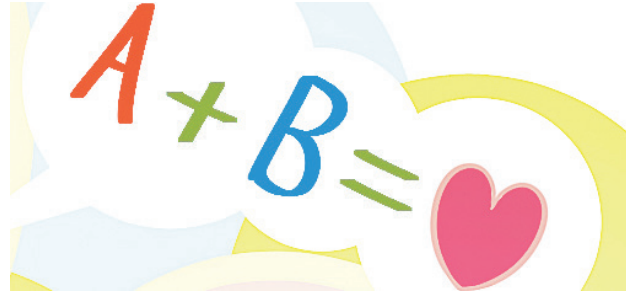
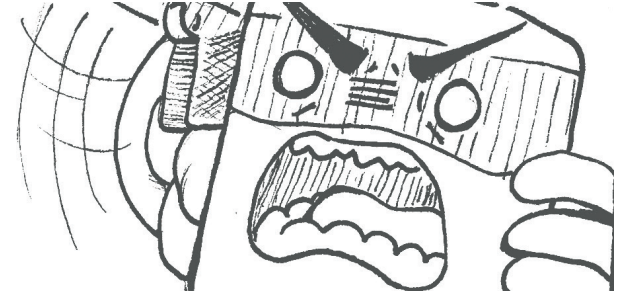




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STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Questions surround SG legislation

By **Cassandra Jaramillo & Rachel Lew**
@thedailytexan

Candidates in the executive alliance race participated in passing several legislative resolutions for Student Government over the past year, but few have been fully implemented.

Out of 18 pieces of legislation passed, nine were authored or sponsored by at least one of the presidential candidates, except Daniel James Chapman, who sits on

the executive branch. Kallen Dimitroff authored two pieces of legislation and sponsored three, Jonathan Dror authored one and sponsored two, and Kevin Helgren authored none but sponsored several resolutions.

Dimitroff authored legislation to create transparency in executive board appointments with an Election Oversight Committee, but SG President Xavier Rotnofsky said the committee never convened.

“Technically, the commit-

tee does exist because the legislation passed, but it was never staffed,” Rotnofsky said.

Dimitroff said specific people were not assigned to the committee. She said timing was the issue because the committee is only needed once a year during appointments and her legislation passed toward the end of last year’s executive appointment period, and Rotnofsky’s administration was the first to have an open-door policy

LEGISLATION page 2



Mariana Gonzalez | Daily Texan file photo

Kallen Dimitroff, SG presidential candidate, authored legislation regarding the creation of an Election Oversight Committee.

CITY

Fight over ride-hailing regulations continues

By **Forrest Milburn**
@forrestmilburn

Many believed the dispute at City Hall over ride-hailing regulations was settled last month when City Council members voted to call for an election, offering Austinites the chance to settle the issue once and for all when they head to the polls May 7.

In light of a petition to remove Ann Kitchen, the original sponsor of the regulations, from the council and a Texas Supreme Court challenge, they couldn’t have been more wrong.

The curtains never seemed to close on the issue of recently passed regulations — primarily fingerprint-based background checks for drivers — that have stirred up controversy since the council first instituted increased regulatory pressures on the ride-hailing companies into City Code back in December.

Earlier this month, Uber and Lyft supporters dissatisfied with the ballot measure’s language filed a challenge asking the Texas Supreme Court to intervene and force the city to make alterations to the language.

“The Council falsely portrayed the Proposed Ordinance as something that only takes away and does not give,” said Austin resident Samantha Phelps, who originally filed the challenge to the Court in support of the ride-hailing companies. “That portrayal could not be further from the truth.”

In response to the chal-

RIDES page 2

FEATURE

Indian student seeks dual health degrees



By **Nour Al Ghraoui**
@thedailytexan

When Deepti Agarwal decided to move to America, she had to adjust to a different education system and way of life. But she said her biggest concern was finding vegetarian food within the barbecue-loving state of Texas.

In 2012, Agarwal moved to Austin from India, where she earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Delhi. She got a master’s degree in social



Zoe Fu | Daily Texan Staff

Deepti Agarwal, a second-year doctoral student in health behavior and health education from India, conducts research on nicotine and substance abuse among students.

INDIA page 8

CAMPUS

Students hop to SAC to play, learn with rabbits for Bunny EDU Day

By **Hannah Daniel**
@hannahdaniel

Chi Kappa Phi Service Society hosted its third annual Bunny EDU Day on Tuesday afternoon to educate students about responsible bunny adoption and to socialize rabbits from a shelter.

This event is hosted in partnership with the House Rabbit Resource Network (HRRN), a

nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of domestic rabbits. Each year, HRRN brings rabbits from their shelter to campus for students to pet and hold as they learn about the animals.

HRRN adoption coordinator Lori Helgren said many rabbits at the shelter are unwanted pets abandoned by owners who could not fulfill the responsibilities of rabbit

ownership. Helgren said she hopes if people are educated about the work and time commitment necessary to care for these animals, they will put more thought into the decision to adopt.

“You don’t grab an animal at a pet store the way you pick up a magazine in the checkout line,” Helgren said.

BUNNIES page 2

Computer science junior Abhi Ilindra takes a photo of one of the bunnies at the third annual Bunny EDU Day hosted by Chi Kappa Phi. The free event promoted responsible adoption of rabbits.



Zoe Fu
Daily Texan Staff

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Freetail Hackers to host free graphics design competition

By **Danielle Ransom**
@dsr_013

Students will learn how to create graphics for logos, games and apps at Freetail Hackers’ first design-oriented hackathon, Design Hacks.

The event will be held in the Gregory Games Room at 9:30 a.m. Saturday.

Hackathons are open to all students, no matter their academic background or skill level. They can come equipped with a current problem they want to solve, or they can share a new idea.

“By providing an empty canvas for participants, hackathons allow students to use their creativity and ingenuity to find weird and crazy solutions to everyday problems,” said Prakhar Garg, computer science senior and co-lead director of Freetail Hackers.

In these themed hackathons, teams of students collaborate to transform

“To our knowledge, graphic designers at UT have never before had an opportunity like Design Hacks to apply their skills and grow their interests.”
—Prakhar Garg,
Co-lead director of Freetail Hackers

their ideas into reality. Freetail Hackers aims to provide an open, collaborative space where students can work together with support from mentors or peers.

Hayley Call, computer science junior and outreach director of Freetail Hackers, said the purpose of their organization is to unite students with a common goal, such as programming.

“We provide events that allow individuals to meet other passionate people, learn new

skills and build upon their ideas in a comfortable, accessible environment,” Call said.

At Design Hacks, students will learn to create logos, websites, app mock-ups, 3-D models and other tech products.

“To our knowledge, graphic designers at UT have never before had an opportunity like Design Hacks to apply their skills and grow their interests,” Garg said.

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NEWS

A Texas A&M study analyzes how trees benefit Austin.

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A UT lab looks at Trump and Sanders’ accents.

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Student Government needs change to survive.

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Austin residents must limit their water consumption.

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Dating advice, like many things, gets old with time.

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Gwen Stefani falters with new album.

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Ever broken a world record while wearing a banana suit? Check out a recap of the Banana Bash at

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REASON TO PARTY



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FRAMES FEATURED PHOTO thedailytexan



Students use the newly completed Moody Bridge to cross between the Communication Center and Belo Center for New Media on Tuesday afternoon.

Gabriel Lopez | Daily Texan Staff

LEGISLATION

continues from page 1

where anyone could sit in during appointment interviews. "Xavier and Rohit made the policy open door, where anyone could come, but my legislation was not in response to their administration," Dimitroff said. "In past years, no one has had an open-door policy. I think it's an incredible thing their administration did, but [the legislation] was to make sure, in future years, to institutionalize a committee to make sure SG has inclusive representation."

Resolution A.R. 8 passed

last year with hopes to increase on-campus discussions about race and culture through speaker series and other initiatives. Helgren co-sponsored the legislation that was forwarded to the Multicultural Engagement Center (MEC), but MEC program coordinator Rocio Villalobos said SG has not provided a path for action.

"As far as I know, nothing was implemented," Villalobos said. "It wasn't co-authored with MEC. We've gotten no clear path or direction on how the process would happen."

Helgren said he acknowledges few pieces of legisla-

tion are fulfilled. He said, however, the A.R. 8 resolution has moved forward with some initiatives to create a week-long series of informative activities.

"An event timeline has been put together, but I'll be completely honest. Because this campaign process has taken a few unanticipated turns, I have not had a ton of time to dedicate," Helgren said.

Helgren and Dimitroff both sponsored A.R. 13, which intends to implement sexual assault prevention education initiatives. Grace Gilker, director of the Women's Resource Agency, said the

legislation is still ongoing.

"The legislation was passed, and through the women's relations agency, I have been continuing to work with all my stakeholders on implementing that," Gilker said. "So far, I think it is going to be the inclusion of more consent education, and that's still very much in process."

Dror authored legislation to amend rules in the election code.

"The main changes were meant to clarify the code," Dror said.

Dimitroff, Helgren and Dror sponsored a joint resolution in support of creating

a service flag. The resolution aims to implement service learning outside of the classroom. The School of Undergraduate Studies oversees the program, which has six undergraduate studies flags.

"Basically, the status of the service flag resolution is that we have passed it, but that it's being worked on with Dean Iverson on implementation," Dror said.

Chapman, who oversees several agencies as advocacy policy director, said he hasn't written or sponsored legislation since people involved in the executive branch typically do not.

The Texan strives to present all information fairly, accurately and completely. If we have made an error, let us know about it. Call (512) 232-2217 or e-mail managingeditor@dailytexanonline.com.

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TOMORROW'S WEATHER

High 73 Low 45
Where's my phone?

BUNNIES

continues from page 1

The goal of the event is not to discourage people from having pet bunnies altogether, but rather to promote the responsible adoption of rabbits from shelters. The event also serves as an opportunity for the rabbits to exercise and socialize

with people — something the shelter can't frequently facilitate. This interaction is important because it makes the rabbits more sociable, and thus more likely to be adopted.

Radio-television-film junior Lauren Keithley, who attended Bunny EDU Day, said this event might prevent students who miss pets left at home

from adopting irresponsibly.

"I think that by going to this event, people who are thinking about adopting can understand whether they have the capacity to do so," Keithley said.

The project was suggested three years ago by current Chi Kappa Phi president Mackenzie Mitchell, who went to the shelter to adopt a rabbit but

decided to volunteer there after realizing she didn't know enough about bunnies to be an adequate caretaker. Mitchell said the event started as a fun, relaxing time for students to spend with bunnies, but the focus has since shifted to education about the wellbeing of the animals.

"For Chi Kappa Phi,

philanthropy means being willing to open your heart and your hands to see what your community needs and doing your best to fulfill that," Mitchell said. "We have located a group that we're happy to work with and whose goals align with our passions, interests and abilities, so we're going to do our best to promote them."

RIDES

continues from page 1

lence, the Court allowed city officials to retain the original ballot language.

"We have continually conceded — and sorry, I'm not going to use compromise — to this company over and over again and the history has been, they're not moving," said council member Delia Garza, who voted in favor of the increased December regulations earlier last month.

Despite the Court's decision, the ride-hailing

companies have continued to argue the ballot language is misleading and unfair to voters, who want what they are voting on in May clarified. After they found themselves on the losing side of the 9-2 vote on the ballot language, council members Don Zimmerman and Ellen Troxclair filed an amicus brief in support of the lawsuit against the city.

On May 7, the ballot language approved by the council will ask voters if the regulations from the council's December vote should be repealed and replaced "with an

ordinance that would repeal and prohibit required fingerprinting, repeal the requirement to identify the vehicle with a distinctive emblem," among other regulations.

The council vote last month was in response to a citizen petition that forced the council to choose one of two options: either send the issue to voters or solidify the regulations outlined in the petition's ordinance.

Uber spokeswoman Jaime Moore said in a statement that the ride-hailing company believes the ballot language fails

to mention "the common sense safety regulations" that would be restored if voters choose to uphold the petition ordinance.

This choice would revert City Code back to the minimal regulatory pressures that existed under Mayor Lee Leffingwell.

"The City Council's ballot language is confusing, inaccurate and only tells voters one side of the story," Moore said. "Voters are asking for clarity, not confusion, so they can decide what types of transportation options they want in Austin."

HACK

continues from page 1

Freetail Hackers' focus is to empower students who are passionate about technology and grow the tech community at UT, according to their Facebook page. They host hackathons where students can work on projects such as building apps, making websites, designing software

and coding.

Hackathons prepare students to use their academic knowledge and apply it to real-world settings. Students have the opportunity to present their work to fellow students, faculty or company representatives at the event.

Megan Chen, computer science sophomore and tech organizer for Freetail Hackers, said Freetail prepares students

for life after graduation.

"Hackathons see students literally using their learnings from classes, side projects, hobbies and passions and applying them to see an idea come to life," Chen said.

Freetail Hackers differentiates themselves from start-up incubator programs, such as the Student Entrepreneur Acceleration and Launch program under the Austin

Technology Incubator Institute. Students can create viable products, but the focus is on student curiosity.

"The very culture of hackathons has long opposed the idea of building something for the sake of commercializing it," Garg said. "At their very core, hackers are making something that fulfills their question of 'I wonder what would happen if I did this?'"

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This issue of The Daily Texan is valued at \$1.25
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CAMPUS

Linguistics lab analyzes Trump, Sanders accents

By Elizabeth Huang
@lizzthewiz



Mary Pistorius | Daily Texan Staff

Presidential candidates businessman Donald Trump and Sen. Bernie Sanders (D-VT) are not similar in background or policy, but they have one thing in common: their distinctive New York accents.

The Texas English Linguistics Lab analyzed the accents of both Sanders and Trump and discovered the similarities and differences between the two candidates. This is the first in a series the lab plans to conduct on Trump and Sanders. They also want to analyze which candidate uses more positive or negative terms and the academic level of each candidate's words.

English associate professor Lars Hinrichs said his research team was fascinated by how the two very unique candidates have the same accent.

"We were struck by the strange paradox that the two candidates are entirely different as persons and as politicians, while using such similar accent resources in their linguistic style," Hinrichs said. "We noticed that we have the capacity, as a lab, to create a dataset and linguistic study of this phenomenon in a very short time."

The team collected their data by scanning YouTube for videos of interviews, speeches and debates from the two candidates, which they then transcribed. Afterwards, the transcripts were analyzed through phonetics software. The three-week analysis showed similarities

English associate professor Lars Hinrichs is involved with the Texas English Linguistics Lab, which is analyzing the accents of presidential candidates Bernie Sanders and Donald Trump. The team collected their data by scanning YouTube for videos of interviews, speeches, and debates from the two candidates.

in the candidates' high use of NYC English features such as r-lessness, pronouncing huge as "yooge" and THOUGHT vowel raising. THOUGHT vowel raising occurs when someone pronounces the "aw" sound in coffee differently than the "ah" in cot.

The lab's analysis also showed differences in the consistency of their accents. Erica Brozovsky, an English graduate student who worked on the project, said she found the differences in the candidates' style-shifting the most interesting.

"Trump is much more likely to change his speech based on audience, while Sanders is stalwart and unwavering in his NYC accent," Brozovsky said. Trump tended to use a heavier New York accent in some speeches, especially in a speech delivered to New York-

ers. When someone gives a speech, they are putting on a persona to appeal to listeners, so it is possible that his style-shifting is a conscious act, Brozovsky said. Kirsten Meemann, English graduate student and research team member, said

Trump's speeches help prove the change is consciously done. "This would also confirm it, as we find that in his speeches rather than in interviews and debates, so it must be conscious to some extent," Meemann said. "He seems to be aware of his audience."

CITY

Report: Austin trees have economic, environmental benefits

By Forrest Milburn
@forrestmilburn

Aesthetic benefits, comfort and relief from the sweltering sun aren't the only ways trees are beneficial to Austinites.

Researchers at the Texas A&M Forest Service released a first-of-its-kind report last month showing trees provide the city of Austin with a number of environmental and economic benefits — valued at around \$16 billion for their compensatory benefits — on top of conventional impacts that aid the well-being of residents.

The report found Austin's estimated 34 million trees provide a canopy cover that helps reduce carbon emissions and energy use for buildings.

"These [benefits] include air pollution removal, reduced carbon emissions and storm-water runoff, reduced energy use for buildings, and carbon sequestration," said David Nowak, lead author of Austin's Urban Forest 2014, in a press release.

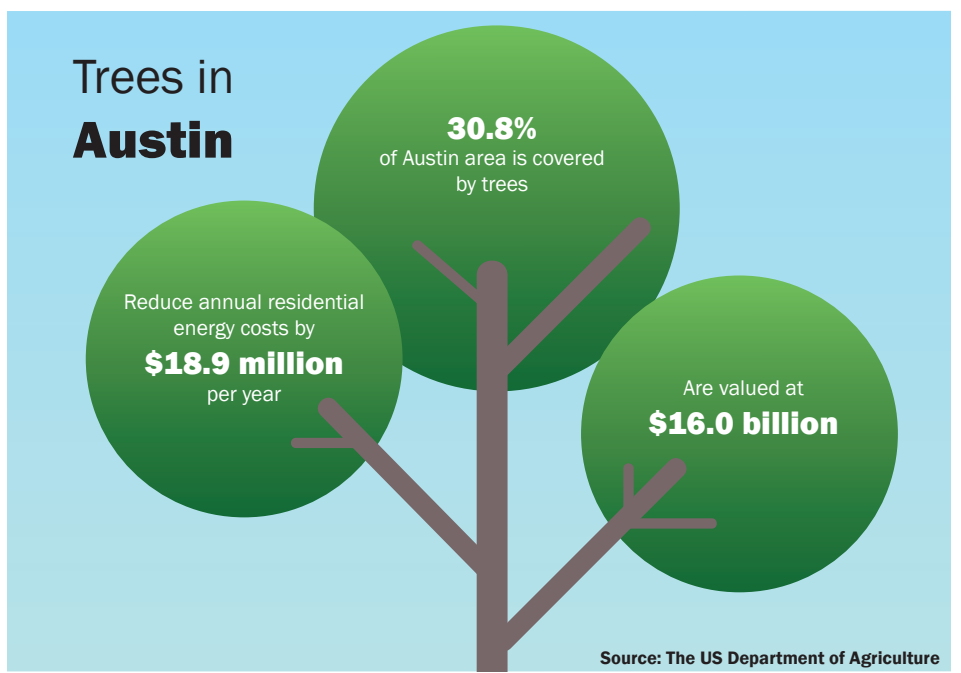
Other findings from the report show trees store approximately 1.9 million tons of carbon, which is valued at a \$242 million economic benefit. Trees also impact the economy by reducing building energy consumption by providing shade, a presumably small act that lowers residential energy costs by approximately \$18.9 million annually.

According to the report's findings, an estimated 85 percent of Texans live in urban

areas. With a population that continues to increase in the booming metropolitan areas throughout the state, trees continue to grow more necessary for cities, according to Forest Service researchers.

"The findings of the report will be used for planning purposes and long term monitoring and analysis of Austin's urban forest," said Emily King, acting urban forester for the city.

The Forest Service indicated the report was only the first in a series of studies and that they will continue to annually monitor any future trends. For example, their next steps include conducting a survey of urban landowners and the release of an online tool for residents to access any collected data.



CITY

Police force investigates rock-throwing incidents

By Mikaela Cannizzo
@mikaelac16

The Greater Austin Crime Commission is offering a reward of \$10,000 to anyone who can provide information about potential suspects in repeated instances of rocks being thrown at vehicles along Interstate 35, according to an Austin Police Department public information officer.

According to APD records, there have been 52 reported incidents of rocks thrown at cars along the interstate throughout the last year and a half. Austin Police Chief Art Acevedo said the department has dedicated a total of approximately 15,000 hours to the issue and trying to identify those responsible for the attacks.

"The Austin Police Department is very aggressively pursuing all leads," Acevedo said during a press conference. "My greatest hope is that we are able to accomplish our mission to capture the person or persons responsible for these callous, cowardly attacks before somebody gets killed."

Rather than waiting until several hours after the incident has occurred, Acevedo said it is critical for victims to pull over to a safe location and call 911 immediately. He said a fast response time from victims helps

officers respond quickly while assessing the area of the crime.

Acevedo said the top priority for officers responding to these incidents is to gather as much information as possible by writing down license plate numbers and investigating the area within several miles of the scene.

Acevedo said APD takes this issue seriously, but will not provide information to the public about methods used or progress made during the investigation. This is because the attacks scattered beyond the original location after information was made public that the department was using cameras in the area where attacks were happening.

While no fatalities have occurred in relation to these incidents, Acevedo said two individuals have suffered serious injuries. According to an article by Fox San Antonio, a Williamson County ambulance was affected by a rock attack in January.

"If it hit the window when we were patient loaded, [it] very obviously could've caused a significant collision," said Ed Tydings, Williamson County EMS Division Commander, in the article.

If identified, Acevedo said those responsible for the attacks will be arrested



and convicted. "Somebody out there knows something and I urge you to step forward and say something," Acevedo said. "The last thing we want is the blood and the loss of life because someone did not make the right choice by stepping forward."

Acevedo said the circumstances in these cases are challenging to investigate because of the speed at which each instance occurs and limited witness information. He said the attacks are not discriminatory

and anyone can be a potential victim.

Sasha Parsons, marketing and Plan II junior, said the reports of rock-throwing at vehicles shocked her, and her first reaction was to be afraid to drive on I-35.

"Driving on 35 is dangerous enough without having to worry about projectiles crashing through your window," Parsons said. "I think that drivers can be so distracted that something like that could easily cause a fatal multi-car crash."

CAMPUS

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EDITORIAL

Student Government: Shape up or ship out

Since campaigning started on Feb. 17, candidates have spent thousands of dollars on their campaigns, the election supervisory board ruled on 13 different complaints and students cast over 7,000 votes for executive alliance only to be thrown out.

When we published our endorsement three weeks ago, we endorsed an idea of culture change, which this organization so desperately needs. It is to our dismay, and likely to the dismay of the student body, that a change has indeed taken place, but for the worse.

The election code has been a significant part of the problem. Any student can file an election complaint, but this year has seen that privilege taken to an abusive extreme. The vast majority of the complaints have been filed by members of either the Dimitroff-Guadiana or Helgren-Kim campaign teams, perverting a governing document into a weapon. The resulting confusion caused the Dean of Students to seize control of the election and void the results.

This toxic campaign culture is only too familiar to Student Government. In 2012, two executive alliance campaigns were disqualified, one of which later sued the state and the University. The election code was rewritten later that year to prevent future issues, but deep-seated problems remained: The cleared field led to the election of Thor Lund, perhaps best remembered for a misogynistic blog post about his dating misadventures as facilitated by his office.

Historically speaking, revising the election code is light treatment. In 1978, the predecessor to SG, the Students' Association, was abolished entirely. While SG does not need to

be abolished in response to a flurry of election complaints — ranging from lying on financial disclosures to taking issue with chili pepper costumes — it cannot continue as it does today.

Many students have no concept of serious, conventional candidates that work for the betterment of the University. But when Kori Rady and Taylor Strickland defeated Kenton Wilson and Caroline Carter for executive alliance in 2014, we had exactly that. Neither team filed a complaint against the other, and the students made their choice based on the vision they had for the University. This is what we should strive for in every election.

But this isn't a fix-all. Candidates need to recognize the functional limitations of SG's role on campus. It has the power to hand out appropriations to vital student agencies, appoint students to positions on boards across campus and reform its own governing documents. But it also passes dozens of resolutions every year about what it believes the University should be, though it doesn't have the power to actually enact these policy proposals.

Since Rady was elected, the SG assembly has passed 43 resolutions and 10 bills. SG sees itself first as an agency that works on issues, without recognizing its inability to effect change on these issues. In so doing, it neglects the direct responsibilities it has. And when the code proved to still be inadequate, it is necessary to question: What has SG spent all year doing?

It is telling that in the weeks-long interim between campaign periods that the Chapman-Robinson campaign refocused their entire platform to call for a complete SG overhaul, and if that fails, the institution's



Illustration by Mel Westfall | Daily Texan Staff

abolishment. While their focus on humor initially eclipsed their well-considered, comprehensive policy goals, their priority is on target. Other campaigns can learn a lot from their boldness to see SG for what it is and respond as reasonable people would.

We've heard a lot of talk about starting constructive dialogue on campus, yet the rapidity with which several campaigns betrayed their integrity shocks the conscience. But it is time for this campus to think seriously about abolishing an organization so void of direction and power unless it can reform its mission, charge and procedures. That would be a conversation worth having.

Voting for the executive alliance special

election starts today, and it is crucial that the student body makes itself heard loud and clear. We as a university community have a social interest in creating expectations for our student leaders that prevent this election season's self-interested neglect for propriety to become the norm. Revising the election code may not be enough to purge SG of its past failures, but voting would be a good place to start. Do not allow the errors of others to invalidate your voice by robbing the student body of your vote.

Voting in campus-wide elections will take place from 8 a.m. on Wednesday, March 23, through 5 p.m. on Thursday, March 24, online at www.utexasvote.org.

COLUMN

Despite early loss, Smart's reign brings hope

Reagan Stuart
Daily Texan Columnist
@realreaganstu

Despite ending on a sour note, basketball head coach Shaka Smart's first year at UT has been a resounding success. Smart promised an exciting brand of basketball on the 40 Acres, a change from the plodding style of previous coach Rick Barnes. Though faced with significant challenges, he showed himself to be the right man for the job.

Smart would have been hard-pressed to match Rick Barnes' feat of winning the Big 12 in his first year. Smart inherited a roster from Barnes that had been mostly disappointing in 2014-2015, and lost 7-footer Myles Turner, a likely NBA first team rookie. The roster's emphasis on size over speed did not suit Smart's signature "havoc" style, known for its fast pace. Given the team's brutal schedule, it would not have been surprising if the season had turned into a development project instead of an effort to compete in the NCAA Tournament.

But Smart did not allow the team to quit. Junior point guard Isaiah Taylor, who had shown flashes of brilliance in his first two years, emerged as one of the best players in the conference, winning first team All-Big 12 honors. When starting center Cameron Ridley broke his foot just before conference play,

“
Before the game against No. 3 Oklahoma, Smart came to greet the students camped outside the Frank Erwin Center. They responded emphatically...

senior Prince Ibeh was thrown into the fire. Though Ibeh played just 10 minutes per game last season, Smart helped him become the Big 12 defensive player of the year.

More than anything, Smart pushed his players to play hard, a feat Barnes struggled to accomplish in his last years at Texas. Smart accomplished this attitude by developing his relationships with the players beyond just player-coach. After the loss to Northern Iowa, Taylor said of Smart, "He's been a great mentor to me, a great mentor to the rest of our team. He's been like a father figure to us both on and off the court. He's made us all better." This is high praise, especially considering Taylor and Barnes did not always get along well last season.

Smart also managed to connect to the student fans better than Barnes did. Before the game against No. 3 Oklahoma, Smart came to greet the students camped outside the Frank Erwin Center. They responded emphatically



Joshua Guerra | Daily Texan Staff

when he stopped to yell "OU sucks!" Despite falling behind early, the team rallied behind fan support, using a late 22-0 run to earn a 76-63 victory. After the game, senior forward Connor Lammert remarked, "There was one time I heard the crowd louder than it's ever been." The attitude change Smart sparked within the players is clearly contagious.

In coming seasons, fans can expect

even greater success as Smart fills the roster with his players. More than that, fans can look forward to the development of a more vibrant basketball culture. I've said before that sports can be a unifying force, and Smart's ability to overcome adversity and his drive to succeed can serve as an example for the whole university.

Stuart is a Plan II and business honors sophomore from Lubbock.

COLUMN

Austinites must be wary of water consumption

Benroy Chan
Daily Texan Senior Columnist
@BenroyChan

Showering, irrigating and drinking are just a few of the activities that require clean water. But as Austin's population continues to grow and water demands increase, our groundwater resources may soon run dry.

In January, the School of Architecture published a report describing unsustainable water usage in the Texas Hill Country — an area that pumps water from local groundwater resources such as the Edwards Aquifer. If this area enters a state where water is drawn from these sources faster than they can be recharged by rain, they will soon become empty and useless for future generations unless individuals take steps to conserve them.

Estimates project that the Austin-Round Rock area population will reach 5.2 million by 2050, which is a staggering

increase over the 2 million currently in the area. This tremendous growth brings challenges to sustaining local aquifers. A greater amount of individuals will require clean water, and new construction will decrease the amount of water able to infiltrate aquifers. As one of the major cities in the Texas Hill Country, Austin has a large impact on water demand and must reduce its water usage to ensure the long-term health of our groundwater resources.

The rate of groundwater recharge is directly related to the amount of rainfall in an area, and the occurrence of droughts causes recharge to become slow or nonexistent. According to Britin Bostick, graduate student and contributor to the School of Architecture's report, Texas' drought from 2010 to 2015 reduced groundwater levels to a panic point. Bostick said recent rainfall prevents current groundwater recharge rates from being an urgent issue but still emphasized the importance of reducing usage for water security during

future droughts.

"As long as we have plenty of rain, we're okay," Bostick said. "But if we go into another drought cycle, and we continue to have this population growth, we may not have enough water to support all of these people without being really considerate about how we use water."

The occurrence of a drought in the future is inevitable, and due to global climate change, the associated effects will likely become more intense. To ensure water security now before it is too late, water conservation must start on an individual level. This conservation can come from small changes such as taking shorter showers or choosing to landscape with native plants. But these efforts succeed only if a deep understanding of groundwater's importance changes the city's approach to water usage.

"If it's just one person conserving water, it doesn't really make a difference," Bostick said. "But if your entire city is focused on

“
The occurrence of a drought in the future is inevitable, and due to global climate change, the associated effects will likely become more intense.

good conservation principles, it makes a huge impact."

As more people enter Austin and other areas in the Texas Hill Country, sustaining our water resources will become increasingly difficult. Individuals must be aware of how much water they use in a day, and if everyone takes steps to reduce water demand, our aquifers can be preserved for generations to come.

Chan is a journalism freshman from Sugar Land. Chan is a senior columnist.

MEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING



Rachel Zein | Daily Texan file photo

Sophomore All-American Joseph Schooling and the Texas Longhorns swimming and diving team look to finish the season on a high note.

Schooling, Longhorns look to repeat as NCAA champs

By Adair Odom
@adair_odom

Last year, the Longhorn men's swimming and diving team showed up to the NCAA championship meet and dominated, taking home the title by 129 points over second-place California.

Now, 17 swimmers and three divers, along with all five relay teams, are in Atlanta for this year's championships, looking to put up a repeat performance.

Last season, sophomore All-American Joseph Schooling became the first Longhorn to win NCAA titles in both the 100 and 200 butterfly events, both of which he will return to as the top seed this year.

All-American junior Jack Conger will return to the NAAs after finishing as the runner-up behind Schooling in both the 100 and 200 butterfly events

in last year's competition. Conger currently holds the American record in the 200 butterfly, where he will enter as the No. 2 seed.

Will Licon, an All-American junior, will make his third straight NCAA Championship appearance after winning the 400 individual medley and 200 breaststroke in last year's competition. Licon will compete in the 200 individual medley, 400 individual medley and 200 breaststroke.

All-American junior Clark Smith was the first Longhorn to win the 500 freestyle at the NAAs last year. Smith will return to the NAAs as the top seed in the event as well as the 1,650 freestyle swim, and the 10th seed in the 200 freestyle.

On the diving side of the competition, senior Cory Bowersox will return to the national champion-

“

Seventeen swimmers and three divers, along with all five relay teams, are in Atlanta for this year's championships, looking to put up a repeat performance.

ships, where he is a three-time All-American in the one-meter dive. Joining Bowersox will be junior teammates Mark Anderson, who earned All-American honors on the one-meter, three-meter and platform in last year's championships, and Sean O'Brien, who will compete in the meet for the first time.

Wednesday marks the start of the championships with the 800 freestyle relay.

MEN'S TENNIS

Texas returns home for match with Arkansas

By Alana Kaufman
@akauf810

The Longhorns return home after a month on the road in dual match play against the University of Arkansas. Texas moved up to No. 19 with a 11-5 record after defeating No. 29 San Diego 4-3 last weekend.

Freshman Harrison Scott took home the Big 12 Men's Tennis Player of the Week award. The honor was Scott's first of his collegiate career and the second for a Longhorn this month. Scott earned his highest-ranked win as a Longhorn last Sunday with his 7-6, 6-3 win over San Diego's 53rd-ranked senior Jordan Angus.

Scott also took home a 6-2 win at third doubles with

sophomore partner John Mee over USD's senior Romain Kalaydjian and redshirt sophomore Alex Araouzos. Scott has won four of his last five singles matches, with two of those wins coming over ranked opponents.

Senior Michael Riechmann and sophomore Adrian Ortiz are featured at No. 44 in the latest ITA doubles rankings. The duo is 8-5 this season in dual match play.

In singles, redshirt freshman Julian Zlobinsky has a 8-2 record and is one of six new additions to the roster this season. Ortiz has also had a strong season with a 8-3 singles record.

Match play will begin at 6 p.m. Wednesday at the Westwood Country Club.



Stephanie Tacy | Daily Texan file photo

Freshman Harrison Scott continues to impress as he was selected as the Big 12 Men's Tennis Player of the Week.

UTSA

continues from page 6

on the torch, and it broke open," Barrera said. "If we can keep doing that, that's how we're going to score runs."

Barrera sealed the dominant victory in the eighth inning with his first home run of the season. The junior blasted a hanging

curveball over the left field wall and out of the stadium to make the final score 11-2 Texas.

"The monkey's off my back," Barrera said. "I knew eventually it was going to come."

The Longhorns will return to action and begin conference play Thursday at 6 p.m. in Austin against the TCU Horned Frogs.

SMART

continues from page 6

learned that," Smart said.

Smart currently stands at 356 days on the job at Texas, but now he faces a challenge as tough as the one he took on from day one.

The Longhorns will have to replace five seniors who played key roles in their final year and potentially Taylor, who once again faces a decision to bolt for the NBA or come back for his senior season.

Texas counters with a top tier recruiting class coming in next year, one which could include five-star Jarrett Allen from Austin.

Still, no matter who stays, comes or goes, the starting lineup will look much different at the start of next season. But Smart isn't worried about starting with almost a clean slate again. Instead, he sees it as an opportunity.

And if there's anyone that can confirm it, it's those who held back tears in that quiet Texas locker room, disappointed not to suit up for Smart again.

"The program is going uphill," senior guard Demarcus Holland said. "I think they've got something special in the staff that's here right now."

BIG 12

continues from page 6

But since then, the Sooners have ripped off six straight wins, capped by a 13-0 win at CSU Bakersfield on Saturday, and climbed two games above .500 heading into its final match before conference play.

The Sooners will face Oral Roberts at home Tuesday before heading off to Lubbock this weekend to open Big 12 play against the Texas Tech Red Raiders.

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Please plan to attend and discuss your application with the Operating Trustees.

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BASEBALL | UTSA 2 - 11 TEXAS

Texas bats come alive in win over UTSA

By Daniel Clay
@dclay567

The Longhorns entered Tuesday's game with a gloomy demeanor and their worst record through 20 games in over a decade.

But a springtime revival by the Texas offense drove away the grey skies and propelled the Longhorns to an easy 11-2 home victory against UTSA with quality pitching and an eight-run barrage in the sixth inning.

"Sometimes when that kind of thing has started for us, we become our own worst enemy, and you get overaggressive and kind of get it stopped ourselves sometimes," head coach Augie Garrido said. "But we showed a lot more patience. That's a huge step for us."

Well-placed bunts coupled with a smattering of walks gave Texas a pair of runs in the first two innings and gave the offense an early infusion of confidence.

The defense was responsible for keeping UTSA in the game. A fruitless dive by sophomore center fielder Patrick Mathis led to a lead-off triple in the second that led to a run, and a fumble in the right fielder corner by freshman Brady Harlan led to another Roadrunner tally in the fourth.

The defensive struggles, though, were limited to those two plays. Sophomore catcher Michael Cantu flashed his top-tier



Gabriel Lopez | Daily Texan Staff

Junior third baseman Tres Barrera capped off the Longhorns' 11-2 victory over the UTSA Roadrunners with his first home run of the 2016 season in the eighth inning of Tuesday night's contest.

fielding ability in the third inning by firing a dart from his knees to catch UTSA freshman second baseman Bryan Arias stealing, and junior center fielder Zane Gurwitz made a fantastic play at second to nab right fielder Skyler Valentine later in the inning.

"Those are the kind of plays we have to make defensively," Garrido said. "We have that capacity, we have that ability, and we need to get it done at the

right time."

The Longhorns' pitcher-by-committee approach minimized the early UTSA runs and kept the visiting bats silent for most of the game.

"We've got so much talent in that bullpen," junior third baseman Tres Barrera said. "It's good to see them come out here and have success. Success builds confidence."

Seven pitchers, most of them relievers, combined to hold the Roadrunners to

just those two runs and keep Texas afloat until UTSA imploded in the sixth inning.

The Longhorns opened the frame with eight straight baserunners, including five walks and two infield singles, and scored six runs before getting a single out. An RBI ground-out and a single by Barrera capped off the eight-run frame and made the score 10-2 Texas at the start of the seventh inning.

"We just kept passing



We've got so much talent in the bullpen. It's good to see them come out here and have success. Success builds confidence.

—Tres Barrera,
Third Baseman
UTSA page 5

MEN'S BASKETBALL



Gabriel Lopez | Daily Texan Staff

In the first year of the Shaka Smart era, the Longhorns finished with a 20-13 record, four top 10 victories and a NCAA tournament bid.

Shaka Smart turns heads after completing impressive first season

By Jacob Martella
@ViewfromtheBox

The subdued and desolate Texas locker room in the wee hours of Saturday after the last-second loss to Northern Iowa was a long way away from the loud and positive practices.

A long way away from the program-cementing win against North Carolina. A long way away from the 22-0 run against Oklahoma that rocked the Erwin Center.

But through the soft voices and held-back tears, a common theme rang loud and clear.

Despite the shocking and disappointing end, Shaka Smart is the right man for the job.

"He puts so much into this," senior guard Javan Felix said. "He loves us genuinely, and he's going to fight for us, and he's going to give us what we need, and he's going to put us in the right position, and we love that."

Smart's first season at the helm featured all sorts of ups and downs. He picked up two off-court

wins early on, convincing the seniors to believe in him and keeping junior guard Isaiah Taylor from leaving early for the NBA.

Finding, however, on-court success proved to be a challenge. The Longhorns struggled to a 2-3 record in an early season schedule that sent them traveling over 17,000 miles before their second home game.

But on Dec. 12, Smart cemented his place at Texas. Felix's buzzer-beater took down then-No. 3 North Carolina in front of a national audience and gave Smart his first signature win.

The moment, though, was fleeting.

Over two weeks later, senior center Cameron Ridley went down with a broken left foot, and the team nearly went down with him. The Longhorns lost three of their next four games, including a loss on the road at TCU.

But Smart didn't let the team get down. Instead, he continued to keep them focused on the process of winning. The result: The Longhorns won seven of their

next eight games and went from a bubble team to a sure lock for the tournament.

The Longhorns finished 4-6 in their last six games, including two blowout losses to Baylor and a rough 30-point loss to Kansas. Northern Iowa's Paul Jesperson's buzzer-beating half-court shot ensured that Texas wouldn't advance past the first round of the NCAA tournament for the second-straight year.

But after the game, the seniors were just as disappointed not to play for Smart again as they were to end their Texas careers, a testament to what Smart worked for in his first year in Austin.

Smart, in turn, said they were the ones who made his first year so successful.

"What's happened over the course of the last several months is those guys have grown to take on a level of accountability and understand that they're probably — no, they definitely have to be the biggest part of their own success, and I think those guys have

SMART page 5

BIG 12 NOTEBOOK

Oklahoma State solidifies status as one of nation's best teams

By Daniel Clay
@dclay567

TCU has shown no signs of ceding its position atop the Big 12.

The Horned Frogs, ranked No. 1 in the Big 12 preseason rankings, got a head start on the run to a conference title with a dominating sweep over the West Virginia Mountaineers.

TCU ripped off 31 runs in the three-game home-stand and could have scored more had the finale not been called after seven innings with the score at 14-2 in favor of the Horned Frogs.

A 16-3 record has helped the Horned Frogs secure the No. 6 spot in the D1 baseball rankings.

Texas Tech hauls in a pair of awards

Texas Tech was handsomely compensated for its series win on the road against Baylor.

Outfielder Tanner Gardner, who hit .615 last week in the Baylor series and a midweek showdown against UT Arlington, took home Big 12 Player of the Week honors. The sophomore's strong week boosted his average up to .467, good for the best mark in the conference.

Right-handed pitcher Davis Martin twirled a gem in his conference debut to earn Big 12 Newcomer of

the Week honors. The freshman twirled six innings of shutout ball in the conference opener against Baylor on Friday and earned the win in the 5-0 victory.

Martin's ERA sits at 2.18, the eighth best mark in the conference, and his .188 opposing batting average is the sixth lowest in the Big 12.

Oklahoma State goes 2-1 against Michigan

The Cowboys justified their No. 22 ranking in the D1 baseball polls by taking two out of three games in a weekend series against the Michigan Wolverines.

Oklahoma State took the first two games of the series before dropping the finale 4-2 to end their seven-game winning streak.

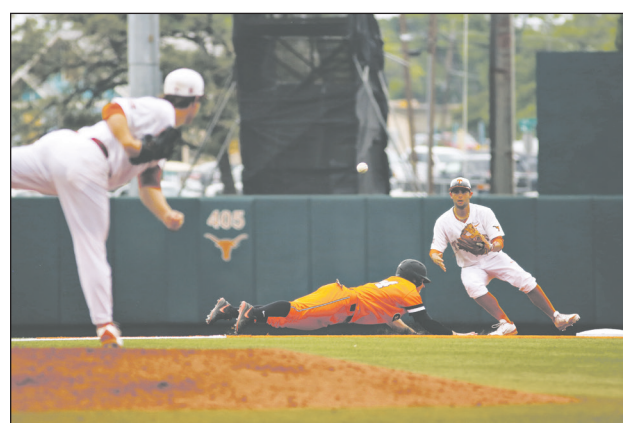
Right-handed pitcher Trey Cobb spearheaded the Cowboy effort on the weekend with a 13 strikeout, one earned run effort over six innings of work on Saturday. Cobb's gem earned the junior the Big 12 Pitcher of the Week honors.

Sooners off to six-game win streak

2016 has been a tumultuous campaign for the Oklahoma Sooners.

Just over a week ago, the team was sitting on an unimpressive 5-9 record and facing an uphill battle to Big 12 relevance.

BIG 12 page 5



Shelby Tauber | Daily Texan file photo

Texas plays Oklahoma State in 2014. Oklahoma State sophomore Trey Cobb was selected as the Big 12 Pitcher of the Week.

SIDELINE

NBA

MIAMI HEAT	113
NEW ORLEANS PELICANS	99

HOUSTON ROCKETS	107
OKLAHOMA CITY THUNDER	111

NHL

DALLAS STARS	6
CHICAGO BLACK HAWKS	2

TODAY IN HISTORY

1994

Wayne Gretzky sets an NHL record with 802 goals scored.

TOP TWEET

Ty Culbreth @ty_culbreth5
"Fact of the day: I love broccoli!"

SPORTS BRIEFLY

Men's golf outlasts No. 20 LSU

The red-hot Texas men's golf team continued its torrid stretch on Tuesday.

The Longhorns picked up their fourth win of the season in Florida, besting No. 20 LSU by five shots. The win marks Texas' fourth in its last five tournaments after no wins in the fall. Texas benefited from strong play Monday during rounds one and two, taking a 10-shot lead into Tuesday's final round. The Longhorns played defense in the final round, posting a respectable 1-over-par to finish at 3-over overall.

"I'm happy with the way the guys played this week," head coach John Fields said. "It was fun to come and play at the Floridian [National Golf Club], a great golf course with a fantastic field this week."

Texas played against one of the toughest fields it has seen all season, with nine other ranked teams in the 15-team field — four of those ranked inside the top 10 with the Longhorns.

Sophomore Doug Gim tied for third at 1-under, tying his career-low finish, after firing a 3-under 68 in the final round. Junior Gavin Hall entered the final round holding a three-shot lead but stumbled to a 6-over 77 to finish in a tie for eighth at 1-over with junior Beau Hossler, who also shot a 3-under 68 on Tuesday. Sophomore Scottie Scheffler tied for 25th at 7-over. Redshirt sophomore Taylor Funk tied for 36th at 9-over. Freshman Steven Chervony competed as an individual and tied for 72nd at 22-over.

Next, the Longhorns will head to Augusta, Georgia, for the Augusta Collegiate Invitational on April 2-3 at the Forrest Hills Golf Club.

—Trenton Daeschner

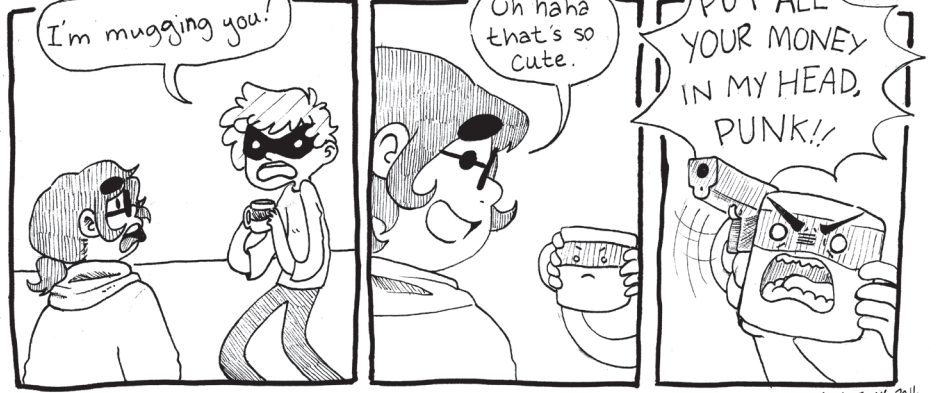
DAILY TEXAN COMICS

This used to be trees.



Joanna Levine

Always Hoodie Season



Victoria Smith 2016

The World is Flat



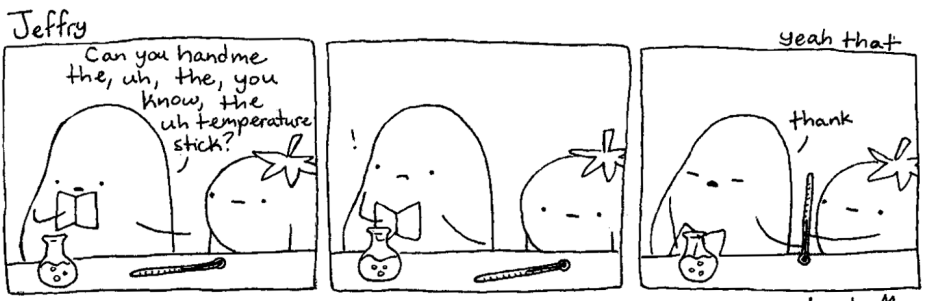
Connor Murphy

theworldisflatcomics.tumblr.com

KNOCK KNOCK



tin vovignez

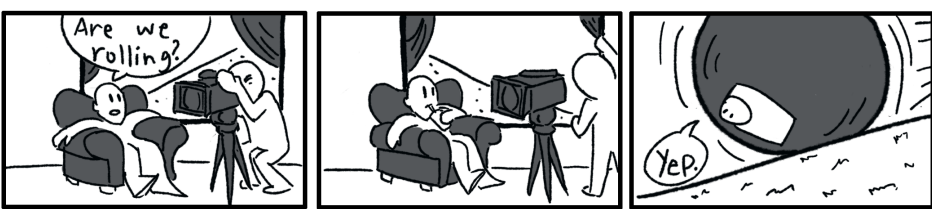


Jeffry

yeah that

by L. Meyer

STRIP naked by CHESTER OMENUKOR



whosyourfavoritepossum.tumblr.com

Junior Varsity



JESSICA VANCE

Exceedingly Average

Andre McNay



Today's solution will appear here next issue

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

SUDOKUFORYOU

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

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0217

- ACROSS**
- 1 Derby sound
 - 6 Evidence of injury
 - 10 Some football linemen
 - 14 Goller Palmer, to fans
 - 15 ___ Romeo
 - 16 HBO hit starring Julia Louis-Dreyfus
 - 17 Cuddly-looking "bear"
 - 18 One of 100 on a football field
 - 19 Not home
 - 20 Informant trapped after an icy storm?
 - 23 Twisted Sister frontman Snider
 - 24 "Who doesn't know that?!"
 - 25 Ones with a lot of pull in the agricultural world?
 - 26 Actress with an icy stare?
 - 31 Repeat musical themes
 - 34 Mary Lincoln's maiden name
 - 35 Treasure on the Spanish Main
 - 36 Chicago mayor Emanuel
 - 37 "Weekend Update" co-anchor Michael
 - 38 "Two for me. None for you" candy bar
 - 39 Pronoun in several Beatles titles
 - 40 Basilica part
 - 42 Like a trampoline
 - 44 Pitcher of ice?
 - 47 "Would I ___!"
 - 48 A. in Spanish
 - 49 Grp. concerned with global warming
 - 52 Next Republican nominee after Dwight D. Ice in Shower left office?
 - 56 Garment usually with two buttons
 - 57 Chutzpah
 - 58 Part of a drum kit
 - 59 Ticklish "Sesame Street" character
 - 60 Sunny honeymoon site, maybe
 - 61 Venerated ones
 - 62 Offering in The New Yorker
 - 63 Somewhat
 - 64 Not neat
- DOWN**
- 1 Obvious, as ambition
 - 2 Crumble over time
 - 3 Dumbstruck
 - 4 ___ monster
 - 5 Generally known
 - 6 Waves, say
 - 7 Whole extended family
 - 8 Old hairdo for Diana Ross
 - 9 Something bleeped
 - 10 Doesn't answer directly
 - 11 Like a recent transplant
 - 12 School overseer
 - 13 Secret admirer?
 - 21 Toggery
 - 22 Gen. follower

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

DECCA	RHOS	SHEA
IMOUT	EAVE	EVIS
FULLN	ELSON	EVIL
DORIA	ARENA	
ADUE	ACTIO	NPLAN
KANSAS	SADA	
INLAW	DONHO	TSA
STICK	TOY	OURGUNS
SET	WREST	RATES
FAIR	PAMELA	
GOFOR	BROKE	EELY
AWARD	BATHS	
BLUE	FIGURE	HEAD
LENS	ENYA	FORCE
ETAT	RANI	TWEEN

- PUZZLE BY KYLE MAHOWALD**
- 26 "Huckleberry Finn" character
 - 27 Neighbor of Lucy on "I Love Lucy"
 - 28 One alternative of a sentry's challenge
 - 29 ___ the Red
 - 30 Common theater name
 - 31 Richie's mom, to Fonzie
 - 32 Locale of Kaneohe Bay
 - 33 Who I am inside
 - 37 Long-running CBS drama
 - 38 Pull
 - 40 One scoring on a serve
 - 41 Realm of King Midas
 - 42 Tie up
 - 43 Just because
 - 45 Where a Nintendo might be hooked up
 - 46 Soothed
 - 49 Ground values
 - 50 Sounds from a bell tower
 - 51 Affected
 - 52 Skinny tie
 - 53 Museum dinosaur skeleton, say
 - 54 Jar for stews
 - 55 White House worker
 - 56 Get-up-and-go
- Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 7,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).
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Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/studentcrosswords.

DATING

Students reject outdated rules of romance

By Maggie Rosenbohm
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Editor's note: Some of the names in this story have been changed to protect the sources' identities.

Who should pick up the check? Is it okay to kiss after the first date? Should you text or call?

With all of the unspoken "rules" assigned to it, dating can be confusing. So when navigating the world of romance, which rules will land the second date?

Dealing with first dates and relationships can seem overwhelming, so it's natural to seek help when deciding what the next move should be. At the end of World War II, etiquette books and courting how-to films became massively popular when America's young and single population was ready to get married and start families.

For a successful date in 1959, Robert H. Loeb Jr.'s "She-Manners: The Teen Girl's Book of Etiquette" suggested to girls: "Make him feel important. You have to forget your own desires for importance."

Sociology professor

Sheldon Ekland-Olson said dating and gender expectations have progressed since the 1950s, leaving more room for equality and personality to play a role in finding a partner.

"You just thought about things differently [back then]," Ekland-Olson said. "That's why the rethinking about these issues is so important. It's much better now. Improvements can still be made, but we look at each other more in terms of being real people as opposed to the very narrow terms before — and that goes for men and women."

Engineering freshman Arinze Nwankwo said he is glad ideals have moved away from the sexist nature of past dating, but thinks some sexist practices remain.

"I would say it's a good thing that we have progressed from that," Nwankwo said. "I like how dating is now more. It's not like all of [those dating practices from the past] have completely worn off, but expectations have definitely changed, for girls especially."

Rules and expectations may seem too rigid for the freelance style of dating that

has become more prominent recently, but that doesn't mean they have completely gone away. The rules of the dating world promise a successful love life, but in reality, may be counteractive.

"People always tell me to ignore the girl," Nwankwo said. "I think that's just stupid."

When it comes to seeking out advice, communications junior Kate Allen said she has received some outdated tips.

"The worst dating advice I've ever received was actually from my own father," Allen said. "He told me to always say yes to a guy if he asked me out on a date because it was probably really hard for the guy to get the courage to ask me out. I let him know how I felt about that piece of advice, and now he keeps his ideas about dating to himself."

Tips for the modern dater can be found in an abundance of magazines that give guidelines for how women should act to attract men and promote hyper-masculinity as the ultimate turn-on for women. In a men's dating advice book released in 2015, "Single Man, Married Man," the authors suggest "no matter where a woman was in

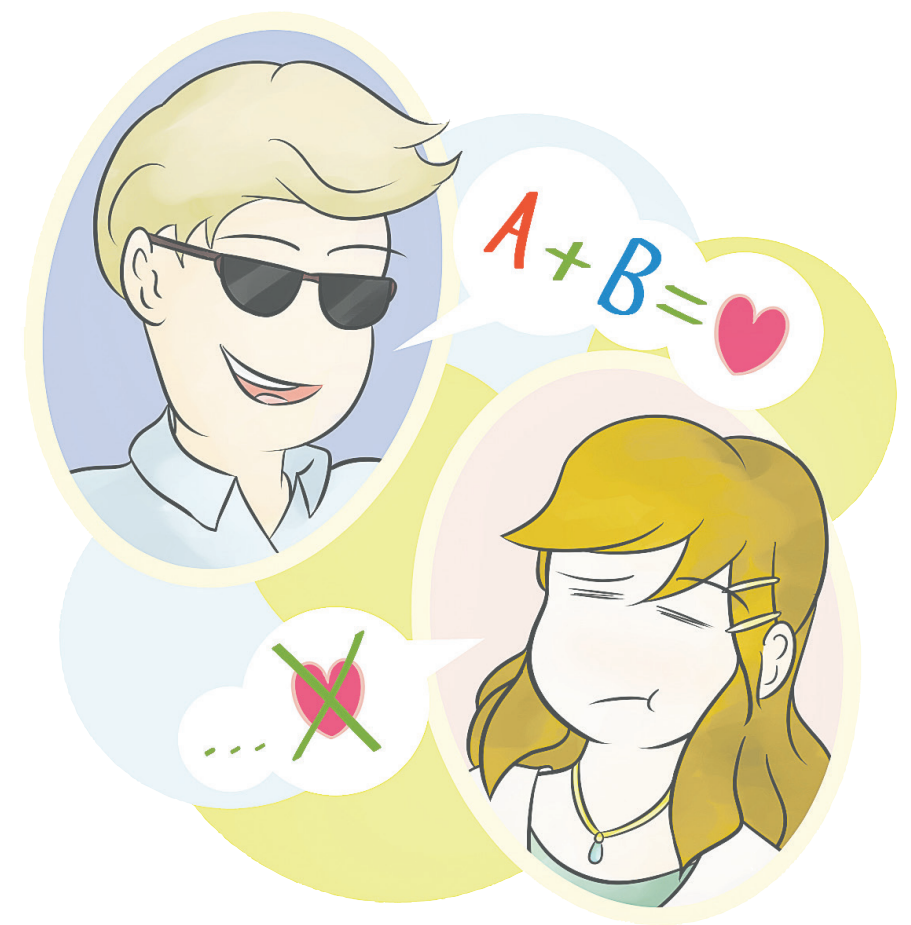


Illustration by Jason Cheon | Daily Texan Staff

life, she should always be able to cater to her man's needs."

Nwankwo said amid the abundance of dating advice available to young people,

the best thing someone can do is be true to themselves.

"The best advice I can think of is to just be confident with who you are

and what you are doing," Nwankwo said. "Uniqueness and individuality can be the most attractive part about a person."

ALBUM REVIEW | 'THIS IS WHAT THE TRUTH FEELS LIKE'

Stefani disappoints in comeback album

By Hunter Gierhart
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In the decade Gwen Stefani spent away from the recording studio, she's forgotten how to make a great album.

Back in the mid-2000s, Gwen Stefani was a musical juggernaut, sending three songs into the Hot 100's Top 10 and creating a pop music staple with the smash hit "Hollaback Girl." Her R&B and hip-hop-tinged pop music was brash and unmistakable. With her latest release, *This Is What the Truth Feels Like*, however, she's a shadow of her former self.

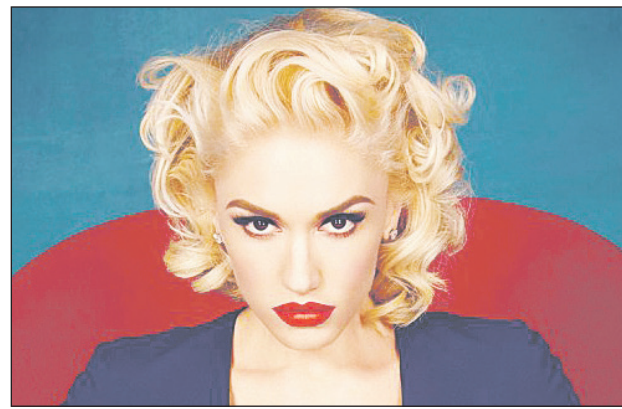
Stefani used to be a pop powerhouse, but over the past decade, her role in pop has been filled by newcomers like Selena Gomez and Charli XCX, leaving her without a sonic home. Stefani hardly tries to reclaim her fame — the one track on *Truth* where she sounds like classic Gwen is "Naughty." Borrowing from Melanie Martinez, the song's sparse production and beat drop in the chorus reinvents her 2006 sound, though her delivery verges on scolding mother rather than a sultry lover.

The lyrics throughout the album are indirect and shy away from the boldness of "Hollaback Girl." In the opener,

"Misery," Stefani shamelessly flaunts the cliché of comparing love with drugs, previously explored in Keshá's 2010 hit "Your Love Is My Drug" (with lyrics such as "You're like drugs to me" and "Put me out of my misery"), and in "Where Would I Be?" Stefani turns to poorly imagined rhymes ("I just can't resist / You've got the perfect kiss"). However, none of these lyrical sins are as egregious as the entirety of "Send Me a Picture," which is a heap of sexual energy watered down to the mind-numbingly boring lyric, "So show me what you're doing, boy / I wanna see what you're doing, boy."

When Stefani attempts to reclaim her edge in the Fetty Wap-assisted "Asking 4 It," she instead comes off as tired and meek by sticking to a low-octave drawl in the verses. Though she presents some feistiness in "Red Flag," the absolutely bizarre combination of a solemn cello and a club-ready hook ruins the song, which becomes the album's low point. It's also the only song where the production lets Stefani down. On the rest of the album, the production does the heavy lifting; where Stefani falters with her lyrics and vocal performances, it remains consistently strong and never goes over the top.

Though sparse, *Truth* does

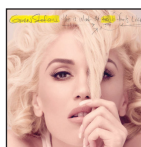


Courtesy of Interscope

Pop singer Gwen Stefani fails to achieve the former glory of songs such as "Hollaback Girl" on her latest album.

have considerable highs. The title track perfectly maintains a relaxing volume on top of a straightforward beat, allowing Stefani and the song's simple, yet addictive melody to shine. The album's second single, "Make Me Like You," a shimmering '70s disco jam, is a pleasure from the first guitar strum to the last buoyant "Now you got me missing you." The album closer, "Rare," falls into the horribly predictable lyricism that plagues the rest of the album, but is a soothing mid-tempo track that ends the LP on a high note.

So what does the truth feel like? At its worst, it's tolerable; its best, only moderately memorable. With solid production, inconsistent vocal deliveries and poor lyricism,



THIS IS WHAT THE TRUTH FEELS LIKE

Genre: Pop
Tracks: 12
Rating: 6/10

Truth straddles the middle of the road, attempting to revive a boisterous career with minimal effort and safe artistic and executive choices. The result is a record that's perfectly okay — something to pass the time while we wait for Stefani to decide to make a truly passionate album again.

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work and is currently a second-year doctoral student in health behavior and health education.

"My love for social work began when I started volunteering in a program funded by the World Health Organization," Agarwal said. "The program encouraged improved health outcomes among college students in New Delhi."

She was interested in international law, but because it wasn't an option in India, she set her sights on UT. Agarwal said through her dedication she was given the Texas New Scholar award, a prestigious fellowship, in 2014 as well as the Joe R. & Teresa Lozano Long Graduate Fellowship in 2015.

While conducting research on substance and nicotine abuse among students, Agarwal also counseled and assisted in the case management for students involved in the study. She realized then she was more interested in the research side of her work and wanted to focus on that.

After graduating with a bachelor's and master's degree in British literature, Agarwal worked with Teach India, an

organization dedicated to eliminating educational inequality in India.

Since she's bilingual, Agarwal said she didn't face much of a language barrier. Instead, one of the biggest challenges she faced was adjusting to driving in the U.S. She said it's very hard to drive around on roads you don't know and especially harder to have the driving wheel on the left side of the car.

"I have been in the wrong lane many times," Agarwal said. "I've been honked and yelled at."

Despite her run-ins with road rage, Agarwal said her expectations of the U.S. and Texas weren't very different than reality, but she was surprised at how friendly people were in Texas.

I had a lot of friends move to the U.S before me, and they told me about it," Agarwal said. "People here are very welcoming, which is something I did not expect, thinking they would all be too busy."

Overall, Agarwal said her experience here has been pleasant, and she isn't finding it difficult to make friends from all backgrounds.

"What started here changed my world," Agarwal said.

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