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THE DAILY TEXAN

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Wednesday, February 8, 2017

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CAMPUS

Protests continue amid travel ban stay

By Anusha Lalani
@anusha_lalani

More than two weeks into Donald Trump's presidency, students continue to protest his travel ban.

Approximately 50 students and community members rallied on East Mall Tuesday evening to show solidarity against the recent executive order and the Trump administration. The sponsors of the protest all had a common goal in the demonstration: to be proactive in the community, according to

Omar Salim, president of Texas Muslims Students' Association, which organized the demonstration.

"A lot of the time (we) wait until there's an event or something specifically that happens to our group, then we come out and then we want to organize things in response to that," Salim said. "One thing that I plead to the Muslim community as well as any of the minorities that are marginalized or are struggling: Go find these people who have voiced themselves ... and really become friends

with them. When you learn from their character and you learn from their leadership, you yourself can represent the minorities that are marginalized across the country."

Members from different campus organizations spoke during the rally, with an open mic available for anyone to speak toward the end. Demonstrators said the Maghrib prayer, the fourth of the five daily prayers practiced by Muslims, after the openmic period ended. Salim, an

PROTEST page 2



Joshua Guerra | Daily Texan Staff

Students and community members rallied on the East Mall Tuesday evening to protest against the Trump administration and the recent executive order.

UNIVERSITY

Senate of College Councils fundraising chair resigns unexpectedly

By Kayla Meyertons
@kemeyertons

Abhinav Kumar resigned from the Senate of College Councils Monday by thanking the organization for the free t-shirts he received during his time as fundraising chair — and saying that was all he was grateful for.

In a document sent to more than 100 members of Senate, Kumar, former Senate fundraising chair and opinion columnist for The Daily Texan, expressed his frustration with the organization and criticized the organization's "move up or move out" internal structure.

"I am not trying to burn any bridges here," Kumar, economics, humanities and human dimensions of organizations sophomore, said in the letter. "But this organization is toxic, inefficient and an embarrassment to the University of Texas at Austin."

Austin Reynolds, English senior and Senate vice president, said Kumar's letter opened up an important conversation with the leadership team about the culture of Senate.

"Undoubtedly, Senate can be a 'move up or move out' organization," Reynolds said. "If you're not consistently moving up year after year, you can feel excluded and unheard. That's a critique that we've heard in the past, and that's no surprise."

Kumar said during an interview with the Texan that he proposed an idea for a student handbook to be distributed throughout campus, but became frustrated when he didn't receive hands-on help with his initiative.

Reynolds said he and Sergio Cavazos, Senate president and government senior, sat down with Kumar last week to help Kumar find ways to gain sponsorships for his proposal.

"We knew of his concern, but we didn't know it would take it to this level," Reynolds said. "The meeting was generally productive, ... and I gave him a game plan to reach out to councils."

Kumar, in his letter, referred to one couple in Senate as unknowingly racist and another member as self-involved and unable of handling responsibility. Kumar has declined to name these individuals.

Cavazos released an email statement Monday night to the rest of the

RESIGN page 3

CAMPUS

Ellen urges students to "get in formation"

By Kayla Meyertons
@kemeyertons

Black, wide-brimmed hats, flower crowns and ombre wigs blanketed the Main Mall Tuesday as students competed in a Beyoncé costume competition to win two tickets to the 2017 GRAMMYS provided by The Ellen Show.

"Last week two people at Georgia Tech won tickets to the #Superbowl. @UTAustin, I hope you're free tomorrow," talk show host Ellen DeGeneres tweeted Monday.

DeGeneres followed up with instructions to meet at Main Mall at 3:30 p.m. in a Beyoncé costume.

"Her producers reached out," UT spokesperson J.B. Bird said Tuesday. "The crew was already in Texas for the Super Bowl and thought it would be fun to stop by UT Austin. We were able to make it happen, and Ellen's producers will be talking with UT Austin students this evening and giving away some prizes."

The Ellen Show began showing a live-stream of Ellen's Tuesday night episode at 5:30 p.m. to the UT audience before telling students to recreate a photo from Beyoncé's latest photoshoot, in which she announced her pregnancy with twins, and submit it via email.

Based on the email



Alex Dolan | Daily Texan Staff

Human development and family sciences sophomore Collin Wang embraces The Ellen Show's Jeannie Klisiewicz in front of the UT Tower Tuesday evening after winning Ellen's UT Beyoncé costume photo contest. Wang's prize is a free trip to the Grammy's this weekend.

submissions received, the competition was narrowed to five finalists. Collin Wang, human development and family sciences sophomore, won with a photo of him posing underwater in the Littlefield Fountain while wearing a flowy orange dress.

"People were going in the fountain, but no one was going underwater," Wang said. "(It took) twenty minutes to take it, and it was hard because the water just kept going in my nose. It was a process, but it was worth it."

Wang said he is taking the friend to the GRAMMYS who urged him to participate, Madie Flores, human development and family sciences sophomore. The remaining finalists won yearlong subscriptions to Hulu.com.

Sarah Ogunmuyiwa, women and gender studies and philosophy freshman, said she skipped her physical anthropology lab to dress up as Beyoncé.

"I'm literally skipping lab,

ELLEN page 2

NATIONAL

"Anti-sanctuary city" bill approved by Senate

By Claire Allbright
@claireallbright

Following nearly six hours of discussion regarding the implications of Senate Bill 4, which would eliminate sanctuary cities, and the consideration of 39 amendments, the bill was passed to engrossment with the approval of 20 out of 31 senators Tuesday night.

Tomorrow, the bill will be reread with the adopted amendments and a final Senate vote will be taken before it moves to consideration in the House.

Sen. Charles Perry, R-Lubbock, who wrote the bill, said it mandates that law enforcement authorities comply with federal immigration standards. Under current law, anyone who is detained by a law enforcer such as a police officer or sheriff is subject to questions about their immigration status as the officer deems appropriate. Perry said the bill upholds this law.

"What's at stake here is the rule of law," Perry said.

SANCTUARY page 2

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Student Government revisits campus climate procedures

By Reagan Ritterbush
@RER0720

The UT Campus Climate Response Team is working to develop protocols and procedures for responding to bias issues on and around campus that affect campus climate, but lacks student representation, according to Student Body President Kevin Helgren.

On Tuesday, Helgren introduced Assembly Resolution 19 which supports the creation of a Campus Climate Advisory Board, which would allow students to give

feedback and recommendations to University administrators on campus climate issues.

"The spirit behind the CCAB is to bring together students from all different pockets," said Helgren, a neuroscience and psychology senior. "We want to make sure that we are both reactive when situations call for it as well as proactive so that we make sure we don't run into too many situations that call for it."

Should the CCAB be created, Vice President of Student Affairs Soncia Reagins-Lilly said she would fund them as

part of her budget, Helgren said. He also said the resolution proposes that the Diversity and Inclusion Agency Director role in the CCRT would be reserved for a student representative.

"CCRT currently lacks student representation and we certainly want student voices to be heard during these climate conversations," Helgren said.

Helgren said the idea behind the passing of this resolution is to let the administration know that support for

CLIMATE page 2

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THE DAILY TEXAN

Volume 117, Issue 97

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TOMORROW'S WEATHER

High 86  **Low 49**

I got that swag and it's pumping out my ovaries.

FRAMES FEATURED PHOTO



Cierra Bair, a biology freshman, and Lauren Rathbun, a civil engineering junior make stuffed cows during the MAKE-IT TAKE-IT CUDDLE-IT event at the Texas Union on Tuesday afternoon. **Yifan Lyu | Daily Texan Staff**

PROTEST

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architecture senior, said the prayer enables people of the community to feel connected with one another.

"For the evening prayer, especially in Islam, there's no stronger response to everything that's going on other than prayer," Salim said. "Some may say it's a publicity stunt but it's really not. At the end of the day, the whole goal of us praying together is to show how united we are."

The executive order, also known as the travel ban, was signed Jan. 30, which bars refugees and immigrants from seven predominantly Muslim countries from entering into the U.S. for three months. Mohamed-Umer Esmail, an imam at the Nueces Mosque, said that although the executive order is a disappointment, it gives people more opportunities to share their voices and be heard.

"It's something we're going to have to deal with for the next four years and we're just

going to have to speak out and be more active," Esmail said. "Other incidents in the past were not enough to wake us up, but this is something that should wake us up. We have come to know that what we thought was impossible, is actually possible. We were taught that in a democracy, something like this would not happen."

UT alumnus Sheridan Aguirre, who is a member of the University Leadership Initiative, spoke at the event and said the executive order is a "direct attack on immigrants," and he hopes people will continue to show their support for those being impacted by the recent decisions.

"Muslim undocumented youth are currently under attack and are being hit from both sides," Aguirre said. "I call on all of you to keep coming to these events, to keep showing your support for our Muslim community, to keep showing support for our immigrant community. We have a lot of power and I know that together we can fight back."

SG

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institutions like the CCAB is widespread.

Vice President Binna Kim said a great addition to the resolution is training for CCAB members at the beginning of the school year from a professor within the School of Social Work.

"This will give members a better idea of how to have these difficult conversations and have context on how to learn from people with different perspectives," said Kim, a marketing senior. Chief of Staff Isaiah Carter said since there is a mechanism in the resolution that would allow several spots to open up annually, any new community of people that develops in the coming years will have the ability to apply to be on the board.

"Part of the reason we wanted to do this is because there are so many communities on campus, and if you ask me, I'm not convinced that they all communicate enough with each other," Carter, a government junior. "This is a way to get all of them in the same room to



Student government president Kevin Helgren answers questions on Assembly Resolution 19 to support the creation of a Campus Climate Advisory Board. The board would serve to address issues with the Campus Climate Response Team which currently lacks student representation. **Chase Karacostas | Daily Texan Staff**

talk about hard topics and respond to things."

Carter said the resolution will also reserve seats for several communities on the advisory board that the student government will regulate.

"It will be our job to include a member of the African American community, the Palestinian community, the Jewish community and the LGBTQ community," Carter said. "These spots will not change."

Helgren said there will be open invitations to groups on campus that do not feel

represented on the board to talk to them about responses they would like to see the board display.

"We will certainly make sure that these voices have a seat at the table," Helgren said.

Currently, the resolution does not have a list of reserved members for the board, because the resolution is only intended for the administration to look further into this issue.

The resolution has been submitted to the Student Affairs Committee for further review.

ELLEN

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literally putting my grade in jeopardy, (because) this is what this woman does to me," Ogunmuyiwa said. "I'll drop everything for her. This woman controls my life. Tell my professor to please excuse me so that I can do the other lab."

Student body president, Kevin Helgren also attended the event to show his support.

"I think it's a really cool opportunity, as (Ogunmuyiwa) said," said Helgren, psychology and neuroscience senior. "Beyoncé, as a woman of color, inspires so many people, and on a campus like ours where black people make up 4 percent of the population, it's great to see her unify campus in such a positive and powerful way."

Undeclared freshman Mark Anthony Villafranco said he found out about the event through Ellen's Twitter.

"I'm such a big fan of Ellen because ... I'm gay," Villafranco said. "She's really an inspiration to anyone who came out, because even before I came out I watched Ellen ... and it simply became very inspirational."

Exercise science senior Angeli Ynbong wore a nude leotard, wrapped a teal shawl around her shoulders and embellished her hair with fake flowers to imitate Beyoncé's maternity photoshoot.

"I didn't really do this in the intention of really winning because UT has a lot of creative people," Ynbong said. "I just wanted to participate in something like this because this only comes once in a lifetime and this is my last semester, so I just wanted to make it as memorable as possible."

SANCTUARY

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"This is not necessarily about those that are going to be detained. It's about the public out here that plays by the rules."

While schools and hospitals are exempt from the bill, Perry said police divisions on college campuses are subject to these same federal rules. However, he said individual colleges can implement other policies such as preventing professors from inquiring about students' immigration statuses.

Sen. José Menéndez, D-San Antonio, said he is concerned about naturalized U.S. citizens being unlawfully detained. Perry said mistakes like these will be made, but believes the passage of the bill would not increase these instances.

While Perry said the law has "very little to do with immigration" and promotes uniformity of the law across the state, Sen. Carlos Uresti, San Antonio-D, said he believes the bill will have a "discriminatory effect."

"Some law enforcement officers are gonna make a mistake and they're gonna detain the wrong person," Uresti said.

Perry dismissed concerns raised by senators saying the proposed



Sheriff Hernandez's immigration policy went into effect Wednesday and 37 undocumented detainees were released into the public. **Joshua Guerra | Daily Texan file photo**

legislation does not change any existing federal laws. Instead, the bill holds local entities accountable to abiding by already established law.

Sen. Jane Nelson, R-Flower Mound, who thanked Perry for the legislation said she was sad the bill was frightening people within local communities. During last week's committee hearing, the State Affairs committee heard hours of public testimony against the bill.

Vanessa Rodriguez is a member of University Leadership Initiative, a group of undocumented students on campus. Rodriguez said she believes the bill is an attack on immigrants in Texas.

"My parents are undocumented, I have DACA, I have a brother who was born here," Rodriguez, a

government freshman, said. "What would happen to my brother if anything were to happen to my parents? I would have to assume that responsibility and that's a huge burden because I'm only 18 years old."

Agencies who do not abide by SB 4 run the risk of losing funding. Perry said if campus police departments fail to comply with SB 4, only grants that pertain to the commission of law enforcement would be cut, not other grants that affect higher education.

An amendment proposed by Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, to exclude campus police departments was tabled and Perry said this action was unnecessary because universities could still have individual policies.

THE DAILY TEXAN

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

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The Daily Texan, a student newspaper at The University of Texas at Austin, is published by Texas Student Media, 2500 Whitis Ave., Austin TX 78712. The Daily Texan is published daily, Monday through Friday, during the regular academic year and is published once weekly during the summer semester. The Daily Texan does not publish during academic breaks, most Federal Holidays and exam periods. New contributions will be accepted by telephone (471-4591), or at the editorial office (HSM 2.120). Entire contents copyright 2017 Texas Student Media.

The Daily Texan Mail Subscription Rates	
One Semester (Fall or Spring)	\$60.00
Two Semesters (Fall and Spring)	\$120.00
Summer Session	\$40.00
One Year (Fall, Spring and Summer)	\$150.00

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UNIVERSITY

UT system regents confirmed despite representation dispute

By Claire Allbright
@claireallbright

Former Sen. Kevin Eltife, businessman James Conrad Weaver and attorney Janiece Longoria were confirmed by the Texas Senate Tuesday as the next three UT system regents.

The Senate voted 29 in favor and zero against. However, Sen. Borris Miles, D-Houston, and Sen. Royce West, D-Dallas, were present, but abstained from voting.

Miles and West, the only African-American legislators in the Senate, spoke in opposition of the lack of diversity amongst the regent nominees. Both said their choice to abstain from voting was not because of any personal problems with the regent appointees.

"I don't intend to vote against worthwhile nominees," West said. "But I can't vote for

them either."

Miles raised concerns over the lack of diversity on the board, citing that only three out of a total of 240 UT regents have ever been African-American and that African-American enrollment in the UT system is 6.8 percent, even though they make up 12 percent of the state population.

Miles said diversity on the board is important to fight systemic racism and influence policy around bringing African-American professors to campus and make decisions concerning the top ten percent rule.

"Diversity will help the UT system lead the way," Miles said. "Let our diversity be our advantage."

West echoed Miles, saying out of the over four million African-Americans in the state, not a single one is on the UT board of regents.

"I think this is a missed opportunity to make sure the Board of Regents is reflective of the diversity in the state of Texas," West said.

Sen. Sylvia Garcia, D-Palito Blanco, and Sen. José Menéndez, D-San Antonio, voted in favor of the nominees, but spoke about the need to have diversity on the Board and in other agencies across the Senate.

"Diversity doesn't happen by accident," Menéndez said. "It has to be intentional."

These confirmations mark the beginning of the new regents' terms, which will expire or be up for renewal in 2023. The three outgoing regents, Wallace Hall, Alex Cranberg and Brenda Pejovich, had terms set to expire Feb. 1 or upon approval of the incoming regents.



Joshua Guerra | Daily Texan Staff

Sen. Borris Miles, D-Houston, attends the CPS hearing on Thursday Feb. 3. Miles was one of two African American legislators that spoke in opposition of the lack of diversity in the regent nominees.

RESIGN

continues from page 1

organization saying the efforts of the Senate committees are for servant leadership, not for self-serving purposes and the Senate should be proud of their accomplishments.

"Some of his concerns are valid and worth considering since we always strive to improve the organization for the generations to come," Cavazos said in the email. "However, some of the personal attacks made were inappropriate, unfounded and

will not be tolerated."

Chris Whitehair, finance director and finance senior, said Kumar's issues with the internal structure of Senate have merit, but the personal allegations were uncalled for.

"Those personal allegations are baseless, and they really did hurt people of this organization," Whitehair said. "To bring accusations against people like that in the way that he did was not respectful, (and) it was not a way you go about addressing things like that."

"Kumar has not raised any

money through the Senate of College Councils, and he has not brought any money into any of the formal Senate of College Councils bank accounts," Whitehair said. Kumar has been fundraising chair of Senate for 10 months.

Kumar said in an interview with the Texan that he has not raised any money because the impact would have been too minimal to make a difference on the student body.

Cavazos said he is always open to changing the internal structure of the Senate to better serve students on campus.

POLICY

Senate unanimously passes first bill of legislative session

By Claire Allbright
@claireallbright

Senate Bill 14, an ethics reform package authored by Sen. Van Taylor, R-Plano, was unanimously approved by Senate members in a 31-0 vote, becoming the first bill passed in the Senate this legislative session.

SB 14 would in part require elected officials to disclose contracts they and their immediate family have with governmental entities, bar public officials who have been convicted of a corruption felony from receiving a state-funded pension, ban public officials from becoming lobbyists for two years after they leave office and decrease the threshold at which lobbyists must disclose spending on public officials.

"The faith that people have in their democracy is linked to the trust they have in their elected officials," Gov. Greg Abbott said in a statement after the Senate passed the bill. "Representatives in Austin must be voting with their constituents' interests in mind — not their own — and I am confident that this session will lead to increased accountability and meaningful reforms that are desperately needed in Texas."

Gov. Greg Abbott named ethics reform as an emergency priority for lawmakers in his State of the State address last



Joshua Guerra | Daily Texan Staff

Sheriff Hernandez's immigration policy went into effect Wednesday and 37 undocumented detainees were released into the public, perhaps three lines of text or maybe even four for the caption for two column photos usually yes.

Tuesday. This fast-tracks the legislation, as only items named emergency items can be passed before March 10.

Tuesday's bill passed the Senate with several amendments favorably adopted. Sen. Kirk Watson, D-Austin, withdrew an amendment, which would have required lobbyists to disclose spending on "widely attended events" by lawmakers, such as tailgates.

Sen. Larry Taylor, R-Friendswood, said he was "offended" by Watson's proposal because his vote wasn't for sale.

SB 14 now moves to the Texas House, where it will be carried by Rep. Charlie Geren, R-Fort Worth.

An amendment added to SB 14 makes the bill effective

immediately if it receives a two-thirds vote in the House. If the bill fails to meet that two-thirds threshold, it would go into effect Sept. 1.

"The public demands greater accountability from its elected officials," Rep. Eddie Lucio, R-Brownsville said. "... (The amendment) is a demonstration that we demand accountability of ourselves as well. Let's...let the public know we're serious about the high standard of accountability that is expected of all of us."

In 2015, ethics reform was also designated as an emergency priority, and a similar bill died on the House floor over an amendment that would have required the disclosure of donors to politically active nonprofits.

CAMPUS



Yifan Lyu | Daily Texan Staff

Members of the College Republican were watching the debate between Sen. Bernie Sanders and Sen. Ted Cruz.

College Republicans host Sanders-Cruz watch party

By Peter Driscoll
@TheDailyTexan

Students gathered Tuesday at the College Republicans watch party to view the televised debate between Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vermont) and Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas).

The debate between the senators, hosted by CNN, focused on health care policy.

College Republicans member Jake Crosby said he found Cruz's responses witty, especially when he criticized the Affordable Care Act by comparing a map of consumer insurance choices in America with the regions of the electoral map that voted for Donald Trump.

"I think that was the best moment of the debate so far," Crosby said. "He has definitely proven himself to be a good debater in the past, and he has lived up to that reputation in this debate."

College Republicans member Willis Carlton said he believes the senators participated in the debate to boost their own public profiles. Carlton said a debate such as this one only heightens political animosity at a time when public debate over the repeal of Obamacare has left many agitated and resentful.

"I don't think anyone is going to come away from this debate with their opinions changed," Carlton said. "These guys are just taking shots at each other's ideology and positioning themselves as champions of their supporters. People are still sensitive about Trump getting elected and Obamacare being repealed, and this is just stirring controversy."

Samantha Minkowitz, College Republicans vice president, said the debate was a meaningful discussion of important issues.

"I think this kind of

debate is good because the senators both take strong positions to make a statement," Minkowitz said. "I think it is important that people on both sides are able to see that there is a way to improve the U.S. health care system while getting rid of Obamacare."

Lucas, College Republicans finance director, said the organization hopes to encourage more political activism on campus.

"I think students taking part in the political discussion on campus is imperative to forming their own opinions," Lucas said. "We come to college to learn different perspectives by being exposed to differing opinions. This exposure better informs our opinions and furthers the discussion of these important issues."

The watch party was held at the University Teaching Center.

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COLUMN

Super Bowl trafficking issue remains unsolved

By Emma Berdanier

Daily Texan Senior Columnist
@eberdanier

Following the culmination of Super Bowl LI, hundreds of thousands of tourists have left Houston, and with them, the eyes of the nation. The city is already being praised for hosting one of the best games we've seen. Yet this praise and focus on the game masks a pertinent issue that hurts Houston long past last weekend: human trafficking.

Houston has the highest number of human trafficking victims nationwide, with 330 cases reported in 2015. Texas Interstate I-10 is one of the largest routes for human trafficking in the United States. This coupled with Houston's reputation as a trafficking hub has led Texas to house a disproportionately large number of victims. In 2016 alone there were a reported 670 cases, with a total of 3751 victims since 2007 in the state.

A large myth has been perpetuated around large events such as the Super Bowl, suggesting that these events increase the rate of human trafficking. Large campaigns have been preparing for this setback, but are only implemented for Super Bowl weekend. Since this myth is not fully consolidated, these short-lived campaigns do little to solve this issue for the other 51 weekends of the year.

"It's not that you can't find anecdotal evidence of a human trafficking problem in a given place — it's that there is no reliable data for any given day in the U.S.," Bridgette Carr, University of Michigan clinical law professor, told the Huffington Post in an interview last year. "There's this idea that we can say there's an increase around any event, when we aren't able to say what's happening on any given day."

Texas human trafficking cases: 2012 vs. 2016

19 trafficking type not specified

SEX trafficking 257

13 BOTH

83 LABOR trafficking

SEX trafficking 473

45 BOTH

121 LABOR trafficking

trafficking type not specified 31

Infographic by
Rena Li
Daily Texan Staff

The Super Bowl has seen the rise and fall of a massive ad campaign in Houston against human trafficking. But the short life of such a campaign doesn't help combat the larger, daily issue of human trafficking that Houston must deal with. Such a campaign fails to take any effect when it only accounts for the supposed rise in trafficking during the time frame of the event. Rather than halting

such large ad campaigns that bring attention and awareness to the issue to the residents of Houston just because the Super Bowl has ended, the city should promote these campaigns year round.

Though the Super Bowl may be over and the weekend-long campaign has ended, the larger issue still remains. Victims are still being sold into slavery for prostitution and

labor at high numbers, which aren't declining. Perpetuating harmful myths about the prevalence of human trafficking only allows the general public to ignore the reality. Human trafficking is a daily occurrence in the U.S., and its prevalence in Houston doesn't live and die with the Super Bowl.

Berdanier is a philosophy junior from Boulder, Colorado.

COLUMN

Continued involvement after protests brings change

By Gabrielle Sanchez

Daily Texan Columnist
@narwhalieee

The Women's March that rocked the earth the day after the inauguration of President Donald Trump exhibited the power that individuals — especially women — have to make their voices heard. The crowds made history as they gathered across the country and the world, including an estimated 50,000 in the city of Austin alone. But one question came to the minds of many once the march was over: Now what? Some feared that there would not be enough momentum after the march to any actual change.

In answer to this, the women who organized the Women's March created a program meant to keep the movement going. Their initiative "10 Actions/100 Days" encourages further involvement in our government through a variety of activities, including attending workshops, town hall meetings and other marches. Such actions are crucial in the success of any long term goals of the women's movement and can serve as a model for any other movement. Protesting at the Women's March felt good and built a sense of community among those who shared the same feelings of frustration, but in the end the march doesn't really matter if no further action is taken.

The most recent action involved writing postcards to Congressional representative. Groups across Austin held sessions in various places across town where people came

“Protesting at the Women's March felt good and built a sense of community among those who shared the same feelings of frustration, but in the end the march doesn't really matter if no further action is taken.”

together to write to their senators, John Cornyn and Ted Cruz. Writing postcards allows for constituents to air their grievances and express their wants individually. For those who do not like the idea of sending in a piece of paper that likely will not be read, there are ways to engage in a more physical. Go to a city council meeting, volunteer for causes that are of interest, or even organize a voter registration drive.

Many women of color, transgender women, and others felt that the Women's March lacked intersectionality, and focused mainly on the plight of white, cisgender women. While this was not the intention of the organizers, who come from a variety of ethnic and racial backgrounds, the effect was felt all the same. This is not meant to exclude or draw lines based on race, but to remind people that we cannot all succeed if we do not invest ourselves in the issues that affect everyone. Moving forward, everyone involved in the women's movement



Joshua Guerra | Daily Texan file photo

Protesters gather outside the state capitol during the Women's March in Austin on Jan. 23. Organizers have attempted to use the protest to gather support for future political action.

needs to not only advocate for issues that affect them personally, but for those that affect every woman from every background.

If an individual or group has their own ideas about how to take action over the next 100 days and into the future, the Women's March website offers step-by-step instructions and advice on how to start their own "huddle" or action group in their area. This could be particularly useful for individuals at UT, who can organize and

tackle issues with like-minded students.

Continuing involvement in the government is necessary in order to continue the conversation between elected officials and those whom they must answer to. Pictures can be taken and sweep the Internet for a few weeks following a protest, but the worst thing that can happen afterwards is for everyone to go home and never speak up again.

Sanchez is a journalism freshman from Austin.

COLUMN

Trump flashes despotic side with judicial attacks

By Noah M. Horwitz

Daily Texan Senior Columnist
@NmHorwitz

The past week has been dominated by discussions of President Donald Trump's ban on immigrants from seven majority Muslim countries. On Friday, a federal judge placed a nationwide injunction on the ban, prohibiting its enforcement.

Saturday morning, Trump responded. "The opinion of this so-called judge, which essentially takes law-enforcement away from our country, is ridiculous and will be overturned!" he tweeted.

Let us ignore the dubious veracity of those latter claims and instead focus on the first part of his rambling pontification. So-called judge? Trump tweeted critically of the judge four more times on Saturday and once more on Sunday.

This, of course, is not Trump's first flirtation with condemnation of the judiciary as an institution. Last year, Trump was excoriated by his own party for denigrating Judge Gonzalo Curiel, who oversaw the fraud suit surrounding Trump University. (Trump settled with the victims of that ploy for \$25 million.)

However, this time, the stakes are much higher.

Fascists quickly go to war with the three institutions capable of holding them back: the press, the bureaucracy and the judiciary. Trump has already declared war on the first two, and appears to be arranging his figurative tanks along the border with the third.

The silence from the Republican Party is deafening. Sen. Ben Sasse of Nebraska, a longtime Trump critic, issued his trite condemnation, and Vice President Mike Pence, long a master of obfuscation in the post-fact world of Trump, attempted to rearrange

Trump's inciting comments into responsible, restrained criticism. But the vast majority of the GOP appears willing to accept this.

I've asked this before and I will ask it again: Do the rank-and-file Republicans, the ones in Congress who would provide the votes to impeach Trump and end this national nightmare, have any red line past which this would not stand? I do not think so. Paul Ryan and his brethren are pathetic cowards willing to betray their country and its values, all for the ability to hold fleeting power.

The Constitution is but a piece of paper. Judicial orders are but pieces of paper. The U.S. marshals are people with guns who are directly tasked with enforcing them. On the other hand, the military is a larger group of people (with more guns) who report to the president.

Trump's attack on the judiciary should scare us all — he rule of law works because the larger group of people with guns

“Trump's attack on the judiciary should scare us all — he rule of law works because the larger group of people with guns assents to the smaller when they enforce pieces of paper.”

assents to the smaller when they enforce pieces of paper.

We can recover from a carnny using the presidency to enrich himself and his friends. It's harder to recover from a fascist demagogue who destroys our checks and balances. Just ask Germany.

Horwitz is a first-year law student from Houston.

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BASKETBALL
continues from page 6

would truly run away with it. Texas hasn't blown anybody out during the Big 12 schedule at all — its largest margin of victory in conference play is four. Texas opened the contest red-hot from the field while Iowa State came out ice-cold. The Longhorns took a 22-5 lead with 8:42

remaining in the first half thanks to a three-point play from senior guard Kendal Yancy. Four minutes later, Texas still held a strong lead at 30-13 before the Cyclones finally came alive. A couple of free throws from senior forward Merrill Holden capped off a 16-2 run by Iowa State. In a span of just four minutes, the Longhorns' 17-point lead

had evaporated into just three at 32-29. "The guys never got down," senior forward Shaquille Cleare said. "They kept fighting, we kept executing exactly what Coach wanted us to do." Freshman guard Andrew Jones helped stop the bleeding when he heaved a three-pointer at the buzzer with two Cyclones in his face to send Texas into

halftime up 35-29. Allen opened the second half with six points in the first three minutes to help Texas run out to a 43-32 lead. But Iowa State once again would not go away. A jumper by senior guard Monte Morris cut the Texas lead to 53-50 with 10:47 remaining in the game. Minutes later, the Longhorns' lead had been trimmed to one at

55-54 with just over six minutes left to play. Allen's monster put-back slam finally woke a dormant Erwin Center crowd up and put Texas ahead, 57-54. With 47 seconds left, senior guard Deonte Burton finally tied things up, 63-63, with a three-pointer from the top of the key. Cleare snagged an offensive rebound on the other end and

laid it back in to give Texas another two-point lead. Burton responded with a bank-shot to tie the game at 65. Texas, for a third-straight home game, was in jeopardy of letting things slip away — before Allen came through in the clutch. "We know we have to get back to work," Cleare said. "If anyone wants to take us for granted then that's on them."

LANG
continues from page 6

center has borne much of Texas' inside duties this season, sharing the paint with freshman forward Joyner Holmes. Lang is threading together a dual-threat season, leading the Longhorns in rebounds with 8.4 per game and double-doubles with seven. Lang's on-court leadership and tenacity to score have excelled her in her final season in Austin. "A lot of it is her experience and understanding of the game," Aston said. "She may not know it, but down the stretch here she has seemed a little bit like a point guard to me. I mean, there have been times that she's thinking the game like that.

She'll ask questions in the huddle, she'll talk to the players as if she was one of the leaders, which she is." Highs and lows mark Lang's career on the court. With her days on the 40 Acres dwindling down and the success of her team trending upward, Lang continues to embrace her role as one of the leaders on a Longhorns squad that rides a 17-game winning streak and controls the reigns of the Big 12. "You'd like to say you play as hard as you can freshman through senior year," Lang said. "But as a senior, you just realize that you only have a few months left. I think that me and (Brianna Taylor) definitely realize that and we just wanna do everything we

can for this team because it's a special team." Holmes, who has quickly developed into a dominant player on a young Texas roster, credits her drive and aggressiveness to the team's willingness to play for one another. Holmes' career is just beginning, but she plays for teammates such as Lang whose days on the court are numbered. "We've been talking to the seniors lately and I just don't want them to have a bad year," Holmes said. "Recently, I've been starting to think about that because I figured if I put myself in their shoes, I wouldn't want to go out on a bad note. We just need to continue to stay as a team and not let anything come between us."



Joshua Guerra | Daily Texan Staff

Texas senior center Kelsey Lang powers over Kansas State defender Shaelyn Martin in the Longhorns' Feb. 4 victory over the Wildcats, 63-58. Lang finished the game nearly with a double-double, posting 10 points and nine rebounds.

Sophomore Maddie Luitwieler finishes a swing. Luitwieler was among several Longhorns that starred at the UCF Challenge in Orlando. Texas finished 10 strokes under par.



Juan Figueroa Daily Texan Staff

GOLF
continues from page 6

first place. "I'm particularly happy with Haley's final two rounds this week," said Murphy. "We needed her to step up after a slow start, and she did. I am very proud of her for that fight back." Other contributors were senior Julia Beck (+4), who tied for 45th, and sophomore Maddie Luitwieler (+5), who finished the three

days tied for 50th. "Overall it was a good team effort," said Murphy. "Maddie gave us a couple of good rounds and Julia gave us a good one today. All five contributed and I'm always happy when that is the case." Chieh Jessica Peng of Mississippi State won the individual competition by shooting a combined total of 11-under par. Though his team didn't claim an overall victory, Murphy said he saw

glimpses of his team's full potential. If the team plays consistently, Texas could be in contention to win many tournaments as the season progresses. "The effort was definitely there today," said Murphy. The Longhorns will hit the links again in a couple of weeks when they face off in the Allstate Sugar Bowl Intercollegiate at the English Turn Golf and Country Club in New Orleans.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Allen's late heroics thwart Cyclone comeback

By Trenton Daeschner
@TrentDaeschner

Freshman forward Jarrett Allen stood at the free throw line with 7.2 seconds remaining and a chance to break a 65-65 tie with Iowa State on Tuesday night at the Frank Erwin Center.

Allen, a projected first round NBA draft pick, has struggled from the line all year. He makes just 60 percent from the stripe, and had knocked down only one of his three attempts when he walked up to shoot two more.

He made them both. "I knew I could do it," said Allen, who finished with 17 points and nine

rebounds. "I knew my team had confidence in me, so I didn't want to let them down."

It all came down to one final play for the Cyclones.

When senior guard Matt Thomas' desperation three rattled off the front of the rim, Texas' 67-65 victory was sealed.

For much of the night, it felt like a typical Texas basketball game. The past two home contests saw the Longhorns run out to commanding early leads only to see them dwindle away.

At one point in the first half, Texas held a 17-point lead and looked in complete control. But it never felt like the Longhorns



Emmanuel Briseno | Daily Texan Staff

Freshman power forward Jarrett Allen possesses the ball during Texas' 67-65 upset victory over Iowa State. Allen sunk the two game-winning free throws in the game's final seconds.

BASKETBALL page 5

SIDELINE

SPORTS BRIEFLY

Incoming Sun shored with honors

The Texas volleyball squad was two sets away from hoisting the national championship trophy, but the program is reloading with new firepower.

Incoming freshman Lexi Sun was recognized as the PrepVolleyball.com National Player of the Year on Tuesday, adding to her endless list of accolades. Sun additionally was declared the top player in the country by USA Today, MaxPreps, Volleyball Magazine and Gatorade — widely regarded as the No. 1 recruiting prospect in the nation.

The coveted recruit mesmerized scouts with 630 kills, 288 digs, 60 blocks and 45 service aces in her final season at Santa Fe Christian High School in California. The 6-foot-2-inch outside hitter was named an Under Armour All-American too, earning Most Outstanding Player at the sponsored event in December.

Sun verbally committed to Texas in 2016 and is the centerpiece of a stacked recruiting class. The Longhorns' incoming class ranks first in the nation according to PrepVolleyball.com. Sun and the new recruits will join forces with head coach Jerritt Elliott's tournament dynasty in the program's quest to bring a championship home to Austin.

—Steve Helwick

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Lang reaches milestone in final year

By Sydney Rubin
@sydneyrrubin

Kelsey Lang flipped a simple layup into the basket Saturday in Texas' 63-58 victory over Kansas State. While that bucket counted for just two points toward her 10-point total, it counted for much more to her personally.

With the routine play, the senior center became the 41st Longhorn in school history to score 1,000 career points.

Ordinary play, remarkable accomplishment. "It means a lot," Lang said. "There are only a

handful of people who have done it here, so I think that it's fantastic."

On top of the 1,000-point milestone, Lang has also cemented herself as one of the top shot blockers in Texas history. Lang has swatted away 163 shots in her career, good for seventh place on Texas' all-time career blocks list.

"You always want to congratulate a player when they reach a milestone," head coach Karen Aston said. "Just really proud of Kelsey's career."

The 6-foot-5-inch

LANG page 5

WOMEN'S GOLF

Schubert, Texas finish promising at UCF Challenge

By Travis Hlavinka
@trawwis

The No. 19 Longhorns opened up 2017 with a bang, finishing third in the UCF Challenge in Orlando.

Texas fought back and progressed up the leaderboard following each round of competition. The Longhorns were tied for 10th-place after round one and sixth-place after the second round. The team's ability to bounce back can set the tone for what might be a promising year for Texas.

Overall, the team shot a combined 10-under par,

four strokes behind both Clemson and Miami (Fl.), who tied for first overall.

"We had an outside chance to get it done," head coach Ryan Murphy said. "We came close. I'm definitely happy we're in contention again. That has been the case with this team all season."

The Longhorns were led by junior Sophia Schubert, who fired rounds of 72, 69 and 69. Schubert netted her second top-10 finish of the season by tying for seventh-place overall.

"Individually, Sophia played well from start to finish," Murphy said. "I

am proud of her effort this week."

Other individual standouts include senior Haley Mills and freshman Emilee Hoffman, who both tied for 15th at three-under par.

"It was another good week for Emilee," Murphy said. "Although she isn't satisfied with her finish, she has played great for us all season long."

Mills vaulted up the leaderboard on day three by matching Schubert's score of 69 in the final round to help lead Texas' charge back into the hunt for

GOLF page 5

Applications Now Being Accepted

The J. J. "Jake" Pickle Citizenship Award University Unions



The Pal – Make a Difference Award University Unions



Each year **The J. J. "Jake" Pickle Citizenship Award** is presented to a student whose cumulative, notable contributions to campus life over a period of time exemplify the commitment to public service and the high standard of leadership that were the hallmarks of the life and career of U. S. Congressman J. J. "Jake" Pickle.

The 2017 recipient of **The J. J. "Jake" Pickle Citizenship Award** will receive a certificate, a copy of Congressman Pickle's autobiography, *Jake*, and a \$5000 check at a luncheon on Friday, April 21, 2017.

Candidates must be in good academic standing, be currently enrolled full-time, and must complete an application comprising:

One-page personal statement, highlighting UT campus involvement and leadership activities and describing organization and club memberships

Résumé

750-word essay on a specified topic

Two letters of recommendation supporting campus leadership and involvement

(Note: **The J. J. "Jake" Pickle Citizenship Award** application period runs concurrent with **The Pal—Make A Difference Award**. Eligible students may apply for both awards.)

February 6 thru March 3

Application packets available in UNB 4.124
(Must be picked up in person)

March 3

Applications due

April 21

Presentation of **The J.J. "Jake" Pickle Citizenship Award**

The Pal—Make A Difference Award annually recognizes a student whose single initiative "made a difference" to the University or broader community. The award was created in 2006 by Texas Union Advisory Council member Jaspreet Singh Pal (BBA '95) to inspire students to engage in a lifelong commitment to public service.

The 2017 **Pal—Make A Difference Award** recipient will receive a certificate and a \$1000 check at a luncheon on Friday, April 21, 2017.

Candidates must be currently enrolled full-time at The University of Texas at Austin and complete an application comprising:

Biographical Information Form

Personal statement describing a single program or initiative that benefited the campus or broader community

Letter of recommendation from a UT faculty, staff, or student

(Note: **The Pal—Make A Difference Award** application period runs concurrent with the **The J. J. "Jake" Pickle Citizenship Award**. Eligible students may apply for both awards.)

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Applications due

April 21

Presentation of **The Pal - Make a Difference Award**

DEADLY TEXAN COMICS



The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0103

ACROSS

- Misgiving
- Small quarrel
- Leader from the House of Pahlavi
- Eating pork, to an observant Jew or Muslim
- Pac-12 hoops powerhouse
- Alto, Calif.
- Not be inert, as two chemical compounds
- Cognitive scientist Chomsky
- 10-Across's land
- Puerto Rico clock setting
- Resealable bag
- Chair with two hyphens in its name
- Apple that might be seen on a teacher's desk
- __-oriented
- W.W. II spy org.
- Genre for Motley Crüe
- Incendiary weapon
- Fitness pro
- Ohio city on Lake Erie
- Czech-made auto that's part of the Volkswagen Group
- "Yes... ri-i-ight there!"
- Airplane's direction
- Like custard
- Adopted
- Chain of children's stores founded by the Kaufman brothers (hence its name)
- Basis of particle physics
- Nothin'
- Relative of fake news
- Fashionable Christian
- Including all grades, briefly

DOWN

- Three months: Abbr.
- Neighbor of Oman, for short
- Atty.'s org.
- Neighborhood buzz?
- "Veritas" for Harvard or "Veritas vos liberabit" for Johns Hopkins
- Sushi fish
- Trash bin on a computer screen, e.g.
- Dead-tired?
- Acquainted (with)
- Pointy-eared dog
- Big maker of gummy bears
- Los __ National Laboratory
- Sweetie pies
- Like some digital clocks, for short
- Maria known as "La Divina"
- Bygone alcopop
- TV's "How Your Mother"
- Way
- "Giant Brain" introduced in 1945
- Not expressly stated
- Abbr. in many an urban address
- They may be caught at the beach ... or out at sea
- Communications giant ... or a possible title of this puzzle
- All talk, no action
- Soldiers' digs?
- Canceled, as a mission
- Tense
- They may be caught at the beach ... or out at sea
- Bridge charge
- "The joke's on you"
- Off-ramp sign
- Band with the 1977 hit "Telephone Line," in brief
- Pictures (bygone studio)
- Store known for its Blue Light Specials
- 53 Stopper
- 55 Bridge charge
- 56 "The joke's on you"
- 57 Off-ramp sign
- 61 Trek to Mecca
- 62 Band with the 1977 hit "Telephone Line," in brief
- 63 Year's opposite

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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OFFSIDE	NOTTHAT	
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SEC	EXPO	HOPE
HOLY	WARP	TED
NOON	ANTI	GENE
EPITAPH	OVERRAN	
CICADAS	METRICS	
KEEPSTO	SRA	ATE

PUZZLE BY MICHAEL SHTEYMAN

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14					15				16					
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67									68			69		

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SUDOKUFORYOU

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

REVIEW | COLLIDE ATX

COLLIDE ATX offers place to create, rotating menu

By Stephen Acevedo
@thedailytexan

After making a career of covering art, food and music for his online publication COLLIDE, Alan Miller decided he wanted to give other people the opportunity to pursue those passions for themselves.

COLLIDE ATX serves as a free working space for anyone, from musicians to robotics engineers, to come together and collaborate in a creative environment, while also hosting a rotating cast of art installations, performers and chefs.

“We wanted to bring our missions and passions to life in a city that could really help embrace it,” Miller said. “Our idea is to really create something that is for the community and by the community, and to bring things in that we think have a lot of value and purpose.”

Every 60 days, COLLIDE welcomes a new chef, menu and art installation. Miller decided to keep the first round of talent local with

displays from Austin-based artists Mollie Tuggle and Will Johnson and BOCA Spanish eatery chef, Patrick Armstrong.

“We gave the chefs run of the kitchen, which allows them to do something they’ve never done before by really building out menus and creating something special,” Miller said.

Although the talent is locally sourced right now, Miller plans on outsourcing skill from all over the U.S. in months to come.

“We’re trying to recognize when a chef or artist is amazing and make this their opportunity to bring their work to Austin,” Miller said.

But Miller also wants to stay closely involved with burgeoning artists in Austin’s backyard by giving them a free space to work on albums, record podcasts or even host conferences.

“Whatever it is that you’re working on, we want to be a part of that,” Miller said. “It’s very rewarding to witness the fun and creative

vibe of people coming together and working in an unpretentious way.”

COLLIDE ATX provides a calm and inviting interior for people to hang out and work in. With comfortable seating, beautiful art on the walls and even a stage, it’s an ideal environment for fostering creativity.

The food, on the other hand, seems like it’s still in the trial and error phase. The biggest problem is the confusion resulting from the different menus offered at each part of the day. There is a separate brunch, lunch and dinner menu from the BOCA chefs as well as a lunch menu featuring house specialties.

Aside from that, the food itself is very good, albeit small. The menu items curated by BOCA are pleasantly authentic to Spain and lean heavily on the use of paprika.

The alitas de pollo (chicken wings), in particular, are completely battered and fried in paprika. Served with aioli and salsa brava



Patrick Armstrong, right, co-founder and co-owner of BOCA Spanish eatery, presents some of his favorite dishes to make. He is the current chef on rotation at COLLIDE ATX.

Emmanuel Briseño
Daily Texan Staff

dipping sauces, these chicken wings easily set themselves apart from any other wings served in Austin.

The best dish to snack on and share with friends is the pimientos de padron, which are salted and blistered shishito peppers. The peppers are like the Spanish equivalent of edamame. It’s a simple dish that really doesn’t need any extra flair.

Surprisingly, the best item on BOCA’s dinner menu is the gazpacho

avocado shooter. The chilled soup made from tomato, cucumber and pureed avocado packs an immense amount of fresh flavor that makes the customer completely forget they are eating cold soup. The only thing that could make it better would be a full bowl option.

Though it’s still working out hiccups, COLLIDE ATX shows a lot of promise in becoming one of Austin’s most exciting hangout

COLLIDE

Location: 1802 E. 6th St.
Hours: Sunday 11 a.m. – 10 p.m.
Monday – Thursday 5 p.m. – 10 p.m.
Friday – Saturday 11 a.m. – 12 a.m.
Rating: ★★★★★

spots. This first round of food shows that the folks at COLLIDE ATX are more than capable of recognizing the right talent to bring in, and it will be exciting to see what the next menu will have to offer.

MOVIE REVIEW | ‘THE LEGO BATMAN MOVIE’

“The Lego Batman Movie:” DC releases its best movie since “The Dark Knight”

By Charles Liu
@CharliInDaHaus

Last year, critics savaged “Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice,” deriding its convoluted story and underwhelming characters, and audience response was mixed. The failure of “Dawn of Justice” hit Warner Bros. hard, which makes it all the more imperative that “The Lego Batman Movie” sticks the landing.

Fortunately, this unapologetic cash grab of a movie is DC Comics’ finest film since “The Dark Knight.” “The Lego Batman Movie” lampoons the Caped Crusader’s ego, emotional immaturity and lifestyle with razor sharp wit and tells a surprisingly heart-felt story that will delight children and adults alike.

As with most classic Batman narratives, “The Lego Batman Movie” finds Batman/Bruce Wayne (Will Arnett) haunted by the death of his parents. While we don’t see their murders, we see Batman push away others so he will never experience the pain of loss again. Not even the surprisingly-sensitive Joker (Zach Galifianakis), who desperately wants Batman to acknowledge him as his greatest enemy, can break down the vigilante’s emotional barriers. Only his loyal butler, Alfred Pennyworth (Ralph Fiennes), manages to get through to him.

Batman’s world falls apart when he accidentally adopts

an orphan, Dick Grayson (Michael Cera). Dick quickly discovers the Batcave beneath Wayne Manor and, assuming Batman and Bruce Wayne are roommates, becomes Robin.

Batman begrudgingly takes Robin along on a mission to banish the Joker to the Phantom Zone, where Sauron, Voldemort and all the other baddies of the Lego multiverse are imprisoned. Gotham City’s new police commissioner, Barbara Gordon (Rosario Dawson), believes the Joker wants to reach the Phantom Zone and recruit the supervillains, but Batman is too stubborn to listen and succeeds in his plan. Of course, chaos ensues.

Director Chris McKay preserves the feel of “The Lego Movie” with a zany crafted Lego Gotham City that will make viewers giddy. Batman constructs vehicles from multicolored bricks and battles monstrosities that move like the stop-motion animations on YouTube. Guns don’t make sounds – their users have to make literal “pew pew” noises. At one point, the citizens of Gotham form chains by snapping their heads to each other’s feet to help save their city. These moments demonstrate an awareness for how children think and play, and they lend “The Lego Batman Movie” a wondrous element of imagination.

Each of the characters receives ample development and smart, funny dialogue



Courtesy of Warner Bros

The Lego Batman (Will Arnett) doesn’t have a favorite villain – he likes to fight around.

that will consistently make moviegoers laugh. There is rarely a moment where “The Lego Batman Movie” is not telling a joke, no matter how subtle. Even its more serious moments are underscored by the absurdity that comes with watching brick people talk about their emotions.

Yet, in spite of its bizarre, toy-based landscape, “The Lego Batman Movie” manages to be both irreverent and respectful as a comic book adaptation. The film relentlessly mocks Batman’s persistent rage, characterizing him as a man-child who has still not outgrown his tantrums. When presented with the possibility of being held accountable for his destructive actions, he throws a hissy fit and turns to beat-boxing for solace. Nonetheless, this iteration of the Dark Knight displays a fundamental understanding of who he is: A broken child whose wounds have



THE LEGO BATMAN MOVIE

Rating: PG
Running Time: 104 minutes
Score: ★★★★★

not healed. The psychoanalysis may be on-the-nose, but it refreshingly illuminates the character’s flaws instead of portraying him as the pinnacle of superheroism. “The Lego Batman Movie” will make you believe why Batman, even with his cool gadgets and fighting skills, would have trouble convincing himself that it’s fun to be him. Luckily for us, we won’t need any convincing to have fun with this joyous comic movie romp.

FOOD

UT alumnus slices his way into sushi scene

By Ashley Salinas
@ashley_salinas3

UT alumnus Otto Phan majored in petroleum engineering, but he never felt that academia was exactly right for him. Now, Phan has rolled a home for himself in sushi and chirashi bowls with his restaurant, Kyōten Sushi.

When Kyōten Sushiko first opened in 2014, the Mueller-area restaurant was simply a food trailer parked on East 6th Street. In July 2016, Kyōten Sushiko moved to its current upscale location. In addition to a designated “lunch area,” there is dinner seating areain a separate room away from the main area at a wooden bar facing the chef.

Dinner is served omakase, where diners eat from a 21-piece chef-preselected menu. Lunch, on the other hand, is a bit more casual and can be bought at the front counter. Although there is a steep price difference between lunch and dinner, Phan’s precision and dedication to his work are reflected in the quality of every roll he makes. Although a career in the culinary industry wasn’t his first dream, Phan’s love for food stemmed from his natural love for eating.

“I started cooking halfway through my college career,” Phan said. “I studied cooking more than I studied what I should have been studying, but I still graduated. I was already making sushi by my last year of college.”

Phan credits Tatsu Aikawa, owner of local restaurant Ramen Tatsu-Ya, for cultivating his interest in sushi.

“(Aikawa) took me in before he was making the best ramen in the city,” Phan said. “He was the head sushi chef at another restaurant and he hired me. Once I started

making sushi, I never had another job since.”

After Phan realized his full potential as a chef, he decided to open his own place to beat out the competition.

“I realized I could be better than everyone else in Austin,” Phan said. “When (you) realize that (you) could be better than everyone else within a certain radius, that is when you do it.”

Phan credits his impressive skills to a strong work ethic and desire to learn from the best in the industry.

“You learn on the job,” Phan said. “If you are willing to work hard and get paid very little, you can go as far as you want in the culinary world. That is what makes the culinary world so wonderful and competitive. You work very hard for very little money and you can work in the best restaurants in the world.”

His restaurant has drawn several loyal customers in the UT community including UT biology sophomore Brianna Fogel.

“Kyōten Sushiko is the best,” Fogel said. “It is such a cute, intimate place with tons of delicious options.”

Phan believes his dedication to traditional Japanese cuisine differentiates his food from his competitors. Although Phan is now an expert in sushi craft, he constantly strives to polish his abilities in order to continue his success.

“You have to work very hard and try to get better each day,” Phan said. “You have to have that same mentality day in and day out. The more effort you put in, the better results you’ll have. There are some things that will work better if you just sit on your couch, but sushi is not one of those things.”



Juan Figueroa | Daily Texan Staff

UT alumnus Otto Phan first opened his upscale sushi restaurant, Kyōten Sushiko, as a food trailer in 2014. Phan pursued a career in culinary industry after graduating.

CAMPUS

BEY-DAY

By Daisy Wang
@daisyxwang

When the announcement was made that Ellen DeGeneres’ competition for Grammy tickets would involve impersonating Beyoncé, it felt like a stroke of fate to Melina Perez, apparel design and retail merchandising junior, and Maiya Evans, merchandising and consumer sciences senior.

“We had these hats that Maiya made for a previous shoot we did for ‘Formation,’ Perez said. “We

were like ‘This is perfect. It’s destiny.’”

For Evans, “Formation” is more than just a song – it’s an ode to the power of black culture and identity.

“It’s unapologetic blackness,” Evans said. “In a world where so many people are talking about cultural appropriation and not giving credit to where things started, especially things from black culture, formation is just everything. It’s like, ‘This is who we are, this is where we came from, and if you take it, give us credit.’”



Joshua Guerra | Daily Texan Staff

(From left to right) Maiya Evans and Melina Perez dress up as Beyoncé from her Formation video for a competition hosted by Ellen DeGeneres.