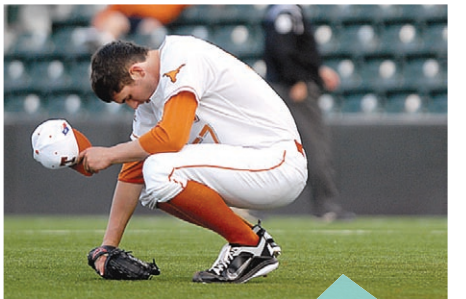


# THE DAILY TEXAN

Serving the University of Texas at Austin community since 1900



## HOME, SWEET, HOME

Look for tips on finding a place to live inside in Longhorn Life



## So.A.P.histicated

Take a closer look at local natural-soap makers South Austin People

LIFE ARTS PAGE 14

## TUESDAY SLUMP

Men's baseball loses to Texas A&M Corpus Christi

SPORTS PAGE 8

>> Breaking news, blogs and more: [dailytexanonline.com](http://dailytexanonline.com)



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Wednesday, February 23, 2011

## TODAY

### Calendar

#### Swimming & Diving

The UT men's and women's swimmers and divers are competing in the Big 12 Swimming & Diving Championships at the Lee and Joe Jamail Texas Swimming Center. The championships begin today at 4:30 p.m. and tickets range from \$2-\$5.

#### Mind blast

Members of the Blue Man Group are performing tonight at Dell Hall. The show begins at 8 p.m. and tickets range from \$17-\$79.

#### 'Transformer'

Marnie Stern is playing at the Mohawk tonight with supporting acts Zorch and Tera Melos. Doors open at 9 p.m. and tickets are \$10.

#### Open Screen Night

Alamo Drafthouse Ritz is hosting an event where anyone can have a video of their choice played on the big screen. Tickets are \$5 and the event begins at 9:20 p.m.

### Today in black history

#### In 1868

Civil rights activist W.E.B. Du Bois is born in Great Barrington, Mass.

### Campus watch

#### 'Another Day in Paradise'

University Administrative Building Two non-UT subjects were discovered sleeping inside one sleeping bag behind a retaining wall located on the east side of the building. During the investigation, the subjects informed the officers they were trying to get out of the cold weather. The subjects were issued a written Criminal Trespass Warning and were escorted from the area.



### Quote to note

"I think there are a ton of problems with the criminal system as it is."

— Sam McDowell  
UT law student

NEWS PAGE 6

## Proposed bills could harshen penalties, update statutes

By Allison Kroll  
Daily Texan Staff

Texans could have to watch out for 116 new criminal offenses, depending on the success of bills in the Texas State House of Representatives.

Each session, lawmakers propose dozens of pieces of legislation aimed at criminalizing new offenses in the state, as well as legislation that adjusts the punishments for existing crimes.

"Some new laws are always necessary to keep up with changes in technology, drug formulas, public opinion and many other variables," said criminology professor Mark Warr.

The proposed legislation may create multiple new felonies and misdemeanors. There are currently 2,383 felonies on the books, and 59 of those passed in 2009.

"Criminalizing too many forms of behavior inhibits effective law enforcement, and unenforced laws can create disrespect for the law and law enforcement," Warr said.

When the Legislature passes law, UT Police Department is subject to uphold those laws, said Assistant Chief of Police Terry McMahan. After UTPD makes an arrest, that person goes through the court system, which decides the type of punishment, McMahan said.

Some of the proposed laws this session include criminalizing the formerly caffeinated malt beverage Four Loko, harshening the punishment for graffiti offenders, repealing the law stating that homosexuality is an offense and creating strict punishments for pet thefts.

#### HB 882 — Criminalizing Four Lokos

Four Loko fans will need to invest in an alternative if a law passes deeming the controversial beverages illegal this session.

Rep. Carol Alvarado, D-Houston, proposed the bill.

A person may not manufacture, import, sell or possess for the purpose of sale a malt beverage that contains caffeine, according

BILLS continues on PAGE 2

## WRAPPED IN TRADITION

### Two brothers thrive in US, lament troubles back home in Mexico

Editor's note: The following interviews were conducted in and translated from Spanish.

By Jody Marie Serrano  
Daily Texan Staff

At first sight, Burrito Factory in Dobie Mall does not seem to be any different from any other traditional Tex-Mex fast-food joint. Juan Perez, however, points out one major difference.

"Here, everything is 100-percent Mexican, even the cooks," Juan said.

Juan and his brother, Burrito Factory owner Jose Luis Perez, are natives of Mexico — and until a few years ago, they were undocumented workers living in the United States.

Jose Luis grew up in the '70s in Ciudad Hidalgo, a city in Michoacán, Mexico. He woke up at the crack of dawn each day to help his mother make breakfast for the family. Then, before and after school, he would help his father at the family carniceria, or butcher shop.

Those were regular days for Jose Luis back home — days that have not been the same ever since. Mexico in the '70s was a distinctly different place than it is today, he said.



Mary Kang | Daily Texan Staff

Juan Perez, who immigrated from Mexico, works at Burrito Factory located in The Dobie Center. Perez came in hopes of making a future for himself and for his family.

BURRITO continues on PAGE 13

## Immigrants rally to Capitol for reform

Editor's Note: Portions of the interviews were translated from Spanish to English.

By Jody Marie Serrano  
Daily Texan Staff

Chemistry freshman Adrian Reyna and his family filed for citizenship before they came to the United States from Monterrey,

Mexico, more than 10 years ago. Reyna, now 20 years old, still has not been approved.

He and other members of UT's University Leadership Initiative — an organization of undocumented students and allies — staged a walk-out today and made their way to the state Capitol. The organization joined nearly 3,000 people from all over Texas to rally for inclusive immigration

and community security reform at the Capitol on Tuesday.

"We believe that the voting capacity of Texas has grown," Reyna said. "The Hispanic population has grown, and we can eventually get [legislators who do not pass comprehensive immigration reform] out of session."

IMMIGRATION continues on PAGE 2

## Senate officer, veteran named UT System's director of police

By Mary Ellen Knewton  
Daily Texan Staff

A United States Senate sergeant at arms and Vietnam War veteran will be the UT System's new director of police, a spokesman for the System announced Tuesday.

UT System spokesman Matt Flores said Michael Heidingsfield, who is the current senior assistant to the chief law enforcement officer in the Senate, was the best choice after a national search for the new director. Heidingsfield will take up the position on April 4. Sergeant at arms Terrence Gainer announced his new position Tuesday.

"Mike will oversee 15 police chiefs, 500 sworn officers and 800 civilian staff in his new role," Gainer said in a statement. "The issues he will contend with range from border violence to active shooters to threats

of bioterrorism."

The human resources job posting said the director of police provides legal and policy advice and oversees the systemwide law enforcement. He is also in charge of training officers.

During his time working for the U.S. Senate, Heidingsfield advised security for events such as

the Democratic and Republican national conventions and the presidential inauguration. Prior to that, he worked as the as chief of police in Scottsdale, Ariz., and UT-Arlington.

Heidingsfield was an active member of the Air Force at the end of the Vietnam War and retired as a full colonel. The Air Force requested his services during the Iraq War to train a

135,000-member Iraqi Police Service.

"Mike is extraordinarily qualified for this position," said a release from



Michael Heidingsfield  
Incoming UT system police director

POLICE continues on PAGE 2

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## CORRECTION

Because of an editing error, a Page One skybox teaser in Monday's Daily Texan about belly dancing classes misstated the status of informal classes at the University. The Department of Continuing Education at UT has restarted the informal classes program at the Thompson Conference Center.

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## TOMORROW'S WEATHER

High  
80



Low  
65

42 Across: shower in Marseilles



Protesters march toward the Capitol to rally against proposed immigrant-related bills Tuesday afternoon.

I-Hwa Cheng  
Daily Texan Staff

## IMMIGRATION continues from PAGE 1

Reform Immigration for Texas Alliance organized the "Texas Can Do Better" demonstration in response to more than 60 bills regarding immigration policy in spite of the estimated \$15 billion to \$27 billion budget shortfall. Proposed legislation includes withholding birth certificates from children born to undocumented parents, requiring public schools to verify students' citizenship status and mandating law enforcement officials to verify the citizenship status of all arrested persons.

Adriana Cadena, the alliance's coordinator, said the legislation that resembles the Arizona immigration-reform law could lead to racial profiling and break the trust

between law enforcement and immigrant communities.

Sen. Jose Rodriguez, D-El Paso, said the bill could discourage immigrants from reporting crimes. America's immigration system is broken and does not recognize the contributions immigrants make to Texas and to the nation, he said.

"You got a legal immigration system that takes up to 20 years for people to adjust their status and bring family members in the legal route," Rodriguez said. "The budget deficit shouldn't be balanced on the backs of working people, of immigrants that are here wanting to benefit their own and their families' lives."

He said the federal government,

not the state governments, should be responsible for creating comprehensive immigration reform.

Ramona Casas — a member of A Resource in Serving Equality, which helps immigrants become members of society with community programs and classes — came with over 400 families from the Rio Grande Valley to voice the harm current immigration policies have on border cities and families.

"This affects us because we do a lot of interaction with Mexico and these reforms would affect our economy," Casas said. "We want them to understand what we believe in as immigrant families, as Tejanos."

Casas said the organization delivered more than 20,000 signed

letters from border families to the Texas Legislature last year.

Rep. Charlie Geren, R-River Oaks, said the bill he authored would not prevent law officials from carrying out their duties and was not influenced by the Arizona immigration law.

"All 254 counties in Texas are checking the immigration status of every person incarcerated, but it's voluntary by county," Geren said. "If I can get rid of someone that's breaking the law, I'm going to get rid of someone that's breaking the law."

Reyna said he agreed Texas should not house criminals.

"But I am not a criminal, and I am willing to give back in every way," he said.

## BILLS continues from PAGE 1

to the bill. The bill did not specify what charges a person could incur.

McMahan said UTPD would deal with the criminalization of Four Loko much the same way as they deal with alcohol on campus.

"I'm sure if they were to pass a law that criminalized them, then I'm guessing those companies would be shut down because it would be hard to produce them and sell them," McMahan said.

The passage of the bill will result in an official ban of caffeinated alcoholic drinks in this state, as well as the potential to face criminal charges. The beverage as sold currently contains no caffeine.

## HB 38 — Graffiti

Graffiti artists on campus could face felony charges or have their driver's license suspended if they continue to decorate the campus with their artwork.

The bill proposed by Rep. Jose Menendez, D-San Antonio, could make the act a felony if a person marks a school, an institution of higher education, a place of worship or human burial, a public monument, a government building or a community center that provides medical, social or educational programs, according to the bill.

"Our constituents are sick and tired of having graffiti," Menendez said. "We've tried to attack this is-

sue from every single angle, and we think that we may have one approach that will possibly impact those young people where it hurts them the most — the driver's license."

If the legislation passes, individuals who are caught doing graffiti could have their license suspended for up to two years.

At UT, graffiti is a near daily occurrence. There were about eight incidences within the past seven days, according to Campus Watch, a report compiled by University police.

## HB 604 — Homosexuality Repeal

A state representative is asking

other lawmakers to comply with the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that criminal penalties under state sodomy laws are unconstitutional.

The bill proposed by Rep. Jessica Farrar, D-Houston, could also revise statewide sex education curriculum to remove mandatory references to gay and lesbian relationships as "not an acceptable lifestyle."

Almost a decade ago, the Supreme Court in the case *Lawrence v. Texas* declared it was unconstitutional for homosexuality to be subject to criminal charges. Texas has yet to update its laws to reflect the decision, and "homosexual conduct" is still considered a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$500.

"Whether one agrees or disagrees with the substance of Justice [Anthony] Kennedy's opinion, it diminishes the sanctity of Texas laws when legislators fail to

clean up our statutes to reflect the court's rulings on the U.S. Constitution," according to a statement released by Farrar in January.

## HB 1102 — Theft of Pets

Rep. Eddie Lucio III, D-San Benito, proposed a bill that could create a range of punishments for the theft of a pet, depending on the purchase price.

According to the bill, a pet is defined as, "a domesticated animal owned by a person other than the actor." The term includes a dog, cat, rodent, fish, reptile or bird, but not a livestock animal or wildlife resource.

Penalties range from a Class C misdemeanor if the pet cost its owner less than \$50, to a third-degree felony if the pet cost more than \$1,500 but less than \$20,000. If the stolen property is \$200,000 or more, it is a first-degree felony.

## THE DAILY TEXAN

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2/23/11

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## NEWS BRIEFLY

### Oil prices climb, stocks plunge as democratic protests spread

NEW YORK — Stocks had their worst drop this year and oil prices surged Tuesday after Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi clung to power in the face of mounting protests.

The capital of the oil-rich country has plunged into chaos. That's causing concerns that the unrest that has already toppled dictators in two of Libya's neighbors, Tunisia and Egypt, could spread to other countries in the region like Iran and disrupt the flow of oil.

Oil prices jumped 6 percent to \$95 a barrel. Libya is the world's 15th largest exporter of crude, accounting for 2 percent of global daily output. It also has the largest oil reserves in Africa.

The Dow Jones industrial average

sank 178.46 points, or 1.4 percent, to close at 12,212.79. It was the biggest drop since Nov. 16. Bond prices rose as investors sought safety.

A violent crackdown in Tripoli has resulted in wild shooting and bodies in the streets. Protesters backed by defecting army units claimed control over the eastern half of Libya's Mediterranean coast.

The main worry among traders is that unrest will spread to other oil-rich countries in the Middle East and North Africa. Protests are continuing in Yemen and Bahrain.

Jim Ritterbusch, an energy analyst, said a "fear premium" has added about \$10 a barrel to oil prices in recent days. Prices could tumble once the region settles down, he said.

—The Associated Press

## Gadhafi calls for violent retaliation

By Maggie Michael  
& Sarah El Deeb  
The Associated Press

CAIRO — A defiant Moammar Gadhafi vowed to fight to his "last drop of blood" and roared at supporters to strike back against Libyan protesters to defend his embattled regime Tuesday, signaling an escalation of the a crackdown that has thrown the capital into scenes of mayhem, wild shooting and bodies in the streets.

The speech by the Libyan leader — who shouted and pounded his fists on the podium — was an all-out call for his backers to impose control over the capital and take back other cities. After a week of upheaval, protesters backed by defecting army units have claimed control over almost the entire eastern half of Libya's 1,000-mile Mediterranean coast, including several oil-producing areas.

"You men and women who love Gadhafi ... get out of your homes and fill the streets," he said. "Leave your homes and attack them in their lairs."

Celebratory gunfire by Gadhafi supporters rang out in the capital of Tripoli after the leader's speech, while in protester-held Benghazi, Libya's second-largest city, people threw shoes at a screen showing his address, venting their contempt.

State TV showed a crowd of Gadhafi supporters in Tripoli's Green Square, raising his portrait and waving flags as they swayed to music after the address. Residents contacted by The Associated Press said no anti-government protesters ventured out of their homes after dark, and gun-toting guards manned checkpoints with occasional bursts of gunfire heard throughout the city.

International alarm rose over the crisis, which sent oil prices soaring to the highest level in more than two years on Tuesday and sparked



Hussein Malla | Associated Press

Egyptians who fled from Libya wait with their belongings at the Egyptian-Libyan border on Tuesday. An estimated 5,000 Egyptians have returned from Libya by land, and about 10,000 more are waiting to cross the border.

a scramble by European and other countries to get their citizens out of the North African nation. The U.N. Security Council held an emergen-

cy meeting that ended with a statement condemning the crackdown, expressing "grave concern" and calling for an "immediate end to the vio-

lence" and steps to address the legitimate demands of the Libyan people. Germany Chancellor Angela Merkel called Gadhafi's speech "very,

Gadhafi's ouster, has urged the world body to enforce a no-fly zone over the country to protect protesters.

"This violence is completely unacceptable," added Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Gadhafi's retaliation has already been the harshest in the Arab world to the wave of anti-government protests sweeping the Middle East. Nearly 300 people have been killed, according to a partial count by the New York-based Human Rights Watch.

In two nights of bloodshed, Tripoli residents described a rampage by pro-Gadhafi militiamen — a mix of Libyans and foreign mercenaries — who shot on sight anyone found in the streets and opened fire from speeding vehicles at people watching from windows of their homes.

**"This violence is completely unacceptable."**

— Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State

very appalling," saying it "amounted to him declaring war on his own people." Libya's own deputy ambassador at the U.N., who now calls for

very appalling," saying it "amounted to him declaring war on his own people." Libya's own deputy ambassador at the U.N., who now calls for

## BUDGET PROTESTS

More than 250 people marched to protest California Gov. Jerry Brown's proposed budget cuts to social services during a rally at the Capitol in Sacramento, Calif., on Tuesday.



Rich Pedroncelli  
Associated Press

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## VIEWPOINT:

## Save money, not Muny

On Friday the Board of Regents voted unanimously to allow the lease on the Lions Municipal golf course (also known as “Muny”) in West Austin to expire in 2019. The course is located on the Brackenridge Tract, a 345-acre parcel of land along the north bank of Town Lake that was given to the University in 1910 by famed former regent John Brackenridge.

The golf course was established in 1924 and is considered by some to be an Austin icon. The “Save Muny” campaign was begun in 1972, when the University announced plans to reclaim the land for student housing. That opposition has persisted for several decades and was resurrected in 2007, after the University hired an urban planning firm to draft proposals for repurposing the land.

If, come 2019, the Regents do decide to redevelop the Brackenridge Tract, Muny could become just another relic of an Austin long since passed, much like the Armadillo World Headquarters or pre-hipster South Congress.

That is exactly what should happen. This University’s mission is to educate and enrich the lives of Texas students, not to provide nine holes for Tarrytown residents on a Saturday afternoon.

The two plans submitted for the tract, titled “Brackenridge Park” and “Brackenridge Village,” would introduce multi-unit residential buildings with retail at street level. While the “Village” plan uses the full 345 acres for redevelopment, the “Park” plan uses only 289 acres while preserving most of the existing Brackenridge Field Laboratory, an urban field research station used by the College of Natural Sciences.

As it currently stands, the University receives \$414,720 a year from the city in exchange for leasing the course. That sum is paltry compared to the true value of the land. Should the University repurpose the land, it has been estimated it would bring in at least \$5.5 million per year.

When the golf course was first constructed in 1924, it was a substantial distance from downtown. As Austin has continued to grow, especially over the past 10 years, the Brackenridge Tract has become prime real estate. To let a valuable property continue to be leased for a fraction of its worth would be bad business and poor stewardship of this University.

It may seem strange that the University would enter into for-profit housing, but we currently receive revenue from a variety of other non-traditional sources. For instance, the University currently owns the largest winery in the state and produces Ste. Genevieve wines. It doesn’t matter if revenue comes from selling television ad time, wine or condos. What’s important is that the University searches for more diversified sources of income as contributions from the state continue to dwindle.

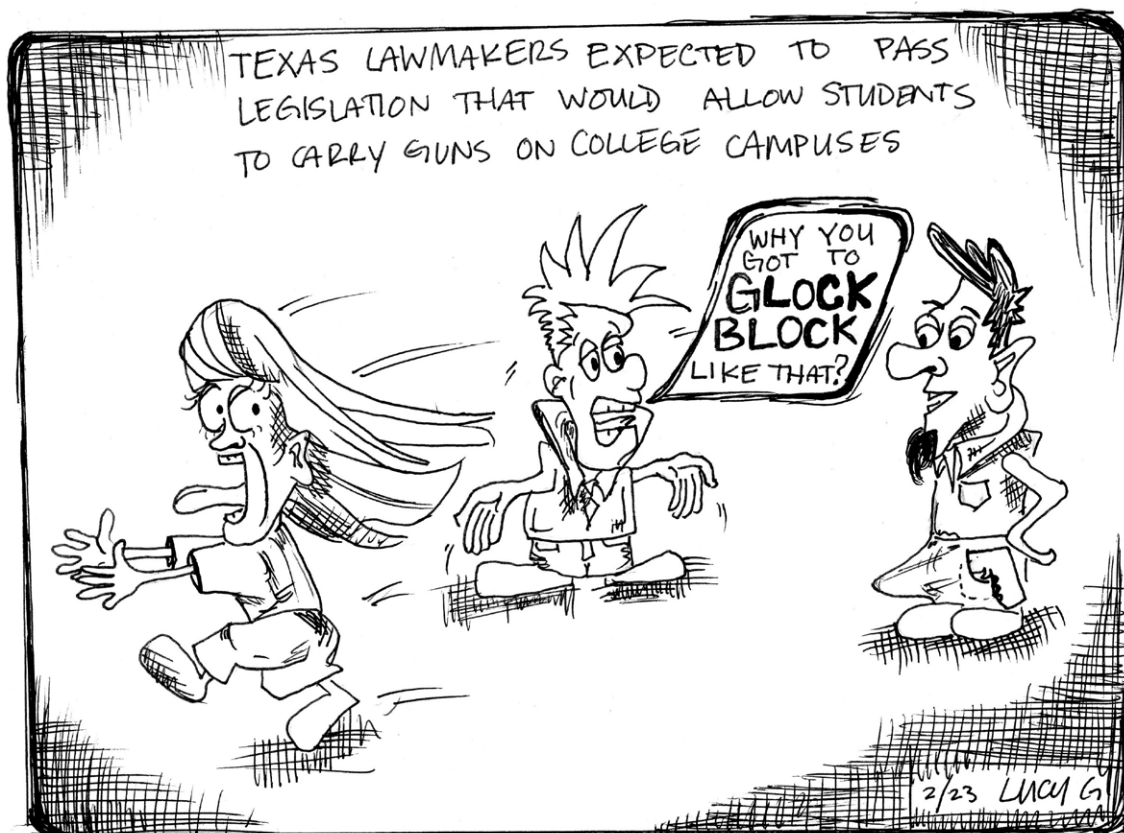
At least some of the Brackenridge Tract should be reserved for direct student use. The Brackenridge Field Lab directly enhances the academic quality of this institution. Likewise, there are currently three apartment complexes on the Tract run by the University for housing graduate students. Whatever long-term plan for the Brackenridge Tract is adopted should allow for students and other members of the campus community to use the land as well. The lakefront property would be ideal for expanding Rec Sports facilities in addition to academic programs.

However, a golf course should not be part of that long-term vision. There are already 19 other golf courses in the area, both public and private. Golf presents little to no benefit to the student body and, when contrasted with the funding reductions currently being experienced in academic departments, the idea that the University should support a golf course at the expense of more profitable ventures is laughable.

The University has a duty to its students, faculty and staff, not to mention taxpayers, to provide Texans with a quality education — not to subsidize someone’s weekend hobby.

— Dave Player for the editorial board

## GALLERY



## I owe my life to the UT Counseling and Mental Health Center

By Anonymous  
Daily Texan Guest Columnist

After the naive euphoria of the first semester of my freshman year, the majority of my nights at UT were spent huddled in a ball on the top bunk of my dorm room, attempting to keep the sobs that wracked me from launching me off the bed. My flawless high school transcript is paired with a college one of various degrees of excellence and obvious dips where my serious depression kept me confined to my bed in the Blanton dorm for what seemed like days on end. I have been a familiar face at the UT Counseling and Mental Health Center since 2008, and with the current talk of cutting Texas mental health funding, I am compelled to share my story in a way I had never intended.

In the summer of 2010, the UT Counseling and Mental Health Center saved my life. After undergoing more than a year of counseling at the center, I was still functioning below-average internally and had the same will to live as a bug with only three out of six legs. This would be news to anyone who knew me at that time since I was outwardly a personable, hard-working Plan II student, balancing another major and minor on

the side, as well as two jobs and a steady boyfriend. My Sperry Top-Siders and Nike running shorts blended in with all of the other girls’, and there were no rain clouds hovering above my head, warning passers-by of the deep sadness and interminable isolation that accompanied my every thought and action. After three semesters of living with Major Depressive Disorder, diagnosed by the doctors at UT CMHC in the spring of 2010, I attempted suicide in the summer of the same year. The semester had ended, along with my longest romantic relationship to date. I was no longer under obligation to show up to class and talk to people as if I were a functioning human being. I had long since stopped eating and stopped answering the phone. I locked myself in my dorm room and took handful after handful of pills. Clearly, I failed high school chemistry — my attempt was unsuccessful.

The next day, I dragged myself down the block to UT CMHC and broke down during a routine meeting with a group coordinator. The coordinator, still a student herself, listened in poorly disguised horror as I recounted the events of the previous night and told her of my determination to no longer live the life I had

built for myself. She found me close to the edge, utterly incapable of taking my own hand and leading myself back to safety. A couple hours later, one of the psychiatrists at UT CMHC convinced me to have myself committed to one of the psychiatric hospitals close to campus. She swore to me that it was a routine procedure, something adamantly denied by Laura at the admissions desk at the psych ward, as I tried to convince her to let me go home. I stayed there for a day, surrounded by people hearing voices, walled in by steel doors that wouldn’t have opened for Moses. Being hospitalized is not something I would wish on anyone; not even the girl who wore a dress identical to mine to the biggest formal of the year.

I am now a fully functioning junior at UT. I meet friends for coffee dates. I attend all of my classes and my antidepressants prevent me from crying, even over midnight viewings of “Titanic.” I am fine now, but I have enough perspective to know that for my first two years of college, I was nothing close to fine. Committing myself was the scariest, bravest and most effective thing I have ever done, but without the support of UT CHMC, I would not have survived the summer. I owe them my life.

## Re-evaluate spending priorities

By Lili Honorato  
Daily Texan Columnist

If a country wants to succeed economically, it should offer top-quality education. Through strong education programs, a country can produce successful individuals who can competently compete in the global economy. Nevertheless, despite their emphasis on the importance of education, politicians are drastically cutting funding from the education sector.

The financial crisis has been at a significant low point for more than two years now. While it is true that spending has to be curtailed to address budget shortfalls, there are plenty of areas other than education where the government should be cutting spending. One of them is in defense and military spending, one of the areas on which the U.S. government spends the most. The current budget request for fiscal year 2012 is \$671 billion, as announced earlier this month by the U.S. Department of Defense. In comparison, the 2012 budget request for the Department of Education is \$48.8 billion.

Instead, politicians are asking schools to make drastic sacrifices: closing entire schools, cutting programs and laying off thousands of teachers, librarians and administrators. Eventually, this will lead to fewer learning opportunities for students, more

crowded classrooms and probably the idea that education is really not as important as these students might have thought.

The government ought to be reconsidering how and where taxpayers’ money is spent. It is time to stop spending outrageous amounts of money on wars in other countries and start spending that money where it is needed the most: locally.

Another solution for Texas would be to use part of the \$9 billion the state has in its Rainy Day Fund. After all, this is a savings fund that has been set aside in case of major revenue shortfalls, and the days are rainy enough.

Gov. Rick Perry is in denial about the crucial state of Texas’ financial crisis, so a tap into the fund is unlikely to happen any time soon. In his recent State of the State address, Perry emphasized that emptying the Rainy Day Fund is not an option and would be a bad idea. He then said that, “the mainstream media and big government interest groups are doing their best to convince us that we’re facing a budget Armageddon. Texans don’t believe it and they shouldn’t because it’s not true.” Perry is oblivious to the severe economic reality that Texas is facing.

Meanwhile, if the education that students receive decreases in value, then what kinds of high school graduates will be pro-

duced? Students may become less motivated and uninterested in higher education, and those who are interested may need remedial courses as they enter college.

During last month’s legislative session, lawmakers proposed to zero out Texas schools’ Advanced Placement incentive program in an attempt to balance the budget shortfall. The AP program allows students to not only challenge themselves but to also earn college credit while in high school, which translates to saving a great deal on tuition costs. Cutting spending on this program is simply a terrible idea and sends the wrong message to students.

This proposal also closely relates to the fact that financial aid and grants are being cut as well, meaning that fewer students would likely apply for college, as they may not be able to afford it.

Ultimately, with these cuts, our country will fall behind in education standards and fewer students will have access to higher education.

It is time for the government to re-evaluate how money is spent, where cuts should be made and what the implications of their actions will mean for the future of our state.

Honorato is a Journalism Junior.

## Questions for SG executive alliance candidates

By Chelsea Adler  
Daily Texan Guest Columnist

As the official voice of students in academic affairs, one of the three Legislative Student Organizations and committed students at this University, the Senate of College Councils is taking an active role in promoting dialogue surrounding important student-life issues.

Below is a list of questions for each executive alliance currently running for Student Government president and vice president. These questions raise issues that we feel have not been adequately addressed by the candidates running for office.

1. Housing in West Campus costs approximately the same as tuition at UT Austin. In these tough economic times, what will you do to work toward affordable housing for all students?

2. An on-campus garage parking permit costs more than 10 percent of a year’s tuition. What will you do to ensure that campus is both convenient and accessible to students who do not live within walking distance of campus, such as residents of Riverside or Far West Campus?

3. This past year, the Senate of College Councils advocated for student involvement in academic budget cuts, which led to the creation of College Tuition and Budget Advisory Committees. What will you do to ensure student involvement in student affairs cuts?

We look forward to reading the responses from each executive alliance and hope they spark a positive and effective dialogue regarding these important issues. As the University faces new challenges in the coming year, we know that the leaders of Student Government, the Senate of College Councils and the Graduate Student Assembly will serve our students and our University well.

Adler is the Senate of College Councils president.

Editor’s note: Any executive alliance responses will be posted online.

## SUBMIT A FIRING LINE

E-mail your Firing Lines to [firingline@dailytexanonline.com](mailto:firingline@dailytexanonline.com). Letters must be more than 100 and fewer than 300 words. The Texan reserves the right to edit all submissions for brevity, clarity and liability.

## LEGALESE

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The  
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**FILM**  
**PROJECT**



Exonerated prisoner Christopher Scott discusses the complications of the justice system with former law school student Mike Denton after a talk Tuesday afternoon. Scott spoke about his struggle in prison after he was wrongfully convicted of capital murder.



Shannon Kintner  
Daily Texan Staff

## Trio discusses faults in justice system

By Shamoyita DasGupta  
Daily Texan Staff

The Texas criminal justice system's flaws lead to wrongful imprisonment and unfair prosecution, said a former attorney and two men exonerated from a capital murder conviction in a talk Tuesday.

The Actual Innocence Clinic at the UT School of Law worked with the William Wayne Justice Center for Public Interest Law to bring Dorothy Budd and exonerated prisoner Christopher Scott to speak about Budd's book, "Tested: How Twelve Wrongly Imprisoned Men Held Onto Hope." Dallas District Attorney Craig Watkins investigated crimes in which prisoners claimed wrongful conviction, and his research spurred

Budd, a former Dallas prosecutor, to write the book with her daughter, Peyton Budd.

"I wasn't expecting these cases with these incredible legal twists and turns," Budd said. "Even assuming that everybody is acting in good faith and trying to do the best they can, it's amazing that these cases went all the way through the legal system."

The talk focused on the capital murder charge that Scott and co-defendant Claude Simmons Jr. fought to overturn for 12 years.

In April 1997, Scott and Simmons were driving back to Simmons' house when they were followed by a police officer who responded to a call of a nearby murder.

Because they fit the police profile,

the officer took Simmons and Scott into custody for a lineup, Scott said. He said when the widow of the murder victim came to the police station, the officer pointed to Scott and told her that he had murdered her husband, causing her to positively identify him as the perpetrator.

"At the time, I didn't even know what was going on," Scott said. "They wouldn't even tell me what I was there for."

Police arrested Scott and set a \$750,000 bail that night. Police arrested Simmons weeks later. Both were denied lie detector tests, and although all other incriminating tests came back negative, both were imprisoned for 12 years, Scott said.

"To me, they just wanted to close the case," Scott said.

During his sentence, the clinic and University of Texas at Arlington students approached Scott and Simmons about their cases.

After conducting thorough research, the group was able to conduct lie detector tests for both defendants. The exoneration process began once Scott and Simmons passed the tests. The men were released in October 2009. In 2009, the state exonerated 24 wrongfully convicted men.

The talk touched repeatedly on the inadequate justice system, which UT law student Sam McDowell said sometimes allows innocent men to serve lengthy prison terms.

"I think there are a ton of problems with the criminal system as it is," McDowell said. "Texas has a terrible public defender system."

## ACC administration fights funding cuts, capping enrollment

By Mary Ellen Knewtson  
Daily Texan Staff

Although a record high of more than 45,000 students enrolled at Austin Community College this spring, the college could have to place a cap on the number of students it accepts or raise tuition if the state Legislature cuts its funding.

Enrollment increased by about 10 percent to 45,056 students from spring 2010 to the current semester, according to an ACC press release.

The college's president and CEO Stephen Kinslow said in a press release that the school's growth is an opportunity to discuss problems that could be caused by a drastic budget reduction. According to the House budget bill, the Legislature could cut up to \$767 million from community colleges.

"While demand continues to increase, we remain focused on student success and providing the critical programs needed to support economic growth throughout the region," Kinslow said in the press release. "ACC and other community colleges are key to closing the educational gaps in Texas, which helps drive economic recovery. Reducing community college resources would be counterproductive to the state's goals."

Students 25 and older make up more than 44 percent of the college's credit enrollment, according

to ACC's website. Kinslow said in the press release the two-year school is an important resource for displaced workers, updating their training in their careers.

"In recent years, we've seen significant increases in the number of students who come to us already holding a bachelor's degree, master's degree or higher," he said.

Raine Couillard, a French junior who transferred to UT from ACC Rio Grande in the fall, said despite ACC's high enrollment figures, she enjoyed the intimate learning environment.

"I think [the cuts are] terrible," she said. "UT can be very intimidating, and ACC was a nice, easy way for me to realize that I wanted to keep learning."

Couillard said she began her two years at ACC not wanting to pursue further education, but during her second year she decided to apply to UT.

ACC student Jordy Wagoner spent two years as a journalism major at UT before transferring to ACC in the fall. She said she is taking advantage of the more approachable community college environment.

"UT cost me \$4,000 a semester," Wagoner said. "ACC is only \$800 to \$1,000 if you live in Austin. It's pretty cheap."

Transfers to UT from ACC decreased from 313 in 2009 to 298 in 2010, according to the Office of Information Management and Analysis.

## Candidates for University Co-op Board of Directors



Elizabeth Stone  
PLACE # 1

### QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS

Business Honors & Finance major, Accounting minor, analytical skills, leadership abilities, teamwork skills, communication skills, ability to learn quickly, Microsoft excel and office proficiency, Delta Delta Delta-Academic Development Chair, Freshman Recruitment Team, Gamma Beta Phi Society-Secretary, Advancement Services Team in Development & External Relations office at McCombs School of Business-Student Assistant, Business Honors Program Ethics Board

### PERSONAL STATEMENT

I am willing to work hard, eager to learn, and dedicated to representing the student body as a member of the University Co-op Board of Directors. Through my experience and coursework, I have developed skills that have prepared me for success as a member of this board. I am passionate about leadership and determined to make an impact in my community. This campus has already given so much to me, and being a part of this board will give me an opportunity to serve the University of Texas campus in a capacity that will allow me to effect change.

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Build relationships between the University Co-op and the student body.
2. Determine ways in which the University Co-op can better assist the students of the university.
3. Reduce lines to pick up and sell back books during high traffic time periods.
4. Facilitate increased opportunities for student input about Co-op inventory.
5. Create possibilities for more Co-op support of student organizations.



Owais Durrani  
PLACE # 3

### QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS

College of Liberal Arts-Government, College of Natural Sciences-Biology./Pre-Med, Sophomore, Oratory skills from various legislative internships, Financial Management, Multilingual, UT Student Health Advisory Committee, Golfsmith International-Product Advisor, Price Waterhouse Coopers Business Forum-participant

### PERSONAL STATEMENT

My name is Owais and I am a sophomore running to serve you on the Co-op Board of Directors. As every one of us can attest to, our relationship with the Co-op can best be described as a love/hate relationship. We love that all of our course materials can be obtained from right across the street, but we hate spending \$150 on a non-refundable course pack or selling back barely used books for a fraction of the purchase price. It would be an honor to serve as the voice of the students on the Co-op Board and close the gap between students and the Co-op.

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Make textbooks more affordable! I'll work to make prices more reasonable, especially on in-house printed items, improve textbook return policies (specifically teacher requested course packs), and increase the availability of used books.
2. Work to distribute student organization funds to a more diverse group of both established and newer groups. I am a proponent of giving funding to groups that give back to the student community.
3. Upgrading the textbook site to make it more user friendly. Let's upgrade our site to something more like eBay or Amazon.
4. Increase resources during the first weeks of the semester to help reduce long lines and textbook shortages.
5. Working to incorporate ideas from the student body and introducing them to the Board of Directors.



Michelle Niakan  
PLACE # 4

### QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS

McCombs School of Business-Accounting/Pre-Med, fluent in Farsi, skilled with Microsoft office in both PC and Mac, educated in basic accounting procedures, University of Texas Call Center, Texas Alpha Phi Sigma Pre-Medical Honors Society-Advertising Director, Business Leadership Program

### PERSONAL STATEMENT

My name is Michelle Naikan and I am a sophomore in the McComb's School of Business pursuing an Accounting degree with a concentration in Pre-Medicine. As a fellow student, I really understand how influential the University Co-op is in every student's life. Whether we need textbooks, school supplies, or a Longhorn-inspired outfit for UT sporting events, the UT Co-op has it all. Still, living on a college budget, even these things are difficult to afford. If I were elected to the University Co-op Board of Directors, I would contribute my best effort to figure out ways to make these costs less to students and offer multiple perspectives and opinions from students in every college/school of the university.

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To represent all the students of the University of Texas as effectively as possible so that each student's perspective is seen and heard.
2. To offer creative ideas and concepts so the University Co-op can continue to run efficiently and serve our UT students well.
3. To bring a student's experience's and voice into a multi-million dollar business that plays a significant role at our university.
4. To help discover better ways to provide the UT Co-op's products and services to students at a lower cost.
5. To provide a student perspective to a business in a nation-wide economy, in hopes that what starts here changes the world.



Alex Jones  
PLACE # 5

### QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS

Graduated Cum Laude Distinguished from Clear Lake High School in Houston, TX, Political Communications Major, mediate and remain objective, relentless passion, creativity, Bill White and Annise Parker Houston's Mayor's Youth Council-advised, Junior and Senior class Treasurer, University of Texas Judicial Board, Model United Nations, Senate of College Councils Fundraising Committee-At-Large Member

### PERSONAL STATEMENT

Through my experience in advising Houston's Mayor Bill White and Annise Parker, Model United Nations, Judicial Board and Senate of College Councils I have learned how to mediate, surmount red tape and the value of creativity. If elected as a member of the Co-op's Board of Directors, I plan to urge the Co-op to increase business by listing Longhorn Gear, and textbooks with outside online retailers (i.e. Amazon), urge the Co-op to work with professors to condense textbooks to make more affordable editions, and simplify the rebates for students. These actions will increase revenues/donations, reduce financial burdens and ensure loyalty.

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. List inventory on Amazon, eBay, and other online retailers to increase purchases and expand markets.
2. Simplify the rebate system by allowing students to scan their UT ID when picking up textbooks or making purchases, and create a running tally to be used in rebates in the upcoming semester.
3. Work with professors and publishers to create condensed editions of books to reduce textbook costs and ensure future business. Also, work with DHFS and other departments to create a session during orientation and reroute campus tours to stop at the Co-op Main store.
4. Expand Longhorn Gear to include the increasingly popular "T-shirt dresses," orange/white leis and football fanatic wigs.
5. Create mobile sales trailer/unit, to stock the best-selling UT gear for away games, football season and Alumni events.

## REMEMBER TO VOTE

[www.utexasvote.com](http://www.utexasvote.com)

Two students will be elected to the University Co-op Board of Directors during the upcoming campus wide elections.

**Wednesday, March 2, 2011**  
**Thursday, March 3, 2011**



The Co-op fulfills its 115-year old mission as a non-profit corporation by returning all profits to its owners - the students, faculty and staff of the University. Since 2000, The Co-op has given over 32 million dollars to UT in the form of gifts, grants and rebates.



# A GREAT DAY FOR GARRISON CAPS



Kevin Stout and James Forkner, aerospace engineering seniors, talk in front of the LBJ Library on Tuesday afternoon.

Fanny Trang | Daily Texan Staff

## Graduate students win contest for advertising concept

By Shamoyita DasGupta  
Daily Texan Staff

A group of graduate students won the Texas Venture Labs Investment competition with a company designed to bring new media to an old platform: the telephone.

Technology commercialization graduate students David Saldana, Justin Dickstein, Arely Fontecha and Martin McCrea started Vocal Media, a venture that would allow companies to play advertisements during the dead time in international phone calls. They'll go on to represent UT at the Global Venture Labs Investment Competition in May.

"It's pretty much the creation of a new media space," Saldana said.

"We figured that everyone is talking about newer technologies, but what about plain old telephone calls?"

For nine months, Saldana and his team conducted market research and concluded that using that dead air would be valuable. Rather than waiting to connect, callers will instead be able to listen to advertisements.

"The callers will be pleasantly entertained with this type of information in their own language for 15 seconds," Saldana said. "[This will be] something that is not annoying, something that people look forward to as opposed to the next technological nuisance."

Winning the Texas round of this competition means that Saldana and

his team will have a one-year internship with the Austin Technology Incubator, a high-profile organization that aids entrepreneurs.

The competition began in 1984, making it the oldest business plan competition in the world. Only UT students are eligible to participate.

The idea of the company was to simulate raising venture capital, said Ann Whitt, communications and marketing manager for the Herb Kelleher Center for Entrepreneurship.

"What the competition does is give the students the opportunity to get some feedback on their plan so that they can refine it, so that when they do present it to investors, they're more likely to get funding," she said.

In addition to Vocal Media, the other companies that made it to the Feb. 16 finals were ClearBrook Imaging, which would create diagnostic imaging technology, Garage Fairy, which would help customers sell their unwanted items online, and Urban Dish, a business that would make ordering sustainable food efficient and convenient.

Although winning the competition did not award funding to Saldana and his team, Saldana still appreciates the opportunities that will come from it.

"You get a double whammy," he said. "You get your degree and you get your skills and you get your project off the ground, so what else can you ask for?"

## Court system pushes juveniles from school to jail at early age

By Marty McAndrews  
Daily Texan Staff

Texas law enforcement agencies issue 275,000 nontraffic tickets to juveniles each year, most of which are linked to school-related misbehavior, said Deborah Fowler, deputy director of public interest law center Texas Appleseed.

Minority and special education students receive a large portion of the number of tickets and referrals, and the number of campus arrests is a pressing issue, Fowler said.

UT's Barbara Jordan Freedom Foundation and Social, Health and Economic Policymakers invited Fowler to host an open forum Tuesday on Texas' school-to-prison pipeline — a trend in which children are funneled out of the public school system and into the criminal justice system. The phenomenon is a result of Texas' courts' involvement in school discipline, which often leads to increased dropout rates or incarceration, Fowler said.

Fowler said the school-to-prison pipeline sweeps up children as young as 5 years old.

"Kindergartners are referred to alternative programs and children as young as 6 years old are receiving tickets," Fowler said.

"We've come a long way since Brown v. the Board of Education barring admission of Afri-

can-American students from public schools, but what we have here is a lot more subtle and no less problematic."

Black special education students run an especially high risk, especially because they are also over-represented in special education, said public affairs graduate student Sarah Mahin.

Public affairs graduate student Sascha Weiss said English-language learners also face a disadvantage, especially as a result of high-stakes testing, which partially decides a school's funding.

"They're required to take standardized testing, even if they haven't been at the school one year," Weiss said. "The administration sees these students bringing down the school's scores and creates an environment that encourages the student to pursue other schooling."

Public affairs graduate student Harry Lindner documented high-school aged illegal immigrants in a UT-funded film.

"They told me that they had no incentive to finish high school or go to college," Lindner said. "They don't have a social security number, so once they complete college they can't get employment. They can get a nurse's degree, but they can't become a registered nurse. They can get a law degree, but they can't practice law."



Fanny Trang | Daily Texan Staff

Sarah Mahin, a public affairs graduate student, talks about youth mental disorders within the public school system.

## Outstanding Student and Cactus Goodfellow Awards

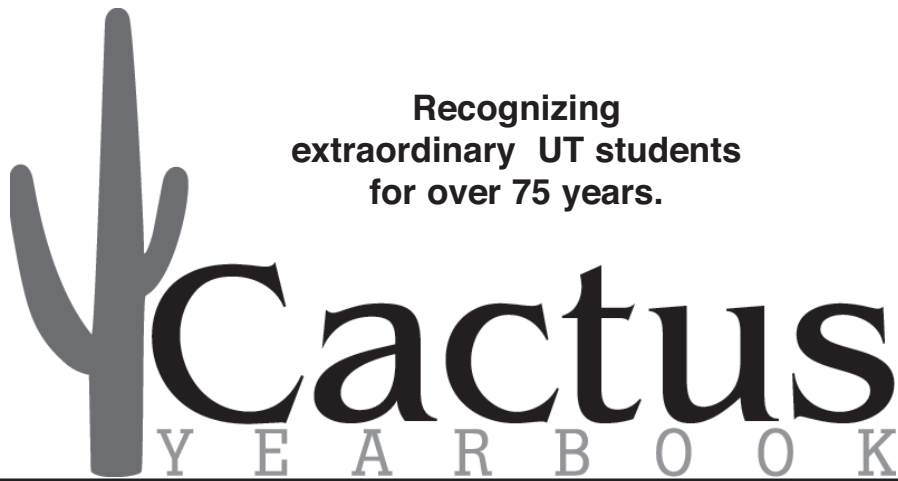
The Cactus Yearbook is soliciting nominations for their Outstanding Student and Cactus Goodfellow Awards. For your convenience, we have placed the nomination forms on the Cactus web page:

<http://www.utexas.edu/tsm/media/cactus/>

All rules and instructions are included, so all you have to do is either print the nomination form or pick up one at the William Randolph Hearst Building (HSM), 25th and Whitis Avenue, Room 3.304.

**The deadline for nominations is Feb. 25th.**

Send us your applications today!  
If you have any questions, please call 471-1084 for more information.



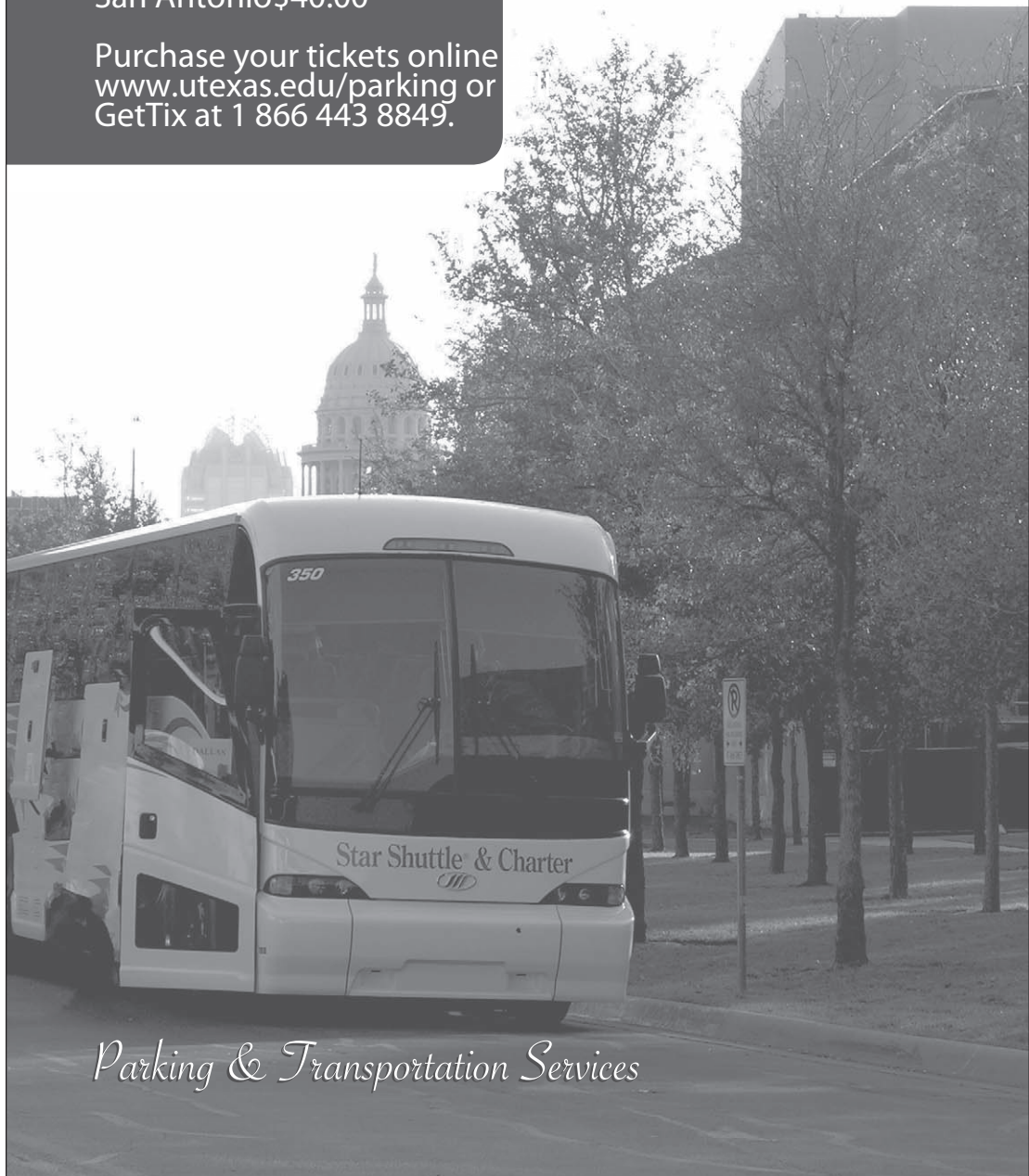
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8



7

TEXAS

# LESSON learned



I-Hwa Cheng | Daily Texan Staff

Texas attempts to get its offense rolling with a sacrifice bunt during Tuesday's loss to Texas A&M Corpus Christi. The Longhorns' offense was stagnant out of the gates before mounting a late charge that came up just short, sending the Longhorns to their second loss of the season.

## Disappointing home loss could be turning point early in season for Garrido's inconsistent bunch

By Trey Scott  
Daily Texan Staff

Remember, it is just one out of 54 regular season games.

As spring and summer approach, Texas' 8-7 loss to Texas A&M Corpus Christi on Tuesday will become a more distant, forgettable game.

That is, unless the Longhorns choose to use the disappointing outcome as a turning point for their season. During the game they realized that just going through the motions until the final innings will not cut it this year, no matter who is in

the opposing dugout.

The game did not begin the way head coach Augie Garrido would have preferred. Texas started too slowly, swinging and missing opportunities at the plate. The Longhorns did not register a hit until the third inning. Only one or two of the eight pitchers they employed were effective. And the Longhorns were a step slow on the base paths.

"If you start to dig into it piece by piece, the more layers you unfold and the uglier it gets," Garrido said.

**LOSS** continues on **PAGE 10**



I-Hwa Cheng | Daily Texan Staff

Brandon Loy steps to the plate during Texas' 8-7 defeat Tuesday at home. Loy drove in one run and had two hits for the Longhorns.

## Longhorns start out flat, late rally comes up short after falling behind early

By Jon Parrett  
Daily Texan Staff

Texas head coach Augie Garrido called it a "Tuesday slump." Whatever you call it, the Longhorns' slow start on Tuesday put them behind 7-2 entering the bottom half of the sixth inning, and they couldn't complete a rally, falling to Texas A&M Corpus Christi 8-7.

"Today, they were the better team," Garrido said. "They played the better game and they deserve to win."

Keifer Nuncio started for Texas, but only lasted one inning after giving up two runs in the first. Nuncio walked the Islanders' leadoff batter Drew Vest, then gave up a single to outfielder Chris Vergne that moved Vest to third. Trey Hernandez's ground out to third brought Vest home, and after Vergne stole third base, catcher Jumpy Garcia notched his first of four RBIs in the game with a single up the middle that put the Islanders up 2-0.

Kirby Bellow pitched for Texas in the second inning, and also gave up two earned runs, allowing Corpus Christi to jump out to a 4-0 lead heading into the bottom of the third inning. Without a designated fourth starter, Texas came into the game expecting to use much of its bullpen, and five of the eight pitchers that played surrendered at least one run.

"The pitching staff didn't pitch to the level of their training," Garrido said. "They weren't themselves out there. They didn't have the presence they deserve to have as a result of they way they've pitched in scrimmages and the fall league."

The Longhorns didn't get on the board until the third inning, when shortstop Brandon Loy hit a triple

**TEXAS** continues on **PAGE 10**

## MEN'S BASKETBALL IOWA STATE 53, No. 5 TEXAS 76

# Strong second half gives Horns victory against Iowa State

By Dan Hurwitz  
Daily Texan Staff

For the majority of the season, the second half has been a time for the Longhorns to relax. Their double-digit first-half leads proved insurmountable to opposing teams.

But after Nebraska dismantled the Longhorns in the final 20 minutes Saturday, they were not going to let it happen on Tuesday.

With a nine-point lead in their hands, the Longhorns were not satisfied as they came out of the gate running to beat Iowa State 76-53.

"We had been kind of slow in the second half. And this game we said we aren't going to let it happen," said sophomore Jordan Hamilton who finished with a game-high 20 points.

"We were going to continue to keep playing hard and keep the foot on the pedal."

Cyclones' head coach Fred Hoiberg reminded his team at halftime that Texas led by seven at halftime against Nebraska and lost.

"The first five minutes [of the second half] were going to determine the outcome of that game," Hoiberg said.

Texas took quick shots coming down floor and hit six of eight field goals in the first four minutes of the second half. Back-to-back Hamilton three-pointers toward the end of the run gave the Longhorns a 19-point lead. They later led by as much as 29.

**HORNS** continues on **PAGE 10**



Texas freshman forward Tristan Thompson attacks the hoop from the baseline in the Longhorns' romp over Iowa State on Tuesday. Thompson's game-high 14 rebounds and 17 points was too much for the Cyclones.

Lawrence Peart  
Daily Texan Staff

## Thompson cleans up boards for Texas

By Will Anderson  
Daily Texan Staff

After grabbing just three rebounds in 33 minutes in Texas' loss to Nebraska over the weekend, freshman forward Tristan Thompson blamed only himself.

Now the Longhorns have him to thank for coming down with a game-high 14 boards on Tuesday against Iowa State.

It was the most by Thompson since Big 12 com-

petition began and his highest total this season since playing Michigan State on Dec. 22.

"We told him he should dominate the boards. He really went and got some of 'em," said Texas head coach Rick Barnes. "His quickness, his athleticism, he was terrific."

As Texas got off to a slow start, Thompson snagged five rebounds in the first five minutes to help the team establish some breathing room

**BOARDS** continues on **PAGE 10**

## SIDELINE

NBA



ROCKETS

108



PISTONS

100

## WHAT TO WATCH

Thunder @ Spurs



Date: Tonight  
Time: 6 p.m.  
On air: ESPN

Jazz @ Mavericks



Date: Tonight  
Time: 7:30 p.m.  
On air: FS Southwest

## MEN'S GOLF

Puerto Rico Classic  
Final Team Standings

1	Alabama	836 (-28)
2	Georgia Tech	841 (-23)
3	Oklahoma State	847 (-17)
4	Georgia	858 (-6)
5	Virginia Tech	863 (-1)
6	Oklahoma	864 (E)
7	Texas	867 (+3)
8	North Carolina State	871 (+7)
9	Clemson	873 (+9)
10	Ohio State	875 (+11)
11	Purdue	880 (+16)
12	Michigan	888 (+24)
13	Northwestern	889 (+25)
14	UNC Greensboro	890 (+26)
15	East Tennessee State	893 (+29)

## SPORTS BRIEFLY

Coaching staff suspends junior after violation of team rules

Texas has suspended reserve forward Alexis Wangmene for violating team rules.

Texas head coach Rick Barnes announced the move about 30 minutes before the fifth-ranked Longhorns played Iowa State on Tuesday night.

Barnes said Wangmene was suspended indefinitely for an unspecified violation of team rules.

Wangmene, a 6-foot-7 junior, averages 2.4 points and played in every game this season for the Longhorns, who are in first place in the Big 12.

— The Associated Press

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BIG 12 CHAMPIONSHIPS  
SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 23

**PRELIMINARIES**  
4:30 p.m.  
One-meter diving (men)

**FINALS**  
6 p.m.  
200-yard medley relay  
One-meter diving (men)  
800-yard freestyle relay

THURSDAY, FEB. 24

**PRELIMINARIES**  
10 a.m.  
200-yard freestyle relay  
500-yard freestyle  
200-yard individual medley  
50-yard freestyle

1 p.m.  
Three-meter diving (women's)

**FINALS**  
6 p.m.  
200-yard freestyle relay  
Three-meter diving (women's)  
500-yard freestyle  
200-yard individual medley  
50-yard freestyle

FRIDAY, FEB. 25

**PRELIMINARIES**  
10 a.m.  
400-yard medley relay  
400-yard individual medley  
100-yard butterfly  
200-yard freestyle  
100-yard breaststroke  
100-yard backstroke

10:30 a.m.  
Three-meter diving (men's)

1:30 p.m.  
One-meter diving (men's)

**FINALS**  
5 p.m.  
Three-meter diving (men's)

6 p.m.  
400-yard medley relay  
One-meter diving (women's)  
400-yard individual medley  
100-yard butterfly  
200-yard freestyle  
100-yard breaststroke  
100-yard backstroke

BIG 12 SWIMMING & DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Texas gearing up for showdown in pool

By Lauren Giudice  
Daily Texan Staff

The swim team has been preparing for this week since September. The Big 12 Championships have arrived.

However, in recent days, that preparation has included training those unfamiliar with the sport may find perplexing: swimming less.

“Some guys have been cutting back on work for 10 days, other guys four weeks,” said Texas head coach Eddie Reese. “The guys have way too much energy. Taper time is not fun for coaches. It’s great for swimmers.”

In swimming, to get ready for a big meet, athletes cut back on practice. It gives them the opportunity to improve their times as the lighter workouts and increased recovery help them make the most of the hard work they put in earlier in the season.

The freshmen have been resting longer than anyone else, and Reese expects a strong performance from all of the underclassmen.

“I am definitely expecting the sophomores to step up this meet, just like they have all season,” Reese said. “They are going to do real well.”

Michael McBroom already has two first-place finishes this year and fellow sophomore Nick D’Innocenzo has 11 wins this year.

Starting Wednesday, No. 4 Texas, Missouri and No. 18 Texas A&M will assemble at the Lee and Joe Jamail Texas Swimming Center, each with aspirations of a conference title.

Texas has won the Big 12 championship meet every year since the Big 12 was formed in 1996 — 14 titles in all.

“There’s going to be some very fast swimming from Missouri, from A&M and from us,” Reese said. “It’s going to be one of the best conference meets I’ve been to in a long time.”

Although the team defeated Texas A&M 170.5-127.5 earlier this month, Reese knows that nothing is guaranteed.

“Confidence is nice to have,” Reese said. “But it’s the confidence to be will-



Corey Leamon | Daily Texan Staff

The Longhorns have cut down their workouts in preparation for the Big 12 Championship. Texas has won the title every year since 1996.

ing to put yourself on the line to give it everything you got. Not the confidence to win. You can’t have that, not horns, as well.

“It’s a lot more exciting to get dressed up and either fly somewhere or take

comes normal, it becomes average. Everybody that comes in here loves it, and they always go fast.”

So Reese is employing another counterintuitive tactic: The team will be staying at a hotel in town before the meet. Reese hopes it helps with the atmosphere and creates a more exciting environment for the team.

In another surprising development, not every Longhorn will be attempting to win his event this week, instead choosing to focus on next month’s national championship meet.

“I am not fully rested,” said senior freestyle specialist Scott Jostes. “I am trying to concentrate more on the NCAA meet. I am expecting to go decent times, just fast enough to make the meet but nothing spectacular, unfortunately.”

Luckily, as a senior, Jostes has been here before.

“My freshman year, I was real freaked out going into the meet,” he said. “It was my biggest collegiate meet thus far. I’ve been in the NCAAAs a couple of times and this will be my fourth Big 12, I know what to expect. If you just swim well, and you’ve trained well, it will all fall in line.”

And as far as final home meets go, the Big 12 Championships aren’t a bad way to finish your career at Texas.

“It’s nice to go out with a bang,” Jostes said.

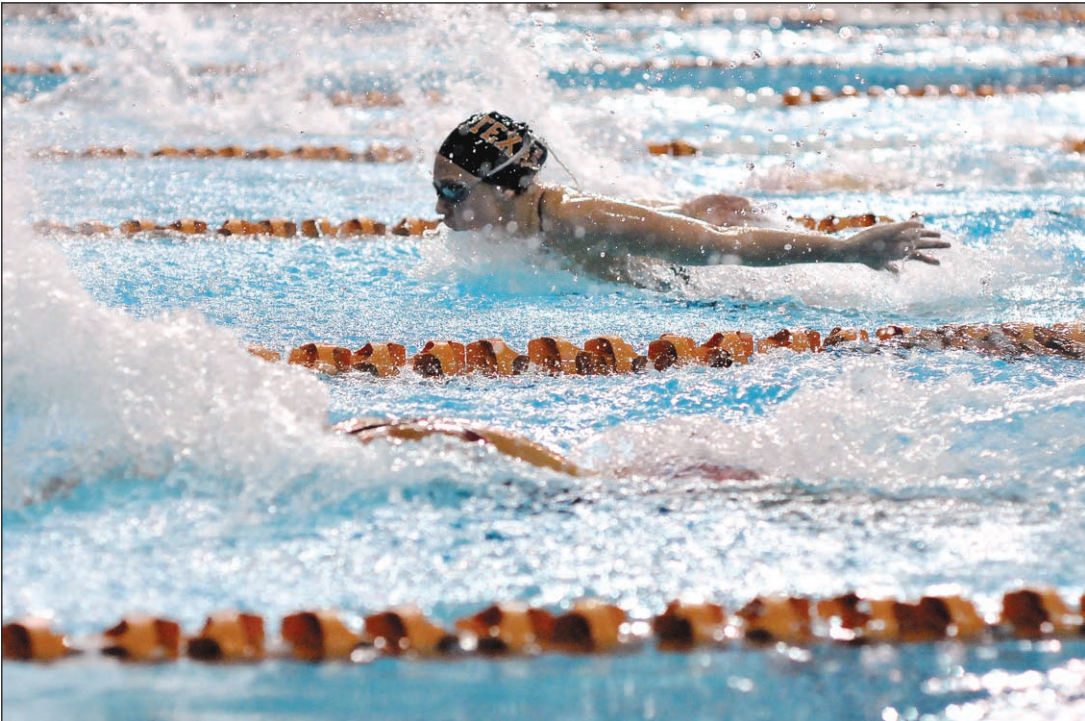
“If you just swim well, and you’ve trained well, it will all fall in line.”

— Scott Jostes, Senior freestyle specialist

in this sport.”

A little bit of cabin fever might be working against the Long-

the bus ride and go somewhere else,” Reese said. “After you swim in here every day for five or six months, it be-



Lauren Gerson | Daily Texan Staff

Texas looks to live up to the hype as the Big 12 descends on Austin for the conference championships.

Pressure mounting for UT swim team

By Stefan Scrafield  
Daily Texan Staff

The Longhorns have worn shirts that read “Pressure is a Privilege” throughout the season, and that will certainly come into play this week.

Texas heads into the Big 12 Championship this week as favorite and with a huge target on its back.

“We’ve dealt with pressure throughout the season,” said junior swimmer and former Big 12 champion Leah Gingrich. “We just try to take it as it comes and not get too far ahead or behind of ourselves.”

The team has certainly dealt with pressure all year long. Head coach Kim Brackin said that winning the Big 12 championship meet has been the goal all season, and even as the team endured some mid-season struggles, losing straight meets to Auburn and Georgia, the Longhorns continued to focus on the conference championships.

“Obviously you’re never happy with losing, but we realized Georgia and Auburn were both very strong opponents,” Brackin said. “We didn’t allow ourselves to panic because we knew we were still on track and focused on the end-of-season meets.”

The team’s ability to stay focused

on the Big 12 and NCAA championships throughout the season has been largely a result of great leadership from many of the upperclassmen on the roster, including junior standout Karlee Bispo.

“I was named a captain at the beginning of the year and have really been able to use my experience to help some of the younger girls,” Bispo said. “I did very well in my freshman year but struggled a little last season, so I’ve experienced both strong and weak performances.”

Bispo’s coaches and teammates insist that her biggest impact as a leader has been through her performance in the pool this year.

“Karlee does a great job of leading by example,” Gingrich said.

Brackin said she noticed a similar trend.

“Karlee has really grown into a leader this year. She has gained confidence and been able to voice her opinion,” Brackin said. “She’s constantly leading by example. Regardless of whether it’s during a meet or just in practice, Karlee is always focusing on the small things and pushing herself to improve.”

Bispo’s efforts have put her on top of the field many times this year and have garnered her plenty of recognition. She has twice been named Swimmer of the Week in the Big 12 and was once named National

Swimmer of the Week. She was also recently selected as a member of the U.S. National Team for the upcoming World University Games in Shenzhen, China, this summer.

“The individual accolades are definitely a boost to my confidence,” Bispo said.

However, the Big 12 championship meet is about more than just finishing first in each event, as schools are awarded points for any swimmer who finishes in the top 16 of their respective event.

“We’ve been able to get the girls to adopt a team attitude,” Brackin said. “They understand that these championships can come down to a point here or a point there.”

Despite being favorites, the women know that this week’s meet will not be easy, especially as Texas A&M, one of the top programs in the country, looks to avenge an early-season loss to Texas at the Lee and Joe Jamail Texas Swim Center.

“It’s always entertaining when we get the opportunity to swim against the Aggies,” Gingrich said. “They really want to beat us, and we really want to beat them, so it brings out the best in both teams.”

Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa State and Kansas will also compete in this week’s Big 12 women’s swimming and diving championships.

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HORNS continues from PAGE 8

“Jordan came out with sparks flying. He was taking shots from everywhere,” said freshman forward Tristan Thompson. “He couldn’t be touched. It was real good for us getting the run started for our team and help pull away.”

On the defensive end, the Longhorns ran a full-court press for the majority of the second half. Senior Dogus Balbay managed to get a hand on several passes throughout the 16 minutes he played in the second.

“[Balbay] does such a good job in the backcourt,” said head coach Rick Barnes. “There at the start of the second half, it seemed like he had his hands on everything.”

At times the pressure allowed the Cyclones to run down the floor for a layup, but it also gave them trouble.

“We were careless with the ball,” Hoiberg said. “As a result, we didn’t get back in transition.”

Texas shot 53 percent from the field in the second half after shooting 40 percent in the first. The Longhorns did not make a field goal in the final 5:11 of the opening period.

Gary Johnson recorded 14 points, including his first three-pointer of the season, and 12 rebounds for his fourth double-double of the season. Thompson also had a double-double consisting of 17 points and 14 rebounds.



Texas senior point guard Dogus Balbay attempts a layup during the Longhorns’ 76-53 rout of visiting Iowa State on Tuesday at the Frank Erwin Center. Balbay ignited the Texas defense in the second half to put the Longhorns back on the winning track after their road loss Saturday.

Lawrence Peart | Daily Texan Staff

MEN’S GOLF

Fields’ squad begins slump in final round to fall short

By Nick Cremona  
Daily Texan Staff

For the first time this season, the Longhorns failed to improve their standing in the last round of an event. After starting Tuesday’s final round in sixth place, Texas finished the Puerto Rico Classic at three over par, good enough for seventh place out of 15.

The Longhorns were unable to catch Alabama, which finished atop the team leaderboard with a 28-under performance. Georgia Tech took second at 23-under and placed three players in the top 10 individually. Oklahoma State finished third with a respectable 17-under for the tournament.

Texas head coach John Fields and his team remained within striking distance of the leaders throughout the tournament, but in the end Texas was simply outplayed. After multiple Longhorns recorded over-par performances in every round, their fate was sealed.

“This week was a combination of expectations that were too high, in addition to being the defending champion at this event,” Fields said. “We did not deal with either very well.”

Texas senior Bobby Hudson, who was a member of the team that won this event last year, had an unusually poor showing this time out. The usually consistent Hudson shot nine-over for the tournament, and finished well below the rest of the Longhorn starters on the individual leaderboard. Things could have been a lot worse, but freshman Toni Hakula was able to help the Longhorns afloat by recording two rounds at one-under. His first and third rounds were Texas’ best scores at the event. Hakula finished one-over for the entire tournament, tied for 23rd individually. It was his second appearance this year.

“There are some definite positives, and we are not that far off,” Fields said. “I was pleased with Toni Hakula’s round today.”

Sophomore Cody Gribble was the only Longhorn able to keep his head above water, finishing at even-par and tied for 20th place individually. Gribble continues to perform well, earning yet another top-20 finish.

Juniors Dylan Frittelli and Adam Wennerstrom finished at two- and seven-over, respectively.

Texas will have some time to work on getting off to a quicker start in the coming weeks, as its next competition does not take place until March 11.

BOARDS continues from PAGE 8

against a tenacious ISU squad.

“For our team to have success on the offensive end, we have to get the ball to Tristan,” said Texas forward Jordan Hamilton, who led all scorers with 20 points and added eight rebounds of his own. “I think he did a great job tonight taking good shots ... and rebounding very well.”

Thompson scored 17, matching his best effort in the last month. It was his fifth double-double this season.

Early in Tuesday’s contest, the Cyclones were isolating Texas defenders and driving right to the basket, just like Nebraska did. To stop the penetration, Barnes went big, eventually putting all four of his posts on the floor, and he played the 6-foot-8 Thompson a team-high 31 minutes.

Thompson was an important part of the breakaway effort, with the majority of his rebounds coming on defense. He added three blocks. The defense as a whole limited Iowa to 33.3-percent shooting from the floor, and Thompson helped keep Cyclone forwards Melvin Ejim and Calvin Godfrey to a combined 12 points.

“I knew coming in that we needed to be active,” he said. “Me and Gary [Johnson] talked before the game about being active on the glass.”

Thompson started the second half with five points in the first 80 seconds. His turnaround jumpers began to fall and his layups found the net as the freshman scored 13 of his points after the break.

“They got the ball to Tristan Thompson,” said Iowa State coach Fred Hoiberg. “He pretty much had his way with us.”

Thompson bobbed the ball in the lane once, leading to his lone turnover, and he made just one of six free throws. Still, he was an

important presence inside, especially with reserve forward Alexis Wangmene sitting on the sideline with an indefinite suspension for an undisclosed violation of team rules.

Thompson’s scoring and rebounding were missing last Saturday versus the Cornhuskers, when he went 3-of-7 from the free-throw line and missed three of his four shots from the floor.

With Thompson in double digits again, Texas once more won by double digits, and the freshman certainly knows why.

“They got the ball to Tristan Thompson. He pretty much had his way with us.”  
— Fred Hoiberg, Iowa State head coach

TEXAS continues from PAGE 8

into left field that brought Paul Montalbano home. Loy finished the day two-for-three with two runs and an RBI, and his sacrifice bunt in the first inning put him in 10th place on the NCAA Division I career hit list with 43.

“We try not to get into those positions where we’re down a lot of runs,” Loy said. “We let it happen Saturday in the first game against Maryland. We’ve got to work on jumping out on leads for us and not having to come back all the time because it cuts into the different things

we do as a baseball team.”

Texas began the bottom of the sixth inning trailing 7-2, but loaded the bases after Jonathan Walsh grounded into a fielder’s choice and consecutive walks by Cohl Walla and Tant Shepherd. Kevin Lusson slapped a two-run double into right field, scoring Walsh and Walla. Shepherd cut the deficit to 7-5 off of Jordan Etier’s sac bunt the next at-bat.

“They did the best job in reacting to the opportunities that were provided them throughout the course of the game,” Garrido

said. “We made a run at it at the end, when we saw that we might lose, and we played a different game from that point forward.”

The Islanders tacked on another run in the seventh, but the Longhorns answered in the next frame when Walsh almost took the second-base umpire’s head off with a two-run double. Texas was able to load the bases in the eighth inning, but Mark Payton hit a pop fly out to left field on a full count and ended any hopes of completing the comeback.

LOSS continues from PAGE 8

As the ninth inning drew nearer, Texas’ window to stage a comeback shrank. Recognizing this, the Longhorns began treating every at-bat as if it might be their last, coming up with timely runs in the sixth and seventh innings. Senior pitcher Stayton Thomas came out of the bullpen with an Islander on third base with just one out and stranded him.

Texas looked like it might have another comeback up its sleeve.

But freshman outfielder Mark Payton hit a pop fly out with the bases loaded to end the eighth inning and senior first baseman Tant Shepherd did the same with a runner in scoring position to end the ninth.

“We didn’t have a full nine innings of work and when you get

down like this, it’s tough to climb back,” said junior shortstop Brandon Loy. “These teams come here to beat us. They’re giving it their all, we have to also.”

Loy put together a solid day, with a deep RBI-triple to left field to go with another hit and a drawn walk. Sophomore Jonathan Walsh had two RBIs, as did junior catcher Kevin Lusson. Payton contributed an RBI as well. But such strong play didn’t materialize early enough, and Loy knows that it’s because the Longhorns weren’t as energized for their game against the Islanders as they should have been.

“It’s not that we overlooked them, it’s just that it’s not a big game and that kills us,” Loy said. “Everybody else tries to tell us it’s

not a big game, but we can’t look at it like that. I’ve been here for three years and I’m going to take responsibility in that. I’ve got to work on that as a leader to make sure my team knows that these teams are coming in here to play their best and we can’t have any letdowns.”

It’s better that such a disappointment happened now rather than later, however. The Longhorns can use the loss to Corpus Christi as a teachable moment, to set an example for the rest of the season about what can happen when you start slowly out of the gate.

“You end up one run short,” Loy said.

They will try not to let it happen again.

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

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‘NCEPTION’

Solution: 7 letters

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H H L O L C R U L E R N E C H  
N I R A R Y O A E P A L L O U  
O L N I Y E M P R L L N B N R  
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G P I N R O S A E T S E I E  
Y A P H S I I P I D O A N O R  
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S U E A D E T A D E S N U S L  
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Yesterday's Answer: Western

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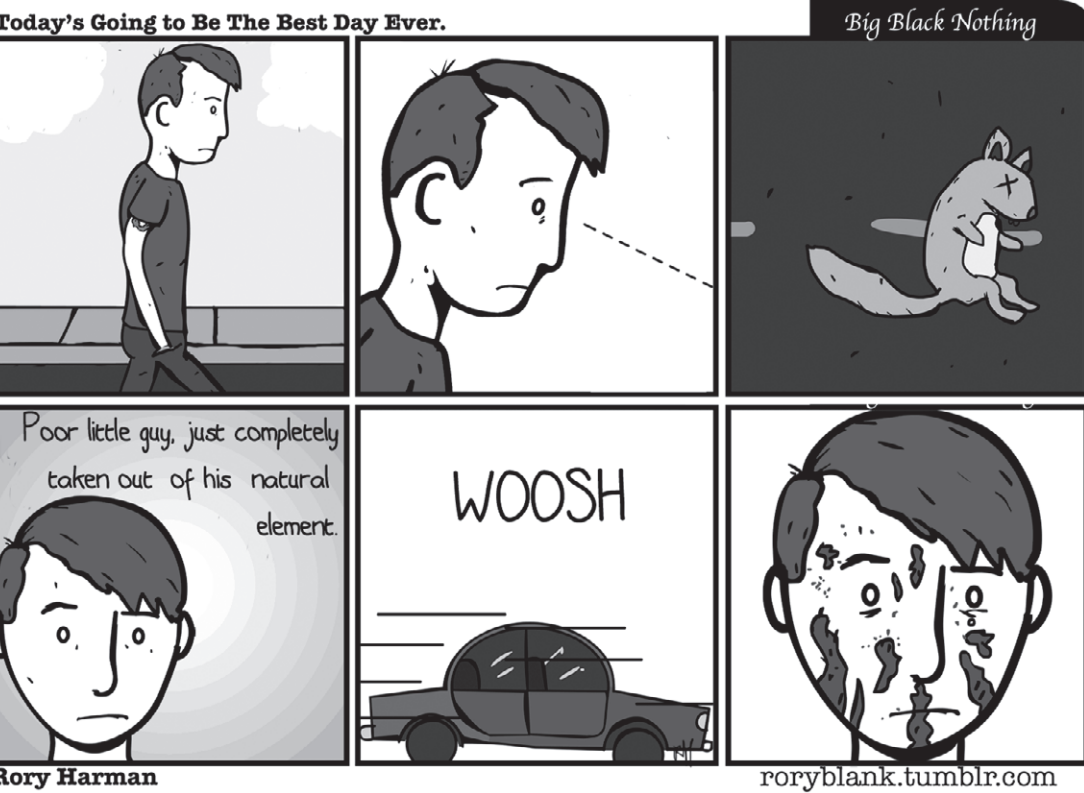
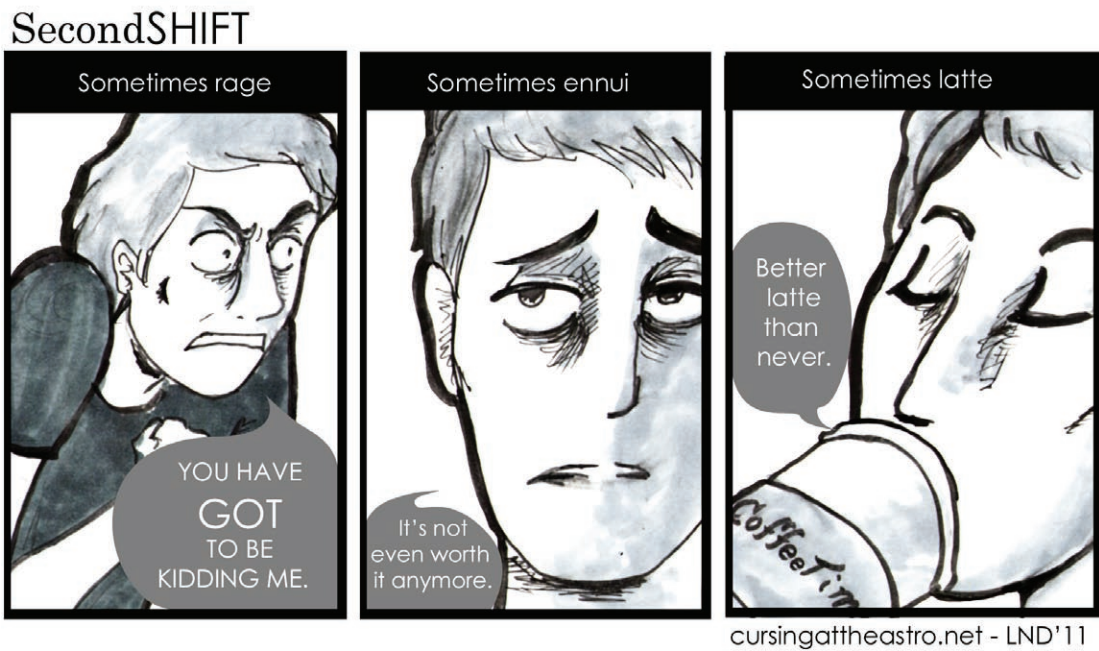
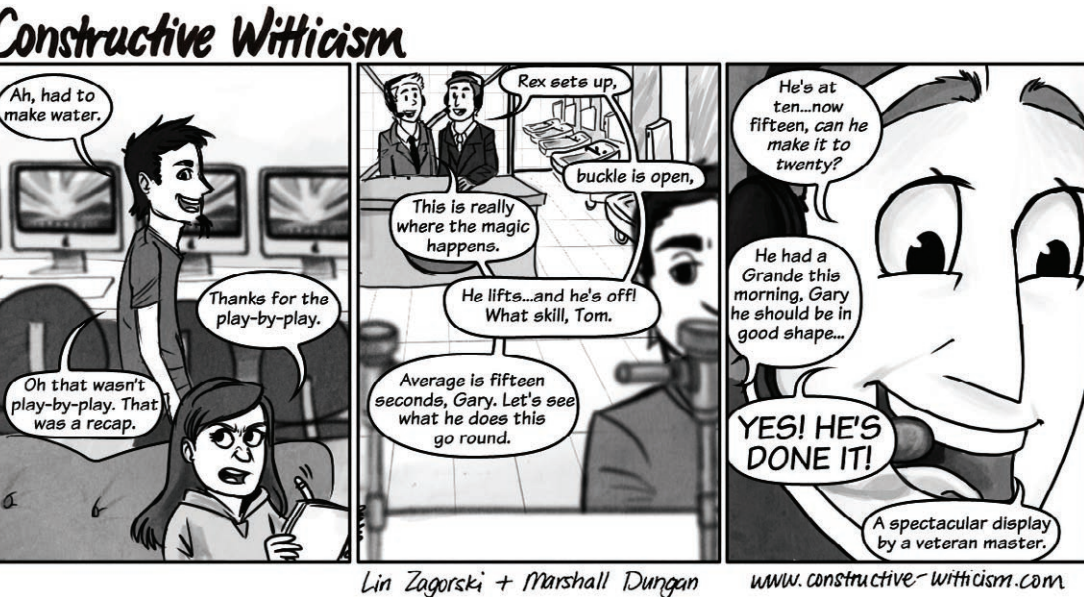
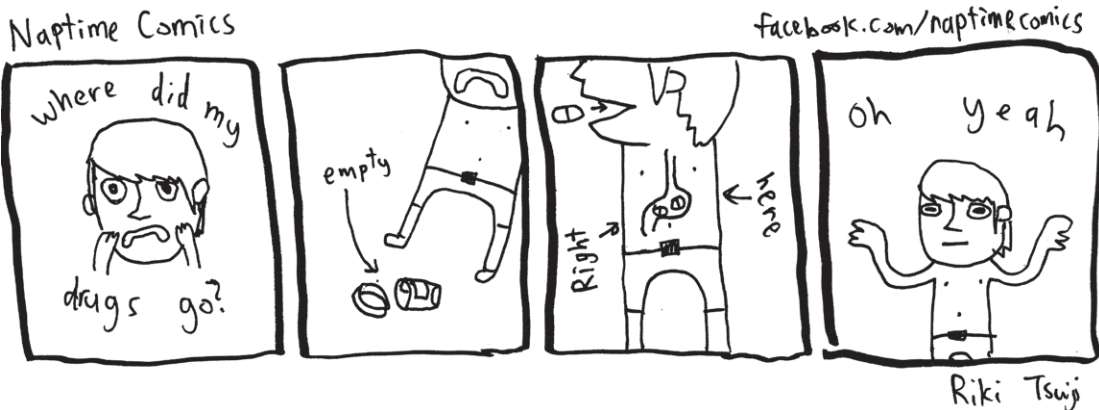


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	4					8		
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		8	4	9		5		

Yesterday's solution

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



The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0119

Across

1 Old Testament verb

6 Locale for a lashing

10 Ann's advice-giving sister

14 Prom rentals

15 Locale

16 Hip bones

17 Leave slack-jawed

18 Part of the house where one might check Google messages?

20 Number of trades Jack is a master of

21 Enero through diciembre

22 Some winners on a Fox talent show

23 Cry for help on an F.B.I. cruise?

27 Punkie

28 Puts down, as the red carpet

31 Reach a concord

34 Carbohydrate suffix

35 Stage that includes a cocoon

36 Grazing site

37 Beaver Cleaver expletive ... or what you might need to be to answer 18-, 23-, 51- and 60-Across?

41 Pepper's rank: Abbr.

42 Wee bit

44 AOL rival

45 Substitute for

47 Dory's affliction in "Finding Nemo"

49 Half of a McDonald's logo

51 Guess as to how the thing came to exist?

56 Like a prefall Humpty Dumpty

58 Pale pub potable

59 Gen. Robert

60 Where Neil Armstrong might store his gear?

63 Part of basketball practice

64 Latvia's capital

65 Kegger locale

66 Coke, to Pepsi

67 Basketball All-Star Nick Van

68 Lubricates

69 Kangaroo babies

Down

1 Some teen talk

2 Bleachers sign

3 Appliance brand

4 Sore throat soother

5 Lao-\_\_\_\_\_

6 Word with babe or bar

7 Knight's gear

8 Deep blue

9 Mai-\_\_\_\_\_

10 Certain plane delivery

11 Rambo's drive

12 H.S. science class

13 Candied dish

19 Teller of tales

21 One of Frank's exes

24 A thousand bucks

25 Political family name

26 "The \_\_\_\_\_ Love"

29 Org. for Michelle Wie

30 Info on college applications

31 Alan who was born Alphonso D'Abruzzo

32 Lysol target

33 Meteorologist's tool

34 Admit, with "up"

38 Mideast ruler

39 "NYPD Blue" actor Morales

40 Actor Galifianakis of "The Hangover"

43 Inhuman

46 "Toodlee-oo!"

48 Leave in

49 Shoelace tips

50 U.S. 1, for one: Abbr.

52 Like Bob Dylan's voice

53 Green shade

54 Bit of electrical work

55 Hollers

56 "Fee fi fo fum" sayer

57 Kind of engine

61 Corp. V.I.P.

62 N.L. West team, on scoreboards

63 Onetime Sixers great

Puzzle by Kristian House

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GUADALUPE

VILLAGE AT RIVERSIDE  
DOBIE CENTER  
THE EDGE  
DELL  
THE VENUE ON  
GUADALUPE  
21 RIO  
UNIVERSITY TOWERS  
THE BLOCK  
DUVAL VILLAS  
RAINIER MANAGEMENT  
OAK HOLLOW  
POINT SOUTH &

BRIDGE HOLLOW  
THE QUARTERS ON  
CAMPUS  
JIMMY JOHN'S  
FREEBIRD'S  
RED MANGO  
THE RIDGE  
THE BLUFFS AT  
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SOAP continues from PAGE 14

called “hot process” to make soap, all So.A.P. bars are made through a cold process. The “hot process” involves boiling the oil (often leftover animal fat) in water, then mixing in lye. After a certain cooking time, all the glycerin in the water is taken out and the mixture is sold to soap industries. Fierro said the cold process is scientifically perfect because there are no extracts and everything is balanced. Using the exact amount of lye needed to achieve the perfect blend that won’t irritate the skin or be too oily, cold process-

ing heats only the oils, then adds other ingredients, rather than boiling them together. Fierro said because he sells organic vegetable-based soaps, he has been called names associated with the organic food movement like “granola” and “earthy crunchy.” He said most of his company’s success has derived from that movement, and it has spread into the general public’s daily life — much like his hygiene products. “And we’re just riding it,” he said.

WHERE TO FIND SO.A.P PRODUCTS

**Austin Downtown Farmers Market**  
Fourth and Guadalupe streets  
Saturday from 9 a.m. – 1p.m.

**Wheatsville Co-op**  
3101 Guadalupe Street

**Hyde Park Market**  
45th Street and Duval Road

For more locations, visit [southaustinpeople.com](http://southaustinpeople.com)



J.P. Fierro of So.A.P. adds olive oil soaked in chaparral to a boiled mix of other oils to make beer soap. Nearly all of Fierro's ingredients originate locally.

READ continues from PAGE 14

reconstruct their lives without losing their heritage. In his memoir, “Famous Builder,” Lisicky’s family attempts to fuse their Slovak background with American culture. Lisicky believes people of many upbringings can identify with the “immigrant narrative” of trying to fit in without losing themselves. Lisicky strayed from his upbringing and initial ambitions in college. Much of his childhood involved composing songs to submit to the producers of “The Partridge Family,” and when he entered Rutgers University, he intended to pursue his passion for music. However, he eventually found that composing prose was a better fit. “I was at a point in my undergraduate studies where I had to decide between classical music and something more popular and accessible,” Lisicky says. “I was in a writing workshop at the time, and I realized that with writing, you can bridge those two worlds together.”

Still wishing to incorporate his affinity for sound into his work, Lisicky creates his sentences with a rhythm in hopes that his language will resemble the spontaneity of music. Though he typically prefers silence or unstructured background noise while he writes, he is inspired by a number of

ways wanted to be a cult writer in that regard.” If Lisicky has achieved his goal, then the specific style he embodies is that of sorrow blended with subtle wit. Though his earlier works could be categorized as slapstick funny, he now aims for a quiet playfulness that

**WHAT:** Paul Lisicky speaks about memoir writing, character development and his latest novel  
**WHERE:** Joynes Reading Room of Carothers Residence Hall  
**WHEN:** 7:30 p.m.  
**WEB:** [utexas.edu/cola/depts/english](http://utexas.edu/cola/depts/english)

*“I never want to write a deadly serious book, or a book that takes itself too seriously.”*  
— Paul Lisicky, Author

bands, citing The Dirty Projectors and The Morning Benders as his favorites. “I love bands with a cult following, like Bear in Heaven. They’re not out to sell a certain number of units, but to create and protect a specific sound,” Lisicky says. “I’ve al-

makes the oftentimes somber plot lines more emotionally accessible. “I never want to write a deadly serious book, or a book that takes itself too seriously,” Lisicky says. Although exteriorly “The Burning House” appears to be quite austere

— a man falling in love with his sister-in-law while attempting to save his community from urban expansion — each sentence is graced with Lisicky’s trademark wit. “It’s interesting how my memoir is about a kid who wants to build communities, but the protagonist in [‘The Burning House’] is opposed to development,” Lisicky says. “It seems sort of contradictory, but I want to create a conversation across several books about communities and what they mean.”

MUSIC continues from PAGE 14

musicians fall by the wayside for the purpose for the advancement of a corporation’s profit margins. Such is the case of local group Sound Team in “Echotone.” After signing to EMI and releasing an album to critical acclaim, the band was confined to obscurity by the exorbitant prices EMI charged for the group’s record, Movie Monster. Touted as the next Radiohead in “Echotone,” Sound Team was never able to achieve the success or recognition they deserved because of the corrupt corporate structure looming over the music industry. Austin is, and for a number of years has been, heralded as The Live Music Capital Of The World, a reputation that it has been proud to have and that has become a defining aspect of the city. Unfortunately, certain issues could get in the way of Austin maintaining such a reputation.



The Live Music Capital Of The World may be facing internal problems in its local music scene caused by greed, oversaturation of artists and major labels.

BURRITO continues from PAGE 1

His brother Juan remembers it as a time when children could go and play outside, now a memory of the past because of the drastic rise in crime. “It makes you feel sad as a Mexican citizen to see your people fighting amongst themselves,” Jose Luis said. Their mother died when Jose Luis was only 16 and Juan was 10. The two men are now 41 and 35, respectively. After completing elementary and middle school, Jose Luis abandoned education in favor of joining the workforce. Jose Luis was aware of the poor economy of his state, and he knew he had a small chance of finding a good job that would provide for his family and his future. “Here [in the U.S.], no matter how bad the economy is, one always manages to survive — over there, no,” Jose Luis said, “In Mexico, one has to work a month to buy shoes or a pair a jeans.” And so, at only 19, driven by thoughts of his family and his future, Jose Luis made a life-threatening gamble: He would look for work in the U.S. Crossing the California border with the help of a coyote — someone who makes a living bringing people across the border illegally — Jose planned to stay for three years to earn enough money for his family and then go back to Mexico. When he arrived, Jose Luis went to work illegally for his uncle’s chain of Mexican taquerias in Chicago. He worked in Chicago for five years, saving his wages tirelessly with the intention of opening a restaurant of his own. In 1995, he opened Nene’s Tacos and ran it for 10 years. As business began to grow, Juan came — also as an undocumented immigrant — from Ciudad Hidalgo to help him. “More than anything, I wanted to save money to help my family and make a family of my own,” Juan said. Their hard work paid off. Six years ago, Jose Luis decided it was time for a change of scenery. He moved to Austin and opened Burrito Factory soon after. With the profits from Burrito Factory and Nene’s Tacos, the brothers bought their own cars and Jose Luis

bought his own house. For Jose Luis, the U.S. was home. It kept him safe, and it allowed him to provide for his wife, whom he met when he was a waiter in Chicago, and their two children. He didn’t think about going back to Mexico, at least not permanently. Juan, however, still yearned for his home country. As the brothers lived out their dreams in the U.S., things went from bad to worse in Mexico with the rise of drug cartels. “They will find any reason to get money out of you, even if you don’t have a hole to die in,” Juan said. Back in their hometown of Ciudad Hidalgo, Mayor Jose Luis Avila-Franco was accused of allying with drug cartel La Familia Michoacana, according to Central Noticioso Mexicana. The reality of Mexico’s situation hit the brothers when an uncle back in Ciudad Hidalgo received a phone call from the cartel. The cartel asked him for money and told him if he didn’t give it to them, they would kill him. Although their uncle moved to the capital, Morelia, to seek more protection, the brothers were cut off from their family and their country, unable to return for fear of the cartels. “I told my father I was thinking about going in December, but I was scared,” Jose Luis said. “They think you have money because you have a business in the United States, and then they’ll kidnap you. If you take your kids over there, there’s a danger that they’ll do something to them.” For Juan, the realization was crushing. In essence, the brothers had the American dream: a house, a car and a business. Yet, they lacked the most important thing to them: family. “I feel safe here,” Juan said. “But what Mexican wouldn’t want to go back to his own country? As a Mexican, I feel real bad because Mexico is coming off as bad at a world level.” For the brothers, all they can do now is wait. “It’s the irony of life,” Jose Luis said. “When I was in Mexico, I couldn’t come to the United States because I didn’t have papers. Now that I have papers, I can’t go back to Mexico.”

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## Visiting writer influenced by architecture, favorite bands

*Editor's Note: This is the sixth installment of a column exploring the literary world in Austin.*



By Madeleine Crum

Paul Lisicky's prose is architectural. Not only do his stories concern themselves with themes of community planning, home improvement projects and opposition to urban expansion, but his sentences are sturdy and carefully crafted with a touch of ornamentation.

Lisicky, who will be reading from his forthcoming novel "The Burning House" this evening, never intended to be a writer. While other children wistfully dreamed of becoming ballerinas and firemen, he had a serious goal of becoming a real-estate developer, "just like Bill Levitt," who is often considered the father of modern American suburbia for his development of Levittown in New York.

"I was impatient with being a kid," Lisicky says. "I was ready to get out into the world and begin planning, building and developing things."

In a way, he never had to give up his dream. His writing allows him to construct entire neighborhoods and question the function of communities in society. His vivid depictions of streets and homes serve as a solid foundation for his architectural themes. In an expressionistic manner, his stories focus on the ways in which the characters attempt to construct or

READ continues on PAGE 13



Courtesy of Star Black  
Paul Lisicky, whose writing focuses specifically on the function of the community in society, will read from his latest novel this evening.



Corey Leamon | Daily Texan Staff

J.P. Fierro began making his own organic soap in 2003 after learning about petroleum-based cosmetic products as a chemistry student. He now runs South Austin People (So.A.P.), selling a variety of products including a liquid soap that took two years to perfect.

## South Austin People brings home the bubbles

Local artisan concocts natural, vegetable-based soap blends

By Julie Rene Tran

The sharp, clean scents of lavender and rose waft from the backyard of a brown South Congress Avenue home, where there are just a few rusted kegs, dead grass and a drooling American pit bull rather than the garden one would assume is there. The scent is instead from local natural soap maker JohnPaul Fierro's laboratory, where he concocts vegetable-oil-based natural soap and body care products for his company, South Austin People, or So.A.P.

Fierro took the scientific method he learned as a former UT chemistry student, class of 2003, and turned them into a soap-making business. Although he originally wanted to study alternative fuels, he applied his knowledge of chemical compounds and oils to soap making.

While studying petroleum alternatives, Fierro learned of petroleum's frequent use in cosmetics. Petroleum leeches vitamins and natural oils from skin, which then wash away when we sweat or bathe and leaves the skin dry.

Fierro said he switched soon thereafter from commercial bar soaps to natural soaps, but instead of buying natural soaps from the store, he figured he could make them himself.

He now makes a living from the petroleum-free lotion and liquid soap that he sells at local farmers markets. It took Fierro two-and-a-half years to perfect his natural liquid soap formula, which contains a se-

cret blend of 10 oils that he said he's not willing to share with anyone. However, he did note the differences between some of the oils. For example, he said castor oil makes big, luscious bubbles and the sunflower oil adds a touch of softness and lends a smoothness to the bar.

"You can visibly see the different kind of soaps that come from different types of oils ... I started to do blends to show that you could have properties blending with each other," he said. "And I actually ended up liking the soaps a lot."

He and another So.A.P. worker spend a total of 16 hours a day, four days a week heating and mixing the oils in a cooking station in the backyard.

### ON THE WEB:

Check out a video of soap being made

@dailytexan  
online.com

### FAVORITE BAR SOAPS

LEMONGRASS AND GINGER

\$3 a bar  
Includes: Dried ginger root, lemongrass and essential oil  
4 out of 5 roughness factor

TEXAS PECAN EUCALYPTIC

\$3 a bar  
Includes: Ground Texas pecans and eucalyptus essential oil  
4 out of 5 roughness factor

SOUTH AUSTIN MUD

\$3 a bar  
Includes: Dead sea mud, chaparral leaves, black walnut powder and essential oil  
3 out of 5 roughness factor

SOAP continues on PAGE 13

## Documentary brings to light problems facing music scene

By Ali Breland  
Daily Texan Staff

Despite the Austin music scene's illustrious history, it has been harboring fundamental flaws that stand to compromise the interests of the artists involved, the core of its reputation, and what it stands for.

In October 2010 at the Austin Film Festival, Nathan Christ premiered "Echotone," his documentary on the current state of the Austin music scene. The film came at an appropriate and pivotal time. The changes in Austin music are becoming increasingly apparent, and not necessarily for the better. While there have been crippling changes like the development of downtown city living and the subsequent live music ordinances, the most detrimental obstacles don't come from an external entity but from within the music scene itself.

A major source of the problem can be attributed to greed.

This applies specifically to Run This Town, a hip-hop battle format that began as the brainchild of Austin rapper Doc Deuce. The group

initially met and battled in front of the Capitol before moving to local venues. Events such as these might provide performers with a platform, but tend to benefit only the founding artist, not the collective interests of local musicians.

*A major source of the problem can be attributed to greed.*

The blame by no means falls on Doc Deuce alone, but on a number of artists conducting similar events solely for their own purposes.

The local music industry functions like a free market economy and like any market that goes unregulated, it will die by its own hand. While in theory the city has

taken measures to account for this through its creation of the Austin Live Music Task Force and the Austin Music Commission, these institutions have either become defunct or have not achieved any substantial results.

Additionally, becoming huge isn't as easy as simply wanting it because the local scene is saturated with musicians, and playing for free to get exposure yields no profit. Even in the case of the relatively successful Black Joe Lewis & The Honeybears (featured in Echotone), who have achieved national acclaim, making a living remains a fantasy. Front man Joe Lewis still works for a fish-delivery service. Such is the case of virtually every artist in Austin. A very select few have managed to fully support themselves financially with their music careers.

Another contributing factor to the destruction of Austin's music scene is the corrosive role played by labels throughout the process.

Subsequently, talented, deserving

MUSIC continues on PAGE 13

## OSCAR OUTLOOK

### Portman leads race for Best Actress

By Christopher Nguyen

#### Best Actress:

Annette Bening, "The Kids Are All Right"  
Nicole Kidman, "Rabbit Hole"  
Jennifer Lawrence, "Winter's Bone"  
**Natalie Portman, "Black Swan"**  
Michelle Williams, "Blue Valentine"

Oscar experts have been touting this category as one of the few up for grabs, pitting Annette Bening as the veteran actress wronged twice (both times by Hilary Swank, no less) against Natalie Portman as the young but talented "it-girl." Beyond the misogynistic tones, such talk ignores that this race has not moved an inch from Portman as the frontrunner. She has checked every single box on the Oscar voters' lists to win the award: extreme diet and training as a ballerina in "Black Swan," her character's mental breakdown and a method-acting technique for the role. Most important, she gave the most startling and daring performance of the year.

#### Best Adapted Screenplay:

"127 Hours"  
**"The Social Network"**  
"Toy Story 3"  
"True Grit"  
"Winter's Bone"

For all the detractors of "The Social Network," the screenplay's wit cannot be denied. Aaron Sorkin weaved a classic tale of betrayal and greed into modern-day Silicon Valley and made mile-a-minute dialogue sound natural. Even though "The Social Network" lost much of its steam, this is the one category it cannot lose.

