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## COLUMN

LARISA MANESCU

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## TODAY

**Manage your student loans**

Brush up on the payment options available for federal, state and private loans, as well as consolidation, deferment options and loan forgiveness programs at 4 p.m. in Waggener Hall (WAG) 308.

**Django at the Union** Quentin Tarantino's "Spaghetti Western", which won two Academy Awards, will be screened at 6 and 9 p.m. at the Texas Union Theatre (UNB 2.228). Admission is free for you — and a guest — with your student ID.

**Spend an evening with Larry Towell**, a Magnum photographer, poet, folk musician and author of 12 books. Towell will be accompanied by harmonistist Mike Stevens. Catch the multimedia performance at the Belo Center for New Media (BMC) Auditorium from 7 to 8 p.m. Admission is free.

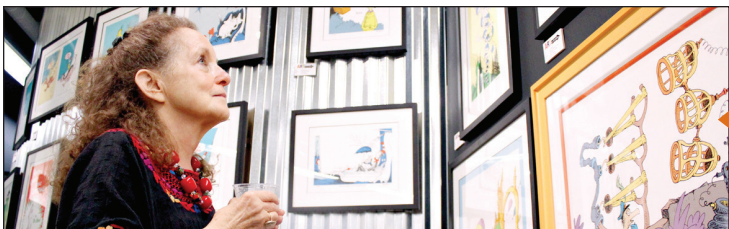
**WHAT IS TODAY'S REASON TO PARTY?**



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Softball won't stop until WCWS. **SPORTS**  
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For Seuss, more to the hat than just the cat. **LIFE&ARTS**  
**PAGE 10**

### TEXAN IN-DEPTH

# Regents revisit Commission of 125

By Andrew Messamore

The Commission of 125 set the tone for the last nine years of progress at the University and UT has recently drawn attention from UT System regents and former commission members on its

progress toward fulfilling the commission's goals.

After three regents criticized the University's work on benchmarks set by the Commission of 125 during a heated meeting in February, UT President William Powers Jr. received an outpouring of support from the

Legislature. Since February, regents and state legislators have exchanged criticisms, both under the Capitol dome and in editorials. Last week, four regents voted to call a special meeting Thursday to discuss new developments between the board and the Legislature.

The commission, composed of 218 outside executives, alumni and philanthropists, issued 16 recommendations in 2004 for how the University could best serve Texas in the long term. Former UT President Larry Faulkner initiated the commission and asked its

members for proposals to restructure University operations and revise the undergraduate core curriculum.

Since Powers succeeded Faulkner as president in 2006, many of his initiatives have revolved around the commission,

**GOALS** *continues on page 3*

### HEALTH



Pearce Murphy | Daily Texan Staff

Radio Television Film and psychology senior Sean Minns and English freshman Bryna Herskowitz pet Angel, a Therapy Pet Pal, during Stressfest on Wednesday. StressFest provided students with other stress-relieving activities such as massages and acupuncture.

# Escape from reality

StressFest soothes semester woes as students seek solace from work

By Alexandra Dubinsky

Rain did not keep the stress relief cruise from boarding passengers inside Gregory Gym on Wednesday

afternoon at an annual event hosted by the Counseling and Mental Health Center.

StressFest 2013 invited all members of the University community to alleviate stress before the end of the semester

by providing students with strategies and resources to manage anxiety.

Laura Ebady, a psychologist and outreach coordinator for the center, said the event is in its 16th year and is traditionally known for its tropical cruise theme.

"We've always done this in part to give students a sense

of getting away from it all and giving them a break from things," Ebady said. "We have different tables here where students can get a quick break like getting a chair massage or playing with therapy dogs." Therapeutic dogs were brought from Therapy Pet

**HEALTH** *continues on page 2*

### WORLD

## Animal valued at price to save from extinction

By Amanda Voeller

People place dollar values on everything from books to houses, but a notable exception is wildlife. Business, government and society lecturer Stephanie Jue combines economics with environmental perspectives to explore research on placing financial value on animals.

"The only way to get the masses to understand it is by saying, 'Here's what this animal is worth in dollars, and here's the economic analysis to prove it to you,'" Jue said.

Jue analyzed research

that says polar bears are valued between \$27,000 and \$13 million.

Jue compared valuing a polar bear to valuing a honey bee. She said valuing a honey bee is different because, unlike polar bears, honey bees directly affect humans. If honey bees become extinct, humans would have to pollinate crops themselves and could therefore figure out how much that would cost.

Environmental law professor Melinda Taylor said placing monetary value on animals will encourage public support of

**BEAR** *continues on page 2*

### STUDENT GOVERNMENT

## Lund, Brown reflect on legacy

By Christine Ayala

Thor Lund and Wills Brown said they ended their year in charge of Student Government with extended student services and a more visible Student Government.

"I have no regrets," Lund said. "We did everything we wanted to and more."

When Lund and Brown ran for office last year, they planned to improve student life by extending night hours on campus for libraries and food vendors, increasing safety measures on and off campus and making Student Government more transparent.

Lund said the initiatives they planned effected more students' everyday lives and



Becca Gamache | Daily Texan Staff

Former Student Body President Thor Lund and former Student Body Vice President Wills Brown were succeeded in office by President Horacio Villarreal and vice president Ugeo Williams.

helped show what SG can do for the campus.

"One of the most rewarding things is to see the fruits of your labor and the smiles of

Longhorns," Lund said.

Several of the initiatives they campaigned for have become

**IMPACT** *continues on page 2*

### CAMPUS

## Non-specific bomb threat to cause increase in campus police presence

By Bobby Blanchard

Late Wednesday afternoon, the University sent a campus-wide email alerting students they will see an increase in law enforcement for the next few

days because of a bomb threat.

UT spokeswoman Cindy Posey said the bomb threat is non-specific and no campus building evacuations would be made immediately. She also said the threat was made anonymously and there is no

information that indicates the threat is credible.

She could not say how the bomb threat was made or any other details of the investigation. Posey did say the UT Police Department is searching campus buildings right

now, and if an evacuation is made, students will be alerted through the emergency text messaging system. Students can register to receive emergency text messages online at [utexas.edu/emergency](http://utexas.edu/emergency).

"We're asking the campus

community to be very diligent and report any suspicious activity or objects to UTPD at 512-471-4771," Posey said.

Posey said UT's police department will work with the

**BOMB** *continues on page 2*



Jue said this specific type of research is less than 20 years old, and people are skeptical about it because it is still in its early stages. She said she thinks it will continue because environmental issues are becoming more publicized.

"It does make [environmental issues] seem a lot more important," said Natalie Parma, a Plan II and business honors sophomore. "A polar bear is valued at \$1 million, I'm gonna protect the polar bear."



# GOALS

continues from page 1

including revisions of the undergraduate core curriculum, reorganization of administrative services and projects including the School of Undergraduate Studies and the Student Activity Center.

“All of the stuff we’ve been doing on the undergraduate experience has been informed and inspired by what started with the Commission of 125,” Powers said in an interview with The Daily Texan. “It sort of spurred a whole set of initiatives on and it’s been very important for the University in that way.”

One former commission member, Melinda Perrin, said she was surprised how the three regents spoke of Powers in February. Perrin said Powers is “like a sheriff” who has improved the University through his initiatives for undergraduates. Perrin also said state funding, tuition rates and other factors beyond Powers’ control have limited UT’s flexibility.

“You don’t have total alignment between governance and administration priorities,” Perrin said. She is former chairwoman of the University Development Board and is now active in the Texas Coalition for Excellence in Higher Education.

Charles Tate, a commission member and board member of Capital Royalty LP, said the University has made significant progress improving its administration structure, and that cherry-picking a few of the recommendations is not fair to those working to improve UT.

However, proposals for additional on-campus housing for students, raising graduation rates and reducing the undergraduate student-faculty ratio have not met the benchmarks set by the commission.

## STUDENT-FACULTY RATIO

The Commission of 125 recommended UT improve the student-faculty ratio to 16-to-1 by 2014 from 21-to-1 in 2004, but the undergraduate student-faculty ratio has only improved to 19-to-1.

Kenny Jastrow, chair of the Commission of 125 and former CEO of Temple-Inland Inc., an Austin-based paper, building products and financial services company, said changes in

classroom technology since 2004 may require the University to retool its application of the Commission’s recommendations.

“The absolute ratio [between faculty and students] needs to be studied in light of the advances since 2004,” Jastrow said. “A fluid approach would continue to examine the right role of technology in that process.”

The University now has several initiatives for professors to make their classrooms more interactive through the Center for Teaching and Learning. The UT System partnered with edX last semester to create services that automate routine classroom functions such as grading and daily assignments.

In an interview with The Daily Texan, Powers said years of budget cuts from the state Legislature altered the goals of the University for the student-faculty ratio.

“When the budget crunch hit in 2009, you had to question what’s a high priority, and there were other priorities for the quality of education,” Powers said. “We were losing ground.”

## GRADUATION RATES

The Commission of 125 recommended the University increase its four-year graduation rates. Last year, the Task Force on Undergraduate Graduation Rates proposed that UT raise four-year graduation rates to 70 percent by 2016. Four-year graduation rates have risen from 41.7 percent to 51 percent in the past nine years.

Many traditionally under-represented groups, including first-generation students, have been admitted to UT through the Top 10 Percent Law, which automatically admits the top 10 percent of graduating seniors to Texas public universities.

Nearly 26 percent of all students admitted under Top 10 did not have parents with a college degree, while 10 percent of non-Top 10 admits did not have parents with a college degree.

Also increasing are Hispanic enrollments. From 2004 to 2012, Hispanics increased their representation at UT from 15.1 percent to 20.9 percent. According to research published last year by the department of African and African Diaspora Studies, Hispanic students from largely Hispanic high schools are more likely to be admitted under Top 10 because

STUDENT-FACULTY RATIO

The Commission of 125 recommended UT improve the undergraduate student-faculty ratio to 16-to-1 within a decade, with no college having a ratio greater than 17-to-1.

2012 Student-Faculty Ratio

19.1-to-1

Source: Office of Information Management and Analysis

they are admitted based on class rankings rather than other factors that may have not qualified these students for admission.

For the class of 2008, the University-wide four-year graduation rate was 52 percent, compared to 39 percent for first-generation college students and 41 percent for Hispanic students, according to the Task Force on Undergraduate Graduation Rates.

As the University strives to meet the recommendations of the commission, its obligations to students admitted under Top 10 may pose a dilemma for the limited resources available to the Forty Acres, said Perrin. Among many factors that affect four-year graduation rates is providing remediation to students who are not college-ready upon admission, Perrin said.

“Remediation does interfere with streamlined graduation tracking, because if you’re not coming to campus college-ready then the University is going to have to play catch-up,” Perrin said.

Tate, a former commission member, said he believes the obligations placed on the University by Top 10 harm its ability to build a diverse student body because Top 10 only uses grades as a factor.

“I think the whole impetus for Top 10 ... is misguided,” Tate said. “No one did the simple math to understand in the future, that a number of people who were admitted to the University wouldn’t have the capacity to handle it.”

One new UT initiative is to end remediation for incoming UT students by offering dual-credit classes aligned with UT-Austin benchmarks for college level reading and mathematics.

The pilot program will begin this fall with some Texas students taking pre-calculus, said Harrison Keller, vice provost for higher education policy and research.

“When people traditionally come to UT Austin, people find expectations in high

schools don’t align with UT,” Keller said. “We can break down institutional barriers in partnership that align directly with what students do next. We want to be able to end remediation as we know it.”

## HOUSING

One unmet goal set by the Commission of 125 was to increase the available housing on campus from 6,396 to 9,000 beds. By 2014, 8,657 beds will have been added in West Campus by private developers since 2005, according to the West Campus neighborhood association. Only 560 beds have been added on campus since 2005, bringing the total number of beds on campus to 6,956. The commission found that living close to campus increases graduation rates.

Developer interests and changes to zoning meant the cost of new West Campus housing quickly rose beyond what many students can afford.

The median cost of contract rent in West Campus rose from \$610 in 2000 to \$958 in 2010, a 57 percent increase, census records show. The citywide cost of contract rent rose from \$633 to \$748 in the same time period, an 18 percent increase.

“We decided it was a better idea to give other people the [job of] building,” Powers said. “The housing in West Campus tends to be economical but on the higher end price-wise, so we may need to work with private developers or build housing on our own ticket to create moderately priced housing. That’s part of our master plan going forward.”

In an interview last September with The Daily Texan, West Campus developer Michael McHone said the University was involved in discussions that created today’s West Campus. McHone said UT benefited from the new housing by allowing students to develop closer ties to the University and become more likely to donate UT after

COMMISSION OF 125 CHECKLIST

YES	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1. Reduce undergraduate student-faculty ratio to 16-to-1 within a decade.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2. Reduce the size of the undergraduate class and increase four-year graduation rates.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Enroll outstanding students representing the diverse regions and populations of Texas and beyond.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Maintain top-ranking libraries, museums, and information technology resources.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Develop a University Master Plan to integrate academic planning and strategic goals with our facilities, infrastructure and financial resources.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Design and build facilities more efficiently, with better coordination among divisions.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Develop new public and private resources to support academic excellence.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Every student should receive effective academic advising and have access to a mentor. TODAY: There has been no University-wide mentoring initiative, but students have many options for academic advising.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	9. Increase the campus residence-hall capacity to 9,000 beds.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10. Construct student activity space on the east side or on the perimeter of the campus.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	11. Incorporate an Honor Code into the University of Texas community.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	12. The University should ensure stipends for UT graduate students are at least as high as those at the nation's other premier graduate schools. TODAY: Varies between academic unit and department.
ONGOING		13. Emphasize the study of leadership and ethics.
ONGOING		14. The University should use its expertise, programs and people to address major issues confronting society at large.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	15. The University must provide the broadest and most effective access to its knowledge and collections in order to share its assets with Texas and the world at large.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	16. The University's communications efforts must convey the value of higher education to society. In addition, UT must clarify its key strengths and distinctive qualities.

they graduate.

Randall Porter, director of residential facilities, said the University decided to wait to construct new housing on campus because of direct competition with West Campus housing.

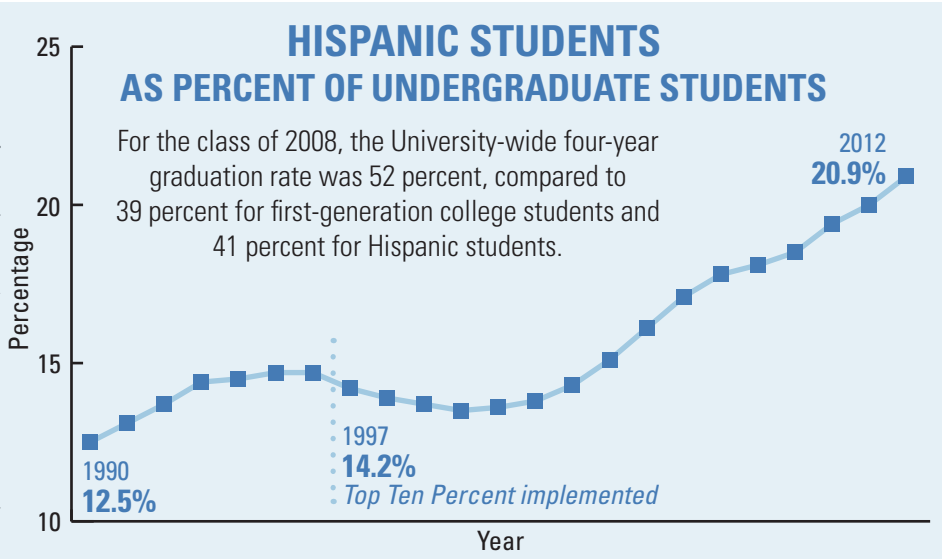
However, Porter said the University is now conducting a Residence Hall Needs Assessment, to be finished May 1, to determine the University’s need and ability to create more on-campus housing.

“With the recent campus four-year graduation initiative and the emphasis on student life to help facilitate student success, we decided to test the market to see if it

is time to construct more on-campus housing,” Porter said.

In a statement last Fall, UT spokesman Gary Susswein said the University did not have the financial resources to build its own housing dormitories on campus because of budget cuts from the state Legislature.

“For those students living on campus, we strive to create an affordable, diverse and inclusive community,” Susswein said. “But given tight budgets over the past few years, the University has concentrated our limited resources on the academic core and is compelled to do so in the foreseeable future.”



Source: Office of Information Management and Analysis, and the Task Force on Undergraduate Graduation Rates

HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS

The Commission of 125 recommended UT increase the campus residence-hall capacity to 9,000 beds.

560  
additional campus residence-hall beds since 2005

6,956  
total campus residence-hall beds as of 2013

WEST CAMPUS

8,657  
total beds by 2014 that will have been added in West Campus since 2005

+57%  
increase in West Campus rent between 2000 (\$610) and 2010 (\$958)

+18%  
increase in city-wide cost of contract rent between 2000 (\$633) and 2010 (\$748)

Sources: The Division of Food & Housing Services and the West Campus neighborhood association

“I FINALLY SLEPT WITH MY HIGH SCHOOL CRUSH... NOW HE EXPECTS ME TO GO TO HIS GRADUATION.”

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VIEWPOINT

Holistic review attracts top students

On April 9, the Texas Senate passed SB 1530, a bill filed by Higher Education Committee Chairman Sen. Kel Seliger, R-Amarillo. The bill would maintain the cap on students admitted under the Top Ten Percent Rule in the event that the U. S. Supreme Court strikes down UT’s race-conscious holistic admissions policy in the pending case of *Fisher v. University of Texas*. It also extends the cap from 2015 to 2017. Under existing law, the cap, which mandates that no more than 75 percent of an incoming freshman class can be automatically admitted by the Top Ten Percent Rule, would automatically expire if the Supreme Court deems race-conscious admissions unconstitutional. If that were to happen, almost all of the next incoming freshman class would be admitted based solely on high school rank.

A similar bill filed by House Higher Education Committee Chairman Rep. Dan Branch, R-Dallas, awaits a vote on the House floor.

If either bill passes, the governor signs it and the Supreme Court rules against race-conscious admissions, UT’s admissions results will remain much the same. That’s because the holistic element of UT’s admissions policy, despite the claims of both its supporters and critics, does not actually increase minority enrollment.

According to data released last fall by the Office of Admissions, UT admits lower percentages of African-American and Hispanic students through holistic review than through auto-

matic admission. For example, in 2011, 5 percent of the holistic review admits were African-American compared to 6 percent of the automatic admits. More strikingly, 14 percent of holistic review admits were Hispanic, compared to 29 percent under the Top Ten Percent Rule.

The numbers suggest that the demographic that benefits most from the holistic process are mostly white students from wealthier, more competitive high schools where good grades do not guarantee a spot in the top 10 percent of one’s graduating class.

Applicants from outside of Texas are also advantaged under the holistic process. Only 8.3 percent of UT’s entering freshman class was from out of state in 2010, compared to much larger percentages at comparable institutions. If the cap were to expire, that 8.3 percent would dwindle down to almost nothing.

Regardless of one’s personal opinion on affirmative action, a cap is necessary under the current system. All qualified out-of-state students and in-state students from competitive high schools should not be prevented from attending UT, as they would if the cap were to expire. Moreover, an entirely automatic process would take away all of the benefits of a holistic admissions policy, which gives applicants additional ways — such as essays, admissions tests and extracurricular resumes — to prove their merit beyond simple class rank.

During the Senate Higher Education Committee meeting on April 3 at which the bill was sent to the Senate floor, Kedra

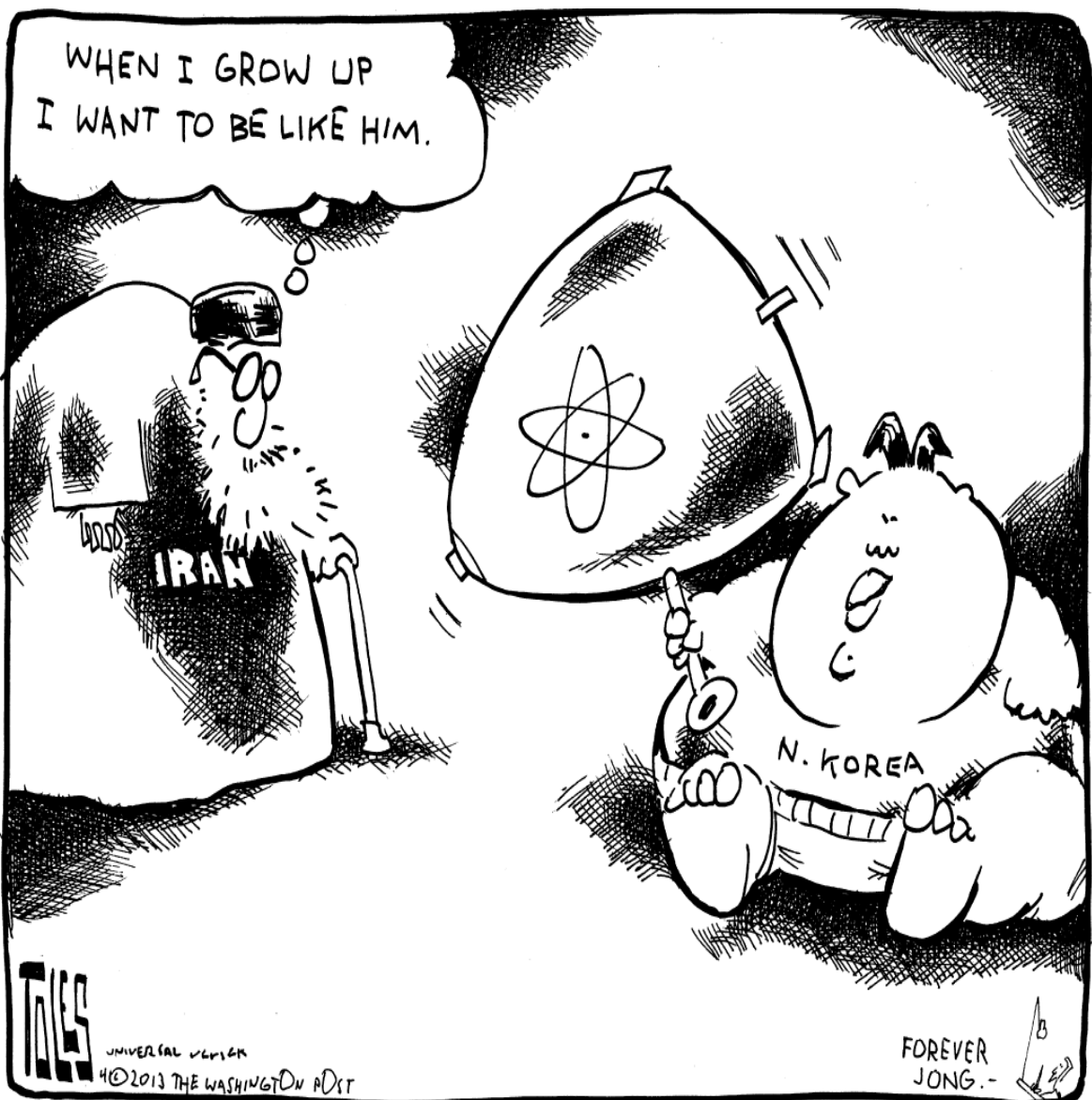
The numbers suggest that the demographic that benefits most from the holistic process are mostly white students from wealthier, more competitive high schools.

Ishop, UT’s vice provost and director of admissions, echoed this sentiment, saying the cap “gives us the breathing room to both pursue our highly qualified Top Ten Percent-ers and in addition pursue those students who are not in the top 10 percent but are potentially robust contributors to the campus.”

It is easy to see the University’s rationale for that goal. However, UT still presents its holistic process as a way to increase campus diversity. That perception is inconsistent with the facts.

Seliger’s bill may prove unnecessary if the Supreme Court rules in UT’s favor, but it is a responsible safeguard, as the decision will likely be issued after the Texas legislative session adjourns until 2015. However, the existing admissions policy is itself inadequate as a means to increase campus diversity, and this bill does not change that.

GALLERY



FIRING LINE

Respect rap music, artists

The 2013 reductionism award for rap music goes to the April 8 article “The 2012 cheating award for music goes to rap.” The article, about infidelity and hip-hop music, can be characterized as an imposition of traditional morality at best and offensively insensitive at worst. Although the author insists that her subjective, judgmental assertions — often without a grounding in evidence or reality — constitute “research,” her analysis of hip-hop music is shallow and she cavalierly dismisses any relationship that doesn’t consist of a monogamous man and monogamous woman.

First, let’s clarify what is “cheating.” Infidelity is a non-exclusive relationship between individuals who have agreed to be monogamous. In Smothers’ “research data,” many of the songs she references as glorifying infidelity are just about sex. Consider Kanye’s explanation in “No Church in the Wild” for a less parochial characterization of sexuality: “No sins as long as there’s permission / And deception is the only felony.” There are many reasons to criticize Tyga’s lyric, “Got my other bitch fuckin’ with my other bitch,” but I seriously doubt that either of these women is unaware of their male partner’s polyamory.

And the women aren’t “victims” either, a word Smothers uses four times in the article. The assump-

tion that women are “victims” of — rather than participants in or initiators of — sexual relationships that fall outside the narrow scope of traditional morality contributes to the extremely harmful ideology that men are natural sexual aggressors and women are passive objects of desire.

Furthermore, although these songs may mention multiple women, many of them aren’t about infidelity. I’m not sure why Drake’s lyrics, “dealing with a heart that I didn’t break,” imply concurrent, closed relationships rather than a previous relationship. In the spreadsheet “data” attached to the article, the author’s cursory dismissal of some hip-hop songs — “it’s about being an asshole” — demonstrates an inability to analyze the most important music genre of our generation.

Finally, saying that infidelity is a “badge of honor [for] all of the boys of rap” or an important aspect of “the lifestyle of a stereotypical rapper” assumes that rap is a monolith, devoid of cultural complexity or rich history. Show respect, not only to the genre but to men of color, who shouldn’t be referred to as “boys.”

Natalie San Luis  
Women’s and gender studies senior  
Daily Texan contributor

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Words have power

Larisa Manescu

Daily Texan Columnist

The Associated Press banned the term “illegal immigrant” on April 2, and critics argue that it was an unnecessary, dramatic and overly sensitive copy editing edict.

I, however, could not be more enthusiastic about the overdue move to ban the term.

In a nation where so many are concerned about the effects of verbal bullying, a re-examination of the connotations of labels and their power to hurt is what we need. Other than “illegal immigrant,” other examples throughout history include replacing “colored” with “African-American,” “Indian” with “Native American,” “homosexual” with “LGBT” (to encompass the entire community), and “mentally retarded” with “intellectually disabled” (Obama signed Rosa’s Law in 2010, which made this replacement for all federal statutes).

When people advocate for political correctness, their goal isn’t to be annoying; the underlying intention is to be fair to the group being identified, because they realize that the media often propagate inaccurate, politically incorrect terms and understand the negative consequences this has on the way in which society views minority groups.

Wanda Cash, a UT journalism professor who advises Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott on open government issues, supports the news of the AP’s change in policy because it is both a more accurate and more respectful way of describing another human being.

“I believe this change is about being fair and about being specific. The word illegal applies to behavior or action. Illegal doesn’t apply to a human being,” Cash said. “If someone is here illegally, without legal documentation, let’s describe it that way.”

An example of the alternative description she is referring to is “undocumented immigrant.”

As an intern for Project Vote Smart, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that provides objective voting information to the public, my job is to translate the legal jargon of legislation into highlights that the general public can easily understand. I use press files — an accumulation of various media coverage — to better understand the controversy surrounding legislation. “Illegal immigrant,” although seen frequently in press files, never appears in the summaries we create; instead, it is always substituted with “undocumented immigrant.” Before the AP recently changed its stylebook, this alternative term had already gained popularity among with newspaper editors who refused to put “illegal immigrant” in their headlines or stories.

The AP is taking it a step further to make sure that the language targets the action and not the person. The stylebook update says, “Except in direct quotes essential to the story, use illegal only to refer to an action, not a person: Illegal immigration, but not illegal immigrant . . . except in direct quotations, do not use the terms illegal alien, an illegal, illegals or undocumented.” If you feel too lazy to type out a prolonged description rather than a label, get over it. Journalism, as a field that prides itself on its ideal of objectivity, should be held to the highest and most precise standards. The most accurate reporting isn’t about taking shortcuts.

“Illegal immigrant” is not the only label that the AP should reconsider. Another frequent description that pops up in news stories is “rape victim.”

The word “victim” is the opposite of the message that people who have experienced rape and sexual assault should be hearing, which is one of empowerment.

Instead, “victim” is a trigger word that causes the individual to feel inferior and vulnerable, making it difficult to move past the attack and allow the healing process to begin. A good alternative is “rape survivor,” which Voices against Violence, an advocacy organization opposing sexual violence on campus, has promoted through campaigns and theater performances.

“Rape survivor” is not an arbitrary creation — it is a term that shows respect and empathy to the people it describes. If it were adopted as the standard for newspapers and publications across the country, it would eventually become more accepted generally: Individuals would no longer have to be victims, but survivors.

What do you say, AP? What do we have to lose? Those criticizing political correctness are speaking from a place of privilege, in which they themselves haven’t been called whatever term they’re defending and therefore don’t see its use as problematic.

At the same time, just because one member of the group being labeled says that he or she isn’t offended by a term doesn’t mean it’s acceptable to assume that all members of the group are fine with it.

Political correctness isn’t just for show, because words matter. Labels, even those with the subtlest of undertones, shape our perceptions and can perpetuate unwanted stereotypes. When society thinks of a better word to properly describe a group of people, take the time to expand your vocabulary.

Manescu is a journalism and international relations and global studies sophomore from Ploiesti, Romania.

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## NEWS BRIEFLY

### Zaffirini refers two bills to full Senate

In a public hearing Wednesday afternoon, the Senate Committee on Higher Education referred for consideration to the Senate a bill that would require further training of university system regents.

The bill's author Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, said the bill would make ethics training mandatory and address limitations of the authority of the governing board.

"The intensive short course will be required before a governing board member can vote on budgetary and personnel matters," Zaffirini said. The bill would also create a process by which the coordinating board can receive anonymous complaints and allegations of mismanagement or abuse of power.

The committee also referred to the full Senate another bill authored by Zaffirini that would deny community college students eligibility for the B-on-Time program, which offers zero-interest loans to students who, having maintained a certain grade point average, graduate in four years.

"Currently, community college students rarely use the program because they often do not meet the full-time student and timely graduation requirements," Zaffirini said.

Leslie Helmcamp, policy analyst for the Center for Public Policy Priorities, said student counseling could improve the B-on-Time program.

"We support the continuation of the program and making it specific to students at four year institutions, because it does better support that population," Helmcamp said. "One thing we wanted to see, however, was a loan counseling program of some sort. Many students don't understand how the program works and accordingly can't take advantage of it."

—Amanda O'Donnell

## CITY

# Survey names Austin friendliest for business

By Barak Bullock

Austin was declared the friendliest city to small businesses in America by entrepreneurs who answered Thumbtack.com's 2013 Small Business Friendliness Survey.

The 2013 survey, released earlier this week, was a collaboration between researchers at Thumbtack and the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, an organization for education and entrepreneurship. Austin moved up from its fourth-place ranking in 2012, which was the first year the study was conducted.

According to the research methodology published with the report, the survey asked 7,766 small business owners on Thumbtack, a website that connects customers to local businesses, to rate their resident cities and states in a number of different categories. These categories related to owners' opinions on local or state governments' attitudes, ranging from regulations on health, employment and taxes, to difficulty in acquiring permits, training and networking.

Nathan Allen, the lead researcher on the Thumbtack survey, explained that the survey differs from many previous studies because of its focus on the perceptions of small business owners, rather than measures like unemployment rates or income tax rates.

Allen also said the survey revealed that friendliness of licensing, permitting, training and networking for small businesses were some of the best indications of top scoring locations.

"We found in both years that how a business owner viewed the friendliness or unfriendliness of the professional licensing

and permitting regulations and rules was one of the best predictors of how they rated the overall friendliness of the city or state," Allen said. "Additionally, helpful training and networking programs for small businesses, especially the relatively simple programs targeted at helping to get the business up and running, were another strong predictor of overall business friendliness."

Thumbtack awarded Austin an 'A' on every category other than a 'B+' on zoning. Virginia Beach beat Austin for the easiest city in which to start a business.

"Austin really does well in all regards — the city earned an 'A+' for its training and networking programs and a pair of 'A' grades for its licensing regulations and its regulatory systems overall," Allen said.

Ramiro Palma, an accenture venture partner at Texas Venture Labs, says the news doesn't particularly come as a shock.

"That's not really surprising to me at all actually ... there's been a lot of similar surveys that have come out that basically say Texas is a good place to do business," Palma said.

Local business owner Ken Jones, who heads Austin TX-books and Melissa's Custom Gifts, said he believes the capital city's success is due to an educated workforce and a spirit of creativity.

"I think growth has a lot to do with it," Jones said. "I also think we have a highly educated workforce with, you know, three universities in town, four maybe, and several close by. So you've got a smart, educated workforce and I think just a general can-do attitude, which makes an environment ripe for entrepreneurship."

## CITY



Emily Ng | Daily Texan Staff

Citizens participate in a march on the capitol organized by the Texas State Employees Union to raise awareness of proposed privatization and cut of University services on Wednesday.

# March to Capitol protests potential UT budget cuts

By Miles Hutson

International Socialist Organization members, students and staff marched to the Capitol today in protest of previous University budget cuts, as well as cuts proposed in a report that might privatize and cut back on university services.

The march, organized to show solidarity with the Texas State Employees Union, joined about 1,000 union members from across the state to march around the Capitol, lobby their legislators and demand a higher pay raise.

"We're here to bring attention to the privatization push that Powers and the regents are doing," history and nursing junior Ije Uche said. "There's no reason for us to cut programs that we're cutting ... [and] if we need more revenue, we can tax businesses 1 percent."

Uche said given the

contribution UT makes to businesses by training their workers, her proposed tax does not seem unreasonable to her.

English professor Snehal Shingavi said the cuts do not suit the mission of the university.

"This is not only a bad way of keeping the quality of higher education up, it's also pretty bad for the people whose jobs are being sacrificed," Shingavi said.

Shingavi also criticized UT President William Powers Jr.'s suggestion that natural attrition could help ease any cuts to worker numbers by allowing cutbacks without firings.

"What it's meant in the Center for Asian American studies where I worked, people had to leave either for medical reasons or because they got other job offers," Shingavi said. "We're basically down to half a staff person."

At press time, UT Vice

President and Chief Financial Officer Kevin Hegarty said system administrators have not yet planned which parts of the 'Smarter Systems for a Greater UT' report, which will cost the University \$960,000, will be implemented. Hegarty said committees will be formed to establish timelines and recommendations based on the report in the coming months.

"I am not sure what someone would be protesting given that nothing has been decided," Hegarty said.

Shingavi said if the time does come for cuts, he hopes the University finds a better way than raising prices and cutting back on services.

"It's already expensive to go to school here, tuition is already high," Shingavi said. "Because this model is being imposed on higher education it has nothing to do with the quality of education here."

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BASEBALL

Out routes to dugouts

Johnson, Thornhill build on quarterback experience



LEFT: Nathan Thornhill  
RIGHT: Ben Johnson

By Peter Sblendorio

Freshman Ben Johnson and junior Nathan Thornhill have established themselves as important players for the Longhorns thanks to their roles as primary leadoff hitter and Sunday starting pitcher, respectively.

Recognition in Austin for these players started before they ever put on a burnt orange uniform, though, as they both exhibited success as quarterbacks at area high schools before committing to play baseball at Texas.

Johnson was a standout three-year starter at Westwood in Round Rock, where he led the Warriors to three straight playoff appearances. With Johnson under center for the 2009-2011 seasons, Westwood compiled a 22-12 record.

After a productive sophomore season, Johnson broke out during his junior year, throwing for 2,003 yards and 17 touchdowns and rushing for 1,028 yards with 16 scores. He continued his strong play as a senior in 2011 when he threw for 1,437 yards and 15 touchdowns and added 1,212 yards and 16 touchdowns on the ground.



Pearce Murphy | Daily Texan Staff

Freshman Ben Johnson and junior Nathan Thornhill each starred at quarterback for their high schools before coming to Texas. Despite not continuing with football in college, each credit their time on the gridiron with improving their skills in baseball.

Johnson received considerable interest to play football for a number of schools, including Texas A&M, Texas State, Rice and Georgia Tech. His dream was to play for the Longhorns, however, and he turned his role as star

on the Westwood football team into a spot on the Texas baseball roster.

“I always wanted to play a sport at Texas and [baseball] was the best opportunity for me,” Johnson said. “I’m happy I made that decision, best

Thornhill on almost being Drew Brees: [bit.ly/dtvid](http://bit.ly/dtvid)

decision of my life.” Although he decided to focus on baseball, Johnson greatly enjoyed his time playing quarterback and had a number of great

**BALL** continues on page 7

FOOTBALL



Lawrence Peart | Daily Texan Staff

Texas head coach Mack Brown directs action at the 2013 Spring Orange and White Scrimmage. Despite not playing Texas A&M this year, the two teams still compete for recruits.

Recruiting continues rivalry

By Michael Marks

When Texas A&M left the Big 12 Conference for the SEC in August of 2011, many thought that the second verse of the Aggie War Hymn would need an update.

The verse, which starts “Good-bye to Texas University/So long to the orange and white,” focuses exclusive-

ly on the team that was then A&M’s chief rival – The University of Texas Longhorns.

But in the wake of conference realignment, those teams don’t play each other anymore, nor will they for the foreseeable future. So if the on-field rivalry is dead, shouldn’t the verse change?

Not necessarily. Not with football recruiting in the state of Texas.

Though Texas’ and Texas A&M’s football teams may no longer play each other, their competition to lure top Texas talent is fiercer than ever before – and this year’s class could shape the future of college football in the state.

Texas has been the state’s dominant recruiting power over the last 10 years.

**AGGIES** continues on page 7

2014 incoming class currently leads nation



By Christian Corona  
Sports Editor

If Texas took one step back with its 15-member recruiting class this year, it’s taking two steps forward with the progress it’s making with the Class of 2014.

The Longhorns already have 14 commits for the class that will sign in February – four more than anyone in the country – six of them coming in the last two weeks and three in the last three days.

Texas only had so many scholarships available for Class of 2013 prospects, but the group that signed with the Longhorns was characterized more by who didn’t sign than who did. Ricky Seals-Jones, A’Shawn Robinson, Durham Smythe and Kyle Hicks all decommitted from Texas and went elsewhere on signing day.

“If a young person tells you they’re coming, the parents tell you they’re coming, and they don’t, you

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wouldn’t want them to be here, very honestly,” head coach Mack Brown said.

But the recent flood of verbal commitments has

**CLASS** continues on page 7

SOFTBALL

Horns only satisfied with WCWS



By Garrett Callahan  
Daily Texan Columnist

After only 16 varsity seasons, there is no question that Texas has elevated itself to one of the top programs in the country.

No longer considered a start-up program on the rise, the Longhorns have reached the Women’s College World Series a total of four times, even setting the record for the fastest ascension to the sport’s

big dance after only two years of existence.

However, it has been a long seven years since the last time Texas made an appearance at this signature event. In order to have a truly successful season this year, the Longhorns need to make their way back to the WCWS.

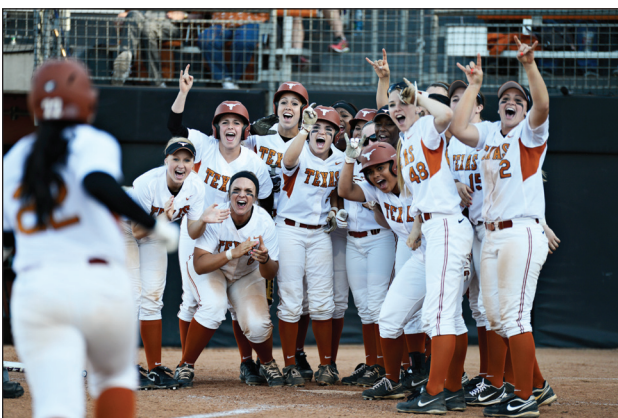
The team has made it to the NCAA Regional in the each of the past eight years, even making the Super Regional last season. But for some

reason, Texas has had trouble in post-season play.

After only being one game away last year from the tournament and feeling the pain of sitting at home while eight teams, including two they had beaten at least once in the regular season, played for a national title, the Longhorns used that as incentive for this year.

“We all felt like that could have been us [in the WCWS],”

**WCWS** continues on page 7



Charlie Pearce | Daily Texan Staff

Junior Karina Scott is congratulated at home plate after hitting a grand slam in Texas’ 4-0 victory over Western Kentucky earlier this month. The Longhorns hope to reach the WCWS this year.

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SPORTS BRIEFLY

Thanksgiving game to be aired on FS1

As reported by *redraidersports.com*’s Chris Level, the Longhorns’ annual Thanksgiving Day football game is expected to air on Fox Sports 1 this fall. Texas will host in-state rival Texas Tech in this year’s installment on Nov. 28. Game time has not been set.

Fox Sports 1 is a cable network owned by the Fox Sports Media Group division that is expected to launch on August 17. This network will be a nationally broadcast network.

Softball seniors named to POY list

Seniors Blaire Luna and Taylor Hoagland were named as a Top 25 finalist for the 2013 USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year Award Wednesday afternoon.

Luna, who leads the Texas pitching staff in the circle, has posted a 19-1 record so far this season with a 1.04 ERA and has compiled 236 strikeouts with nine shutouts. This marks the third time in her career that Luna made the Top 25 cut. In both 2010 and 2011, Luna was named a top-10 finalist.

This is Hoagland’s first top 25 selection and currently leads Division I softball with an on-base percentage of .648. In addition, she leads the country in walks per game (1.31) and is ranked No. 1 in Texas record books in career runs scored (196) and home runs (54).

Finalists for this award, which is sponsored by the Amateur Softball Association (ASA) and is the most coveted award in college softball, while be narrowed down to 10 on May 8. On May 22, the list will be cut to three before the winner will be announced on May 28 before the NCAA Women’s College World Series in Oklahoma City.

—Sara Beth Purdy



# BALL

continues from page 6

moments on the football field.

“It’s something that I’m going to cherish forever,” Johnson said. “It was a great experience being able play with my brother my sophomore year and have a pretty successful junior and senior year. It was pretty nice to make the playoffs three years in a row, especially at a high school not for being a football powerhouse. We kind of turned that around.”

Thornhill, too, had a successful career as a high school quarterback while at Cedar Park. After missing his junior year with a broken knee, Thornhill returned to the field as a senior in 2009 and led the Timberwolves to a 7-4 record.

Leading an option-style offense, Thornhill threw for 873 yards and four scores and ran for 789 yards and 13 touchdowns as a senior. The biggest game of his career came in a 55-45 win over Round Rock, when he threw for 141 yards and three touchdowns and added 190 yards and two touchdowns on the ground.

Thornhill was named Offensive MVP for the district that season and helped lead his team to a District 16-

5A title. He considers his time as Cedar Park’s quarterback to be among his greatest experiences.

“I don’t think anything compares to Texas high school 5-A football,” Thornhill said. “Being a quarterback, it’s everything the TV shows like Friday Night Lights portray it to be. It was awesome; I wouldn’t trade it for anything.”

Thornhill believes that missing his junior year hurt his chances of being recruited by a big school to play football. That said, Thornhill says that he likely would have still chosen to pitch at Texas and believes that playing football helped equip him to do so.

“I think that high school football has made me the competitor that I am,” Thornhill said. “In football you’re getting hit so you basically either take it and get hurt or fight back. I think that’s what’s helped me be able to pitch here at Texas. There’s a lot of pressure and there’s a lot of pressure in high school football too.”

While Johnson and Thornhill had their share of highlights as high school quarterbacks, both players have been very successful with the Longhorns and believe that their decision to stick with baseball was the right one.

# AGGIES

continues from page 6

According to *rivals.com*, 12 five-star and 115 four-star recruits from Texas have committed to the Longhorns between 2004-2013, whereas Texas A&M landed three five-star and 53 four-star, in-state recruits during that same period.

That trend is changing though. Since Aggie head coach Kevin Sumlin arrived in College Station in December of 2011, Texas A&M has challenged Longhorn recruiting supremacy. Of those 53 four-star recruits that Texas A&M signed over the

past 10 years, Sumlin recruited over one third of them.

“It got to a point to where it went from, ‘They’re going to get their brains beat out [in the SEC],’ and now people are saying ‘Don’t to [Texas A&M] because they’re loaded,’” Sumlin said to The Dallas Morning News.

A&M isn’t just making recruiting more difficult for Texas — it’s consistently signing players who might otherwise be Longhorns.

For the class of 2014, the Aggies have already beat out the Longhorns for some of the most highly-rated players in Texas. The best two linebackers in the state (La Porte’s Hoza Scott and Gilmer’s Josh Walker),

along with Nederland defensive tackle DeShawn Washington and West Mesquite safety Dylan Sumner-Gardner all picked A&M over Texas, forcing Texas to accept commitments from less-heralded players. Two members of the 2013 class, Sealy athlete Ricky Seals-Jones and Lancaster defensive end Daeshon Hall, verbally committed to Texas before ultimately signing with Texas A&M.

But the Longhorns won’t give up the title of top dog without a fight. Cypress Falls’ outside linebacker Otaro Alaka chose the Longhorns over the Aggies last week, which lurched Texas ahead of Texas A&M

for the nation’s top spot in *247sports.com*’s 2014 team recruiting rankings (the only rankings to be released thus far). And with the 2014 class shaping up to be one of the best the state has seen, whichever program ends up on top come national signing day may be the next to bring a title to Texas.

It may be quite a few Thanksgivings before the Aggies and Longhorns take the same field, but that doesn’t mean the rivalry is over. Even though it’s being played in field houses and living rooms instead of DKR or Kyle Field, it’s still alive, and it’s still important.

Go ahead and keep the War Hymn as-is, A&M.

# CLASS

continues from page 6

the Longhorns’ 2014 recruiting class ranked No. 1 in the country by *rivals.com* and *247sports.com*. Texas’ new recruiting approach — offering juniors, holding camps for sophomores and hiring a new director of player personnel in Patrick Suddes — seems to be paying off.

It’s impossible to know right now what kind of impact Suddes, who has been on the job for barely more

than a month, has made on the Longhorns’ recruiting efforts. But it’s also hard to believe that Suddes’ arrival from Tuscaloosa, which has coincided so closely with the Longhorns’ recruiting success, has been a coincidence.

“Alabama is doing it better than anybody else,” Brown said. “If you look at the efficiency, it’s something we have not done very well and something that Patrick will bring us.”

At this rate, Texas will be done with its 2014 recruiting class by the time the 2013 season starts in 142

days (but who’s counting?). After not signing a single defensive lineman this year, the Longhorns have gotten three commitments from defensive linemen in the last 12 days, along with two linebackers in the last three.

Despite losing 16 games in the last three years, Texas has convinced more than a dozen of the nation’s best high school football players to pledge to sign with the Longhorns next year – and not just those from the Lone Star State.

Courtney Garnett, a defensive tackle from New

Orleans and current teammate of Leonard Fournette, the nation’s top Class of 2014 running back prospect, committed to Texas on Sunday. Two days later, Andrew Beck, a linebacker from Tampa, pledged to play for the Longhorns.

At this point, it’s a matter of hanging on to these blue-chippers, something Texas wasn’t able to do with this year’s class. But the Longhorns are making strides they didn’t make last year on the recruiting trail, indicating that the 2014 class will be much better than the 2013 class.

# WCWS

continues from page 6

senior pitcher Blaire Luna said. “Coming into this year, we have used that as motivation. We know what it feels like to be one game away. So it has definitely pushed us to work harder.”

Head coach Connie Clark has been the leader of this program since its inception in 1997 and has seen many impressive teams wear the burnt orange uniform, so it is hard to put a distinct title on which

of her 16 teams has been the best — but this season’s squad comes close.

Coming off a recent sixth place classification in ESPN’s power rankings, the Longhorns are on a 12-game winning streak. This is the second win streak of 11 or longer this season. The last time that happened in a single season was in 2003, in which the Longhorns made it to the semifinals of the WCWS before being eliminated by UCLA, which took the title that year.

In addition, Texas has been ranked in the top 10

of the NFCA poll every week this season. The last time the Longhorns went the whole season in the top 10 except for one week was, again, 2003.

The Longhorns have a strong group of athletes capable of making a long run into post-season play — just like 2003. But in order for this season to truly be successful, they have to carry out their full potential. Too many times Clark has seen her team have its season ended early, but this season they have a good chance to change that.



Senior Taylor Hoagland tries to outrun the throw to home plate in the Longhorns, 4-0 victory over Western Kentucky at the beginning of April. After missing the Women’s College World Series last season, the Longhorns hope to make the trip.

**Charlie Pearce**  
Daily Texan Staff

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Baby, Baroness, Bed Rest, Bump, Care, Carole, Child, Countess, Couple, Dehydration, Duke, Eight, Firstborn, Godparents, Heir, Illness, Labor, London, Majesty, Maternity, Monarchy, Morning, Mother, Names, Nausea, News, Nutrients, Pippa, Post, Pregnancy, Prince, Queasy, Royal, Rumors, Sicknes, Stage, St. James, Thirty, Throne, Twins, Weeks, William

Last Saturday’s Answer: Animals

The NEW Treasury 13 can be ordered by sending check or money order for \$11.95 each plus \$3.00 postage and handling for the first treasury (\$14.95 total, U.S. funds only; Canadian orders add \$2.00 additional postage), and \$1 p&h for each additional volume, to Universal Uclick, Attn: Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480. Order online at [upuzzles.com](http://upuzzles.com). (Contains 130 puzzles, including 31 of the larger 20 x 20 size.)

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Mikhaela Locklear | Daily Texan Staff

Classic Austin dishes like Torchy's fried avocado tacos and Kerbey queso can easily be made at home. Recreating these dishes yourself is an easy way to save money.

# RECIPE *continues from page 10*

cookbook. But hey, who said you have to draw inside the established culinary lines?

At the grocery store, we stocked up on avocados and cut costs by picking ingredients that could be used in all three dishes. I cream-thinned the queso and formed the base of the poblano sauce for the tacos, which became the main ingredient in the Amy's vanilla ice cream. El Milagro corn tortillas were used for the tacos and the tortilla chips. The poblano pepper seasoned both the taco sauce and the queso.

Once inside the front door, we got to work. We only had an hour to cook, so we started chopping lettuce and slicing avocados immediately. Keep the avocados thinly sliced because you want a low volume-to-surface-area ratio to maximize crunch in your fried avocado tacos.

While one of us sliced avocados, the other popped a poblano pepper onto the top rack of the oven and set it to broil for 10 to 15 minutes, until

the skin was charred and slightly peeling.

We battered the avocados by dipping them consecutively in flour, buttermilk and panko breadcrumbs. We then fried them in an inch of peanut oil. We kept the oil at a steady 350 degrees, but if you don't have a thermometer, heat the oil till it bubbles but doesn't smoke.

For the queso, we melted a half-pound of queso blanco, a half-cup of shredded Monterrey jack and a splash of Shiner beer in a double broiler. In our case, "double-broiler" meant a big pot filled with boiling water with a smaller pot hanging by its handle on top. This was the part where we should have consulted a cookbook: Our cheese ended up separated into big, gooey chunks and white liquid. It looked disgusting, but it had a much better flavor than the Kerbey Queso we were trying to recreate. When you try it at home, don't be afraid to use the microwave to smooth it out.

After we charred the

poblano, we placed it in a plastic bag to "sweat" for 10 minutes until the skin peeled off easily. We removed the skin, chopped it finely and used it to season the queso. We whipped the poblano with cream and ranch dressing flavoring over ice to form the taco sauce.

We used the old kindergarten trick for the Amy's Mexican vanilla ice cream and put a small plastic bag filled with cream, vanilla and sugar inside a big plastic bag filled with rock salt and ice. This made a desert that tasted nothing at all like Amy's ice cream. But as you can probably guess, good things still result when you combine cream and sugar.

In sum, the ingredients cost a total of \$60, but we were able to feed three people with food left over. The conclusion? Next time you need to treat yourself, head to the grocery store, not the nearest restaurant, and make enough food to treat yourself for the whole week.

—Alexandra Reynolds  
*assisted with recipe*

## BOOK REVIEW | 'LIFE AFTER LIFE'

# Novel digs up themes of life, death

By Bobby Blanchard

Ursula Todd, the main character of Kate Atkinson's "Life After Life," dies in the first few pages of the novel. And then she dies again. And again. And again. In fact, Ursula's constant dance with death is the novel's premise — and it's a fun one.

Let's be clear though: This is not the happy kind of fun. Ursula spends most of "Life After Life" dying tragic deaths. She dies so many times that the novel becomes almost sadistically comical. All of her deaths are either an accident or the result of some misfortune — she chokes on her umbilical cord, she drowns with her sister, she dies of the flu, a burning wall collapses on her, she tries to assassinate Hitler — the list goes on and on.

As Ursula lives and dies, her actions change. The ripples of consequences start small, and they only affect her immediate family. Soon, her actions are impacting the entire world. It's entertaining to watch Ur-

sula die death after death, and then watch her escape past lives' deaths only to die again.

In some ways, all the dying is a bit of an overkill. When a character dies so many times, her death begins to lose emotional impact for the reader. But despite this loss, Atkinson never loses the chilling impact death has on her prose. Repeatedly, Atkinson beautifully and masterfully displays death.

Memories of her past lives halfway resurface to Ursula's mind, and she doesn't fully know what's going on but also isn't completely ignorant. She knows she has died before, but the full details escape her. Of course, the reader is almost equally confused.

Readers shouldn't approach the novel questioning why Ursula keeps getting another chance at life. If you're looking for an answer, you won't find it, because Atkinson does not provide it. This is both pleasing and disappointing. While it is somewhat of a cop-out to leave this mystery unsolved,

it is better that the question remains unanswered than Atkinson give her readers a cheesy, Star Trek-like sci-fi explanation.

"Life After Life" is not the kind of book you read quickly in one weekend. It is also not the kind of book you read and immediately move on from. "Life After Life" stays with you like a corpse that decomposes. You will keep trying to unravel the book. It will leave you thinking about how the tiniest decisions can have both small and drastic impacts.

Despite the many lives Ursula lives in these pages, she still dies at the end every time. It is a somber and depressing moral that life can only end one way, with death. But despite the constant identical ending, Ursula's many lives make up many compelling tales.

## "LIFE AFTER LIFE"

Author: Kate Atkinson  
Publisher: Reagan Arthur Books

# DOGS *continues from page 10*

to love it. It becomes easier when you see how happy it makes the pups."

Lindsay Marsh, co-executive director of RuffTail Runners, loves seeing the volunteers and the dogs when they come back from a run. Marsh said that dogs ultimately become more adoptable, which helps maintain a no-kill society.

"The shelter is stressful. The staff and volunteers do everything they can to ease dogs, but it's still a concrete kennel with other dogs barking at you," Marsh said. "RuffTail Runners helps dogs de-stress, keep them healthy and get them adopted."

RuffTail Runners helps dogs de-stress, keep them healthy and get them adopted.

— Lindsay Marsh,  
co-executive director of RuffTail Runners

Mike Kaviani, dog behavior program manager, said that RuffTail Runners prepares dogs for success in future homes by exposing them to real-life situations like running around Town Lake, seeing crowds of people and cars.

Hill said Austin Pets Alive! doesn't always get the easy dogs, but through hard work, creativity and love, the quality of life for

dogs changes. "The road doesn't seem to have an end, which is fine with me," Hill said. "I've always loved animals and rescued strays. I once took in a pup that was found on the street at 2 weeks old. I love Neko so much, and it kills me to know there are others like her that may not have made it. Now that I'm in, there's no getting out."

# SLEEP *continues from page 10*

sleep-deprived subjects performed similarly on psychomotor tests involving hand-eye coordination.

This can be dangerous. Many drivers admit to nodding off at the wheel from time to time — they are more than twice as likely to be men — and police cite sleepiness as a cause of about 100,000 car accidents per year in this country. This results in 1,550 deaths, 71,000 injuries and \$12.5 billion losses annually. It doesn't matter how long you spend studying for that 8 a.m. midterm if you get in an accident on the way to school.

Most cases of nodding off at the wheel end in the driver startling himself awake with no harm done. However, even if you make it to the test in one piece, your performance will suffer because sleep is essential in helping us process learned information.

This relates directly to those all-night cram sessions we swear we'll never do again. Studying is often a major part of success, but if it comes at the cost of sleep, it's like putting the ingredients in the bowl without taking the time to cook them. And while the other extreme, no studying and all sleep, isn't a great idea, either, it's at least less torturous. The obvious solution is to study throughout the semester and not just the night

before, although that's easier said than done. Be aware of the time and make sure to get at least a few hours of rest before the big test.

So how much sleep do we really need? It varies, but for most people it falls in the range of seven to nine hours a night. Those who regularly get less than seven hours and more than eight generally have higher mortality risks than those in-between, with the too much sleep group at greater risk than the too little. This may be analogous to our relationship with food: Given unlimited supply, we will eat more than we need, but restricting caloric intake is healthier, as long as it's not taken to extremes.

There are also individuals who don't need very much sleep, much to the envy of the rest of us. Scientists have identified a gene mutation associated with people who only sleep about six hours per night (compared to the average person's eight) and they've observed a similar effect on mice with a similar mutation. There are also some who claim to have gone years without sleep, though these claims should be

taken with a grain of salt, if not the whole shaker along with the pepper.

For those of us not blessed with a magical mutation, there's the caffeine option. Caffeine does reverse the effects of sleep deprivation, but at a cost: Dependence develops quickly and the result is more restless nights along with more sleepiness. One is best off remembering that caffeine is a drug and should be treated as such. An espresso a few times during the semester isn't going to hurt you, but when you spend more time interacting with a barista than your roommate, you're probably worsening your sleep problem.

Ultimately, unless you're suffering from a sleep disorder (in which case, seek medical assistance), the best way to remain alert and combat sleepiness throughout the day is to stick to a consistent sleep schedule that works for you.

Of course, there's no fun in that. If you absolutely must lose valuable sleep, at least sacrifice it for a memorable Friday night and not a test that you're probably going to fail either way.

Don't get any shuteye just yet, check out the vid: [bit.ly/dtvid](http://bit.ly/dtvid)

# SEUSS *continues from page 10*

flair, Dr. Seuss recreated the scene, but with his Whoville characters. Even Horton the elephant is represented in the artwork.

"I find it interesting because it's such a diverse nature," Sigel said. "You have pieces that are dark and also some that are whimsical. Many artists are stuck to a certain palette or particular way, but Dr.

Seuss just did whatever he liked to do. He wasn't trying to sell. He was just doing it for himself."

Despite painting for his personal enjoyment, Dr. Seuss' last request to his wife was that she share his secret paintings with the world.

Dreyer said that while the original artwork will stay in Geisel's home, Geisel al-

lowed these paintings to be replicated and shared.

"It's great to be able to see the artwork," Dreyer said. "They're wonderfully wild and wacky, almost otherworldly depictions of the Seussian mind. It's great to learn something brand new about an author you thought you knew everything about."

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TALES OF THE CITY

THE RAIN POURS HARD OVER THE CITY AS WE MOVE INTO THIS NEW TALE

OUR STORY BEGINS AT THE PLACE IT WILL EVENTUALLY END

YOU KNOW THIS PARTY IS A LOW BROW, I'VE BEEN TO MUCH NICER PLACES THE THIS REMEMBER THE SUMMER WE WENT IN P

OH NOW THAT PLACE HAD CULTURE NOT LIKE THIS PARTY. ALL THESE LECTUAL TYPES WAS ABOUT A RE A SUBUR LIARD. BUT I Y ABOUT TH NO UHHUH. D AND HE IN CHARGE O TH DIVISION. I'M E R F

LET US BEGIN

ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING TO ME?

SORRY THERE'S A LOT ON MY MIND LATELY.

CODY BUBENIK



Intermission

Danville LaMonte

danville.tumblr.com

THE EPIC OF SERKA

AARON RODRIGUEZ

SERKA... IF YOU WISH TO -PARTY- YOU MUST WORK IN ORDER TO GET THE MONEY TO DO SO!

TAKE THIS MAN FOR EXAMPLE. HE IS ONE OF MY HARDEST WORKERS AND IS RICH BECAUSE OF IT!

ACTUALLY, I HAD INHERITED MY FATHER'S MANOR AND FORCED THE PEASANTS TO DO ALL THE HARD WORK WHILE I WAS MASSIVE...

SSSHHH!!

DO YOU SEE NOW HOW YOU MUST EARN YOUR FUN? GO SPEAK TO OBI THE HALLER ABOUT WORK. HE'LL HAVE SOMETHING USEFUL FOR THE LIVES OF YOU TO DO.

24-11-3-4

Eischeid + Nguyen

Humor Graph Theory

I drew a hilarious graph. I'm posting it as my newest comic.

Dude, it's a graph. If you don't have a joke, don't upload it.

Wait, come back! I wrote this computer program and the method and variable names are all PUNS!

Marty Eischeid



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Bubba the Monkey

Forrest Lybrand

I'm a real boy!

Now Pinocchio, what is a "real" boy? You can be any kind of person you want to be. You can play with dolls, or be a woman trapped in a boy's body, or...

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0307

**ACROSS**

1 Difficult political situation

7 Chili

13 Tennis world since 1968

15 Dan who drew "Archie"

16 Movable property

17 Good news on the economy

18 Plop precursor

19 Digital dough

21 So-called "Wheat Capital of Oklahoma"

22 One "coming" in a Three Dog Night hit

23 Big maker of power tools

24 European capital that's majority-Muslim

26 Ex-Yankee Martinez

28 Eisner's successor at Disney

**DOWN**

30 Western Sahara neighbor: Abbr.

31 Slumps

32 What honor students often have

35 Third base, in baseball lingo ... or a hint for answering eight other clues in this puzzle

37 Means of divination

39 Shem's eldest son

43 1960 chess champ

44 Debate position

45 George Takei TV and film role

46 Formal "yes"

48 "Did I do \_\_\_?"

52 Fraternity letters

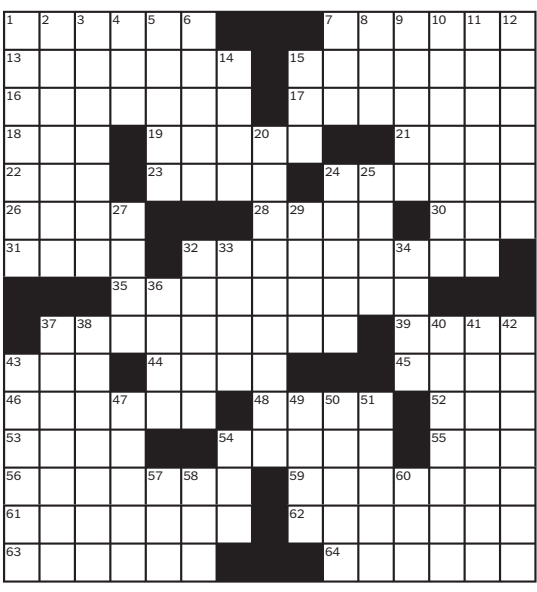
53 \_\_\_ Field

54 Slate, for one

55 Frequent abbr. in BBC announcements

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**

RAFT GABS SWISH ELLA OBOE CORFU AFAR HASNO OOMPH PAPADOCTHREADS IMUS WED TOOONESIDED BEN OZARK DEL SOLO TAKESIT BLEW OFF EWES DAD TALIA DAN ZOOOCCUPANT SET SHAD BISTROS ERECTED IGLOOOWNER HERO LEON AERO ARIZ LTGEN MOST DICE



**ACROSS**

34 Advanced deg. tests

36 Spanish waves

37 James Bond's lover in "From Russia With Love"

38 Undemocratic tendency

40 Thrusting suddenly

**DOWN**

41 Barnard grads, e.g.

42 Spicy pretzel dip

43 It's hard to score

47 Blues vocalist Monica Parker

49 Kettle sound

50 Put up

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. AT&T users: Text NYTX to 386 to download puzzles, or visit nytimes.com/mobilexword for more information. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/wordplay. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

SUDOKU FORYOU

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

Today's solution will appear here tomorrow

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

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CHEERS TO SAVINGS!



ART

Art on 5th: *Oh the place you'll go*

By Jourden Sander

Theodore Seuss Geisel, known to the world as Dr. Seuss, is a cherished children's book author and illustrator. What the world doesn't know is that Dr. Seuss kept 158 hats hidden in his estate and had a collection of secret paintings hidden with them.

Paintings of smoking cats, dying birds and other adult-themed artwork show that Dr. Seuss was more than just a children's book illustrator. But very few people know the art is in Austin, or even that it exists at all.

Art on 5th Gallery, an Austin art museum, has carried the secret Dr. Seuss art in its permanent collection for 15 years. In addition, 26 hats from Dr. Seuss' hat collection are on display.

Remembered and known for his quirky children's book characters, no one knew Dr. Seuss had been painting until four years after he died. In addition, only his closest friends knew about his extensive hat collection.

Robert Chase Jr., the publisher of "The Cat Behind the Hat," was able to meet Dr. Seuss' wife, Audrey Geisel, and visit the estate to see the hat collection.

"Audrey motioned me to follow her into the library," Chase said. "She pulled back the massive bookcase lining one entire wall, revealing a false door. In this secret place only a handful of people had ever seen, were a few hundred hats and dozens of artworks. It was at that moment that the full breadth of Dr. Seuss' creativity began to fully reveal itself."

Bill Dreyer, the curator of



Maria Arrellaga | Daily Texan Staff

Bill Dreyer, curator of "The Art of Dr. Seuss" exhibit, presents Dr. Seuss' rendition of the historical painting "The Abduction of the Sabine Women" at Art on 5th Gallery on Saturday evening. The exhibit reveals a side of Dr. Seuss' creativity and personality that is diverse and less known to the public.

"The Art of Dr. Seuss," said that Dr. Seuss collected hats during his travels. By the time he was 30, Dr. Seuss had visited that many countries.

"Hats are transformative in many ways," Dreyer said. "His books and his art are all about imagination and creativity, so hats played perfectly into what he was accomplishing as an important author."

Dreyer said this exhibit highlights the direct influence of the hats on Dr. Seuss' books

and artwork. Next to several of Dr. Seuss' paintings, there are pictures of the hat that inspired the artwork.

While some of the pieces exhibited in the collection represent the children's book characters and styles the world has come to love, some of the paintings show a different side of Dr. Seuss.

"In many ways, these artworks are surprising," Dreyer said. "Some we would expect from him, but many pieces

are more about the grown-up Dr. Seuss. Everything is family appropriate, but there are some wink-wink, nudge-nudge, more grown-up expressions of his humor throughout the exhibition."

Joe Sigel, founder of Art on 5th, theorized that Dr. Seuss' paintings were never seen by the public because the publishers of his children's books told him to keep them hidden because of the adult themes represented.

Sigel said while there is the "Cat in the Hat" character that everyone knows, there is also a cat who is like an evil twin represented in the painting "Cat from the Wrong Side of the Tracks." Wearing a mischievous grin, this cat stands in front of a distorted pool table smoking a cigarette and wearing a tie with a naked, female cat on it.

The most surprising painting is Dr. Seuss' rendition of the historical painting

HATS OFF TO DR. SEUSS!

**Where:** Art on 5th Gallery, 3005 Lamar Blvd. Suite C 110 B

**When:** Through April 20

**Website:** [arton5th.com/](http://arton5th.com/)

"Abduction of the Sabine Woman." With his cartoonish

SEUSS continues on page 8

FOOD

Student stirs up Austin recipes from home



THE WRIGHT STUFF  
with Laura Wright

My traditional method of treating myself is to drop money at one of Austin's many amazing restaurants. But it's the end of the semester. The line on my budget for dining out needs some downsizing. Which is why I decided to attempt to

recreate the classic Austin dishes I can no longer afford on my own.

What exactly do I mean by "recreating classic Austin dishes"? I mean cooking at home, in your own kitchen, dishes you used to have to drive to a specific restaurant for. In this case, those dishes are: Kerbey Lane's Kerbey Queso, Torchy's Tacos' fried avocado tacos and Amy's Mexican vanilla ice cream.

The first step in recreating restaurant-quality meals at home was to co-opt a friend who's a better

The first step in recreating restaurant-quality meals at home is to co-opt a friend who's a better cook than you into helping.



cook than you into helping. This can be done a number of ways: bribing them with Shiner, telling them you'll pay for groceries or just leaving them voicemails every hour until they agree.

The second step, then, was recipe development, which meant looking at the menus of the respective restaurants to make sure we'd

gotten all the ingredients you would usually expect to come with the dishes we were recreating. For example, a Torchy's fried-avocado taco without poblano sauce just isn't a convincing replacement. As our experience will show, you might also want to consult a

RECIPE continues on page 8

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Dazed, confused students sleepwalk into school



By Robert Starr

The final month of the semester is upon us and that means that campus, once full of eager and excited faces, is now a horde of sleep-deprived zombies running on autopilot.

The college rule of thumb is that between a social life, good grades and sleep, you can only choose two — and most students elect to postpone the Z's. Unfortunately, this is closer to sabotage than compromise.

After a night of little or no sleep, mental function declines rapidly: 24 hours of deprivation is roughly the equivalent of drinking yourself to a .1 percent blood alcohol level — that's about where drunk and

SLEEP continues on page 8

OUTDOORS

Runners end dog days for pet shelter pooches

By Katie Paschall

Along the hub of outdoor activity in Austin, where flat trails meander along Lady Bird Lake, you may find devoted members of a local program called RuffTail Runners, formerly named Jog-A-Dog, an organization dedicated to taking shelter dogs from Austin Pets Alive! out of their concrete kennels and into a sun-filled, fresh-air environment.

Austin Pets Alive!, an animal shelter seconds from the trails of Lady Bird Lake promotes and provides the resources, education and programs needed to eliminate the killing of companion animals. In fact, the shelter has led Austin to be the largest no-kill city in the nation.

RuffTail Runners was founded in 2009 when Rob Hill, head coach for Team Spiridon, an organization that encourages fitness while raising awareness for animals in Austin, started a running group.

"My idea at first was just

to help out by meeting the immediate need," Hill said. "At its heart, it's still just about getting a dog out of its kennel and letting it be a dog for a while. But now, we want to get every dog out of their kennel, in every shelter, everywhere."

Hill's love for dogs and experience in dog training has made the program known around Austin. A special moment for the program was when Andre, its tennis-ball-loving, toy-decimating mascot, was adopted after eight months in the shelter.

Social work sophomore Sara Bratcher volunteers to take dogs to Lady Bird Lake four times a week. Bratcher said the term RuffTail "Runners" worried her at first because she had never enjoyed running.

"I started running through the program," Bratcher said. "I originally was not a runner at all, in fact, I hated running. But I loved dogs so I decided to sign up for the training. Slowly but surely I started

DOGS continues on page 8



Pearce Murphy | Daily Texan Staff

Austin Pets Alive! volunteer Sara Bratcher takes Sharpie out for a run early Wednesday morning.

Ploy Buraparatte | Daily Texan Staff