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POLICE

Prevention program to obtain grant

By Julia Brouillette @juliakbrou

The Austin Police Department hopes to receive more than \$600,000 from the Texas Auto Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority — also known as ABTPA — to fund its Auto Theft Interdiction Project, which has been a part of the agency for 16 years.

Austin City Council authorized the department's

application for the funds, which are allocated by the ABTPA through auto insurance fees, in its meeting Thursday. The department depends on the grant to fund initiatives such as the Vehicle Identification Number etching program, according to APD Sgt. Robert Smith.

"If it weren't for the Auto Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority, there would be no VIN etching," Smith

said. "Maybe cities and counties would pitch in for it, but, specifically, for the past 16 years, the authority has paid for VIN etching and murals on the side of buildings and billboards anything to get folks to realize that the power to prevent auto thefts and burglaries is really on them more than it is on us."

Any law enforcement

THEFT page 2



Illustration by Stephanie Vaniceck / Daily Texan Staff

CAMPUS

University to uproot 'maroonbonnets'

By Christina Breitbeil @christinabreit

As speculation circulates that a strain of maroon bluebonnets sprouting on campus is a result of a Texas A&M prank, University officials have decided to have the Aggie-colored flowers removed, according to Markus Hogue, program coordinator for Irrigation and Water Conservation.

Hogue said no one from A&M or UT has come forward to take responsibility for planting the maroon bluebonnets.

"The more information I receive regarding the maroon bluebonnets, the more I feel that we have been pranked by an Aggie," Hogue said. "[Jerry] Parsons and Greg Grant from A&M created the maroon color. Dr. Parsons said ...



CAMPUS Videotaped lectures may make up for missed class

By Nicole Cobler @nicolecobler

Students may have the opportunity to make up class days lost to inclement weather through a program allowing professors to record and archive their lectures online.

Two class days were fully canceled in January because of inclement weather, while four other class days were delayed during February and March.

The Lectures Online system began as a 2009 pilot program in several classrooms in the College of Liberal Arts Building, according to Michael Heidenreich, media and audio services manager for Liberal Arts Instructional Technology Services. The system is now available to professors who teach in the 16 classrooms in which the software is installed.

"We missed a lot of days due to weather, and the dean of COLA and other deans on campus were trying to figure out how to assist professors who need additional time to teach all their material," Heidenreich said.

After the weather delays, the service was made available to all University faculty to either record their lectures in the CLA or capture the screens of their personal computers. According to Heidenreich, more than 50 faculty members have signed up for the service.

Jen Ebbeler, classics associate professor, said she began using the program in 2011 for a class of 220 students.

that the maroon color is a recessive trait, and that the

BONNETS page 3

Jarrid Denman / Daily Texan Staff

Maroon-colored bluebonnets grow near the Tower. Texas A&M students may have attempted to prank UT by planting seeds that would sprout maroon on UT's campus because the maroon color is a recessive trait, which should not thrive in an ecosystem.

SNOW page 2

RESEARCH



Jarrid Denman / Daily Texan Staf

Postdoctoral fellow Guifang Chen works in the molecular biology lab Monday afternoon.

Researchers identify flu-inhibiting protein

By Nicole Bueno @itsmorebueno

A team of microbiology researchers have discovered a protein that could lead to new breakthroughs in combating influenza.

Postdoctoral fellow Guifang Chen, along with three other UT researchers, have discovered a protein produced naturally by human body cells, named DDX21, that inhibits the growth and spread of the influenza A virus through host cells.

"We found a protein, DDX21, from human cells that can block the replication of the influenza A virus," Chen said. "In turn,

FLU page 2

CITY

Toy Joy reopens under new ownership

By Hayden Clark @HaydenS_Clark

After its previous owners closed its doors last month, local toy store Toy Joy reopened over the weekend after being sold in an auction to new owners.

Shelley Meyer and Fred Schmidt, who also own the boutique stores Wild About Music and Austin Rocks Texas, are taking over the business while working closely with the previous owners, Elizabeth Newsome and Trevor Yopp.

"The best thing about having Toy Joy be purchased by Shelley and Fred [is] they're experts," Newsome said. "They're really good at keeping an eye on and making sure that the rent is going along with the sales numbers."

In May 2013, Newsome and Yopp decided to move the store — which sold an assortment of specialty and retro toys - from its decade-long home on 29th and Guadalupe streets to a new location on



Second Street in downtown to save on rent costs.

"The biggest issue was just the rent was very high, considering our sales were going down," Newsome said. "You know the UT campus. It can be really great for businesses that cater really specifically to students."

Newsome said worsening traffic patterns in the area also caused problems for the business.

"The traffic has gotten

so crazy around campus," Newsome said. "A lot of our regular customers have been telling us that they couldn't deal with coming to that area of the town. Campus was too busy for them to park and to find parking and get in, so they were avoiding that area." After moving locations,

Newsome and Yopp became close with Meyer and Schmidt, whose Austin Rocks Texas store is just across the street from Toy Joy.

Previous owners of Toy Joy, Trevor Yopp, pictured here, and Elizabeth Newsome, sold the store in an auction to boutique owners Shelley Mever and Fred Schmidt. Yopp believes the new owners have the capabilities to produce an Austin icon.

Michelle Toussaint Daily Texan Staff

"We have known [Newsome and Yopp] for many, many months but have gotten to know them really well in the last six months, and they let us know there was going to be an auction," Meyer said. "The main thing that the business was suffering from was a lack of capital, so [it] needed more liquid capital to be able to buy more stock, and [it] did not have that available,

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TOMORROW'S WEATHER High 73





Roger Aguilar, employee of Jim Hunter Home Improvement, sweeps leaves of a fallen tree off a street in West Campus on Monday.

THEFT

continues from page 1 agency within the state can apply for the grant, accord-

ing to Smith. The authority will notify grant applicants about the status of their requests in June. Smith said the department does not expect to receive the exact amount of money it applied for.

"What actually gets granted to us is probably going to be completely different," Smith said. "It's like going to college and requesting a grant from someone — you're going to request \$10,000, but they're only going to give you \$1,000 because they have so many other people to give to and so few resources."

Charles Caldwell, director of ABTPA, said auto theft rates are a factor in the distribution of grants.

"We look at a number of items that they submit to us through a grant application," Caldwell said. "It's based on the amount of money that we have available, what their activities are, and what the auto theft rate is. ... We have a matrix of things we look at in order to make that determination." Fewer auto thefts occurred in Austin than in Dallas and San Antonio in the first three months of 2014. The difference between the number of auto thefts per capita in the four largest Texas cities — Dallas, Houston, San Antonio and Austin — only differ by one-tenth of a percent.

Smith said grant funds also pay for detective salaries and equipment used to investigate auto thefts or burglaries.

"How much money we need is going to vary each year, and it's going to vary between agencies," Smith said. "Personnel and the projects that we have dictate how much we ask for."

The City pledged to match approximately 25 percent of the amount granted by the ABTPA.

"The match is the City's commitment to saying, 'We're dedicated in this effort just as much as you are," Smith said.

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SNOW

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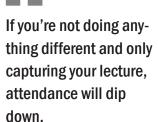
"There's a bunch of different ways it can increase your interactions with your students," Ebbeler said. "I think it's a great tool."

Ebbeler said she noticed a decrease in attendance when she began using the system because she used it only to lecture. Since then, Ebbeler said she uses the program to make sure students stay engaged.

"I realized one of the ways I could make the inclass part a lot more engaging was to shift some of the content out of class," Ebbeler said. "I used iClickers and peer discussions and other things, so class is really live."

Ebbeler said she understands why some professors may be concerned about the attendance rate if they record lectures online.

"By recording it, I could actually test students more deeply because they could review the lectures," Ebbeler said. "If you're not doing



-Jen Ebbeler, Classics associate professor anything different and only capturing your lecture, attendance will dip down."

Corporate communications sophomore Vanessa Peterson said she took two classes last semester that used the online lecturing system. Peterson said the only problem she noticed was the system being overwhelmed when everyone tried to log on at once. She said her government professor recorded every lecture, but the attendance rate stayed constant throughout the semester.

"[My professor] was interesting, so people actually wanted to come," Peterson said.

NEWS BRIEFLY

Regent Hall case sent to county prosecutors

Allegations that UT System Regent Wallace Hall mishandled private student information and potentially violated state privacy laws have been referred to Travis County prosecutors, according to reports from the Austin American-Statesman.

These allegations were presented in the final report from the House Select Committee on Transparency in State Agency Operations.

According to the Statesman, the referral was made by Rod Welsh, the House sergeant-at-arms, in a letter to District Attorney Rosemary Lehmberg and County Attorney David Escamilla, dated Friday. A letter from the co-chairs of the transparency committee, included in Welsh's letter, said the referral was necessary based on the findings of the committee's investigation.

The report, compiled by Rusty Hardin, special counsel to the committee, indicated Hall likely committed impeachable offenses throughout his time as a regent.

The committee is investigating Hall for potentially overstepping his duties as a regent and conducting what some legislators have called a "witch hunt" against President William Powers Jr.

At a committee hearing in November, Francie Frederick, general counsel to the Board of Regents, said regents can have access to information protected by the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act if they have a job-related reason to do so. Frederick said Hall gained access to a chain of emails with protected information he should not have been allowed to see.

—Madlin Mekelburg

Music school appoints experienced new dean

The Butler School of Music appointed Mary Ellen Poole as the school's director Monday.

Poole will replace Glenn Richter, who was named interim director in 2012 when former director Glenn Chandler resigned under pressure from University leaders after advocating that the school should be separated from the College of Fine Arts.

Poole has been the dean of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music for 10 years. She attended Baylor University and Michigan State University and has a Ph.D. in musicology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The Butler School of Music currently has 380 undergraduates and 320 graduate students. In a press release, Doug Dempster, dean of the College of Fine Arts, said Poole's experience as a scholar and musician made her qualified for the position. "As dean of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Mary Ellen Poole put up an extraordinary leadership record, turning a very good music school into a great one," Dempster said in a press release. Poole, who will hold the Florence Thelma Hall Centennial Chair in Music and whose appointment will be effective Sept. 1, said the position at the Butler School of Music was a great opportunity.



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THE DAILY TEXAN

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

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The Daily Texan (USPS 146-440), a student newspaper at The University of Texas at Austin, is published by Texa: Student Media, 2500 Whitis Ave., Austin, TX 78705. The Daily Texan is published daily, Monday through Friday, during the regular academic year and is published once weekly during the summer semester. The Daily Texan does not publish during academic breaks, most Federal Holdays and exam periods. Periodical Postage Paid at Austin, TX 78710. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Daily Texan, P.O. Box D, Austin, TX 78713. News contributions will be accepted by telephone (471-4551), or at the editorial office (Texas Student Media Building 2.122). For local and national display advertising, call 471-1865. Adstified display advertising, call 471-5244.

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-Nicole Cobler

TOY

continues from page 2

and so the stock got very low." Yopp said Meyer and Schmidt are guides to both him and Newsome, and the new owners have the capabilities to keep the business producing revenue and create an Austin icon.

"They were our sort of business mentors, so to say," Yopp said. "One of the best things about the whole situation is they are already operating two successful businesses, and they have the financial backing behind them to put this business to right and make it a bigger, more powerful piece of Austin than me and [Newsome] were ever able to do."

UNIVERSITY

Faculty Council forms technology committee

By Leila Ruiz @leilakrisi

Faculty Council voted Monday to create an oversight committee intended to allow faculty members to have a clearer stake and a better understanding in the use of technology in academia.

Faculty members voted unanimously to form the Technology-En-C-14 hanced Education Oversight Committee, which is a standing committee aimed at evaluating and formulating policy regarding technology in higher education and ensuring that its use will help further the goals of the University.

There will be 13 voting members and five non-voting members on the committee, which will review its function, scope and mission after its first and second active years and propose changes as deemed necessary. Michael White, religious studies professor and the chair of the

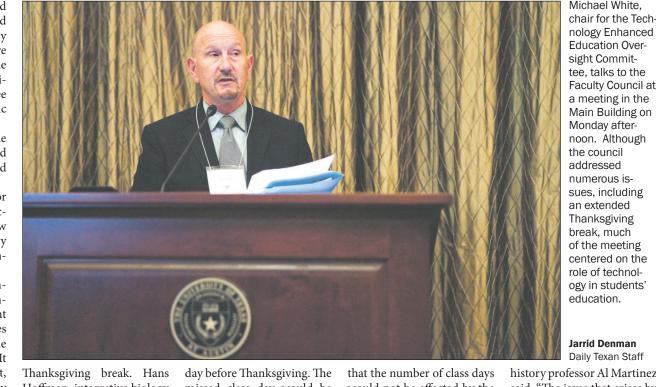
committee that proposed the C-14 committee, said that, while there are already strategic and infrastructure committees dedicated to the use of technology at the University, the C-14 committee will focus more on its specific academic applications.

"I think it might play the role of watchdog for a need to arise in which that would be justified," White said.

Mathematics professor William Beckner said the academic diversity of the new committee will allow faculty to have a more comprehensive understanding.

"Having this type of committee will engage general faculty in involvement [with] new technologies that are being used in the classroom," Beckner said. "It serves as central oversight, but it will engage the faculty in their ownership of what is going to happen, and lots is going to happen."

The council also addressed the possibility of an extended



Hoffman, integrative biology associate professor and chair of the University Academic Calendar Committee, offered a proposal that would eliminate classes on the Wednes-

missed class day would be made up by adding an extra class day on the Monday of finals week.

Hoffman said it was important to the committee

would not be affected by the schedule change, although some said it would only create new problems.

"It is difficult for me to vote in favor of this,"

Jarrid Denman Daily Texan Staff history professor Al Martinez said. "The issue that arises by having class on the Monday as a last day of class is that,

suddenly, we create the same kind of day that's very vulnerable for absences."

FLU continues from page 1

a protein (NS1) from the influenza virus can block DDX21's function and promote the replication of virus."

According to Chen, identifying NS1 as an inhibitor of the body's natural defenses is crucial for finding a way to stop the influenza virus from spreading.

"The findings help us know what happens when the virus infects the cells and makes NS1 viral protein as a potential target for antiviral drugs against the influenza A virus," Chen said. "DDX21 cannot help improve vaccines, and the protein itself cannot help the treatments either, but the finding of DDX21's mechanism on influenza A virus will help us find the target for combat.

The influenza A virus, as described by the Texas

Department of State Health Services, is classified into subtypes, and only certain strains of the influenza A virus can affect humans. The influenza virus, as with all viruses, attacks the body's host cells, using them for replication.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there are an estimated 23,607 influenza-associated deaths and over 200,000 influenza-associated hospitalizations every year in the United States.

Sherry Bell, senior program coordinator for University Health Services, said the University sees both confirmed cases of influenza and influenzalike syndromes as the flu because they have similar symptoms.

"In reality, the number of cases of influenza is probably between 81 and 217," Bell said. "The 217 is the combination of 136 diagnoses of influenza-like syndrome and the 81 diagnoses of influenza."

The research team's findings are particularly relevant, considering the strength of the recent H1N1 strain, commonly known as swine flu, which is a subtype of the influenza A virus. Because vaccines are not guaranteed to be effective, reliance on antiviral drugs has become increasingly common.

Biology and premed senior Evelyn Chou said targeting the correct protein could provide a more reliable way to fight influenza.

"I think it's great that they're trying to stray from vaccines because flu strains evolve," Chou said. "It would be a more permanent fix to the problem."

PHOTO BRIEFLY

Shelby Tauber / Daily Texan Staff

Sens. Davis, Van de Putte speak about female leaders

Speaking on campus Monday night, state Sen. Wendy Davis, D-Fort Worth and candidate for governor, highlighted the accomplishments of female leaders to encourage other women to strive for their goals.

Davis and State Sen. Leticia Van de Putte, D-San Antonio and candidate for lieutenant governor, served as keynote speakers for Texas Tea, an event hosted by the Texas Orange Jackets, an all-women service organization.

Davis spoke about the work of women, cluding Minnie Fisher Cunningham, a

African-American pilot. Van de Putte shared her experiences as a young legislator, citing Barbara Jordan, a U.S. Congresswoman and the first African-American elected to the Texas Senate, as an inspiration for her.

Van de Putte told the story of a dinner held by former Gov. Ann Richards, at which she met Jordan. Van de Putte claimed the dinner was an example of the way women must help each other network in their fields.

Davis will face off against Attorney General nd Republican nominee Greg Abbott for the

BONNETS continues from page 1

blue color will take over the landscape beds. I have noticed each year that the maroon color has grown in size, which means someone is adding more seeds each year." Parsons, a former horticulturist at A&M, said the maroon bluebonnet variant came about as a mistake. He also said the flowers' presence on the UT campus was not a deliberate affront to the school.

Aggie students come all this way and disrespect our state flower just to put some maroon on the

"While the flowers are an unappealing color, the Aggies are going to have to do a lot more than just planting

"They are not a prank but rather a seed mix-up during packaging by the producer," Parsons said.

Government junior Will Griffin, who is also a member of Texas Cowboys, one of the University's spirit groups, said he does not feel offended on behalf of the University.

"I don't feel slighted," Griffin said. "I find it funny that, if it is a prank, exas campus.

Hogue said University officials have decided to remove the flowers - although a date for removal is still undecided — because of threats of student interference.

"A few students have stated that, if we do not remove them, they will take it upon themselves to remove them," Hogue said. "We hope this does not happen, since we want to collect the seeds and limit the chance of more growing next year."

Hogue said, if students pull out the flowers themselves, the variant could still reproduce from seeds left in the ground.

sophomore Business Lindsey Lunden, who is in Texas Sweethearts, a spirit group on campus, said the alleged prank is far from an Aggie victory.

flowers to take away even a little bit of my school pride," Lunden said.

suffrage politician and leader of the League of Women Voters, and Bessie Coleman, an

governor's seat in November. –Antonia Gales







EDITORIAL

Civil Rights issues need more than rhetoric

The Civil Rights Summit, held on the UT campus last week to commemorate the 50th anniversary of 1964's Civil Rights Act, certainly made history. Three former presidents, Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton and George W. Bush, all joined President Barack Obama in Austin to commemorate the occasion, each one delivering a keynote address through the week — an unprecedented occurrence.

But, though the summit was historic, students must think critically about the presidents' words and the actions behind them because the issues at stake deserve more than just empty political rhetoric.

The first president to speak, Jimmy Carter, addressed the prevalence of sexual abuse on college campuses. "In this country, we are not above — I hate to say condemnation — but we are not above reproach. The number one place for sexual abuse is the United States universities," the former president said. Unlike the other keynote speakers, Carter moved

"

Though the summit was historic, students must think critically about the presidents' words and the actions behind them. Because to achieve true progress the issues at stake deserve more than just empty political rhetoric.

past pure rhetoric to suggest a solution to the issue: The Title IX clause that allows federal funds to be withheld from universities if administrators fail to address sexual assault cases should be invoked to help address the problem.

Clinton, too, spoke on a controversial topic, using his keynote address to talk about the aftermath of the 2013 Supreme Court ruling that struck down key provisions of the 1965 Voting Rights Act. The court's ruling allowed several states to change election laws without federal approval, and, as a result, many southern states passed laws requiring voters to show photo ID to cast a ballot. Clinton chided state governments for using the court's ruling to restrict suffrage by passing such laws. "We all know what this is about." Clinton said. "This is a way of restricting a franchise after 50 years of expanding it. Is this was Martin Luther King gave his life for?"

Considering Texas is one of the handful of states that require voters to present photo identification, Clinton's words were bold.

But not all the speakers at the summit used the bully pulpit to address sensitive issues with frankness and candour. Rather, both Bush and Obama stuck to speaking about past accomplishments and legislation, barely touching on the challenges that lie ahead.

Bush talked mostly about education an important topic, but one that constitutes much less of a hot button issue. He reminded Texans of the No Child Left Behind Act, a piece of legislation he announced in 2001 that increased reliance on standardized measurements for school accountability, especially re-

garding reading proficiency for younger children. Bush did do some justice to addressing inequality in public education, pointing out that "education in America is no longer legally separate, but it is still not effectively equal."

Obama, too, addressed disappointingly little of the modern issues concerning civil rights. Although perhaps the most anticipated speaker at the three-day summit, Obama did little to further any specific civil rights issues when he took the stage. Instead, in his characteristic manner, he spoke with eloquence, poise, and measured enthusiasm about things we already knew were true. The most we could take from Obama's speech was his eloquent praise of LBJ, which, while meaningful, should not have been an end in itself. The lack of substance in Obama's speech raises the question: Was the summit even productive beyond its celebratory flourishes?

Professor Edwin Dorn, a former Dean of the LBJ School of Public Affairs, thinks the answer to that question lies in what happens next. He asks whether, in light of the summit, the University "will make a bigger investment in teaching and research about civil rights, immigration policy and voting rights ... [because] right now, we are weak in all three areas. For example, only one UT faculty member is an expert on voting rights."

Gregory Vincent, the vice president for Diversity and Community Engagement, offered a slightly different view. He thought that listening to the "perspectives of national leaders in public policy, politics, business and activism yielded fruitful dialogues about social justice" and that the summit's "real success was inspiring us to carry the conversation of civil rights forward and consider how those rights are being negotiated by different groups today."

But while we should appreciate the more celebratory aspects of the summit, calling the conference a success does a disservice to the spirit of LBJ, a president who passed not one but many pieces of landmark civil rights legislation on voting rights, housing equality and Medicare, to name a few. But, instead of focusing on meaningful change, as Johnson's landmark legislation did, this summit focused on rhetoric. When it comes to discussing civil rights, impassioned rhetoric can fall short; working to change the status quo is better. Change doesn't come quickly, but there is certainly room for progress at UT. Even UT President William Powers Jr. admitted that UT has historically found itself on the "wrong side" of the civil rights argument.

In the final speech of his presidency, Johnson told a roaring crowd, "we have proved that progress is possible." Johnson earned the right to say those words, and, when we as a school, or even as a nation, can come to terms with the civil rights issues of our generation - the difficulty of immigration and nationalization, the prevalence of sexual assault and the lack of equal treatment in the LBGTQ community, to name just a few — only then can we see events such as the Civil Rights Summit as successful. While that's a high standard with which to measure success, it only reflects the nature of the task ahead.

COLUMN

meeting on April 7.

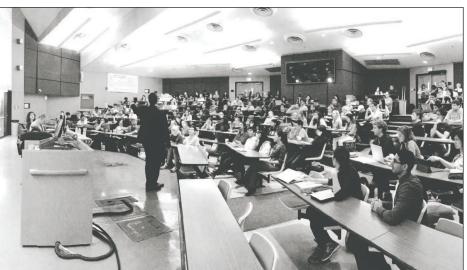


Photo courtesy of Jamie Lee College of Natural Sciences Associate Dean Sacha Kopp addresses students at a town hall

CNS 101 program will unite Natural Sciences

HORNS UP: ONE STEP CLOSER TO REGENT HALL'S DEPARTURE



On Monday, The Texas Tribune reported that information uncovered as part of the investigation of the Select Committee on Transparency in State Agencies on possible criminal actions committed by UT System Regent Wallace Hall had been referred to Travis County prosecutors. For those of you keeping track, we are now in third year of the latest fight between the UT System

Board of Regents, UT-Austin and the State Legislature. In the past two years, that fight has strayed considerably from its ideological roots in differences over higher education to the realm of sloppy and distracting personal fights between members of the board and UT President William Powers Jr. Despite numerous cries for Hall's resignation, it's become clear that Hall, who is being investigated for impeachment, is reluctant to back down. While we're frustrated every time Hall makes it into the headlines, a potential criminal case against him coming from Travis County prosecutors may be the final push he needs to leave the board. And if that happens, then maybe, just maybe, we can start talking about higher education policy about as often as we've been talking about Hall's transgressions. Horns Up to potentially being one step closer to Hall's early departure from the Board of Regents.

While we're frustrated every time Hall makes it into the headlines, a potential criminal case against him coming from Travis County prosecutors may be the final push he needs to leave the board.



By Francisco Dominguez Daily Texan Columnist

On April 7, College of Natural Sciences Associate Dean Sacha Kopp unveiled a new initiative meant to promote diversity, improve pedagogy and ensure overall success for incoming freshmen.

After months of gathering student input, Kopp understood there was a resounding issue with how students were acclimating to the college. At a town hall meeting, students gave similar testimonials of isolation and frustration their freshman year that persist years thereafter. Many of the students also shared ways they overcame their feelings of desperation. Kopp aggregated these different solutions into an all-access program called CNS101.

CNS101 is a non-credit course that will divide the incoming Fall 2014 freshman class into 100 cohorts of 25 students for a year. It is intended to help CNS students form a sense of community, build relationships with faculty and achieve academic success in the college. As a transfer student, I've realized that these essentials were missing from my personal experience during my first year on the 40 Acres. I could only wish this was implemented sooner.

According to Kopp, "These small learning communities are observed to increase rates of graduation by 40-70 percent relative to other students in the college even when controlling for all other factors. ... In some sense, this is not a new initiative. This is a scale-up of an existing collection of ideas and adding some features which we heard from students as important."

Natural Sciences Council President Juan Herrejon highlighted some of the problems addressed in CNS101 a year-and-a-half ago during a meeting with the Minority Student Advisory Council. A lack of community within the college, low graduation rates and underrepresentation of minority students alarmed the council. That there should be a system in place to smooth, and standardize, the transition to the University no matter the student's background was the impetus for CNS101.

Unfortunately, because CNS101 will be a non-credit course - like First-Year Interest Groups - retention rates may continue to present a problem. Herrejon believes a mechanism must be in place to assure accountability of it's members. One way he believes CNS101 could better incentivize students is by making it a course that students may receive credit in. "Putting in a system that works on modules would help," Herrejon said. "For example, if students have an assignment to network with 'x' number of faculty, which will enrich their university experience while earning a grade in the class, they are earning double the reward."

It is not a perfect system and hasn't even been proven to work yet. But, like in science, a constant effort to push the boundaries is what CNS101 will attempt to accomplish.

The effort for Kopp, and all those supporting him, is far from over, although this is a step in the right direction. A bright future undoubtedly awaits the College of Natural Sciences.

Dominguez is a biology sophomore from San Antonio.

RNS DOWN: AFTER WEST, FERTILIZER REGULATIONS NEEDED



On Monday, nearly a year after the West fertilizer plant explosion killed 15 people and injured nearly 160, Texas' chief fire marshal testified in front of the House Homeland Security and Public Safety Committee on the need for structural changes in 46 Texas facilities which house ammonium nitrate. However, committee members were quick to say that any regulations would

encounter resistance from business owners. Given the magnitude of the tragedy, we hope that both business owners and the legislature can reach a compromise that puts in place the necessary safety measures.

Given the magnitude of the tragedy, we hope that both business owners and the legislature can reach a compromise that puts in place the necessary safety measures.

GALLERY



Illustration by Isabella Palacios / Daily Texan Staff

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Ethan Oblak / Daily Texan Staff

Alvaro Bastidas, founder of Please Be Kind to Cyclists, is working with the Texas Department of Transportation to find a compromise for creating roadside memorials for cyclists. Since 2006, the local organization has been displaying ghost bikes to serve as a memorial for cyclists who were hit and killed by vehicles.

BIKES continues from page 8

are decorated with flowers and pictures from family members of the victims.

In 2010, Genea Barnes saw one of these ghost bikes after visiting New York, sparking a small project of documenting the bikes that expanded once her Kickstarter campaign succeeded. Since then, she's photographed 66 ghost bikes and personalized each image by photoshopping images of individuals related to the victims into the bike shots.

"The ghost bike represents the worst outcome of people not being conscious of other people," Barnes said. "I feel like you can walk by a memorial every day and you don't feel the impact of it anymore. You

notice it once or twice, but then it goes to the background. I want to put a reminder that ghost bikes are real, and these memorials represent real people that are gone."

Many ghost bikes are noticed initially but are forgotten after a period of time. For some bikes, all that's left of the memorial is a white tire or frame because of the lack of attention and maintenance the bikes are given over the years.

In response to the lack of maintenance, many cities have decided to start removing ghost bikes. This has upset ghost bike organizations that debate that ghost bikes hold emotional ties and, when removed, a memorial is removed.

In Austin, Bastidas is working with the Texas Department of Transportation to find a compromise for creating memorials for cyclists. Within the City of Austin, different ordinances are in place, allowing the placement of ghost bikes, but, along the federal highways, where many fatalities occur, ghost bikes are removed.

"If they're too close to the roadway, they fear that someone driving is going to hit the bicycle," Bastidas said. "The metal from the bike can go through the windshield and injure the driver."

About six of the nine bikes that have been placed around Austin have been removed by the city for this reason. In order to reach a compromise with the Department of Transportation, Bastidas will be hosting a ride this Saturday. During this ride, the first ghost bike placed for Gay Simmons-Posey will be taken down. Along with the ride,

Bastidas will be creating a sculpture made of bike parts as a fundraiser for the maintenance of the ghost bikes around the city.

"The person that represents the ghost bike was loved by somebody, was somebody's friend and was somebody's neighbor," Bastidas said. "That person had a family, went to school, and went to work, so for us to completely dismiss that is out of our human capacity."

FIGHT

continues from page 8

to work out, and it was fun," Hoffend said.

In the future, it will continue to partner with its neighbors and hopefully host an event with Tower Bistro Pizza and Fresh Healthy Cafe.

Williams, who returned to Athens after teaching several

OPERA

continues from page 8

collaborations between the Butler Opera Center and the Austin Lyric Opera, following the 2012 performance of "The Pagliacci Project."

"It's an extraordinary opportunity for the young UT opera singers to perform in different venues with different kinds of audiences in the Austin community," DeSimone said.

Music performance graduate student Chance Eakin plays Dulcamara and is one of the four UT opera singers who were selected for this collaboration after the audition process last August.

"Opera is not just about the fat lady singing," Eakin said. "It's not an archaic art form. These are real stories about real people."

As the quack doctor, Dulcamara tries to create a rift between Nemorino and Adina by passing off cheap wine as a magic love potion.

"My job is to stir the pot," Eakin said. "My character creates the conflict between Nemorino and Adina. You can't have a good story without some conflict."

O'Brien plays Belcore, a proud military man, who gives up Adina when she decides to marry Nemorino.

"He's kind of a jerk," O'Brien said. "He's very funny to play, and it was a

classes at the Austin location this past weekend, sees lasting value beyond just having a fun workout.

"When I was in college, I was in premed," Williams said. "Now that I'm not going to be a doctor, instead of fixing people who are broken and sick, I'm on the front end. It's preventative medicine. It's a dance party where you get to beat up stuff."

You have to find a way as a singer to not let your emotion affect your ability to convey the music. You can't let the emotions overtake

your music.

Chance Eakin. Music performance graduate student

chance to bring out your inner peacock and overact a little bit."

An opera does not come without its challenges, according to Eakin. It is as much about acting and performing as it is about singing.

"You have to find a way as a singer to not let your emotion affect your ability to convey the music," Eakin said. "You can't let the emotions overtake your music."

Opera not only requires years of training and a knack for portraying characters convincingly but physical stamina.

"I've noticed, in them, their ability to become more professional with each experience and each performance," DeSimone said. "It just adds to their idea of what they would like to do in their operatic careers."



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By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizon-tally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LEITERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

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SPORTS

STEFAN SCRAFIELD, SPORTS EDITOR / @texansports Tuesday, April 15, 2014

TRACK & FIELD

Striving for a different kind of record

By Daniel Clay @dclay567

The NCAA proudly flaunts that the overwhelming majority of its athletes - 99 percent, according to some sources — go professional in something other than sports.

Senior middle distance runner Katie Hoaldridge has made it a point to throw her energy — and there's a lot of it, in her case — behind both aspects of the studentathlete classification.

The senior has achieved first team all-Big 12 status in the 800-meters, indoor 1,000 meters and indoor distance medley, becoming one of Texas' best middle distance runners as she strives for records on the track.

In addition, Hoaldridge already has her degree in radio-television-film and hopes to balance her possible future in track with the pursuit of a career in the music industry.

Hoaldridge took the fall semester away from the team for the communication school's "Semester in Los Angeles" program, which gave her an opportunity to work with Sony Music and Warner Brothers. This made some of her coaches a tad nervous.

"[Head coach Mario Sategna] jokingly was like, 'If I would have been in charge when you got the go to do



that, I wouldn't have let you," Hoaldridge said. "But it kind of worked out in my favor."

Sategna may have been hesitant to let one of his top veterans take leave from the team during the offseason, but he recognizes that academics come before the athletics.

"We've always talked to them about using track and field as a springboard, and what better way to be here at the University of Texas and to be here for the right reasons?" Sategna said. "When you have juniors and seniors, they're looking on to

their next career opportunity. We want to support them to the fullest."

Hoaldridge's decision to pursue an internship in Los Angeles meant she had to work even harder to maintain her national-championship-caliber fitness level.

"It was so hard," Hoaldridge said. "I would wake up at 6 a.m. ... then I wouldn't get home until 8 p.m., and then I'd just go to the gym because it would be night time, and I'm not going to go run by myself in Los Angeles."

Her performance this season has proven that even major obstacles, such as a significant lack of sleep and being thousands of miles from her coaching staff, do not fluster the senior. Hoaldridge anchored the 4x800 meter relay team to a second-place finish at the Texas Relays and has posted what should be an 800-meter qualifying time for the NCAA West Regionals, where a strong performance could land her in the championship meet.

"I would like to close out the season with a good performance at NCAAs." Hoaldridge said. "I've never made [the

arises, Hoaldridge would still love to run after college. "Obviously, if I go full throttle in the music industry, that's not necessarily going to be an option because I probably will never sleep," Hoaldridge said. "But, if that is an option, I would love to pursue it. This season kind of determines my next move, but, if I

competes in the 2014 Texas Relays. Hoaldridge is using her experience on the track and field team to pursue a career in the music industry.

Sam Ortega Daily Texan Staff

NCAAs] individually before." A strong showing at the NCAA Outdoor National Championships this summer would serve as a wonderful transition from one career into another, but, if an opportunity

can run, I would love to."

PGA | COLUMN



Charlie Riedel / Associated Press Former Longhorn Jordan Spieth shakes hands with Masters' winner Bubba Watson after their final round Sunday.

BASEBALL

Thornhill propels Longhorns back into national spotlight

By Evan Berkowitz @Evan_Berkowitz

Not too many pitchers can throw a complete game, allow just one run and still manage to suffer an increase in their ERA.

But that's exactly what happened to senior pitcher Nathan Thornhill on Sunday afternoon against Oklahoma that resulted in an 8-1 win.

12 leading and national top-10 0.78 ERA definitely helps that. Texas is 29-8 and No. 6 in the nation. The Longhorns are back on top of the Big 12, and their confidence is at an all-time high.

"We have a lot of confidence," Thornhill said. "We know what our plan and his opponents are hit-

Texas @ UTA

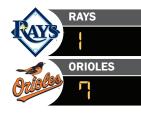


SIDELINE

6

MLB













TOP TWEET

Adrian Phillips @Phillips_17 It's some good movies comin out this summer

SPORTS BRIEFLY

Holmes earns MVP title at team banquet

Texas men's basketball

Despite collapse, Spieth still rising as golf great

By David Leffler Daily Texan Columnist @leffler_david

Alongside the rest of the golfing world, Jordan Spieth was forced to watch Bubba Watson sink putt after crucial putt en route to a final-round comeback that gave him his second green jacket in three years. Although Spieth could not maintain the pace set by Watson, the former Longhorn gave a debut that was notable in ways that cemented him in Masters history.

The 20-year-old Spieth had all of America buzzing as he entered the tournament's final day tied atop the leaderboard at 5-under-par, within striking distance of passing Tiger Woods to become the youngest player to ever win the Masters. This prospect became even more attainable when he jumped out to a 2-stroke lead after the seventh hole.

Unfortunately, things momentarily unraveled for him on the eighth and ninth holes, as he bogeyed each while Watson sunk back-toback birdie putts in a sudden 4-stroke swing. In the end, overcoming these blunders proved too tall a task for the Texas ex, as he finished 3 strokes behind Watson.

On the surface, many have pointed to Rory McIlroy's 2011 collapse and argue Spieth's performance mirrors it. McIlroy, who was 21 years old at the time, also could not maintain a multiplestroke lead in the final round with a chance to become the second youngest player to

win the green jacket.

The comparisons stop there, though. Spieth's final round resembled nothing close to McIlroy's breakdown three years ago, when the Northern Irishman choked away a four-shot lead by shooting an 80 over the final 18 holes, which equates to a score of 8 over par. When it was all said and done, he finished tied for 15th and 10 strokes off the leader.

To this day, McIlroy's performance is considered one of the biggest meltdowns in Masters history. Spieth, on the other hand, shot a 72 on Sunday, giving him an even score for the day. While it wasn't enough to keep up with Watson, who clearly looked more confident as he made his late charge, his final round wasn't a collapse. If anything, it was a testament to his mental fortitude.

After bogeying the last two holes on the front nine, Spieth could have easily folded under the pressure. Instead, he maintained his composure, finishing tied for second and finishing just one over par on the back nine.

Despite coming up short, Spieth showed resolve and maturity that far exceed his youth. At 20 years old, he missed his chance to surpass Tiger as the youngest Masters champion but has simultaneously emerged as a household name. With a sharp mind and the skill set to match it, Spieth will no doubt become a familiar face atop PGA Tour leaderboards for years to come.

He went the distance, pitched a gem - and his ERA climbed from 0.73 to 0.78.

"You know you're the man when you only give up one run, and your ERA goes up," sophomore reliever Chad Hollingsworth tweeted. "[Thornhill] is that dude."

But the road for Thornhill — who was named the Big 12 Pitcher of the Week on Monday — to get there took some turns. After being selected by the Houston Astros in the 24th round of the MLB Draft, Thornhill spurned them to return to Texas in an attempt to put the Longhorns back on the map after a low year.

And that's exactly what he's done. He's anchored a staff that ranks No. 6 in the nation in ERA. His Big is at the plate. We know what our plan is on defense and pitching, and, if we go and execute that, the game should come out in our favor."

Thornhill has allowed just four runs in seven starts. And all this for a guy who, at one point, wasn't even in the opening weekend rotation, finding himself behind junior pitcher Lukas Schiraldi.

He began to settle into the pen, with a real possibility of taking over the closer role. In eight relief innings, he allowed just one run while recording two wins and two saves.

After a few starts for Schiraldi went sour. Thornhill regained his spot in the rotation and hasn't looked back. He has already recorded a careerhigh six wins this season without even losing one. His WHIP is below one,

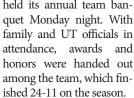
ting just 0.168 against him.

But Thornhill doesn't let the hype get to him, as he's still focused on improving.

"Last year, I started to kind of figure out what kind of pitcher I was and then just [built] upon that this year," Thornhill said. "I've just continued to work with [pitching coach] Skip [Johnson] and listen to him because I need to be a sponge when he's talking."

When Texas faces UT-Arlington on Tuesday at 6 p.m. at Disch-Falk Field, Thornhill will be resting his arm, watching Schiraldi deal and getting ready for this weekend's series against TCU.

"It is a lot different," Thornhill said. "It is a lot more fun. I think that is the biggest part. With the wins, come more fun. You like that feeling, and you don't want to have the other feeling."



Junior forward Jonathan Holmes highlighted the night with the team's Most Valuable Player honor, which was voted on by his peers. Holmes and sophomore center Cameron Ridley shared the team's Most Improved Player sward.

Sophomore Demarcus Holland was named the team's Outstanding Defensive Player for the second straight year, while Holmes was also voted team captain.

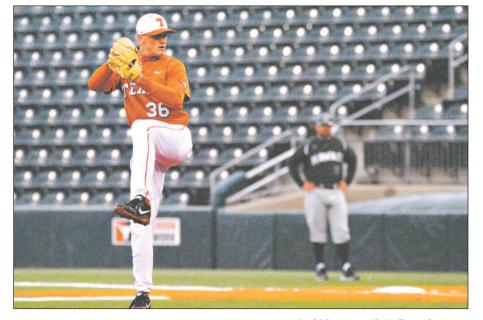
Holmes led his team this season in scoring (12.8 ppg), ranked second in rebounding (7.2 rpg) and third in blocked shots (40). —Garrett Callahan

Multimedia

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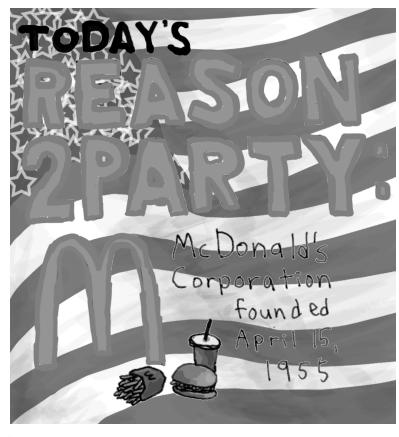
TODAY IN HISTORY 1896

The first Olympic games close in Athens, Greece.



Jarrid Denman / Daily Texan file photo

Senior pitcher Nathan Thornhill winds up against Kansas in a March game. Thornhill leads Texas' strong pitching team with a 0.78 ERA this season.



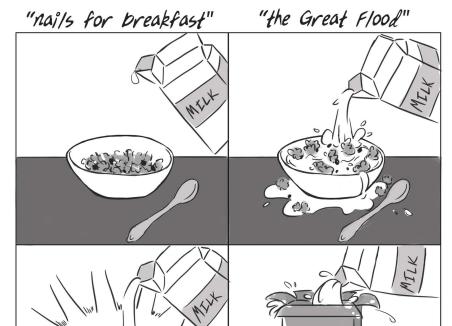
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The New York Times Crossword

ACROSS **39** Physics Nobelist of 1903 and Chemistry Nobelist of 1911 Like yesterday's news 6 "Must be done NOW!" 40 Toasted waffle 41 Having a rounded end, as pliers 10 Reduce to a pulp 14 Lugs 43 Tête topper 15 Latvia's capital 44 Big name in audio speakers 16 It may be just a hunch 45 Fracases 17 Underway 46 Minor 18 Blend improvement in the Dow 19 Boxers Muhammad and Laila 50 Shout of inspiration 51 Thomas who wrote "Death in Venice" 20 Idles 22 Fey of "30 Rock" 23 Souvenir of Maui, maybe 52 Sycamore tree 59 "No ___" (reassuring words) 24 How money may be won or lost 26 Like windows 60 Spanish eight 61 Tolkien's ring bearer 30 Window segment 32 Monday, in Madrid 62 Caesar's rebuke 33 Allied supply route to China during W.W. II to Brutus 63 Lena of "Chocolat" 38 Olympic skating champ Kulik 64 Supply, as a new ingredient

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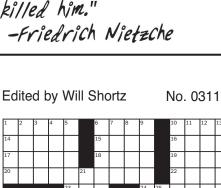
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65 Like Easter eggs 66 "Citizen" of film 67 They return north in the spring DOWN 1 Blind guess 2 Protein source for vegetarians 3 Tiny bit 4 Some summer babies 5 Topics for probate courts 6 Flaming felony 7 In ____ (undisturbed)

8 Opposed to, to Li'l Abner 9 "Scusi" 10 Autodom's MX-5 11 Wing it 12 What the Left Bank is a bank of 13 Attacks with vigor 21 "Far out, man!" 25 Three R's org. 26 Smooth-talking ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

- 27 She's back in town, in a Fats Waller song AMAT 28 Blue dye source IME 29 Fervor K I N
 - 30 Baby food, typically
- 31 Like much of the Southwest OMPH 33 Smooch MOE ERR 34 Recite quickly, with "off" AREA
- 35 Brute **36** James who wrote "Let Us Now Praise Famous Men" GOOGLE



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SLEDS 37 "i" and "j" tops

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LIFE&ARTS HANNAH SMOTHERS, LIFE&ARTS EDITOR / @DailyTexanArts 8 Tuesday, April 15, 2014 Fight Club: a workout minus the mayhem

By Courtney Runn @courtney_t_runn

For the newly opened Fight Club on Rio Grande Street, the first rule doesn't have anything to do with not talking about fight club — it's to have fun and be safe while getting a full body workout.

The contact cardio kickboxing facility opened March 24 and hosted a free class Saturday, with a visit from guest instructor Rhuben Williams and free Red Mango smoothies for those who made it to the end of class. With music blaring and participants both inside the building and outside on the sidewalk, it's difficult to ignore the new workout program that offers classes several times per day.

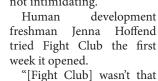
According to co-creator Williams, Fight Club has three crucial values: It is safe, effective and fun. Combining resistance training, cardio intervals and core strength, the 60-minute classes boast a full-body workout.

Williams' workout program began in Athens, Ga., in 2007 and became so popular that a second location was opened in the college town, followed by a third in Statesboro, Ga. When the licensed program had an opportunity to expand, Austin seemed like the perfect fit.

"I took it all throughout college, and it kind of became a hobby for my friends and [me]," said Alexis Dacy, University of Georgia alum and club instructor. "Why I wanted to bring it here was to create that hobby and love for working out like we had in Athens."

Currently, there are seven instructors at the Austin location, including two UT students and several UT alumni. Initially, only two classes were offered per day, but now up to four classes are taught daily.

The structure of the workout is up to the instructor, so no two classes are exactly alike.



Eil

welcome and able to join. Williams has seen at least four people lose more than 100 pounds from taking the class and has helped train all ages from college students to 60-year-old grandmothers.

"It's the perfect go-between with most of the existing programs out there," Williams said. "If you go [to] a basic gym, you're doing some dancing around, kickboxing, punching in the air, or you got to go to a gym where there's fighters, martial arts and a really intimidating environment. This is the perfect go-between — you get to punch and hit and kick stuff. You don't have to come in contact with any other members, so it's not intimidating."





Though it is a high intensity class, any level is intimidating because I like

FIGHT page 5

Top: Economics sophomore Cameron Slife (left) and business sophomore Max Tebbe strike a punching bag at Fight Club Austin on Monday evening.

Above: Economics sophomore Cameron Slife wraps his hand before beginning class at Fight Club Austin on Monday evening.

CAMPUS

Music performance graduate students Tim O'Brien and Chance Eakin are two UT opera singers involved in "The Elixir Project." A collaboration between UT's Butler Opera Center and the Austin Lyric Opera, "The Elixir Project" stages free opera performances across Austin and will have its final show



Amy Zhang Daily Texan Staff

Opera singers perform Italian feature

@kritika88

UT students.

stage a free performance of "The Elixir Project," which poser Donizetti's

Center this Tuesday.

"I enjoy this project be-A trip to the SFC Farm- cause it's a way of making ers' Market East last Tues- opera accessible for lack day would have allowed of interest or lack of exposhoppers to witness a free sure," said Tim O'Brien, live opera performance by music performance graduate student and a performer UT's Butler Opera Cen- in the project. "People will ter, in collaboration with just have a chance to run the Austin Lyric Opera, across us and grab a taste for the opera."

The duration of each show is based off of Italian com- is 30 minutes. The comic "The opera depicts the story of Elixir of Love" at nine ven- Nemorino, a peasant in love ues across Austin. The final with a wealthy girl, Adina, performance will be at the who does not love him back

sergeant. Nemorino seeks help from doctor Dulcamara who sells Nemorino a magic love potion, which turns out to be cheap wine. Doctoral student Juan Carlos Rodriguez plays Nemorino and music performance graduate student Hanna Lee plays Adina.

According to Robert DeSimone, director of UT's Butler Opera Center, the performances have been conceptualized with the idea of making opera a mass art form.

"In a traditional opera

By Kritika Kulshrestha Mexican American Cultural but instead loves Belcore, a THE ELIXIR PROJECT

When: Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. Where: Mexican American **Cultural Center** Cost: Free

venue, you are away from the audience," O'Brien said. "For this project, the style is much more conversational. We come out of the audience and we even sing directly to the audience members."

.....

"The Elixir Project" is the second in the series of

CITY Community advocates stand up for ghost bikes

By Vanessa Sliva @Vanessasliva

A white cross on the side of the road is a universal message of a fatal car crash, but, in Austin and several other cities around the country, a white painted bike is a memorial used to represent the death of a cyclist. Lately, these memorials are at risk of being taken down.

These white painted bikes are called "ghost bikes," which serve as a memorial for those cyclists who were hit and killed by a vehicle. The placement of these bikes is a worldwide movement that works to raise awareness of cyclist fatalities.

Within each city, groups independently contribute to setting up ghost bikes through local organizations and anonymous donors. Since 2006, Please Be Kind to Cyclists, a local Austin organization dedicated to the awareness and education of cyclists, has been displaying ghost bikes along the crash sites.

"[Ghost bikes] are a symbolic memorial," said Alvaro Bastidas, founder of Please Be Kind to Cyclists. "We not only honor the lives of those we lost but also create a symbol of hope that drivers become aware of the lives we lost from

a preventable crash."

This organization alone has mounted nine ghost bikes around Austin and in nearby cities. Each time a fatality occurs, the group responds within days by holding a memorial for the cyclist, inviting family and friends to attend the ceremony.

While these bikes are intended to commemorate the death of a cyclists, the process can take a toll on the individuals putting up the memorials. Danny Gamboa, filmmaker and a member of the Ghost Bike Los Angeles Team, sees about 75 bikes placed annually. This has inspired Gamboa to make a hour-long documentary about the ghost bikes and the impact placing the bikes has had on the individuals involved.

"When I put up a ghost bike, I put myself into the person's shoes," Gamboa said. "It could have been me or my partner. It could have been someone I know, and, the thing is, it is somebody's partner. It is somebody's friend. When I put up a ghost bike for a little boy and I have a little boy myself, it hits me."

Each time the ghost bikes are put on display, the bikes