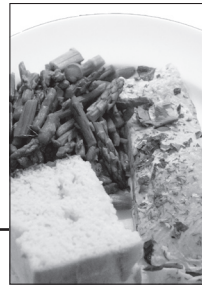


Find out what TCU officials' response is to student complaints about dining services.



Find out how one reporter rates Pulido's food and service.

# DAILY SKIFF

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## Grading system raises concerns

### Students express viewpoints on new plus/minus policy

By ROSS BATEMAN  
Staff Reporter

Students offered their opinions on the debate about changing to a plus/minus grading system before a panel of faculty members Tuesday night at a forum co-hosted by the Student Government Association and Faculty Senate.

The forum was the beginning of a process to research the possibility of a plus/minus system and get student feedback, but there are details that still need to be worked out before the system could be implemented as early as Fall 2007, David Grant, a religion professor, said. One of those issues was brought up by freshman Olivia Chilton, who said a plus/minus system would make it harder for 4.0 students to maintain

their 4.0 because there is no A+ on the proposed scale. Research that can backup Chilton's claim can be found at [faculty.tcu.edu/grant/plus-minus](http://faculty.tcu.edu/grant/plus-minus), a Web site that offers information about other universities that have considered the plus/minus system. "There will be fewer 4.0's," Faculty Senate Chairman Andy Fort said. "But a plus/minus system would discriminate the truly extraordinary from the just extraordinary."

A number of other students were concerned a plus/minus system would hurt students that need certain grades to maintain scholarships and financial aid. "The Faculty Senate's Academic Excellence Committee will investigate that issue with the financial aid department before a final proposal is made," Grant said. Another panel member, Magnus Rittby, a professor of physics and astronomy, said he more on FORUM, page 2



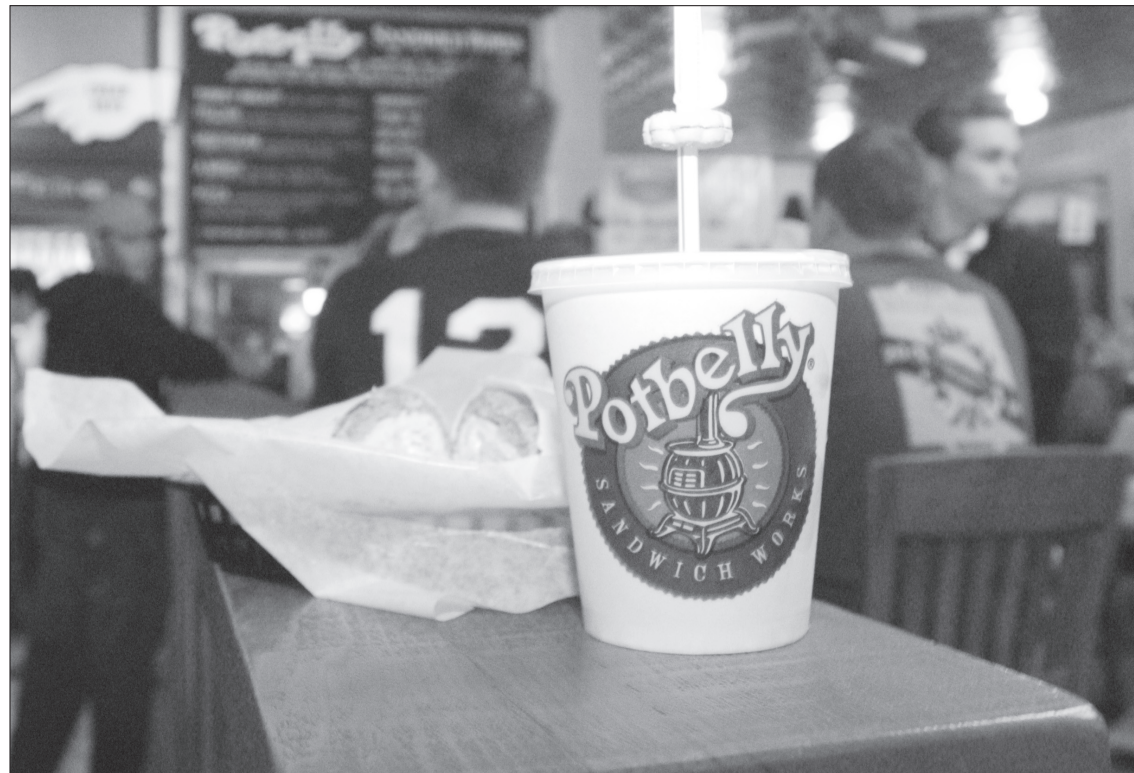
Ty Halasz / Staff Photographer  
Students gathered in the Student Center Lounge on Tuesday night to discuss a plus/minus grading system with faculty members on the Academic Excellence Committee.

## 'Belly Buster'

### Five contestants face challenge, vie for cash prize

By AMY KOPSEA  
Staff Reporter

Five contestants, five minutes and \$500. In the spirit of National Sandwich Day on Thursday, Potbelly Sandwich Works is hosting the "Belly Buster" sandwich eating contest in nine of its college-town stores across the country, including the store next to the TCU campus. With a grand prize of \$500 cash, contestants will have to eat as many sandwiches as possible in five minutes to win.



Ty Halasz / Staff Photographer  
Potbelly Sandwich Works is hosting a sandwich eating contest in nine of its college town stores across the nation, including the restaurant adjacent to TCU. The contest will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday.

Brad Kane, manager of the Potbelly store on University Drive, said it is a fun contest geared toward showing appreciation to its customers. "It's a neat way for us to give back to our customers," Kane said. With as many as 50 people vying for the chance to enjoy free sandwiches with a hefty pay-off, only a handful will be chosen. "Contestants have been signing up over the past two weeks," Kane said. "We have a random drawing to select five

people to eat as many sandwiches as they can in five minutes." Eric Tabone, a sophomore accounting and finance major, said he is happy he gets the chance to eat for free. "Who cares if I win or not, I am getting free sandwiches," Tabone said. "Basically, I am just going to shove as much down as possible, then throw up afterwards. My fellow fans,

stand back when I'm done." As far as spending the prize money, Tabone said he has recreational plans. "Other than new ski equipment, I will be taking many beautiful ladies from the TCU campus out for a night on the town," Tabone said. Courtney Loechl, a sophomore communications studies major, has been working at Potbelly for about a month

and a half and says Potbelly's not only has great food, but a good atmosphere as well. This sandwich joint has been serving up local charm, live music and great sandwiches since 1977, according to its press release. Although the contest is a fun idea, Michelle Fabrega, a sophomore advertising/public relations major, said it does more on CONTEST, page 2

## Bush prepares for 'another pandemic'

### Bird flu danger causes stockpile of current vaccine

By LAURAN NEERGAARD  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush outlined a \$7.1 billion strategy Tuesday to prepare for the danger of a pandemic influenza outbreak, saying he wanted to stockpile enough vaccine to protect 20 million Americans against the current strain of bird flu.

The president also said the United States must approve liability protection for the makers of lifesaving vaccines. He said the number of American vaccine manufacturers has plummeted because the industry has been hit with a flood of lawsuits. Bush said no one knows when or where a deadly strain of flu will strike but "at some point we are likely to face another pandemic." The president, in a speech at the National Institutes of Health, said the United States must be prepared to detect outbreaks anywhere in the world, stockpile vaccines and anti-viral drugs and be ready to respond at the federal, state and local levels in the event a pandemic reaches

the United States. Bush outlined a strategy that would cost \$7.1 billion including: —\$1.2 billion for the government to buy enough doses of the vaccine against the current strain of bird flu to protect 20 million Americans; the administration wants to have sufficient vaccine for front-line emergency personnel and at-risk populations, including military personnel; —\$1 billion to stockpile more anti-viral drugs that lessen the severity of the flu symptoms; —\$2.8 billion to speed the development of vaccines as new strains emerge, a process that now takes months; —\$583 million for states and local governments to prepare emergency plans to respond to an outbreak. Bush said a pandemic flu would be far more serious than the seasonal flu that makes hundreds of thousands of people sick ever year and sends people to their doctors for a flu shot. "I had mine," Bush said. Unlike seasonal flu, pandemic flu can kill people who are young and healthy as well as those who are frail and sick, he said. more on BUSH, page 2

## Minister to address impact of technology

### Friday's lecture to stress importance of preaching today

By JENNIFER BICKERSTAFF  
Staff Reporter

Harvard Divinity School Minister Peter J. Gomes is speaking to TCU students and faculty Friday about the relevance of preaching in a technology-driven society, according to the Brite Divinity School. Gomes, Plummer professor of Christian morals and Pusey minister in the Memorial Church at Harvard Divinity School, is the recipient of 30 honorary degrees. He was also named clergy of the year by Religion in American Life. "The address is mainly for preachers but he can speak

on almost anything and to anyone," said Stanley Hagadone, director of admissions for Brite and director of continuing education program. This is the second time Gomes has visited TCU, his first visit was in 1988, said Hagadone. "We are delighted to welcome him back," Hagadone said. The office of Continuing Education and the Black Church Studies program at Brite invited Gomes to speak. Gomes has written many popular books and academic books. His books, "The Good Book: Reading the Bible with Mind and Heart" and "Sermons: Biblical Wisdom for Daily Living," were New York Times and national best-selling books. He also participated in the

#### EXTRA INFO

**Who:** Harvard Divinity School Minister Peter J. Gomes is speaking at 8 p.m. Friday.  
**What:** His topic, "The Word Made Flesh: The Importance of Preaching in a Sound-Byte World."  
**Where:** The event will be hosted at the Kelly Alumni Center.  
**Cost:** The cost for general admission is \$15; TCU students, faculty and staff will be charged \$10.  
**Reservations:** Ticket reservations can be made at 817-257-7513.

presidential inaugurations for Ronald Reagan and George W. Bush. "Gomes is a sought after speaker and we are pleased to have him," Hagadone said. Gomes' lecture, "The Word Made Flesh: The Importance of Preaching in a Sound-Byte World" is at 8 p.m. Friday in the Kelly Alumni Center.

## PC to host interpreting dreams presentation

### Speaker says he enjoys explaining bothersome dreams

By AMY KOPSEA  
Staff Reporter

Dream catchers and crystal balls may be a thing of the past, but students can still get a look into what their dreams mean at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Brown-Lupton Student Center Lounge. Programming Council is hosting a presentation about dreams with speaker and dream interpreter Greg Hoeflicker. "A lot of people are really bothered about their dreams," Hoeflicker said. "It's a pleasure of mine to help interpret these dreams and explain why they are having them." Hoeflicker said when he was a teen, he was bothered by a recurring dream. He sought help in interpreting that dream and realized the subject was

intriguing to him. "(The dream interpreter) told me more about myself in five minutes than anyone else who knew me had," Hoeflicker said. "I wanted to have that kind of insight for myself." Hoeflicker said he studied for 12 years with a nonprofit educational organization studying and practicing techniques about dreams, and now he is traveling across the country to talk about this subject. "I hope to make (students) aware that their dreams really are about them," Hoeflicker said. "In order to grow in life, one of the first steps is knowing who you are, and your dreams help you determine that." Alina Tennie, Programming Council director of lectures, forums and films, said this event is geared toward the entire TCU campus and is something students would be able to relate to. "The topics range from what dreams are to why we really need sleep," Tennie said.

#### EXTRA INFO

• What: Interpreting your dreams  
• When: 7 p.m. today  
• Where: Brown-Lupton Student Center Lounge

"After talking about dreams and focusing the mind with power of visualization, he will interpret some dreams from audience members." Hoeflicker said the most common dreams among college students are about dying or being chased and attacked. Tennie said students will learn tips on how to understand their own dreams. "Throughout the program, (Hoeflicker) will be mentioning different activities that students can do in order to remember more detail," Tennie said. "They will be taught how to learn things in a fraction of the time, the power of visualization exercises and how to use your subconscious mind to give you moments of clarity." more on DREAMS, page 2