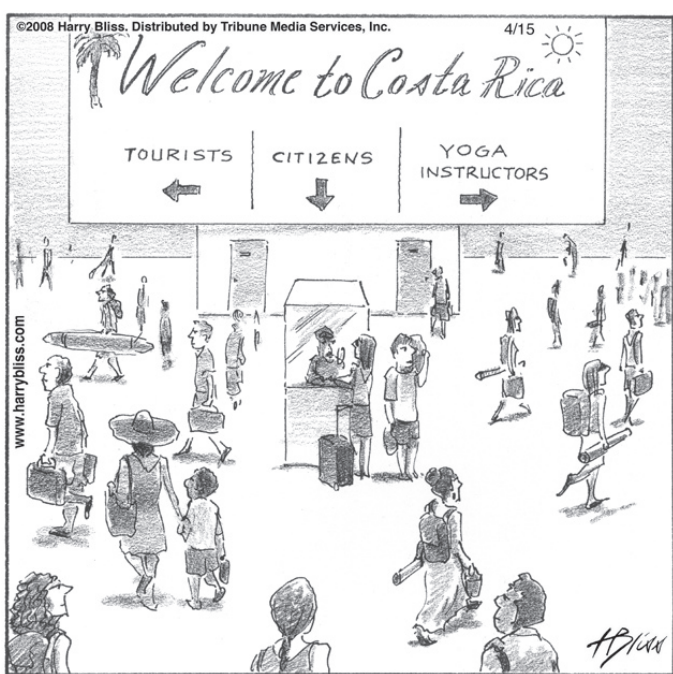
**A:** They all have bills.

Bliss

by Harry Bliss



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

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

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

**Friday's Solutions**

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

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**TODAY'S CROSSWORD**

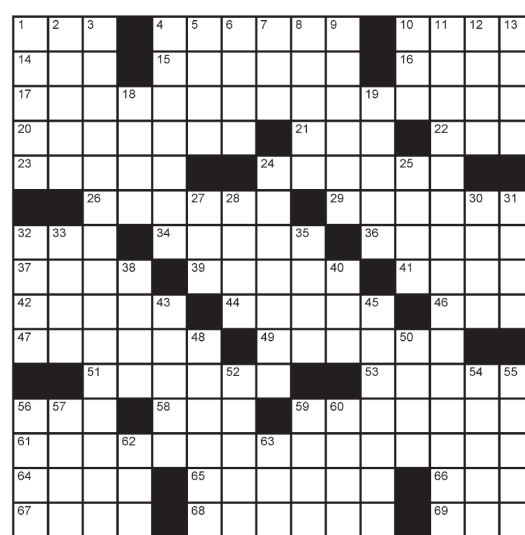
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- 1 Saturn or Mercury
  - 4 Ms. Address
  - 10 Atlas section
  - 14 Physicians' org.
  - 15 Self-assured
  - 16 Date tree
  - 17 3 white things
  - 20 Foes
  - 21 \_\_\_ v. Wade
  - 22 Preserve, in a way
  - 23 "The Persistence of Memory" and others
  - 24 Founding Shaker
  - 26 Late-night news hour
  - 29 Tiny particles
  - 32 Swiss peak
  - 34 Mr. Claus
  - 36 Approaches a red light
  - 37 Qatar's capital
  - 39 Willy follower
  - 41 Smelting waste
  - 42 Warning sound
  - 44 Remove errors from
  - 46 Ignited
  - 47 Lunatic
  - 49 1936 Loretta Young title role
  - 51 Condor claws
  - 53 incognita
  - 56 Ted's "Cheers" role
  - 58 West of "My Little Chickadee"
  - 59 Corridor
  - 61 3 white things
  - 64 Aleutian island
  - 65 Schools near the Seine
  - 66 Pastoral setting
  - 67 "Hari"
  - 68 Burns or Browning
  - 69 Pres. or CEO



By Verna Suit  
 Silver Spring, MD

**Friday's Puzzle Solved**

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

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- 5 After-bath wear
- 6 Knights' titles
- 7 Apply
- 8 Memorize
- 9 Extras
- 10 G.I.'s address
- 11 3 white things
- 12 "Casablanca" heroine
- 13 Prayer's end
- 18 Actor Jannings
- 19 Assists
- 24 Moose toppers
- 25 Sushi fish
- 27 Moving truck
- 28 "National Velvet" author
- 30 "The Bridge on the River"
- 31 Certain N.C.O.
- 32 Comic Sandler
- 33 "Damn Yankees" vamp
- 35 Actress Jessica
- 38 "Tosca" tune
- 40 Dee-lish!
- 43 Swedish city opposite Copenhagen
- 45 Had to ask directions
- 48 Cajoler
- 50 Jodie Foster film
- 52 Tasty wafer brand
- 54 Graded
- 55 Per annum
- 56 Criticize severely
- 57 Verdi opera
- 59 Doughnut feature
- 60 Maple genus
- 62 Jamaican music
- 63 Fireplace shelf

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

...do you say, O Jacob, and assert, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, And the justice due me escapes the notice of you not know? Have you not heard? The Everlasting God, the LORD, does not become weary or tired; understanding is inscrutable. Gives strength to the weary,

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...se who wait for the LORD gain new strength; will mount up with will run and not will walk and no

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**Who is Evan Vanderbilt?**

page 8



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BASEBALL

# YOUNG GUN



Freshman Sean Hoelscher pitches against the University of Nevada, Las Vegas on Saturday at Lupton Stadium. He pitched seven innings for the win against UNLV. PAIGE McARDLE / Staff Designer

## Squad's win streak on line against OU

By BRETT LARSON  
 Sports Editor

With nine straight wins, the Horned Frog baseball team will attempt to defend its streak against the University of Oklahoma in Lupton Stadium today.

Oklahoma (22-13-1, 3-8-1) has lost its past four games and split two games against the Horned Frogs (23-12, 8-4) last year with the home team winning in each instance.

In the Horned Frogs' first contest against the Sooners in Norman, Okla., TCU was dropped 13-5. Pitcher Tyler Lockwood started the game for the Horned Frogs but was pulled after 2/3 inning, allowing five earned runs and recording a loss. Oklahoma rode a seven-run first inning en route to the win.

In the second game at Lupton Stadium

TCU won 11-3, with Lockwood earning a win this time in three innings of scoreless relief.

Head coach Jim Schlossnagle said Oklahoma is a big game for the team but this is the most important part of the season from a conference standpoint.

Freshman Trent Appleby, who helped record a triple play in Sunday's win over the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, said he expects a big crowd to show up to see them play the Sooners, but said the team does not focus on names.

"We don't play the jersey, we just play the game," Appleby said. "We don't focus on who we're playing but rather just doing our job." Freshman Jimmie Pharr said the Sooners will bring great pitching and the end result will probably be a really close game.

TCU swept its second straight Moun-

tain West Conference series against UNLV during the weekend for its second conference series win of the season.

The Horned Frogs, who at the end of March dropped two of three games to the Runnin' Rebels in their first series against the conference foe, reversed their fortunes this past weekend.

In the two games TCU lost to UNLV, the Rebels got the win in the ninth inning. This series featured two late inning-comeback wins for the Horned Frogs in games one and three.

TCU is currently in third place in the MWC with an equal conference record as second place University of New Mexico, but behind in the tie-breaker.

The nine-game winning streak is TCU's longest since the 2006 season when it won 10 straight games before dropping its final two in the NCAA regional.

RUGBY

# Freshman rucks past competition

By GREGORY WEAVER  
 Staff Reporter

For many TCU students, participation in club sports is a way to have fun and enjoy a sport they love.

For freshman business major Chris Ferrante, his time with the TCU Rugby Club was part of his preparation for the USA Under-19 National team, on which he mans the hooker position.

"Playing for the national team is definitely my biggest achievement," Ferrante said. "I wasn't very good when I started playing in high school but one thing led to another and here I am."

James Wolfinger, Ferrante's head coach at St. Thomas High School in Houston, said it was Ferrante's focus and dedication that have helped him to make it this far.

"It is very satisfying to see Chris start as a freshman and to watch him grow and go so far," Wolfinger said. "It is like watching one of your own kids succeed."

Andre Ferrante, Chris Ferrante's father, said his son's achievements on the field have also helped him to grow as a person.

"My wife and I are very proud of Chris," Chris' father said. "I now see him playing with a whole new level of confidence, especially after he made the U-19 team."

During the summer between his junior and senior year of high school, Ferrante tried out for the Texas All-Star team. At this tryout, Team USA scouts noticed the Houstonian's ability and invited him to try out for the U-18 team in Elkhart, Ind.

"I got to travel to England last spring for my first national tour, and although we didn't play very well, it was a really neat experience," Ferrante said. "It is different playing overseas, because you are representing your country, family and friends, and always have the USA logo on you."

Ferrante said his favorite part was being only one of two players from his U-18 team selected to return and compete for the U-19 squad.

"It was a real honor being chosen to return because it is very difficult to be chosen year after year and continue to play within the system," Ferrante said.

The top 30 players for the U-19 team are selected through tryouts, and the season begins in July. From here the team meets four to five times a year for six days each time to compete in tournaments, which include The Freedom Cup, a spring tour in England and the World Cup, usually held in June.

"The Freedom Cup against Canada is one of my favorite competitions," Ferrante said. "This past year we played against their U-20 team, so it was a great building block for the World Cup in the summer."

Apart from these tournaments, the players, who come from all over the country, play with different club and school teams.

"Hopefully I will one day get a chance to participate on the USA Men's Team," Ferrante said. "It will take a lot of work, but it is something I could definitely see myself doing."



Freshman Chris Ferrante makes a sharp cut against then-No. 22 Sam Houston State on Dec. 1 while playing with the TCU rugby team in Huntsville. Ferrante is a member of the USA Under-19 National team with which he competes internationally. Courtesy of ANDRE FERRANTE

ATHLETICS ADMINISTRATION

# Marketing campaign raises local awareness

By ROBERT BEMBER  
 Staff Reporter

The success of the "Next Season is Now" marketing campaign can be more accurately gauged by awareness raised rather than tickets sold, the associate director of athletics for external operations said.

Scott Kull said the campaign's greatest impact has been the amount of awareness it has raised for the

football team.

"I think it has done a lot of what we had set out to do," said Jason Byrne, director of athletics marketing. "To create the excitement we wanted, to give our players — our student-athletes — a chance to be exposed or shown in a different light is what we wanted to see."

The mini-site has received more than 6,000 hits, Byrne said.

"It seems like everybody wants a poster, so it's been good to have some demand for that," Byrne said.

About 1,500 fans attended Saturday's Spring Game, Kull said. Fans had the opportunity to buy apparel and children could play on inflatable games or get their faces painted, Byrne said.

"We haven't publicized the Spring Game a lot in the past years, so we See **MARKETING**, page 5

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