Words: Students bring chalkboards to Tech

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delayed until after the next school year.
"In essence what we're doing is focusing on the east side," Gift said.
Some students living in Pritchard have already noticed the new handicapped able
bathrooms in the crossovers, as well as the miniature laundry room on the first floor, with no
steps leading in—unlike the main laundry room on the same floor, which con-
tains a stair set of stairs before its entrance.
Most of the issues concerning making the ADA require-
ments revolve around steps. Built into the side of a hill, Pritchard features seemingly
sporadic flights of five or six steps.
"Just the sheer topography of Pritchard (makes develop-
m ent a challenge)," Gift said.
To accommodate handicapped
students, the plan is to
fill in the east lobby, with a
ramp leading up to the raised
entrance.
The mailroom will be moved
from its second floor loca-
tion to the first floor east side
lobby. The space left by the
relocated mail room will be split
for housing and residence
life offices.
To grant full access of the
building, the elevators will be remodled.
"On the east side of Pritchard, we are planning to
give the elevators a new look," Gift said.
Students expressed their excitement for this summer's facelift of the 45-year-old dormitory.
"I feel like this will be good for Pritchard," said freshman business information tech-
ology major Remo John, who has applied to remain in Pritchard for his sophomore year.
"I feel it's about time we got some recognition."
Tian Wang, freshman mar-
keting major, took a negative
stance on only the east half of Pritchard being renovated.
"If you're going to renovate, you
renovate the whole thing," Wang said.
Pritchard Hall currently houses 1,400 students.
Abby Hawkins, an unde-
cleared freshman, expressed her disapproval.
"I feel they're deserved," Hawkins said.

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TEDx speaker Cindy Chang talks about her chalkboard project on Tuesday night in the GLC auditorium, which served all of the desires people wish to fulfill before they die.

After looking at their answers comparatively
with other peoples',
they learned something about themselves.
- Mary D'Amico,
Ask Big Questions intern

D’Amico said the group changed the original words
on the board because they wanted to put a twist on it. They knew that Chang was coming to Tech and they thought that the new board would relate more to college students.
Students at first seemed apprehensive to write their opinions and thoughts on their legacies on the chalk-
boards on campus.
"A lot of people thought their answers were stupid," D’Amico said. "But after looking at their answers comparatively with other peoples’ responses, they learned something about themselves."
D’Amico said the board aims to unite communities and serve as a launching point for conversations among students.
Chang described the boards she created and the new ones at Tech as "a first step to honesty and vulnerability in a com-
munity which leads to trust."
"I think it's great to have life goals, but I think its even greater to embrace vulnerability," Chang said.

Build: Community engagement main focus

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Out of the 20 students, there was a variety of edu-
cational backgrounds, including architecture, education, finance, engineering, human development and the sciences.
"I think it was essential to have the diversity we had in the class," Clements said.
"In part, this is because designers tend to want to just design things and the diversity allowed for a pro-
cess."
The faculty of Head Start emphasized that the play-
ground be built with a nat-
uaristic appearance.
"We wanted to not look so commercialized, so in that (Head Start) students would have a nature focused environment with garden areas with natu-
ral materials put to use," said Nina Holms, facility transportation specialist for Head Start.
The class took a few trips to Floyd throughout the semester in order to meet and collaborate with com-
unity members, including teachers, parents and
neighbors.
"A lot of what we focused on was how to approach the community," Miller said.
"A really valuable lesson I learned is that we were not designing for them, we were designing with them."
By the end of the semes-
ter, Community Outreach was presented with two final proposals for the play-
ground.
"From this point, we have been taking those two final plans, integrating aspects from both of them, and are now working within the community to try to get quotes to make the plans a reality," Holms said.
The plan is to take those conceptual ideas to formulate and build the playground over the summer so that it is available for use by the time school starts in the fall.
The funding will come from Community Action and Head Start renovation funds, as well as contrib-
uted community donations. The Honors College is also working to help raise money for the build-
ing costs.
"I think community engagement is essential," Clements said.
"A lot of service work is volunteer work that helps the community, but is not necessarily tied to the students' education. This project was specif-
cally designed with some educational goals in mind."

Crime blotter

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