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A STUDENT MEDIA PUBLICATION OF TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

FORT WORTH, TEXAS



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THE WINTER STORM STILL HAS
THE LIBRARY PARTIALLY CLOSED



CAMPUS NEWS

Student organizations featured in first weekly showcase

By LONYAE COULTER

ASSOCIATE EDITOR, THE SKIFF

A weekly showcase is giving students a new way to interact with organizations on campus.

The 'Student Organization Showcases' are a weekly in-person opportunity for students to connect with and learn more about organizations they may have not know existed on campus.

"Each week, we will feature five to six organizations in a casual and fun environment with snacks, giveaways and opportunities for students to enter in a raffle to win a prize," said Dede Williams Vann, the director of student organizations learning & development.

The showcase will be every Wednesday from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in

the Campus Commons.

"Unfortunately this showcase will not have a virtual option. However, we provided a virtual organizations fair at the beginning of both the fall and spring semesters that featured 154 organizations and 113 organizations respectively," Williams Vann said.

The first showcase was held on March 24, and the organizations that attended were the Chemistry Club, Rhino Initiative Club, TCU Links, It's On Us and Gamer's Guild.

Claire Litchfield, president of TCU Links, showcased the organization and its goal, which is to link college students with the elderly community of Fort Worth.

Normally, TCU Links goes to local retirement

homes and spends time with those residents. Due to the pandemic, the club has been doing letter drives.

Litchfield was a supporter of the new showcases.

"I love the idea of having just a couple of organizations to showcase because it really puts the focus on those organizations instead of being overwhelmed with the organization fairs," said Litchfield.

Litchfield said TCU organizations should continue these showcases because they are good opportunities for smaller clubs and any club trying to get their name out there.

"It's really important for freshmen and transfer students because it's way easier to get to know people in a much smaller showcase rather than trying to visit 50 clubs at once at the normal showcases we would have," said Litchfield.

It allows these organizations to be active and engaged in the TCU community.

"There's a lot of positivity and feedback just from the TCU community about being able to see and get to know more organizations on campus...so they should continue to do this in the future", said Harrison Holloway, the vice president of service and outreach for the Chemistry Club.

Their last showcase was Wednesday, March 31. The following are scheduled for April 7, April 14, April 21 and April 28.



PHOTO BY LONYAE COULTER



The Skiff

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CAMPUS NEWS

TCU library still partially closed from winter storm damage

By ALEXANDRA LANG

EXECUTIVE EDITOR. THE SKIFF

and STEPHANIE JOYNT

STAFF WRITER, TCU360

The TCU Mary Couts Burnett Library has experienced partial closure since early February, and it is unknown when it will completely reopen.

The west wing doors of the building, facing University Drive, remain closed while other parts of the library have reopened for use.

Texas experienced its first snowstorm in over a decade on Feb. 14. The intense weather brought power outages, frozen pipes and a lack of water. TCU closed campus for the week of Feb. 15, which included the closure of the library.

Although the campus reopened and classes resumed the following week, the library remained closed due to internal damage from the storm. Materials and resources within the library are still being treated, and some items have been restored.

Students and faculty have not been informed on what specifically broke to cause this closure. Still, TCU has kept students updated as more of the library becomes readily available.

"I felt like I was

somewhat informed", said Deanna Harper, a senior psychology major. "They told us that the winter weather caused problems in the library, but that is all that we really know."

The closing has meant that some students have had to find a different place to study.

"Having the library close down and just with the winter storm just throwing everything so unexpectedly, I know that impacted our students in a greater capacity because of that," Megan Mosiniak, the hall director for Moncrief Hall, said. "They didn't get that space to be able to study how they want to

study."

Since its closure, the library has progressively opened for student access. An email was released to the Horned Frog community on Feb. 26 announcing the reopening of the east wing.

"I am happy to announce that the TCU library is now open on the east side for your research and study needs," wrote Tracy Hull, the dean of the library. "The west entrance (facing University Drive) will remain closed temporarily as cleanup continues in the area impacted by the winter storm."

Every email that

has been sent out to students and faculty has not stated what the physical damages are to the library. Attempts to discuss the subject with library staff were unsuccessful. The west wing closure has eliminated two main rooms that students typically study in, along with half of the basement study tables.

"A lot of students need books, materials, and other resources we can't access right now, so it is difficult," said Harper. "We do have some other resources that students can go through to try and get the books they need though."

In the most recent email sent

out to students, Hull announced that parts of the main library were open. That area includes access to books and texts that were not available before, such as reference books, theses, and government documents.

Additionally, "5% of the onsite collection has been removed for treatment," Hull said. "Students will be notified if the resource they are seeking is unavailable."

Additional emails are expected to be sent out more when the library reopens. The official date for west wing access for students has yet to be announced.

Social media helps former TCU Showgirl launch jewelry company

By LINDSEY BAKONYI

STAFF WRITER, TCU360

A TCU alumna was able to start a jewelry company after a social media post of a bracelet she made led people to ask her about where she got it.

Lauren Godby, who graduated with a strategic communication degree in 2019, started her company, LoJewels, after people started commenting on her VSCO photo.

"I knew that this was the start of something special, so I took advantage of the opportunity to grow my successful business over the course of the past four years," Godby said.

During her time as a student at TCU, Godby

was a TCU Showgirl and heavily involved in Greek life. Godby never expected her business to grow as much as it did while she was at TCU and now that she has graduated, her business has skyrocketed even more.

After getting her start on social media, the same platforms have been the main resource that has helped Godby's business grow over the past couple of years. She tries to post on Instagram at least once a day and does monthly giveaways to try and increase her active followers and have people interact with the business's account.

Along with increasing the interactions, social media helps Godby build loyalty and trust with her eustomers

"Maintaining trust, value, and consistency with our audience is of the utmost importance to the brand," Godby said. "We strive to communicate to the customer whenever they might have any questions, concerns, etc., and this creates more of a trusting relationship between us and the consumer."

Godby said along with having an active social media following, word of mouth has helped grow her business as well.

"Initially when
Lojewels started, the
TCU college-age group
was our main audience,
but this quickly expanded
way beyond the TCU
girls," Godby said.

From a post to a full-time job

LoJewels has successfully sold to all 50 states in the U.S and has even made sales outside of the country. Some of their products can also be found at a local Fort Worth shop, Three Boutique.

LoJewels sells a variety of unique items such as clothing, art and jewelry. Their scarf tops have continuously been a bestseller as well as their butterfly art which Lauren's sister, Kristen Godby, designed and created herself.

"I own a couple of scarves from LoJewels that I like to wear for game days. They are great quality and I like how they have tutorials on Instagram on how to style the scarves in different ways so it looks like you aren't always wearing the same top," Sarah Miller, a TCU junior psychology major said.

Although LoJewels has gained popularity and become a successful business, it is still running out of Godby's house and is family-operated with Godby and her mom doing most of the work. Her sister Kristen also helps as much as she can while still being a full-time student at TCU.

LoJewels has become Godby's main job and source of income but she also runs her own photography business, Lauren Godby Photography.

Godby has hired

interns in the past to help with daily tasks and manage some of the engagement on the LoJewels Instagram.

You can find LoJewels on Instagram @LoJewels, as well as shop their products at www.lojewels.org.



LoJewels Instagram account on

LoJewels Instagram account or 3/18/2021.

CAMPUS NEWS

International students look forward to campus return in the fall

By ABBY HOFFACKER

STAFF WRITER, TCU360

For many international students who have been studying from their home countries during the pandemic, TCU's decision to move students back into the classroom next fall could mean a good night's sleep.

Time differences between their homes and TCU can be more than 10 hours for some students, meaning they are attending synchronous class in the middle of the night.

"Most of my classes are scattered around 9 p.m. till 7 a.m. in the morning," said Hiep N. Nguyen, a first-year computer science major from Haiphong, Vietnam.

Even though most teachers are lenient with tests, allowing Nguyen to take them asynchronously, the Zoom classes are still taxing.

"It's not a good experience but it's tolerable," Nguyen said.

There is a 12-hour time difference between Texas and Vietnam, where most of TCU's international students are from, according to the 2020 TCU Fact Book.

International students struggle with time change difficulties

TCU's International Services program director John Singleton said 30% to 40% of international students are not on campus. He said enrollment has not dropped, but some students have opted to defer, rather than do virtual learning.

"After the fall [2020] semester, a number of our students did not choose to go online again for spring ... because they found it to be so difficult," said Singleton.

Most online TCU classes meet synchronously on Zoom, which can be hard for international students to attend when there are drastic time differences.

Christian Choong, a sophomore graphic design student from Hong Kong, China, returned to campus for the spring after completing his first semester of the school year online.

"I just couldn't do online learning anymore," Choong said. "I'm honestly glad that I came back."

The time difference made certain things many people take for granted, like mealtimes, difficult.

"In Asian communities ... eating with your family is a big thing," Choong said. "I can only eat when they eat."

And because his classes were spread throughout the night, due to a 13-hour time difference, that meant sleeping instead of eating lunch with his family.

"In between dinner and breakfast, I would have no food and barely snacks," Choong said.

Choong also thought TCU would have offered more asynchronous options for international students.

Optimism for the fall

Other international students are choosing to finish the academic year online, before coming back to campus in the fall.

"I am a first-year, so all of my experience has been online," said Khánh Phạm, first-year economics and math major, who is also from Vietnam.

A week before her scheduled move-in day to TCU, Pham got on a flight back to Vietnam after realizing all her classes would be online and feeling homesick.

Because of further concerns over the pandemic, Phạm's parents did not let her return to campus in January. She then went into her second semester of all online classes.

While she has joined some student organizations, she usually can't attend meetings because of the time difference. She uses her free time after her day of classes to catch up on sleep.

After nearly a year of online, she is ready to come back.

"I want the interaction with people... real interactions with my classmates and professors," she said. "I also want to go back to my normal sleeping schedule."

As for her reaction to the fall in-person classes: "That's awesome" Pham said. "I am ready to ... get back."

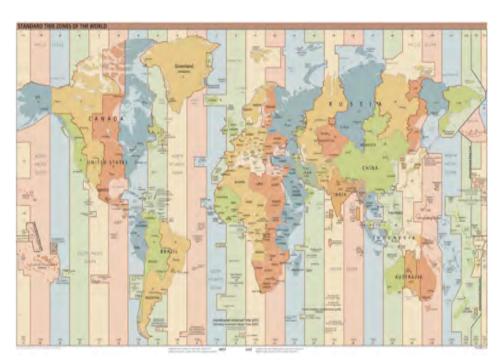


PHOTO COURTESY OF VOX

Map of the world's time zones. There is a 12 hour time difference between then U.S. and Vietnam, where most of TCU's international students are from, according to the 2020 TCU Fact Book.

Nguyen reacted similarly. "That's actually very exciting news," he said. "Finally a social life."

He added that he is excited to meet fellow students who he has only interacted with virtually. For other international students, who have gotten used to an online learning routine, walking to in-person classes may take some time to adjust back to.

"I've gotten so used to [online learning] ...

"The first thing I'd do [once on campus] is meet all of my new friends from online classes that I've talked to over the year but I have not met in person. It's [been] kind of like a long-distance relationship with friends... all across the country."

-HIEP N. NGUYEN

FIRST YEAR, COMPUER SCIENCE MAJOR

once in-person classes startup, I have to roll out of bed and get changed," Choong said.

TCU announced its plan for in-person classes on March 12.

"The university will utilize its full schedule, Monday through Friday, to achieve an on-campus experience with nearly all classes in-person. Space limitations and classroom structure mean only a small number of classes will be held online," Chancellor Victor Boschini wrote in an email to the campus community.

Singleton said that international students need to come back.

"Every international student has to be back at TCU," Singleton said. "They can't do distance learning."

In-person classes for the fall are set to begin Aug. 23.

STUDENT LIFE

Students relaunch a female-focused campus organization

By RYANN BOOTH

STAFF WRITER, TCU360

On a campus that is historically and predominantly made up of women, it can be challenging to find organizations beyond sororities that specifically address their concerns toward their interests.

Kendall McCarthy, a first-year strategic communications and French dual major, hopes the return of Her Campus helps fill the void.

The national organization, which has more than 400 university chapters in 44 states and seven countries, was founded by three Harvard undergraduate students in 2009. The goal is to create an online magazine dedicated to, written by and focused on empowering college women.

It is now the number one media portfolio for college women and Gen Z, according to its website.

"Her Campus has amassed the largest female college audience of any publication," said Forbes in their article about how the organization began.

McCarthy joined the Her Campus Media community in high school.

"Having a Her Campus chapter at the college I would be attending was really important to me as I was deciding where to go," said McCarthy. "I was so excited when I saw that TCU was listed as one of the schools with a chapter, but I didn't realize until I got on campus that it was decommissioned in 2017."

She teamed up with Anastasia Helms, a sophomore nursing major, to reinstate TCU's chapter.

The pair met through the Student Government Association. The blog launched in March with posts from Helms and McCarthy.

Helms also serves as the editor-in-chief of the blog.

A goal of empowerment

Her Campus is seen as a safe space for people to share their ideas and experiences, said Helms.

Anyone from any major can join, said McCarthy. Although the organization is geared towards a female audience, all gender identities are welcome to join.

"It's very different from any other organization on campus because you're able to write about a variety of things whereas other organizations are limited to a very specific goal," said Helms. "Our goal of empowering people is so broad and you can achieve that in so many ways."

TCU's chapter is run by an executive board and writing committee of almost all women, with the exception of one man.

Martin Vershel, a sophomore theatre major, serves as the Operations Direction of the chapter. "Supporting women isn't just for women," said Vershel. "Equity starts with men putting the women in their lives first and working to level the playing field."

Vershel started the column Girl, For Real, where he interviews women and discusses their successes. He started the column to highlight the experiences of triumphant women with hopes that the next generation of women can learn from their stories.

"There are other writing organizations on campus, but Her Campus is really the only one that focuses on the topics we cover like sex, relationships, health and career," said McCarthy. "Our topics are so diverse, and I think that's what makes us so special."

Chloe Cloud, a sophomore English, journalism and fashion merchandising triple major, writes for the blog.

"I love that we have a platform to speak on behalf of women at TCU and to discuss real issues and events happening in women's lives," said Cloud.

Helms and McCarthy said they are eager to see what TCU's chapter of Her Campus will accomplish.

"There are a lot of moving parts of the organization, so we are excited to see how the members of our chapter use the freedom that Her Campus gives them to create something different," said Helms.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KENDALL MCCARTHY

McCarthy (left) and Anastasia Helms (right) help SGA host an event in the TCU Commons.





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The New Hork Times Edited by Will Shortz

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Carpe Diem by Niklas Eriksson





Dustin by Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker







Horoscope

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Attend a gathering
where you can mingle and
learn from other guests. Be
social and express yourself,
but listen to other points of
view. Travel plans may get
put on hold. Be patient and
reschedule. Tonight: Get
tickets to a concert.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Deep, mixed emotions
may surface when you least
expect it. You may feel elated
one moment and sad the
next. Keep tissues close
by since you may wipe a
tear every now and again.
Tonight: Resolve differences
with loved ones.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★ Love is in the air. There may be an unexpected gift or invitation to dinner. Small gestures mean more than expensive presents. Do something kind for someone when they least expect it. Tonight: Recall an event that made you smile.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Start a healthy
eating plan and exercise
program that suits your
schedule. Choose a fitness
routine from an array of
videos. Make sure you're at
the right level. Give yourself
a gold star for taking the
first step. Tonight: Friendly
chatter.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Follow your creative instincts. This might include meeting someone who wants to introduce you to new techniques. Participate in an activity that is active, healthy and, above all, fun. Tonight: Read in bed.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Brush up on your
mediation skills. Clear the
cobwebs of a family disagreement. Agree to disagree and
move forward. Nostalgic
memories bring a smile to
your face. Contact someone
who can reminisce with you.
Tonight: Prepare fresh fruits
and vegetables.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Put your multitasking
skills to the test. Slow down,
and you can juggle your
activities. Ask for feedback on
an idea for a writing project.
Friends and colleagues can
make helpful suggestions
if you let them. Tonight:
Laughing out loud.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Pass on a get-richquick scheme that a friend might mention. Find creative ways to improve family finances. Sell items online you no longer need but are in mint condition. This could lead to a successful side business. Tonight: Play cards.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ Confidence is at an all-time high. Look your best to reflect on how you feel. Challenge yourself to do things that you normally would not dare do. You can do anything if you put your mind to it. Tonight: Tax preparation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ Take a break from
nonstop activity. Unwind
and reboot. Listen to your
intuition. It has something
to tell you. Donate time
or money to your favorite
charity. Compassion leads
you in the right direction.
Tonight: Imagine your dream
vacation.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★ Strategize how to approach a friend with whom you had a misunderstanding. Apply your sensitivity and the issue will be cleared up in no time. Be open to constructive criticism after a group presentation. Tonight: Look up old classmates online.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Get an early start
and take charge of the day.

Put one foot in front of the other so things will get done in record time. Look up job opportunities or volunteer positions that speak to your passion. Tonight: Post snapshots.



,

SPORTS

Memorial tournament honors former Paschal pitcher, awards 20 scholarships

By LUCY PUENTE

STAFF WRITER, TCU360

The 20 scholarships were awarded to local high school baseball players last week at an annual tournament in honor of a former Paschal High School pitcher.

The fifth annual Drew Medford Memorial Baseball Tournament featured 20 local high schools, who played over 49 games in three days.

The tournament is capped off with a scholarship ceremony. Coaches pick one varsity senior player per team who they believe is the most deserving of the scholarship based on sportsmanship, leadership and heart for the game of baseball – all characteristics that were modeled by Drew Medford.

Medford was a varsity pitcher for the Paschal

High School Panthers baseball team. He earned district MVP honors and was committed to play for TCU before he died in a car accident in 2016, the summer after his high school graduation.

The tournament was brought to life by friends, family and the Fort Worth community who formed the board of the Drew Medford Memorial Tournament (DMMT). It is responsible for organizing the tournament, finding sponsors, making t-shirts and placing yard signs advertising the event around Fort Worth.

Stacey Henley is one of the parents who helped create the tournament. Her son, Blair Henley, a former University of Texas pitcher now with the Houston Astros, knew Medford personally.

The two played on the same baseball team

throughout their teen years with the Fort Worth Cats organization and then against each other at rival high schools, Paschal and Arlington Heights.

Henley said that the DMMT was created from the annual rivalry between the Paschal and Arlington Heights baseball teams. The invitational tournament started with only six teams and now has grown to 20, with each team selected based on the ability of their baseball programs.

This year's tournament took place over three days at five participating high school fields: Paschal, Arlington Heights, Trinity Valley, Mansfield Summit and Mansfield Legacy. The final game of the tournament features Medford's alma mater Paschal against Arlington Heights.



PHOTO BY LUCY PUENTE



PHOTO BY LUCY PUENTE

The tournament had a variety of sponsors, including both individuals and organizations.

Paschal and Heights would normally not get to play one another.

"Normally the 5A and 6A schools would not play against each other because of their sizes, but this tournament allows the historic Heights and Paschal rivalry to continue on while honoring the memory of Drew," said Drew Harris, the publicity manager of the DMMT and a former communications associate at TCU.

The scholarship ceremony is before the final game and presents all the recipients with their awards on the field.

The scholarships are funded by the sponsors of the tournament consisting of local Fort Worth businesses, organizations and families. Some sponsors directly relate to Medford, like University Little League, the Fort Worth Cats organization and the Fort Worth Aces organization.

"What makes this

tournament different from other baseball tournaments is that it's not put on by a big corporation, it's put on by families, students and coaches," Harris said.

Aaron Biediger, a senior at Arlington Heights, received the scholarship and said that it was the most memorable event of the tournament.

"Hearing everyone cheer for me when they announced my name including my teammates and family was unforgettable," Biediger said. "They were so loud the announcer had to pause to let them calm down."

Biediger, who is continuing his baseball career at Richland College, said he was honored to find out he was the recipient and was grateful to his coaches, family and teammates.

The recipient for Lake Ridge High School, JD Moreno, echoed Biediger.

Moreno is committed to play at New Mexico

"This scholarship means a lot to me. It made me feel grateful knowing my coaches chose me and see me as the player that Drew used to be."

-JD MORENO

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Junior College and hopes to save his scholarship to help with future payments for when he transfers to a four-year university.

Both recipients plan to come back and attend the Drew Medford Memorial Tournament after they graduate from high school.

Teams gather on the field befowre the game begins.