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# THE DAILY TEXAN

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**CAMPUS** 

# Construction disrupts bike traffic

By Rachel Cooper @rachelcoopa

Many UT bikers are having to adjust their daily routines

to get to class on time because

of construction safety con-

cerns on Speedway. The Speedway Mall Project, which plans to turn the area into a pedestrian-friendly space, began its third and current phase in December 2016, according to an email from UT Parking and Transportation Services. This has

closed parts of Speedway

from Inner Campus Drive to 24th Street, causing a high density of pedestrians. To ensure safety, PTS posted signs around the construction area telling bikers to dismount and walk with their bikes.

"Construction often creates mobility challenges and we encourage people that are impacted to leave a little bit earlier than they might normally and consider alternative routes," PTS said in an email.

Nursing sophomore Harper Paparelli lives in North Campus and bikes to her 9 a.m. class in Jester three times a week. With the construction, Paparelli said it takes about the same time to walk to class as it does to bike.

"I'll get off of my bike, because there's a good amount of people, and it's just rude to keep biking or whatever, but other people will continue to bike and make people move out of the way," Paparelli said. "I walk sometimes, so I understand that bikers are kind of annoying, but I also bike a

BIKE page 3



eral arts sophomore Elliot Elias walks his bike down Speedway on Monday evening. Due to safety concerns, Parking and Transportation Services posted signs ordering bikers to dismount while passing through construction.

**Chase Karacostas** 

**CAMPUS** 

# Undocumented student plans for action

By Kayla Meyertons @kemeyertons

As U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids continue to span the Austin area, UT undocumented student Karla Peredo said she wants to fight.

"My entire life I felt nothing less than an American," Peredo said. "I consider myself an American, but in the last year or so, things have changed."

Peredo, a government and international relations junior, said her parents immigrated to America from San Luis Potosí, Mexico, when she was three years old to provide a better education for her family.

"Parents sometimes move from another district to get to a better school system," Peredo said. "But my parents just decided to move to another country."

Peredo's father started his own business in logistics and transportation of materials

**STUDENT** page 2



Karla Peredo, a government and international relations junior, is a member of University Leadership Initiatives, a nonprofit youth-led organization run by undocumented students. Peredo's parents immigrated to America from San Luis Potosi, Mexico.

## Legislators push child welfare bills to House

By Claire Allbright @claireallbright

Texas Child Protective Services reform has remained at the forefront of this legislative session after being named an emergency priority by Gov. Greg Abbott.

On Monday, the House Committee on Human Services continued to push CPS reform forward by passing two pieces of legislation, which will move to the House floor.

House Bill 6, authored by state Rep. James Frank, R-Wichita Falls, would privatize child welfare services. Private contractors would provide what lawmakers are calling community-based care.

"HB 6 truly commits us to community-based foster care," Frank said while introducing the bill.

Frank said the bill would increase the safety and well-being of children by keeping them in their communities and with family members or siblings.

"Community engagement is the key to making this work better than the statewide foster care system," Frank said.

Opposition to the bill centered around conflicts of interest these private contractors may encounter. Many of the contractors are faith-based organizations, which may choose not to work with samesex families or provide abortion services.

Some of the potential

BILLS page 2

**CAMPUS** 

## E-Week at Cockrell School allows students to let loose

By Lisa Nhan @nhanbread24

From an elaborate scavenger hunt to fashion shows showcasing clothes made of recyclables, the Cockrell School of Engineering's annual Engineers Week is a 10-daylong competition among all of its student organizations.

Hosted by the Student Engineering Council, E-Week kicked off last Friday. The goal for each organization is to gain the most points by hosting and attending events, with the winning team earning year-long bragging rights and an inscription on the E-Week trophy.

Chemical engineering sophomore Andres Sanchez-Paiva said winning E-Week is a great honor for any organization.

"Everyone knows about E-Week in Cockrell, so just being able to say that your org won E-Week means so much because of the time commitment it takes," Sanchez-Paiva said. "It means you attended events, probably did really well in those events, did a lot of the scavenger hunt, and hosted events too. It's sort of like winning the Oscars for that year."

E-Week is UT's interpretation of the nationwide Engineers Week, and the competition involves months of planning, with 36 events packed into just 10 days. Some of the events include a "So You Think Engineers Can Dance" competition and dramatic textbook readings.

This year was the inaugural

Cockrell Day of Service, one of the events hosted by SEC for E-Week. Organizations gained points by volunteering at different sites all

around Austin. Civil engineering senior Amanda Muehr, one of the directors for Engineering Activities, said E Week is a time for engineering students to try something new.

"For us, it's an opportunity to get organizations and engineering students in general outside of their comfort zone of us always having to study or to do something serious," Muehr said. "It's just something fun to do that also builds up the engineering community spirit to represent the whole Cockrell School

**E-WEEK** page 2

### **CAMPUS**

## Grant seeks to diversify computer science throughout high schools

By Sarah Bloodworth @bloodworthy22

UT's WeTeach\_CS program is working not only to make computer science classes more available to students but to diversify the field as well.

Only 1 in 10 high schools offer computer science nationwide, according to the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation. Computer science is not offered in many schools mainly because teachers are not certified to teach it, according to WeTeach\_CS director Carol Fletcher.

A \$5 million grant from the Texas Education Agency, or TEA, aims to help WeTeach\_ CS, a part of the College of Education's Center for STEM Education, certify more teachers

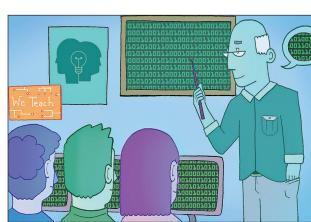


Illustration by Mel Westfall | Daily Texan Staff

in computer science and help bring computer science classes to more Texas high schools.

Fletcher said the grant will help WeTeach\_CS build on their previous success.

"I think that Texas is really leading the country in scaling up computer science preparation," Fletcher said. "Last year we trained more people in the state of Texas than (were trained) in the entire country, and with this additional grant

**GRANT** page 2

## Texas Softball

Use your Big Ticket or buy a UT student ticket for just \$3 at McCombs Field.

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## FRAMES FEATURED PHOTO thedailytexan



Carlos Garcia | Daily Texan Staff

Global policy graduate student Samer Yousif practices salsa with members of Longhorn Salsa.

#### STUDENT

continues from page 1

across Texas but was forced to stop the business because he didn't have a social security number, Peredo said.

"That's definitely been one of the hardest parts is to see my parents not be able to reach their full potential because of a lack of a social security number," Peredo said. "My parents are brilliant, and that's what is holding them back."

Peredo said she never had a reason to fear for the well-being of her parents until now.

Peredo is a member of University Leadership Initiative, a nonprofit youth-led organization run by undocumented students at the University advocating for the rights of undocumented individuals in the community. ULI started the "Texas Here to Stay" coalition, an association of advocacy groups who provide legal services and mobilization opportunities for undocumented individuals.

"Here in Texas we're going to fight against (Senate Bill 4), and we're also going to fight to protect tuition equity," Peredo said. "The only reason I'm not paying international fees right now is because of tuition equity."

Filed by state Sen. Charles Perry, R-Lubbock, on Feb. 7, SB 4 bans local municipalities from enacting sanctuary city policies, and it advanced a full vote in the Senate and awaits a House committee hearing.

Peredo started working at the Capitol in October under state Rep. Mary Gonzalez. D-Clint, a daily inspiration for her. Peredo said she got involved in government and politics because she would like to eventually go to law school to help undocumented individuals.

Peredo is a recipient of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, a program that gives a renewable two-year period of deferred action from deportation to undocumented individuals

in the United States.

"Right now we're not sure if it's going to be renewed," Peredo said. "We don't think it is. It's going to be another fight up ahead, to fight for something better than DACA, something more permanent than DACA."

Peredo said her DACA status is set to expire next year, and she is uncertain what the future holds.

After she saw a sign in West Campus Saturday that read "USA: No Illegals," Peredo said it has never been more important for undocumented people not to be afraid to step out of the shadows and let their country know they are here to stay.

"We're American, we do our part, we pay our taxes (and) we're part of our communities," Peredo said. "That sign that said 'no illegals' was on a construction site. Undocumented peoples are quite literally building the city up. ... And I think it should be known that we're here to stay."

#### GRANT

continues from page 1 we are poised to do the same

thing again."

The grant will fund 29 different initiatives, including computer science collaboratives and training programs to support teachers. The collaboratives aim to help teachers mentor other teachers and are based off of the Center's Texas Regional Collaboratives for Excellence in Science and Math Teaching. The grant will also fund teacher externship projects, or temporary training programs, that provide teachers with experience in the industry and broaden their knowledge about the field.

More computer science classes offered in high school create more opportunities for minority students to go into STEM fields, said Todd Hutner, assistant director of teacher education and center development at the Center. Only 22 percent of AP computer science students

are women and only 13 percent are of African-American or Latino descent, according to College Board.

"WeTeach\_CS has a commitment to equity, which includes ensuring that students from traditionally underrepresented backgrounds are given access to computer science," Hutner said. "This includes girls and women, as well as African-American and Latino/a students, and students of lower socioeconomic backgrounds."

Carol Ramsey, graduate research assistant at WeTeach\_ CS, said she feels optimistic about the future for computer science education, especially in Texas.

"I think that the Center for STEM Education is really being a leader in the field and Texas is really being a leader as well," Ramsey said. "We have a center that is getting the funding and doing the work of getting teachers certified. This is leading the way in which the country should get work done."

## THE DAILY TEXAN

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### E-WEEK

continues from page 1 of Engineering."

With 20 teams competing as either a large or small organization, E-Week gives students a chance to bond in unique situations such as the 121-item scavenger hunt, Muehr said.

mechanical engineering senior JoAnna Boy, E-Week meant a road trip to College Station to cross some unusual requests off the scavenger hunt.

"We sang Texas Fight in front of Kyle Field while wearing burnt orange," Boy said. "We got some weird looks, but it was totally worth it. Then we had to get one of their corps officers to say, 'Hook em."



Students from the Cockrell School of Engineering participate in one of the many events during Engineering Week.

Courtesy of Student Engineering Council



### BILLS

continues from page 1

pushed contractors a clause that would protect their religious values and prevent them from discrimination lawsuits.

Frank, the bill's author, said the legislation would increase the agency's accountability and streamline the management process.

"(This bill would) show all Texans the importance we place on at-risk children," Frank said.

John Specia, the former commissioner of DFPS, said he supports this restructuring, and it is appropriate for the department.

"I think this structure ensures that the services that are provided by DFPS will always be the highest priority," Specia said.

HB 5 passed committee unanimously. During public testimony, Scott Mc-Cown, UT law professor and director of the Children's Rights Clinic, said outside of appropriations, this bill was the most important piece of CPS legislation.

The third bill before the committee, HB 4, authored by

Rep. Cindy Burkett, R-Sunnyvale, would give financial assistance to people caring for members of their extended families in foster care.

leads to better results and children in kinship care feel more loved and move less often. Under this bill, these "kinship families" could receive up to half of what a traditional

Several members of the

committee said kinship care

foster family is given, depending on where a family falls in relation to the poverty line. In light of fiscal concerns about the additional cost of this bill, committee chairman Rep. Richard Peña Raymond,

D-Laredo, said the Senate will have discretion as to the amount of funding put into this program. "Everything I've heard

from anyone who are looked at this has indicated that this will help the system," Raymond said. HB 4 was also passed out of

committee unanimously.

These two bills were the first in the House to be passed out of their committee assignment. They now go to the Calendars Committee, which will put them on the House calendar for floor debate.

#### **CAMPUS**

## Students, alumni celebrate UT during Ring Week

By Lisa Nhan @nhanhread24

Engraved with the symbol of Texas Exes, a Longhorn silhouette, the UT Tower and the iconic phrase "The Eyes of Texas Are Upon You," the UT class ring is one of the most symbolic items of the 40 Acres experience.

From Feb. 20 to 24, students can attend Spring Ring Week at the Etter-Harbin Alumni Center to see the ring and receive assistance in design and ordering.

Eligible graduates can go to the Alumni Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Undergraduate students can order the ring if they have completed 75 credit hours, while graduates only need 18 credit hours.

Lewis Hall, student engagement coordinator for Texas Exes, said students can order rings online at any time, but attending the Ring Week can be highly beneficial

for anyone considering to purchase a ring.

"You just have way more piece of mind. You have Balfour reps and myself here to answer any questions," Hall said. "You may think it looks like this online, but we have the actual rings in person. That way there's no doubt in your mind that this is what you really want."

For MBA graduate student John Kujawa, Spring Ring Week is more than a chance for him to order his ring, but also for his father AC Kujawa, an alumnus, to order his as well.

AC Kujawa said he graduated in 1984 with a bachelor's degree in Plan II. AC Kujawa said he just ordered his ring after being inspired by his son's own excitement over his upcoming graduation.

"When I graduated, I really couldn't afford a ring," AC Kujawa said. "Over the years, I've always thought it would just be a nice thing to have one."



Joshua Guerra

Daily Texan Staff

Moody College of Communica-

tions graduates

attend the May

commencement

at the UT Tower.

Week at the Et-

ter-Harbin Alumni

Center, from Feb.

20 to 24, pro-

vides students

with assistance

in designing and

ordering class

rings.

2016 spring

Spring Ring

The ring is a physical representation of John Kujawa's

"You'll have your paper degree, and you'll hang it somewhere. But it's not

anything like having a symbol that you can take around with you," John Kujawa said. "It's an outward symbol of being proud to be in the UT community."

John Kujawa does not graduate until 2018, but he said ordering the ring is his chance to celebrate his longtime admiration for the University.

"When I came back to get

my master's, the only school that I applied to and really wanted to get my MBA from was Texas," Kujawa said. "This marks the end of a journey that started 12 years ago."

#### **CAMPUS**

## Hybrid art series on nature returns to Blanton Museum

**By London Gibson** @londongibson

Dancers, musicians and actors filled the galleries of the Blanton Museum with sound Sunday in a collective tribute to nature for "SoundSpace," a hybrid art series.

The goal of Sunday's event was to explore how artists engage with nature and respond to their surroundings, said event curator Steve Parker.

"We're interested at this moment in contemporary issues and things that people are thinking about," Parker said. "Environmentalism is one of those issues."

The event showcased a variety of talent from UT alumni. Among the performers was the Bel Cuore Quartet, a saxophone quartet, that performed a three-person piece. The quartet presented "Drill, Baby, Drill," a number about the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

"When you're talking about the environment — the human impact is inescapable," quartet member Sunil Gadgil said. "This piece serves as a reminder of that connection between what people say and their consequences on the ground, and that despite the passage of time, it's important that nothing be forgotten."

Also performing was UT alumna Alexa Capareda, a dancer with ARCOS Dance. Capareda's choreography was based on her childhood memories of the typhoons and earthquakes that struck the Philippines.

"I think of waking up and knowing that school's out but watching trees fall over and watching people wading through high water," Capareda said. "Growing up in the Pacific Ring of Fire was just having an extreme respect for nature and what it can do."

Capareda's dance accompanied sound mixed by Parker that featured bat calls and other natural sound, something Parker found especially important to the event.

Some of the other acts found ways to combine sound with data - such as the UT San Antonio Trombone Choir, whose performance was based on seismographic readings from the Kobe earthquake of 1995 — and trumpeter Jacob Wick, whose work was written based on daily local weather conditions.

The Blanton Museum remained open for general admission during the performances. Carolyn Elder said she stumbled across the event when she decided to visit the museum with her son, a graduate student at UT, and said she's glad she found it. Elder said the theme of the event is particularly important in today's political climate.

would



Chase Karacostas | Daily Texan Staff UT alumna Alexa Capareda performs a dance at the Blanton

government is) dismissing any connection to the Earth other than what we can get out of it for economic gain," Elder

on Sunday for their SoundSpace hybrid art series.

said. "I think we as a country need to be connected to the Earth and realize that once we destroy it, it's destroyed."

## Gun rights group educates on testifying over gun legislation

By Rajya Atluri @rajyaatluri

Texas Firearms Freedom, a gun advocacy organization, educated Austin residents Monday on the proper ways to testify during the 85th Legislative session to protect Second Amendment rights.

Founder and director Rachel Malone presented material focusing on specific steps citizens can take to advocate, including attending committee hearings and closely tracking bills. For students looking to advocate for gun rights, Malone said she has three important pieces of advice.

"Number one: Come to a committee hearing," Malone said. "That's when you are invited to give your opinion on public record to the Legislature."

Malone said students should do whatever they need to do to be at these hearings, whether that requires taking off from school or losing study time.

"If this is important to you, it's worth it," Malone said.

The second best thing to do is to call representatives, Malone said.

"Call your own right now and ask them what bill or bills you want them to co-author," Malone said. "Don't just settle for saying they support it -



Carlos Garcia | Daily Texan Staff

Founder and director Rachel Malone speaks to Texas Firearms Freedom about gun bills in Texas.

make them co-author it. Also, be calling the committee chairman, call the committee members and make sure they're not stalling and refusing to bring it up for hearing."

Lastly, students should remember to stay connected in supporting organizations to know when the hearings take place.

Some important pieces of legislation include bills related to Constitutional Carry, which would allow Texans to carry firearms in the state with or without a handgun permit, Malone said.

The event was held at Central Texas Gun Works, which sells firearms and teaches classes on guns. Kent Pattson, an instructor at Central Texas Gun Works, said he's seen

members of the UT community, both faculty and students, at these classes, especially since campus carry went into effect last semester.

"Tons of staff and professors have come through," Pattson said. "They take our basic firearms course, our basic pistols course, and they take the license to carry course."

Joseph Longhurst said he attended the event to get an understanding about what he might expect if he showed up for a legislative session where he could give testimony.

"I've never done that before, and the idea of going into it cold turkey is a little bit daunting," Longhurst said. "I thought that coming here tonight would be a good primer."



questions, then come check out the freshmen to join a peer leadership group that will develop a sense of community through monthly meet ups, team building activities, and educational excursions, both on and off campus. The best part is you get to decide! INSPIRE Women First provides a

space for first year students to come together across schools, disciplines, areas of interest, ethnicity, and life experience to learn the value of diversity and how to successfully communicate across cultures. Students will explore concepts of feminism, social justice, community building, and what it means to be a woman at a large university like UT. Please join us FEBRUARY 23 in CLA 1.302C to learn more about this unique freshman leadership opportunity and help plan the

program's goals and objectives for

the Spring 2017 semester!

### BIKE

continues from page 1

lot of the time, and it's annoying the other way around, so it's just really frustrating."

BikeUT, which is a part of PTS, has posted several Sustainability

tweets reminding bikers to dismount in the construction area as UT Police Department enforces the policy.

sophomore Audrey Hankins said she has seen construction workers, not UTPD, enforcing the rule. "If there is heavy machin-

ery being moved around actively, I've seen (some construction workers) try to step in front of bikers to try to get them to stop so they don't accidentally try to go around the machine or something and get hit," Hankins said.

"Sometimes they hold stop signs, and I'll see them maybe try to persuade the people to stop on their bikes ... but not aggressively telling them to stop, because they don't have any power, ultimately, I think."

Project Management and Construction Services said in an email the construction on Speedway will last until spring 2018.

CENTER for

WOMEN'S

& GENDER

STUDIES

## Convention of states threatens Constitution

By G. Elliott Morris

Daily Texan Senior Columnist @gelliottmorris

Uncertainty was a hot topic in 18th century publications, when early statisticians were debating the merits of probability theory. In the 2016 election, uncertainty rose to the forefront of the press again as then-candidate Donald Trump continued to defy pundit expectations of electoral performance. Now, uncertainty can be seen in a probable path forward for an Article V Convention of States, which is alive again in the Texas Legislature.

That's because Article V of the Constitution, the part of our supreme law in which a constitutional convention could be called by the states, does not provide restrictions on the actions that states could take. In fact, the most guidance our founders provided were the rules by which an amendment is approved: Two-thirds of states (34) have to agree to propose an amendment and threefourths (38) are required for ratification. When being tasked with the reconstruction of our founding document, this is dangerous.

Imagine, for instance, governors around the United States calling a convention to pass a balanced budget amendment — which, by the way, is a horrible idea. Under the laws of a convention of states, no constitutional authority prevents delegates elected from, say, allowing the states to veto congressional laws and decisions made by the United States Supreme Court. Think that sounds dangerous to the integrity of our public institutions? Yep, and it's even more dangerous because that's

If we believe that the convention could spiral out of control, the starting point in our current political environment is constitutional degradation, not the ending point.

exactly what Texas Gov. Greg Abbott wants to do. If we believe that the convention could spiral out of control, the starting point in our current political environment is constitutional degradation, not the ending point.

This concern that a convention could enact hyper-partisan public policy is a concern no matter what side of the aisle you are on. The delegates appointed by each state could very well bow to liberal influences and nationalize the healthcare system in exchange for a balanced budget amendment, for example, or any number of concessions delegates could come up.

On top of the uncertainty from the convention itself, we must add the uncertainty anticipated by the current state of our politics. Think pluralist influences run amok in electing President Trump, who has so far both implemented policies even Bush-appointed judges dislike and failed to deliver on promises his voters have expected? Envision the influence that those people could yield over their state's delegates. And if you're no fan of the congressional GOP, imagine the influence they would have over the delegates chosen from their home states.

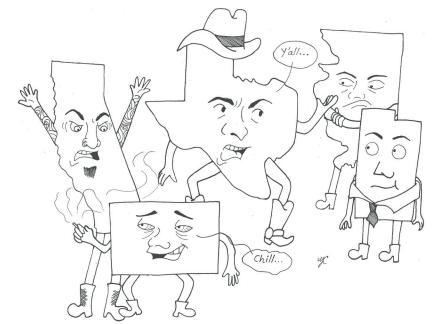


Illustration by Yulissa Chavez | Daily Texan Staff

In the same vein, we should also consider the possibility of delegates being corrupted by private interests.

To put it plainly, our divided and effectively populist political climate, coupled with the downright danger of a Constitutional Convention governed by centuries-old rules, poses a uniquely uncertain danger to the Constitution. Any number of negative outcomes could degrade the original intent of the Constitution — which, according to its writers, was to provide a government with powers so centrally strong that policy and political unification could

occur across the country, while preserving the rights of those states. Calling for an Article V Convention could all but render that promise meaningless.

Consider the following words from Alexander Hamilton for parting deliberation: "Real liberty is neither found in despotism or the extremes of democracy, but in moderate governments." We should wonder how moderate our government would be after the Constitution made its way through a convention of states.

G. Elliott Morris is a government, history, and computer science junior.

**COLUMN** 

## Carbon taxes offer conservative climate solution

By Gabrielle Sanchez

Daily Texan Columnist @narwhalieee

The Climate Leadership Council is putting forth a proposal by former Secretary of State James A. Baker III for a carbon tax aimed at reducing carbon emissions. While a carbon tax itself carries many benefits and is one way to push the switch to clean energy, the proposal is deeply flawed, starting with its plan to eliminate a lot of recent regulatory policy made under Obama.

The idea that a carbon tax can stand alone and solve all the issues surrounding climate change is simply inadequate.

The proposal features a \$40 per ton carbon tax, mainly on fuel sources such as gas, oil and coal, which make up about 80 per cent of fuel use in the U.S. They taxes would be returned in the form of rebate checks to the public with the idea that the dividend would encourage people to use clean sources of energy and fuel-efficient cars. The CLC notes that polls have indicated as many as 67 percent of Americans would support such a plan, included 54 percent of conservative Republicans.

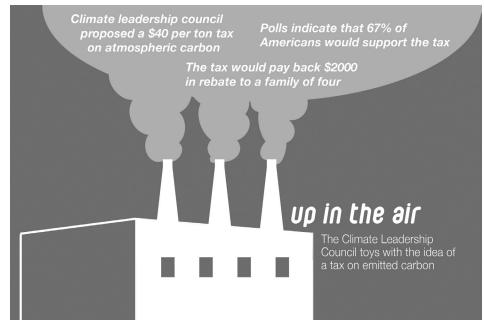
Another aspect of the proposal includes the return of the tax to the public in the form of dividends, where a family of four could receive up to \$2000 a year that under the tax. While the price of greener energy, such as solar panels, has decreased over the past few years, this does not come close to covering the cost

of installing solar panels, much less that of a fuel-efficient car. This does not even compensate the increased cost of energy. The money collected from the tax would be better used to advance this technology and make it more accessible even through the use of subsidies.

The tax rate would be the same for evervone, which means that this puts a higher strain on lower-income families. Those with higher incomes could absorb the cost more easily and have access to alternative energies like solar. Not only that, it would also place a lot of pressure on smaller oil companies, who are less likely to handle the tax with the same ability that a large oil company such as Exxon Mobil could.

The other key part of this proposal involves the elimination of almost all of Obama's regulatory policies. This spells disaster when it comes to solving massive issues like pollution and clean water crises. We've already seen a step toward deregulation that benefits businesses in the short term while causing longterm destruction with Trump's reversal of the stream protection rule, which prevents the dumping of coal waste into streams. A carbon tax would do nothing to prevent devastating policy like this one in the future.

The proposal seems like a cop out in order to avoid dealing with any real issues surrounding climate change. The Republicans leading the proposal do not offer a definitive answer on whether they do or do not believe that human action causes climate change. This proposal offers a chance to make it



Infographic by Sunnie Lee | Daily Texan Staff

seem like they are concerned, while undoing policy that has real potential of lowering carbon emissions and alleviating the effects of climate change.

A carbon tax is not an inherently bad idea, but it cannot stand alone. Fighting climate change requires efforts on many fronts, and simply increasing the cost of energy does not provide a comprehensive solution. It must work with other policies in order to garner the best results.

Dealing with human-caused climate change requires more than a structurally weak proposal from writers who are not convinced of the science behind it. Enacting a carbon tax along with regulatory policy would effectively push the major changes, such as decreasing carbon emission and pollution making the switch to cleaner energy more efficient.

Sanchez is a journalism freshman from

**COLUMN** 

# States' rights arguments stand on loose ground

By Liza Anderson Daily Texan Columnist

Contention over the power of the states versus the federal government predates the United States. At the time of the revolution, America had been successfully operating as 13 independent economies loosely bound in a "firm league of friendship" under the impotent Articles of Confederation. It would be difficult to understate the radicalism of the argument for unification, and the ratification of the U.S. Constitution in 1788 represented an irrevocable shift that forever enshrined the argument over the rights of the states in American political discourse.

Over time, the argument's finer points fell away as the concept of states' rights became synonymous with the argument over slavery. Slavery's intentional absence from the Constitution left it open to interpretation, and the issue came to the fore when proponents of states' rights argued for expansion of slavery into newly acquired Western territories. In 1861, the issue led to the most devastating war in U.S. history.

Confederate apologists still pretend the Civil War was fought for the hazy conception of "states' rights." In the same vein, former slave owners and their descendants touted states' rights to systematically oppress the slaves they'd been forced to free. Federal intervention in the form of constitutional amendments and voting rights legislation lent some support to the oppressed, moves that were fervently opposed by conservatives citing states' rights.

When President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act of 1965 into law, racist Southerners fled the Democratic party, and the modern political system finally crystallized. The Republican Party's official 2016 platform cites their commitment to "(return) to the people and the states the control that belongs to them." The argument for states' rights as a bulwark against the infringement of individual liberty is appealing, especially to conservatives unwilling to acknowledge the argument's ties to racism and bigotry.

The relationship between the modern-day Republican Party and the original proponents of states' rights is complex. According to government professor Bartholomew Sparrow, neither modern parties truly resemble the original Antifederalists, as both fundamentally support a strong centralized state. Sparrow posits the states' rights argument may in fact be a kind of "code" for fewer regulations by the federal government. However, states' rights as they are called for by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott demand in the most overt terms the reworking of the U.S. Constitution in favor of the states.

Any innocent argument for states' rights dissolved this year when the Republican Party abandoned that aspect of their platform. Earlier this month, the Texas Legislature a longtime advocate for states' rights - approved a bill eliminating the ability of Texas cities to provide sanctuary for undocumented immigrants. Former Texas governor and soon-to-be Secretary of Energy Rick Perry responded to widespread opposition of the law. He criticized "a culture of contempt for federal law in this area," apparently ignorant to the deep irony of this statement.

On Nov. 8, 2016, the bigotry the Republican

The argument for states' rights as a bulwark against the infringement of individual liberty is appealing, especially to conservatives unwilling to acknowledge the argument's ties to racism and bigotry.

Party had been masquerading as states' rights became mainstream. With the support of the White House behind them, Republicans began to shed the euphemistic mask of states' rights and initiated an active crusade against the values they purported for centuries. Evidently, the 10th Amendment, obsessively cited by Republicans claiming the power of the states, only applies when the power in question is that

Anderson is a Plan II and history freshman from Houston.

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When nutrition junior Sydney Benator's grandmother passed away, Benator's mother wanted a tattoo to commemorate her passing, but it took a few years and Sydney's accompaniment to join in.

"We got it in honor of my grandma, who passed away five years ago," Benator said. "My mom has been wanting a tattoo for 10 years, and I got it with her."

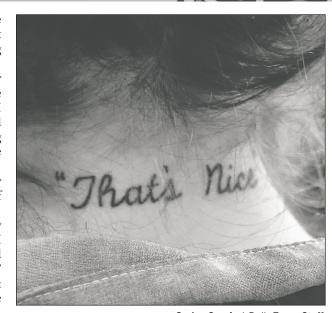
The tattoo of the words "that's nice" comes from a story Sydney's grandmother used to tell. It involved two elderly women having a prolonged conversation, with one woman bragging about her

worldly possessions and the other woman, who does not care, continuously responding "that's nice."

"Essentially, when she'd say that in a Southern twang type of way, it meant 'fuck you, I don't care," Benator said. "And it was my mom's way of saying 'fuck you, I don't care' to all the women who told her not to."

To Sydney, the tattoo closely relates to her own view of the world.

"I try not to look at how people think about me. I don't think there's any need to talk about what you have," Benator said. "Talk about stories, things that have happened to you, pop culture, political culture. I love to talk about food."



Carlos Garcia | Daily Texan Staff

Nutrition junior Sydney Benator's tattoo reads "that's nice"



Carlos Garcia | Daily Texan Staff

Benator got the tattoo with her mom as a way to express their individualities

### **JENS**

continues from page 8

impressive yet playful LP.

In between I Know What Love Isn't and this record, Lekman tried to make a follow-up but found that it "sounded like (he) had given up." Instead, he launched his Postcards series, a promise to himself to release a song a week for a year, not only pushing his abilities as a songwriter but requiring him to not overthink his music and bury it in layers of production and perfection.

The result led to this LP, and it certainly shows in the record's style many songs freely flow and take on a small life of their own. The album's lead single, "What's That Perfume That You Wear?," is a prime example of this.

It begins with a countryesque simple guitar riff but eventually expands to include a variety of instruments, making it feel like one of the most playful songs on the project.

These instruments that Lekman implements may be strange, but they heavily contribute to his transition back into the musical limbo he once dominated. Life Will See You Now is much more colorful than its preceding work, bringing in simple yet effective drum machines in a Balearic beat style to lull in the background of several songs. Slow, heavy pulses combined with a lot of Latin American and soul influences help craft this album's core sound.

Some instruments such as the twangy steel drums of "What's That Perfume You Wear?" pop up here and there

with not as much consistency as Lekman's drum machines. Incorporating that steel drum proves to be difficult and makes the track a challenging listen at first, but after a couple tries, it becomes a core element of the song and a surprise to look forward to with each spin.

on the back of her neck.

The first three tracks on Life Will See You Now feature guest artists, which is something Lekman has never attempted before. The first two tracks bring on LouLou Lamotte, a Swedish singer-songwriter from the band Soulectric. Her voice doesn't necessarily carry these songs but adds another element to keep up the intrigue. Although Lamotte does an impressive job with her singing parts, the third and final feature on this album is Lekman's most intriguing. Bringing on Tracey Thorn

#### **LIFE WILL SEE YOU NOW**

Genre: Alternative / Indie Rating: ★★★ ★

of Everything but the Girl,

Lekman uses Thorn's more electronic and folk origins to bring a new flavor to "Hotwire the Ferris Wheel," something that has never been featured in a song of his before.

Toward the end of Life Will See You Now, the record can feel slightly repetitive. But with multiple listens, it's easy to discover the subtler samples on each song, making each one a pretty exciting experience within itself. As a whole, Life Will See You Now is Lekman's most impressive record yet, making it an essential listen for almost all fans of music.

### **THOUSAND**

continues from page 8

chunks of brisket, slices of Chinese sausage and green onion. These simple ingredients come together to make an unforgettable version of an already popular dish. The brisket adds a great savory and smoky flavor, while the Chinese sausage counters that with a surprisingly sweet taste. Both pair exceptionally well with the mild flavor of the green onion cooked throughout the rice.

A more unexpected highlight on the menu is the nai nai chicken and rice congee. This no-frills dish mixes porridge-like rice with dark meat chicken, a salted egg and shallots to a wildly successful result. The ingredients together yield a creamy and hearty

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## Longhorns fall in crucial conference matchup

By Sydney Rubin

@sydneyrrubin

The Longhorns stood sparsely on the court, defending Baylor's inbounds pass with 6.1 seconds to go Monday night in front of 7,103 fans at the Frank Erwin Center.

Down by three points after a ferocious Baylor comeback, No. 6 Texas needed a steal. Sophomore guard Lashann Higgs delivered.

Higgs reached in, stole the inbounds pass and kicked it out to Texas' sharpshooter, junior guard Brooke McCarty, with a chance to send the game to overtime.

The shot went up. But it didn't fall.

Texas players hunched over as time expired, and the ravenous, season-best crowd went silent. Baylor escaped with a narrow 70-67 victory.

"We had a shot with (Brooke) here at the end," head coach Karen Aston said. "And I'd take that everyday, all day."

McCarty knocked down four triples in the contest for a team-high 16 points, but the one shot that mattered the most didn't make

it through the net.

"I just have to knock those down," McCarty said. "And I will knock those down."

The rematch emulated the first meeting between the teams two weeks ago, where Texas stole a 85-79 victory in Waco. But this time, Baylor's second-half heroics were too much for the Longhorns.

"I thought we played really hard, and we just didn't win," Aston said. "I was really impressed with how our team played for a lot of reasons. Big game, big environment and some are new to this, and I was real pleased with the way we handled it."

Sophomore forward Kalani Brown led the short-handed Bears back from an 11-point deficit at the half en route to a career night of 35 points, 13 rebounds and a clutch performance at the free-throw line. Brown found herself at the line 16 times and knocked down all but one, making more foul shots than the Longhorns even attempted.

Texas led for just over 32 minutes in the thriller. But it slipped away as the final five minutes ensued.



hunches over following Texas' dramatic loss to Baylor on Monday night.

Senior guard Brianna Taylor

Joshua Guerra

Daily Texan Staff

The Bears got off to a rough start, but despite a dismal firsthalf shooting performance and the loss of senior guard Alexis Jones, who left the game with a knee injury, Baylor mustered up enough energy to regain

The Bears grabbed a 56-55 lead with 4:59 remaining in the game. Two weeks ago in Waco, Baylor evened the score late but never got the chance to take the lead in the final minutes. Led by Brown, the Bears completed their comeback this time.

Aston pounded her fists in

the air as the Bears got second chances on key possessions down the stretch.

"Different players on their team took advantage of that and got a lot of offensive rebounds," Aston said. "I thought that was really the difference in the game."

The energy and hustle Texas stormed out of the gates with dwindled down in the game's final minutes without the help of its bigs. Senior center Kelsey Lang left the game after suffering an eye injury. Lang's partner in the post, freshman

forward Joyner Holmes, grabbed 12 rebounds in the loss, but foul trouble ended her night with 1:23 remaining.

"I don't take satisfaction in losing," junior guard Ariel Atkins said. "Our team is better. I think the most important thing for me right now is to think about how much we've matured as a team and that's probably my focal point right now."

After a two-game slide against Oklahoma and Baylor, Texas looks to bounce back Friday as it hosts Iowa State.

## **TODAY IN**

Two women's high school basektball teams in Iowa go to four overtimes after failing to score in regulation – the

#### MEN'S BASKETBALL | TEXAS 62 - 77 NO. 12 WEST VIRGINIA

## Texas overwhelmed by Mountaineers in Morgantown

**By Trenton Daeschner** 

@TrentDaeschner

Shaka Smart looked deeply perplexed.

The Texas head coach had just been called for a technical foul midway through the first half, which created some confusion from the

Longhorn bench. Smart was animated on the sideline and appeared to be yelling orders at his players as West Virginia brought the ball up the court before the officials tagged him with a technical.

All Smart could do was stand aside and watch as West Virginia junior guard Jevon Carter knocked down the ensuing free throws. Smart also had to watch his team let an early 10-point lead evaporate into a 77-62 loss to No. 12 West Virginia in Morgantown on Monday night.

Four Texas players finished in double figures. Freshman forward Jarrett Allen played 37 minutes and led the Longhorns with 17 points and seven rebounds.

Texas' sizzling start in the first four-and-a-half minutes amounted to a 12-2 lead over West Virginia. Freshman

forward James Banks' length was on full display with two early blocked shots. Threeand-a-half minutes later, Texas still was in command with a 17-10 lead.

But as has been customary throughout this season for the Longhorns, the firm lead was short-lived.

Led by Carter and redshirt freshman forward Lamont West, West Virginia unleashed a frenzy on the Longhorns. The Mountaineers went on a 21-3 run over the next four-and-a-half minutes to take complete control of the game with a 31-20 lead. Carter and West accounted for all of West Virginia's points over that stretch.

During the run, Smart drew the technical, which only added to the West Virginia momentum.

The Mountaineers then increased their lead to 41-28 with 3:09 left in the first half before Allen decided he had enough. He received a pass on the baseline and threw down a mammoth one-handed slam dunk over West Virginia freshman forward Sagaba Konate.

The Mountaineers went into halftime with a 46-32



Joshua Guerra | Daily Texan Staff

Freshman forward Jarrett Allen posts up a Kansas State defender on Feb. 18. Allen led Texas with 17 points and seven rebounds against West Virginia on Monday night.

lead. Carter and West combined for 33 of West Virpoints. first-half West knocked down five three-pointers.

West Virginia picked up its dominance right where it left it to begin the second half. The Mountaineers' hot shooting showed little sign of letting up. A long three-pointer from West extended West Virginia's lead to 64-47 with 12:05 remaining.

A few minutes later, a baseline fadeaway jumper from Carter had pushed the West Virginia lead to 69-49. After trading buckets, the Longhorns tried to make things interesting.

Texas went on a 9-0 run to cut the deficit to 71-60. And with 4:47 to play, the Longhorns trailed 73-62. But it was the closest they would get to having any hope of a comeback. Some sloppy offensive possessions put a bow on Texas' fourth-straight loss.

The Longhorns (10–18, 4-11 Big 12) return home Saturday to face No. 3 Kansas. The Jayhawks defeated Texas in Lawrence a month ago, 79-67.

### **BASEBALL**

## Pierce, Longhorns seek identity following Rice series

By Vanessa Le @vanesssale

When a baseball player suits up in a burnt orange uniform, there is a certain hint of pride that comes with the tradition of the Longhorn

logo on his chest. The crack of a bat hitting a ball at UFCU Disch-Falk Field revives 123 years' worth of endearing memories for one of the most successful ball clubs in college baseball history.

But with the flush of a new coaching staff, just how much of the six national titles and 35 College World Series appearances still resonate throughout the organization.

"I wouldn't say there's a huge change," redshirt junior pitcher Morgan Cooper said. "It's new faces. I think that just brings excitement."

After splitting home-opening series with Rice, Longhorn fans have a more realistic perspective of the season's direction as a whole. The Longhorns swung their bats at a .211

average over the weekend, while Rice found the ball at a .254 performance.

"I want to know more about our players, and I want them to understand who they are," head coach David Pierce said. "We won game one of the doubleheader because of putting the ball into play. We really want to be able to score multiple ways."

Texas gathered 11 runs at a pitcher-friendly ballpark throughout its two winning games in the series. This offensive success sharply contrasted from the team's three collected during Rice's victories.

Nevertheless, senior first baseman Kacy Clemens' performance was unaffected by his squad's wavering start to the season. He posted a .545 weekend batting average and found perfection in going 3-for-3 with a home run and a pair of RBIs on

Saturday night. "The confidence grows over there," Clemens said. "Whatever happens out here,

I can't control ... But all I

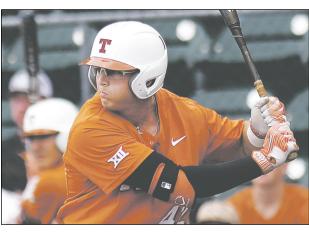
know is if I keep putting the work in that I'm doing over there, I'm putting myself in a better chance to succeed out here."

Pierce recognizes Clemens' leadership role as a key aspect of motivation for the team and hopes the Longhorns can build off his offensive success from the weekend.

"He has the ability to make kids better than maybe they even are, because he's a great leader," Pierce said. "Offensively, he hit the ball as well as anybody did all weekend, including Rice's guys. ... I think it's a great start for him and we need to feed off of him."

With the outfield fences retracted for the new season, it is easy to assume the long ball will be an integral part of Texas' offensive strategy. But Clemens believes it is a much more intricate approach.

"We don't want the home run to be our game," Clemens said. "We want to be able to score runs by hitting line drives in the gaps, moving people down with productive



Rachel Rice | Daily Texan Staff

Senior first baseman Kacy Clemens awaits a pitch at UFCU Disch-Falk Field during the Longhorns' four-game series with No. 25 Rice. Clemens blasted a home run on Saturday night.

outs and needing a big hit every once in awhile."

Texas expects every batter on the team to pull the same amount of offensive weight, regardless of where he lands in the lineup.

"I think if you flipped our lineup completely upside down, we'd be just as good," Clemens said. "We've got a lot of guys that can really handle the bat. We've just got to get more disciplined."

Although the series split against Rice could foreshadow another season record hovering around .500, the Longhorns can make a serious run for Omaha if they adapt to the offensive changes attached with the new coaching regime.

"We're going to grow as a team," Clemens said. "We're young, but we have chemistry, so I think everything's going to turn out just fine."

## **NCAAW**

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## **HISTORY**

1983

final score was 4-2.

## **TOP TWEET**



## SPORTS

#### continues Texas to get conference recognition

Texas earned recognition from the Big-12 conference on Monday once again, sweeping the weekly individual awards for a pair of strong performances against No. 8 Florida State and No. 16 Oklahoma.

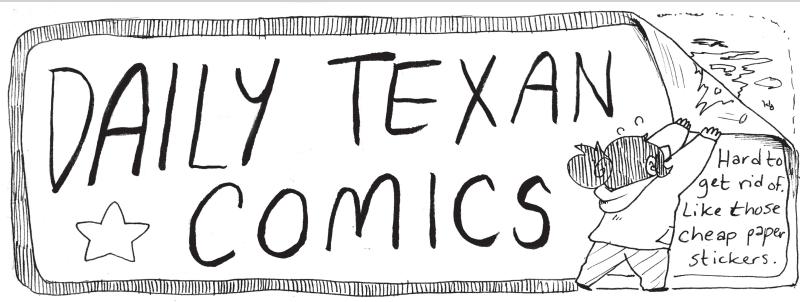
Junior Brooke Mc-Carty and freshman Joyner Holmes are rapidly emerging as one of the top 1-2 punches in the nation, averaging a combined 33.5 points and 7.5 assists over the two-game stretch while leading Texas to a 14-1 conference record.

McCarty was named the Big 12 Conference Player of the Week for the first time, notching a career-high 29 points on 68.6 percent from the floor in a double-overtime win on the road in Florida. The guard then turned around and poured in a team-high 16 points and collected 4 rebounds in the 1-point upset against Oklahoma on Saturday.

Holmes meanwhile was named the Big 12 Freshman of the Week for a fifth consecutive week, and sixth time this season. The forward averaged a monstrous 11 point, 11 rebound double-double in the top-20 matchups, while posting a career high in minutes over the two-game span.

The tandem returned to action last night in a narrow 70-67 loss to No. 4 Baylor. McCarty dropped in 16 points, but missed the potential game-tying three-pointer at the buzzer.

—Dalton Phillips









OH BOY









Pickles & Self- Hatred





by Mel W.





Today's solution will appear here next issue

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#### The New York Times Crossword **ACROSS**

1 When Polonius says "Brevity is the soul of wit" 6 Tusked beast

10 Kind of threat

14 Swoon 15 Alan who played Captain Pierce

16 Essential point 17 Agonizes (over)

18 With 61- and 37-Across, famous line by 53-Across in [see circled letters]

20 The "E" in HOMES 21 Nubian heroine of opera

22 Family member probably adopted 23 Hairstyle for 53-Across, colloquially

28 Place where trials are conducted

33 Michelangelo masterpiece

**36** A few 37 See 18-Across 43 Ambience 44 "Same here!"

45 Is victorious in 48 Swindles 53 Iconic role for 2-/51-Down

56 "What have we here?! 59 Knock 'em dead **60** Online crafts seller

61 See 18-Across **64** Like old, neglected sweaters, maybe

**65** Renaissance Faire instrument **66** Sign of things to come 67 Tree-lined

walkway, in France ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



29 Hitting blackjack after blackjack, say 68 Make slo-o-o-ow progress 69 Concealed mike 70 Entitled sorts?

> DOWN 1 Influence 2 With 51-Down,

actress 3 Certain marketing gimmicks

4 Hell-bent (on) 5 "\_\_\_ a trap!" 6 "Harrumph!"

> 8 Deal with a broken teleprompter, say

7 Brand of artificial

9 Rae Sremmurd,

10 Makeup of the planet Hoth 11 Nosedive 12 Squeak stopper

13 Turnoff for drivers

19 "Doctor Faustus" novelist Thomas

24 Mont Blanc, e.g., to locals 25 Cripple

26 Heeds 27 Merit badge displayer

42 Puppy sounds **30** Figure on an Aussie Xing sign, perhaps 46 British derrière

**41** Amy Adams's "Man of Steel' role

**40** Speak with a gravelly voice

38 Non's opposite 39 Coffee container

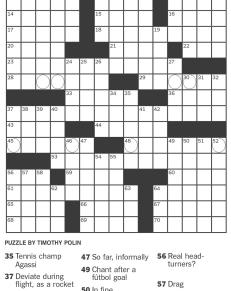
52 Agree to a proposal

58 Not deceived by

**54** Country singer Judd

No. 0117

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**50** In fine

Edited by Will Shortz

(healthy) 51 See 2-Down

62 Beer barrel 63 Having four sharps

55 Modern lead-in **64** Reference in "Treasure Island"

# Jens Lekman introduces best album to date

**By Chris Duncan** 

@chr\_dunc

Expectations are high every time Jens Lekman releases a project. As one of the most prolific artists in indie pop today, he has divulged in nearly everything the genre has to offer while designing and paving a way for others to follow in his footsteps. Although his latest album may not be a complete redesign, it may be his best so far.

Jens Lekman, a Swedish singer-songwriter, took the music world by storm with his 2007 hit album Night Falls Over Kortedala. The record incorporated baroque and chamber pop to create a happy, romantic and playful yet bittersweet recording. Five years later, Lekman released I Know What Love Isn't, taking on a more subdued and sophisticated approach to music and storytelling but alienating a fan base that loved his sappy, accessible and often humorous songs. Now, he's combined the two to create a behemoth of an album, titled Life Will See You Now, using influences from Balearic music to create an



**Courtesy of Kristin Lidell** 

**JENS** page 5 Jen Lekman's newest album may be his best, combining multiple styles to create an eclectic and enjoyable listen.

#### **MOVIE REVIEW | 'LOGAN'**



**Courtesy of Twentieth Century Fox** 

Hugh Jackman's swan song as Wolverine in "Logan" is a blood-soaked love letter to the character.

## 'Logan' packs emotional punch

**By Justin Jones** @iustiustin42

After playing Wolverine for 17 years, Hugh Jackman is retiring from his iconic role with "Logan" — one of the most moving

superhero films of all time. In his follow-up to 2013's "The Wolverine," writer-director Mangold finds heavy influence in classic Westerns, giving "Logan" a style which makes it more comparable to the 1953 film "Shane" than "The Avengers." As a pure Western, "Logan" would feel slightly formulaic, but as a superhero film, it becomes an entirely new, modern genre. Within this structure, Mangold finds room for engaging characters who form a powerful bond both with one another and

Set in the year 2029, the film springs to life with a brutal, bloody fight between Logan and gangsters attempting to steal his limo. The battle immediately sends a message to the viewers that this is unlike any superhero film before: The violence has consequences, the brutality stays on-screen and the villains can fatally injure the hero.

the audience.

Unlike last year's

"Deadpool," the tone and content of "Logan" actually earn the R rating, utilizing explicit blood and language in a way that heightens the brutality and pseudorealism of the world. By holding the camera on the acts of violence Wolverine commits, Mangold forces the audience to see the distressingly massive trail of bodies in his wake.

After this grisly massacre, Logan returns to his home in Mexico, where he lives with albino mutant Caliban (Stephen Merchant) and former professor Charles Xavier (Patrick Stewart), now struggling with a form of Alzheimer's. In a tragic twist of fate, the oncegreat professor must now take medicine to prevent a mental episode that could incapacitate all surrounding humans.

The post-apocalyptic setting combined with Professor X's mental health issues and Logan's deteriorating physical state give the entire movie a darker, more somber tone than any previous film in the X-Men universe.

conflict Predictably, arises in the form of a powerful villain (Boyd Holbrook), forcing Logan to stand up and fight for a young girl named Laura

(Dafne Keen), who has a similar set of superpowers to Logan himself. She completely steals the film with a combination of a catty wordlessness and surprisingly brilliant fighting skills, able to tear enemies apart with a merciless efficiency.

Though it takes a good amount of time to get rolling, "Logan"s plot kicks into gear when he agrees to take Laura to Canada, accompanied by Xavier. Mangold described what follows as "Paper Moon" with claws - an episodic road trip meets post-apocalyptic Western meets superhero epic that somehow works.

A lazy and uninspired choice to introduce an equally skilled adversary late into the second act really weighs down the film, bringing up unfavorable comparisons to "X-Men Origins: Wolverine," unquestionably the worst X-Men film. It does not entirely undo the successful parts of the film, but this choice feels like the result of a studio-mandated need for Wolverine to participate in a largescale battle and ends up falling flat.

Throughout the film's 135-minute runtime, "Logan" keeps up a strong



**LOGAN** 

Rating: R Run time: 125 minutes Score: \*\*

pace by never meandering and always driving toward the final destination literally. A lesser film may have fallen into the need to deliver more epic action sequences, but the highlights of this movie come from its quieter moments: an argument between friends, dinner with welcoming strangers and a bond between family members.

These more personal scenes serve to remind the audience why they love Hugh Jackman's Wolverine. It is not for his fighting skills or ferocity, but the human that lies underneath. And now, after appearing in every X-Men film in some form, Jackman's swan song retires the Wolverine in a brilliant, beautiful love letter to the character.

#### FOOD REVIEW | OLD THOUSAND

## Restaurant brings American-Chinese fusion to East 11th

By Stephen Acevedo @thedailytexan

Chef James Dumapit's fascination with Chinese food came to him in small steam baskets during weekly dim sum meals with his parents growing up. At his new restaurant, Old Thousand, he can finally make Chinese food of his own.

Dumapit has a rich background working in fine dining, most recently as the executive sous-chef at popular Japanese restaurant Uchi. His passion for cooking started back when he found himself living in his parents' house while

bouncing between colleges. "I was living in my parents' house for free, and my dad kind of put a stipulation on it that if I was going to do that, then I needed to start cooking," Dumapit said. "Shortly after that, I got a job at this really cool gourmet food shop in my neighborhood, and that showed me that there could be avenues to make a living for yourself and still kind of express yourself through

the culinary arts." At Old Thousand, Dumapit and co-chef David Baek offer their own take on Chinese food, which is neither traditional Chinese nor strictly American-Chinese. It's a combination of their own personal tastes and interests that yields a distinct menu from any other Chinese restaurant in the area.

"I think it would be disingenuous of us to try to

do authentic Chinese food," Dumapit said. "There are plenty of restaurants in town that do authentic Chinese food really well, and I think that's part of what inspired us vastly, and

what we knew." Dumapit said the best thing for them to do at Old Thousand is to approach a popular dish such as General Tso's chicken or something more specialized such as rice congee with the same level of awareness and respect.

the last thing we wanted to

do was to try to go to that

realm. It wouldn't be an

honest representation of

A majority of the menu items are familiar options with an added distinctive twist. The crispy wonton appetizers seem like any other crispy wontons, but the house-made pineapple sweet chili sauce served with them adds a delicious spicy and tropical flavor that is far superior to the typical sweet and sour sauce usually served with wontons. One particularly interesting appetizer is the seasonal pickle dish. Currently, the pickles being served are chunks of cabbage covered in a sour sauce with a slight spicy kick to it. These will please any fan of pickled vegetables while also introducing something fresh to them.

A huge high point of the entrée menu is the brisket fried rice. This American take on a popular Chinese dish mixes fried rice with

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Carlos Garcia | Daily Texan Staff

Old Thousand opened their doors on 1000 E. 11th St. The new restaurant serves their own unique take on Chinese