



LIFE&ARTS PAGE 12

Kabob Yo provides fresh sandwiches, budget-friendly prices

NEWS PAGE 6

Cap Metro makes its final budge proposal

SPORTS PAGE 7

Wide receiver earns starting position back

THE DAILY TEXAN

TOMORROW'S WEATHER

High
91



Low
76

Wednesday, September 8, 2010

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TODAY

Calendar

'You made a woman meow?'

Get two helpings of Meg Ryan at the Paramount Theatre with "Sleepless in Seattle" at 7 p.m. and "When Harry met Sally" at 9:10 p.m. Tickets cost \$9.

Don't forget

Friday at 4 p.m. is the cutoff to drop any courses without your dean's approval.

Study abroad information fair

More than 50 study abroad programs will be featured at a fair at the Gregory Plaza from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Today in history

In 1892

The Pledge of Allegiance is first recited.

Campus watch

I swear officer; these are mine

300 Block West 21st Street
A UT police officer observed a non-UT subject sitting on a bicycle while looking at another bike. Several minutes later the officer saw the same subject attempting to ride away with both bicycles. During the investigation, the subject claimed that he had gotten too drunk the night before to safely ride his bike home. During a search of his backpack officers located several cutting tools, including a pair of bolt cutters. The subject claimed he used those tools at his job parking cars. The officers confiscated the bike and bolt cutters and issued the subject a criminal trespass warning.

Inside

In Opinion:

Title IX has flaws, but has given females opportunities **page 4**

In Sports:

Cowboys prepare for probable Superbowl run **page 7**

In Life&Arts:

UT students make an iPhone app **page 12**



Quote to note

"[A hurricane is] kind of like a party; people come, but if it's not the right mix of people or you run out of drinks it sucks, it never happens."

— **Anderson Price**
Business school graduate student

LIFE&ARTS PAGE 12

Perry hosts honors for fallen Texas heroes

By Daniel Sanchez
Daily Texan Staff

Monica Mani held her 4-year-old son and his green monkey in her lap, pointing to the gold star and certificate they had just received from Gov. Rick Perry.

The monkey is Eydelmen Mani Jr.'s security blanket, his mother said. Normally he leaves it in the car, but when the state of Texas presented his family a Star of Texas Award honoring the passing of his father, police officer Eydelmen Mani Sr., he felt compelled to bring it into the Capitol building with him.

"Rick Perry is just another man to him," Mani said. "This building, the history behind it — he doesn't understand any of that. What I want him to know from that is that his fa-

ther was a hero and didn't just die in vain or anything. He was honored the way he should have been and that he was here."

The award was created in 2003 by the 78th Texas Legislature and was originally meant to honor select peace officers, firefighters and emergency medical first respondents. Amendments in 2005 and 2007, however, expanded the honor to include all peace officers and federal law enforcement officers or special agents who were seriously injured or killed in the line of duty in Texas.

Perry thanked the families and coworkers for the sacrifices they've made, and the difference their loved ones, such as the elder

HERO continues on page 2



Officer Jacob Rivera of the Houston Police Department plays with Eydelmen Mani Jr. in the Senate Chamber of the State Capitol after the Star of Texas award ceremony.

Tamir Kalifa
Daily Texan Staff

Hermine pours through Austin



Tamir Kalifa | Daily Texan Staff

Sucharit Katyal carries an Indian harmonium to safety from a vehicle buried beneath branches in his driveway while Ardan Kumar offers cover from Tropical Storm Hermine on Harris Park Avenue, one block north of the UT campus.

By David Colby and Collin Eaton
Daily Texan Staff

Sandals and sunglasses gave way to umbrellas and rain boots as the fashion items du jour Tuesday as Tropical Storm Hermine poured record-breaking rainfall totals onto the Austin area.

Hermine moved quickly through Central Texas after drenching South Texas, where more than 7 inches of rain had fallen on the Corpus Christi

INSIDE:

Read on how the Red Cross prepares for flash flooding

ON PAGE 6

area before 10 a.m. Tuesday, according to the National Weather Service. Austin was spared the worst of the tropical storm, thanks to its high speed and a trajectory

that sent the most intense rainfall down the Interstate Highway 45 corridor, said NWS meteorologist Pat McDonald.

"It is good [for Austin] that it is moving so quickly during

HERMINE continues on page 6

Tuition aid plan facing budget cuts due to deficit

By Collin Eaton
Daily Texan Staff

A business management senior, Alex Ferraro, will end his undergraduate career at UT after collecting more than \$23,000 from the TEXAS Grant program, which faces significant cuts in the next legislative session.

Without five years worth of grants, going to UT — serving as a Student Government representative, "finding" himself and deciding to become a management consultant — wouldn't have been in the cards. Ferraro said that borrowing much more in student loans would have sunk him and his family in mounds of future debt.

"I have no idea where I would have ended up," he said. "The grant has made a massive impact on my life."

This fall, UT awarded nearly \$30 million in TEXAS Grants to more than 4,500 students like Ferraro, about 1,000 of whom are entering freshmen. The Toward Excellence, Access and Success Grant is tailored to needy, academically prepared students whose families are only expected to contribute \$4,000 toward the total cost of college.

In response to a directive in May from state leaders, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board proposed cutting 24,000 TEXAS Grants for students across

PROGRAM continues on page 2

Rivals clash for good cause

By Audrey White
Daily Texan Staff

The halftime show of the Red River Rivalry game this year will ring in a different key, as the Longhorn Band and the Pride of Oklahoma band compete to raise the most funds for the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Association.

The ALS Association offers services for those plagued by ALS, commonly known as Lou Gehrig's Disease, and funds research to find a cure for the disease, which destroys communication between the brain and muscles by killing motor neurons. This is the second year the association has

hosted the competition, increasing the number of marching bands participating from six to 20.

Bonnie Walsh, executive director of the ALSA South Texas Chapter, said OU drove the program last year and she is excited that UT will be taking part this year.

"We are ecstatic about the opportunity of bringing awareness to the country and region and at the sportsmanship of the bands at both of these schools that have embraced not only the competition but the philanthropic effort of what we're doing,"

GEHRIG'S continues on page 2



Shereen Ayub | Daily Texan Staff

Cmdr. Marci Gonzales and Lt. David Ortiz of the Austin Police Department follow up on a question over future safety measures.

APD holds public forum on surveillance cameras

By Aziza Musa
Daily Texan Staff

When neighborhood activist Lorie Renteria first heard about surveillance cameras, she knew her community needed them.

Renteria, who chairs the East Cesar Chavez neighborhood association's crime and safety committee, said her neighborhood has had surveillance in the past because of high crime rates, but the community no longer has the added security.

She and nearly 20 other Austini-

tes attended the Austin Police Department's public forum Tuesday to learn more about the installation of the cameras in the city. The forum's purpose was to educate the people living in the area about the cameras as that police hope will reduce crime rates.

Police estimated that downtown Austin will have about 25 cameras, spanning from 5th to 7th streets and from San Jacinto Street to Interstate

FORUM continues on page 2

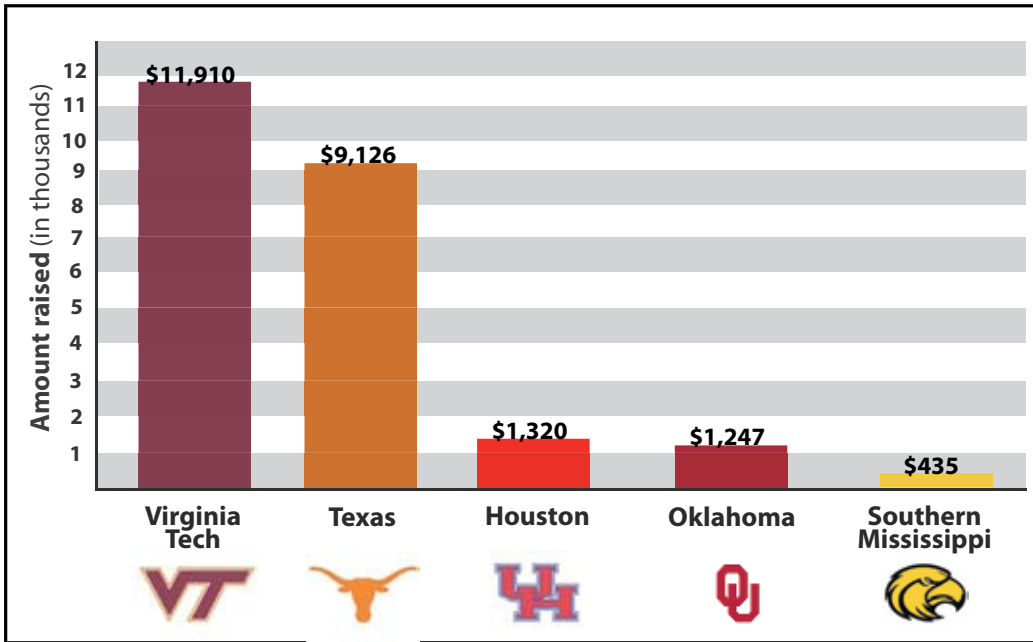


Illustration by Veronica Rosalez | Daily Texan Staff

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TODAY'S WEATHER

High 86 Low 75
BROKEN UMBRELLAS!

GEHRIG'S: Competitive spirits fuel search for cure

From page 2

Walsh said. According to the ALS Association website, the UT fundraising goal is \$45,000 and the OU goal is \$30,000. The bands will announce the winner at the UT-OU game on Oct. 2. At press time, UT had collected \$10,476, while OU had collected \$1,247.

Students in each band can

sign up on the website to start collecting money as individuals or by sections. All money is tallied by each band, and both bands' fundraising efforts will support the South Texas chapter of the ALS Association. Most students are using Facebook to encourage friends and family to donate to the project, said Nicole Masole, the Longhorn Band clarinet section leader.

"We're such a well-known organization, so why not participate in such a great cause?" Masole said. "We have so many students with so many connections that do so many great things and we have an opportunity to really get out there and raise money for the South Texas chapter of the ALSA. This is a great thing for us and for the program we're working for."

Marching band director Rob-

ert Carnochan said the friendly spirit of the competition will hopefully spur more donations and add a new purpose to the classic rivalry.

"It's definitely a competition in terms of one school wanting to raise more money than the other, but teaming up will help everyone involved, and the most important goal is helping ALS raise more money," Carnochan said.

FORUM: Residential windows, doors cannot be recorded

From page 2

Highway 35. Up to five cameras will be installed near the Rundberg Lane and I-35 interchange.

APD Officer Ryan Huling said the department was looking to crack down on prostitution and robberies along the Runberg observation corridor and aggravated assaults in downtown.

The data presented at the forum, however, showed rates of aggravated assault and property crimes, such as residence and auto thefts, dropped from September 2009 to September 2010.

"It's just a trend," said APD Lt. Pat Cochran. "It'll pop back up."

The cameras will be funded by a grant of \$350,000 and a donation of \$250,000 from the Downtown Austin Alliance.

The cameras will stay on continuously, wirelessly transmitting images to police headquarters. The surveillance footage will be automatically deleted after seven days unless an officer stores it for investigative purposes.

Images from the cameras will provide a clear picture even though they aren't high definition.

"When we were testing it on top

of the police station, we could read license plates at the Wendy's drive-through across the highway," Cochran said. "We could also get the basic description of a person."

In response to the privacy concerns of some citizens, APD officers said the cameras cannot record anything above the street level and will be able to block out residential windows and doors from the footage.

"Given the choice, for people that don't like police presence, would you rather have officers with guns patrolling the streets or could you compromise and have

an immobile pair of eyeballs?" Renteria said. "I know they are controversial, but it's something that we need."

APD still needs City Council's approval of the department's use of funds for the cameras before they can move forward. Still, they expect to install the first cameras at the beginning of 2011.

"From any indication that we have, when you're using overt cameras with big signs, it really cuts down crime in the area," Cochran said. "It's more of a force multiplier for the police department, if anything."

UT government professor dies after falling down staircase

A UT government professor died after falling down the stairs at his home Monday night.

Melvin Hinich, the Mike Hogg Professor of Local Government, started teaching at UT in 1982. He earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees in mathematics at the Carnegie Institute of Technology and earned his doctorate in statistics at Stanford University.

Gary Freeman, chair of the government department, said Hinich was unusual as a colleague because he was so distinguished.

"He had an international reputation as an economist, a statistician and a political scientist," Freeman said.

Hinich would have taught two small classes this semester. Both have been canceled, Freeman said. Freeman said he delivered the news of Hinich's death to a classroom full of students who were ready to turn in a written assignment. In the last few years of his life, Hinich's passion was to teach undergraduates and he taught smaller courses with significant writing components to get to know the students more, Freeman said.

As a teacher, Hinich had a peculiar method of teaching that did not connect with every student, but many still thoroughly enjoyed his classes, Freeman said.

HERO: Friends, family reflect on officer's enduring memory

From page 2

Mani, made through their passing or injury.

"That's what first respondents do," Perry said. "Give back birthdays. Give back graduations. Give back Christmas mornings while putting their own lives at risk. They make a difference in the purest sense."

Mani was among three Texas police officers who were honored

Tuesday, including fellow Houston police officer Henry Canales and Abilene police officer Rodney Tomlinson Holder.

Mani died in May in a car accident while on duty, his wife said.

James Lowery was the elder Mani's partner at the Houston Police Department. He said he never thought an incident like this would ever occur.

"[When I heard the news] I went straight to the hospital," Lowery said. "I sat there all night and half the day. He didn't pull through. It's real sad."

Lowery said Mani was always talking about his son — he was a true family man. Through tears, Monica Mani said her husband was a mild-mannered man.

"He loved his son more than anything," she said. "He loved his job, representing HPD and at home, he enjoyed watching movies and the Houston Rockets."

He would run around with his son, playing tag and hide-and-go-seek. They'd box together, watch cartoons and play Wii, she said.

But since her son is still too young to fully comprehend the ceremony, Monica Mani said she just wants one thing.

"I just want to make sure that my son knows that his father is a hero," she said.

PROGRAM: Many qualified students unable to receive any grant monies

From page 2

the state — what amounts to 10 percent of their budget for the 2012-2013 biennium.

Spokesman Andy Kesling said the coordinating board wants to preserve as much money for needy students as possible because it's in their best interest in the state of Texas. Kesling said the coordinating board wanted to avoid dropping any programs entirely and considered how all cuts would affect needier students.

"We hope that the Legislature will preserve as much as possible of [the grant program] because future generations of Texans depend on it," he said.

The state Legislature created the grant in 1999 and provided the program with \$20 million in 2000-2001. Over the years, the Legislature expanded the program significantly, providing \$614 million this fall, a 43-percent increase over the previous year.

Yet there are still hundreds more qualified students than the program can afford.

At UT, about 890 out of 1,900 qualified students couldn't get the grant. The higher education board requires UT to provide \$6,780 per

academic year to eligible students, and the University was allocated about \$6.8 million in TEXAS Grant money this year, said Tom Melecki, director of UT's Office of Student Financial Services.

"The long and the short of it is that we need more, not less, TEXAS Grant dollars if we are going to keep UT and other Texas colleges

"We hope that the Legislature will preserve as much as possible."
— Andy Kesling
Spokesman

es and universities affordable for needy students from low-income families," Melecki said.

Melecki said about 26 grants may become available after the 12th class day for qualified students as others decide to not attend UT.

State Rep. Scott Hochberg, D-

Houston, said the state leadership hasn't been interested in providing the money to adequately fund the grant program, especially considering that they would have to provide for new students as well as students who have been in the program.

After tuition deregulation, the price of higher education increased across the state, Hochberg said. And the cost for the state of just keeping even with demand for subsidized higher education is very expensive.

"We made a huge increase in the program this year to get back up to half of the eligible kids getting the grant," he said. "But now it sounds like some of that is going to be undone by the governor's action in holding back that grant money."

State Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, who wrote the TEXAS Grant bill, said the proposed cuts would devastate students already struggling with the high price tag of higher education. Ellis said students will need to make the cuts an issue in the upcoming elections and during the next legislative session.

"Silence isn't an option — there's just too much at stake."

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★ STUDENT CHAPTER ★

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US readies new Afghan offensive



David Belluz | McClatchy-Tribune

A sniper team from 101st Airborne moves into position in Zhari district of Kandahar. The next focus for U.S. forces in Afghanistan looks set to be Zhari district, the birthplace of the Taliban.

By Saeed Shah
McClatchy Newspapers
ASHEQUE, Afghanistan — Zhari, the birthplace of the Taliban movement and a major stronghold of the Taliban insurgency, looks set to become a battle zone where 2,400 U.S. troops will lead an attempt to reclaim the region for the Afghan government.

Zhari district is the last major piece in the slow-moving, behind-schedule military operation to repel the insurgency from Kandahar province and safeguard the city of Kandahar, the second-largest city in Afghanistan, to the east.

Mullah Mohammad Omar founded the militant Islamic Taliban movement in Zhari and in 1994 led an uprising against feuding warlords who were setting up roadblocks, robbing travelers at gunpoint and molesting children.

The Taliban first secured Zhari, where Mullah Omar ran a seminary in the village of Singesar, and the part of National High-

way 1 that passes through the area, and went on to conquer much of the country over the next two years.

The Taliban abandoned Zhari in the face of the U.S.-led invasion in 2001, but they made a return in 2006 — establishing an administrative structure, including tax collection and courts.

“This area is the Taliban’s Washington D.C.,” said Lt. Col. Johnny Davis, the commander of one of the three fighting battalions of the 101st Airborne Division that were deployed to Zhari in May.

He noted that until this summer, the U.S.-led international force hadn’t made Kandahar a priority, devoting its resources instead to adjacent Helmand province.

“The required concentration of coalition forces has not been here, but the concentration of Taliban is just as high as Helmand,” said Davis, the commander of the 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment.

For much of the time since

2006, a Canadian company fought a losing battle to clear the Taliban out of Zhari. Today, the 101st Airborne’s battalions provide a strength of 2,400 soldiers there.

The insurgents are holed up in a 25-mile sliver of lush farmland south of the highway that’s known to the U.S. military as the “green zone,” where trees and fields of grapes and pomegranates provide excellent protection.

The terrain is ideal for guerrilla warfare. A network of irrigation canals crisscrosses it and grape fields are laid out on earthen mounds 3 feet or more high — a unique feature of the area built to keep the fruit off the ground — grape storage huts with 2-foot-thick mud walls have withstood 500-pound bombs.

“These grape fields are agrarian trench lines. This is not Napa Valley,” said Capt. Dan Luckett, the executive officer at combat outpost Asheque, which is inside the Zhari farm belt, surrounded by Taliban-held villages.

American forces think there

are signs that the Taliban don’t have popular support. Residents of many villages abandoned their homes because of the Taliban presence. Poorer ones moved just north of Highway 1 to makeshift new communities, while the wealthier ones moved to Kandahar city.

“I was surprised that people were afraid of the Taliban here. I had expected a lot of hard-core support. People want to move back to their homes,” said Capt. Brant Auge, the commander of the outpost at Asheque.

“We’re trying to stress to the people that this (coalition military presence) is not something they’ve seen for the last nine years,” said Auge, a 30-year-old from Ocean Springs, Miss. “We’re trying to create a bubble, hold down the Taliban long enough to allow the local security forces to be in a position to take over.”

Women candidates face Taliban threats

By Laura King
Los Angeles Times

KABUL, Afghanistan — Five years ago, when Afghanistan was last preparing to hold parliamentary elections, Rahela Alamshahi would sometimes hop into her car and drive herself to campaign events in her home province.

This time around, the 41-year-old parliamentary candidate has made only a few clandestine trips to meet with supporters. Out on the campaign trail, such as it is, she wears an all-enveloping burka and sits in the back seat of the car.

“These are brutal times,” said Alamshahi, a mother of two with warm brown eyes and an easy, open demeanor. “The government has surrendered to the Taliban.”

Not since the five-year reign of the Taliban, which ended in 2001, have female candidates faced such intense political intimidation, the women say.

Even in Kabul, the capital, where campaign posters showing women’s faces are tolerated, the electoral placards are sometimes defaced with marks and slashes. But in villages where the Taliban is active, campaign workers are often too frightened to put them up.

Female candidates and their supporters receive a stream of threatening phone calls. Large campaign rallies are almost unheard of, because voters and office-seekers alike fear suicide bombings. Terrified family members sometimes plead with would-be lawmakers to drop out of the race, and some have heeded the call.

At a time when Afghan women believe it is crucial for them to be

politically engaged, fears are growing that the hard-fought gains they won in recent years will be reversed if the government and the Islamist insurgents strike a deal.

“More than ever now, we must be part of the political process,” said Shahla Rahimy, a 27-year-old candidate from a village on the edge of Kabul. “When people say, ‘Parliament is not a place for women,’ I want to stand up and show them they are wrong.”

In the current climate of fear, many female candidates are settling for what they call proxy campaigning: sending surrogates to meet with

their backers, making endless rounds of telephone calls to voters, working out of homes in relatively safe areas, such as Kabul.

Only about one-third of the country’s provinces are considered adequately secure for voting, by election observers’ reckoning. Electoral officials have already announced

that at least 938 of the planned 6,835 polling centers will not be used because they would be unsafe.

Almost every day brings new setbacks. On Aug. 26, armed men kidnapped a group of 10 campaign workers, all friends and relatives of candidate Fawzia Galani, as they were traveling in Herat province, in the west of Afghanistan. Five were later found dead; the rest were released.

Galani, as she awaited word of their fate, was distraught, but determined to continue with her run for parliament.

“We aren’t going to retreat,” she said. “Even with all these terrible problems, we believe in our aims, and we must do our best to achieve them.”

“The government has surrendered to the Taliban.”

— Rahela Alamshahi
Candidate for Parliament



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Men and Women 18 to 55	Up to \$3200	Healthy & Non-Smoking BMI between 18 and 30	Fri. 10 Sep. through Mon. 13 Sep. Fri. 17 Sep. through Mon. 20 Sep. Fri. 24 Sep. through Mon. 27 Sep. Fri. 1 Oct. through Mon. 4 Oct. Fri. 8 Oct. through Mon. 11 Oct.
Men and Women 18 to 45	Up to \$2400	Healthy & Non-Smoking BMI between 18 and 30	Mon. 13 Sep. through Fri. 17 Sep. Multiple Outpatient Visits
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OVERVIEW

The triumphs of Title IX

The UT women’s volleyball victory against Long Beach State on Saturday night was a near thing. The 15 women on Texas’ team won the first two sets, lost the third and fourth and triumphed, finally, in the fifth, 15-11. In spite of its closeness, the win was particularly sweet — it marked Texas’ 1,000th volleyball win since the program’s inception in 1974.

1974 was a big year for women’s athletics at UT. That year, the volleyball team got its first coach, Pam Lampley, who led the team to a 21-15 record, the best in Texas. Also that year, UT awarded the first women’s athletic scholarships, doling out just 10.

Not all of that occurred by happenstance. Notably, 1974 was two years after the 1972 passage of Title IX, the federal law mandating, “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.”

Boiled down, Title IX means schools that want federal dollars — a group that certainly includes UT — must make sure women have equal opportunities as men, such as the chance to join sports teams. What has the landmark legislation meant at UT? In 2007, UT offered more than 150 scholarships for women’s athletics, including some for women who play on our victorious volleyball team.

Nationwide, the influence of Title IX cannot be overestimated. Prior to Title IX’s passage, women’s athletic options were primarily restricted to cheerleading and drill team, but all that has changed now since most public high schools adhere to Title IX given that they, too, depend on federal dollars. Girls at many high schools can now run track, swim and play soccer, basketball, volleyball, golf, softball and tennis.

But Title IX’s history has been uneven. The bill’s origins lie in an executive order prohibiting federal contractors from discriminating on the basis of race, color, religion or national origin. In 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson amended the order to include discrimination based on sex. From there the order evolved into a bill — first, in the form of an amendment to the 1964 Civil Rights Act and then separated and passed as its own title on June 23, 1972. For the most part, Title IX moved relatively quietly through the legislative process to its passage. It was after the fact, when it became law, that it attracted strong supporters, critics and significant attention.

Nearly four decades have passed since Title IX became law, and the distance affords us a new perspective from which to consider its lasting effects. For one, there is overwhelming evidence to support the notion that Title IX has been a positive force for girls and women. There are the obvious ones: the dramatic increase in female athletes in high schools and colleges nationwide, which has been linked in broad strokes to all things good for the women’s movement, even to lowering teen-pregnancy rates, in the press. A recent study conducted by Betsey Stevenson, an economist at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, tethers roughly 20 percent of the increase in women’s education and about 40 percent of the rise in employment for 25-34-year-old women to the original policies put in motion by Title IX.

But no legislation is perfect, particularly when executed, and Title IX is not flawless. This year, the College Sports Council, an advocacy organization that describes its mission in part as reforming Title IX regulations, conducted a study showing that male soccer players at NCAA Division I schools get the short end of the stick as a result of schools trying to meet Title IX gender quotas. The numbers are striking: about 310 women’s soccer teams compared to only 197 men’s teams, and 8,117 female players in Division I compare to just 5,607 male players. The study reports that 93.1 percent of Division I athletic programs offer women’s soccer but just 59.2 percent offer men’s soccer.

These numbers have driven home their point and may raise questions about whether some schools need to take another look at gender equality of sports programs, keeping men in mind. Overwhelmingly, however, the effects of Title IX — increasingly a part of history — are still powerfully present and should be celebrated. The underlying reality: Equality and athletics allow girls and boys, men and women, to thrive and lead healthy productive lives. And congratulations to the UT women’s volleyball team.

— Susannah Jacob for the editorial board

GALLERY



Let’s get technological

By Jonathan Rienstra
Daily Texan Guest Columnist

I want an iPad. Or Kindle. Or Kno. Whatever.

I want the University to give whichever to me and I want it to give one to you as well. “I want” is a dirty way to continue this discussion, so instead, I am going to substitute “we need” the rest of the way.

Everyone will win if UT President William Powers Jr. will put an iPad with my name on it (or yours) up for sale, at a discount price of course, at the University Co-op. Hell, they can even make it burnt orange since everything else in the world is sold there in such a style.

Actually, let’s go one step further in this scenario and make the inside of the Kindle/iPad/whatever burnt orange as well — as in, you pick up an iPad from the Co-op that has been loaded with all the textbooks for your classes. Likewise, give all the teachers iPads that they can use to control the PowerPoint, lectures and what not. The best part is that, because the textbooks are already on the iPad that everyone is using to not play Angry Birds, those PowerPoints can be integrated into the digital textbook.

It’s no secret that textbooks are rarely found in classrooms. In fact, textbooks usually only hang out in libraries and on your bookshelf at home. This seems backwards to me. Why go to class and not use a textbook? Because they are heavy and cumbersome and this isn’t high school anymore. But having your textbooks on a tablet would allow them to be used by the professor instead of being either cast aside or considered as supplemental to lectures.

This marriage of classrooms and textbooks will put the University on the cutting edge. It is always easy to be reactionary, to wait until it becomes the norm before you act.

But I say screw dipping your toes in to check the temperature. Let’s take action.

The University can take action by moving away from archaic tomes that are outdated and behind the curve on their subject matter by the time they get published. That’s a painful thing to say for a newspaper guy like myself, but it is the honest truth.

Few people collect textbooks in the manner that they collect novels, so that whole “I-just-like-the-feel-of-a-book-in-my-hand” argument is half-baked at best.

Plus, it will be the future. It’ll be the Jetsons (if we get Kindles) or Star Trek (if we get iPads). Either way we go with this, the most important part to remember is that by being in the future we are that much closer to hoverboards.

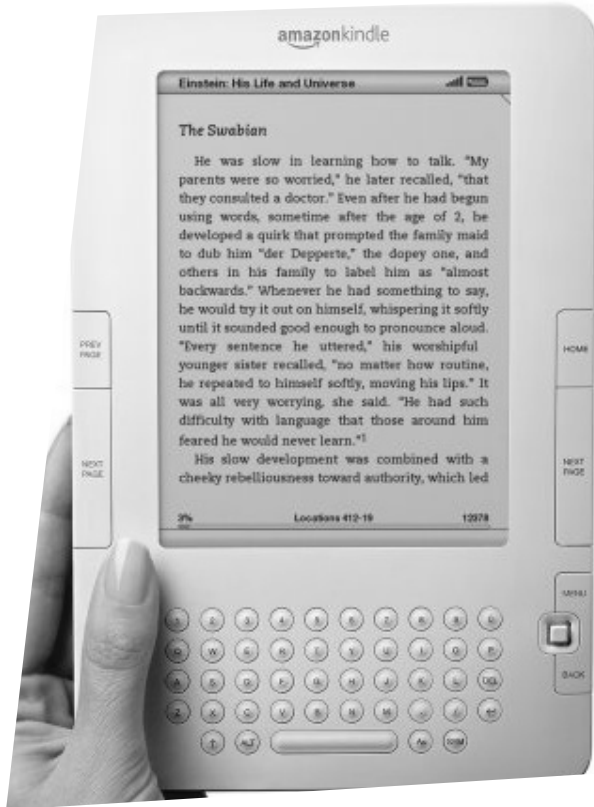


Photo courtesy of goXunuReviews, “Amazon Kindle 2 Wireless eBook Reader,” Nov. 2 via Flickr, Creative Commons Attribution

Also, it would be easier to achieve balance if your backpack had just one little tablet instead of 30 pounds of paper, and that’s true regardless of whether you are hovering or not.

It won’t be easy to convince textbook publishers to give up their racket of releasing new editions every two years, but if anyone can take action, it’s a school with the clout and purchasing power we wield. The University needs to be the mover and shaker on this one, not content to wait until others have told us the water is fine. A much more active move is to make the water the temperature you want, and giving me an iPad is the how to do that.

Rienstra is a journalism junior.

A place for meat in a sustainable food system

By Kate Clabby
Daily Texan Guest Columnist

It takes 24 pounds of grain to make 1 pound of beef.

This statistic, from Frances Moore Lappe’s 1971 book “Diet for a Small Planet,” is often cited in arguments for vegetarianism. Because animals eat more food than they produce, meat production also requires vastly more energy, land and water than plant-based food production. Statistics like this are slippery — I’ve read estimates of a cow’s lifetime petroleum use that range from 13.83 gallons to 284 gallons — but the argument stands: We could feed many more people with much less energy by eating plant food instead of feeding it to livestock.

Cows are usually considered the least sustainable form of meat because a cow’s body is least efficient at converting feed into body mass. This efficiency is known as a feed-conversion ratio. Industrially produced cows are fed mostly corn, mixed with fat and protein supplements, hormones and antibiotics.

Most of the energy, water and land required to make beef is embedded in that feed. The crops are treated with fertilizers made from fossil fuels, sprayed with industrially produced and toxic pesticides, heavily irrigated, and sown and harvested with gas-guzzling machines. Then they are transported from cropland in the Midwest to Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) where the cows are raised, often more than 1,000 miles away. There, the corn is ground and chemicals are added before finally making its way into the massive feeding troughs.

But cows don’t have to eat petroleum-based corn laced with chemicals. They evolved to eat grass, and grass can easily grow without irrigation or pesticides. In a CAFO, manure is expensive pollution. On a pasture, it becomes the only fertilizer the grass needs. Suddenly, harvesting and transporting feed is a nonissue: Cows given grassy fields to graze happily are harvesting their own food.

Much of Central Texas is too hilly for farming, and our dry climate means vegetable production usually requires an unsustainable amount of water for irrigation, but we can easily grow grass on

all of this land.

Additionally, including grass-based meats in our diets would allow us to source more of our food locally, reducing the carbon emissions from transportation. And because we can raise animals on land where vegetable production isn’t possible, “eating what the cows eat” is no longer an option. Feed conversion ratios aren’t relevant: Cows are turning grass — inedible to humans — into high-quality food.

What’s more, properly managed animal production is a great way to regenerate degraded land. Intensive crop production has eroded the soil and depleted the nutrients on most of America’s agricultural land. When cows are pastured on a large plot of land for a long period of time, their grazing pattern weakens the grass and contributes to the problem. However, a system known as management-intensive grazing actually increases soil ecology and builds topsoil. Virginia farmer Joel Salatin, who is featured in Michael Pollan’s book “The Omnivore’s Dilemma” and the documentary “Food, Inc.,” popularized this system which involves enclosing the cows in small sections of the pasture for short periods of

time, then giving the grass time to grow back before allowing them to graze the same area again.

Killing an animal is a serious decision and one that most probably don’t give much thought. Vegetarianism is a reasonable response to the reality of today’s beef-production industry. Additionally, we don’t have enough land to continue to support the average American’s level of meat consumption. Grass-based meat production requires more land per animal than crop-based meat production, so even though we can do it on marginal land, it can’t produce enough meat for us to eat at every meal.

In terms of environmental impact, a diet based on industrially produced vegetables is less damaging than one based on industrially produced meat. But a truly sustainable food system is about more than just doing the least damage. Rather than calculating which currently available option uses less fossil fuel and causes less environmental damage, we need to create a new system of agriculture that actually reverses the current system’s environmental damage. And in Texas, that system will probably have to include meat.

LEGALESE

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RECYCLE

Please recycle this copy of The Daily Texan. Place the paper in one of the recycling bins on campus or back in the burnt-orange news stand where you found it.



Chemical engineering sophomore Lina Lee selects a bowling ball in the UT Underground with Indian Cultural Association members Tuesday evening. The organization, which originally planned to host an event on the South Mall, convened inside due to the weather.

Michael Pruett | Daily Texan Staff

Cricket club bowls ‘wicket’ growth

By Ahiska Sanders
Daily Texan Staff

What began as weekly cricket matches among Indian UT students in the 1990s is now a 50-member organization that hosts events yearly with thousands in attendance.

The group’s second event of the semester, Beat the Heat, was forced indoors by rain-fall Tuesday night — organizers renamed it “Beat the Rain.” About 25 showed to the event, which featured free pizza, bowling and games of pool.

Interior design junior Sana Sabharwal said the Indian Cultural Association has notably grown since it was founded at UT in 1996.

“I can’t believe that an organization that began with 10 boys now hosts programs for 3,000 people and on \$15,000 budget,” said Sabharwal, the group’s president.

She said the group attends the annual international-student orientation to reach out to the incoming UT students with ties to India.

“They feel homey and comfortable around us because we speak their language,” she said.

Since then, the organization has

drawn crowds by hosting service events such as last year’s Benefit Bazaar, which featured Indian

dents who are involved in the planning of the group’s event, while second-tier members are

responsible for regular attendance at events.

Nutrition junior Palav Choski, the group’s public-relations chair, said the annual Jhalak event will be held in November and feature a talent show with \$2,500 in prizes. This year, Delta Kappa Delta is co-sponsoring the event, a first in the history of the event, Choski said.

“This year’s Jhalak will be even better,” he said. “Through the entire show, we show video clips of modern day India to help educate the crowd on what’s going on over there.”

“I can’t believe that an organization that began with 10 boys now hosts programs for 3,000 people”

— Sana Sabharwal, interior design junior

delicacies such as samosas and henna body art. The event raised \$687, which the group donated to Pratham UT, an organization that focuses on illiteracy among India’s youth.

Finance senior Anuj Khandelwal said the organization is meant to increase the visibility of Indian traditions at UT.

“The ICA focuses on bringing awareness about Indian culture to campus,” he said.

The organization’s membership is designed to accommodate students’ different schedules, Khandelwal said. The first tier includes stu-

Annual bike auction features cheap rides

By Amyna Dosani
Daily Texan Staff

UT Parking and Transportation Services will auction off abandoned, impounded and donated bikes today that have gone unclaimed for at least 60 days at the Annual Bike Auction on the fifth floor of Trinity Garage.

“We’re trying to put the bikes back into circulation and put more people on bikes,” said PTS Bicycle Coordinator Samuel Cortez. PTS holds the auction every fall semester as part of an initiative to encourage bicycling on and around campus. The program provides services for cyclists on campus, including safety tips, maps, gear, free air pumping and bike registration.

In the past, the bike auction has sold between 150 and 200 bikes and raised between \$5,000 and \$11,000. All of the money accrued from the bike sales goes back toward the bike program to fund their services, such as constructing new bike racks. Today’s auction will feature 160 different BMX, cruiser, hybrid, mountain, road and children’s bikes, all of which can be previewed on the PTS website.

Viewing is scheduled to begin at 5 p.m., and the auction is scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m. All of the bikes will be sold as is, and students will not be allowed to refund the bikes or store them with PTS after buying them.

INTRAMURAL SPORTS IN SEPTEMBER

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HERMINE: Storm stirs debris on campus

From page 1

daylight hours," McDonald said. "During the day [storms] tend to spread out, distributing the rain over a larger area, which means less rain for Austin. At night, [storms] become more condensed and dump more rain on a smaller area."

Despite avoiding the worst of the weather, Austin-Bergstrom International Airport reached a daily record for rainfall at 2.55 inches with more expected today.

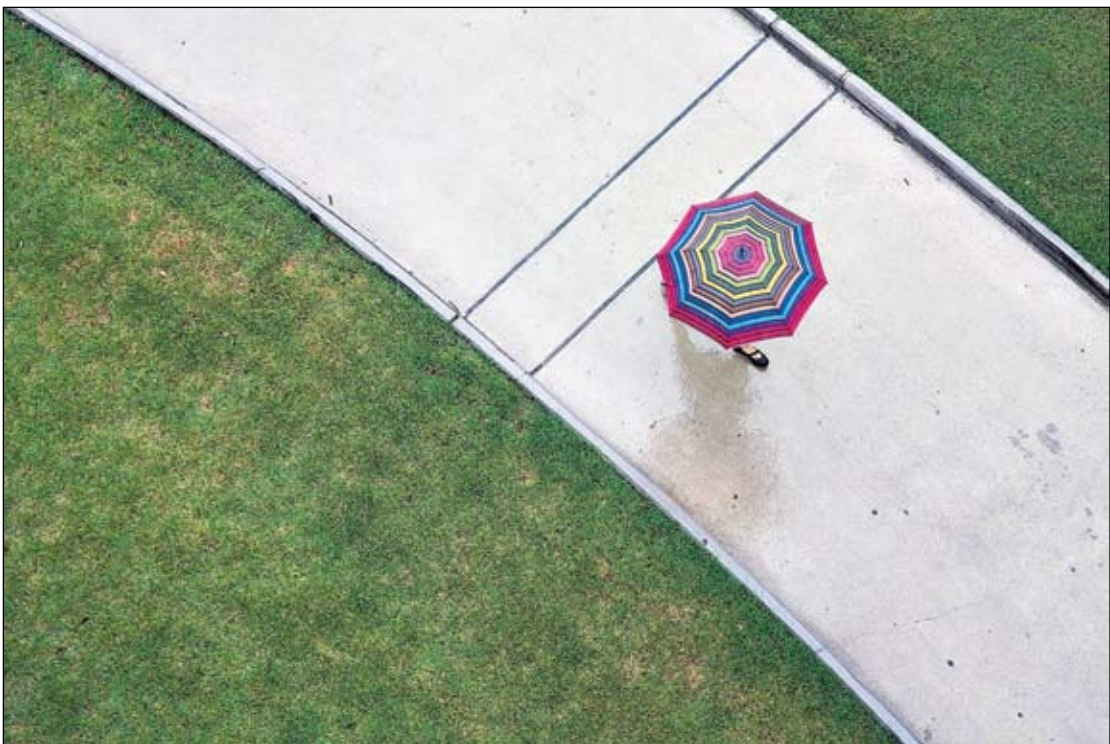
The inclement weather knocked out the traffic signals at the intersection of Guadalupe and Dean Keeton streets, creating bumper-to-bumper traffic and leaving commuters stuck in the rain during the afternoon rush hour.

The lack of extreme severe weather in Austin was little consolation to the UT students who spent much of Tuesday dodging puddles and huddling under any available shelter.

"I drove back from Houston at 6:00 this morning," said Haley Hussey, a theatre and dance and pre-journalism junior. "I didn't get to campus until 9:45. The rain added about an hour to my trip and made me 15 minutes late."

"I've had to change my socks two times today," said pre-journalism junior Austin Laymance.

The city of Austin closed three roads around the city because of



A student seeks shelter from Tropical Storm Hermine early Tuesday afternoon. The storm soaked Austin with up to 3 inches of rain, causing flash floods and road closures throughout the city.

flooding, according to the Austin Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

While students on campus were either soaked or skipping class Tuesday afternoon, the tropical storm caused rolling power blackouts, building leaks and trees to fall into UT-Brownsville parking lots.

Though classes were cancelled at UTB, the cleanup crew is expected to work overtime making the campus ready for classes Wednesday morning.

Rosemary Martinez, UTB's vice president for business affairs, said repairs and cleanup will probably cost \$20,000. Martinez said

the university will hire contractors to help with repairs and pay overtime salaries for their existing staff.

"We've got lots of debris all over campus," she said. "The wind blew harder than it did than during Hurricane Alex for about three hours last night."

Red Cross mobilizes to prepare for possible flooding

By Nadia Hill
Daily Texan Staff

Expectations of heavy rains and flash flooding because of Tropical Storm Hermine prompted hundreds of American Red Cross of Central Texas volunteers to prepare for possible relief efforts.

"We have highly trained volunteers on standby, always near a phone and ready at a moment's notice," said Amir Roohi, spokesman for the American Red Cross of Central Texas. "They are mostly in Williamson, Travis and Hays counties but are in the eight counties surrounding Travis."

While hurricane season technically runs from June 1 to Oct. 30, the recent rainfall totals from Tropical Storm Hermine are expected to be unusually high — between 3 and 5 inches.

"South Texas was hit pretty well Monday night with primarily strong winds, heavy rain, power outages and 50 to 60 mph winds," said Paul Yura, warning coordination meteorologist at the National Weather Service. "That's moved inland and tracked north through towns and straight through San Antonio. Even [in Charleston], we've seen 40 mph winds."

Flash flooding is the natural disaster responsible for the most deaths in the Austin area, according to the National Weather Service. In the aftermath of these events, the Red Cross provides victims with first aid, food and water.

"We rely heavily on the Red Cross for outreach," Yura said. "We provide the weather information, such as when the weather will change and where it's going, but the Red Cross takes care of outreach."

In addition to Red Cross members on standby, local police are also part of the recovery process.

"If there's some type of disaster

and people get evacuated, we work with the Red Cross," said Veneza Aguinaga, senior officer with the Austin Police Department. "We also tell people to not drive through flooded areas; turn around and don't drown."

The Red Cross suggests families develop a plan and create a disaster kit in preparation for possible flash flooding, Roohi said.

"Sit down and talk to everyone about how to get out of the community as soon as possible," he said. "Have everything necessary and get out quickly and safely when you need to."

Proposed budget to reduce shuttles, increase fare costs

Capital Metro decreases service hours of UT buses after reduced ridership

By David Colby
Daily Texan Staff

A reduction in UT shuttle service and potential fare increases highlight the proposed Capital Metro budget that will be voted on later this month.

UT shuttles have seen reduced ridership over the last few years because of a higher percentage of students who do not live on routes serviced by the shuttles, according to Cap Metro. This reduction in ridership has led to Cap Metro decreasing shuttle service hours by 7 percent between the fiscal years of 2009 and 2011.

"Shuttle hours are based on ridership patterns that we're seeing," said Cap Metro spokeswoman Misty Whited. "We have many students who are shifting to mainline routes so we are seeing less productivity on some of our shuttle routes."

Whited said UT students have increasingly moved into areas that are in easy walking or biking distance of campus, reducing the demand for shuttles servicing some areas of Austin.

Capital Metro has not made specific plans to cut trips on particular shuttle routes, although service changes are considered several times each year.

Facing harsh criticism from the Texas Sunset Advisory Commission earlier this year, Cap Metro will also consider beginning to charge senior citizens and disabled persons who currently use Capitol Metro services free of charge starting in January 2011. The potential increase is part of an effort to increase the agency's revenue earned by bus fares.

Cap Metro earns about 10 per-

cent of its revenue from passenger fares, according to data released by the agency. Under the proposed budget for next year, senior citizens and disabled persons would pay 50 cents per trip. Capitol Metro expects to raise about \$1.3 million through the fare increase, Whited said.

"We're shifting things so that it makes our structure a little more simple," she said. "Right now, we have so many different fares for all of our different services so we're trying to bring all of the different fares together to offer fares that are not as complicated."

Charging senior citizens and disabled passengers for public transit was also proposed as part of the budget process last year, but Cap Metro's board ultimately rejected the idea. This year, with a new board, the proposal seems to have more support, said Cap Metro spokeswoman Erica McKewen.

"I don't mind seniors having to pay for bus service," said Austin resident Anita Privett. "I think those that can afford it, like me, should pay. I'm just concerned about the inconvenience of having to pay each trip."

Capital Metro responded to Privett's concerns by stating that, should the new proposal pass, senior citizens and disabled persons would fall into the existing category of reduced fares and would be eligible to purchase 31-day passes at the reduced rate.

Capital Metro's board vote on the budget Sept. 24, however, approval of the budget does not guarantee approval of the fare increase. Following the budget approval, Cap Metro will hold a series of public hearings to discuss the potential fare increase with concerned citizens before a final decision is made on the increase.

1P

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

FOOTBALL

Wide receiver returns to starting roll

By Jordan Godwin
Daily Texan Staff

Two weeks ago, when Texas coaches told receiver Malcolm Williams that he lost his starting spot, he was devastated.

Williams took time to reflect on what he had been doing wrong, but he was mostly angry at himself for letting the grind of fall camp get the best of him. Coaches love the relentless effort he gives on every play, but the once rising receiver was starting to plateau and Williams knew he deserved the demotion.

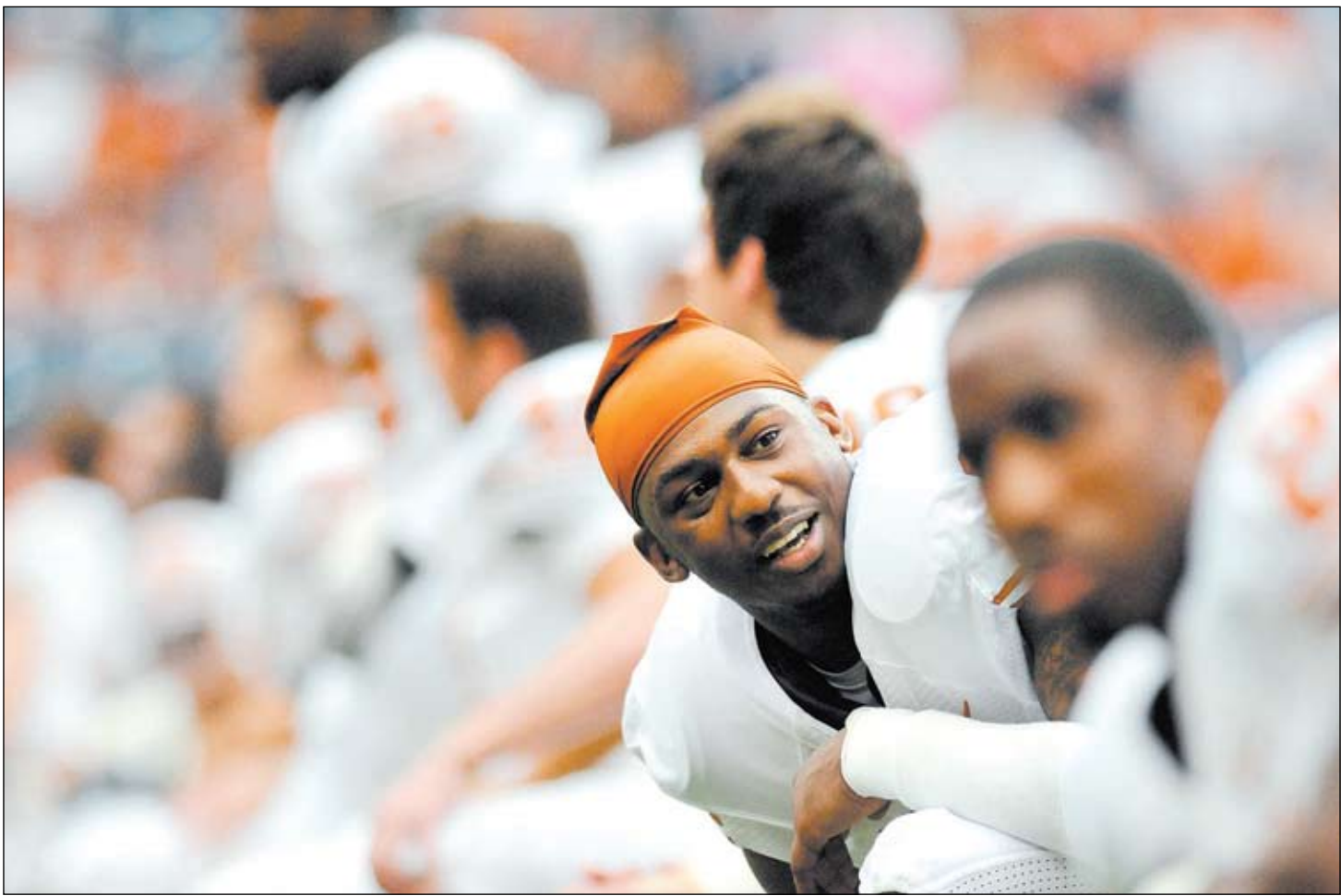
"It wasn't a shock," Williams said. "I knew it was coming, but it hit me hard because I knew I had to earn it back."

In Saturday's opener against Rice, Williams did just that. He led the team with four receptions and 77 yards. Williams had the same hunger and never-give-up attitude on each play that made him a favorite target of former Texas quarterback Colt McCoy the past two seasons.

"I definitely had to play with a chip on my shoulder," Williams said. "Because even though I had lost my spot, I'm still a contributing part of this team."

Because of Williams' impressive play, which included a game-high 47-yard reception that he almost turned into a touchdown, the coaches not only rewarded him the offensive player of the game, but he also earned his starting job back.

"He was the player of the game because he did just what you want a guy to do," said offensive coordinator Greg Davis.



Derek Stout | Daily Texan Staff

Malcolm Williams looks on from the sideline during Texas' 34-17 win over Rice in Houston on Saturday. Williams finished the game with four receptions for 77 yards.

"You hope they respond to not starting like he did."

All the player of the game gets is a gray shirt with a Longhorn logo on it, but it's the principle of the award that weighs the most.

Williams caught the coaches' eyes with his spectacular catches and his ruthless blocks. He's one of the few receivers who enjoys blocking because at 6-foot-3-inches, 225 pounds, he finds it fun to put a hit

on a smaller defensive back.

"It's always fun hitting those little guys whenever I get the chance," Williams said. "I take pride in blocking because I know they'll be hitting me later, any-

way. That's your chance to get back at them."

Williams' big size also made him an easy target for quarter-

WILLIAMS continues on page 8

VOLLEYBALL



Danielle Villasana | Daily Texan Staff

Junior libero Sydney Yogi gets set to return a volley from TCU in Texas' 3-0 win Aug. 27th.

Texas replaces star on defense

By Shabab Siddiqui
Daily Texan Staff

The Longhorn attack has been solid in its first two weeks of play, featuring kills by big swingers like senior outside hitter Juliann Faucette and sophomore utility player Sha'Dare McNeal set up by freshman Hannah Allison.

Meanwhile, a less bombastic Texas defense has quietly been the team's anchor. When the Longhorns passing and ball control faltered in a sweeping loss against now third-ranked Illinois on Friday, head coach Jerrett Elliott was left pondering what went wrong in the aberration from the defense's performance up to that point.

"I don't know why it happened," Elliott said. "We knew we had some areas we needed improvement on. It showed itself on Friday and Saturday, but again it was uncharacteristic to the way our team has been performing all season long."

A powerful Fighting Illini offensive attack triggered a series of errant first-hit passes by the Longhorns, making it difficult to set up good hitting opportunities of their own. Illinois out-killed Texas 20-12 in the first set and finished with a .361 hitting percentage, compared to .318 from the Longhorns'.

Much of the defensive responsibility is often placed on

the team's libero, whose differently colored jersey not only has her stand out on the court, but also on the box score. Former co-captain Heather Kisner donned the black jersey for the Longhorns and was one of the valuable pieces to leave because of graduation after last year's championship run.

"Heather's one of the biggest losses we've had," Elliott said. "Everybody talks about Ashley [Engle] and Destinee [Hooker], but Heather was a big component in holding down our offense and defense."

Junior libero Sydney Yogi

VOLLEYBALL continues on page 8

NCAA FOOTBALL

Boise State jumps Texas to claim third in coaches'

By Jon Parrett
Daily Texan Staff

Boise State is ranked third in this week's coaches' poll, released Tuesday. The Broncos moved up two spots from number five, leaping both Texas and Florida. Boise State remained third in The Associated Press poll, which isn't taken into consideration in factoring the BCS Poll, released after the eighth week of the season. Boise made the jump after beating Virginia Tech on Monday in Landover, Md. The Hokies are Boise's strongest opponent on their schedule, and the win puts the Broncos in a position to play for the BCS Championship later this year. Boise also plays Oregon State out of conference, and their toughest

games in conference come against Fresno State and Utah State.

Bush to lose Heisman ... maybe

The Heisman Trophy Trust is expected to strip former USC running back Reggie Bush of his 2005 Heisman Trophy, Yahoo! Sports reports. The trust is expected to leave the award vacant for that year.

This announcement comes on the heels of the Heisman Trophy Trust completing their investigation into Bush's eligibility. The trust is expected to agree with the NCAA's ruling made over the summer that Bush received im-

NATIONAL continues on page 8



Joe Jaszewski | Associated Press

Boise State is third in the polls and has something to celebrate about.

NFL FOOTBALL



Tony Gutierrez | Associated Press

Cowboys rookie receiver Dez Bryant catches a pass during training camp. Bryant is part of a receiving core that could be tops in the NFL.

By Will Anderson
Daily Texan Staff

One team's cut players are another side's backups.

The Cowboys announced their 53-man roster Saturday and absent were quality players like Junior Siavii, Patrick Crayton and Bryan McCann. Other NFL teams quickly snapped up the veterans, with McCann landing in Baltimore, Siavii heading to Seattle and Crayton getting traded to San Diego.

That Dallas can cut such talent shows the team's depth at most positions heading into the season. With many pundits predicting the Cowboys to finish atop

the NFC East and owner Jerry Jones salivating at the chance of watching his team play for a Super Bowl in his brand new stadium, anything less than a divisional championship will feel like underachieving to fans who have seen only one playoff win in the past 12 years.

Behind four-year starter Tony Romo, the Cowboys possess one of the most prolific passing attacks in the NFL and, if the team's aging offensive line can hold up all year, they could very well top last season's numbers. Romo threw for 4,483 yards in 2009 as Dallas averaged 8.2 yards per pass, second

best in the NFC. No. 24 overall pick in the draft Dez Bryant has some question marks around him after missing camp with an ankle injury, but if healthy, will greatly aid the already-stacked receiving corps.

The team also returns two 600-plus yard rushers in Marion Barber and Felix Jones. Barber, who finished with a team-high 932 yards, needs more carries if he wants to become a premier back, although Jones is also poised to take over the starting position after a stellar training camp.

DALLAS continues on page 8

SIDELINE

USA Today Coaches' Poll Week 2

1	Alabama (55)
2	Ohio State (4)
3	Boise State
4	Texas
5	TCU
6	Florida
7	Nebraska
8	Oregon
9	Iowa
10	Oklahoma
11	Wisconsin
12	Miami (FL)
13	Virginia Tech
14	Penn State
15	Arkansas
16	LSU
17	Georgia Tech
18	Florida State
19	Georgia
20	Auburn
21	Utah
22	West Virginia
23	Arizona
24	Brigham Young
25	South Carolina

LONGHORN SPOTLIGHT

Keenan Robinson #1



Position: Linebacker
Height: 6' 3"
Weight: 239
Class: Junior
Hometown: Plano

Robinson awarded Defensive Player of the Week honors

Linebacker Keenan Robinson has been named the Big 12 Defensive Player of the Week. Robinson tallied six tackles, one tackle for loss, one interception and a fumble recovery for a touchdown in Texas' 34-17 win over Rice on Saturday. Robinson shares the honor with Missouri defensive end Aldon Smith.

— Jon Parrett

Offensive lineman stays mean guarding Gilbert's blindside

This season, the offensive line wants to be known for it's mean streak that's worthy of "Hard Knocks." One of the players leading the efforts to make defenses shake in their cleats when they line up opposite Texas' offensive line is senior left guard Michael Huey.

"The [mean streak] is definitely there," Huey said. "If you put a microphone on the field you can hear everyone yelling, pumping each other up big time."

Huey came to Texas in 2007 and earned playing time immediately as a true freshman. Since then, he's played in 40 games with 13 starts.

Huey and fellow senior Kyle Hix have been fixated on the right side for the past three years, but with the graduation of the left side linemen last spring, Huey and Hix adapted to the left side to protect Garrett Gilbert's blindside.

Huey was never worried or concerned about playing on the left and it showed on Saturday against Rice, as he led an offensive line that didn't allow a single sack or tackle on Gilbert.

Huey was awarded the Boss Hogg Award by the coaching staff after Saturday's game, which is given to the most productive offensive lineman each week. He had only received the award once before, last year against Oklahoma State.

Though they did a solid job protecting Gilbert in the season opener, the offensive linemen aren't quite content yet.

"When we watched aren't, there were a few technical errors, a couple of tough breaks," Huey said. "But once we get them fixed this week, you'll see a huge, huge difference."

— Laken Litman

DALLAS: Offensive stars hope to shine

From page 7

Overall, Dallas' 22.6 points per game left something to be desired, and the running game will have to improve if the Cowboys want to win their conference.

Despite the questions on offense, head coach Wade Phillips is confident there won't be a drop off on the other side of the ball. After allowing an NFC-fewest 15.6 points per game, Dallas returns all but one starter on one of the league's most athletic units. The team grabbed Sean Lee plus a few more linebackers in the draft, ensuring depth at a crucial position in the Cowboy's 3-4 scheme, and promoted defensive back Alan Ball to a starting position at free safety.

The Cowboys face one of the league's hardest non-divisional schedules with home games versus Tennessee, Chicago and New Orleans and trips to Minnesota, Green Bay and Indianapolis. That means they'll be tired but hardened by the time they finish with road games against Arizona and Philadelphia in December.

Romo finally shed the reputation of a choker after winning a wild card game in the playoffs last season, but he'll need to build

on that playoff victory to ensure his future in Dallas. Phillips,

Key Games

• Oct. 17 at Minnesota



• Nov. 14 at New York



• Nov. 25 vs. New Orleans



• Dec. 5 at Indianapolis



• Jan. 2 at Philadelphia



despite last year's 12-6 record, is also under watch. If he can't win with this much talent, he might

never have the chance.

There's always preseason hype surrounding the Cowboys, but this year's team possesses the proper tools to make a deep run.

The Cowboys will be in the Super Bowl if ...

– Roy Williams and Tony Romo finally develop the mental link they've been missing, providing a No. 2 option for the All-Pro quarterback after Miles Austin. Williams' ascendancy could force Dez Bryant, Sam Hurd and Kevin Ogletree to raise their play, elevating the passing game to elite status.

– Left guard Kyle Kosier and right guard Marc Colombo return speedily from knee injuries. Kosier's replacement on the line, Montrae Holland, hasn't played since Dec. 7, 2008. Kosier could return as early as the second regular-season game while Phillips is optimistic about Colombo's recovery and said he may be available for the opener.

– DeMarcus Ware once again records over 10 sacks. The linebacker's pressure on the weak side frees up Anthony Spencer on the opposite end, while inside backers Bradie James and Keith Brooking (both top-30 tacklers) mop up in the middle.

WILLIAMS: 'I'm not going to let him down.

From page 7

back Garrett Gilbert in his first start at Texas. Texas fans were curious to see who might step up and become a favorite target of Gilbert's after growing accustomed to the combinations of McCoy and Quan Cosby, then McCoy and Jordan Shipley.

Gilbert was fond of Williams, raising the possibility of Texas' newest passing tandem.

"Malcolm has been great ever since I've been here," Gilbert said. "He's such a great athlete and he's a smart receiver. We're always on the same page, and he did a really good job making plays the other day when they presented themselves. Physically, he's a very big

target and he's fast."

Williams, who struggled at times last season with catching the ball, spent long hours of the offseason in front of the Jugs pitching machine to soften his hands. He's determined to stay on Gilbert's good side — and the coaches' — now that he's there.

"If [Gilbert] has a chance to throw me the ball," Williams said. "I'm not going to let him down."

Williams, who is from Garland, has shown flashes of greatness in his career at Texas. Last season, he caught 39 passes for 550 yards and two touchdowns, including a nine-reception, 132-yard game at Texas A&M. As a redshirt freshman in 2008, he caught 17 passes for 304 yards and three touch-

downs, including a masterful four-reception, 182-yard, two-touchdown showing at Texas Tech.

Because of those big-time games, coaches have high expectations of Williams, but they probably can't measure up to what he expects of himself. He's on each of the special teams and rarely gets a break during games. Now that he has his starting spot back, one would think Williams will shift to cruise control and relax.

Not hardly. "Getting my spot back only makes me hungrier," Williams said. "Now, I just have to work even harder because teams are expecting me to be good, and they'll guard me closer. I know I have to step up, and I'm ready to do just that."

VOLLEYBALL: Longhorns look to regroup after loss to Illinois

From page 7

stepped into the starting role this year and leads the team with 3.36 digs per set, as well as 72 service receptions. Yogi started the game against Illinois feeling under the weather and left after the second set, also missing Saturday's game against 23rd-ranked Long Beach State.

Yogi said she, like Elliott, was puzzled by the team's passing over the weekend but feels it will be ready for the upcoming tournament.

"I feel like our passing thus far throughout the year — from preseason to our matches before this weekend — had been pretty good, and it just went to pieces this weekend, and I'm not quite sure what happened," she said. "But we've been working hard on it and we did some more stuff on passing and on relationships [during practice]. We've been trying to fine tune it and I think it will really help a lot this coming weekend."

With Yogi out for the game, another Hawaii product was called to step in. Freshman Sarah Palmer, whose high school, Hawaii Baptist Academy, is fewer than 4 miles from Yogi's alma mater, Punahou School, recorded 15 digs in her debut start against Long Beach State.

Elliott said he was impressed with Palmer's performance, especially considering that she had just come off of an injury and had little knowledge of the systems the team was running.

"I thought Sarah did an excellent job," Elliott said. "She got thrown into the fire, literally, and she responded really well. She's a competitor and we liked what we saw considering how little time she's spent on the court



Nasha Lee | Daily Texan Staff

The Longhorns celebrate after a win over Houston on Aug. 28 in Gregory Gym. Texas is 5-1 on a young season.

with the team."

Yogi will remain the starter as her aggressiveness, experience and comfort with the system add a lot of confidence to the team's backcourt, Elliott said.

The combination of Yogi, Palmer and freshman libero Julie Olschwanger will likely serve as the defensive foundation for the Longhorns for years to come.

"As far as skills go, they're ex-

cellent players," Yogi said. "It pushes all of us every single day to try and get better and to compete for the spots on the court. The things we've kind of taught them is just what Texas volleyball is all about in terms of punctuality, systems, the fight and just what we're known for. And they've been catching on really quickly and filling right in, so it's been awesome."

NATIONAL: Wyoming football suffers Labor Day loss

From page 7

proper benefits while at USC, citing USC for "lack of institutional control." The NCAA penalized the Trojans by placing them on four years probation, implementing a two-year bowl ban and taking away scholarships.

The Heisman Trophy Trust claims that the reports are premature, and maintains that the decision is premature.

"I can tell you the Heisman Trophy Trust has made no decision regarding the Reggie Bush situation," said Robert Whalen on Tuesday. Whalen is the executive director of the Heisman Trophy Trust.

Freshman linebacker dies

The Wyoming Cowboys were hit with tragedy Monday when freshman linebacker Ruben Narcisse died in car accident. Narcisse, 19, was returning from visiting friends in Fort Collins, Colo., over the weekend with other members of the team, when the pickup he was riding in drifted off of U.S. Highway 287 around 5:30 a.m. The driver, freshman cornerback Trey Fox, appeared to fall asleep, and police said that drugs and alcohol were not believed to be factors. Wide receiver Christian Morgan was also in the car and had sur-

gery on his elbow following injuries sustained in the accident. He is expected to be released from the hospital today.

The Cowboys travel to Austin to play Texas on Saturday, and Wyoming head coach Dave Christensen is trying to keep his team focused on football. The team held usual team meetings and practice on Tuesday.

"What we're trying to do now is just get back on track to do everything we can to prepare and play a very good Texas team," Christensen said.

The Cowboys plan to wear a decal on their helmets with Narcisse's initials this Saturday.

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Event stresses value of engineering

By Yvonne Marquez
Daily Texan Staff

A multidisciplinary background in engineering is becoming necessary to solve modern-world problems, engineering professor Michael Webber said at the Austin Forum on Science, Technology & Society on Tuesday.

The discussion was part of The Next Generation Engineer event at the AT&T Conference and Education Center, which featured business people and academics assessing today's engineering field.

John Volkman, corporate marketing fellow at Advanced Micro Devices, moderated the panel, which included Allyson Peerman, AMD vice president for public affairs, and Melissa Lott, mechanical engineering and public affairs graduate student.

The panel members agreed that engineers must have "21st century

skills," such as leadership, interpersonal communication skills, critical thinking, cross-cultural knowledge and background in policy and finances.

"We need people who can understand different cultures, communication, critical thinking, looking at problems beyond the technical aspect [and] looking at things holistically," Peerman said. "We're looking for people with multidisciplinary experiences to bring those with them into the workplace and continue to have those experiences while they're employed."

Peerman said AMD and other high-tech companies such as IBM are aware that they need these type of engineers. But students don't have to spend more money on their education when they can develop their skills informally by, for example, studying abroad or

being fluent in a foreign language, she said.

Because of new issues in the field, engineers today will have to know more than their counterparts 50 years ago, Webber said.

"I think there is a greater realization today than in the last four or five decades that the problems that we're dealing with are more global in nature and multidisciplinary," he said. "And the education schemes and curriculum were created in a post-World War II mindset, [which was] greater scientific depth as an enabler for solutions for societal problems. We developed that attitude because it worked. But things have changed."

He said engineering students can look to liberal arts courses and even another year or two as an undergraduate to help strengthen the new in-demand qualities.



Nasha Lee | Daily Texan Staff

John Volkman, Allyson Peerman, Michael Webber and Melissa Lott participate at the Austin Forum on Science, Technology & Society, on Tuesday.



Ed Sinclair, right, and fellow citizens listen to a hearing on forensic testing's accuracy in Texas at the Capitol Tuesday.

Senate holds hearing into DNA backlog at crime labs

By Chris Thomas
Daily Texan Staff

Major Texas city crime labs, such as those in Houston and Dallas, have significant backlogs of untested DNA material from sexual assaults, witnesses told the Senate Committee on Criminal Justice during a Tuesday hearing.

Harris County, which contains part of Houston, has no backlog of forensic materials and could take up the slack for the state's biggest cities, but that would require \$20 million more in state funding annually, the Harris County district attorney told the senate.

"Forensic science labs are imperative, valuable crime fighting tools that protect the innocent,"

said Pat Lykos, Harris County district attorney. "The people of Houston are at risk because we don't have the capacity to do the job we should be doing."

The number of untested rape kits at the forensics office of the Houston Police Department could be as high as 4,000, she said, but Harris County could alleviate that backlog with more state funding, while serving as a model for crime labs statewide.

Lykos said plans are already being made to send new cases to the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences from the Houston police, citing the department's poor record in timely completion of investigations.

State Sen. John Whitmire, D-Houston, held the hearing to highlight the poor state of the Houston Police Department's forensic crime lab, which he described as a "broken system."

"I find it unconscionable to ask women to carry rape kits and then not have them tested," he said.

Jeff Boschwitz, vice president of Orchid Cellmark, one of the largest worldwide providers of human DNA testing, said cooperation with the private sector could also cut down on the backlog in Texas' largest cities.

His company, which has contracts with the Harris County as well as Houston and Fort Worth police departments, took on ap-

proximately 300 cases, including sexual assault cases, last year. Each rape kit costs about \$1,000 to test.

There are six other crime labs accredited by the Texas Department of Public Safety that could be used to combat the backlog as well, Boschwitz said.

Steven McCraw, director of the Texas Department of Public Safety, said that a total elimination of backlogged cases would not be immediate after receiving further funding. He said the goal of the department is to process all of the backlogged cases in the state within 180 days.

"Our objective is to get the conviction of the right subject, not just convict any subject," he said.

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WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

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N C E (A) S H A W R A I X V G S
U C V (B) R I K Z I E I O G A S
S I (A) E L O C A M V N N G S
S T L (S) T T I N U R I G N O T
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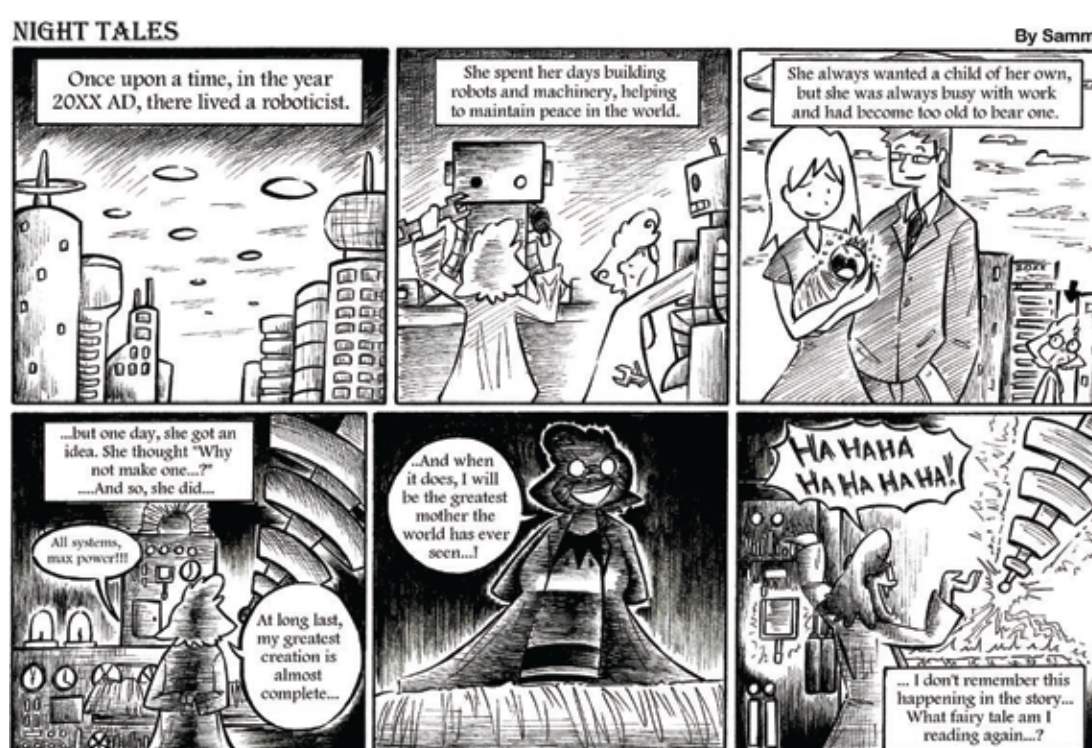
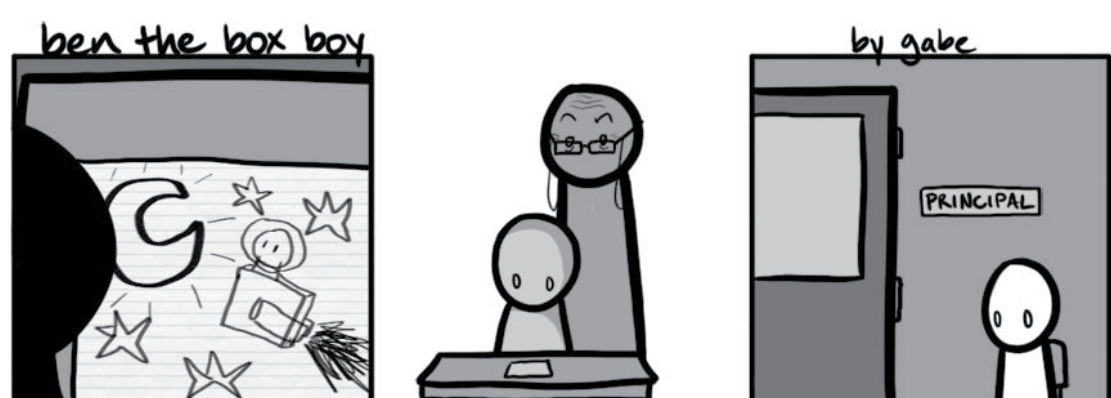
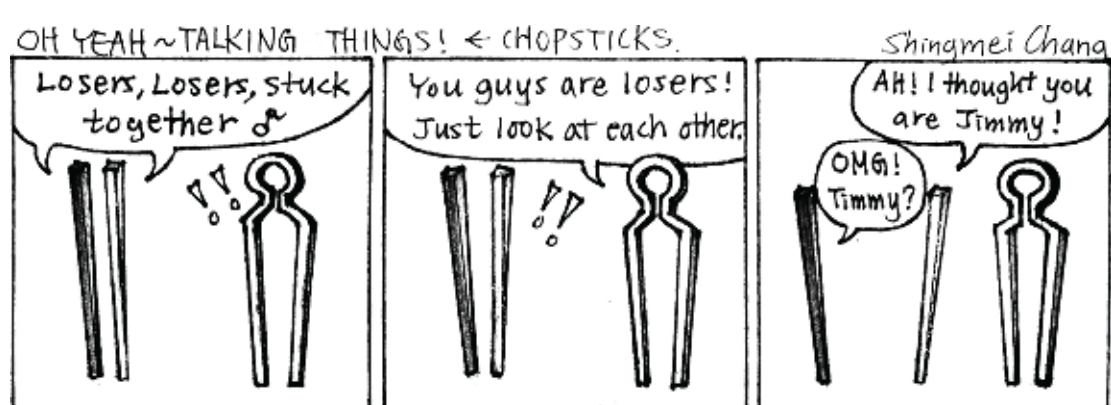
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RECYCLE

A cartoon illustration of a bus driver sitting at the wheel, looking out the window. A speech bubble from the driver says, "I am certain the busdriver despises me." The driver is a man with a mustache, wearing a light-colored shirt and dark pants. The bus interior is visible, including the steering wheel, dashboard, and a rearview mirror. The drawing is in a simple, sketchy style with black outlines and some grey shading.



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Edited by Will Shortz No. 0804

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| <p>Across</p> <p>1 Part of an archipelago</p> <p>5 Urban commuter's aid</p> <p>11 "My dear ____"</p> <p>14 Gorged, gorged and gorged some more, informally</p> <p>16 Blow away</p> <p>17 Unwritten reminders</p> <p>18 "Top Gun" target</p> <p>19 Zen enlightenment</p> <p>20 Wimbledon do-over</p> <p>21 RC, e.g.</p> <p>22 Sail support</p> <p>23 The Pirates of the N.C.A.A.</p> <p>25 ID entered on every I.R.S. form</p> <p>26 "My ____ Private Idaho," 1991 film</p> <p>28 Lip-puckering</p> <p>29 Robert Frost poem about a snowfall</p> | <p>32 Anything to talk about</p> <p>36 Clock face</p> <p>37 Shaped like pizza slices</p> <p>40 "99 Luftballons" band, 1984</p> <p>41 Shopaholic's indulgence</p> <p>43 It may have wire binding</p> <p>45 Trees loved by squirrels</p> <p>48 Sch. in Columbus</p> <p>49 Halves of qts.</p> <p>50 Oranges, reds and golds</p> <p>54 Busy bee</p> <p>56 Impolite</p> <p>57 Comic Charlotte</p> <p>58 Pageant crowns</p> <p>60 Swearing-in phrase</p> <p>61 Petrify ... or what five alternating words in 17-, 23-, 49-, 43- and 50-Across can do?</p> | <p>63 Number after many a state postal abbr.</p> <p>64 Many a Twitter message</p> <p>65 Taxonomy suffix</p> <p>66 Undemanding courses</p> <p>67 Nothing, in Nantes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Down</p> <p>1 Big name in pet food</p> <p>2 The Titanic, for one</p> <p>3 Was a sounding board</p> <p>4 Road runners</p> <p>5 Neighbor of Java</p> <p>6 Dept. of Defense branch</p> <p>7 Embezzled, e.g.</p> <p>8 Mozart's "Ave Verum Corpus" and others</p> <p>9 Playground retort</p> <p>10 Residents of 10 Downing St.</p> | <p>33 Alternative to mushroom or</p> <p>42 Break a fast</p> <p>44 One with no tan</p> <p>53 Minuscule, informally</p> |
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| 33 Alternative to mushroom or sausage | 42 Break a fast | 53 Minuscule, informally |
| 34 Spellbound | 44 One with no tan lines | 55 Western, in slang |
| 35 Wham-bam-thank-you-ma'am types | 46 Czech currency | 58 Oceans |
| 36 1960s band with a car-related name, with "the" | 50 Humid day hair problem | 59 Viewed |
| 37 "Savage good!" | 51 It's mastered in a studio | 61 Stiff ballet shoe part |
| | 52 Rx for Parkinson's | 62 Reason for a service break at Wimbledon |

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RUNNING: Exercising outdoors may deter treadmill boredom

From page 12

build up your mileage," Tam said. "Sometimes people are too unreasonable with their goals at first and try to run 5 miles without prior training. That's bad and you can injure yourself because your body hasn't adapted yet."

Even athletes or people who are returning to running after a break should avoid starting too much too soon, Ybarra said.

"Cardiovascular-wise, an athlete might be in shape for a 7-mile run, but the bones and muscles aren't going to be used to it yet," Ybarra said.

Stretching and doing a short jog to warm up the muscles is also important in avoiding pain and injury. It is also good to do a cool-down jog — the length of about one lap around a track — instead of walking suddenly after a run to ease the heart rate down, Tam said.

Many first-timers become discouraged and quit running because they find it painful and boring, Tam said. Running with a friend can make running more relaxing and social, he suggested.

The Texas Running Club consists of three groups who meet every night: cross country/track, marathon and recreational. Beginners who are not interested in competing — or competing quite

yet — can choose to run with the recreational runners, who run 2 to 5 miles, Tam said.

Take it outside

For those who get bored with running in circles at Gregory Gym or resorting to the treadmill, running outdoors can keep things fresh. People who suffer from weak ankles should avoid running on uneven terrain, however, Ybarra advised.

Lady Bird Lake is possibly the most popular site to run in Austin, with its bridges and trail that stretches more than 10 miles around alongside the water. The lake trail is a great place to run with a dog or with other runners and also offers a great view of the city.

For someone interested in a more woodsy, rough terrain that can be used for other outdoor activities, the nearly 8-mile long Barton Creek Greenbelt offers cliffs for climbing and the creek for swimming.

The Capitol also provides a historical and scenic place to run with its Trail of Trees, home to 25 different species of trees. It's also a safe place to run at night, with bright lights and a state trooper or two hanging around nearby.

These are only a few of several trails in Austin. A list of all the trails can be found at ci.austin.tx.us/parks/traildirectory.htm.



Casey Rup | Daily Texan Staff

Rene Pinnell, Eric Katerman, Anderson Price, A.T. Fouty and Richard McClellan are part of the team that recently created the Hurricane Party app for the iPhone. The application works to send out event invitations to friends so they can easily locate the sender.

APP: Hurricane to 'bridge' tech gaps

From page 12

pany.

With a start-up investment of \$20,000 and legal assistance from Capital Factory, the team then expanded to include Price, UT mechanical engineering graduate Richard McClellan, computer science senior Matt Keas and UTSA graduate A.T. Fouty. The Hurricane Party software was developed by mid-August, submitted to Apple and gained approval for production on Aug. 31. Now the company is promoting the app around Austin, encouraging people to download it to help them test for glitches. The company was also recently accepted into the inaugural class of Texas Venture Labs, a University-wide initiative to nurture entrepreneurship on campus.

"It's a free mobile application that allows you to create spontaneous events and broadcast those events prior and during the event to your friends," Price said. "So we

tin, such as J. Black's Feel Good Lounge or Birds Barbershop where you will get some form of discount for taking a group of friends there. Businesses can also

gets more customers and the Hurricane Party user gets a discount, as well as some help deciding which local spots to frequent.

The app is similar to Foursquare and Gowalla in the location function, though the makers of Hurricane Party are looking to be more dynamic.

"We are all about broadcasting intent, rather than locality, helping share that with a defined set of friends rather than the whole world," Price said. "The app is itself a call to action through the offers, but it also lets each user project that call out to their friends. Rather than broadcast past experiences, we are about creating new ones."

For more information on launch parties and to download the app, go to hurricaneparty.com or the iTunes App Store.

"So we consider ourselves the bridge between social networking and actually being social."

— Anderson Price
Business school graduate student

consider ourselves the bridge between social networking and actually being social."

One incentive of using the app is setting up a Hurricane Party with a partner company in Aus-

go on the website and initiate an offer for a discount, which can be accessed by any Hurricane Party user.

It would be a win-win situation, Price said: The local business



VOTE! in The Daily Texan's FALL 2010 UTMOST SURVEY

The UTmost Survey offers students, parents, shop owners, patrons, faculty/staff members and the entire UT community the opportunity to write in choices for their ultimate favorites. From happy hour specials to study spots on campus, the UTmost Survey results are presented in a special edition that publishes Oct. 13.

THE RULES

- Please write clearly
- No photocopied surveys
- Only one survey submission per IP address
- Only one hand-delivered survey per person
- One one mailed-in survey per envelope
- All forms of survey submission must be received by **Friday, Sept. 24 at 6 p.m.**

You may submit your UTmost choices in three ways:

- online at <http://www.dailytexanonline.com>
- in person at the Hearst Student Media Building, **HSM 3.200** from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- via mail, addressed to: **Texas Student Media, The University of Texas at Austin, P.O. Box D, Austin, TX 78713**



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- Campus/Neighborhood Bar _____
- Vegetarian/Vegan Food _____
- Sandwich Shop _____
- Coffeehouse _____
- Sushi _____
- Trailer Food _____
- Barbecue Joint _____
- Sweet Treat _____
- Late Night/24-Hour _____

CAMPUS

- UT Athlete _____
- Study Spot _____
- College at UT _____
- Student Organization _____
- Food on Campus _____
- On-Campus Residence Hall _____
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- Event _____
- RecSports/Gregory Gym Offering _____
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- Hair Salon _____
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ENTERTAINMENT

- Music Venue _____
- Festival _____
- Museum _____
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- Movie Theater _____
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SHOPPING

- Grocery Store _____
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UTMOST OF ALL

- The best of the best _____

Innovative app enables users to plan social storms

By James Jeffrey
Daily Texan Staff

On the first day of class in spring 2009, when design graduate student René Pinnell was assigned to take something occurring in nature and turn it into a product — better known as “biomimicry” in the design world — he thought of a hurricane.

He likened the complicated buildup of the storm to that of a party and, wanting to streamline the process of event planning, came up with the concept of Hurricane Party.

Hurricane Party is an iPhone application that helps create a spontaneous social event by allowing the user to broadcast a potential get-together, locate friends, pinpoint event locations and get the ball rolling.

“[A hurricane is] kind of like a party; people come, but if it’s not the right mix of people or you run out of drinks, it sucks, it never happens,” said Anderson Price, a second year business school graduate student who monitors the financial side of the app. “But if you have the perfect mix of the right people — men, women, drinks — you have the perfect party: it rages longer, just the way a hurricane happens.”

Pinnell discussed the idea further with Eric Katerman, who recently graduated from UT with a Ph.D. in math, and Avram Dodson, who is enrolled in Columbia University, deciding it would work as an iPhone app that provides a way to broadcast how and where you are going to party.

In May they applied to Capital Factory, a business incubator in Austin, and were accepted as one of five new businesses from 250 applications from across the country, being the only Austin-based com-

APP continues on page 11

Running tips keep enthusiasts safe, fun

Choosing correct shoes, setting goals realistically assist amateur athletes

By Priscilla Totiyapungprasert
Daily Texan Staff

When people pick up running at some point in their lives, it’s usually for health or recreational purposes. For someone who has never really run before, it might look as simple as slipping on a pair of sneakers and finding the nearest sidewalk. Let a couple weeks or months go by and it might be a challenge to not give up in exhaustion and discouragement.

Even if you don’t plan on becoming “a serious runner,” there are some things to keep in mind to stay injury-free and not become lax about your running goals.

Why shoes matter

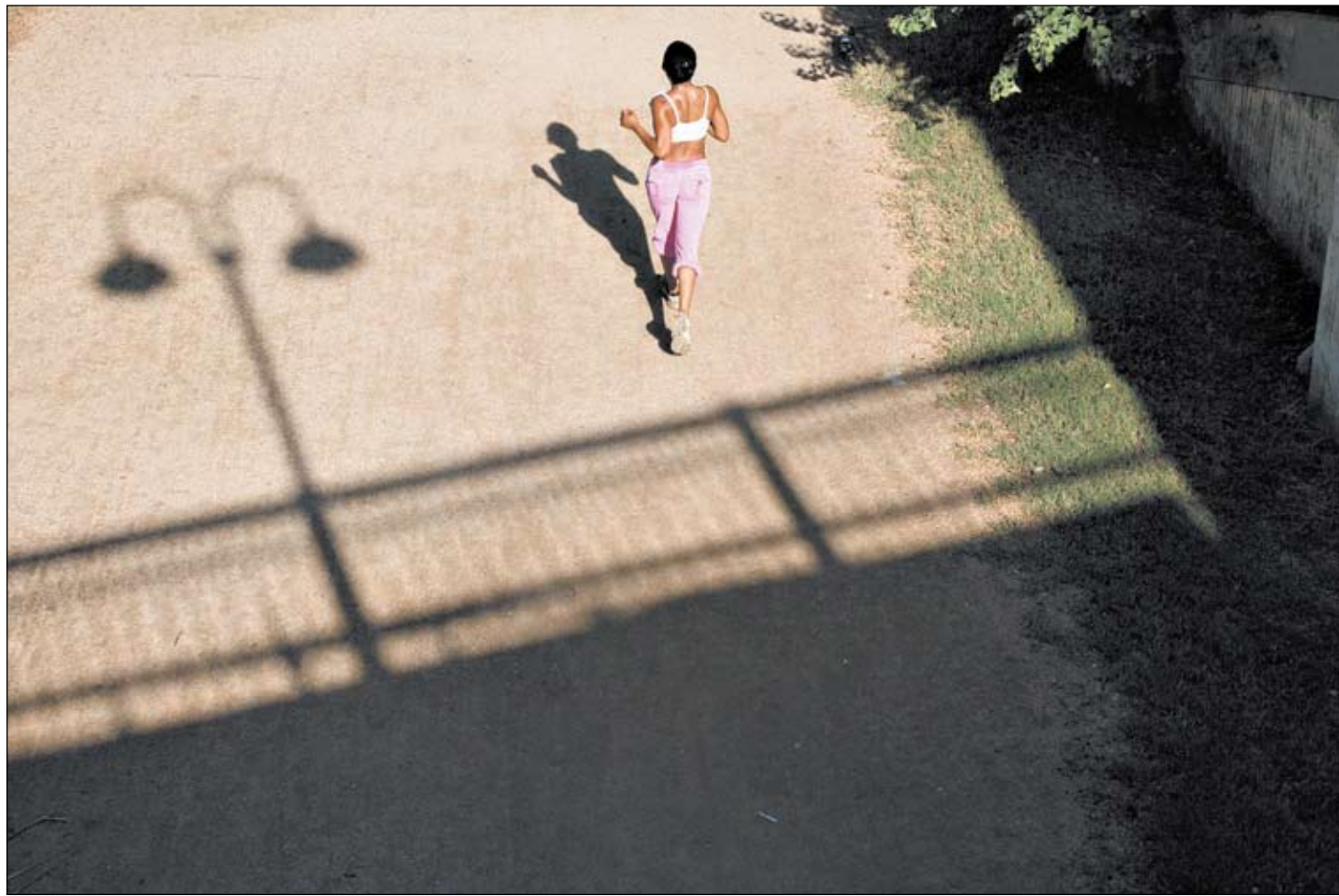
While all running shoes are generally decent, the correct shoe is based on the individual, and what works for some might not work for others, said Richard Ybarra, general manager of Run-Tex at The Triangle.

Ybarra recommended people get themselves fitted for the correct shoe when at a store, where an expert can examine the shape of the foot and how the body moves while running and walking.

For example, a runner who overpronates rolls toward the inside of his or her foot and needs shoes with strong inner-arch support. A runner who supinates rolls too much toward the outside of his or her foot and needs shoes that emphasize cushioning to help absorb shock.

The biggest mistake people usually make when buying shoes is buying a size too small, Ybarra said.

Not only are most running shoes manufactured slightly smaller than dress or casual shoes, but feet swell during exercise and other physical



Ryan Smith | Daily Texan Staff

Even non-serious runners should be prepared before going out on a run to stay injury-free and not go astray from their exercise goals.

activity. People should buy a half to a full size larger than what they normally wear, he said.

Another mistake people make with shoes is kicking them off instead of untying the shoelaces, Ybarra

irritation when running, pain in the heels and Achilles tendon, and even blisters, he explained.

People should also replace old shoes regularly, or six months to a year for someone who runs an average of 15 miles a week.

“Changing shoes can be like getting an oil change,” Ybarra said. “You can base it on how much mileage you’ve gotten on it. Typically you change shoes after 350 to 450 miles, 500 maximum.”

Factors that also affect how fast someone wears down their shoes include body mass, how often a person uses their shoes for physical activity besides running and the type of surface on

which a person runs.

“Concrete breaks a shoe down faster than grass,” he said. “A 6-foot-4 inch, 300-pound man will wear down his shoes faster than a 5-foot, 100-pound woman.”

Starting out

First-time runners should take it easy in the beginning and set a goal, said nutrition senior Jonathan Tam, the Recreational Runners captain for the Texas Running Club.

“Maybe start out with 2 miles the first week and then slowly

RUNNING continues on page 11

FOOD REVIEW KABOB YO



Shereen Ayub | Daily Texan Staff

Kabob Yo owner Joseph Elghoul prepares a kebab sandwich in his trailer on Tuesday. Kabob Yo is a newly established food cart at the corner of 24th and San Antonio streets.

Food cart offers succulent kabobs

Flavor-filled ingredients outweighed by thin pita, unappetizing atmosphere

By Gerald Rich
Daily Texan Staff

After the small food-cart spot near The Castilian and Starbucks was left unoccupied for most of the summer, Kabob Yo has moved in with a low-key white trailer that serves up savory, robustly flavored pita wraps. But the place is still new and hasn’t picked up the slack on some glaring detractors.

On the plus side, this is almost how great kabob, shawarma and falafel sandwiches should taste. Each sandwich comes packed with all those flavors in a dense gustatory experience, where bites can vary depending upon what crunchy veggies or bit of herbs you bite into. The crisp lettuce, crunchy red onions, juicy tomatoes and mildly spicy jalapenos combined with the quintessential sweet cucumber tzatziki sauce only enhances the seasoned meats. There was even parsley sprinkled in here and there.

As for the actual meat and veggie options, each one comes with its own complex nuances. From the light hints of pepper sprinkled over the chicken kabob and shawarma to the rich, flavorful beef options, the fresh veggies only add to the jam-packed sandwich. Even the vegetarian option of mashed-up and fried chickpeas in the form of a falafel is a warm, satisfying morsel.

Best of all for college students is the price. You can walk away from Kabob Yo only paying about \$5 or \$6. As of now, the cart is still cash-only, but for a sandwich that jam-packed, it’s worth saving some extra cash for a quick lunch or dinner.

However, there are still some kinks to work out. The pita used to wrap all this Mediterranean goodness is way too flimsy. Great pita is like a doughy cloud of heaven that delicately envelops the fillings; it shouldn’t be thinner than the notebook paper you use to doodle on in calculus.

Nor should the gyro meat, stacked and combined pieces of lamb or beef, be as thin as the

pita. All you get is overpowering flavors of those crisp veggies meant to complement and not bury the flavor of the meat or vegetarian filling. All of the gyro meats’ potentially delectable flavors are lost faster than the tzatziki dripping out of the ill-matched pita.

Ask for some fries to go with it and you get basic cut potatoes dunked in the fryer. Not to say that there’s anything wrong with some plain french fries, but given Kabob Yo’s ability to adequately season their meat, one would expect more.

As for the other parts like service and atmosphere, Kabob Yo’s exact hours of business are hard to pin down. Plus, seeing the owner of the cart walking around in a Big Bite staff shirt, the notorious grease trap located a few feet away, isn’t appetizing. The owner’s ho-hum, bland attitude is not the most welcoming to the unspectacular cart. But don’t write it off just yet until you’ve tried the shawarma or kabob.

Grade: B

Singer joins with producer to release her debut album

By Allistair Pinsof
Daily Texan Staff

Although her debut record, *Myth of the Heart*, was released only a week ago, Sahara Smith, who recently made the move from Wimberley to Austin, is hardly an amateur. From playing at local coffee shops at age 12 to winning a national competition on “A Prairie Home Companion” at age 15, this moment has been a long time coming for Smith and her band.

“I’ve had a little bit of vocal training now and I feel more in control of my voice, but I miss the purity it had when I was younger,” Smith said.

Now 22 years old, Smith sings with a range and personality that is as recognizable as it is rare. She bends notes with the pain of a young Joni Mitchell but delivers them with the commercial potential of Jewel. The artist she looks up to above all others, however, is Leonard Cohen.

“As a songwriter, no one has had a greater influence,” Smith said. “His songs, particularly his earlier songs, are effortless and lilting, but deeply poetic and often mournful.”

Sahara says her unique vocal styles are neither emulated nor a calculation based upon her influences.

“I write a song and then determine from there what I need to do with my voice to convey its meaning,” Smith said.

Sahara’s songwriting process hasn’t changed all that much from when she was in middle school. She still writes the melodies and lyrics in her bedroom, except now she brings it to her backing band to play in the studio with added instrumentation.

“We’ve got a great band in place now that comes up with some great arrangements when we get together in a room,” said Jacob Owen, Smith’s guitar player. “Sahara has always been pretty open-minded about letting players come through as individuals while playing and interpreting her music.”

For Smith’s debut album, she worked closely with award-win-

ning artist T Bone Burnett, who has been a major influence on her — even before she walked into the studio.

“He was my dream producer, and on a whim, my manager sent him some of my music and he invited us out to L.A. He is so laid-back and comfortable,” Smith said. “Jake and I went up with two acoustic guitars and we were sitting there playing him this song the way we would have played it live. All he said was, ‘Take it down about half.’ So we did, and something in it clicked in a way it never had before.”

In the process, Smith used Burnett’s advice, session band and

WHAT: Sahara Smith

WHERE: Waterloo Records, 600 N. Lamar Blvd.

WHEN: Today at 5 p.m.

his assistant-engineer-turned-producer Emile Kelman. Kelman’s first time as a producer complements Smith’s vocal skills wonderfully. The highlight of the album, “Thousand Secrets,” benefits greatly from the space and clarity Kelman gives to Smith’s natural ability to perform.

VOCALIST continues on page 11



Courtesy of Sahara Smith

22-year-old Sahara Smith has been singing since she was 12 years old, when she was playing in coffee shops.