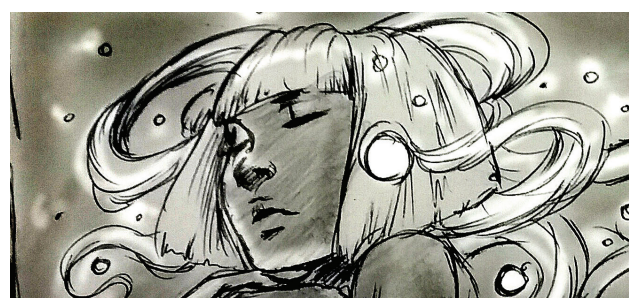




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LIFE&ARTS PAGE 8



COMICS PAGE 7

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CAMPUS

Students support public schools

By Mikaela Cannizzo
@mikaelac16

Several UT students posted the hashtag #ProudProductOfPublicSchools last week to show support for the Texas public school system, which faces potential changes in funding.

The hashtag, which began circulating after Betsy DeVos' nomination for U.S. Secretary of Education, represents opposition to a school choice policy

in Texas for many UT students who posted it on social media platforms.

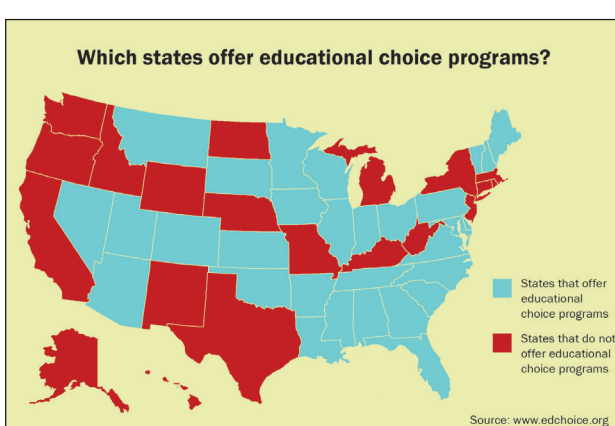
The idea of school choice allows families to decide if they prefer sending their child to a private school through financial assistance programs such as vouchers, financed by taxpayers. While Texas currently does not have any educational choice programs, Sen. Larry Taylor, R-Friendswood, authored a bill this session that establishes assistance and

scholarship programs for families of students to pay for an education outside of the public school system.

Christina Breitbeil, Plan II and English senior, said she used this hashtag to commemorate her experience of attending public schools. Breitbeil said she is opposed to school choice.

"To me, (the hashtag) means that I am proud of what my

SCHOOLS page 2



Infographic by Megan McFarren | Daily Texan Staff

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Improve UT targets food insecurity

By Kayla Meyertons
@kemeyertons

Twenty percent of UT students reported skipping meals to save money and having trouble affording food in 2016, prompting four students to come together on Saturday to tackle this problem.

As part of Student Government's inaugural Improve UT Challenge, Eric Duong, Egon Lyttle, Alexandra Yut and Carlos Martinez devised an idea to implement a money reserve system for students who require assistance achieving food security.

"It benefits everybody," said nutrition senior Duong. "If you donate, then that's off of your good will, and it's not like people are being forced to donate \$0.25 every time. It's just up to you. It's autonomous."

Customers at locations around campus would be given the option to round up to the nearest dollar with their purchases, and the added amount would be stored in a fund for students who need assistance in paying for meals.

Duong said he came up with the idea for the 40 Acre Reserve while grocery



Angel Ulloa | Daily Texan Staff

The members of The 40 Acre Reserves Team, Eric Duong, Egon Lyttle, Alexandra Yut and Carlos Martinez, devised an idea that helps students who require assistance when paying for meals on campus.

shopping at H-E-B a year ago. The team submitted the idea as part of the Improve UT Challenge, a case competition started by SG university-wide representative Micky Wolf this year for students

to submit ideas to improve the University.

Nine judges evaluated the 20 semi-finalist teams and narrowed down the competition to four finalists before announcing the winner.

Wolf, business honors and Plan II sophomore, said he came up with the idea for the Improve UT Challenge at a summer internship that ran social entrepreneurship competitions.

"For me, I'm always about democratizing and spreading your reach when it comes to where you're generating ideas from," Wolf said. "If you give

RESERVE page 2

POLICE

APD purchases new bulletproof vests

By Catherine Marfin
@catherinemarfin

The Austin Police Department began rolling out more than 900 new ballistic vests last Monday in an effort to enhance safety measures for its front-line officers.

Interim Chief Brian Manley said at an APD press conference last week the department spent more than \$300,000 from its general fund at the end of last year to purchase the new vests, which are capable of protecting officers from rifle fire.

"We are fortunate that we are good stewards of our budget and only spend money

when we need to, so when we came to the close of last year, we had funds available that allowed us to make this purchase," Manley said. "These are for the men and women out on patrol in tactical units on the street, not the detectives inside, but the folks responding to 911 calls. That's where greatest threat is."

Manley cited a number of statistics regarding the law enforcement community, including 135 officer fatalities in 2016. Of these fatalities, 64 were killed by firearms — a 56 percent increase from the

APD page 2

CAMPUS

Thesis winner explores national identity, race

By Jenan Taha
@jenan_a_taha

History graduate student Nadine Ross took first place in UT's inaugural Three Minute Thesis competition with her research on citizenship and national belonging, specifically for people of mixed-race descent in Nazi Germany.

The competition, hosted by the Graduate Studies School, gives doctoral candidates three minutes and a single PowerPoint slide to present their research to a non-academic audience. Ross will represent the school at the regional 3MT competition this March.

"It was really challenging, because there's so many things you want to say, but you only have three minutes so you have to get to the heart of what your research is about," Ross said.

Ross studied how mixed-heritage individuals in Germany coped with not being accepted by their country. "My research demonstrates the central nature of national identity to our self-understanding," Ross said during her presentation. "It revolves around the ideas of citizenship and what it means to be a citizen and to belong, and that's what I'm trying to figure out."

Ross centered her



Courtesy of UT Graduate School

History graduate student Nadine Ross won first place in the Graduate Studies School's first 3 Minute Thesis Competition.

presentation on the story of an Afro-German man during WWII who was denaturalized, or lost his citizenship,

because of his mixed race and was later drafted into the

THESIS page 2



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Participants run at the Cupid's Undie Run on Sunday. This event took place to raise money for the Children's Tumor Foundation.

Gabby Lanza | Daily Texan Staff

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 59  **Low 45**

Dang Lady Gaga looks weird tonight.

SCHOOLS

continues from page 1

academic career has allowed me to accomplish, and that I attribute that to the education I received from public schools," Breitbeil said. "Without my education, which I am proud to say was primarily public, I would not be where I am now."

According to Ballotpedia, supporters of school choice programs argue these options will expand opportunities for students rather than restrict

them to attend the public school they're zoned for. However, opponents argue these programs damage the public school system by diverting their funds.

Claire Hardwick, theatre and radio-television-film sophomore, said she posted the hashtag to show her support for public schools and disagreement with school choice. Hardwick said she believes informing others through social media is a good starting point for change.

"When things like this happen, people say 'oh, what is a hashtag gonna do to solve this problem or solve this nomination,' but I think this is a really great example of a good first step and a good step of awareness," Hardwick said.

More than half of the U.S. provides school choice programs to families, according to EdChoice, an education reform organization. 30 states and Washington D.C. currently offer at least one of the various program options.

During his State of the State address on Jan. 31, Gov. Greg Abbott said he wants to provide students with the best education possible by allowing parents to choose a school that best fits the needs of their children.

"When it comes to education, we need to remember that one size doesn't fit all," Abbott said during his speech. "Parents, not government, are best positioned to make decisions about their child's education. Parents should

be empowered to choose the school that's best for their child."

Several attempts to pass legislation regarding school choice in 2013 did not succeed, but Abbott expressed his support of school choice during a rally last month and said he is prepared to sign a bill if it arrives at his desk.

Taylor's Senate Bill 3 was referred to the Senate Committee on Education two weeks ago, but has not been voted on yet.

RESERVE

continues from page 1

(students) an opportunity to be creative and really work on things they have a passion for, that can lead to much better improvement than Student Government sitting in an office."

Duong said student access to the reserve would be based on need and dependency on financial aid, and the

money would be held in a Bevo Bucks account managed by the Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs.

Marketing junior Yut said the 40 Acres Reserve is a low-risk project that would be implemented on a trial basis at UT.

"It all depends on the amount that's in the reserve and the amount that's circulating back as well," Yut said. "That's why the marketing

component is huge because we want everyone on campus to be aware of this 'pay it forward' kind of system."

The team agreed to be transparent about the amount of funds in the reserve system, allowing students to see how much money is in the system, similar to a population counter website.

Nursing senior Lyttle said the system requires basic

cashier training and infrastructure changes to registers around campus.

The winning team will receive up to a \$10,000 budget from the Office of the VPSA to implement the winning idea.

Wolf said the plan is for the Improve UT challenge to become an agency of SG and an annual UT event, similar to the Longhorn Run.

Virginia Luehrsen, VPSA

student affairs specialist, said SG came to VPSA for assistance with the event.

"We are engaged on a daily basis with our students, (but) we don't see campus life through their eyes," Luehrsen said. "So having an opportunity to not only see solutions, but also problems that we may not have known were there that students are facing... is the real benefit for this."

APD

continues from page 1

previous year.

Law enforcement units across the nation saw a 10 percent increase in officer fatalities. Twenty-one officer deaths, the highest number in two decades, resulted from ambush-style attacks, Manley said.

Texas led the country with 17 officer fatalities last year. Manley said these statistics are proof of the significant need for APD to purchase the vests for its officers.

"We saw some really alarm-

ing trends this last year, there were a lot of things going on across this country, and there was a lot of dialogue on policing and the policing profession," Manley said. "There was a lot of dialogue during this last political process and all of these things kind of circled around... and so this is something we're rolling out that is coming off the heels of that."

Of APD's approximately 1,800 officers, 958 will be receiving new vests. Manley said the vests, which each cost \$336, are intended for tactical-style use, to be worn only when officers are dispatched

to a call where they feel they are at a higher risk for coming across a violent encounter.

The Austin Police Association has been pushing for new protective gear since last summer after the attack on police officers in Dallas at the end of a Black Lives Matter protest.

"We owe the city of Austin, the citizens and our executive staff many 'thank you's' for providing these vests to us," APA president Ken Casaday said. "The vests we wear now daily can only do so much. This just takes it up another notch and adds one more level of protection that our

officers have."

Amplifying the safety of law enforcement officials has made it to the forefront of political conversations across the state. This legislative session, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick has made it a priority to pass a bill creating a grant program to fund protective gear for officers across Texas.

"We must protect our law enforcement officers at all costs," state Sen. Royce West, D-Dallas, the author of the bill, told KXAN. "We're trying to get \$25 million, but you never know it may be \$10 million, it may be \$50 million."

ICE

continues from page 1

for more than 20 years, and her siblings have children who are U.S. citizens.

"They've (Torres' family) basically been under house arrest," Torres said. "I'm not scared because I know that is what (ICE) is trying to do. I would be more scared to see more people out of here, but I know this is the time when we fight back."

Protesters waved around signs that read "STOP Deportations." Their chants of

"Down, down with deportation" competed with the wailing of guitars and banter from people enjoying a Friday night out as the group walked down 6th Street.

In a press conference earlier that day, Interim Austin Police Chief Brian Manley said APD responded at 6:05 a.m. to an ICE agent in need of assistance while trying to arrest someone.

"ICE agents, federal agents, were here conducting an operation," Manley said. "They have full jurisdiction... and they got themselves

in a circumstance to where they needed help, and we will always help a fellow officer. We were not a part of this operation."

The ICE agent told APD the suspect attempted to grab his gun. Manley said police were not involved in the arrest, arriving only after the ICE agent attempted to arrest the suspect.

"There have been reports throughout the day that we were a part of this operation, that we were present when it happened," Manley said. "And that just is not correct."

Manley said ICE agents have the authority as a federal entity to arrest undocumented immigrants, but local police do not turn over undocumented immigrants to ICE because he wants to maintain trust with the community. On Friday, the Mexican Consulate of Austin confirmed to KVUE 44 immigrants were detained in the past 48 hours.

"We are not concerned about citizenship status," Manley said. "We are concerned with criminal activity."

THESIS

continues from page 1

German military.

"In Germany, they're still having discussions about what it means to be German," Ross said. "Even if we take it outside the German context, there's a lot of societies that are re-evaluating what it means to belong to any par-

ticular state, and how you define belonging."

Eighteen other graduate students presented their theses and were judged by non-academic volunteers during the event on Feb. 3.

John Dalton, assistant dean of the Graduate Studies School, said Ross was chosen over her competitors for her interesting topic and

presentation skills.

"It was an extremely difficult choice," Dalton said. "Nadine was very well-spoken, very polished, and at the end she did a great job explaining her research."

Graduate studies dean Marvin Hackert said he decided to bring the international competition to UT after attending a 3MT event at

another school.

"I was impressed by the quality of the presentations," Hackert said. "In general, those of us in higher education could do a much better job of communicating to the public the great research that's going on by our students."

The regional competition will be held in Annapolis, Maryland on March 4.

THE DAILY TEXAN

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DATING

Speed dating event gets students 'unsingle'

By Noel Mahouch
@noel_wissam

Students exchanged laughter and phone numbers on Friday night as potential partners ran through speed dating rounds hosted by the Longhorn Singles group.

The "Get Unsingle" event featured a date auction and icebreakers to spark conversations that could turn new faces into potential partners for Valentine's Day. The event was held at Gregory Gym and was open to all students looking to find a match or meet a new friend.

Undeclared sophomore Jessica Heighway said the speed dating event was a focused way to approach potential suitors.

"Everyone knows they're here for the same reason," Heighway said. "When you're in the club, you don't know if they're single or if they're not."

Founded in the fall of 2016, Longhorn Singles is a Facebook group aimed at providing a dating expressway for students, with many of the nearly 800 members posting short profiles on the page in hopes of attracting someone with shared interests. The "Get Unsingle" night marked

the organization's first offline event and was an opportunity to meet face-to-face amid card games and pool.

Biochemistry freshman Son Le said the event was particularly helpful because it distinguished itself as an alternative to online dating apps.

"By meeting them firsthand, you can really see their true personality," Le said. "It's very nice to see them in person first."

Economics freshman Jason Lyu founded the group and stressed the importance of creating such a social avenue for students.

"When you go to the residential halls you'll find a lot of people who just stay in their dorms," Lyu said. "I founded the club to give a better chance for people to meet with somebody who's also in that kind of situation."

Computer engineering junior Yousef Abdelrazzaq said he believed the event helped foster connections.

"There are probably people of many majors that wouldn't have gotten the opportunity to get to know each other without such an event," Abdelrazzaq said.



Noel Mahouch | Daily Texan Staff

Rows of students cycle through speed dating activities to match with a partner for Valentine's Day. "Get Unsingle" night was an opportunity to meet face-to-face amid card games and pool.

Lyu found that for many organizations, it can often be unclear who in the group would be interested in starting a

relationship. This asymmetric information could make finding partners, even in an organization of people with the

same interests, daunting. "If you join another organization, you'll find interests first and then single people," Lyu

said. "By joining this group, you can find single people first and then find people with the same interests as you."

CITY

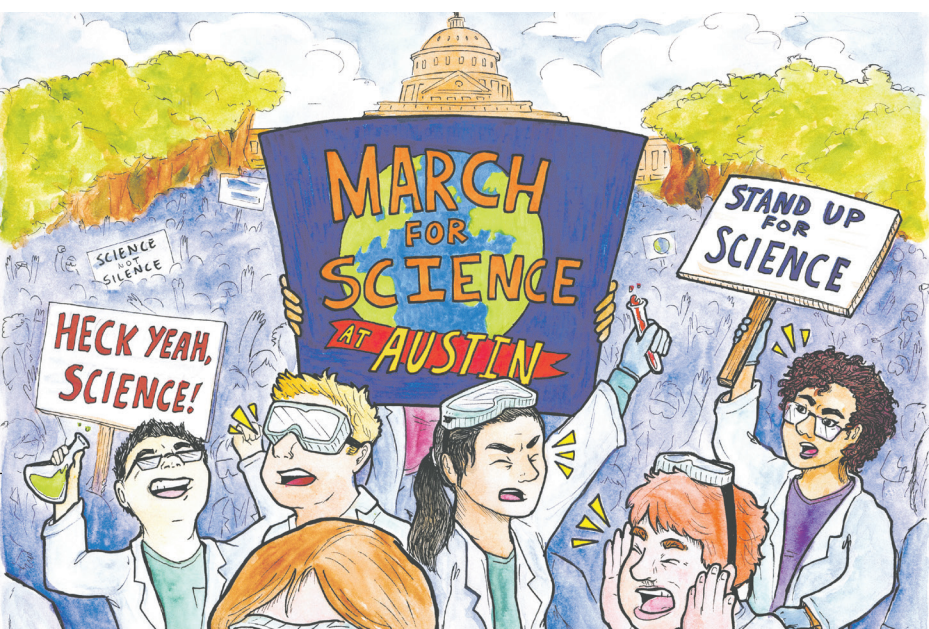


Illustration by Mel Westfall | Daily Texan Staff

'March for Science' to protest for science-centered policies

By Sarah Bloodworth
@bloodworthy22

Austin protesters are trading out their pink hats for volumetric flasks.

Shortly after the global women's march in January, protesters started planning another large scale protest: the science march. The march, which evolved from a Reddit conversation, is now scheduled to occur in major cities such as Washington, Boston and Austin. All of the marches will take place on Earth Day, April 22.

Austin's March for Science is in very early planning stages. Liz Hostetler, senior project manager at software company Compliance Manager, co-founded the Austin March for Science movement through Facebook and Twitter. Hostetler said the march is a non-partisan movement to advocate for policies that align with scientific research.

"The march is more important than politics. Anything that we address is more policy related and not red versus blue," Hostetler said. "For me personally if we can just show more engagement with science in the community then I think we will see improvement."

She added that the march will not attack President Donald Trump or any particular person but rather serves to acknowledge the validity of scientific facts.

Hostetler said although March for Science is not centered on any specific

scientific field, climate change will be a main topic. UT geology professor Kerry Cook, who attended the women's march and plans to attend the March for Science, said she is very concerned about how recent government policies are affecting Americans and other people around the world.

"I think (the march) will draw attention to the fact that sometimes policy decisions are not made taking scientific fact into account," Cook said. "The more attention we can draw to that the better."

Cook added that restrictions to international travel and immigration could harm the quality of U.S. research.

"The recent policy on immigration is extremely detrimental for scientific process because we have wonderful scientists coming from all over the world," Cook said. "It is already interfering with that."

Hostetler said one of the main goals for the March for Science Austin is diversity. She said that while the women's march was successful, one of the main criticisms was that the majority of participants were white women.

Hostetler said she hopes to draw a more varied crowd by depoliticizing the march and encouraging scientists of all disciplines as well as non-scientists to attend.

"I feel like this could be a huge unifier because science is such a large thing," Hostetler said. "I think we can get a lot of inclusion and diversity...we

need to get more people interested in science, it's not scary."

"March for Science organizers are still working out details of the event, Hostetler said. They currently have received no fundraising, she added, and still need to apply for permits and plan meet up events prior to the march to spur community involvement. Hostetler said a website for the march will be active soon and T-shirts made.

Hostetler said the march will likely begin at the Capitol and end at Huston-Tillotson University, where an "Earth Day Austin" event is taking place.

Biology sophomore Margot Deatherage said she is in the process of getting UT science clubs, such as the Natural Sciences Council and pre-med societies, involved in the march. Deatherage said she became interested in the march after learning about actions that limited science-related organizations such as the Environmental Protection Agency, on which Trump inflicted a media ban starting Jan. 24.

"I believe that when science and the spread of scientific information is blocked, it will lead to the stagnation of that society," Deatherage said. "The biggest issue is that people who have never studied science believe they can dictate what information is being talked about. It happens on both sides. It's being used to further a politician's advancement, not the society's."

UNIVERSITY

Engineering professor receives high professional recognition

By Adamari Gonzalez
@adicalross

Chemical engineering professor David Allen was recently elected a member of the National Academy of Engineering, a nonprofit institution dedicated to leadership and service, as announced on the academy's website.

The NAE announced its newest inductees on Wednesday, electing 84 members and 22 foreign members. An election to the NAE is among the highest professional recognitions an engineer can receive, according to the institution's official nomination statement. Allen was qualified for the nomination for his contribution to the improvement of air quality and his work in sustainable engineering education, according to the NAE's website.

Allen said the recent election not only honors his work, but his students and staff of the Cockrell School of Engineering, as well.

"It is a great honor to have the work I have done at the University of Texas recognized by the National Academy of Engineering," Allen said in an email. "This recognition not only honors my work, but also the work of the superb students and staff of the Cockrell School of Engineering."

In addition to Allen, five UT alumni were inducted into the distinguished



Courtesy of The Cockrell School of Engineering

The National Academy of Engineering announced on Wednesday chemistry engineering professor David Allen and five other UT professors would be its newest members.

academy: Sergio Manuel Alcocer, Ali Dogru, Noboru Kikuchi, Deb Niemeier and Randall Poston.

As the director of the Center for Energy and Environmental Resources in Cockrell, Allen is a leader both in research and education, said Cockrell dean Sharon Wood, in a UT News press release.

"We are extremely proud of David, whose leadership on several influential air quality studies has led to new approaches to reducing emissions globally," Wood said in the release. "In addition to his achievements in research, his work developing engineering educational programs through his innovative Engineer Your World curriculum has engaged thousands of high school students across the country. David truly exemplifies

engineering leadership."

According to the NAE website, the institution currently has more than 2,000 members who promote the well-being of the nation through engineering. In the past four years, nine UT professors have been inducted to the NAE. UT has among the highest NAE memberships with a total of 39 current members, according to the school's website.

Chemical engineering senior Sebastian Eder said recognitions like Allen's make him feel optimistic about his future career.

"(I feel) pretty hopeful," Eder said. "The chemical engineering school gets pretty high rankings, and it is partly because of recognition of professors and alumni here, which recruiters and grad schools like."

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COLUMN

Free market principles doom school choice

By Alyssa Fernandez
Daily Texan Senior Columnist

If I were to ask Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos what the biggest threat to education is, she might say grizzly bears — and I would say it's because she treats education like a free market.

DeVos uses school choice as a means to create a free market in the education system by offering private enterprises, competition and minimal restrictions. The idea is that through government-sponsored programs, such as school vouchers or charter schools, parents can select the optimal education that fits their child's needs. Thus the private, parochial or charter school becomes the private enterprise and they compete against public schools in the market for students and public funding.

In a perfect world these schools would constantly be improving their curriculum to attract and maintain their students. This isn't to say that competition is a bad thing, but that it's most effective when the enterprises are operating at optimal capacity. Therefore, when expectations are low and you're in a district with underperforming charter and public schools, there is no incentive to improve and parents are left with one bad school choice after another.

School choice and competition aren't inherently bad for education, but they're inconsistent because of a lack of accountability since they overshadow the real issues, such as the socioeconomic education gaps.

Christopher Bernhart, a first-year resident in the Urban Teacher Residency program, is

among those concerned that low-income students will be at a further disadvantage with school choice legislature.

"(School choice) could ultimately destabilize the American public school system. A voucher system heavily bifurcated the Chilean school system and created a massive gap between lower resources students and schools of higher affluence," Bernhart said via email. "(DeVos') policies by and large, will disproportionately impact students of color, and prop up a social class system that legitimizes through law a race-based socioeconomic class system."

To put it simply, DeVos is using school choice as a band-aid to cover the gushing grizzly bear wound in America's educational system rather than address how to improve the public schools that are already in place. But competition isn't the only consequence of treating education like a free market, there's privatization as well.

Joel Walsh, a curriculum and instruction graduate student, is hesitant of private businesses demonstrating interest in charter school investments.

"Charter schools were originally meant to incubate innovative instructional practices and allow the administration to have more power over hiring and hiring alongside school culture," Walsh says. "One of the reasons why they proliferated so much is because you get tax breaks through the New Market Tax Credit, which is why you have a lot of hedge funds involved in charter schools."

Even Trump has argued that school choice will offer higher quality education to lower income families. What he and DeVos fail to



Illustration by Audrey McNay | Daily Texan Staff

consider is that with privatization comes lax regulation and these schools could eventually turn their backs on the students they're meant to help.

"This could incentivize creaming," Walsh says, "where schools try to selectively cancel out students with learning disabilities or students with low test scores. So then it becomes a profit margin where they ask 'what's the least amount of money I can spend to raise test scores?'"

This isn't to say that all charter schools or school choice alternatives are bad. In fact,

KIPP charter schools have found success in helping minority and low-income students. The issue at hand is believing that a free market bringing in privatization, competition and deregulation will repair America's educational system. The real solution is more complicated because it means we have to recognize the hard truth that not every American is given an equal opportunity before we can take steps to mend our educational system.

Fernandez is a rhetoric and writing and Spanish senior from Allen.

COLUMN

Artificial intelligence predictions surpass reality

By Trevor Hadley
Daily Texan Columnist

In a 2015 interview with Elon Musk and Bill Gates, Musk argued that humanity's greatest concern should be the future of artificial intelligence. Gates adamantly voiced his alignment with Musk's concerns, making clear that people need to acknowledge how serious of an issue this is.

"So I try not to get exercised about this problem, but when people say it's not a problem then I really start to get to a point of disagreement," Gates said.

The fears surrounding unchecked advances in AI are rooted in the potential threat posed by machine superintelligence — an intelligence that at first matches human-level capabilities, but then quickly and radically surpasses it. Nick Bostrom, in his book "Superintelligence," warns that once machines possess a level of intelligence that surpasses that of our own, control of our future may no longer be in our hands.

"Once unfriendly superintelligence exists, it would prevent us from replacing it or chang-

ing its preferences. Our fate would be sealed," Bostrom said.

For Musk, Gates and Bostrom, the arrival of superintelligent machines is not a matter of if, but when. Their arguments seem grounded and cogent, but their scope is too far-sighted. They offer little in the way of what we can expect to see from AI in the next 10 to 20 years, or of how best to prepare for the changes to come.

Dr. Michael Mauk, chairman of the UT neuroscience department, has made a career out of building computer simulations of the brain. His wide exposure to AI has kept him close to the latest developments in the field. And while Mauk agrees in principle with plausibility of superintelligent AI, he doesn't see its danger, or the timeline of its arrival, in the same way as those mentioned before.

"I think there's a lot of fearmongering in this that is potentially, in some watered-down way, touching a reality that could happen in the near future, but they just exaggerate the crap out of it," Mauk said. "Is (the creation of a machine mind) possible? I believe yes. What's cool is that it will

“
Most computer scientists are not trying to build a sentient machine. They are trying to build increasingly clever and useful machines that do things we think of as intelligent.

—Dr. Michael Mauk
Chairman of UT neuroscience department

one day be an empirically answerable question."

For Mauk, hype of the sort propagated by Musk, Gates and Bostrom is out of balance, and doesn't reflect what we can realistically expect to see from AI. In fact, Mauk claims that current developments in neuroscience and computer science are not moving toward the development of superintelligence, but rather toward what Mauk calls IA, or Intelligent Automation.

"Most computer scientists are not trying to

build a sentient machine," Mauk said. "They are trying to build increasingly clever and useful machines that do things we think of as intelligent."

And we see evidence of this all around us. IA has grown rapidly in recent years. From self-driving cars to Watson-like machines with disease diagnosing capabilities superior to that of even the best doctors, IA is set to massively disrupt the current social and economic landscape.

Students and professionals alike should sober any fears about a future occupied by superintelligent AI, and instead focus on the very real, and near future reality where IA will be profoundly impacting their career. And there's a beautiful irony to this. As humanity works to adapt to a world with greater levels of Intelligent Automation, along with its many challenges — increased social strife, economic restructuring, the need for improved global cooperation — it will inadvertently be preparing itself to face a potential future occupied by superintelligent AI.

Hadley is a faculty member in biology and a BS '15 in neuroscience from Southlake.

COLUMN

Celebrities deserve chance to change Trump's mind

By Usmaan Hasan
Daily Texan Columnist
@UzzieHasan

Matthew McConaughey, part-time actor and full-time UT mascot, caught heat for his political commentary in the tradition of Hollywood actors. In suggesting that the country should embrace President Donald Trump, McConaughey drew the ire of the internet (surprise). We need our heroes to be uncomplicated, to neatly pass our ideological litmus tests so that support for them is easy. However, reaching across the aisle does not indict the character of those working for progress.

The response to the McConaughey incident demonstrates an increasingly difficult tight-rope public figures walk, striking a balance between working with the Trump administration while avoiding the normalization of its ludicrous policy positions. Boycotts and condemnation are powerful tools that must be tempered.

Uber's CEO Travis Kalanick was on the receiving end of massive public outrage in recent weeks. Lifting surge pricing during Muslim ban protests at John F. Kennedy International Airport spawned criticism, accusing Uber of trying to break taxi drivers' strikes. Similarly, Kalanick's inclusion on the president's business advisory committee saw the CEO being branded as an enabler of the Trump administration's divisive agenda. Farhana Khera of Muslim Advocates, states that "being a member of this council is an

“
Knee-jerk rejection of Kalanick and McConaughey closes our minds and separates us from the very institutions we aim to change.

endorsement of bigotry”.

This view is myopic.

Rejection of the evils of the Trump administration is critical. Billionaire donors like Betsy DeVos, questionable politicians like Jeff Sessions and unqualified bureaucrats like Ben Carson should not be allowed to buy, caucus or leverage their way into positions of power. But sympathizers to the plight of immigrants, such as Elon Musk, Travis Kalanick, Bob Iger and Indra Nooyi should not be condemned as supporters of bigotry. Elon Musk used his presence in the council to force conversation over the immigration ban, and simultaneously joined the lawsuit against the order. Engaging with the Trump administration does not equal espousing bigotry and anger.

Even if someone waved a magical wand and removed these people from the council, who then would fill their place? Out with the Indra Nooyis, an immigrant from India, and in with Peter Thiel and his ilk, who believes that freedom and democracy are not compatible? Awkward.



Emmanuel Briseno | Daily Texan file photo

Matthew McConaughey speaks at the Darrell K Royal Research Fund for Alzheimer's gala on September 2, 2016. McConaughey has come under criticism for urging people to embrace President Trump.

Rejection of an institution does not mean it no longer exists. The council will still do business, Trump will still be president, except this time, there will be no moderating presence acting as a counter-balance to the aggressive policies he pushes forward.

It is absurd to view engagement as condoning the nefarious elements of President Donald Trump. Knee-jerk rejection of Kalanick and McConaughey closes our minds and

separates us from the very institutions we aim to change.

This is not a call for complacency, to shrug our shoulders and sigh c'est la vie when we perceive our values being sold out. However, the blind pursuit of black and white truths — simple and easily palatable realities — erases the nuances of difference and precludes progress.

Hasan is a business freshman from Plano.

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ALBUM REVIEW | 'DROGAS LIGHT'

Lupe Fiasco's 'mixed bag' album falls short

Chris Duncan
@chr_dunc

In a strange way, this album review is completely unnecessary. Lupe Fiasco himself already penned a review of his latest album *DROGAS Light* and posted it to his Twitter.

As a result of his enthusiastic and socially conscious contribution to Kanye West's *Late Registration*, Fiasco became one of the biggest names in hip-hop. His debut album *Lupe Fiasco's Food & Liquor* took on a similar attitude, attacking hot topics from terrorism and to the importance of racial equality. Since his initial debut, Fiasco has failed to match his previous efforts. Now on his sixth record, *DROGAS Light*, Fiasco brings a slight trap influence to the table, which quickly becomes an unnecessary weight to the album's experience.

After an admittedly intriguing couple of introductory paragraphs, Lupe's own self-penned review takes a turn when he calls *DROGAS Light* a "mixed bag" that takes on influences from all walks of life. To him, this is a good thing, but the album's "mixed bag" quality is its downfall, especially considering what Fiasco's fans really want — a conscious rap album full of intense songs, not a collage of popular and mainstream sounds.

The man has created a world around his music only the most dedicated of fans can fully understand. His newest LP contains none of this necessary intensity, to the



On his newest album Lupe Fiasco fails to live up to expectations set early in his career.

Courtesy of Scott Legato

point where his music has become flat out boring. And based on his review, he knows it.

The album's three singles tells the story of how Fiasco tries to appeal to everyone. "Pick Up the Phone" is extremely reminiscent of the pop production of LASERS-era Fiasco, which Fiasco claims *DROGAS Light* is supposed to be a refined version of. Yet, the song has a horrendous hook that features Sebastian Lundberg trying to hit some cringeworthy

high notes he obviously can't reach, ruining any mood Fiasco tries to set.

The record's second single "Made in the USA" is the album's most straightforward song and is far too simple for a Fiasco tune. All he does is list items and entities people can find in the United States, and occasionally throws in a comment about each thing. On top of this, "Made in the USA" features an absolutely ridiculous, overbearing and confusing beat that is absolutely exhausting.

The enthusiastic "Jump" is extremely bass heavy, drowning Fiasco's lyrics in a bath of pure trap. Yet, of the three singles, this song features some of Fiasco's best and most contemplative bars. They're just impossible to focus on because of the booming drums and distracting bass.

Coming back to Fiasco's self-assessment, he rambles on and talks about trying to find the balance between his different styles, comparing champagne and moonshine. He then cites pressure to

please everyone, saying he "just let the pieces fall where they may."

This pressure may exist, but considering Fiasco's stature and experience, it's warranted. This album of rejects doesn't even come close to living up to expectations.

With just one listen and read of his Twitter review, it's easy to tell how defeated Lupe Fiasco feels on *DROGAS Light*. It is truly a completely mixed bag, one that's difficult to listen to and never seems to get anything to line up when

Fiasco desperately needs it to. Hopefully, the rapper can come back making music that carries a similar weight to his mid-2000's output. Otherwise, he'll become lost in a quickly growing sea of MCs ready to take his place.

DROGAS LIGHT

Artist: Lupe Fiasco
Genre: Hip-Hop
Rating: 3/10

EDM

continues from page 8

De Paz, Iberian and Latin-American studies senior and EMC marketing coordinator, the club leads to actual once-in-a-lifetime experiences. In the fall of 2016, De Paz planned Red Bull Play

& Destroy, a large scale electronic music event sponsored by Red Bull. After De Paz's gig, EMC received \$1,000 worth of merchandise from Red Bull.

"I searched for this club," De Paz said. "I thought, 'I have to be around these people because if they have the

same passion for music as me, it's going to transform my entire college experience' and it did."

A popular acronym among electronic dance music listeners is PLUR, which stands for peace, love, unity and respect. Members of the club said the culture associated

with the genre is what helps attract like-minded people to the club and is why so many members have made lasting connections. This was especially true for Orlando Hernandez, junior international relations major, who transferred to UT in the spring of 2016.

"I think some of the best friendships I have right now, I've made through the club," he said. "I've made some lifelong friendships and I've only been here for two semesters."

Although the club currently has around 30 active members, they are looking for more people to share their

love for EDM with. Nguyen said the club's popularity is a result of its friendly and diverse community.

"Music is kind of the universal language," Nguyen said. "It unites everyone. We get really close to each other; we want the club to be like a family."



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MEN'S BASKETBALL | OKLAHOMA STATE 84 - 71 TEXAS

Longhorns still searching for first road victory

By Shane Lewis
@theREALsplewis

Texas played its 11th game away from the Frank Erwin Center on Saturday.

It ended the same way as the previous 10 — another tally in the loss column.

Oklahoma State torched Texas 84-71 in front of a rowdy group of fans sporting a brighter shade of orange than one the Longhorns wore.

“No question— to go on the road you can't let a team score 84 points in their own building,” head coach Shaka Smart said. “On the road we have not been as good defensively as we have been in other games.”

Oklahoma State showcased exactly why they're the Big 12's highest scoring squad, blitzing Texas with its arsenal of efficient scorers. Five Cowboys scored in double digits, and Oklahoma State shot 50 percent as a team.

While Texas came into the contest with the conference's best three-point percentage defense, they were no match for the Cowboys'

long-distance attack. Oklahoma State drained 53 percent of its three point attempts, knocking down 10 in total.

The same success could not be said for the Longhorns. The team chucked up 23 shots from deep and only four made it through the net.

Despite Oklahoma State's dominant offensive showing, the Longhorns controlled the game midway through the first half. Texas held a 23-15 advantage with 9:05 remaining in the opening stanza, and rode the wave of back-to-back jams from freshman forward Jarrett Allen.

That's when the Cowboys went into high gear. The team went on a 20-2 run to grab control of the contest, carving up the Texas defense. Texas responded and managed to close the gap to 38-33 going into halftime.

“I actually thought with the way we shot free throws and the way we shot the ball from outside at halftime, we weren't in a terrible spot,” Smart said.

But when the Longhorns took the court after the break,

they were greeted by an Oklahoma State buzz saw.

The Cowboys opened up the second half with a decisive 10-0 run that established a 15-point lead just two minutes into the frame. The team scored on its first five possessions of the period and hit three triples in the process.

“It was energy,” Oklahoma State head coach Brad Underwood said. “We talked about that at length. We talked about the first four minutes of the game and the first four minutes of the second half.”

Texas was unable to pull the game back to within single digits. Whenever the Longhorns tried to swing momentum their way, the Cowboys responded with a timely three-pointer or key defensive stop.

Oklahoma State's lead blossomed to as many as 20 points late in the half, before a late Longhorn run made the game's final score more respectable.

While the Cowboys' offensive numbers makes the headlines, Oklahoma State forward



Juan Figueroa | Daily Texan Staff

Freshman forward Jarrett Allen fights for the ball against a Texas Tech defender on Feb. 1 during Texas' 62-58 victory over the Red Raiders.

Leyton Hammonds said the team's success stems from other areas.

“Coach preaches that defense and rebounds win games,” Hammonds said. “Once we started playing defense, rebounding, getting that

transition, the floor opened up for us and baskets started opening up for us.”

Allen finished with 18 points and 10 rebounds for his ninth double-double of the season. Freshman guard Andrew Jones scored in double

digits for the ninth consecutive game, scoring 16 points.

Sitting five games below .500 with only six games left in the regular season, Allen and Jones will need to be even sharper to will their teammates to late-season victories.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | NO. 11 TEXAS 75 - 42 KANSAS

Defense helps Longhorns roll past Jayhawks at home

By Sydney Rubin
@sydneyrubin

It was a block party on Saturday at the Frank Erwin Center.

The No. 11 Longhorns swatted away a season-high 13 blocks as they took down the Jayhawks 75-42 to remain perfect in Big 12 play.

Junior Audrey-Ann Caron-Goudreau led Texas' blocking efforts with a career-high five rejections.

Texas dominated the post from start to finish, churning out 46 points in the paint while holding Kansas to eight. Texas continued its dominance on the boards as it nearly doubled Kansas in rebounds, 59-30.

Freshman forward Joyner Holmes notched 15 points and 13 rebounds to cap off her second double-double of the week and seventh of the season.

“Joyner, she's crushing the boards and it's just coming easy to her because she's working on it every day,” senior center Kelsey Lang said. “I think that as a unit, the post players are definitely working well together.”

Holmes was aggressive at the basket from the opening tip as she got the Longhorns on the board first with a turnaround jumper.

“I thought our bigs were terrific today,” head coach Karen Aston said.

Texas reached the 20-win mark on the season and



Rachel Zein | Daily Texan Staff

Freshman forward Joyner Holmes fights off a defender on Feb. 11 in Texas' 75-42 win against the Jayhawks.

extended its winning streak to 18 — the second-longest active streak in the NCAA behind No. 1 Connecticut.

Junior guard Jessica Washington led an aggressive Kansas attack from beyond the arc. Washington finished with 15 points and connected for four of Kansas' nine triples on the day.

Kansas head coach Brandon Schneider credits Texas' defense for locking down Washington in the second half and holding the Jayhawks to their lowest scoring total of the season.

“We didn't get many quality looks and I thought they did a great job of contesting every shot,” Schneider said. “I give a lot of credit to Brianna Taylor and Lashann Higgs for the type of individual defenders they are and what

they were able to do against Jessica (Washington).”

With a 29-point lead entering the final quarter, Aston turned the court over to her younger players. Texas got contributions from every player who hit the hardwood, including sophomore forward Jordan Hosey who turned out eight points and two rebounds.

“We had a lot of contribution from a lot of people,” Aston said. “The second piece of our improvement from the last time that we played them is that our young players executed things really well and that means that we are growing.”

Texas travels to Tallahassee to take on No. 5 Florida State on Monday at 6 p.m.

SOFTBALL

Texas kicks off 2017 season at home

By Wills Layton
@willsdebeast

The Longhorns kicked off their 2017 campaign with a 5-game weekend. Texas finished 3-2 and defeated Colorado State 7-2 on Sunday to close the weekend at home.

Texas couldn't pull off victories against No. 14 Minnesota, but senior pitcher Tiarra Davis said it's important to play tough competition early in the season.

“I get really excited,” Davis said. “I think it's a challenge and at the end of the day we're all competitors.”

Davis had a rough outing, Saturday in her start against the Gophers, allowing six runs in five innings. But head coach Connie Clark sees the positives in Davis getting experience regardless of the result.

“She's mixing speeds better, throwing all of her pitches

with a lot of confidence,” Clark said. “I think she's in a great place and primed to have her best season.”

The Longhorns rebounded after Saturday's loss with victories over Maryland and Colorado State. The team has focused on having the mental toughness to move on from losses.

“I would say that the thing we've done differently is we've instilled a lot of grit in our team and just being more mentally tough,” Davis said. “Those are the two things that I think that we've lacked in previous years that's really going to take us far this year.”

All five of Texas' pitchers saw action this weekend.

“We have five pitchers right now that are throwing for us, and two lefties and three righties and we've got a lot of really good arms and really good options,” Clark said. “So we start

there and we finish there.”

One of the biggest stories coming into the weekend was the return of junior pitcher Erica Wright, who was out all of last season with an injury. Wright started a game and came in as relief during the weekend, and said she feels good heading into the rest of the season.

“As far as my shoulder goes, everything felt great, but I mean I was pretty nervous,” Wright said. “After the first inning (against Minnesota) I felt a little bit better when I settled in. It was good to be back.”

Texas will host the Texas Invitational at McCombs Field next weekend.

“It's always a good benchmark during the first weekend to see where we're at,” Clark said. “There were a lot of really good takeaways and folks that really stood out from a competitive edge and grit standpoint.”

SPORTS BRIEFLY

Men's tennis dominates in Sunday double header

Sophomore Rodrigo Banzer fired a bullet down the right line, speeding past Purdue's Stephan Koenigsfest to cement No. 11 Texas' 4-0 victory over the Boilermakers.

The Longhorns faced a short turnaround on Sunday as they hosted both Purdue and Texas A&M-Corpus Christi. Texas came out aggressive against Purdue, sweeping the Boilermakers in doubles play for the first point.

“We've had some close matches so far this season,”

sophomore Harrison Scott said. “We just came out firing for the first match so we could get off the court quick and get ready for the next one.”

Freshman Christian Sigsgaard rebounded from a singles loss last week, dominating Purdue's Gergely Madarasz for a 6-4, 6-1 win.

Banzer finished Purdue off, defeating Koenigsfest 6-1, 6-4 and claiming the final point for Texas.

“Today was the highest amount of energy and emotion that I've seen out of them,” head coach Michael Center said. “I thought it was a good overall effort by the guys.”

The Longhorns showed no signs of fatigue against Texas

A&M-Corpus Christi in game two, crushing the Islanders in doubles play to go up 1-0.

Sophomore Julian Zlobinsky pummeled freshman Gonzalo Achondo 6-2, 6-1 to give Texas a 2-0 lead. Banzer continued his big day with a 6-4, 6-2 victory over the Islanders' Paul Cook.

Redshirt freshman Leonardo Telles delivered the knockout blow for the Longhorns, outlasting Cagatay Soke 6-4, 6-4.

“I feel like everybody plays a part in our team,” Telles said.

Up next, Texas will travel to Virginia for the ITA National Team Indoor Championships.

-Justin Martinez

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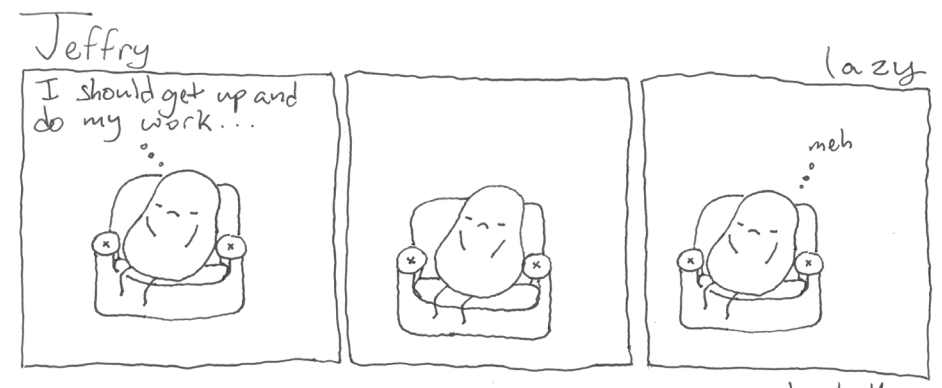
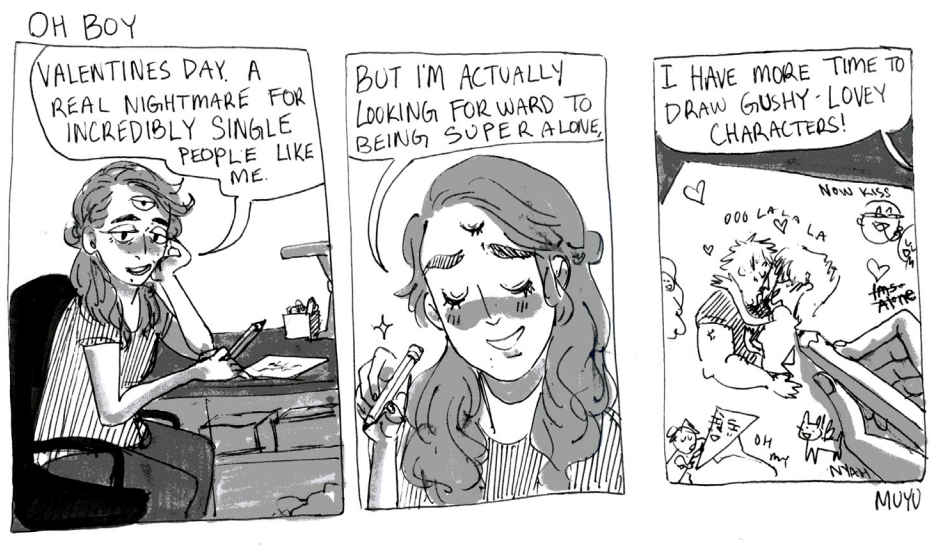


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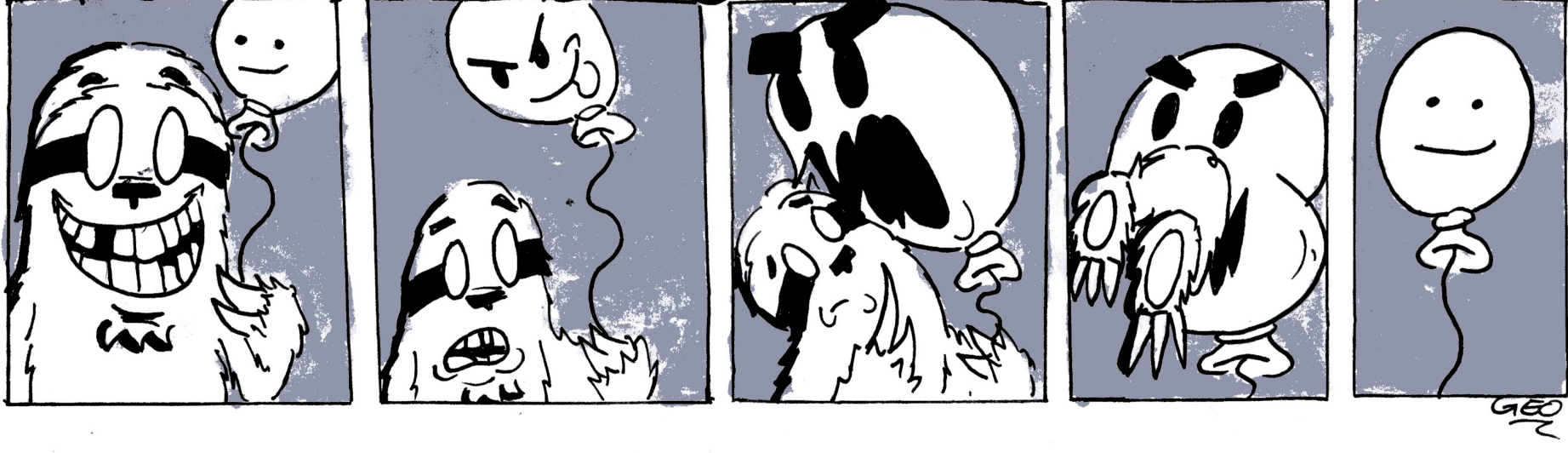
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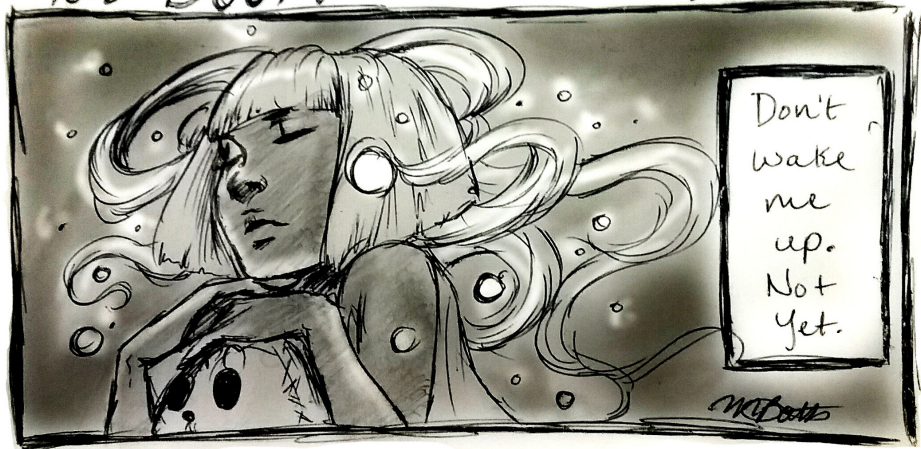
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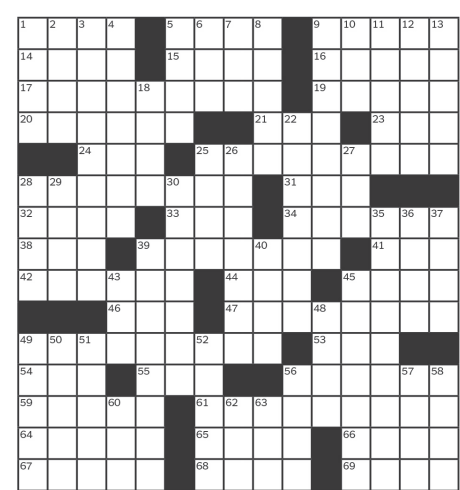
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The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0109

- ACROSS**
- 1 Puts on TV or radio
 - 5 Ending on several central Asian country names
 - 9 Meanie in "Jack and the Beanstalk"
 - 14 U.S. weather agcy.
 - 15 Zeus' wife
 - 16 ___ and wiser
 - 17 1990s TV series about a murder in a town in Washington
 - 19 Film director Kurosawa
 - 20 Made smooth, as wood
 - 21 Part of the conjugation of the French "avoir"
 - 23 And others, for short
 - 24 Bump fists
 - 25 K-K-K-5-5, e.g., in poker
 - 28 Exhibit in an anatomy class
 - 31 Guided
 - 32 Is sick
 - 33 Four-baggers: Abbr.
 - 34 Like favorite stations on a car radio
 - 38 Pie ___ mode
 - 39 Result of failure to comb the hair after sleep, maybe ... or a feature of 17-, 25-, 49- or 61-Across?
 - 41 School grp.
 - 42 Young male viewed as a sex object
 - 44 Black ___ (covert doings)
 - 45 ___ Ticonderoga
 - 46 Apr. 15 mail addressee
 - 47 Place to pull over on an interstate
 - 49 English monarch with a "lace" named after her
 - 53 ___-rock (music genre)
 - 54 Land between Can. and Mex.
 - 55 Inits. at the start of a memo
 - 56 "You ready?"
 - 59 Drilling tool
 - 61 Hooded snake
 - 64 Thin pancake
 - 65 Place for the banjo in "Oh! Susanna"
 - 66 Exposition
 - 67 N.B.A. star — Irving
 - 68 Freezes, with "over"
 - 69 Worry
- DOWN**
- 1 Picnic pests
 - 2 State that produces the most corn
 - 3 Weather-related stoppage in baseball
 - 4 Beach footwear
 - 5 Tool building
 - 6 Lipton offering
 - 7 Genesis vessel
 - 8 Word before congestion or spray
 - 9 Job that might involve watching the kids?
 - 10 Variety
 - 11 French farewell
 - 12 "Rats!"
 - 13 Use a stencil on
 - 18 Amorous cartoon skunk
 - 22 "No thanks"
 - 25 President after Nixon
 - 26 Like a sheep with all its wool
 - 27 Praiseful poem
 - 28 Onetime Volvo competitor
 - 29 K. in the NATO alphabet
 - 30 "According to conventional wisdom ..."
 - 35 Place to drink lined with TVs
 - 36 French "to be"
 - 37 "So long!"
 - 39 Joy Adamson book about Elsa the lioness
 - 40 Fencing sword
 - 43 Coat and ___
 - 45 Decrease
 - 48 Soft mineral
 - 49 Phony doc
 - 50 Unscrupulous moneylending
 - 51 Rarin' to go
 - 52 Republican pol Haley from South Carolina
 - 56 Gets 16-Across
 - 57 Buffalo's lake
 - 58 Sour
 - 60 Prefix with dermis
 - 62 "Monsters, ___" (2001 movie)
 - 63 Word before a maiden name



ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

OVER THE MOON DSEL
CAMERAREADY CEO
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ANIONS SUM JOSE
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TRE PRO AEOLIAN
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AMPLIFY ETD TSK
SCROLL SPF SHUE
THEY ALT IMPEDE
OAT AGE OF REASON
FIT BOWLASTRIKE
FRY UNDER THE SUN

PUZZLE BY NEVILLE FOGARTY

- 26 Like a sheep with all its wool
- 27 Praiseful poem
- 28 Onetime Volvo competitor
- 29 K. in the NATO alphabet
- 30 "According to conventional wisdom ..."
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Today's solution will appear here next issue

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

SUDOKUFORYOU

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

CAMPUS

Student artists balance business, classes

Sydney Mahl
@sydney_mahl

Inspiration struck business sophomore Monika Cavanagh on a family vacation to San Francisco when she purchased a necklace with a pressed daisy suspended inside — her favorite necklace to this day.

The daisy necklace turned into the inspiration for Cavanagh's Etsy website, AustinSolFlowers, which began as just a small project in her Jester West dorm room about a year ago. Cavanagh scavenges campus, Home Depot and bluebonnet fields for flowers to press. She then attaches her floral designs with epoxy resin to clear phone cases bulk ordered from China in her laundry room because of the epoxy resin's harsh smell.

"I love flowers," Cavanagh said. "They're art on their own. The reason it's just kind of a hobby is because of my classes and clubs."

While other students may harbor creative ambitions, those who act upon them by beginning businesses from their cramped rooms face unique challenges while maintaining a business and balancing classes. Free time is no longer free for student entrepreneurs, who instead spend their spare moments fulfilling orders, maintaining selling platforms and continually creating.

Like Cavanagh, architecture senior Maxine Kraft was in-

spired by a necklace. Kraft noticed girls wearing trendy wrap necklaces, found supplies at her local Hobby Lobby store, and her Etsy business, CraftbyKraft, was born. Kraft's jewelry site has been visited worldwide and maintains a steady level of popularity with southern college students.

"It was pretty hard-building inventory," Kraft said. "I'm always in studio working long hours so I never really know when I'm going to be free. Working on my own time has helped with balancing everything else."

Studio art junior Nikki Denkler said she doesn't face the same time management challenges as Cavanagh and Kraft because she mainly sells art already made for class assignments off her website and art Instagram profile, @denklerdesigns. Denkler, a self-professed perfectionist, admits her art classes take up a lot of time, but pay off in the end.

"Hamilton", a 6-foot-by-7-foot abstract painting inspired by the soundtrack from "Hamilton" is Denkler's favorite. She said it is difficult for her to put a price on pieces she's attached to.

"Putting a price on something I've made seemed really hard to me," Denkler said. "I'm still a college student, so I didn't know what my art is worth."

She received advice from a professor who urged her to sell her work at a price



Joshua Guerra | Daily Texan Staff

Business sophomore Monika Cavanagh creates custom-designed phone cases with pressed flowers on them. She was inspired after purchasing a necklace with a pressed daisy in it.

that made her happy and content with giving up one of her paintings so someone else could start enjoying her work.

Though pricing can be another challenge faced by student artists like Denkler, advertising junior Ashley Piontek said the business side of her art comes naturally.

Originally a business ma-

yor, Piontek transferred into advertising her sophomore year after realizing she couldn't fully express her creative tendencies. Piontek began her Etsy site AwedbyARTH this last winter after deciding to take her art more seriously. She has always been drawn to watercolor prints and makes a lot of prints in her free time, which helps her keep her

inventory for her site full.

Piontek runs her site out of her apartment and works on about five to six orders per week. She said keeping up with orders, especially custom ones, is hard with balancing classes, but pushes herself to get the orders done in her spare time.

Despite the struggles that accompany running her shop, Piontek, like Cava-

nagh, Kraft and Denkler, advocates taking time to develop personal passions and seeing if the product could be profitable.

"If you have a talent, just go ahead and list it on Etsy," Cavanagh said. "What is there to lose? If you're making money off something you love doing, it's barely like working."

CAMPUS

Electronic Music Club builds community

Andrea Tinning
@andreawinning

Nothing makes a party worse than a low turn-out and bad playlist, but thankfully that's something UT's Electronic Music Club will never have to worry about, since the club is a platform for electronic music fans to make friends and for DJs to develop their skills.

Formed in the spring of 2012, Texas EMC aims to build a community for electronic lovers, ranging from DJs and producers to casual listeners. Though it was originally meant to help electronic artists better hone their craft, the club now welcomes all fans of the genre. Some students even join just to find people to go to concerts with.

Last year, a group of students went to the Electric Daisy Carnival music festival in Las Vegas together. The festival is the largest electronic music event in the United States and notable artists headlined.

Collette Nguyen, president of EMC and education senior, said traveling with a group is beneficial on both a social

and financial level. Students learn to manage their budgets and plan for events they want to attend. Nguyen said she has made lifelong friendships through these experiences — she and two other members have matching tattoos and all met in the club.

"We plan it out ahead of time," Nguyen said. "The experience is better than material wealth."

Although traveling is one of the most exciting social elements of the club, Nguyen said it isn't always necessary because EMC promotes local concerts and clubs. EMC also gives away tickets to encourage people to join.

"We want to provide as many benefits as we can with this club," Nguyen said. "We don't ask for much and we want to give them more than what they gave us."

The EMC invites professional DJs, nightclub photographers and other electronic music related artists to meetings for Q&A sessions. They usually visit meetings to discuss the ins and out of the industry and how they made a career out of electronic music.



Jessica Joseph | Daily Texan Staff

The Electronic Music Club began as a platform to allow electronic music fans to build community with each other. The club now organizes trips together to music festivals, local concerts and clubs.

Officers also plan monthly parties where members can gain experience DJing for large crowds. Rebecca

Munoz, mechanical engineering junior and vice president of EMC, said some members moved up from DJing at EMC

events to actual nightclubs.

"It's cool to say 'I remember when you played at this party for the first time and

now you're playing regularly downtown," Munoz said.

For members like Jeremy

EDM page 5

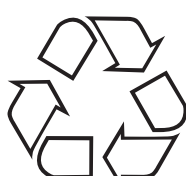
THE DAILY TEXAN



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