

THE SKIFF



CAMPUS LIFE, PAGE 5
TCU CLIMBING
TEAM GOES
BEYOND
THE WALL

A STUDENT MEDIA PUBLICATION OF TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

‘MORE THAN A MAJOR. A MOVEMENT.’

**CRES PROGRAM
GROWING RAPIDLY,
PROFESSOR SAYS**
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PHOTO COURTESY OF AP

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COMMUNITY

Read Fort Worth aims to raise literary levels

By KATIE CARTER

STAFF WRITER

Mayor Betsy Price and district leaders say they want all Fort Worth ISD students born this year to be reading on grade level by the time they reach the third grade. About 34 percent of third-graders were reading on grade level in 2016, according to Kristin Sullivan, the executive director of Read Fort Worth.

“I believe that we simply must each strategically do our part to encourage students to reach their full potential,” Price said in an online statement.

In September 2016, Price partnered with Superintendent Kent P. Scribner and other district leaders to form Read Fort Worth. It’s a reading initiative that aims to increase third-grade reading proficiency to 100 percent by 2025.

Third-grade reading is directly associated with a child’s academic success, said Sullivan.

Scribner also emphasized the importance of the third grade in a child’s academic career.

“All the statistics show it is a make-it-or-break-it time for successful students,” he said.

Read Fort Worth is putting together four teams to help meet students’ needs so they can be ready to read on grade level.

Cook Children’s Healthcare System and John Peter Smith Health Network will lead team one, which focuses on a child’s overall well-being, a foundation Sullivan said is critical to learning.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LINDA BELTRAM

Mayor Betsy Price stops by the community center to read aloud to the children.

If kids are traumatized in their early childhood years, then their brains are not ready to learn, Sullivan said.

“That team will expand eventually to consider all things that affect the well-being of a child and their ability to learn,” she said.

Team two leads the charge in school-readiness from infancy through preschool, making sure kids have access to high-quality early learning.

W. M. Green Elementary School pre-kindergarten teacher Lola Florence said early education is essential in a student’s reading level because that is where the foundation is built. She said Pre-K is a crucial learning time for students to identify letters and sounds and memorize the relationship between them.

“One of the main challenges is the lack of parental support,” she said. “I’ve noticed that many of my students don’t have a wide range of vocabulary when they start Pre-K.”

Team three aims to expand summer and

after-school programs that keep kids reading and learning outside of class.

Following this strategy, Price led a FitWorth challenge this summer where kids in summer programs competed in healthy behaviors, which included reading. Kids at Andrew “Doc” Session Community Center won the challenge, earning their community center \$1,000, some of which could go toward reading materials, said Linda Beltram, the center supervisor.

Champel Clark is a parent of a first-grade student at Carroll Peak Elementary school, one of the lowest performing elementary schools in the district. Clark said she has not had any challenges helping her child read because she works with her at home.

Clark also said she buys books a grade level ahead to keep her child progressing in her reading ability. She said having children read year-round and not only during the school year will also help advance their literacy.

“For children who are reading below grade level or who may live in low-income neighborhoods, [that] can affect what exposure they have to high-quality summer learning opportunities,” Sullivan said.

Summer and school programs both need resources to keep that opportunity available, Sullivan said.

That’s the job of team four, which is running a fundraiser to provide books for high-need schools.

“Children need ready access to high-interest books right in their classrooms to support independent reading habits,” Sullivan said.

District 3 Trustee Christene Moss said literacy rates have always been important, but it has been difficult to get the attention of the entire district.

Community members can volunteer their time as reading mentors to children and can give money to supply resources in the classroom. The classroom library campaign has more information about ongoing fundraisers.

TCU
Student Media



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Distribution: Newspapers are available free on campus and surrounding locations, limit one per person. Additional copies are \$.50 and are available at the Skiff office.

The Skiff is an official student publication of Texas Christian University, produced by students of TCU and sponsored by the TCU Department of Journalism.

It operates under the policies of the Student Media Committee..

The Skiff is published Thursdays during fall and spring semesters except finals week and holidays.

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The Skiff

Circulation: 2000

Subscriptions: 817-257-6274

Rates are \$30 per semester.

Moudy Building South

News Room, Room 212
2805 S. University Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76109

CAMPUS NEWS

‘Heil Manziel’ written in sticky notes and posted in Clark Hall window

By **CAROLINE LOVE**
ASSOCIATE EDITOR, THE SKIFF

It was a hashtag gone wrong.

Yellow sticky notes posted in the window of a resident’s room in Clark Hall declared “Heil Manziel.” It was a nod to speculation that Heisman Trophy winner Johnny Manziel might play in the proposed XFL, a gimmick football league that started in 2001.

The hashtag was trending on Twitter, but a passerby saw the word “Heil” and misunderstood the meaning of the display. The phrase “Sieg Heil,” or “hail victory” and “Heil Hitler,” or “hail Hilter” were used

in Nazi Germany and are considered offensive by many.

The student who posted the note spoke on the condition of anonymity because they worried some people might lash out. The student said they “feel terrible” about the unintended negative interpretation of their use of the hashtag.

They said “heil” was in the hashtag because of how it’s spelled.

“It was close to his name,” they said.

The sticky notes weren’t up for long. After TCU police arrived, the student took them down “immediately.” The first-year student

said they didn’t hesitate to remove it once they understood how others saw it.

“I said of course, I’ll do anything you need me to do,” they said.

Eric Collazo, a first-year international economics major and a Clark Hall resident, said the display was taken the wrong way. He said he saw the sign as praise for Manziel.

“I’m a Johnny Manziel fan,” Collazo said. “Other people have their own perspective on things.”

Craig Allen, the director of housing & residence life, said in an email that they have a policy against window displays in the student

handbook. According to the TCU student handbook, residents aren’t allowed to put up posters, banners or signs in TCU housing windows.

“Per our policy, we would ask students not to post things in windows,” Allen said. “However, this is not a poster or banner, so it is possible the student did not intend to violate any policy.”

Brennan Lafferty, a senior philosophy major, said the sticky note sign was inappropriate.

“Manziel didn’t even go to TCU,” he said. “He went to Texas A&M.”

He also said the word heil could be considered offensive.



PHOTO BY CAROLINE LOVE

A student wrote a trending hashtag on Twitter in sticky notes in their Clark Hall window.

“Overall, there’s just not enough reason for it to stay up.”




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CAMPUS NEWS

‘More than a major. A movement.’

By **BRANDON KITCHIN**

MULTIMEDIA EDITOR, TCU 360

Six words: “More than a major. A movement.” These words serve as the motto for the Comparative Race & Ethnic Studies (CRES) program as it looks forward to continuing to impact TCU at its core.

TCU has adopted its “Vision in Action” strategic plan to improve diversity and inclusion and CRES has been active in working to change campus culture by educating “students, faculty, staff and the larger community to critically examine racial and ethnic identities,” its mission statement says.

“We created CRES because we thought that it was in the benefit of all students and of the entire university community to understand race and ethnicity and how they work,” said Dr. Max Krochmal, the director of the CRES program.

Krochmal said the program has been “wildly successful” thus far and has influenced students, faculty and staff to have conversations about differences. He said the critical components of the program are designed to translate into skills that will help create ethical leaders in a global society, as the TCU mission statement says.

“We need to help expose students to stories, experiences, histories and cultures that have been marginalized,” he said. “We need to help all students



PHOTO BY TCU 360

Dr. Max Krochmal said the program is made to benefit all students.

understand their social positioning in relation to systems that confer privileges on one group and systematically oppress others, especially with race and ethnicity, and we need to give students the tools to communicate, thrive and function across lines of difference.”

Although CRES officially started in the spring of 2017, the first batch of courses began last fall with two sections of CRES 10103 - Engaging Difference and Diversity.

Sophomore Tymerra Coleman said she chose to study CRES after switching her major four times her first year. She said the introductory class has given her a stronger platform to speak about race. As a black woman at a predominantly white institution, Coleman said white students frequently make assumptions about minority students.

“I think people expect me to know everything about race because I’m black,” Coleman said. “CRES gives me the opportunity, as well as people who are not people of color, to explore some of these issues.”

Her classmate, Cody Reynolds, is the only white male in that section. He said he initially felt out of place but had a great experience in the course. Reynolds a senior music composition major said he believes there should be changes to the core curriculum to support classes like CRES that are useful in everyday life.

“A lot of the core classes that we’re required to take have little to no impact,” Reynolds said. “If we can incorporate classes that deal with modern issues or that relate to our daily lives, I think it’s not only useful but, should be mandatory.”

How a course gets approved for

TCU Core Curriculum



Step One:

Faculty proposes a course that is specific to the TCU Core and sends in a submission form where it gets reviewed.



Step Two:

If liked, the proposal makes it way to the Academic Excellence Committee for review.



Step Three:

Once it makes it to the Faculty Senate, there is one more approval before a vote among a larger body of faculty.



Step Four:

If vote is passed then the course is accepted into the core curriculum and can be added the following academic school year.

Brandon Kitchin, TCU 360 Reporter

CAMPUS LIFE

Climbing is more than just a wall

By ALEXIS GUERRERO

STAFF WRITER

The different colors on rock climbing walls look like pieces of gum stuck under a desk to the layman, but rock climbers see them as something to overcome.

“It’s not just your body; it’s your brain, too,” said Madison Hoy, the climbing vice president. “Some of these routes really force you to think critically about your next move.

You have to think two or three moves in advance because if you stop to think about it, you can tense up and fall off.”

The climbing team prepares for competitions they participate in throughout the year.

The climbing president, Jack Atzen, said the team competes every year with five to six people.

When the climbing team arrives at a competition, they’re given a route on a wall

with holds they’ve never seen. Points are given to climbers who use the correct holds on the most difficult routes and totaled together, Hoy said.

The attendance at competitions can vary.

“They can be pretty small,” Atzen said. “I’ve been to a competition where it was just them and the five of us. I’ve also been to one with ten other schools and a couple hundred people there.”

Climbing is an individual sport, and Hoy said that’s why not many people know about it.

“It’s one person, the

rope and a wall,” Hoy

said. “Some people

might not find that as

interesting as a team

sport where people move

and think like a unit.”

Atzen said the lack of places to climb in Texas also plays a factor in the lack of recognition.

“The main thing is that the biggest climbing communities are in



Students climb the wall during practice.

PHOTO BY ALEXIS GUERRERO

Colorado or Utah, where there is a lot of terrain,” he said. “It’s a cultural thing too. Places that are more outdoorsy and are close to walls have a huge impact.”

The TCU climbing

team is less than five years old, but the passion for climbing has created unexpected friendships and hobbies.

“I actually got into it by accident at the activities fair and thought

it sounded cool,” Hoy said. “I didn’t climb in high school, and once I tried it, I quickly became obsessed with it.”

Although climbing is an individual sport, the members still support

each other.

“I probably wouldn’t be as into it as I am now if it weren’t for those people I met from climbing,” Azten said.

CAMPUS LIFE

TCU polo brings new meaning to trusting a teammate

By ALEXIS GUERRERO

STAFF WRITER

Team sports often require a lot of trust. In polo, that trust also extends to the horse.

“Riding a horse is more than just directing them - it is a mutual partnership,” said club president Paige Browning.

“We are constantly switching horses during competitions, often

to horses we have never been on before,” Browning said.

Sophomore polo member Havey Robson said most people have prior riding experience, which helps them be comfortable in the saddle so they can focus on the game rather than the horse.

Polo is a contact sport played on a horse that resembles a combination of field hockey, soccer

and lacrosse, said Browning. She also said polo horses are very athletic and versatile since they have the endurance and speed of a racehorse, the agility of a cutting horse and the dependability of a lesson horse. All of this makes for an exciting combination on the field.

“The best word to describe it is probably adrenaline,” Robson said. “You are holding

on using your thighs and leaning over the horse, so you could fall off at any time, but you are also in control of performing your duties as a player in the competition.”

Club competition is the highest level of national intercollegiate polo, Browning said. TCU competes in the central region, which also features SMU, Texas Tech, Texas A&M, Oklahoma State,

Colorado State and University of Texas at Austin.

“Our coach Vaughn Miller always says, ‘polo is your passport to the world,’” Browning said.

Not only does polo allow the team to travel, but Robson said it’s a nice break from her hectic college schedule.

“Riding a horse is more than just directing them - it is a mutual partnership,”

PAIGE BROWNING
CLUB PRESIDENT



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Horoscope

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ You might be just landing from yesterday's Full Moon eclipse. Give yourself some time before making any decisions about recent events. You will want to squash a display of arrogance. Let it go, and you'll be much happier as a result. Tonight: Get organized.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ If you need some time off to recharge your batteries, try to make it happen. Your anger doesn't usually come to the surface; however, given the present circumstances, you might be concerned about saying something you won't be able to take back. Tonight: Lead the way.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ You would prefer to avoid a difficult situation. Know that if you bypass the issue, you will just be prolonging the inevitable. You might be best off clearing the air as quickly as possible. You then can focus your energy on completing a key project. Tonight: Catch up on others' news.

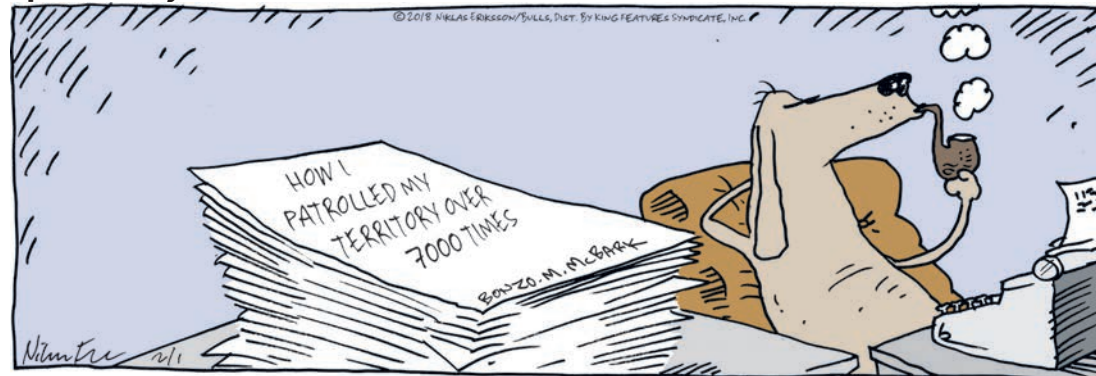
CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You might want to have a discussion about your choices after you balance your checkbook. Until you do that, you will not have a valid concept of what is possible. Do not negate a possibility until you have given it adequate consideration. Tonight: Hang with friends.

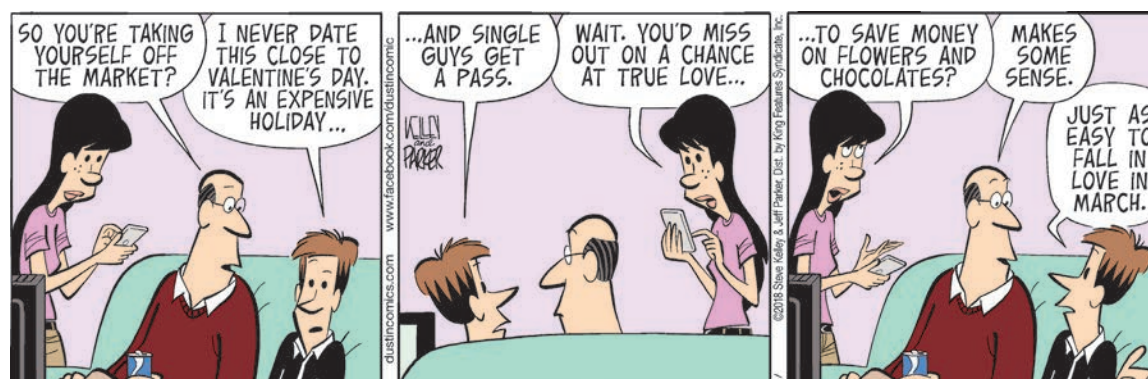
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Use the morning for any matter that appears to be critical. You could be distracted in the afternoon, and will want to handle other issues. You might want to approach a financial matter differently from how a loved one does. Tonight: Head down the path that seems best for you.

Carpe Diem by Niklas Eriksson



Dustin by Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



Intelligent Life by David Reddick



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Your energy level rises in the afternoon as you wonder what you need to do in order to maintain the pace that you desire. You are likely to be surprised by how much spontaneity invigorates you. Others notice your dynamic liveliness. Prioritize. Tonight: All smiles.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ You could be in a situation that needs to be completed ASAP. By the afternoon, other matters take a high priority and could be distracting, to say the least. You even might want to retreat. Curb spending, as you easily might go overboard. Tonight: Get some

extra R and R.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Zero in on a high priority in the afternoon. You seem to be able to elicit others' feedback more easily at that point. Deal with an older person you have been meaning to respond to. Get

to the bottom of a problem through an intense conversation. Tonight: Where the action is.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Accepting additional responsibilities that are dropped on you from out of the blue might be difficult. You come from a place where you need to recharge your energy while still having to push to meet certain demands. Tonight: Your instincts will lead you down the right path.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Reach out to someone at a distance whom you care a lot about. The unexpected occurs when dealing with a group of acquaintances. Take an overview, if possible. An interaction could be more significant than you realize. Tonight: Break past a feeling of boredom and/or loneliness.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ One-on-one relating draws a strong response. The unexpected seems to mark your day. Stay open to someone else's perspective. See what is going on with a boss who could be unusually vitriolic. You might need to regroup. Tonight: Have a long-overdue talk.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Others want control, and you will be much more content if you let them run the show. Your finances have an unpredictable quality to them, so reach out to an expert who knows a lot more than you about the topic at hand. A friend has a suggestion. Tonight: Where the action is.

The New York Times

Edited by Will Shortz

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64					65					66				
67						68				69				

- ACROSS**
- 1 1970s New York City mayor
6 Meat that comes in a can
10 Leave hanging, maybe
13 Maj.'s superior
14 Touch base
16 Future fish
17 1300 hours
18 Professors and such
20 Where you might see a criminal
22 Truckload
23 Biblical twin
24 Indiana Jones phobia
27 "M*A*S*H" actress
30 Coming-out party
33 High-strung
35 Prayer leader
36 Bygone carrier
37 J.F.K. posting, for short
38 Kind of point
41 Ad follower
42 Something a Mississippi cheerleader repeatedly calls for

- 43 Peace Nobelist Wiesel
44 All ____ up
46 Account of a hellish trip?
50 Some Boolean operators
51 Ancient land known in antiquity as Lacedaemon
52 Volcanoes develop over them
54 Writer Santha Rama ____
55 Increase what is at stake ... or a hint to answering 20-, 30- and 46-Across
60 Fair play, to some
63 Item in a winter cache
64 Gasteyer formerly of "Saturday Night Live"
65 "I wanna!"
66 Traveled like Johnny Appleseed
67 "Whew!"
68 Egg on
69 Influences

- DOWN**
- 1 Squander
2 Mount SW of Messina
3 Sailed through

- 4 Rug rats
5 Ticklish dolls
6 David, for one
7 Go back and forth
8 Food thickener
9 Coffee, in slang
10 Affair for bingers
11 "Arabian Nights" creature
12 "Amen!"
15 Honey and Sugar
19 Ancient kingdom east of the Dead Sea
21 End of many a Trump tweet
24 Alone, in a way
25 Jake's "Blues Brothers" brother
26 Pants
27 Places
28 Moist towelette
29 Unorganized
31 Dangerous dog
32 Thurman of the "Kill Bill" films
34 Ultimate
39 Soviet nuclear-powered submarine

- 40 Never, abroad
45 Flips one's lid
47 It's on the Gulf of Oman
48 Took home
49 "That's amazing!"
53 Moves toward
55 Man, in Milan
56 Fast feline
57 Blast from the past, astronomically speaking?
58 Rare trick taker
59 Bounds
60 Can opener
61 Popular card game
62 Beseech

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

DIRECTIONS

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

SOLUTION FROM 1/25

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

TCU Trivia

Buildings: There is only one building on campus named for faculty members who were involved with the departments the building houses.
True or False?

SOLUTION FROM 1/25

A	S	S	I	S	I			C	A	M	A	R	O
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S	W	A	N	N		T	I	S		E	U	R	O
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I	C	E	P	O	P	S			I	R	E	C	K
P	R	A	I	R	I	E			F	O	R	R	E
E	U	R	E	K	A	S			F	L	Y	I	N

TCU TRIVIA ANSWER

TRUE! Winton-Scott Hall is named for a former professor and a former student.