



ALUMNI

Grads share plans for staying connected to TCU community

By Katie Terhune

Staff Reporter

For most graduating seniors, their connection with TCU will not end with their journey across the stage in May.

Katelyn Fischer, a finance and accounting major, said she planned to stay involved with her alma mater after graduation, even as she moves out of Horned Frog country.

"I hope to be active, but I will not be living in Fort

Worth," said Fischer, who will be moving to Houston to work as an auditor for the accounting firm Deloitte. "I'm hoping that I'll be able to make it back, and attend events and eventually move back here."

Fischer said alumni remain an important part of TCU and should continue to help improve the university.

"I think the role of alumni is to benefit the university and work towards the advancement of the role of TCU as a

forerunner in the nation," she said. "[We're] shaping how TCU will be in the future."

Fischer said she had heard of Young Alumni groups, but had not yet tried to get involved.

Fischer said it would be difficult to leave her friends behind when she graduated.

"I think I will miss...having my friends with me all in one place, living together," she said. "It'll be hard as we all go our separate ways."

Carrie Wright Brown, as-

sociate director of alumni relations, said graduating did not mean students needed to sever ties with their friends as they moved away.

Brown said froglinks.com, the alumni website, is an important tool for TCU graduates looking to stay involved with the school and each other. The website provides information about former students across the country as well as any meetings or events, she said.

"That's a great way to keep our alumni connected [if]

"I think I will miss... having my friends with me all in one place, living together. It'll be hard as we all go our separate ways."

Katelyn Fischer

Senior finance and accounting major

they aren't living in the chapter. But if the alumni are lucky enough to live in one of our 16 chapter cities, we have tons of programming that goes on," she said, comparing the site to the online community Facebook. "That's our mission, to actively engage our alumni so that they have that connection."

There are Young Alumni chapters in Fort Worth, Houston and Dallas that are geared towards alumni that have been out of school for fewer

FROGLINKS.COM

than 10 years, according to the website. The groups provide a chance to socialize and network with other Horned Frogs.

Brown said she encourages students to get involved with the university as soon as they graduate. She said seniors should update their profiles on froglinks.com so the university could stay in touch with them and provide information about alumni events or opportunities in their city.

"The only way we can get a hold of people is if they update their information," she said. "Students' email accounts will shut down after they graduate at TCU, and so if they don't update, it's hard for us to keep track of them."

Brown said recent gradu-

ates move often, making it harder to provide the information about networking or alumni gatherings. One such get-together is the annual Frog5 Tailgate, an event for alumni who have graduated within the last five years. The tailgate is held on the lawn of the Kelly Alumni Center and usually brings in about 800-1,000 recent grads, Brown said.

Brown said many TCU graduates choose to give back by donating to the university. Interested students in their final year can donate to the senior class legacy and are encouraged to donate to the university once they leave.

"We are definitely seeing a trend in giving among our young alumni," Brown said.

Sydney Burgess



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INTERNSHIPS

Unpaid internships provide experience, but ethics questions remain

By Chelsea Katz
Staff Reporter

As students graduate and begin the search for jobs and open positions, smaller local businesses and organizations are typically where students will find unpaid internships, John Thompson, executive director of Career Services, said. However, he said the federal government is trying to stop the use of unpaid interns.

"There is a big push by the federal government to stop [unpaid] internships," Thompson said. "They think that that's exploitation of students, [and] they don't think it's fair."

According to a *New York Times* opinion article, "the United States Department of Labor says an intern at a for-profit company may work without pay only when the program is similar to that offered in a vocational school, benefits the student, does not displace a regular employee and does not entitle the student to a job; in addition, the employer must derive 'no immediate advantage' from the

student's work and both sides must agree that the student is not entitled to wages."

Thompson said, "The newest wrinkle is that there is a huge debate over the ethics behind unpaid and paid internships. And because the government is coming down on the side of 'We don't happen to like unpaid internships,' a lot of employers are frightened to do any hiring."

Thompson said it is possible for the number of unpaid internships to drop, and students' opportunities to drop with them.

"If that source [of unpaid internships] dries up then there won't be as many opportunities," he said. "[Unpaid internships] have the potential of a huge decline."

Thompson said some organizations support the government and want free work halted. For other companies, though, it is part of the company policy to use unpaid interns.

"Some companies still want to have the internship experience but they don't want

to pay," he said. "They either don't have the money to pay, or it's just not been the custom of the company to do that over the years, and everybody that's entered the company has come through an internship program."

"I think any experience is good experience. If you find a job that you want to work at and all they offer is an internship, they might offer you a job later."

Amber Harris

Senior fashion merchandising major

Amber Harris, a senior fashion merchandising major, said being an intern at a company can be good for the future.

"If I stay on and show how I'd be as an employee, I think that would show the employer how I would be a great candidate if they plan to offer me a

job at the end," Harris said.

Because of the push by the government, though, Thompson said a lot of companies do not want to hire college students because they are afraid of getting in trouble with the government for having unpaid interns. He said this worry is the reason these companies are waiting to hire interns until they are no longer students. Thompson said these internships after graduation are called "externships."

Thompson said Career Services helps seniors find externships that can help them go on to other jobs in the future. He also said he wanted to develop a program with companies to help recruit companies for externships. Now employers can only tell students about internships and externships via FrogJobs.

Noe Guevara, a senior supply chain management major, said FrogJobs reminded him of a job offer with JCPenney. He will have that job after he graduates from TCU. Although he has never had an unpaid internship, he said he

would be open to going into an externship if necessary.

"If there were no other offers, I'd be kind of excited [to have an externship] because that will give me something else to throw on my résumé," Guevara said. "If I didn't have too much on my résumé, then I guess I'd be a little happier because I'd have something else to market myself better."

Harris said she has had two internships. Her first one was with a boutique called Bline in Plano. She said she took the internship to gain experience and knowledge about the field she wants to go into after college. She said she is also currently a marketing intern with TCU Athletics.

"I think any experience is good experience," Harris said. "If you find a job that you want to work at and all they offer is an internship, they might offer you a job later."

Thompson said he could not name "more than a handful" of companies that offer externships. He said there could be more externships than he knew because he does

not hear about them as much, but they increase when the economy has a downturn.

Thompson said he did not know a percentage of how many graduating seniors went on to externships and jobs because there is not a system set up to collect that data, and neither students nor employers tell the university.

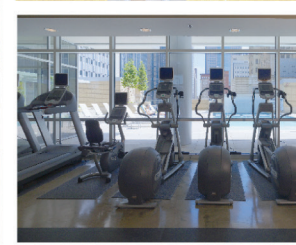
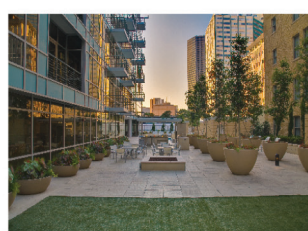
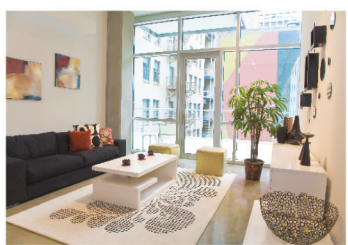
Career Services is trying to gather data through surveys on the back of the seniors' marching cards. It has done this for the past two semesters and have gotten about two-thirds of the graduates to respond. Of these two-thirds, the survey found that one-third were planning on going to graduate school. He said they were also able to find that the average salary for graduates was \$45,000.

He said they did not know how many of the respondents specifically took internships. He said he hoped to get more data from this graduating class because more people will be on either side of the graduates to remind them to fill out the survey.

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TCU has seen immense change over four years



Mike Vosters

When the Class of 2011 arrived at TCU in August 2007, there was no Brown-Lupton University Union, no all-you-can-eat buffets, no ice cream and no all-day omelette bar. We had The Main with only two dinner options and a salad bar where you were charged extra if your container surpassed a certain weight limit.

Sure, we had Deco Deli where Carla would ask us, "Baby, what's your bread? What's your spread?" but that was only open for lunch.

There was no bookstore either. It had burned down in 2006, leaving us with nothing but a trailer stationed in the parking lot behind Red Cactus. Starbucks Coffee, Nike shorts and Under Armour? I don't think so. Just books, Scantrons and other basics.

Oh, and you know those nationally-recognized sports programs? No one talked about them. Amon

G. Carter Stadium never sold out, Fort Worth wasn't dyeing the Trinity River or lighting up the downtown skyline purple, and ESPN would never have thought to consider us for College GameDay, much less a national championship or College World Series.

The Class of 2011 is the only class that was here to see all of these changes from start to finish, and I think I speak for the entire class in saying I wouldn't have had it any other way.

Tailgates were in the Greek, the entire Campus Commons was under construction, Jarvis Hall was a residence hall, Sherley Halls was for girls only and there were visitation hours and everyone wanted to live in Foster Hall. The library closed at 2:00 a.m., you couldn't check out MacBooks, Frog Camp wasn't international, Connections had just been created and the Office of Admission was this tiny room on the first floor

of Sadler Hall. TheCrew was called Programming Council, Gamma Phi Beta didn't exist, Frog Fountain was under reconstruction, and major brands weren't manufacturing sweet merchandise for fans to purchase.

I bring all of this to attention not to complain but to celebrate the incredible progress TCU has made in the past four years.

With 13 new or renovated buildings — and more to come — a Rose Bowl Championship — also more to come — and an applicant pool that has more than doubled, TCU has become one of the up-and-coming, premier universities in the nation.

The Class of 2011 is the only class that was here to see all of these changes from start to finish, and I think I speak for the entire class in saying I wouldn't have had it any other way. We didn't have all the renovations and resort-like accommodations that today's freshmen receive, but that only makes us appreciate it all the more — and hope that it's never taken for granted.

Mike Vosters is a senior marketing major from Olathe, Kan.

HONORS AND AWARDS

International student earns award

By Natalie Smith
Staff Reporter



Dlamini

Swaziland and the program which brought her to TCU, Director of International Studies John Singleton said.

"The Sister Cities award is less about helping Sidee and more about recognizing her and the many things she has accomplished."

John Singleton
Director of International Studies

Sidee Dlamini, a senior international economics major, came to TCU in 2007 through the Sister Cities program, an initiative that seeks to advance peace through lasting relationships and international understanding, Singleton said. According to the Sister Cities website, a community in the U.S. will partner with a community from another country to promote the sharing of ideals between the two communities.

Dlamini said during her

four years at TCU, she has been involved in programs such as Frog Camp, Connections, Marching Band, African Heritage Club, Model UN and was the director for Frog House, a Habitat for Humanity project at the university. Dlamini enrolled after receiving a one-year Sister Cities scholarship awarded by the university, according to a release from the Fort Worth Sister Cities affiliate. She later applied for, and received, multiple scholarships that helped pay for her tuition, according to the release.

Singleton, who knows Dlamini from the program, said Sidee has been a great connector between Swaziland and the United States and is excited that she's being honored. Both Singleton and counselor Karen Scott will highlight her achievements from her four years at the university, according to the release.

Each summer, Dlamini said she would return home to Swaziland, and would help incoming freshmen from the country by helping acclimate them to the change of American culture.

"The Sister Cities [honor] is less about helping Sidee and more about recognizing her and the many things she has accomplished," Singleton said. "This award is really something to say thank you to her because she has been an amazing ambassador for Swaziland and also for the Sister Cities pro-

gram."

Karen Martin, professor of Bilingual Education, said, "She has been a good diplomat for the two countries and it is a great accomplishment for her to receive the Sister Cities award."

Dlamini said she first came to TCU during her senior year of high school as a member of the inaugural high school student International Leadership Academy from Fort Worth's sister city of Mbabane, Swaziland. After taking a tour of the campus she decided to apply.

Once she received her acceptance letter to the university, she said she knew TCU would be the place where she would spend her next four years.

Coming from Swaziland, Dlamini said she did not see a huge difference in the culture but does miss the food from her native land. She said the food she has experienced in the United States has been more fattening and not as healthy as the food where she is from.

Martin said Dlamini is the kind of student teachers enjoy having at TCU. She said she represents the best of her country and the university, and truly cares about humanitarian causes and helping and sharing with others.

Dlamini said after college she is planning on staying in the United States and will be focusing on searching for a job dealing with community service and outreach.



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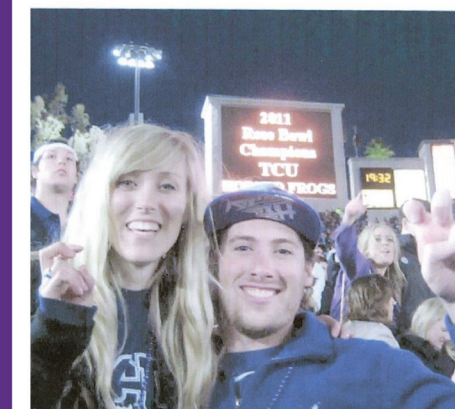
Kyrie Eleison Anderson



*Kyrie,
You have traveled on a highway in the light with such mercy & grace. Be proud of your successes because you are capable of so much more. Your God-given gifts will change people's lives & that will ultimately change the world! We are proud to be your parents...*

Dad & Mom

Lauren Nicole Jury



*Lauren Nicole,
We Love You. We are proud of your Ambitions. Your Upbeat outlook on life will help you to succeed. You are more than capable of Reaching your goals. You have exceeded our Expectations. Your good-Nature will afford you many friends.*

Dad, Mom and Whitney



SKIFF ARCHIVES

Susan "Elizabeth" Slagle



*Elizabeth,
You have blessed our life, immeasurably. The love and
care you give to others is noted. We look forward to
seeing where you go in life; the road less traveled by...*

*Mom, Susan Slagle
Dad, R. C. Slagle III, TCU '59 Graduate
Brother, R. C. Slagle IV*

EDUCATION

TCU grads join Teach For America

By Brett Anderson
Staff Reporter

Some TCU students without education degrees have decided to enter the teaching field after graduation through the Teach For America organization.

Teach For America selects college students from around the country to serve as teachers for at least two years in 39 rural and urban areas in the country, according to the organization's website. The purpose is to improve the quality of education in low-income communities.

Senior marketing major T.J. Shepherd said he decided to accept a position as a corps member with Teach For America even though he had multiple job offers that fit better with his major. The desire to make a positive difference in the world drove his decision, he said.

"Community service is a really big part of my life, and I really wanted to look for something that will allow me to do that after graduation," Shepherd said.

Shepherd also said he hopes the experience will make him grow up and that he was excited to experience life outside of TCU.

Senior political science

and philosophy double major Ross Thomason said he accepted a position with Teach For America in January.

In addition to the personal satisfaction of making a difference in the world, Thomason said a major benefit of the program was having a reliable job with a good schedule.

Thomason said he didn't expect to be a teacher at age 22 but that the opportunity was something he couldn't pass up. Thomason said he thought about going to law school or receiving his master's degree after graduation but he couldn't afford it. He said he could pursue his master's degree in his second year of teaching and participating in Teach For America would also look good to potential graduate schools.

"It's just one of those intermediary steps that is a good transition from an undergraduate to a professional or a graduate student," Thomason said.

Cara Smith, the TCU campus campaign coordinator for Teach For America, said TCU and Teach For America built a strong relationship in recent years.

"[Teach For America] really does recruit some of

TCU's best students, and I think overall we've had a lot of interest the last few years," Smith said.

The number of TCU students who applied and were accepted this year could not be released but that there were currently 32 first- and second-year Teach For America corps members who graduated from TCU, Smith said.

Smith, a senior political science and math double major, said she also accepted a position with Teach For America after graduation. She said she would teach in Hawaii.

Shepherd and Thomason both said they were assigned to teach in the Dallas region but proposed Texas budget cuts to education could jeopardize their positions.

Smith said Teach For America had not lost funding from federal budget cuts but individual placement regions had been impacted. But Smith said the organization would work to ensure all members have a teaching job at the start of the school year.

"Teach For America wouldn't place someone in a region thinking there wouldn't be a job for them," Smith said.

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University imperfect, but fixing it is half the fun



Allison Erickson

The senior reflection articles are always so tear-filled that it's a little revolting. I'd be ashamed of myself if I had the chance to say something and never stood up and pointed at the elephant in the room and instead nodded complacently at the ever-shifting flower beds. I may be graduating, but I'm not leaving peacefully. I've got a few bones to pick.

TCU isn't perfect. I say that in the most respectful and honest way possible. If I were to meet someone who said he or she absolutely adored everything about TCU, I would call that person ignorant and a waste of space. The rooms are nice, but the housing system has

always been a headache. The library is way too small for the growing student body, and engaging activities seem to center around freshmen. Once they pass the line to be upperclassmen, all interest seems to dissipate.

But I like that TCU isn't perfect, because it gives current and future students the opportunity to improve it, an opportunity to put hard work into something of which you may not reap immediate reward. I also like that TCU is growing in diversity.

It's strange to think that the only people left on campus who know what The Main was are all leaving in a few weeks. It wasn't even named The Main; that's just what we called it because it was the heart of campus. There were student activism groups, posters, events, Student Government Association and all sorts of functions that took place in the heart of campus. The Brown-Lupton University

Union is gorgeous, but it lacks that same amount of campus-centered activism, of thriving student participation and drive. But I like that TCU keeps messing up. We get the chance to fix it.

But I like that TCU isn't perfect, because it gives current and future students the opportunity to improve it, an opportunity to put hard work into something of which you may not reap immediate reward. I also like that TCU is growing in diversity.

With four years under my belt in Fort Worth, I would say I've had a lot to think about.

In about a year, I could be in Afghanistan. Four years definitely seem a lot

shorter when you know your hardest times are still ahead. But I can only think so much about the future before I'm drawn to thinking about how well the past has prepared me for that future. TCU had a starring role in my development, and I can't think of my future without thinking about Army ROTC.

I think about the early morning wakeups at 6 a.m. for Physical Training at Frog Field, or to most TCU students, that grassy area between the Mary Wright Admission Center and the Bellaire Condos. There's nothing like waking up the birds by stomping through the morning dew and reaching muscle failure before your roommates have even reached for the snooze button.

I think about my freshman and sophomore years, climbing up the five-meter high dive in my full combat equipment. A senior cadet handed me a fake M16, put

a blindfold over my eyes, spun me in circles and directed me to jump off while sounding off — "Horned Frogs lead the way!" I jumped, but I sounded off with something more like — "Women lead the way!"

I think about how I looked up directions to the ROTC lab my freshman year. I was told to go to Bobo Park. According to Google Maps, Google and even longtime locals, Bobo Park doesn't exist. I ran to lab the first day head to toe in uniform with a rucksack packed to standard on my back after someone kindly informed me it was down University Drive near the Log Cabin Village.

I think about how I tried to explain to professors that I was doing training on some weekends with ROTC, and some would give the understanding nod and give me a sooner or later due date for my assignments. Others would tell me my assignments were still due

on the date assigned. I tried to figure all of this out when I realized I had no Internet, no access to a phone or a computer or any way to contact them. I settled for turning in assignments early from then on.

I think about cadre and cadets who have moved in and out of the program, who left their marks both in the classroom and by now on the battlefield. I hope I can meet their standards as I join their ranks and cross the stage into leadership.

TCU's mission statement correlates perfectly with what I hope to achieve, but I'll add a twist to it: to educate and to train soldiers to think and act as ethical leaders and responsible citizens within the U.S. Army and the global community — and to fight till hell freezes over.

Allison Erickson is a senior news-editorial journalism major from San Antonio.

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NATIONAL

Poll: Students optimistic despite money doubts

By **Connie Cass**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The American dream of life getting better for each new generation feels like a myth to many of today's young adults.

After coming of age during a deep recession, most expect to have a harder time buying a house and saving for retirement than their parents did. More than 4 in 10 predict it will be tougher to raise a family and afford the lifestyle they want, according to an Associated Press-Viacom poll of Americans ages 18 to 24.

Only about a fourth expect things to be easier for them than the previous generation

— a cherished goal of many hardworking parents.

"I just don't really see myself being able to obtain the kind of money my parents could when they were my age," said Mark McNally, 23, who earned a history degree from the University of Minnesota a year ago and now works part-time in a liquor store.

San Francisco State University nursing student Ashley Yates is confident she'll build a career in health care but expects money to be tighter in her lifetime. "Social Security may not even exist when I'm older," said Yates, 23. "Health insurance is going up. Everything just costs more."

Sounds like a bummer, right? Yet most young adults are shrugging it off. Despite financial disappointments, they overwhelmingly say they're happy with their lives, much more so than older folks in similar surveys.

Youthful optimism — with perhaps a touch of naivete — lives on. A whopping 90 percent expect to find careers that will bring them happiness, if not wealth.

Linka Preus, who's taking a year off her career track to work in an Ithaca, N.Y., bagel bakery, figures every generation has its own struggles, and bad economies eventually improve.

"Even if it never gets better permanently, we'll adjust to whatever it is," said Preus, 22, a linguistics and cognitive science grad from Cornell University who plans to pursue her passion for science in graduate school.

McNally, the history major, says he's enjoying life as a part-time clerk in the Minneapolis suburb of Edina before he gets tied down in a research or analyst job.

"I'll be able to find one in the future, I'm sure of it," McNally said. "I'll find one or go back to school."

High unemployment has left lots of young lives in limbo. Among students who

don't plan to go to work right after college, three-fourths say the limited number of open jobs in their field was important to their decision. Riding out the tough times in grad school is a popular choice for those with the means.

But for some without such options, optimism is hard to muster.

Nathan Watkins, out of work in rural Epworth, Ga., has little job experience, no car and no access to public transportation.

"I'm literally stuck and there's nothing I can do about it. At least I feel that way," said Watkins, 23, a high school graduate who lives with his mother and tries to compensate her by doing chores.

He's seeking work of any type. "Honestly, at this point, I wouldn't care. In this economy, you take what you can get."

Young people today are more pessimistic about their economic futures than young adults in a similar poll in April 2007, eight months before the recession began. And most say they cannot afford the things they want or are struggling at least a little to make their money last through each week. About half are dependent on family members for financial support.

Seventy-five percent say the economy is in poor shape,



JIM MONE / ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this photo made April 6, 2011, Mark McNally is shown at his part-time job at a liquor store in Edina, Minn. McNally, 23, earned a history degree from the University of Minnesota and says he doesn't think he can earn the same kind of money his parents made when they were his age.

on par with older people surveyed in a recent AP-GfK poll.

And they're not just worried about themselves; 7 out of 10 fret about their parents' finances. About 20 percent saw a parent laid off during the past year and a half, according to the AP-Viacom study, conducted in partnership with Stanford University.

Money troubles are steering the course of young lives. A majority say finances were a key factor in deciding whether to continue their educations past high school and, if they did, which college to attend, and what kind of career to seek.

Lucas Ward couldn't keep up with the tuition in community college, despite working three jobs at once — at a gas station, a hotel and a restaurant in scenic and touristy Hood River, Ore.

With youthful pluck, he found opportunity elsewhere.

Ward fell into a job doing

a bit of everything for a small outdoor clothing company, and the business took off. The housing collapse that busted so many baby boomers made prices suddenly affordable, so Ward bought a home. At 23, he's about to invest in a second house and building his own clothing company.

"A lot of stuff in the news is telling everyone that they can't, that the economy is crumbling and there's no room for anyone to do anything," Ward said. "But I'm watching that being disproven every day."

The AP-Viacom telephone survey of 1,104 adults ages 18-24 was conducted Feb. 18-March 6 by GfK Roper Public Affairs & Corporate Communications. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

Stanford University's participation in this project was made possible by a grant from The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Amanda Kate Ringel



*Sweet Pea Amanda,
Look at how much you've
accomplished since your first day
of school! Now it's time to live the
life you've imagined for yourself.
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think only of what IS possible and
remember God has blessed you.*

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Frog Feature

Getting to know Janeé Harrell, television producer and TV host.

By Clay York
Staff Reporter

As a television producer and TV host, TCU alumna Janeé Harrell is used to sharing her voice and opinions in the spotlight. Harrell, who graduated in 1995 with a bachelor's degree in Radio-TV-Film, is currently waiting to announce which major network "The Janeé Show" will appear on. The show will be her first TV show to air on a major network and her third national show overall. Her other shows, "Tour of Giving" and "Revelations of Authentic Women," debuted on AmericanLife Network. In a recent visit back to campus to produce a video for the Neeley School of Business, Fort Worth's 2010 Business Woman of the Year took time to answer some questions:

Q: How was your time at TCU?

A: My time at TCU was pretty tough because I never really felt like I fit in. I was in a sorority, but I really struggled because I felt everybody was better than me. Not because of anything that TCU did, but because of my own insecurities. Had it not been great professors and faculty members that really tried to pull me up during some of my tough times, I don't know if I would have been here today. Some of my best memories were when some of those professors and faculty members spent extra time with me and really tried to nurture raw talent that they saw and give me opportunities. I'll never forget that.

Q: What did you learn at TCU that helped you become successful as a producer and a host?

A: One of my most inspiring professors was Richard Allen — he's still here — and he really taught me that it's two things. One — hard

work, and second — the quality of your relationships. I have found that if you nurture those relationships then you're not just a number. You're actually a name and person that people are willing to believe in, and that's sort of what's helped me today.

Q: What fears did you have when you graduated, and how did you overcome those?

A: When I graduated, I was afraid I wouldn't know how to apply what I learned in school out in the real world. It's different when you're acting behind a camera in school and then you actually go do it to where people are going to see you. And how did I overcome that was really by contacting faculty and staff and asking them for help, even in writing press releases and some of my... speeches, even after I'd been out of college many years. It was pretty awesome.

Q: What real-world challenges arose once you

graduated?

A: In the real world, people are not quite as nice as they are here at TCU. It is really cutthroat...especially in the entertainment industry. It's a lot of bad-intentioned people. TCU definitely did not prepare me for that, because everyone here is really nice and kind. I wasn't prepared at all for that shark attack, so to speak. That's something I think I kind of had to learn the hard way.

Q: Do you still face those real-world challenges, or have you grown accustomed to them?

A: Being in the media and entertainment industry, there are always going to be people with bad intentions. There's always going to be people like that in the real world, but now I know how to spot those people and how to better protect myself. Before, I was naïve and trusted everyone. Now I've learned how to be discerning. I've also learned how to be a darn good negotiator and make sure that I

protect my back and surround myself with great people who do have my best interest at heart.

Q: What advice did you receive upon graduation, and what advice would you give to students?

A: The advice I got was to stay connected to your teachers and faculty and staff. I thought that just seemed cliché, but they really do mean it. And I highly recommend that. That you go back and you talk to faculty and staff, because that helps them educate on what it's like in the real world. That



COURTESY OF JANEÉ HARRELL

kind of leads me to the second point, what advice that I'd give students. Form a great advisory team...around yourself that's going to help protect you, that does have experience in your industry, [and] that can serve as mentors and advisers that are going to constantly make sure that you are doing the right things and helping you grow to that next level.

Q: What has been your greatest achievement since graduation?

A: No. 1 would be the formation of my nonprofit HopeHeal, where we walk women through life's journey. Then my second one would be the television show that we're working on now, which helps take high-achieving women to the next level. It's "The Janeé Show."

Lee William Tatlock



Lee,
Congratulations! Your positive attitude and your cheerful disposition have always been an inspiration to our family. We are so proud of your wonderful accomplishments! May life continue to be filled with rich blessings.

With all our love,
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People, not accomplishments, make college memorable



Shane Rainey

I was always told that red-headed babies were supposed to be special. An overzealous fan once screamed that phrase at me during a high school basketball game I was refereeing in, and, as I reflect on my time here at TCU, I realize it is an appropriate theme.

Like most graduating seniors, I find it hard to believe just how quickly the last four years have gone. It seems like yesterday that I received my acceptance letter in the mail, arrived at orientation, stepped off the bus at Frog Camp, and trembled as I stepped into my first General Chemistry class at 9 a.m. on my first Monday morning.

Yet with graduation looming, trying to condense four years into a single column is all but impossible. It has been one heck of a ride, one I would not trade for anything. Along the way, I have become TCU's most hated intramural official. I have worked in orientation and Frog Camp. I have worked and traveled with the nation's No. 2 football team — but No. 1 in my heart. I have completed the rigors of one of the most difficult

pre-medical curriculums around, and I have been accepted into medical school.

Do not get me wrong, all of that is fine and good, but what I will remember most after graduation is not the accomplishments or the list of achievements, but the people who helped me get there.

When I was preparing for my first summer as an Orientation Student Assistant, Kay Higgins, one of the most knowledgeable people I have ever met, gave us a tour of campus one afternoon. All was quiet, and the campus was empty due to the summer holiday. At the end of the tour, she sat us down in front of the Founders Statue and asked us to look around and take in all the scenery, and she pointed out all the names on the buildings, such as Sid Richardson, Amon Carter, etc. She said one of the

most profound things I have heard at TCU, that each of those names believed in "the TCU experience," and the moment remains one of my favorite.

Many have made great sacrifices for TCU because they believed in what it could be and what it could mean for students who attended it.

As the sun sets on my own TCU experience, I now fully understand what she meant. Many have made great sacrifices for TCU because they believed in what it could be and what it could mean for students who attended it. In short, they all believed it could be special. As I graduate, I realize it is not my accomplishments or achievements that

have made it special. It has been my TCU experience as a whole and each of the wonderful people I have met along the way.

I will remember long nights at Whataburger discussing a rule interpretation from that night of intramurals. I will remember staying all night in the library writing a paper due the next day while really goofing around with close friends. Mostly, I will remember the amazing atmosphere and warmth

of TCU, a place that truly has been "home" for the last four years. My experience at TCU is almost over, but I will take everything I learned with me for the rest of my life. I would not change any part of it, for it has made me the person I am today, and I am eternally grateful for that.

My advice to all undergrads is simple: make your own TCU experience. Make friends with the chancellor. Play racquetball with a

professor. Be a Frog Camp facilitator. Have a conversation with Denise Bennett — it will change your life. Swim in Frog Fountain at least once. Most importantly, do what you love to do, and cherish every second of it. Live in the moment, because TCU has put the world at your fingertips.

And that is what makes it special.

Shane Rainey is a senior chemistry major from Fort Worth.

Sarah Emily Strehl



*Sarah,
You are such a joy and an inspiration.
Your passion for helping others is
wonderful.
Remember - Don't judge each day by
the harvest you reap but by the seeds
that you plant.
-Robert Louis Stevenson
I love you and am very proud of you.*

*Love,
Mom*

Katelyn Suzanne Fischer



*Katelyn Suzanne Fischer,
Destined for this a ride
to Texas?? So TCU
TCU proud of you!!
Congrats to our own
fantastic TCU "froggie".*

*Love,
Mom, Dad & all*

Clinton Richard Johnson IV



*Our Dear Clinton,
You have learned much and
grown greatly. May God
always grant you a sunbeam to
warm you and a moonbeam to
charm you. Sharing in your joy!
Your Family*

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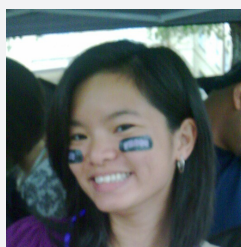


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JOHN L. ASHE

The Graduation Question

Q: What will you miss the most about TCU?



"I think I'm going to miss the closeness of the community...You kind of pretty much know everybody."

Phi Nguyen

Mechanical engineering major from Fort Worth



"I think just seeing everybody every day. Your whole school career you work with people, you go to class with people, and you see the same people every day and you get to know them. I'm really going to miss that."

Thomas Koenig

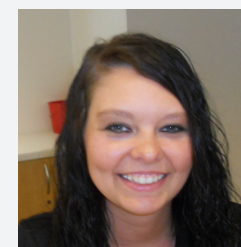
Radio-TV-Film major from Houston



"Send home. I'm also going to miss going to parties."

Sus Enos

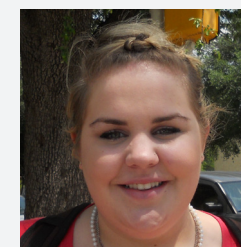
Radio-TV-Film major from Arlington



"College life, being able to sleep in [and] pick your classes when you want, so you don't have to wake up early if you don't want to. You can go lay out in the lawn and chill with your friends."

Cassie Garcia

Secondary education English major from Burleson



"I will miss just being able to see everyone every day, and just walking around and seeing people that you know."

Hannah James

Speech pathology major from Paducah, Ky

Peyton Bryant



Peyton,

Another Horned Frog named Bryant hops across the graduation stage. But each one has its unique jump: from the TCU Outstanding Freshman Band of Honor Award and K Psi to the Neeley Fellows and RUF, your leadership brought the passion with which God has gifted you to its fullest. It's no wonder what verse you quoted most: "For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline."

2 Timothy 1:6.

We love you, Peyton.

Congratulations,

Mom, Dad, Randall and Jeff

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ECONOMY

Graduates may fare better in 2011 job market

By Heather Noel
Staff Reporter

TCU graduates might fare better in the 2011 job market than last year's graduates, Jessica Cates, associate director of the Alcon Career Center, said.

There have been 100 on-campus interviews with students and employers this semester, up 16 percent from spring 2010, she said.

Although Cates said she could not determine actual numbers of 2011 graduates receiving jobs until they actually graduate, she said she heard of more students getting jobs at this time of the year compared to last year.

Austin Grajczyk, a senior nursing major, said he recently had an interview at Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Southwest in Fort Worth. He said many of his other classmates also interviewed with companies and others even received job offers.

Cates said employer recruitment through campus-sponsored events and services like career fairs, networking nights, on-campus interviewing, and job postings on TCU FrogJobs had seen an increase in interest for TCU students.

The number of employers participating in the TCU Career Expo increased from 63 employers in spring 2010 to 80 employers in spring 2011, Ashley Grubbs, associate director of employer development of Career Services, wrote in an email.

More employer interest would translate to more em-

ployment offers available to TCU students, Grubbs wrote.

Cates also felt as a whole the job market had begun to open back up.

"A lot of employers slashed hiring a number of years ago, so now that they have some money and have been able to create some revenue, they need people badly because they have been working with a very slim workforce," Cates said.

"Anytime you look at success whether it's in a company or a university, it really revolves around people."

Bret Irvin

Assistant Vice President in Human Resources at BNSF

She said Fort Worth-based Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway provided an example of a company that had cut back recruiting at TCU in recent years, but had returned to recruiting more at TCU this year.

Bret Irvin, assistant vice president in Human Resources at BNSF, said he said he felt BNSF and TCU had a similar commitment to excellence. The railway company had already hired or made offers to five TCU students this year, he said.

He believed this commonality helped TCU students fit in well in the company's working environment.

When he thought of TCU, he said he thought of quality of faculty, excellence in academics, and students engaged as citizens within a community. This similar excellence and familiarity of involvement in a community reflected some of the characteristics BNSF looked for in job applicants and future leaders in the company, he said.

Irvin said things BNSF and TCU had in common rested in being able to select people to thrive in each institution's culture.

"Anytime you look at success whether it's in a company or a university, it really revolves around people," Irvin said. "So you think about how do you bring the right people into your organization or how do you bring the right people into your university to ensure that you have success."

Renewed hiring of TCU students at companies such as BNSF could give hope to Trang Lam, a senior accounting major.

Lam had not found a job yet and with graduation nearing, the anxiety of not knowing what her future held left her frustrated.

She felt student resources like Career Services and FrogJobs had provided a great way to network with potential employers though.

Irvin said he considered networking with employers and friends a beneficial part of finding a job.

Grajczyk said his experience working at the hospital and getting to know the em-

ployees there had helped him obtain an interview. He said he remained hopeful having an established relationship with the employer will help him get the job.

Irvin said graduates should remain committed and not get discouraged if they did not receive a job immediately after graduation.

"One of the hardest things at any age is just trying to be patient and trying to maintain the tenacity that it is going to take to find that job," he said.



SKIFF ARCHIVES

Jaclyn Elizabeth Grainger



Jaci,
We love you so very much and are so proud of all your accomplishments - in the past and, especially, today.
Always be proud of your achievements and use them to fulfill your dreams to come.

We love you,
Mom, Dad and Bobby

Michelle Laurane Johnson



Michelle,
Graduation is a major milestone, and you've arrived with great accomplishments behind you. Life begins a new journey now as you launch your career and pursuit of professional rewards and personal happiness. No family could be prouder of the young woman you've become! Congratulations!

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Daddy and Darlene

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The Graduation Question

Q: What are your plans after graduation?



"I will be teaching biology in Fort Worth ISD and working my way through grad school."

Jasmine Batiste
Biology major from Houston



"I am staying in Fort Worth for the summer, and then in August I am flying to Boston to attend graduate school at Boston University. I am getting my master's in arts administration."

Audrey Burkhart
Musical theatre major from Sante Fe, Texas



"I'm actually going to get a second degree in nursing, so I'm actually moving to Houston to pursue that."

Katherine McGaha
Science and child development major from Shreveport, La



"Still job interviewing and looking for a job because the economy sucks right now... Possibly grad school in a year, but probably not."

Ashley Farish
Science and child development major from San Antonio



"My plan is to go to graduate school. I am getting my master's in counseling."

Margaret Oaikena
Psychology major from Arlington

Kristin Carol Partyka



*My Beautiful Kristin,
My heart swells with pride as I've
seen the woman you've grown into.
You have very special gifts of strength
to weather storms, great faith, honesty,
intelligence, and compassion. You are
a shining example of what every parent
wishes their child would be.*

*Love Forever,
Mommy (Muah!)*

Jeff Pels

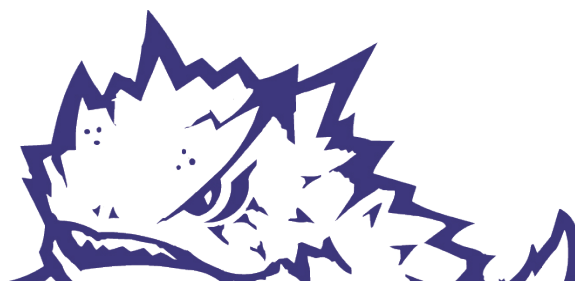


*Jeff,
From "Ninja Turtle" to "Flyin' Frog"
you have filled our lives with abundant
joy and pride. With your dedication and
determination you can achieve anything.
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*We love you,
Dad, Mom, Jared, & Marissa*

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Life at Lupton Stadium great over past 4 years



Courtney Kimbrough

Purple Nike Air Force Ones, headbands with a purple bow and black Nike shorts: This is my spring uniform. The job that went with the uniform sounds hectic to some, but I looked forward to weeks where my planner had "TCU Baseball" written on Tuesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. I'd be living at Lupton Stadium, but I had no complaints.

My freshman year, I joined the TCU Diamond Darlings. I had grown up around baseball, and I've always loved the game. Diamond Darlings are the bat and ball girls and work all the promotions during the games. I was only required to work a small number of games, but I went to them all.

At the end of the season, we hosted the Mountain West Conference tournament. I, along with three other Diamond Darlings, worked in the dugouts the whole tournament. Little did I know it, but that was just a taste of what was to come.

My sophomore year, I got even more involved in Diamond Darlings. I found myself falling in love with my TCU baseball team. I began driving to away games to work the TCU dugout. I actually started feeling like part of the team.

We hosted the MWC tournament again in 2009, and I worked the games with two other girls. Working these tournaments meant being in the dugouts for three games a day, four days in a row. I couldn't imagine a better way to spend my summer days. My purple Forces even became famous among TCU fans and the MWC announcers. The Mtn. did a couple pieces on my shoes and my baseball superstitions during the games. Who knew purple shoes could make such an impact?

After we took care of business in the conference tournament, I went to the team watch party to hear that TCU was chosen to host the NCAA Fort Worth Regional. Again, I found myself in the dugouts game after game, day after day for the Regional tournament.

I love reminiscing on pictures of the dogpile and excitement after we won regionals.

Coach Jim Schlossnagle allowed me in the dugout when we went to Austin for the Super Regional against those blasted Longhorns. Our stay in Austin didn't end the way we would have liked, but revenge was already on its way.

Words cannot describe the experience I had in Omaha, cheering on the team I love. It broke my heart to see UCLA beat us, but I could not have been prouder of what the Frogs accomplished.

I still had no idea what was in store for me. My junior year afforded many memories that I will never forget. I was bummed that we didn't host the MWC tournament, but there were better things to come. Again, we won conference, and we were chosen to host the Fort Worth Regional tournament once more.

By this point, I did not work other teams' dugouts; it didn't feel right not being with my guys. Everyone was so excited after we won this regional, and our sights were set on the Horns. Again, Schlossnagle included me in the dugout for our Austin trip. I took video from the dugout of the last out, and I captured the eruption



CARRIE ADAMS / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

of excitement when our boys dogpiled on that silly Longhorn in center field. "We're going to Omaha!" is all you hear in my video for the first 10 seconds. What a sweet feeling.

I am a Texas Rangers Six Shooter as well, and I was scheduled to work Rangers games through the whole College World Series. After Matt Curry hit his grand slam against Florida State — and after my voice came back — I contacted my Rangers supervisor to tell him I had to be in Omaha for my team. He understood, and I headed north the very next morning. Words cannot describe the experience I had in Omaha, cheering on the team I love. It broke my heart to see UCLA beat us, but I could not have been prouder of what the Frogs accomplished.

That brings me to my senior year. The best way to sum it all up: Three weeks ago, I stood in the dugout during "God Bless America." With my purple Forces on and my hand over my heart, I thought back on the memories I had made in that dugout and got a little teary-eyed. I love this game; I love this team; I love my Frogs.

Student media advertising director Courtney Kimbrough is a senior advertising-public relations major from Mesquite.

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NATIONAL

Unemployment falls in two-thirds of states

By Christopher S. Rugaber

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The unemployment rate fell in two-thirds of the nation's states last month, the latest evidence that the strengthening economy is encouraging many employers to boost hiring.

The Labor Department said Tuesday that the unemployment rate dropped in 34 states in March. That's the largest number of states to record a decline since June. The rate

rose in seven states and was unchanged in nine and Washington, D.C.

Employers hired more workers in 38 states. A government survey of employer payrolls found only 12 states plus Washington, D.C. lost jobs last month, the fewest since October.

Nationally, the unemployment rate fell in March to a two-year low of 8.8 percent, and private employers added more than 200,000 jobs for the second consecutive month. That's the largest two-month

hiring total in four years.

Texas added 37,200 net jobs in March, the most of any state. It was followed by Missouri and Florida, both of which reported strong gains. California lost 11,600 net jobs — the most of any state. Connecticut, Louisiana, Maryland and Maine all had large job losses, too.

New Mexico reported the biggest monthly drop in unemployment among all state, falling from 8.7 percent in February to 8.1 percent in March. Florida, Oklahoma, Indiana,

Missouri and Ohio posted the next biggest monthly declines.

The Midwest is faring particularly well, said Steve Cochrane, a regional economist at Moody's Analytics. The region has generated more jobs in the past three months than any of the other three regions. A rebound in manufacturing has spurred hiring in professional services such as accounting, advertising and legal services. New weekly applications for unemployment benefits have fallen to pre-recession levels, Cochrane said, the first region where that has happened.

As a result, the unemployment rate in the Midwest dropped from 8.4 percent to 8.3 percent last month. That's just above the Northeast's 8.2

percent unemployment rate — the best among the four regions. The West had the highest unemployment for any region in March, at 10.7 percent, followed by the South at 9.0 percent.

Nevada again had the highest unemployment rate of any state, although it fell from 13.6 percent to 13.2 percent in March. California, at 12 percent, was second, followed by Florida (11.1 percent) and Rhode Island (11 percent).


Florida's unemployment rate has come down slightly from the 11.3 percent rate recorded a year ago. That's the state's first year-over-year decline since November 2006. Some of the drop is because many people who are unemployed have giv-

en up looking for work. People without jobs who aren't looking aren't counted as unemployed.

"We're still on the cusp of recovery in the job market," said Sean Snaith, an economics professor at the University of Central Florida.

The Sunshine State has added jobs in health care and its signature industry — tourism. Snaith said restaurants, hotels and theme parks are adding workers. A new Harry Potter theme park at Universal Studios' Orlando resort has been popular, he said.



North Dakota had the nation's lowest unemployment rate at 3.6 percent. It was followed by Nebraska at 4.2 percent and South Dakota at 4.9 percent.



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Danielle Elizabeth Denning




*Dani,
Congratulations!! We are so proud of all your hard work and accomplishments the past few years. Recognize your talents and abilities and go out and start the next phase of your life. We look forward to sharing in your future.*

Mom and Dad

Alexander Joseph Ford Daigle




Alex,

God Bless You on your graduation from TCU-College of Science and Engineering—May the Lord be with you on your journey through life. Reach for the stars, dream big, believe, achieve. Your family is so proud of you. We're wishing you happiness and success wherever you may go.

Much Love,

Mom, Dad, Chase, Jordan and Nick Daigle, Pat Denman "Nana", Cliff and Myrtle Page, "Maw Maw and Paw Paw"

In Loving Memory of: K. Thomas Denman "Papa", J. Charles Daigle, Jr., "Paw Paw" and Sunny Walker "Ninnie"

~ 1 Timothy 4:12

People, not accomplishments, make college memorable



Katie Caruso

I remember coming to TCU my freshman year feeling frustrated and a bit antisocial. Looking back, I think it was a cover-up for my nerves and the fear that I wouldn't be accepted or loved for who I was.

It's funny how friendship finds you in the strangest places, though. Don't worry, I won't make up some fantastic story about how I met my best friends at Frog Camp and had the best time at Howdy Week, because I didn't.

While I did meet some wonderful people at Frog

Camp, we mostly never spoke after we came back to campus. I found my place with the other "odd ducks."

I remember forging a few, very close friendships early in my college career. I am proud to say that I am just as close with those amazing individuals to this day. I'll take sitting under the trees with a corset-clad Corinne Hodges over Howdy Week any day.

That's not to say the planned "TCU Experience" is not valuable and, let's not forget, an amazing logistical feat. It obviously serves its purpose for some. I do think, however, it is easy to get caught up in all of the scheduled fun and forget to discover campus on your own and for yourself.

For instance, I would have never found the TCU V-Day Campaign without the tip from my friend, and

now I can't imagine my life without that wonderful group of warriors.

It's sad that my favorite trees on campus are now overshadowed by bulldozers and that finding a quiet place on campus is hard these days without your conversation being interrupted by jackhammers, but this isn't my TCU anymore. It's now your TCU, and it will be beautiful and exciting and wondrous for you.

I have my memories, and I'll admit, it's always a little fun to kick your feet up and reminisce about the "good ol' days" with your graduating peers. Every graduating class has an idea of what its TCU should be like, and I think that's great. It's comforting to know our university is making leaps and bounds. We have to remember where we came

from but look forward to the future.

Before I sign off, I want to say thanks in general. I have learned something from everyone I have come in contact with during my time here. My mom and I were talking the other day about this whole "college experience" thing, and she said it's not necessarily about the degree you leave with but about the person you have become.

TCU is an exceptional and unique environment that has helped shape who I am today. I have never been in a place where I have felt more motivated to discover things and soak up every ounce of knowledge I could from my professors and classmates. I know that is something I will carry with me.

I am so grateful to have worked with the most



SKIFF ARCHIVES

dedicated staff I have ever met, especially the folks in Jarvis Hall. We have so many wonderful departmental staff members — if you don't know them, go find them. They are waiting with bated breath, I promise.

Well, TCU, it was nice knowing you. It's been real, and I wish you the best.

To the folks still here, live it up. You will never be in this exact moment again, so breathe deeply and feel it happening around you. It's how you process these experiences now that will determine your future successes.

Katie Caruso is a senior theatre major from Hurst.

Say-Say K



You are graduating - Wow! We couldn't be prouder! You fill our lives with joy, love, and fun.

*We love you!
Mom and Dad*

Lauren Elizabeth Byrd



*Lauren,
Congratulations! We are so proud of you and all that you have achieved. You are a shining star!*

*Love,
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Hannah Renee Crooke



*Dear Hannah,
Congratulations on achieving yet another academic milestone! You are a true blessing to many and your future is bright. Continue your life's path in love and faithfulness to God (Proverbs 3:3-6).*

*We love you,
Mom, Dad and Steven.*

Courtney Michele Jay



*Dear Courtney,
You have made us very proud parents. As you set out on this next phase of your life, don't be afraid to reach for the stars and pursue your dreams. Remember that our love is with you wherever life takes you.*

*All our love,
Mom and Dad*

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ECONOMY

Graduates may fare better in 2011 job market

By Ashley Monismith
Staff Reporter

Employers anticipated hiring more college graduates in 2011 compared to a couple years ago, Executive Director of Career Services John Thompson said he found in a National Association of Colleges and Employers survey. Despite the increase in college graduates with jobs, there was not a faster hiring process.

According to the preliminary results of the NACE survey, hiring 2011 college graduates is expected to increase 21 percent compared to last year.

More people applied for jobs and employers took their time in choosing who they wanted, Thompson said. Instead of college graduates receiving a job within six weeks of graduation, the estimated time became about three months, he said.

Allison Marshall, a senior strategic communication major, said about half of her friends in her class had a job offer, while the other half continued searching for one.

In addition to expanding the job search area, Marshall said students have looked into alternatives such as internships. She said she believed employers looked more at what professional experience students

had more than any other factor.

With a need for workers after the recession began, an opportunity for businesses arose to hire temporaries and interns, Thompson said. Employers cut costs and reduced their workforce, but the same workload had to be done with less people. That created a need for workers.

"Hopefully it's easier for us to get jobs. For the employers, it's easier to keep somebody younger because they pick things up quicker."

Allison Marshall
Senior strategic communication major

In addition, companies expanded in some departments, Thompson said. Part of the reason they grew was due to the additional social media departments at most companies.

Claire Cannan, a senior strategic communication major, said because the younger generation knows how to use Facebook and build a website, more companies realize the benefits of hiring recent college

graduates.

Also, hiring younger, less experienced workers provided companies a chance for work to be done at a cheaper price, Thompson said.

"They're willing to give up the experience for cheaper labor," he said.

Cannan thought the advantages to hiring a college graduate outweighed the lack of experience. She said her generation could multitask, was eager to work and wanted to complete tasks quickly.

Marshall also said by hiring younger people, the long-term effects could be beneficial. Younger employees may be more likely to stay with a company for longer periods of time.

Also, she believed recent graduates had a better grasp of adjusting to the changing world, she said. She felt graduates could better apply what they obtained in class as opposed to the older generation who did not retain everything learned in college.

The technology savvy college graduates helped decrease their own unemployment rate, but the general population's was still high, Thompson said.

At about 9 percent, the general population's cur-

rent unemployment rate did not paint an accurate picture of who actually is or is not employed, Thompson said.

Although the unemployment rate fell since the recession began in 2008, Thompson said there was an assumption made that people stopped looking for work after not being able to find employment. Because

of that assumption, the unemployment rate appeared lower than it actually was; however, if it was counted correctly the unemployment rate would rise.

Yet, for college graduates the unemployment rate expected to decrease according to NACE results.

Also, Thompson said he has seen an increase in employers wanting to add

younger people to their staff.

Marshall said she believed companies' stronger desire for college graduates helped both her and her peers, as well as employers.

"Hopefully it's easier for us to get jobs," she said. "For the employers, it's easier to keep somebody younger because they pick things up quicker."

Camron Murphy



*I love you forever...
I am proud of your many
accomplishments these last four
years. Celebrate your blessing.*

Austin Berry



*Austin,
We are so very proud of you and
the man you've become!
"For I know the plans I have
for you," declares the Lord, "plans
to prosper you and not to harm
you, plans to give you hope and a
future."
-Jeremiah 29:11*

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Mom and Dad*

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At the end of the 2010-11 school year, we reflect with great pride about what a truly extraordinary year it has been. From your commitment to academic excellence on campus and abroad to our fairy tale football and baseball seasons, we were constantly reminded of how blessed we feel to be a part of the TCU community.

TCU

TEXAS CHRISTIA



ULATIONS!

Thank you for taking a part in the TCU experience, for your triumphs are the University's as well. The moment you stepped foot on our beautiful campus, TCU changed for the better. And we'll never be the same again.

We wish you a fulfilling and productive future. Don't be a stranger... come back soon and often!

Megan and Victor Boschini

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NATIONAL

Poll: Students grade high school down, college up

By Connie Cass

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Young adults say high schools are failing to give students a solid footing for the working world or strong guidance toward college, at a time when many fear graduation means tumbling into an economic black hole. Students who make it to college are happy with the education they get there, an Associated Press-Viacom poll says.

Most of the 18- to 24-year-olds surveyed gave high schools low grades for things that would ease the way to college: A majority say their school wasn't good at helping them choose a field of study, aiding them in finding the right college or vocational school or assisting them in coming up with ways to pay for more schooling.

If schools did these things better, it could make a significant difference, because young people already are enthusiastic about higher education. Two-

thirds say students should aim for college, even if they aren't sure yet what career they want to pursue. Almost as many say they want to get at least a four-year degree themselves.

The majority of high school students probably won't end up with a college degree, however. Among those a few years ahead of them — today's 25- to 34-year-olds — only about a third hold a bachelor's or higher degree, according to the Census Bureau. Less than 10 percent get an associate's degree.

So getting students ready for work remains central to high schools' mission. And most young people say their school didn't do a good job of preparing them for work or helping them choose a future career. They also give high schools low marks on exposing them to the latest technology in their field and helping them get work experience, according to the poll conducted in partnership with Stanford University.

Learning real-life job skills is

important to students such as Mary Margaret Rice, 18, who likes her regional vocational high school in Wakefield, Mass. "I'm getting training to weld," she said.

Rice is interested in joining the military, but not in more schooling after graduation. "Money is a reason," she said, "but the main reason is I can't really focus on classwork and homework."

Overall, only 4 in 10 young people voice strong satisfaction with their high school education. About as many are "somewhat satisfied." Almost a fifth are unsatisfied — twice as many as expressed unhappiness with college.

Lovina Dill says she wishes the two high schools she attended in California had taught her how to deal with the ups and downs of the real world. She could have used a class in "what happens if you can't get a job, and the unemployment rate rises and nobody can find a job." Dill said she was briefly home-

less when she was laid off and unable to find a job using her certification in massage therapy.

Dill, now 21, self-employed and living with her father in Arcadia, La., thinks high schools should offer juniors and seniors workshops on how to get a job, how to build a career and the many educational options besides a four-year degree.

The one category where young people rated high schools best was preparing them for further education: 56 percent say their school did a good or excellent job at that. Those who went on to college or trade school gave their high schools better marks than those who didn't.

The bulk of college students — 6 in 10 — declare themselves either "very" or "extremely" pleased with their higher education.

Most say a career-focused college education is a high priority, and students feel their schools are providing it. A strong majority of students and recent grads give their college high marks

for preparing them for the work force, helping them choose a field of study, exposing them to the latest technology and helping them get internships.

Six in 10 even say their college was "excellent" or "good" at helping them find money to pay for their education.

Young adults' opinions are mixed on whether the nation's education system understands their goals and values. Almost half of college attendees feel that the schools "get" them. That's significantly more than among those whose education stopped at high school; just 3 in 10 say the school system could identify with them.

Young people credit their own ambition and abilities most for their progress in life, followed by parents, family and friends. But beyond that tight-knit circle, teachers are the heroes, with 4 in 10 saying high school teachers helped a lot. College teachers earn similar praise.

High school and college counselors are a step behind.

Most students give them some credit, but less than one-fourth say their counselors were a lot of help, and about 3 in 10 think they didn't help at all.

Nonwhite students were more likely than whites to say their high school counselors helped them, and also gave their high schools better ratings for helping find money for college.

Young adults overall see brighter days ahead for education. About half think kids entering elementary school today will get a better education than they did, more than double the number who predict schools will get worse.

The AP-Viacom telephone survey of 1,104 adults ages 18-24 was conducted Feb. 18-March 6 by GfK Roper Public Affairs & Corporate Communications. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

Stanford University's participation in this project was made possible by a grant from The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

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Involvement at TCU doesn't end at graduation



Marlon Figueroa

I still remember the day my acceptance letter to TCU came in the mail. I was so happy and excited for what the future had for me in college. A few weeks after that, I sent my tuition deposit and secured a spot in the class of 2011.

I wish I could go back in time and hug myself for deciding to go to TCU. Even though I was excited to be a Horned Frog, nothing could have prepared me for what has been the best four years of my life.

I was fortunate to arrive at TCU in 2007 when the

Student Center was still in operation but the Campus Commons, was nothing more than dirt. I was kind of overwhelmed by all of the campus construction but was looking forward to the new facilities.

Even though students nowadays eat at Market Square and might not know about Pond Street Grill or Eden's, and even though future students might not remember football at Amon G. Carter Stadium the way I do, I am confident TCU will always recruit the best students in the nation. I have been fortunate to interact with many alumni during my time as a student, and even though campus has changed a lot, the essence and close-knit community of the Horned Frog family has only become stronger.

People always say time flies. This statement cannot

be any truer at TCU. Ever since my freshman year, I have been flooded with opportunities that have allowed me to turn big dreams into reality. Time has gone by so fast because of how busy I have kept my schedule filled with fun and exciting activities. I have been able to make a difference on campus since my first semester and hope to continue to do so after graduation.

Even though I had four busy years on campus, I always made sure to enjoy myself outside of class and commitments. I have had the honor to meet some of the most amazing people. I am so fortunate to have a great group of friends, which I will love for the rest of my life.

Professors, administrators, students and staff make TCU what it is. I will miss being greeted by Lieu Nguyen every time I went into Market

Square, getting startled by the Chancellor's car horn when he drove past me, getting text messages from advisers reminding me where to be and so many other little things that made my day every day.

TCU is ahead of the curve and it only keeps getting better and better. I look forward to becoming an active alumnus and am honored to be a part of the history of such a fine institution. I can't wait to come tailgate for football games and beat the heck out of every team we play.

I hope students are aware of all the opportunities TCU has to offer and urge them to take advantage of as many as possible. I will always think fondly of my time in college and can't wait to share it with the world.

Marlon Figueroa is a senior finance and accounting double major from San Juan, Puerto Rico.



SKIFF ARCHIVES

Allison Elaine Schorr



We're so proud of all your accomplishments at TCU. May the next chapter of your life be just as wonderful.

*Love,
Mom, Dad, and Melissa*

Lindsey Marie Simon



From the EOPC to university graduate! You are God's perfect gift to us. May God always bless you.

*We love you,
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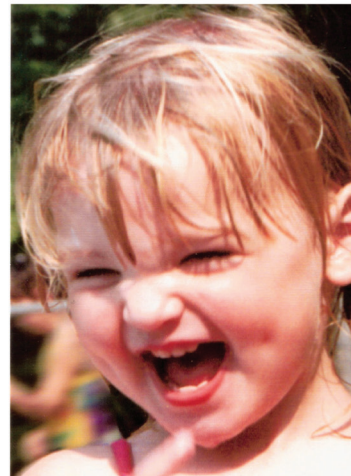
Kristina Turk



*Dear Kristina,
It's been a wonderful journey with you! We love your sensitivity, passion and smile. Most of all, we cherish the fact that God chose us to be your parents. Celebrate all you've accomplished at TCU! Congratulations on achieving your goals. We wish you a life filled with love, happiness and success!*

*Love & Prayers,
Mom, Dale, Erica, Matt & David*

Faith Anne Pustmueller



*Faithy,
Give to the world the best you have, and the best will come back to you. Congratulations and best wishes!*

*Love,
Dad, Lyn, Page, Peyton &
Laura Grace*

University offers access to international community



Michael Do

My journey to TCU began with a 24-hour flight, two stops in Hong Kong and Los Angeles and way too much time spent at security checkpoints. I was coming from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, a place where I lived for seven years prior to becoming a Horned Frog.

Unlike most students who come from distant places, I do not fall under the category of being an international student. For 15 years, I lived overseas as a U.S. citizen, spending eight years in different parts of China before my stint in Vietnam. I attended international schools where I interacted with people from a variety of different cultures. At the International School of Ho Chi Minh City, there were 36 nationalities represented. I guess you can say that my experiences before coming to TCU were rich in culture.

Coming from this background, I was definitely a little intimidated upon my arrival at the TCU campus. I had

common concerns about who I was going to meet, how I was going to make new friends, and what I was going to say to them. I also had another question on my mind — “Am I going to meet people from other countries?” I was worried about how I was going to fit into the U.S. community and was hoping to find a more familiar international community to fall back on.

Frog Camp was the best way to start off the TCU experience and was an amazing opportunity for building new relationships. I went on “Quest” when it was still held at Sky Ranch. Among all the fun, games, and community service, I made a lot of new friends, and to my surprise, I also met a lot of people from many parts of the globe. Learning there were people here with whom I could relate my international experiences made me extremely excited about what else TCU had to offer.

It is undeniable that sports are a big part of the culture here and that football is at the core of it. The weekend football games were one the few on-campus events that brought the student body together. Cheering “Go Frogs” and chanting “Riff Ram” with my friends in the stands will remain one of my favorite

pastimes. Being part of the football atmosphere helped me integrate into the TCU culture.

Getting involved with special interest groups and clubs is the best way for anyone to expand one’s social network. In the search for my niche, I heard about the International Student Association from a few of my friends and began attending weekly meetings in the spring of 2008.

As an active member of the organization, I enjoyed mingling with group members and learning about where they were from. I met students from Ecuador, India, Sri Lanka, Singapore and Japan, just to name a few. It was really comforting to be in an environment similar to what I was accustomed to in high school. It became apparent in my mind that the TCU community was quite culturally diverse, especially considering the size of the student body. The 2008 International Banquet best represented this as it was a celebration of the international student community and culture.

It was not until the next spring that I became more involved. I took part in the annual “Experience India” event held by the Students for Asian Indian Cultural Awareness. I was very impressed by the



CLAY YORK / STAFF REPORTER

Sophomore finance and accounting double major Pratik Mehta practices dancing with junior childhood development and psychology double major Priyanka Pramanik in the Bollywood-style for the Experience India event.

quality and excitement of the event and the positive reception from the participants. What was more interesting to me was SAICA’s mission to bring the South Asian cultural experience to TCU.

After talking with a good friend who was elected vice president of SAICA, Rovina D’Souza, I decided to take up the co-events chair executive role. Deciding to become heavily involved in SAICA was probably one of the best choices I made as a Horned Frog. Since becoming a member of the board,

I have helped put together fun events for hundreds of people and helped support social causes in the South Asian subcontinent.

I found the international community that I was originally looking for when I first stepped on campus. It is experiences like this that I will cherish for the rest of my life.

Now, nearing the end of my senior year, I can safely say that TCU has the right formula that is inviting to people from many different backgrounds. The TCU Mission Statement is “To educate

individuals to think and act as ethical leaders and responsible citizens in the global community.” It seems that TCU has the “global community” part covered. With a strong cultural presence of both TCU and international culture, the TCU community represents cultural diversity.

There is a place for everyone here, even if you come from a place 10,000 miles away.

Michael Do is a senior biology major from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.



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Love, Mom & Dad



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Omir Perez Jr.



Omir,
We love you so much, and we are very proud of you. God has blessed you since day one and will continue blessing you in everything you asked him. Congratulations on this special day.

We love you very much,
Mom & Dad

Megan Elizabeth Smock & Casey Leigh Smock



Congratulations Megan and Casey! You have grown so quickly from babies to mature young women. We are so proud of you!

Love,
Mom and Dad

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Census: Changing demographics in metros

By Hope Yen
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hispanics now outnumber African-Americans for the first time in most U.S. met-

ropolitan areas, shifting the political and racial dynamics in cities once dominated by whites and blacks. Census figures released April 14 highlight the growing diversity of the nation's

366 metro areas, which were home to a record 83.7 percent share of the U.S. population. The numbers from the 2010 count are already having a big effect on redistricting in many states, where dis-

trict boundary lines are being redrawn based on population size and racial makeup.

Hispanics became the largest minority group in 191 metropolitan areas last year, their population lifted higher as blacks left many economically hard-hit cities in the North for the South and new Latino immigrants spread to different parts of the country. That's up from 159 metro areas when the previous Census was taken in 2000, when Hispanics were most commonly found in Southwest border states.

The new metro areas include Chicago; Grand Rapids, Mich. and Atlantic City, N.J., whose states will lose

U.S. House seats in the 2012 elections. Other places seeing rapid Hispanic gains compared to blacks were Lakeland, Fla.; Madison, Wis.; Oklahoma City and Omaha, Neb., due to the mid-decade housing boom that attracted many new immigrants seeking work in the construction and service industries.

The Census Bureau reported last month that overall Hispanic population jumped 42 percent in the last decade to 50.5 million, or 1 in 6 Americans. Blacks increased a modest 11 percent to 37.7 million, with declines particularly evident in big cities such as New York, Detroit, Cleveland, and St. Louis, Mo.

"A greater Hispanic pres-

ence is now evident in all parts of the country — in large and small metropolitan areas, in the Snowbelt and in the Sunbelt," said William H. Frey, a demographer at the Brookings Institution, who analyzed the census data. "From now on, local, state and national politicians will need to pay attention to Hispanics rather than treating blacks as the major minority," he said.

The political effects have been immediate. Analysts and black groups — including some members of the Congressional Black Caucus themselves — are acknowledging the possibility of fewer black-majority House districts, even as they fight to preserve, if not expand, their gains. That's because of slowing African-American growth in big cities and broader black movement over the last decade into once predominantly white suburbs.

Currently there are 43 members in the Congressional Black Caucus, which is mostly Democrat. Last November, blacks had a net gain of two seats in the House, including Republicans Allen West of Florida, who is a caucus member, and Tim Scott of South Carolina, who is not.

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Sarah Thompson

Kaitlin Travis

Jenny Van Keppel

Kathleen Ward

Courtney West

Sara West

Kathryn Williams

Katie Wooldridge

Courtney E. Kimbrough



*Coco,
We are so proud of you!
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dreams. Live the life you
have imagined.
—Thoreau*

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The Graduation Question

Q: What is your favorite memory at TCU?



"When we had College Game Day here, a couple of years ago, we played against Utah. After we won the game and all the fans stormed the field."

Johnny Fobbs
Strategic communication major from Fort Worth



"Football. Every season, every year. It's cool. It's fun."

Jonathan Jones
Communication studies major from Fort Worth



"Probably the first Christmas tree lighting over in front of Sadler."

Carissa Cotner
Strategic communication major from Houston



"Tailgating freshman year."

Charles Bridwell,
Radio-TV-Film major from Abilene



"My favorite memory is watching TCU beat Wisconsin in the Rose Bowl in Pasadena."

Paul Jorden
Finance major from Chicago

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Evan Michael Vaughan



Evan,
You have distinguished yourself and grown in so many ways. You have met challenges head-on and triumphed over adversity. You are a credit to yourself, your family and to TCU. Your future is bright and your horizon's unlimited. We love you so much and are so proud of you.

Mom, Dad, Brandon and Obachan

Washington program added depth to college experience



Courtney Jay

When I look back on my time at TCU, I'm grateful for the many great memories I know I'll cherish for the rest of my life. I've built lifelong friendships with both students and faculty and have never felt more confident

that TCU was the place I was meant to be.

One of the experiences I'll cherish most was spending the fall semester of my senior year in Washington, D.C. With the help of the political science department and the Schieffer School of Journalism, I interned for Bob Schieffer at CBS News' "Face the Nation." While I was excited about moving to D.C., I never could have imagined the impact the whole experience would have on my life.

Schieffer, along with his brilliant staff, welcomed me

with open arms and quickly taught me the ins and outs of the Beltway. I met senators and congressmen, political experts and renowned authors. I spent time on Capitol Hill and was able to see the more human side of many of our country's most influential politicians. The research I did for the show made me a more informed citizen and broadened my understanding of our country's political system.

Though working for CBS News was a highlight of my time in D.C., the District

itself gave me a feeling I've rarely felt anywhere else. Washington is full of history, beauty and style. There are an endless number of places to see, and there's always something fun to do. So many people have told me that D.C. "gets in your blood." I fully understand that now and am thankful it's in mine.

Another surprising but exciting part of D.C. was that it's home to a lot of Horned Frogs. TCU alumni are well represented in almost every career field, but the best representation of the alumni

there can be found at Penn Quarter Sports Tavern during a TCU football game. It proved to me that even thousands of miles away from campus, Horned Frogs continue to bleed purple for the rest of their lives.

I could never fully express how indebted I feel to so many TCU faculty members. They've helped me grow academically and professionally, but they've also helped me grow as a person. To them, I was more than just a student. And when I made the decision to come to TCU, that's

what I hoped to find.

When I walk across the stage at graduation, I'll be taking lessons from so many people with me. So I thank loyal friends and devoted professors for the roles they've played in my life, and most importantly, for making it hard to say goodbye to Cowtown but thrilled to see what my future holds.

TCU News Now Director Courtney Jay is a senior broadcast journalism major from Houston.

Ashley Ann Aikman



*Ashley Ann,
We are proud of you and all
of your many achievements.
Whether academic, equestrian,
or other, your spirit toward your
dreams has been with zest. May
you continue to soar and to be
blessed in your future endeavors!
Philippians 4:13*

*We love you,
Mom & Dad*



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Jacqueline Marie Shaw



*Jacqueline,
"To laugh often and much; to win the
respect of intelligent people and the
affection of children...to leave the world
a better place...to know even one life has
breathed easier because you have lived.
This is to have succeeded."
- Ralph Waldo Emerson*

You are loved beyond measure...

Frog Feature

Getting to know Stephen Lehn, alumnus and business owner.

By Luis Ortiz

Staff Reporter

TCU graduate Stephen Lehn opened the doors of his own company, Needle's Haystack, April 4. Lehn graduated from TCU with a bachelor's degree in 2004, and in 2007 with his MBA. Needle's Haystack is a marketplace for American-designed, one-of-a-kind handmade jewelry by talented, but unknown, designers.

Q: Tell me about your time at TCU.

A: I was a member of Delta Tau Delta Fraternity. I transferred here my sophomore year. I actually played Division I tennis at a school in South Carolina and then I transferred to TCU. Best time of my life, I'm not gonna lie. All my best friends are still here, I mean not at TCU, but I'm still friends with them and they came from TCU. My MBA was different. I was working full time in Dallas and I was the only one in the program who lived in Dallas. I would drive at night to Fort Worth and for a year, I did it that way...I guess if anyone ever thinks I don't bleed purple they're lying because there's SMU and there's all other schools in Dallas that I could have gone to and I wanted to go back to Fort Worth.

Q: What do you think is the most important thing you learned at TCU?

A: The professors, you know overall...They teach you how to think, they teach you how to problem solve. They say every situation is different in life. You're not going to come across the same thing. So really, if you're here to get a cookie cutter education, this is not the place. But if you're here to become a thinker, you're at the right place. I think that's what TCU is about. What I learned the most was how to think. I learned how to problem solve, how to overcome, how to adapt, how to think of obstacles as opportunities. Those are the biggest things. It instilled a lot of confidence in me.

Q: How did your time at TCU help your business?

A: It goes back toward having

that confidence to go out and do something on my own. I took a lot of entrepreneurial classes in my graduate studies and TCU is obviously very well known for that. I finally said, 'I've got the education, I've got the experience, it's time to take a chance.' So I started a company called Needle's Haystack. Most importantly, [TCU] gave me the confidence, they taught me how to think and when you have those two things together with the education, I think you can do anything.

Q: How did your business get started? What is the business?

A: I started a company called Needle's Haystack, that's Needle-sHaystack.com. And what it is, it's an online market place, exclusive to one-of-a-kind jewelry. So basically, I'm going out

there finding all those hard-to-find designers that you've never heard of. The heritage, more or less, of the business was, I was looking for the perfect birthday gift for my mom and someone told me about a lady who makes her own jewelry. Being a guy I thought, 'Jewelry? I don't know a thing about jewelry.' So I went in and I met with her and she started showing me all her pieces. I started asking her, 'Well, who else do you sell to?' and she goes, 'Well, Neiman Marcus is the department store that I sell my brands to, but they buy the naming rights and market up 500-1200 percent...I need to be a part of a community that's exclusive to jewelry...' And that's when I started thinking. So the name Needle's Haystack came about. I thought, 'Alright, these are kind of diamonds in the rough. These are the hard-to-find designers, they're needles in a haystack.' And I thought, 'What if needles was a person and had its own haystack, it'd be nothing but needles.' So really what I'm creating is a haystack full of needles, a haystack full of all those hard-to-find talented jewelry designers from around the country and putting them all in one marketplace.



COURTESY OF STEPHEN LEHN

Q: Do you have any advice for the graduating seniors?

A: I think that one of the most important things coming out of school and getting that first job, when you go to work, you tend to think you may know more than you do. One of the things that businesses want and one of the things that will help you keep your job when times are tough is listening. Ask questions, listen and execute. Be an executor.

Don't be someone who knows it all and don't think you do know it all because you don't...Be a problem solver. Be a team leader. Be someone that people want to be around. Most importantly, let your work speak for itself. Don't speak for your work...Nurture your friendships, hold on tight, keep in touch. Don't ever take your friendships for granted...I think after that, you just have to figure it out on your own.

Melissa Marie Gase



*Melissa,
You Made It!
Congratulations - your
hard work paid off.
We are so very proud
of you.*

*Love,
Mom and Dad*

Mark Bell



*Mark,
As you navigate your path
in life, always remember that
you have our support. We are
extremely proud of you and all
of your accomplishments.*

*We love you,
Mom, Dad, & Patrick*

Alex Gawloski



*We couldn't be more
proud of you and all you
have achieved! You have
so much to look forward
to!*

*We love you,
Mom and Dad*

Praveen Pinnamaneni



*Dear Praveen!
Congratulations! We are
proud of you. Do your
best, work hard and have
a wonderful future. You
have a great potential.*

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NATIONAL

More students moving back home after graduation

By Kim Palmer
McClatchy-Tribune

MINNEAPOLIS — It's been almost a year since Charlie Evans graduated from Colorado State University with a degree in engineering, eager to launch a career in the aerospace industry. "I started applying right away," he said. But 200 job applications later, he's landed only two "solid" interviews.

"There are jobs out there," he said, "but so many other people are looking," including experienced engineers willing to take entry-level jobs.

Evans' summer job ended in October. So for now, he's living in a guest bedroom in his parents' Edina, Minn., basement,

his belongings in boxes. (His younger brother got his room when he went off to college.) "It is what it is," he said. "But it would be nice to have a place of my own."

For Evans and his peers, the road to independence is rockier than it used to be. Jobs are scarce, real incomes have fallen, and soaring college costs have produced a generation of grads already deep in debt.

"The days of coming out with a B.A. and getting a good job are pretty much over," said Brad Sachs, family psychologist and author of "Emptying the Nest." "Achieving independence is a longer, steeper, more daunting process."

How steep? The Economic

Policy Institute recently declared an "unemployment crisis" for young workers. As of 2009, 37 percent of 18- to 29-year-olds were unemployed, the highest share in nearly four decades, according to the Pew Research Center. Among 22- to 29-year-olds, one in eight say that, because of the recession, they have boomeranged back to live with their parents.

The recession accelerated the parade of young adults back to the nest, but it started earlier and reflects broader cultural changes, according to experts.

"It's a longer trend than just the economy," said William Doherty, professor of family social science at the University of Minnesota. "We call it 'emerg-

ing adulthood.' It's a big cultural change. The 20s are now an

"The days of coming out with a B.A. and getting a good job are pretty much over."

Brad Sachs
Family Psychologist

extension of adolescence. You don't expect people to settle down and act like grown-ups."

Today's young people feel freer to leave jobs and move in and out of their parents' home than earlier generations did, he said, and parents are OK with that. "This generation of parents doesn't expect the same level of self-sufficiency. They're less likely to say, 'Get any job' ... more likely to say, 'Get a part-time job that fulfills your passion, and we'll make up the difference.'"

Living with the folks is more appealing to today's young

adults than it was to their parents, according to Stephanie Coontz, director of research for the Council on Contemporary Families. While young baby boomers clashed with their parents on many issues, today's young adults and their parents share similar views, she said. "The values gap now is technology, but it's more eye-rolling than downright fighting."

Today's young adults also value the amenities at Mom and Dad's. While boomers placed a high value on independence and were willing to live like paupers, "Young adults today are more willing to sacrifice independence in exchange for material comforts," said Katherine Newman, dean of arts and sciences at Johns Hopkins University and author of the forthcoming book "The Accordion Family."

Doherty agreed. "This is a more entitled generation. They come home to live because there's nowhere else they could live better."

But boomerang living can

create friction even in close-knit families, experts say. Young adults, used to living on their own, may chafe at parental demands. And parents who expected to finally be free can resent the continued toll of providing for adult children. "They harken back to their own leave-taking and wonder why their children's is not as crisp and clean," Sachs said.

But still she hopes it's not a long-term situation. "It gets old. He is a grown-up. He's used to having his own space and not having to answer to anyone. This is not what anybody would choose. We would just like that golden space job to come dropping out of the sky."

Living with the folks into adulthood may seem like a new phenomenon. In fact, it's a very old one. "In the 19th century, it was common for kids to stay with their parents," Coontz said. But while earlier generations pooled their money and kept the same schedule, today's boomerang kids tend to live on their own terms.

Justine Elizabeth Sanchez



*Justine,
You learned to use your wings at home, but you have really soared as a Purple Frog! Your future has no limits. You will be the change. Way to go Beenie.*

*Love always,
Mom, Dad and Rogue*

Hunter Taylor Armstrong



*"Do not follow where the path may lead. Go, instead, where there is no path and leave a trail."
Ralph Waldo Emerson*

We love you very much and we are so proud of you. We hope your future is bright, full of opportunities and adventures.

*Love,
Mom, Dad and Emma*

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FEATURE

Relationships begin at TCU for two Horned Frog couples

By Bryn Zimmermann
Staff Reporter

After graduating from TCU, there are different experiences graduates embrace. For two Horned Frog couples, love that started at TCU soon will turn into marriage.

Senior sociology major Kristin Cazalot said she met her fiancé Travis Galbraith, a senior political science and economics double major, when she first started at TCU.

"We met in an 8 a.m. history class first semester of our freshman year, the very first class ever at TCU," Cazalot said. "We didn't actually know each other's names at first, but it began when we talked in that history class a little."

Cazalot said both she and Galbraith were in another class together in their second semester and also had mutual friends. She said they started seeing each other more often and going to Billy Bob's with each other until they began dating in April of their freshman year.

Galbraith said everything would have been completely different if they had not gone to TCU.

"I think it made it a lot easier to get to know her," Galbraith said. "And after all, we would not have met if we both didn't go to TCU."

Cazalot said Galbraith pro-

posed to her last year. She said that throughout their time at TCU, there were several amazing memories they shared as a couple.

"I was a Showgirl, so after every football game we would get to take pictures together," Cazalot said. "The Rose Bowl was also really fun. He is from [Los Angeles], so I got to meet all of his friends, and they got to come to the big pep rally... We really do have a lot of amazing memories at TCU."

Cazalot and Galbraith said they both were excited to get married on May 21. Cazalot said the timing was crazy but still perfect.

"I am excited to see where we go and where we end up and to just share our lives together," Galbraith said.

The couple plans to move to Baton Rouge right after their honeymoon. Galbraith will attend law school, and Cazalot recently got a job. Cazalot said both she and Galbraith were extremely TCU spirited and were excited to stay involved with the university community.

"We are already planning on going to the BYU game at Cowboys Stadium," Cazalot said. "And we want to come to all the football games that we can. We definitely want to come back."

Senior social work major Catelyn Gray also said she couldn't wait to go back to

TCU with her fiancé Luke Devlin, a 2009 TCU graduate who earned his degree in religion.

Gray said she met Devlin right away when she was a freshman at TCU. Devlin was a junior and at the time said he would not date a freshman, Gray said.

"We started dating in June after my freshman year because Luke had a rule that he never dated freshmen, that freshmen shouldn't date," Gray said. "But I had a crush on him. We were good friends that year until we officially became a couple."

Devlin said it was awesome to be able to share time with Gray for the two years they were at TCU together.

"Being together at TCU was so great," Devlin said. "You go through a lot in college, and it was great to share it with her. We had a lot of fun times wandering around campus and doing things like having picnics on the dorm lawns. It really slowed life down and showed me all the little things TCU had to offer."

Gray also said she loved that they were able to share their TCU college experience with one another.

"He would come over to the dorm I lived in, and we would do homework together and hang out with all of our TCU friends," Gray said. "It was awesome having a best friend and

also a boyfriend while at TCU."

Gray said because Luke has graduated and is working in Dallas that she was excited to get to see him on a daily basis again after the couple gets married on May 22. She said they planned on keeping the Horned Frog pride alive through the rest of their lives.

"Our house is going to be totally TCU decked out. And we are going to go to as many games as we can, and we will be a huge TCU family. We will always support our school," Gray said.

Devlin said he couldn't wait to get married and to begin a new phase of his life with Gray.

"We are so excited to make each other's lives better by always being together," Devlin said.



COURTESY OF CATELYN GRAY

Senior social work major Catelyn Gray met her fiancé Luke Devlin, a 2009 TCU graduate, when she started at TCU.

Sarah Emily Strehl



Sarah,

Congratulations on such a momentous achievement. I am unspeakably proud of you. As you move ahead to summit life's mountains, remember what is truly important. What will matter is not your success but your significance. It's not what you will gain but what you give back through a life of purpose. I'm confident that you will make the world a better place. May the world embrace your radiance and enthusiasm!

*With Love Always,
Dad*



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TCU offers some diversity, but more visibility is needed



Numan Khan

I admit that when I began at TCU, I questioned the presence of a diverse community. That word — diversity — gets thrown around a little too empty, and the promise of its existence typically falls short of expectations.

So what exactly does diversity mean for me? Having a minority of several minorities is not exactly what I have in mind. My rough definition of

a diverse community is one where there is such a mixture of individuals that it is difficult to describe a stereotypical member.

This university, like many others, has a stereotypical student. I am sure many schools do. But I also know that the greatest, most successful Tier-One institutions of higher education in this country do not. Just compare our student body composition statistics. To know how to function in a global community, one must learn in a global community.

That being said, I actually did meet a largely varying mixture of individuals while at TCU. The School of Music hosts students from around the globe. I have met peers from

Russia, Chile, Hungary and China, just to name a few.

My point is that I was able to find a diverse community to significantly increase my opportunities for life-changing and educational experiences while studying at Texas Christian University.

By joining Best Buddies, I came to know and to bond with intellectually and developmentally disabled members of the community, who are a typically overlooked minor-

ity. I developed friendships through programs such as the Boys and Girls Club and Big Brothers Big Sisters with children who come from rougher backgrounds than most TCU students do, backgrounds that lack parents, role models and secure homes.

Working at a nearby hospital downtown, I was able to interact with the wide ranging inner-city population of Fort Worth. My point is that I was able to find a diverse community to significantly increase my opportunities for life-changing and educational experiences while studying at Texas Christian University.

What is problematic here, though, is that I had to find this community. There is a great wealth of knowledge in diversity; it is a key teaching and a learning tool. Exploring alternate opinions and approaches in all areas, including politics, religion and social issues, allows students to expand and modify their views while developing sensibility as a member of a mixed society. The university provides some resources to seek varied interactions and is definitely taking steps in the right direction by promoting minority organizations on campus.

From what I have seen, the student body at TCU is generally open minded and would appreciate such opportuni-



SKIFF ARCHIVES

ties. So why is it that I get the feeling most TCU students do not take advantage of what our school has to offer?

Well, it brings me back to my point about the visibility of diversity on campus: it's here, but you have to be looking for it. In addition, the effort to promote minority groups may not be doing enough in terms of integrating them into the student body.

I have loved my time at this university where I have acquired a world-class education facilitated by excellent professors and staff. I feel prepared to take on the challenges I have ahead of me and have been fortunate enough to have developed true, lifelong friendships. But I would love to see TCU take steps toward a more varied population on campus.

This would entail a number

of things, including attracting more international students, minorities and backgrounds. In the 2011 cycle, TCU received almost 19,000 applications for approximately 1,800 spots.

First of all — well done, TCU. Second, what an opportunity that is for our school to take a step up toward a more wide ranging student body.

The influential American poet and writer Walt Whitman once said, "This is not a nation but a teeming nation of nations."

To all Texas Christian University alumni, current students, future students, faculty and staff, godspeed in all of your well-intentioned endeavors.

Numan Khan is a senior biology major from North Richland Hills.

Libby Davis



*Libby,
I am so proud of the accomplished young lady you have become during your time at TCU. Congratulations on your outstanding work as editor-in-chief of the Daily Skiff. Your talent and determination will create endless possibilities for your future!*

*I love you so!
Mom*

Brooke Ann Bonnesen



*Congratulations, Boo.
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NFL

NFLPA goes to college, talks lockout with students

By Joseph White

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Even as the players have made their case in court, the NFL Players Association is making its case in the classroom.

Representatives of the NFLPA were invited guests at the American University's Washington College of Law on Tuesday, answering questions from students about the league's decision to lock out the players and the court proceedings that have followed.

The NFLPA made a similar appearance at Rutgers last month. The programs help the former union — now technically a trade association — make sure that students and the public at large are fully aware of its side of the story.

"I understand there's a lot of fan frustration and fan anger — directed at both sides, frankly," Atallah said. "I understand that. I'm a fan of the game myself, so I'm sympathetic to it. I think at the end of the day the fans and people

need to know the players have worked on resolving this and have been attempting to avoid it for more than two years now. ... It's not lost on me that people want to see their football."

The savvy students peppered Atallah and former player Nolan Harrison with various legal questions — the words "litigation," "decertification," "injunction" and "mediation" were uttered many times. While the parties are under orders from a judge not to talk about the ongoing court-ordered mediation talks in Minneapolis, Atallah reiterated that a negotiated settlement from those talks — rather than more legal wrangling — is the preferred outcome for the players.

"The unfortunate thing about the current state of the business of football is that anything outside of a litigation settlement takes us into the unknown," Atallah said.

Atallah and Harrison restated many NFLPA positions: that the league had been

planning the lockout for years in advance, that the players never threatened to strike, that they never asked for more money than they were getting in their previous deal, that they're concerned about the economic impact on businesses such as restaurants if games aren't played and that it doesn't make sense to them to have draft picks pigeonholed into five-year contracts when the average career doesn't last that long.

Harrison responded with vigor to a student's question that referenced the dispute as one of millionaires vs. billionaires.

"Let's be clear about things: No one can cry poverty in the NFL," Harrison said, "but not every player is making over a million dollars."

Harrison said many players are done by age 25 and "go back to being regular students, regular employees, regular businessmen."

"To be fair," he added, "not every owner's a billionaire. But they're pretty darn close."



EVAN VUCCI / ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFLPA director of former players services Nolan Harrison talks to a student after a discussion on the NFL lockout with law students at American University in Washington, Tuesday, April 19, 2011.

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Amanda Scully: David B. Hendricks II Memorial Scholarship

Caitlin Irvin: Information Systems and Supply Chain Management Departmental Senior Scholar Award

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Q: If you could say one thing to Chancellor Victor Boschini, what would it be?



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Tanya Graham
Senior nursing major from Fort Worth



"That he looks like John Malkovich."

Travis Wilson
Senior radio-TV-film major from Austin



"Stay true to TCU."

Chris Goates
Senior biology major from Willow Park



"Please fix the parking."

Alexis Tribble
Senior early childhood education major from Houston



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Nicole Marie Bishop



Nicole,
God has blessed you with great musical talent and the gift of improving the lives of children with speech disorders. We're proud of the beautiful woman you've become and your many successes at TCU! Congratulations on your acceptance to UT Austin's Grad School!

Love,
Mommy, Daddy, Michelle, and Danielle



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ECONOMY

Poll: College students receive hard lessons in finance

By Connie Cass

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In these tight times, college students are getting a lesson in economics no matter what their major. Students say money influences everything from what school they attend and what career they pursue to how quickly they complete their degrees — or whether they graduate at all.

Money problems, not bad grades, are the reason cited by most college students who have considered dropping out, an

the debt. A majority of students at four-year colleges say they routinely feel at least a little worried about having enough money to make it through the week, according to the poll, conducted in partnership with Stanford University.

Scrimping has long been part of the college experience, of course, but tough times in the real world mean even tighter money on campus.

Recession-battered parents have less money to spend on their kids' tuition. Jobs that used to be waiting upon graduation

board rose to about \$16,000 at in-state public schools this year and \$37,000 at private schools.

Most college students — 84 percent — need more than one source of cash to keep up, the poll of people ages 18 to 24 found.

About two-thirds say they work part-time or more to help pay for college. That's supplemented by another popular source of funds: Mom and Dad. Six in 10 get help from parents. The same number rely on scholarships for part of the bill.

"For a while, I couldn't find

clerk at a Fashion Bug store and as a hotel housekeeper.

Like 57 percent of college students surveyed, Bure depends on student loans. Including debt she racked up at another school, she expects to owe about \$52,000 by the time she finishes her associate's degree at Trocaire College in East Aurora, N.Y. Then she hopes to transfer to a university.

Many students are uneasy about borrowing, with good reason. The U.S. Education Department says 7 percent of borrowers default within two years of beginning repayment on loans that can stretch for a decade or more. Average student loan debt tops \$23,000.

Bure's confident that she'll earn enough to pay off her loans. She's studying to become a nurse anesthetist, a job that can pay well over \$100,000 per year. "I'll be secure," she predicts.

Despite the rising costs, 85 percent of students and recent grads say college is worth the time and money. In overwhelming numbers, they express satisfaction with the education they've received. And they have wide expectations for that education: Most say it's very or extremely important that colleges broaden students' knowledge and expand their minds, help them gain life skills, expose them to new experiences and train them for a career.

Nine out of 10 expect to find a job in their field. And for most, that's the bottom line. Fifty-five percent say an education that focuses on success in the working world is more



LENNY IGNEZI / ASSOCIATED PRESS

Falma Habbaba, a student at Cuyamaca College, at work as a hostess at the Tabu Sushi Bar and Grill, April 18, 2011 in El Cajon, Calif.

valuable than one focused on general knowledge and critical thinking.

With that pragmatic attitude, many treat education like a commodity to be shaped to fit their needs and budgets.

Most college students say cost was a big factor in determining where they applied and which school they ended up attending. A hefty majority — 86 percent — say it's worthwhile to switch programs if you're not getting exactly what you want from a school. A third said they added another major to increase their options after graduation.

Three-fourths say it's more important to take the time to get exactly what they want from their education than to finish within the traditional four years, and a quarter who have finished took extra time.

On the other hand, lots of students are racing to the finish in order to save money.

About 4 in 10 college stu-

dents hope to graduate in less than four years. To get a jump start, 58 percent of students took college-credit courses in high school. And about half earned credits at a community college before moving on to a more expensive bachelor's degree program.

That's what Falma Habbaba is doing. Once she's finished two years at Cuyamaca College, she plans to transfer to nearby San Diego State University. Half of the college students surveyed, including Habbaba, hope to continue their educations beyond a four-year degree. In her case, it's law school that beckons.

Habbaba, 18, has been relying on grants and a part-time job as a restaurant hostess to pay her way, and she worries about finding enough money to finish her schooling. But she's optimistic that she'll achieve career happiness. So are 94 percent of the college students surveyed.

Christine Read Young



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you. We knew you could
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the hard work you have done so
beautifully. Congratulations and
best wishes.*

*Cheers,
Jane & Earl the Pearl*

FINANCIAL AID

Rising cost of tuition can increase risk of maxing out on loans

By Ashley Monismith
Staff Reporter

With the costs of tuition rising at an uneven rate compared to income levels, students need to talk to financial advisers before taking out loans, Melet Leafgreen, the assistant director of financial aid, said.

With need-based undergraduates at TCU taking a total of about \$22 million out in loans, Leafgreen said she was worried students may run into trouble in the future.

"It makes it very easy to borrow money by doing it all online," she said. "Students borrow the maximum they can get and it increases their total debt."

However, borrowing the maximum amount of money was not recommended, Leafgreen said. In most cases, it was not necessary to max out on a loan to cover tuition and fees.

Senior graphic design major Cameron Jones also said students need to be aware of what taking out a loan does to credit scores.

Jones said he took out mul-

tiply smaller loans to lower the interest he had to pay, but in turn his credit was shot. He said he wished financial aid would have informed him as a freshman about the problems and consequences that came with borrowing money.

Leafgreen said students sometimes had to adjust their spending to accommodate for the payments they needed to pay back.

Kat Lewis, a senior fashion merchandising major, said her family changed their spending habits after experiencing the challenges that came with paying off loans for her sister's college tuition. Saving more and spending frugally along with Lewis working at the TCU Yearbook helped lower the amount of money she and her family has to pay back after graduation.

Also, Leafgreen said students needed to know how to borrow money wisely by knowing the differences between different types of loans.

The best type of loan was a federal loan and the worst was

a non-certified loan, Leafgreen said. The difference between the two is who regulates the loans — the government regulates federal loans, while non-certified loans usually are regulated through a bank.

While the financial aid office does not have specific programs designed to inform students about loans and debt, Career Services provided a senior conference in January, Executive Director of University Career Services John Thompson said. At the conference, financial advisers talked about the best ways to pay off loans.

Thompson said the same workshop was posted on the Career Services website under Online Resources for those who did not attend the event.

Even after college, students received help from financial advisers at TCU, Leafgreen said. About 40-50 percent of graduates took advantage of the counseling services the financial aid department provided.

She said these students were informed about what they should do in the six months

between graduation and when they have to start paying off their debt.

Thompson suggested students pay 10 percent of their loans during those six months if possible.

Jones said if he receives a job straight out of college, he will start paying off his debt before the six-month grace period ends.

Lewis also said she hopes to receive an income after graduation to help pay off her loan payments.

Thompson said if students had to pay \$120,000 in loans and paid 15 percent (\$18,000) of the loan every year, it would take about seven years to pay it off. However, he said each lender is different and the definite

amount of time it would take for graduates to pay off debt depends from person to person and lender to lender.

According to the National Association of Colleges and Employers, the national starting average salary for college graduates is \$50,462.

A 2009 report from the Education Sector stated that the cost of tuition continues to rise. Students have to pay more for college than ever before, which may result in more problems than an individual's debt.

More students graduating with debt may result in a ripple effect, Leafgreen said. The housing market may be the main candidate that will be affected because of the graduates' credit problems.

"It's a perfect storm," she said. "The job market's bad and debt's increasing. It's a scary place to put graduates."

Types of loans TCU suggests for students

Federal Loan
State Loan
Certified Loan

Students and numbers

Total number of students at TCU
7,853

Number of students with financial aid
3,195

Number of students whose aid was fully met
799

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Stephanie Rose Sang



*Stephanie,
We are proud of you and your amazing accomplishments. Not once did we ever doubt that you would make it. May you always be this happy and confident. Follow your dreams. Never give up. We are blessed to have you as our daughter.*

*Hugs from,
Mom, Dad, Jonathan, & Striker*

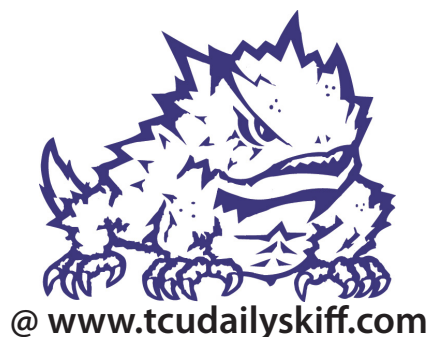
Rian Nichole Brooks



*Rian,
We are so proud of your accomplishments the past four years! You have an amazing future ahead of you, and we are excited to watch your dreams become reality! You can make anything happen!*

*WE LOVE YOU,
Mom, Dad and Haley*

Keep up with the frogs



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Megan Boswell

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Brittany Chatley

Amanda Davis

Madison Donahue

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Morgan Hopson

Jennifer Kinney

Sarah Kline

Jessica Lawrence

Kendall Luther

Kara Lutley

Kelly Madsen

Megan Mason

Carli McEntire

Anna McKinney

Katie Minton

Katherine Mongan

Kelly Parcher

Shannon Sanders

Olivia Sebesta

Casey Smock

Megan Smock

Briana Steger

Charmaine Voorhees

Jackie Wade

*“Together let us
seek the heights”*

REAL ESTATE

New home construction increases

By Derek Kravitz

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Builders broke ground on more new homes last month, giving the weak housing market a slight boost at the start of the spring buying season.

Home construction rose 7.2 percent in March from February to a seasonally adjusted 549,000 units, the Commerce Department said Tuesday. Building permits, an indicator of future construction, rose 11.2 percent after hitting a five-decade low in February.

Still, the building pace is far below the 1.2 million units a year that economists consider healthy. And March's improvement came after construction fell in February to its second-lowest level on records dating back more than a half-century.

Millions of foreclosures have forced home prices down. In some cities, prices are half of what they were before the housing market collapsed in 2006 and 2007. And more foreclosures are expected this year. Tight credit has made mortgage loans tough to get. Many would-be buyers who could qualify for loans are reluctant to shop, fearing that prices will fall even further.

A sign of the battered industry is the number of new homes finished and ready to sell dropped in March to a seasonally adjusted 509,000 units, the lowest level on records dating back to 1968. And the number of homes

now under construction has fallen to a four-decade low.

“Housing starts remain at an extraordinarily depressed level,” said Dan Greenhaus, chief economic strategist at Miller Tabak + Co. “To put this in further perspective, a doubling of (new homes) from here would still put starts at the lowest level of any other recession.” During previous housing recessions, in the early 1980s and 90s, new home construction fell to more than 1 million homes per year. This year's pace is slightly more than half those levels.

And the lack of any meaningful rebound in housing is stunting the broader economic recovery. In past modern-day recessions, housing accounted for 15 to 20 percent of overall economic growth. In the first post-recession year, between 2009 and 2010, housing only contributed 4 percent to economic growth.

Since the mid-part of last

year, home construction and sales have instead detracted from the economy. Joshua Shapiro, chief U.S. economist at MFR Inc., said that's a “large reason for the sub-par nature” of the rebound. New-home construction is down 6 percent since the recession ended nearly two years ago.

Single-family homes, which make up roughly 80 percent of home construction, rose 7.7 percent in March. Apartment and condominium construction rose 14.7 percent. Building permits increased to its highest level since December, spurred by a more than 28 percent jump in permits granted for apartment and condo buildings.

That increase in permits could signal a turnaround in the coming months, said Steven A. Wood, chief economist with Insight Economics. New homes typically take six months to build and the number of new permits is higher than the number of homes starting construction.



CHARLIE NEIBERGALL / ASSOCIATED PRESS

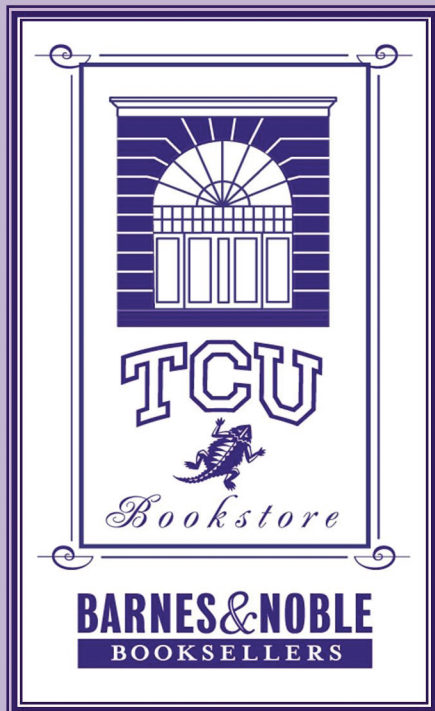
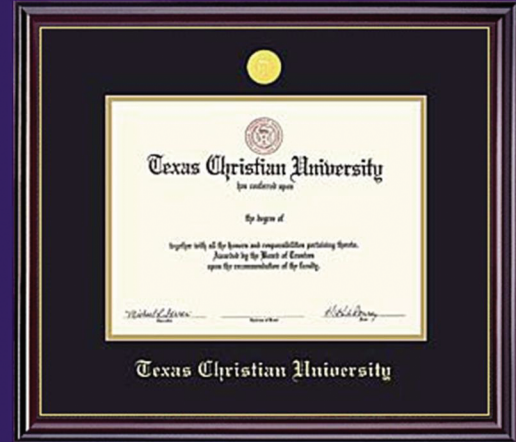
Realtor Kathi Dellaca and Kim Hiscox, of West Des Moines, Iowa, right, walk out of a home that's for sale after taking a tour, Wednesday, April 20, 2011, in Urbandale, Iowa.

Christina O'Neal



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*Love you!
Mom, Dad and Stephen*



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Amanda Scully
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ALUMNI

Recent alumni share stories of life, work after graduation

By Kayla Travis
Staff Reporter

This time last year, as Alexis Branaman and Lindsay Ray were walking the stage to receive their diplomas in May 2010, they had no idea they would soon return to the university as employees.

Graduating with a degree in international studies, Branaman now works in the Center for International Studies: TCU Abroad as a study abroad coordinator for TCU, and she said she's the luckiest girl in the world.

"To be completely honest with you, I never thought in a million years that this would be the department to have a job opening because it's a really small department," she said.

But it did.

Branaman stayed up to date with job openings through the university's Human Resources posting while interning in Fort Worth for the summer, she said.

Already having housing accommodations set up post-graduation, if there were a chance to stay in Fort Worth she definitely wanted to take the shot and see, she said.

After filling out the application, Branaman said she went through four rounds of interviews. To her luck, she got the job.

Branaman said the position for the study abroad coordinator lined up perfectly with her degree along with her passion for student experience and

other cultures.

"Working for the university made a lot of sense," she said.

Tracy Williams, associate director of international studies, said having Branaman on board has been a pleasure.

"She understands the TCU experience," she said. "She helps us better know how to connect to TCU students."

A former Horned Frog herself, being an alumnus or alumna when applying to work for the university definitely gives the applicant a point in his or her favor, she said.

Ray, who double majored in entrepreneurial management and theatre said she had always hoped to work for the university. Ray now works in the Office of Admission as an admission counselor. "It was something I had been interested in for a long time," she said. "I'm just really glad it worked out, even though it wasn't directly what my major was."

Ray said having gone to a school like TCU that gives so much to its students, all she wanted to do is give back and do the same.

"Especially now being in admission, I'm able to help recruit new Horned Frogs," she said. "It has given me the ability to give back to the university that has given me a lot."

Branaman said she enjoys waking up and coming to work.

"I do advising with students, so I do a lot of one on one's with current TCU students who are trying to develop plans to go

abroad," she said. "And by doing that I get the interactive perspective that I really enjoy of getting to work with people all day long."

Branaman said she was never worried about not being respected by students for her young age.

"The thing that I have found is that the majority of the students I advise either have no idea that I went to TCU or are usually almost comforted by the fact that I am a recent graduate and understand how TCU departments work," she said.

A moment she is looking forward to, however, will take place this summer, she said.

"I will be doing Frog Camp this summer as a staff member," she said. "I was a Frog Camp director and facilitator so that's been an interesting transition."

Both Branaman and Ray said they both enjoy now getting paid by the university rather than having to pay for tuition. Branaman said the money she makes has helped her pay for classes towards her graduate degree.

And Ray said the worry of tuition is a distant memory.

"Instead of getting a bill every month, I get a paycheck," she said.

One aspect that has been a challenge, however? The wardrobe.

"I can't wear my rain boots to work when it's raining, I still have to be in business attire," Ray said. "Sometimes I wish I could just throw on those shorts and rain boots."

Erika Cervantes



*E.R.T.,
Your beautiful smile will
conquer any soul in life, the
perseverance and tenacity to
achieve your goals with success,
get a better person everyday. We
are really proud of you.*

*Love you so much
Mama, Dad & Asgard*