

# THE SKIFF



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BACK ON: TCU PROVES RESILIENT IN CRUCIAL WIN OVER WEST VIRGINIA

A STUDENT MEDIA PUBLICATION OF TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

# PRIMARIES: WHY YOUNG VOTERS MATTER

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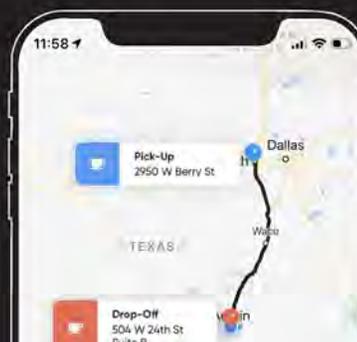


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## ELECTIONS 2022

# Texas primary elections are underway: Why young voter participation matters

By **HAEVEN GIBBONS**  
MANAGING EDITOR, TCU 360

Young voter participation in the primaries is important because the policies that are important to young people are different from the policies that are important to older people, and having that perspective in politics is “fundamentally needed right now,” said Joanne Green, a TCU professor of political science.

Early voting for the Texas primaries, determining the Democratic and Republican candidates who will compete in the general elections this fall, began on Monday.

The selection of these candidates is of “pivotal importance” for determining the direction the Democratic or Republican party is headed, whether that be more conservative, moderate or progressive, Green said.

“Particularly if you think about what’s going on in both political parties right now, there’s really a struggle for ‘where is the party going to go?’ And right now, primaries are an opportunity for the party voters to really have their say,” Green said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AP PHOTO  
A man passes an early voting poll site, Monday, Feb. 14, 2022, in San Antonio. Early voting in Texas began Monday.

Since voter turnout in the primaries is historically low, the voices of those who do vote are amplified.

TCU assistant professor of political science Matthew Montgomery said the people who are the most extreme ideologically in either political party are often the ones who show up to vote at primaries. This is part of why polarization occurs over time, especially in Congress and in the state legislator, Montgomery said.

“And it seems to have disenfranchised a bunch of folks in the middle who aren’t all

that politically extreme,” Montgomery said.

Green said when an entire segment of the population is not voting, it’s very easy to ignore them.

“You have to think about when you’re voting, you are essentially representing others like you. So when you go out to vote it makes politicians pay attention to young people and the agenda that’s important to young people,” Green said. “We need to have that voice,” she added.

There are several early voting locations less than 15 minutes from TCU’s campus where

students can vote if they are registered in Tarrant County.

Participating in early voting is the “most convenient” way for students to vote because lines are usually shorter and the time frame to vote is longer, Green said.

Early voting ends on Feb. 25 before the Texas primary election on March 1. Voter registration can be checked through the Texas Secretary of State’s website, and early voting information is available on Tarrant County’s elections office’s website.

## EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS NEAR TCU CAMPUS

### UNT Health Science Center

IREB - LOBBY  
3430 CAMP BOWIE BOULEVARD  
FORT WORTH, 76107

### Como Community Center

4660 HORNE STREET  
FORT WORTH, 76107

### Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

NAYLOR STUDENT CENTER  
1900 W BOYCE AVENUE  
FORT WORTH, 76115

### James Avenue Service Center

5001 JAMES AVENUE  
FORT WORTH 76115



## The Skiff

TCU Box 298050  
Fort Worth, TX 76129  
skiff-editor@tcu360.com  
Phone (817) 257-3600  
Fax (817) 257-7133

**Editor** LONYAE COULTER

**Design Editor**  
Kristen Pastrano

**Chief Ad Designer**  
Tatum Smith

**Associate Editor**  
Grace Morison

**Director of Student Media Sales and Operations**  
Leah Griffin

**Director of Student Media**  
Jean Marie Brown

**Chair, Department of Journalism**  
Uche Onyebadi, Ph. D

**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:** 1,000  
**Subscriptions:** 817-257-6274  
Rates are \$30 per semester.

**Moudy Building South**  
Newsroom, Room 212  
2805 S. University Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76109

## SPORTS

# Club pickleball attracts TCU students, hosts first tournament

BY SARA LITTLEJOHN  
STAFF WRITER, TCU 360

One of the fastest-growing sports in the country is starting to flourish at TCU.

TCU's pickleball club has grown to over 160 members since it launched in the fall of 2021, and it's still growing.

"We just started playing more and more and then we realized how many people here actually want to play," said Jack Vandixhorn, a junior finance major and vice president of the club. "It is a very sociable

sport. We have many members who play a ton and many who play for the more social aspect."

Even though it's new at TCU, the sport is more than 50 years old, according to USA Pickleball.

The game started when Washington state congressman, Joel Pritchard, and successful businessman, Bill Bell, were at Pritchard's home on Bainbridge Island, WA. Their families were sitting around with nothing to do and the property happened to have an old badminton court. Unable to find

badminton equipment or rackets, they improvised by playing with ping pong paddles and a perforated plastic ball.

The sport combines aspects of tennis, badminton and ping pong. Played inside or outside on a badminton size court with a modified tennis net, pickleball is enjoyed by people of all ages and various skill levels.

But some students have been hesitant to try it because they have never played before or think the game is more serious, said Vandixhorn.

"We have a lot of

people who say it's intimidating," said senior communications major and club President, Matt Calvert. "They are scared to come out because they have never played. We have paddles for everyone too. We want everyone to come out because most of us have never even played before."

The TCU Student Government Association and various pickleball companies have donated to the group — one pickleball company donated over 70 paddles. Vandixhorn and Calvert stressed the importance

of funding and said without it, the team would not have survived.

The pickleball club practices Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Fridays at 3:30 p.m.

"Our vibe is to come and hang out. It doesn't feel like practice," said Vandixhorn. "If you want to grind and get better, there are people you can do that with. If you want to come and hang out and mess around there are people you can do that with as well."

On Feb. 19, the team played Texas A&M in its first tournament on the TCU Tennis Courts. Their

hope is to play in other college tournaments throughout the semester.

Pickleball is gaining popularity in the TCU community and is something that current club members encourage students to try.

"It is something you just have to do," said Calvert. "People have been scared to come out and they came once but have been back every day since."

Students can join through GroupMe or TCU engage. There's also updated information on the club's Instagram, @frog.pickle.

## CAMPUS FEATURE

## Works in 'With Pleasure' Exhibition hold personal meanings for students

By SARAH CRISPI  
STAFF WRITER, TCU 360

TCU's second-year Master of Fine Arts candidates created works for "With Pleasure," an exhibition with a focus on memories tied to a specific place.

The exhibition, which featured works in sculpture, painting and new media, was on display at TCU's Fort Worth Contemporary Arts Gallery through Feb. 12 and can still be viewed virtually.

Sheryl Anaya, Benjamin Loftis, Madi Ortega and Sarah Theurer Hunt each worked with different mediums to reflect important memories through their art.

Sheryl Anaya used sculpture and storytelling to re-create her childhood in Puerto Rico.

Anaya said her most vivid memories are of her grandmother's kitchen and food.

"I wanted to use food items that were constant in my grandma's pantry or my dad's house," Anaya said. She used crayons and colored pencils to color the objects, bringing a childlike nature to her installation.

Madi Ortega also drew inspiration from memories with her grandparents.

Memories of her grandparents' farm were so strong, Ortega included a patch of grassland and a birdhouse from the property in her installation. She said removing each piece was significant because it invoked recollections of memories such as chasing grasshoppers in the grass

fields. Through her sculpture and oil paintings, she confronted her struggle with change.

"There are hidden meanings within my work if you look closely," said Ortega. "Because the installation is more personal, I felt like hiding some specific elements made the piece more intimate."

Sarah Theurer Hunt used nocturnal landscapes to push her audience to see the sound, form and surface of her work from multiple directions.

Theurer Hunt said her body of work demonstrates the power of darkness just outside undeveloped spaces of uncertainty. The idea came from her night walks and how sounds are significant to being hyper-aware, said Hunt.

Benjamin Loftis



PHOTO BY SARAH CRISPI

The Fort Worth Contemporary Arts gallery features work from MFA students Benjamin Loftis, Sheryl Anaya, Madi Ortega and Sarah Theurer Hunt.

explored the intersectionality between the historically idealized male body and the discontinued body mechanic studies at Ivy League institutions.

These body mechanics classes examined and often ranked physical attributes, such as size and muscle mass. Loftis

said the idea came from a picture he saw from the discontinued body mechanics studies at Harvard, which labeled male bodies as either thin, fat or strong.

"Judgment of the male body, that is not always specifically talked about, was a catalyst for the

work in the show," said Loftis. He said his work connects his childhood influences of the ideal body to personal body image.

The MFA candidates plan to graduate in May of 2022.

## CAMPUS NEWS

# Impact of Words student organization delivers smiles on sticky notes

By **MADYSON BUCHANAN**

STAFF WRITER, TCU 360

A student-run mental health organization has found a new way to put a smile on students' faces.

After losing a friend and lacrosse teammate, Chad Harrell, to suicide in the summer of 2017, junior marketing major, Jackson Donaldson, began to question why mental health was so challenging to talk about.

"I realized when you talk about mental health too much, you glorify it," Donaldson said. "But, when you don't talk about it at all, you do nothing. So, there is a very weird gray area of how much you should or shouldn't talk about it."

Donaldson said he wanted a solution in dealing with this gray area.

"I saw the solution as not necessarily talking about mental health, but making people feel welcome and cared for in a sense of community," said Donaldson. He said that isolation strikes people at different times in their lives, whether it is triggered by COVID-19 or a summer away from friends.

During his sophomore year of high school in Leewood, KS, Donaldson decided to create his very own organization. He would later bring his message of spreading positivity to TCU as a first-year student.

Donaldson's organization is known as Impact of Words, whose mission is to "spread small acts of kindness and aid students by fostering a caring community and making a positive change at TCU."

"People need this right now," Donaldson said.

It did not take long to see growth. Just two years down the road, the organization has grown to over 150 members.

Nicole Hay, a first-year pre-business major, said she loves getting to see the notes on the doors and walls of her own dorm. "It's really cool to be able to see the impact that this organization's work is having."

"What we're

saying matters," said Donaldson. He said that the sticky notes are just a means of delivering that message.

In addition to writing sticky notes, members raise money for mental health organizations and help educate the student population on mental health. This year, members are also planning the first mental health week beginning Feb. 21.

Impact of Words meets every Tuesday night from 6:30-7:30 p.m. on the second floor of the Brown-Lupton University Union.

For more information on mental health or to schedule an appointment, students



PHOTO COURTESY OF IMPACT OF WORDS

Impact of Words members pose with sticky notes they wrote.

can visit TCU's Counseling and Mental

Health Center or their website.

## Chi Tau Epsilon supports AIDS Outreach Center of Tarrant County through dance

By **ISABELLE ACHESON**

STAFF WRITER, TCU 360

Dancers from TCU's School of Classical & Contemporary Dance and the surrounding areas in Fort Worth came together to raise money and awareness for the AIDS Outreach Center of Tarrant County (AOC).

The concert took place this past Saturday, Feb. 19, in Erma Lowe Hall on TCU's campus. With a \$5 donation, TCU students attended the concert and watched their fellow Horned Frogs and other performers dance in support of the AOC.

### Breaking the stigma

AIDS has affected the global community since the early 1980s. According to the Kaiser

Family Foundation, there are more than 1.2 million people in the United States living with HIV and more than 700,000 HIV-related deaths. In 2019, there were 5,184 people living with HIV in Tarrant County, according to AIDSVu.com.

"When the AIDS outbreak began, everyone only considered it a gay, white man's disease," said Kelly Allen Gray, executive director of the AOC. "But this disease affects every population: children, men, women, teens – there is not a face to HIV."

The AOC is currently utilizing the hashtag #LetsTalkAboutIt on social media to shine a light on the disease and break the stigma surrounding HIV/

AIDS. With the help of TCU dance, the AOC reinforces that fighting HIV/AIDS is a community effort.

"It is no secret that AIDS has affected the arts community in deep, profound ways," said Stephanie Montes de Oca Frias, the benefit concert choreographer and performer. "It's extremely right that we would get behind this concert as artists because our colleagues have been affected by AIDS."

The AIDS Outreach Center Benefit Concert is a reminder that serving a worthy cause can be achieved through showcasing unique, individual talents.

"Using my knowledge and dance skills in a way that extends beyond myself and beyond my

institution is really important," said Montes de Oca Frias. "This dance is about so much more than me and the TCU community, it's bringing everyone together.

Serving the community continues to be one of the pillars of Chi Tau Epsilon, the school of dance's honor society. It drives the dancers to do what they do.

"It's about one word: service," said Keith Saunders, an assistant professor of professional practice in the dance school. "Serving the community is what it's about for every member of Chi Tau Epsilon."

### 1993 to present day

In 1993, Andrew Parkhurst, former

President of Chi Tau Epsilon, organized the first AIDS Outreach Center Benefit Concert to honor the memory of late accompanist Lee Fincher, who lost his battle to HIV/AIDS.

"Chi Tau Epsilon is the school of dance's honor society. The AIDS Outreach Center is our philanthropy because the disease hits so close to home; dancers hold their accompanists close to their hearts," said Madi Grace Thompson, the current community engagement co-director for Chi Tau Epsilon.

After its 17th year, the benefit concert has evolved into an annual fundraiser and features works from students, faculty and guest artists from the Fort Worth community. But the

concert's core still remains the same: to bring artists together to support the AOC of Tarrant County and to break the stigma of HIV/AIDS.

"There is real commitment that Chi Tau and TCU dancers bring to this effort," said Saunders. "This concert is months and months of work: coordinating with professional companies, our own department and, this year, we have a high school dance company coming in."

This was the first concert since 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but that didn't stop Chi Tau members from continuing to raise funds for the AOC.

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“Chi Tau members stepped up and created new ways to benefit the AIDS Outreach Center,” said Saunders

Chi Tau Epsilon members utilized an online auction for the past two years.

All of the proceeds from the concert went directly to the AIDS Outreach Center of Tarrant County.

“This year we are doing both a concert and the auction — the auction raised about \$1,000,” said Saunders.

### The AIDS Outreach Center of Tarrant County

The AOC of Tarrant County is the only 501(c)

(3) non-profit organization in Fort Worth that provides vital HIV/AIDS services, education, prevention and outreach programs to the people of Tarrant County.

The AOC started in 1986 as a community-based organization in the Fort Worth Counseling Center. Members and volunteers from the gay and lesbian community founded the agency to provide health and legal support for those suffering from HIV/AIDS.

“AIDS used to hit hard and hit fast, I can’t tell you how many friends I lost personally,” said Larry Ellis, the director of administrative services of the AOC. “You would see people out one weekend and then see

their obituary the next, that’s how quick it was.”

The advancement of medicine and critical care has significantly decreased the transmission of HIV/AIDS. Now, the AOC is helping people live normal lives, and it is the most utilized non-medical referral destination for more than 2,000 people per year living with HIV/AIDS in Tarrant County and Fort Worth.

“We are a one-stop-shop for the community,” said Gray. “We have community testing events, free HIV and STI testing, a dental clinic, a nutrition center, a trans wellness center and a pharmacy and medical clinic right next door.”

To find out more, visit the AOC’s website.



PHOTO BY IZZY ACHESON

Photo of senior benefit concert choreographer, Stephanie Montes de Oca Frias, rehearsing her own work with first-year, Allyson Sledge, that will be performed in the benefit concert.

## CAMPUS NEWS

# Sigma Nu ‘puppy kissing booth’ raises money for animal rescue

By MICAH PIERCE  
STAFF WRITER, TCU 360

A TCU fraternity raised nearly \$5,000 on

Monday by adding a twist to the traditional kissing booth: puppy love.

Sigma Nu partnered with Saving Hope Animal

Rescue to organize a philanthropy event that brought puppies to campus. Students donated to the animal rescue and then got to spend time with puppies at the booth.

Aside from just playing with the puppies, there were other things students could get in exchange for a donation.

“We have shirts for \$25, ‘puppuccinos’ for \$10 and some raffles to win some gift cards,” said sophomore Sigma Nu member Braeden Larkin. “It’s our best event of the year and all the proceeds go directly to [Saving Hope].”

Students stopped by in between classes to hold and play with the puppies. The kissing booth was planned as an opportunity for students

to take a break from classes and relax, while also learning about the local organization.

“It’s cool to see everyone out in between classes taking time to hang out with each other and see the puppies,” said first-year political science major Claire Chahbandour.

The puppy booth is an annual event that Sigma Nu hosts. Sigma Nu held the event in Greek Village last year, but this year, the booth was set up near the Founders Statue on the academic side of campus so students could stop by more conveniently.

“We were excited to put [the booth] where there’s a lot more traffic because it’s more fun when more people are around,” said Richie

Westphal, a Sigma Nu philanthropy board member.

This extra traffic allowed for more earnings from the event, which all went to the local rescue shelter. The event was posted on the fraternity’s social media page, but the event got many attendees simply from students spotting the booth on campus.

“Well, I was walking back from class and, uh, puppies. That’s the whole story,” said Chahbandour.

The fraternity organized the event with Saving Hope Animal Rescue to raise awareness for shelter animals in the DFW area. Later in the event, attendees were able to adopt the dogs that were at the event.

Sigma Nu Philanthropy Chairman Ash Harris was instrumental in the organization of the event.

“Ash Harris reached out to us to do a puppy party, and he really made it all happen,” said Hannah Rey, a volunteer at Saving Hope. “He told us where to put the puppies, and we brought them.”

Saving Hope Animal Rescue is a foster-based organization that works with animals to rescue and rehabilitate them with the hopes of getting them adopted. They also protect against animal abuse and neglect through owner education and care. Learn more about the organization through their website.



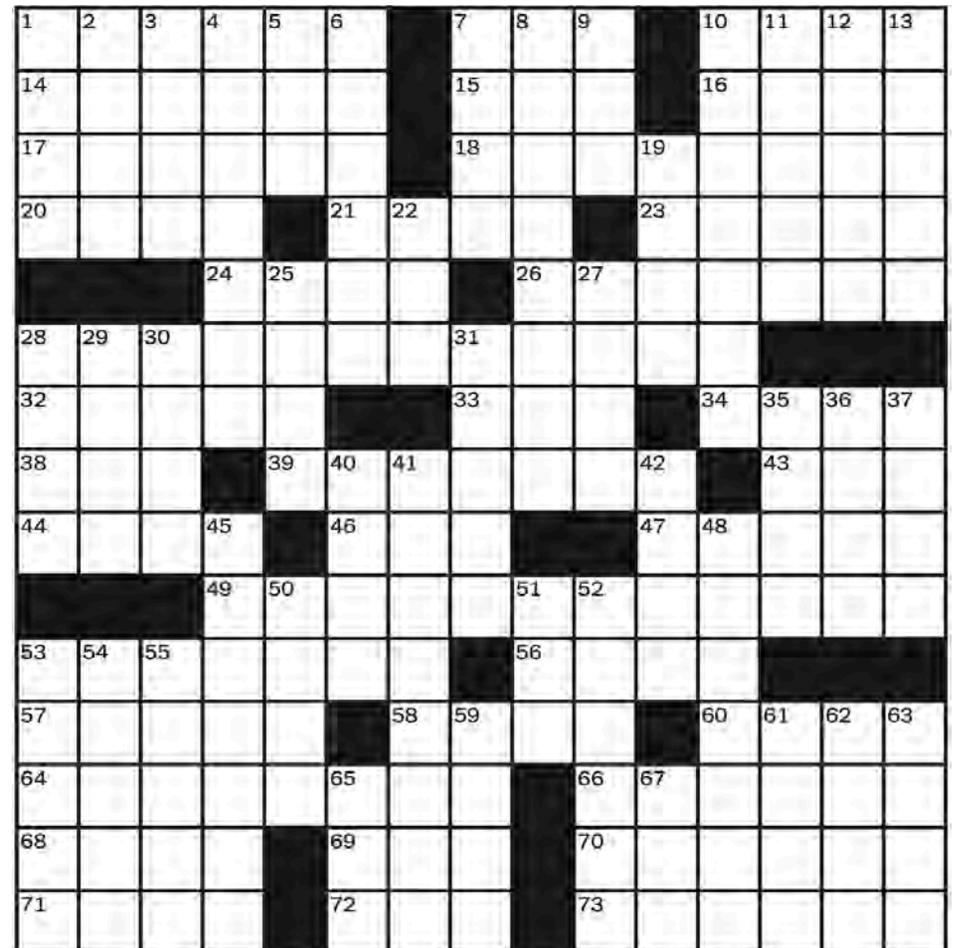
PHOTO BY MICAH PEARCE

Junior Richie Westphal (middle) holds a puppy while helping work the Puppy Kissing Booth as a volunteer, Feb. 14, 2022.

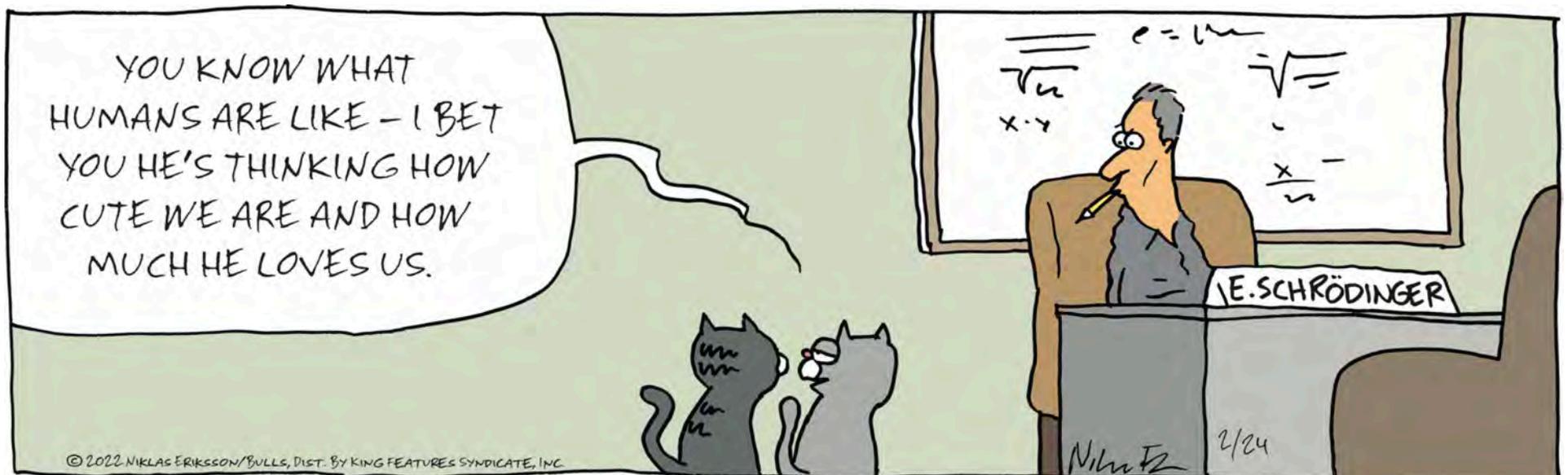
# RIFRAMBAH ZOO

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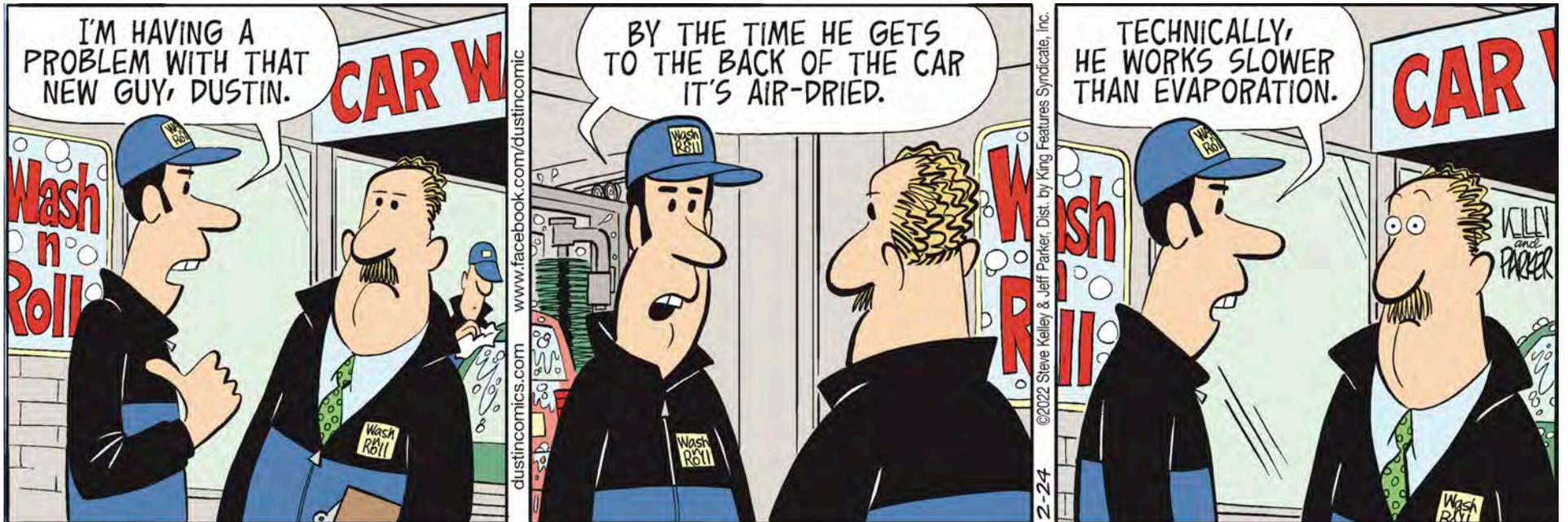
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Dustin by Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



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) ★★★ This is an interesting day! You might meet someone who is different from you. You might even fall in love with someone. Meanwhile, you make a marvelous impression on important people. Bonus! Tonight: Some confusion.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) ★★★ A discussion with a parent, boss, teacher or the police might be exciting today. Meanwhile, you might develop a crush on someone "different." Or, instead, some of you will yearn to travel and escape somewhere with white sands and turquoise waters. Tonight: Check your finances.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Travel plans sound exciting; however, they might suddenly change today. You might have to travel when you did not expect to do so, or scheduled plans might be delayed or cancelled. Expect generosity from others. Meanwhile, romance sizzles! Tonight: Cooperate.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) ★★★ Relations with those who are closest to you are warm today. In fact, your dealings with a spouse or partner will be romantic. Meanwhile, news about inheritances or shared property might be exciting or unexpected. Stay tuned! Tonight: Stay focused.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★ Because you feel concerned for a co-worker, you will help them if they need assistance. This could be a two-way street, and perhaps someone is helping you

instead. You also might make your workspace look more attractive. Tonight: Listen.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★ This is a wonderful day for romance. Enjoy a long lunch, a special dinner or an evening out. Grab every chance to appreciate the arts and enjoy the entertainment world. Expect a few surprises! Tonight: Be clear.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★ You will enjoy tweaking your digs and redecorating where you live. You also will enjoy entertaining at home, because warm feelings with family members, will promote good times. However, something unpredictable with kids might go south. Tonight: Plans are fuzzy.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★ Something unexpected might impact your home today. Fortunately,

you are in a warm and understanding state of mind, so whatever happens, you will take it in stride. Today you appreciate the beauty of your surroundings. Tonight: Count your money.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★ If shopping today, you will want to buy beautiful things for yourself and loved ones. It's possible that you will attract money. This is a restless day because your mind is flitting from subject to subject. This is why you might be impulsive and a bit excited. Tonight: Relax.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★ Your words are so charming today that you can convince anyone to agree with you. (You sound so reasonable!) Keep an eye on financial matters because things are unpredictable when it comes to your assets today. Tonight: Peace.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★ You might attract money to you today, or you might have ideas, especially related to the arts. If spending money, you will buy art. Meanwhile, you will be intrigued by something new today, which is good because you're ready for excitement. Tonight: Be helpful.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★ People are attracted to you today. They enjoy your company, because you are friendly and charming. Ironically, personally you feel a bit nervous and scattered. Guard against rash judgments or quick actions. Think before you say or do anything. Tonight: Clarify.



## SPORTS

# Basketball proves resilient in crucial win over West Virginia

By COLIN POST

SPORT EDITOR, TCU 360

During the 2020-2021 season, TCU basketball started strong in conference play, winning two of their first three Big 12 matchups, before losing 12 of their last 15.

This year, the Frogs won three of their first five Big 12 games, before losing five of their next seven and facing the chance of a similar predicament.

On Monday night, TCU proved resilient, though, ending their recent three-game losing streak with a well-rounded 77-67 win over West Virginia at home.

"It's what we've been doing, earlier in the year, and it feels great," forward Emanuel Miller said. "We overcame the challenges. We lost three in a row, never happened this year, and it feels good."

Five different Frogs finished with double-digit points in the win, and TCU set a season-high with 54% shooting from the floor as a team.

Leading the way was Miller, who scored 18 points and grabbed eight rebounds. Right behind him was guard Mike Miles, adding 15 points along with five assists, four rebounds and two steals.

After going crazy in the first half for 17 points, West Virginia guard Taz Sherman scored just six points in the second half, finishing with a game-high 23 points but on a whimpering note.



PHOTO BY ESAU RODRIGUEZ OLVERA

TCU guard Mike Miles (1) flushes a dunk during TCU's win over West Virginia in Fort Worth, Texas, on Feb. 21, 2022. Miles had 15 points in the game.

"He [Sherman] hit two shots that we could not have guarded any better in the first half," head coach Jamie Dixon said. "It's interesting. We really talk to our guys about this. I get made when guys get layups on us. They get mad when a guy hits a really tough shot on them, and I'm fine with that."

For the 21st time this season, TCU won the rebounding battle in the game, but on Monday, it came in resounding fashion. The Frogs grabbed 42 rebounds to the just 24 of the Mountaineers.

Now 6-7 in Big 12 play and 17-8 overall, TCU needs at least one more win to get an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament. They have five more

regular season games and the Big 12 tournament to add to their postseason resume.

TCU was missing forward and lead energizer Eddie Lampkin, who suffered a knee injury on Saturday against Baylor. Starting in his place, center Xavier Cork got right to work, scoring the first four points of the game to give TCU an early lead.

Cork stayed productive all night, finishing with season-highs in points (10) and blocks (4).

"I believe in 1-12. Every single teammate that I have—I believe in them," Miller said. "I believe in Mike [Miles]. I believe in Xa [Cork]. Xa stepped up big time when Eddie [Lampkin] wasn't here."

After 20 minutes, TCU held to a 43-42 lead, as both teams were shooting right around 55% from the floor.

Any momentum the Mountaineers gained to end the second half seemed to disappear at the start of the second. Six points right away from Miller helped the Frogs go on a 9-2 run and push their lead back to eight in the first three minutes.

The run was capped by an emphatic put back dunk by Miller following a missed three-pointer.

Shortly there after, the game turned into a sloppy slugfest. The two teams both went long, simultaneous stretches without a made field goal, with TCU's lasting over seven minutes and West Virginia's going for nearly five minutes.

As he had all night, it was Miller who stepped up for the Frogs and ended their drought, hitting a contested fast break layup.

West Virginia continued to see struggles on the scoring side of things, allowing for TCU's lead to get up to 13 two different times in the last four minutes.

One of those leads came on a steal-and-score by Miles, who responded to his missed free throw on one end with a defensive stop on the other end that translated to a bucket.

The sophomore, who said he is still feeling his wrist injury, went 5-for-10 from the free throw line.

The Frogs all continued to improve

defensively, holding the Mountaineers to zero points in the last 1:20 to seal a win and break their three-game slide.

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***"With my free throws not going in, I knew I had to step up in some kind of other way. That's what I did on defense."***

- MIKE MILES

TCU BASKETBALL GUARD

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Dixon said postgame that losing when playing in the Big 12 conference is not always a sign of whether a team is good or bad.

"Even good teams, top teams in the country, lose. There's nobody going undefeated," Dixon said. "This thing's [the Big 12], top-to-bottom, the best it's ever been, I think."

After West Virginia shot 55% in the first half, the TCU defense stepped up big time to hold the Mountaineers to just 35% shooting in the second half.

Guard Damion Baugh flirted with a triple double in the win, finishing with 10 points, seven rebounds and seven assists.

Despite the win, TCU had lost in the area of turnovers, committing 16 while forcing only 11.