

Author Chuck Palanhiuk discusses his latest book

LIFE&ARTS PAGE 12

Longhorns' former rival plays ball in Austin

SPORTS PAGE 7

L'HE DAILY TEXAN

TOMORROW'S WEATHER



Low

Friday, May 7, 2010

Serving the University of Texas at Austin community since 1900

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WEEKEND

FRIDAY

Austin goes global

Forty teams from around the world will compete in the Global Moot Corp Competition. McCombs School of Business, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

In memoriam

UT Remembers honors members of the University community who have died in the previous year. Main Building, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Fiesta

The Center for Mexican American Studies hosts an event celebrating the 40th anniversary of the center and the life and work of Dr. Américo Paredes. Texas Union Santa Rita Room, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Flower power

The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center hosts a garden tour of five Austin homeowners' gardens, as well as the center's. Visit wildflower.org/gardentour for more information. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Donate your cans

Put nonperishable food items in a bag next to your mailbox for letter carriers to donate to the Capital Area Food Bank.

A good read

NewsHour's Jim Lehrer discusses his latest book at The Texas Observer Writers Festival, Scholz Garten Noon to 6 p.m.

......

SUNDAY

Hey batter, batter

Softball takes the plate against Georgia, McCombs Field, Noon,

No strings attached

The Miró Quartet performs with celloist Lynn Harrell. Bates Recital Hall, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Tell your mother

Remember to tell your mother you

Inside

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Officials review faculty, student ideas for improvement page 5

In Opinion: A Daily Texan columnist waxes

nostalgic on her time at UT page 4

In Sports:

Women's golf gets off to a good start in latest tournament page 7

In Life&Arts:

Old School Barbecue takes Texas classic back to basics page 12



Quote to note

"Listen to me. All I'm saying is blah, blah, blah, Brad Pitt, blah, blah, blah, Brad Pitt."

— Sam Rockwell

LIFE&ARTS PAGE 12

Students fight ACTLab closure

By Audrey White Daily Texan Staff

ACTLab program are fighting to save the avant-garde media studies and production

courses and its professor, Sandy Stone.

Stone first founded the ACTLab in 1993, and she said the program has always met resistance and, at times, hostility from within the RTF department. Disagreement within the department stems from ide-

and classwork, Stone said.

Radio-television-film students in the ry," said radio-television-film senior Jason Torres. "Our courses are undergraduate and graduate, cross-listed and unrestricted. Anyone can take it. A freshman can take it, a Ph.D. can take it, and they're all in the same class. They all learn from each other."

tles like "Death," "Blackbox" and "Freeological differences about teaching style style Hacking." About 60-80 students are portunities for laboratory-style work.

usually enrolled in the courses, and work "It's a renaissance of the 21st centu- includes web design, stage, film and music production, and any projects the students are interested in, said Joey Lopez, a radio-television-film graduate student and ACTLab teaching assistant.

Students are encouraged to explore the boundaries of digital and social media and work in a highly collaborative environment, Classes in the ACTLab program have timeeting in Studio 4B of the Jesse H. Jones Communication Center with extensive op-

This semester, Stone negotiated her retirement package because she said she is no longer able to work in an environment she calls "unwelcoming" to the work and programs she develops. She received professor emerita as part of the package, so her tie to the University remains active.

But after she was met with overwhelming support from her students, however, Stone decided to offer to keep

LAB continues on page 2

City honors local country legend



Peyton McGee | Daily Texan Staff

A small model of the larger-than-life statue of Willie Nelson that will be placed at the entrance of the new Austin City Limits studio in 2011 was unveiled at the Austin City Limits studio on Thursday.

Austin icon Willie Nelson will be honored with a larger-thanlife statue and an honorary street name on 2nd Street, stretching

from Trinity to San Antonio streets. The statue, created by sculptor Clete Shields, will be installed

in early 2011 at the entrance to the stairway of the new Austin City Limits studio.

"I have a feeling that not only will pictures be taken around the statue, but a bit of smoke will be blown, and we're all for that,"

Austin musician Ray Benson said before unveiling a small model of

Capital Area Statues, Inc., or CAST, commissioned the Nelson statue. CAST is a nonprofit group that honors Texas' history by

building public sculptures. "[Nelson] is kind of the embodiment of everything meaningful and creative and oddball about Austin," CAST board member Ste-

phen Harrigan said. — Collin Eaton

Experts warn against abuse of stimulants as finals near

By Priscilla Totiyapungprasert **Daily Texan Staff**

In the final stretch before the dog days of summer officially begin, students will prepare for finals week using various stimulants — energy drinks, coffee, and, if they have the right connections, amphetamines such as Adderall and Ritalin, which are illegal without a prescription. For some, sleep becomes a commodity rather than a necessity.

"I'm a big procrastinator, so the day before my stuff is due, I don't have enough time to sleep. In order to stay awake, I need stimulants to be effective," said Jason Jea, a Plan II and history sophomore.

Michael Hummer, a doctor at the Austin Neurological Clinic, prescribes Adderall to patients diagnosed with attention-deficit disorder, or ADD. Adderall increases the brain's level of dopamine, which gives consumers better concentration, he said.

"Students are getting access to it because people with prescriptions are sharing it," Hummer said. "There are probably patients of mine who share it, and these days, anyone can go online and find the street value."

The effects of Adderall, which

SLEEP continues on page 2



Jeff Heimsath | Daily Texan Staff

University Vegetarians and Students Against Cruelty to Animals protest the University Co-op's sale of leather Thursday.

Groups protest Co-op's selling of leather goods

By Collin Eaton **Daily Texan Staff**

Animal rights and vegetarian student groups gathered outside the University Co-op on leather products, chanting, "UT Co-op is the worst, always putting profits first."

About 15 students spent an hour behind a banner, waving picket signs and urging other students to boycott leather products sold at the Co-op.

Kelsi Urrutia, director of Students Against Cruelty to Animals and a women's and gender studies senior, said her organization and University Vegetarians wanted to demonstrate in a large, visible area on Guadalupe Street, to raise awareness about animal

rights among students.

'Getting rid of leather is a pretty big goal, and it's not like it's going to happen any time soon," Urrutia said. "I think it's equal-Thursday to protest the sale of ly important to get students involved and aware of the issues. We wanted to [protest] in front of the Co-op so we could reach a lot of students.

In mid-April, University Vegetarians and Students Against Cruelty to Animals sent a letter to Co-op president George Mitchell and set up an April 26 meeting with the Co-op Board of Directors to propose working with them over the course of a vear to remove leather products and replace them with leather

LEATHER continues on page 5

UT writer tops literature competition

By Collin Eaton Daily Texan Staff

A UT graduate student won \$50,000 for first place in one of the world's largest student literature competitions for a short story describing a pregnant woman's descent into a nomadic lifestyle.

winner of the fifth annual Keene Prize for Literature for her short story "It's the song of the nomads, baby; or, Pioneer." Boxer earned her bachelor's degree in English and American literature at Brown University.

English department chair Eliz-Creative writing graduate abeth Cullingford said judges for

student Nora Boxer was the the competition looked at 61 entries in literary genres including plays, poetry, fiction and non-fiction prose.

'According to Mr. Keene, the prize goes to the person who has best expressed the most vital microcosm of American life,"

LIT continues on page 2

Retirement stirs career reflections

By Priscilla Totiyapungprasert Daily Texan Staff

Walking into the spacious and cozy office of Tom Staley, director of the Harry Ransom Center, feels like walking into someone's personal history museum.

The walls are covered with photographs and illustrations of

room for coffee because of the cluttered array of books piled on top — some written by authors Staley has met, others by Staley

Before August 31, 2011, he will have to take down his

renowned artists and writers. A framed posters and pack up his coffee table in the center has no books. Staley, 74, announced in late April he would retire after 22 years at the center — a place that has drawn UT students and scholars from all over the world,

RANSOM continues on page 2

including Nobel Laureates.



After more than 20 years of working with the Harry Ransom Center, director Tom Staley will retire Aug. 31, 2011.

Bobby Longoria

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TODAY'S WEATHER





Did vou order a cheese pizza?





leff Heimsath | Daily Texan Staf

Students often resort to energy drinks, "study drugs" and power naps to keep focused during the last few weeks of school. Experts, however, are not sure that these methods are healthy or effective ways

SLEEP: Experts advise napping over stimulants

From page 1

typically kick in about an hour after consumption, last three to four hours on average, Hummer said. The effects of Adderall XR, an extended release version, can last seven to eight hours, he added.

Side effects include difficulty falling asleep, higher pulse rate and rebound depression following a withdrawal from prolonged usage, Hummer said.

Hummer said that while some studies have shown that students under the influence of brain-stimulating drugs perform better on tests than those without the influence, he has mixed feelings about the drug.

"Study drugs were never a question when I was in college," Hummer said. "People have been going to college for hundreds of years without it, so maybe the real question here is, 'What's different now that people need a temporary boost?"

Students hesitant to take the

the more easily accessible stimulant — caffeine, usually found in the variety of energy drinks, sodas and five-hour energy shots that span refrigerators at convenience stores

Amanda Buller, the University Health Services dietician, said that while caffeine will keep its consumers awake, its effectiveness as a study aid is debatable.

"Some people can concentrate fine, but others get jittery and can't focus at all," Buller said.

To stay energized past a caffeine crash, some people consume more caffeine. Since people build up a tolerance to caffeine after excessive consumption, they gradually have to increase their caffeine intake over time for it to stay effective, she said.

Studies show that one way people absorb information better is by taking a 10-minute break after every 50 minutes of work to take walk, catnap or go online, Buller said.

Power naps — if done correctly

illegal route tend to reach for - can also give people a boost of energy, said David Duhon of the Sleep Disorders Center of Central Texas.

"People think that the deeper the sleep, the more rested you'll feel afterward," Duhon said. "How rested you feel after a nap depends on if you've been getting enough sleep in the first place.'

Power naps should last less than an hour to be most effective, Duhon said. At the hour mark, people are at risk of reaching Stage 3, or "slowwave" sleep, which makes waking up more difficult. Once abruptly woken from slowwave sleep, people experience "sleep drunkeness," whose symptoms include grogginess and headaches, Duhon said.

"I don't do power naps because I don't know how to do those," Jea said. "I usually just try to stay up the entire night, and if I fall asleep while studying, I fall asleep for the rest of

LIT: Winner plans to use money for nonprofit center

From page 1

Cullingford said. "[We're] looking her to nomadic life "off the grid," that's a voice we don't hear from." for incredibly high literary quali- Boxer said. ty, originality and a command of language. They also have to show this in a short [composition]."

The story follows a young, semi-nomadic couple in their 20s as they move to Taos, N.M., a city near the edge of civilization considered to be "off the grid." After the man cheats on his young pregnant girlfriend, Adrienne,

she meets an older man, a hip- work [that asks] what is this 21st

four years, said her heroine explores new ground for female

"I do have an interest in female characters that are taking on what may have traditionally been more from a male perspective, like this notion of the pioneer," she said. "I'm noticing a pattern in my own

THE DAILY TEXAN

py named Crow, who introduces century female pioneer? I think

She said she is interested in cre-Boxer, who lived in Taos for ating an urban-acts nonprofit center and residency program and that the cash prize will give her the freedom to keep working on that project.

Three finalists in the competition, writing graduate students Roger Reeves, Fiona McFarlane and Virginia Reeves, will split \$50,000 between them.

This newspaper was written, edited and designed with pride





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Coxesta Ad Monday Wednesday, 12 p.m. Thursday Monday, 12 p.m. Tuesday Tuesday 12 p.m. Tues

LAB: Backers say program fosters creativity in film

From page 1

teaching a few courses for free. Students have reached out to the community, and on Tuesday, they began a campaign to display light projections of the words "Save The ACTLab!!" on different University structures. They also created a website, savetheactlab.com, which highlights the program's value so people will be aware of it, Lopez said.

"It's ignorance through obscurity," he said. "[Administrators] won't come, they don't look, they've never seen. We're being ignored, but in such a polite way."

RTF interim chair Tom Schatz said Stone has not approached him about trying to continue teaching the courses for free in the fall, and she confirmed this but said she has talked with other faculty, staff members and administrators about it. The department cannot reasonably continue Stone's courses if she is not there to teach them because they are "idiosyncratic," Schatz said, so the department canceled them in day of registration, after her retirement was negotiated.

However, the radio-televisioncommitment to diverse and progressive media, even if the ACT-Lab ceases to exist in its current form, he insisted.

"They want to save the ACT-Lab. If the ACTLab is Sandy Stone, Sandy Stone has resigned," Schatz said. "But if the ACTLab is Studio 4B and the department's commitment to new and digital media, [then] that's alive and well. There is nothing to save. We will go forward."

Torres said the program creates a haven for students who do not have another outlet.

"I started UT in 2003 as an 18-year-old, freshly graduated kid from Pflugerville," he said. "I didn't find a place that had what I wanted to do or a place where I fit in. I started in the ACTLab and understood that fantasy college experience that everyone talks about, where you see your friends and stay up late working on projects together because you want to."

The program also provides real-life job skills in a range of careers including design, new media and the arts, Lopez said.

"These kinds of students do really good, interesting work that is accepted in the real world," Stone said. "That's part the course schedule on the first of the University mission. It's what students do when they get out of here."

Stone and students said they film department will maintain a are still working to find a way for the program to continue in the fall semester, and it may continue as a student organization without classes.

RANSOM: Director aspires to write book on work experiences

From page 1

mark of a great university," his sophomore year of college Staley said. "When you preserve the past, you can absorb and create new knowledge for the future."

Over the years, Staley helped the center acquire the Watergate Plan II World Literature courses files of Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, nearly 200,000 original Magnum photo prints and numerous literary archives.

One of its current exhibits, Making Movies, showcases the storyboards, production photos and scripts of movies like "West Side Story," "Taxi Driver" and "Gone with the Wind."

Staley joked that after retirement, he would have more time to "sit in quiet contemplation about nothing." But, in all seriousness, he plans to write two books, one about his adventures running the center and one about how the study of literature has expanded, Staley said.

As an only child in Pittsburgh, New York and Tulsa, Okla., Staley — a left-handed pitcher had childhood dreams of becoming a baseball player. "That's my team right there,"

Staley said, cocking his head toward a photo of the Pittsburgh Pirates hanging above cept people from Pittsburgh

SUMMER/FALL

root for them anymore."

Staley, a James Joyce schol-"The presence of a great hu- ar, became interested in studymanities research center is the ing literature as a career during after listening to a speaker explore the richness of Joyce's "A Portrait of an Artist as a Young Man," he said.

At UT, Staley has also taught and graduate seminars on Joyce and poet T.S. Eliot. When he's not at the University, Staley enjoys playing tennis weekly and visiting his daughter in Maine, where they play father-daugther doubles and "beat all the competition."

"From the first time I met him, I thought right away he was so charismatic," said Megan Barnard, who has worked closely with Staley over the past seven years as deputy to the director.

Barnard described Staley as an energetic, demanding and generous boss, and she enjoyed opportunities to catch lunch with him — and some of her favorite novelists who came into town, such as Ian McEwan, author of "Atonement."

"My work has given me so many opportunities to travel and teach, which I love to do," Staley said. "That's what's great about finding something you like and learning to be fairhis bookcase. "But nobody ex- ly good at it. Work and pleasure are the same thing."

Taking direction from the Sr. Graphic Designer



THE DAILY TEXAN -

Leader brings peaceful power switch to Nigeria

By Jon Gambrell The Associated Press

LAGOS, Nigeria — Oil-rich Nigeria's acting leader, Goodluck Jonathan, was sworn in Thursday as president of Africa's most populous nation, as officials buried the flag-draped corpse of his Muslim predecessor before sundown.

The power shift to Jonathan, a Christian, peacefully ended a profound leadership crisis triggered last November when elected President Umaru Yar'Adua, who died Wednesday at the age of 58, left the country for medical treatment without transferring authority to his deputy.

Jonathan had already assumed presidential powers Feb. 9 after a National Assembly vote was called to resolve the leadership vacuum left when Yar'Adua was hospitalized for an inflamed

Nigeria has been plagued by military coups for much of its 50 years of independence, and Jonathan will have to keep a lid on the volatile nation's sectarian divisions as it edges toward a tense presidential election next year.

on a sash bearing the green, yellow and white colors of Nigeria, signifying he had formally taken over from Yar'Adua. Jonathan will serve as president through next year's vote.

Soldiers and police officers accompanied Yar'Adua's corpse on a flight Thursday to his home state of Katsina in the country's Muslim north. There, mourners carried his body on their shoulders into a local soccer stadium for a final prayer service.

In a brief national address, Jonathan promised his administration would focus on good governance during its short tenure, focusing especially on electoral reform and the fight against corruption.

Analysts said Nigeria's future will depend largely on what happens in the coming weeks and months.

"It now revolves around what the informal power-sharing between the north and the south, the Christians and the Muslims, is actually going to work out," said John Campbell, a former U.S. ambassador to Nigeria who now is a fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. "One chapter is finished, Early Thursday, Jonathan put another chapter is starting."



Workers prepare Thursday to lower a containment vessel, seen on deck in the background, at the site of the oil leak caused by the Deepwater Horizon rig collapse.

Fumes delay oil containment tool

By Harry Weber & Tamara Lush

The Associated Press GULF OF MEXICO - Workers gathered to begin lowering a giant concrete-and-steel box over the blown-out oil well at the bottom of the sea Thursday in a risky and untested bid to capture most of the gushing crude and avert a wider environmental disaster.

"We haven't done this before. It's very complex and we can't guarantee it," BP spokesman David Nicholas warned.

The 100-ton containment vessel is designed to collect as much as 85 percent of the oil spewing into

the Gulf and funnel it up to a tank- vessels took air-quality readings. er. It could take several hours to lower it into place by crane, after be able to proceed though crew which a steel pipe will be installed between the top of the box and the tanker. The whole structure could be operating by Sunday.

But the lowering of the box was delayed late Thursday because of dangerous fumes rising from the oily water in the windless night, the captain of the supply boat hauling the box told The Associated Press. A spark caused by the scrape of metal on metal could cause a fire, Capt. Demi Shaffer said.

Deckhands wore respirators while workers on surrounding

It was unclear when they would members were hopeful it would

The technology has been used a few times in shallow waters, but never at such extreme depths.

still be on Thursday night.

The box must be accurately positioned over the well, or it could damage the leaking pipe and make the problem worse.

BP spokesman Doug Suttles said he is not concerned about that happening. Underwater robots have been clearing pieces of pipe and other debris near

avoid complications. "We do not believe it could

make things worse," he said. Other risks include ice clogs in the pipes — a problem that

crews will try to prevent by continuously pumping in warm water and methanol — and the danger of explosion when separating the mix of oil, gas and water that is brought to the surface.. During a visit to Biloxi, Miss.,

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano said of the containment vessel: "I hope it works. But we are still proceeding as if it won't. If it does, of course, that will where the box will be placed to be a major positive development."

Wall Street ails as Dow Jones stomachs 1000-point plunge

Nigeria's acting president, Goodluck Jonathan, right, takes the oath of

office in front of Chief Justice Aloysius Katsina-Alu in Abuja on Thursday.

By Tim Paradis

The Associated Press NEW YORK — A computerized selloff possibly caused by a simple typographical error triggered one of the most turbulent days in Wall Street histo-

ry Thursday and sent the Dow Jones industrials to a loss of almost 1,000 points, nearly a tenth of their value, in less than half an hour. It was the biggest drop ever during a trading day.

The Dow recovered two-thirds of the loss before the closing bell, but that was still the biggest point loss since February of last year. The lightning-fast plummet temporarily knocked normally stable stocks to a tiny fraction of their former value and sent chills down investors' spines.

"Today ... caused me to fall out of my chair at one point. It felt saying regulators are reviewing Harris Private Bank in Chicago.

There were reports that the sudden drop was caused by a automated computer trading

trader who mistyped an order intensified the losses. The selling to sell a large block of stock. The drop in that stock's price was enough to trigger "sell" orders across the market.

The SEC issued a statement

Today ... caused me to fall out of my chair at one point. *It felt like we lost* control."

> — Jack Ablin Chief investment officer

like we lost control," said Jack what happened and "working Ablin, chief investment officer at with the exchanges to take appropriate steps to protect investors."

Whatever started the selloff,

only led to more selling as prices plummeted and traders tried to limit their losses.

"I think the machines just took over. There's not a lot of human interaction," said Charlie Smith, chief investment officer at Fort Pitt Capital Group. "We've known that automated trading can run away from you, and I think that's what we saw happen today."

Even if there were technical issues, concerns about the world economy are running high.

The stock market has had periodic bouts of anxiety about the European economies during the past few months. They have intensified over the past week even as Greece appeared to be moving closer to getting a bailout package from some of its neighbors.

"Europe is a major trading partner of ours, and this threatens the entire global growth story," said Peter Boockvar, equity strategist at Miller Tabak.

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OVERVIEW

A win for Austin trailer food

The Austin City Council's Health and Human Services Committee decided against ruling on a measure to toughen health regulations for food trailers Wednesday.

The Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services department initially recommended that the City Council add more health and safety regulations on food trailers, which would include more fees, additional permits and proof of liability insurance.

Operators of fixed-location food trailers had become increasingly worried recently that these new regulations, which mainly targeted mobile food trailer operations, would hit them with additional fees. The committee indicated that the proposed changes had been crafted too broadly.

We're pleased that the council heard the concerns of the local fixed-trailer vendors, which have come to define Austin's quirky culinary landscape.

But we're still troubled by the fact that Tom Ramsey, owner of the Pflugerville-based mobile food-trailer company Snappy Snacks, is leading the fight for these stricter regulations.

Ramsey has reason to criticize other mobile trailers for flouting health regulations already in place, but city statistics show that cases of illness have been tied to mobile vendors only a handful of times within the past four years — indicating that his complaints may have more to do with his struggling business facing competition than with true concerns for public safety.

A landmark case for transsexual rights

Virgil Eugene Hill was born a man, but after undergoing sex-reassignment surgery, Hill changed his first name to Sabrina.

Now, Sabrina's recent marriage to a woman in San Antonio has drawn Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott into a legal battle with potentially large ramifications for gender identity and marriage in a state that banned legal recognition of gay unions in 2005.

The unique case originated in El Paso, where Hill first requested a marriage license, prompting El Paso County to ask the attorney general for advice on how to proceed.

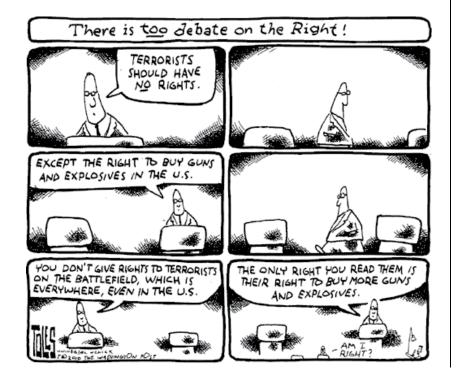
Hill currently holds a birth certificate identifying her as male — which she used to marry her girlfriend in San Antonio — but an out-of-state driver's license and court order identifying her as female. State law says each of these documents can be used to

Abbott is now left to decide whether San Antonio acted properly by heeding Hill's birth certificate — possibly opening the door to allowing marriage between transsexuals in a state that doesn't allow marriage between homosexuals.

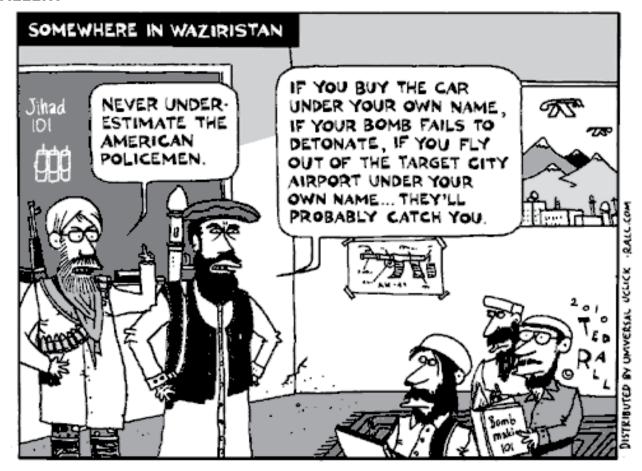
We don't expect the attorney general, no friend to gay rights activists, to come down on the side of fairness in this instance.

But we do hope, at least, that this interesting case creates a venue for open and sensitive discussion of transsexual rights, which are often swept aside in broader discussions of gay rights and identity.

GALLERY



GALLERY



Farewell to UT: Advice from a graduating senior



As I look back on my time here at UT, I can't help but smile, remembering the good times, the bad times and the times when you're just not sure how you're supposed to feel. Each year brought a new lesson, a new experience and a new perspective on life.

At the end of each year, I always looked back and thought, "I wish I would have known that before." So as a parting gift, I have noted tidbits of ad-Blanton dorm room on that hot day in August four years ago.

Advice for freshman year is simple: and optimism for junior year. Don't drink the red punch. You will regret it. If you drink the red punch, you are bound to become known as the person who passed out in the front yard or the person who threw up all over so-and-so.

Considering the fast times we live in, these shenanigans will be documented and distributed for the whole of UT to view via social networking. It will be embarrassing. So please, just don't drink the red punch.

Sophomore year, you will probably start to think you have figured things out. You've got a year under your belt. Things are no longer as fresh. You realize that college isn't as scary and hard as you anticipated.

But trust me, you haven't figured anything out. Sophomore year is only

the beginning. If you are one of the that will make your senior year more of lucky ones to experience a full-blown the former. First, seek out the best hapexistential crisis in college, this will probably be the time for it to happen.

your questioning of everything you ed to do. Ponder life. Ponder God. Ponder your purpose in the world. Ponder whatever.

Don't fret when you end up with low grades in the areas in which you thought you wanted to pursue a major. In hindsight, this will be a good thing — a revelation, if you will. And don't vice that I wish someone would have worry. After all the tears and the long told me when I first walked into my nights of cigarettes, beer and Nietzsche, you will come out a happier individual with a better sense of direction in life

Yes, the career services office is not just there for show.

In your junior year, you should be starting to weigh your options for postcollege, and career services has more resources than one can imagine to help. Career services is also a good resource for finding an internship for the summer after junior year. I wish I would have utilized this resource earlier.

Senior year is like that line from Dickens' "A Tale of Two Cities," "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times ..." Senior year is great because you are in your last year of college, but senior year is also depressing because you are in your last year of college.

There are two things to know, though,

py hours in town and have one to hit up every night of the week. Senior year Surviving an existential crisis is quite is not for academics. It is for maximizeasy. Just let it happen. Don't fight ing your time with your friends and enjoying the last days of your youth. have known and thought you want- Happy hour facilitates these two things nicely.

The second is probably the best kept secret at UT. If you only need nine hours to graduate your last semester, you only have to take nine hours. You will still be considered a full-time student. If you have this option, do it. Senioritis will kick in hard around March, and you will be counting your lucky stars that you only have three classes to worry about instead of four.

For those of you who still have more time here at UT, savor every moment. Junior year is kind of boring. It Bask in the sunlight of the South Mall should be the year of career services. every time you get the chance. Have an extra waffle at Kinsolving or J2. And take frequent walks around campus for no apparent reason.

For those of you graduating, congratulations are in order. You have survived the academic rigors of a top-tier institution, while most likely succumbing to the temptation of the red Solo cup. This is truly an accomplishment. I wish you the best in your future endeavors.

For my last tidbit, I leave you with this to ponder (especially you sophomores); Remember the past, but don't dwell on it. Live in the present, but don't linger in it. And, look forward to the future, but don't yearn for it.

Russo is a women's and gender studies senior.

THE FIRING LINE

The value of holistic education

In Dave Player's Thursday column, "Holistic education? More like Whole Foods education," he complains that the Plan II Honors program isn't preparing him to become a wage earner. That angle is uncompelling.

He is a student at the University of Texas, not the Trade School of Texas, right? I am left with the impression that Player is sloughing off his personal responsibility to prepare himself to earn a living onto the course selection offered by his chosen major.

I worry that Player is missing the point of Plan II, and perhaps of college entirely. Above all, one should use college to learn how to think critically and to communicate well. I have an undergraduate degree in Plan II and economics ('89) and returned a few years later for a graduate degree in accounting ('94). Yet I have never worked as an accountant or an economist (or a Plan II-ist).

Nonetheless, I've had two decades of a personally fulfilling and financially rewarding business career working for some prestigious consulting firms along the way. Now I'm an information technology director for an oil and gas super major, despite having had only one IT class in my entire educational career (thank you, Dr. Summers). Plan II has been absolutely fundamental to my professional success.

How is that? Player derides the selection of non-overlapping courses offered by Plan II. However, it is precisely those courses which have made my

career possible.

Dr. Betty Sue Flowers' course on Myths, Symbols and Dreams, a year studying ontology and ethics with Dr. Paul Woodruff, even a humanities course on the Experience of Blindness all stretched my analytical mind.

A Plan II cellular and molecular biology course taught me not just about photosynthesis but about the nature of scientific thought itself. Yet none of these courses taught me a single fact about business consulting or information

Instead, I developed clarity of thought, analysis and communication, which is what makes me more effective than many of my peers with tradefocused degrees. The part of my job that depends on trade knowledge is rote and can be acquired by many. IT strategy is a piece of cake compared to those Plan II courses and the critical thinking challenges they presented.

I suppose I should be more sympathetic to Player, because I recall wishing that I had the same well-greased track sliding straight to employment in engineering or some other named field that many of my friends had.

I had to pound the pavement pretty hard to find my first job in 1989, working as an analyst for an electric utility. But I would be more sympathetic if I sensed he were warming up his shoe leather instead of complaining in the

A Plan II education will pay dividends throughout one's professional life — especially if you appreciate it for what it is.

> - Burke Willis Alumnus

GALLERY



SUBMIT A FIRING LINE

E-mail your Firing Lines to firingline@dailytexanonline.com. Letters must be fewer than 300 words. The Texan reserves the right to edit for brevity, clarity and liability.

LEGALESE

Opinions expressed in The Daily Texan are not necessarily those of the UT administration, the Board of Regents or the Texas Student Media Board of Operating Trustees.

LEATHER: Proposal to remove items from store rejected at board meeting

From page 1

alternatives.

At the meeting, the proposal was rejected, said Garrett Mize, government senior and University Vegetarians co-founder.

"Unfortunately, we met some resistance, and we weren't making a lot of progress with the board and with the University," Mize said. "So that's why we feel like we've been forced into action. The reason we are protesting the sale of leather at the Coop is because the production of leather is very bad for the environment, for workers in leather factories and it's also very cruel to animals."

The group of students chanted, 'Cats, dogs and cows, too — they all feel pain, just like you."

James Kielty, CFO and executive vice president of the Co-op,

NEWS BRIEFLY

High school geology program

Shell Oil Company donated

The grants, for the 2009-2010

school year, will support students

and faculty in the McCombs School

of Business, the Cockrell School of

Engineering and the Jackson School

of Geosciences. While the donations

will go toward a number of pro-

grams within these departments,

the majority of the funds — nearly

40 percent — will benefit the Geo-

said Mark Blount, UT's director of

The GeoFORCE program, which

Texas and inner-city Houston school

FORCE Texas summer program,

began in 2005, gives middle and

high school students from South

districts the opportunity to trav-

el nationwide each summer to see

geological formations and to learn

more about careers in the industry.

one in their family has ever at-

For most of these students, no

tended college, said Sharon Mosh-

er, dean of the Jackson School of

corporate relations.

Geosciences

more than \$310,000 in departmental

funded by Shell donation

grants to the University.

said this was the first time in his 17 years that students have protested the store's leather products, which are approved and licensed by the University.

Kielty said the University Coop donated its \$67,000 in profits from leather boot sales to Student Government for student scholarships and has done so for the past few years.

"We spoke to [the student groups], and no one wants to see animal cruelty, but we just sell University licensed leather products, and if we stop selling them, someone will open up shop next door and start selling them," he said. "It'd be a zero gain for them. Animal cruelty is a legitimate issue. As for [the Co-op], we are making the assumption that the University does their due diligence on these manufacturers of leather goods."

"This year, it's our second grad-uating class," Mosher said. "The class has 112 students, and all but one have plans to attend college in the fall. It's a pretty remarkable

— Aziza Musa

Tower temporarily ends tours as summer repairs get underway

The University's Tower Tours, which offer tours of the observation deck of the 307-foot tower, will shut down during the summer of 2010 so that maintenance can be done.

The tours usually run throughout the year and allow patrons to see the view of campus and Austin from the top of the Tower. They are taken on an approximately hourlong tour of the inside of the Tower, with 35 minutes allotted for the patrons to examine the view from the observation deck.

Because of maintenance that needs to be done on an air-handling unit, the tours will stop running mid-summer. The maintenance project is set to begin in July, Texas Union director David Puntch said.

The maintenance will continue throughout the fall semester, and tours will resume in the spring

— Shamoyita Dasgupta

Honoring Old Glory



American flag during what is known as the "retreat ceremony," a ritual lowering of the flag that occurs each day before sunset.

cadets fold an

University puts 'Ideas' into action

Officials plan to continue program, implement suggestions over time

By Shabab Siddiqui **Daily Texan Staff**

Over the last six months, faculty members, staff, students and alumni have submitted more than 500 ideas to improve the University. Over the next four months, those ideas will be evaluated and addressed.

The Ideas of Texas website, which launched in November for faculty and staff members and in February for students and alumni, is an interactive platform that allows users to post, vote for and discuss ideas. Using the concept of "crowdsourcing," the top ideas are determined by a formula that accounts for the number of views and votes as well as the amount of feedback the ideas receive.

Geoff Leavenworth, special

liam Powers Jr., said he and his team are in the process of referring ideas to the respective departments and operating units to which they apply. Anyone who has posted an idea will hear back from the operating unit by fall, Leavenworth said.

"We'll definitely prioritize those ideas that have gained the most popularity," he said. "But we're not going to throw any

Departments and operating units will either pursue the idea or, if they choose not to, notify the poster of why it will not be implemented.

Some ideas posted last semester by staff members are already in the process of being implemented. University administrators are toying with a self-supporting Central Business Office, which was an idea posted by Dorothy Frasch, assistant director of the

fice — currently in its pilot run would allow different departments that require purchasing, accounting and payroll services to do so from one centralized office instead of boasting their own services.

"We are honing our services and using ITS and our test client to make sure we are poised to provide stellar service at a price savings before we extend out to the broader campus and offer our services," vice president and chief financial officer Kevin Hegarty said. "Thus far, than 1,400 comments. Leavenit looks very promising, and I am convinced that by this time next year, we will have many more clients - including several colleges — that have already expressed an interest in exploring the idea once we are ready to take it on."

Leavenworth and his team have also compiled responses for several recent ideas, including staff vacation time, the

assistant to the President Wil- McDonald Observatory. The of- Dream Act, telecommuting and the creation of a staff ombudsman program. Many of the responses, which will be sent out in the coming weeks, do not create new programs but instead clarify existing ones.

The website is split into a faculty and staff section and a students and alumni section. The faculty and staff section has more than 4,500 members and 2,700 comments, while the students and alumni section has about 3,900 members and more worth said the University plans to continue using the website

"Part of this is still unknown territory," Leavenworth said. "But [when the website was first implemented] we felt if we could get a handful of good ideas and [a] handful of participation, it would be a success. This is way beyond what we thought we'd achieve."

Becky Su - ACC Chair

Cody Johnson - DSC Chair Bryan Pope - ECC Chair

Nupur Shah - FAF Chair Amy Romero - FC Chair Eric Camarillo - MACC Chair Laura Butler - MDC Chair Taylor Steinberg - MEC Chair

Maggie Zahr - OWB Chair

Cameron Allison - TGC Chair

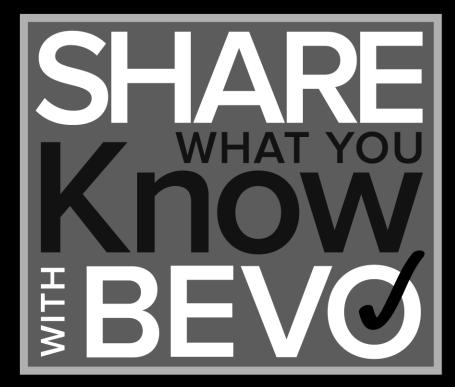
Shey Lusco - TR Co-Chair

Karina Singh - TR Co-Chair

Jeffrey Florence - TSC Chair

Robert Higginbotham - SECL Chair Marshall Roberts - TCL Chair

Undergraduates!



Take the SERU online survey and you will be eligible for a number of prizes, such as lunch with Longhorn athletes and VIP seats to Longhorns sports games.

Find out more at: utexas.edu/seru/

The University Unions Student Events Center would like to thank the 2009-2010 Executive Cabinet for their service and leadership through this semester. Your skills and experience helped guide the SEC through a great semester.

Thank you! Britnie Franklin - AACC Chair

Andrew Nash - President

John Meller - Executive Vice President Amanda Smoot - Vice President of Budgets & Assessment

Katie Anaya - Vice President of Internal Communications

D'Andrea Young - Vice President of Organizational Development

Thanks for the memories ...

The University Unions Student Events Center congratulates its graduating members! Thank you for your hard work to make this semester a success!

Gabriela Alcalá Murga Robert Higginbotham

Francis Anamege DSC/TGC Lindsay Bardach Yamina Khouane

MEC John Blaha DSC

Laura Butler

MDCMarissa Canada TSC

Dana Chaisiri ACC Sambuddha Chakrabarti MDC

> MDC/TGC Ryan Cooper DSC/ECC

Ward Christie

Nicole Curtis **MDC**

Kristi Hardy

THE UNIVERSITY UNIONS

STUDENT EVENTS CENTER

Sheila Lopez MACCTJ Mahbub DSC/TGC Ryan Martinez

Blake Hurtik

MEC

MDC

Sana Khwaja

FAF/OWB

Tiffany Knight

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Anthony Linzy II

TGC

DSC/ECC John Meller VP/MEC Amanda Miller

MEC Mitchell Mills DSC/ECC/TSC Apoorva Murthy

DSC/ECC Maxim Pozderac FC

Meera Rajagopalan Yaseen Rashid ACC

Elizabeth Rentfro MDC Robert Rich

MECEd Roman

Irusha Samaratunga ACC

> Kristie Schuh TGC

Sarah Shade MC Karina Singh

Jenna Penick Chris Plummer SECL Bryan Pope

Vivian Tran OWB/TR Lacey Tripplett **MEC** Nalin Verma

ECC Artrecia Walker AACC

Carly Stevens

Jason Wang ACC

Reagan Ward MEC

Samantha White **MEC** Elizabeth Wood

TSC Wenting Xie

D'Andrea Young

VP/AACC Jiacheng Yu Andrew Zhang

ACC/TGC

The Student Events Center houses fifteen committees and organizations. Our student leaders coordinate an incredible variety of programs for the University community, from concerts and speakers to movie screenings and cultural events. There are always opportunities for involvement, so visit utsec.org or call 475-6630 for more information.

6 Friday, May 7, 2010

UNIVERSITY CO-OP REBATES

THE RULES
HAVE CHANGED!

Check Out The New Rebate Program!

Starting July 1, 2010, you can enter your 2010-11 receipt info online.

www.cooprebates.com

For over 20 years the Co-op has issued a 10% rebate for individuals who submitted their receipts for the school year. Rebates are in the form of a rebate card for use at the Co-op or online.

SPORTS

BASKETBALL

Baylor star scores big for Toros



Curtis Jerrells dribbles around defenders in a game this season for the Austin Toros. Jerrells played at Baylor University, where he helped defeat the Longhorns in the first round of the 2009 Big 12 Tournament.

After playing against the Horns, Curtis Jerrells leads Toros to playoffs, Spurs' postseason run

He's a team player

first and foremost."

— Marvin Hall

basketball coach

Del Valle

By Will Anderson **Daily Texan Staff**

You are forgiven for feeling conflicted about Curtis Jerrells.

At the 2009 Big 12 tournament, Jerrells, then Baylor's starting point guard, scored 13 points to help knock the fifth-seeded Longhorns out of the semifinal game. Since that fateful March matchup, Texas has gone winless against Baylor in three contests while the Bears have been on the upswing, making it all the way to the Elite Eight in this year's

NCAA tournament. But this season, as the rookie

sensation of Austin's own minor league basketball team, Jerrells helped the Toros reach the second round of the playoffs. The Toros, who play in the NBA's Development League, fell in the conference finals to Rio Grande Valley. But

without Jerrells, it isn't likely they would have made his age," said Marvin Hall, the high 27 points per outing in the postseason (good for second best tied for first on the squad with 6.2 notice any cockiness." assists a night.

Now, Jerrells is playing for the San Antonio Spurs, who recently called him up for their playoff run. He hasn't made an appearance yet, but he averages two assists per game in the big leagues and even scored nine points in a win over Miami back in October during a previous stint with San Antonio.

Combining a penchant for clutch shots and an eye for moving the ball, Jerrells propelled the Toros into the playoffs this past season. He was fourth on

the team in scoring and first in steals and assists. His presence Dear Austin basketball fans: helped boost the Toros' offense to record levels and brought in quite a few fans for Austin's fledgling minor-league team — the most common call heard in the convention during home games was "CJ! CJ! CJ!"

"That's just my family," Jerrells joked. "They all live around here, so they all come to my games."

It's an interesting predicament for a guy who grew up playing basketball at Del Valle High School, just outside of town on Highway 71.

Jerrells played for the Cardinals' varsity team

all four years and became one of the most successful athletes in the school's history. But despite individual talent, he's perhaps best remembered for a different attribute.

"Coming in as a freshman, you could tell he was a lot more mature than other kids

it that far. He averaged a team- boys' coach at Del Valle and one of Jerrells' first mentors. "He's a team player first and in the entire D-League) and was foremost. With him, it's hard to

Hall likes to tell a story from the spring of Jerrells' sophomore year at Del Valle. Jerrells, as a returning varsity player, captained one side during an intrasquad best-of-seven series. Del Valle had three other returning starters, but instead, Jerrells chose four junior varsity players for his team. Hall said he was surprised by the choice but not the eventual outcome — Jerrells and his JV teammates swept the varsity players in four games. "I knew Curtis was special,"

BBALL continues on page 8

WHAT: No. 2 Texas (39-7) at

Stadium, (Manhattan, Kansas)

Saturday 2:30 p.m., Sunday 1

ON AIR: Friday and Sunday

1300 am, Saturday FCS Central

NCAA's RPI rankings shouldn't

"I don't know, what is it — 21

now or whatever? We can still im-

prove and do a lot better," Mold-

enhauer said about Texas' win

streak. "I don't believe we've

peaked yet. We've still got a lot

to go. We've got all the tools and

stuff, just need to put it together a

much better is Texas' pitching.

As a staff, the Texas pitching staff

is working with a miniscule 2.13

ERA, and after Tuesday's 6-0

BASEBALL continues on page 8

The one thing that can't get

WHERE: Tointon Family

WHEN: Friday 6:30 p.m.,

Kansas State

be a problem.

SIDELINE

NBA Playoffs

Atlanta 98 Orlando 112 (Orlando leads series 2-0)

NHL Playoffs

Pittsburgh 2 Montreal 3 (Series tied 2-2)

San Jose 1 Detroit 7 (San Jose leads series 3-1)

MLB

American League

Tampa Bay 6 Seattle 0

Los Angeles Angels 6 Boston 11

Kansas City 12

Texas 13

Toronto 2 Chicago White Sox 0

Minnesota 0 National League

Baltimore 2

Milwaukee 0 Los Angeles Dodgers 3

St. Louis 2 Philadelphia 7

Atlanta 2 Washington 3

Chicago Cubs 1 Pittsburgh 11

San Francisco 6 Florida 3

Arizona 6 **Houston** 3

SPORTS BRIEFLY

Astros lose to Diamondbacks for ninth loss in 10 games

.....

Dan Haren struck out nine in his first complete game this season and Tony Abreu had a career-high four hits, leading the Arizona Diamondbacks to a 6-3 victory over the struggling Houston Astros on Thursday

Kelly Johnson led off the game with his 10th home run of the year, giving him the National League lead. Haren (4-1) allowed seven hits and walked one for his 10th career complete game and first since July 10 against Florida.

The Astros lost for the ninth time in 10 games and dropped to an NL-

worst 9-19. Astros starter Wandy Rodriguez (1-4) had his worst outing of the season, yielding nine hits and five runs in 3 2-3 innings. He walked

one and struck out four. Jeff Keppinger doubled in the Houston fourth before scoring on a single by Carlos Lee to make it 5-1. A single by Geoff Blum later in the inning scored Lee and got Houston within 5-2.

Haren gave up a double to Michael Bourn to start the first inning before retiring the next nine batters - striking out seven of them. He didn't allow another hit until Keppinger's double in the fourth.

The right-hander gave up two singles in that inning, but didn't yield another hit until a bunt by Humberto Quintero with nobody out in the eighth. Quintero later scored to make it 6-3.

Rangers outlast Royals with back-to-back home runs

Josh Hamilton and Vladimir Guerrero hit back-to-back homers in the eighth inning and the Texas Rangers pulled out a 13-12 victory over the Kansas City Royals on Thursday night after blowing an early eight-run lead.

The Royals had finally taken their first lead of the game in the top of the eighth and brought in closer Joakim Soria (0-1) with two outs in the bottom of the inning. Hamliton homered and Guerrero followed with his second go-ahead homer of the game, a shot that landed in the Rangers bullpen in right-center field.

Frank Francisco (4-3) gave up a run in one inning before Neftali Feliz struck out two of the three batters he faced for his seventh save in eight chances.

Compiled from Associated Press reports

BASEBALL

WOMEN'S GOLF

Familiarity

lands team

first round

in fifth after

By Shabab Siddiqui

Daily Texan Staff

comes with playing on the Stan-

ford Golf Course three times in

the same year. Maybe it's the re-

inforced security of having head

coach Martha Richards back on

the green. Or maybe it's the fear

of upcoming finals that have their

Whatever the reason, the fresh-

The Longhorns stand in fifth

place at the end of the first round

of the NCAA West Regional

Championships in Palo Alto, Ca-

lif., on Thursday. The team shot a

Freshman Haley Stephens fired

a 1-under-par 70 and finished tied

for third, while freshman Madi-

son Pressel carded an even round

Stephens, whose teammates

have commented that her work ethic dictates a need to "drag her off the course" at the end of prac-

tice, has had a rough spring sea-

son. Since February, the South

Carolina-native finished no better

than 30th until putting together a

20th-place performance at the Big

Playing at the Stanford course

has brought good fortune for the

duo in the past. Pressel fired her

lowest round of the year with a

6-under-par 65, while Stephens

carded a 1-under-par 70 during

the first round of the Stanford In-

tercollegiate Tournament in Octo-

"The course looks different now

than it did [in October]," Richards

said. "But I think with the young

group, it's good to be in a place

where they have good pictures in

their head. It definitely feels less

foreign."

combined 9-over-par 293.

to finish tied for sixth.

12 Championships.

men just don't seem to have much

minds occupied.

room for nerves.

Maybe it's the familiarity that

No. 2 TEXAS at KANSAS STATE

Horns need one more win for title

By Chris Tavarez Daily Texan Staff

Of all the numbers associated with Texas' current 21-game win streak, the only one that matters this weekend is one.

All Texas needs to wrap up the regular-season conference title is one win paired with one Kansas State loss. Considering the Horns are at Kansas State for their second-to-last conference series of the season, Texas can put that crystal bowl in its trophy case and move on to thinking about what's really important — the post season.

There's other things to consider, though. We're sitting in the pseudo-RPI ... we're at least four in one of them," Texas head coach Augie Garrido said. "You don't want to take any chances of slipping out of that top eight. From that point of view, it's very important."

The RPI, which stands for relative power index, is one of the main factors that determines whether or not a team will get hosting a regional — and hopefulone of the coveted eight nation-

SOFTBALL

TEXAS 6, BAYLOR 0



Chris Kosho | Daily Texan Staff

Texas first baseman Tant Shepherd leads off second base against New Mexico at Disch-Falk Field on February 19.

al seeds. With a top-eight seed for the NCAA tournament, Texas a super regional.

ly winning that regional and host-

ing super regional — would be a big advantage for us," designated hitter Russell Moldenhauer said. We just gotta keep playing baseball and keep attacking it."

playing now, maintaining or improving its No. 5 ranking in the

But the way Texas has been

would be guaranteed to host a regional and, if it wins the regional, "Staying in the top eight and

Bobby Longoria | Daily Texan Staff

Texas went 14-2 in Big 12 Texas shortstop Lexy Bennett stands on second base on March 28 against Nebraska at McCombs Field.

ger of being overly confident. They've never overlooked teams ranked below them or backed down from an intimidating challenge. But they certainly set high goals for themselves. After a 6-0 shutout over Baylor on Thursday night, the Longhorns have finally accomplished what they haven't been able to do since 2006: clinch the Big 12 regular

Connie Clark said. "I'm proud Longhorns almost three weeks ing to enjoy it. We didn't want it

GOLF continues on page 8

Richards spent her collegiate

regular season title By Kate Guerra of the team and excited for all of **Daily Texan Staff** them, especially the seniors, be-The Texas Longhorns softcause they've talked about it for ball team has never been in dana long time. It's just been a great group. We're only 15 deep this year, and we talk about how it

Texas clinches Big 12

takes everybody. play, with both losses being hard-fought 1-0 defeats from Oklahoma State and Texas A&M. The Longhorns needed to win the game against Baylor to clinch the title for themselves to avoid sharing it with rival Oklahoma. The matchup "It feels great," head coach between the Sooners and the

ago was canceled because of bad weather in Norman.

"We've had our eye on [the title] since day one," senior shortstop Loryn Johnson said. "We have a lot of work to do still, but we're excited, and we're go-

to come down to the rain-out in Norman. It was in our hands tonight, and we took care of it."

The Longhorns did indeed take care of business against the Bears on Thursday. The game

SOFTBALL continues on page 8

BBALL: Jerrells helped turn Baylor program around

From page 7

Hall said. "But when I saw him take those young kids and raise them up, the way he led them, that's when I knew for sure just how special he was."

Undersized and marked as having an unorthodox shot, Jerrells flew under the radar, especially when compared to other in-state recruits his age such as A.J. Abrams. Baylor took a chance on him and ended up netting one of its most successful players in program history.

"He has all of the intangibles," said Mark Morefield, an assistant coach at Baylor and the one responsible for recruiting Jerrells. "When he came here, he had a ton of talent, and he went on to show everyone that."

Jerrells helped turn around a team in Waco struck with vacated scholarships due to NCAA rules violations. He stuck with the program though its troubles and was rewarded with a successful tenure (he led the Bears in scoring all four years) and an NCAA tournament appearance in 2008

"Curtis means a lot to the Baylor program and the foundation we are trying to establish here," Morefield said. "For him to choose Baylor meant a lot to the program and gave a lot of credibility to our mission."

Once again, Jerrells had immense individual success. He ran the point for the Bears as they posted back-to-back 20win seasons for the first time in school history in 2007-08 and 2008-09. Jerrells averaged 16.3 points and 4.9 assists per game his senior season, and he became just the second player in Baylor history to make the All-Big 12 first team.

But, like at Del Valle, he was remembered for his contributions to the team. With Jerrells' help, Baylor broke into the Associated Press poll in both the 2008 and 2009 seasons — quite a feat, considering the Bears' prior 40-

year absence. The team reached as high as No. 19 in the rankings in 2009 and made it to the finals of the National Invitation Tournament that year.

He's performing very much the same role with the Toros. Jerrells scored a game-high 30 points in the first leg of their playoff series against Rio Grande Valley on April 17. Only two of those points came in the fourth quarter, but they were arguably the most crucial of the game and showed why he is so important to the team. Jerrells stepped to the foul line with six seconds left and tied the score at 120-120. He proceeded to ice the contest with a pair of coolly administered free throws.

"I take a lot of pride in my contributions to the team," Jerrells said. "You see a teammate playing well, and it just makes you want to pick up where they

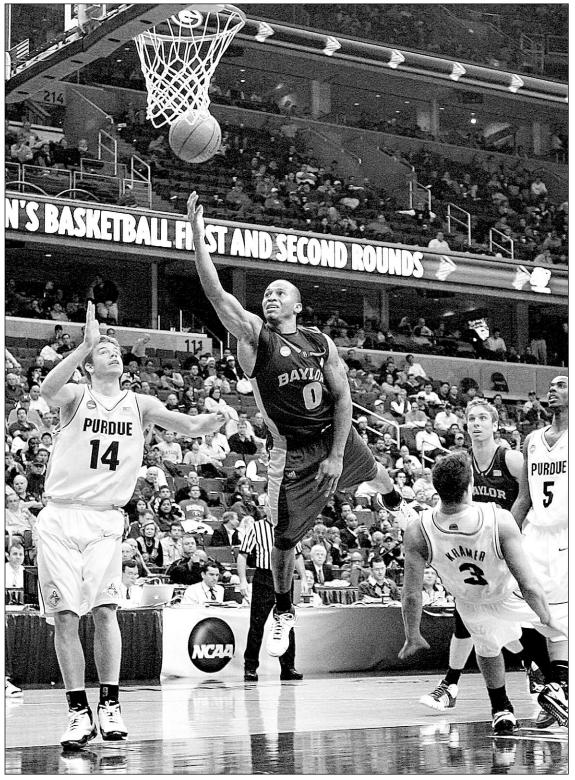
Austin seems like a good fit for Jerrells, but the rookie obviously has another city on his mind.

"I'd love to be in San Antonio, but being here works for me," Jerrells said after a playoff win over Rio Grande Valley last month, before being recalled. "I just want to play and see where that takes me.

Jerrells is indeed right where he wants to be these days, with another shot at cracking an NBA team's permanent roster. If not, he'll likely be back in Austin next season, and the Toros will likely be playoff contenders once again. So, rest assured, capitol city basketball fans, Jerrells might have burned you in the past, but he's on your side now.

But if you're a Baylor fan, don't worry: Jerrells definitely remembers the last time he met the Longhorns.

"We smacked them in the Big 12 tournament," he laughed. "That was the last time we played them, and we



Curtis Jerrells, who now plays with the Austin Toros and recently the San Antonio Spurs since the playoffs, scores a basket against Purdue on March 30, 2008, in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

SOFTBALL: Luna pitches, strikes out 12 for win

From page 7

remained scoreless until the fourth inning, when third baseman Nadia Taylor hit an RBI groundout to score sophomore Lexy Bennett, who had reached on a one-out double. Johnson followed with an RBI single to score junior catcher Amy Hooks.

Bennett and Hooks also added an RBI each in the next inning to push the Texas lead to four. The Bears threatened the Horns in the fifth inning when they advanced a runner to third, but pitcher Blaire Luna used one of her twelve strikeouts to end the inning. A solo shot from junior Shelby Savony in the sixth inning and another Bennett RBI completed the run production on the night. Freshman right fielder Taylor Hoagland went one-for-three with two runs for the Longhorns.

Luna moved her record as a Longhorn to 28-6 with the win and didn't allow a hit until the sixth inning. She finished the night with only two hits allowed in her complete game performance.

"I just came in and did what I needed to do," Luna said. "If you're recruited to Texas, you're expected to win. I just feel like I came in and did what I was supposed to."

Clark is proud of her team's assertive approach to the season and how they haven't let small bumps in the road interfere with their goal of winning the Big 12.

This group has had a pretty business-like approach all year," Clark said. "The talk at practice this week was just about us taking care of business. We wanted [the title] outright."

The list of goals for the Longhorns does not end at clinching the regular season title, though. The Longhorns hope to bring their best in the last home stand of the season on Sunday and Monday against No. 10 Georgia.

UT Remembers

Friday, May 7, 2010

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2-3 p.m. UT Remembers Service, Tower Garden

Tower Lighting: Darkened Tower Dusk to Dawn

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

GOLF: Horns need a top eight finish to advance

From page 7

golf career representing the Cardinal and said she knows the course better than any other in

The team is also benefiting from having Richards back in the mix after she missed the Big 12 Championships to attend to an illness in the family. Richards said while it's great to be back, she is proud of how the girls handled the adversity.

"They need to feel like they can execute shots whether you're standing there or not," Richards said. "That's what they did, and I was proud of them."

Because of the larger-than-usual field of 24 teams in the regional tournament, half of the teams WHAT: NCAA West Regional WHERE: Stanford Golf Course, (Stanford, Calif.)

WHEN: All day

play in the morning, while the second half play in the afternoon. The Longhorns start today's round at 2 p.m. local time.

The team is fighting for a berth in the NCAA Women's Golf Championships, which will take place at the end of the month, as the top eight teams in the regional tournament will advance. Since Richards took the helm of the program in 2007, the Horns have advanced to the championships both years.



Shannon Kintner | Daily Texan Staff

Texas freshman Desiree Dubreuil reads the green at the Betsy Rawls Women's Golf Invitational on March 28.

BASEBALL: Shepherd enters road series with a 15-game hit streak

From page 7

win over Prairie View A&M, they racked up their eighth shutout of the season.

While Texas' bats have certainly cooled off since its 38-4 three-game beatdown of Oklahoma State two weekends ago, first baseman Tant Shepherd has been heating up. Shepherd enters tonight's game riding a 15-game hit streak that stretches all the way back to Texas' 10-4 win over Kansas, when he went 2-4 with a double and a home run.

Shepherd has posted a .483 average fun with it."

and 13 RBI.

But even with a 15-game hit streak, a 21-game win streak and the potential to have home field advantage through the first two rounds of the NCAA tournament, Texas is still just looking at the game right in front of it.

"We just got to take it one at a time," Moldenhauer said. "Not get too pleased with how things have been going this past month, and keep going out there and playing the game of baseball and not playing your opponent. Just enjoy the During his career-long streak, game. Play the game and just have

Center attempts to boost community involvement

5604 Manor offers room for public, gains support from local organizations

> By Bobby Longoria **Daily Texan Staff**

As person-to-person contact becomes rarer with the ubiquity of social media and Internet networking, a community center emphasizing the re-establishment of personal contact and community organizations, opened Thursday evening.

The creation of 5604 Manor was a joint effort between the Workers Defense Project, Third Coast Activist Resource Center and Third Coast Workers for Cooperation, who all sought a location that could foster community relations and political advocacy collaborations. Several offices for nonprofit groups, a room for community culture and educational events, as well as an outdoor garden and social area, will be housed at the center.

"In a world where so many people live online, we forget that real political activity happens in person, in contact — in human spaces," said UT journalism professor Robert Jensen, who is on the board of directors of the Third Coast Activist Resource Center. "It's incredibly important these days for people to come together. The best political movements are those that incorporate all the aspects of our lives. Social and recreational with political organizing, food and outdoor activities — all of these things are crucial."

The building was purchased by the three nonprofit groups in October, and since then, it has been renovated with the help of Workers Defense Project members. Jensen said improvements in the future include a new sign for the



Xue-li Rojas-Tang listens to speakers Robert Jensen and Christina Tzintzún discuss the 5604 Manor community center and the positive effects it will have for the Austin community.

unit, a PA and several resources members, said project director to develop the backyard community gardens.

As of now, the center has ofwell as for a fourth group, Austin Voices. Austin Voices provides support for low-income families and their children who necessary because it brings tomay be at risk of not progressing through school as a result of housing or family issues.

"We are excited to be here because we think there are some for the first time, this is a space good opportunities for collaboration with the other groups that are located here," said Amy Averett, founder and executive director of Austin Voices. "We suspect we work with a lot of the same families, and we might be tower. able to tackle education issues they might be having."

The center will provide space for community gatherings and meetings for Austin Voices, as well as the Workers Defense Project, which up until this point has been confined to small meeting spaces that This community center allows center, an outdoor portable room hardly fit all the of the group's us to connect with each other."

Cristina Tzintzún.

The project will offer English as a Second Language classes, fices for the three groups as child care and youth programs and workers' rights classes held at the center, Tzintzún said.

"This community center is gether the broad progressive community," she said. "We consider Latino immigrants part of the progressive community, and that makes it for everyone.

The center provides an opportunity for community members to work together and produce quality work, said activist and radio personality Jim High-

"When we are together as the people of 5406 Manor, we create house of the people," Hightower said. "It's so important to bring the community together because separate, we can't make a difference, but together, we can make a powerful difference.

Awards recognize academic efforts

Silver Spurs association hands out fellowships to liberal arts professors

> By Hannah Jones **Daily Texan Staff**

A UT group recognized several professors by presenting them with monetary awards Wednesday and Thursday as an incentive to continue their hard work within their fields.

The Silver Spurs Alumni Association, the student service organization that cares for Bevo, gave out their 21st annual Endowed Teaching Fellowship award to four liberal arts professors, who each received \$6,000 for their own use. The funding came from the proceeds of selling mini-replica bronze statues of Bevo outside of the Frank Erwin Center.

Members of the Spurs compiled a list of nominations. Officers, fellowship chairmen and other University representatives voted for Germanic studies

ernment professor Robert Moser, American studies professor Elizabeth Engelhardt and English and women's studies professor Lisa Moore to receive the award.

The president, vice president and treasurer of the Silver Spurs hand-delivered the certificates to each professor in the middle of class and to Moore during her office hours.

Engelhardt said she was surprised and caught off guard when the officers announced to her class that the organization had nominated her.

"It was great to be able to share that experience with my students," Engelhardt said. "Anything that brings the staff, faculty and students together as a community is good for the University of Texas. This is a bigger honor than something only decided on by my peers.

Jon Saperstein, president of the Silver Spurs and a history senior, said that some professors do not

professor Kirsten Belgum, gov- receive enough recognition. He also said the organization will change the requirements for the award next year to include nontenured professors and professors on the tenure track, as well as rely more heavily on student input.

These professors put in the same effort and have the same amount of passion as more prolific professors," said Tyler Goldberg, Silver Spurs treasurer and a finance junior. "Some professors might be more willing to leave the University if they do not feel wanted."

Lisa Moore said she was especially excited to receive an award from the Silver Spurs because of her love of caring for horses and animals.

"I say kudos to the Silver Spurs for giving their award to a women's studies professor. Since they are an all-male organization, I think that is a very nice gesture," Moore said. "I have been lucky enough to make my vocation my avocation."



Amanda Martin | Daily Texan Staff

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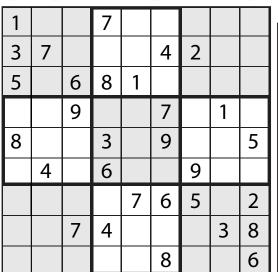
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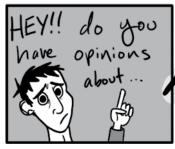




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37 Not even

consider

Across 1 Certain fricassee 34 Deep red

- 9 Around-theworld race 15 Teetotaler's
- order 16 "Would you mind 40 Like pirates
- ...?" 17 Special
- communication 19 It's not exact: Abbr.
- point while flying 21 Sacred Buddhist mountain
- 22 Dakota relative 24 Starts occupying 27 Special communication
- 28 On deck 29 Cause of some shaking, for
- short 30 "Pay
- Down 1 Small part

2 1905 revolt

3 Virgin Blue rival

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information

7 Big Italian daily

film version of

9 Get a move on

10 It increased to

4¢ per oz. in

1958

11 Home to

MetroZoo

setting

4 Check

Abbr.

5 Gas bill

6 Low point

59 Spin out on

wheels?

60 "Funeral Blues"

poet and family

32 King-high games 58 Philosophies

38 One picking up a 61 In a tight spot

- lot 41 Set to go off, as a bomb
- 42 Where Ia Croix-Rouge is headquartered 44 Radical 1970s
- 20 They come to a grp. 47 Rumble in the Jungle strategy
 - 49 Cherry alternative
 - 51 Become wearisome 52 Important Indian 54 It may be exact:
 - Abbr. 55 One who keeps giving you the
 - business?
- ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE
- REARRANGED I V A N MIXESDIGEST INFIDEL DECADES 25 Cut out S | L | T | E | D | C | I | N | E | M | A | A | A | L | I | E | N | P | A | V | E | I | R | A | E | A | L | P | T | O | R | N | A | D | O | O | C | S | C A F E P O T S P O U T S
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Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0402

50 Like some help

53 "Mi casa

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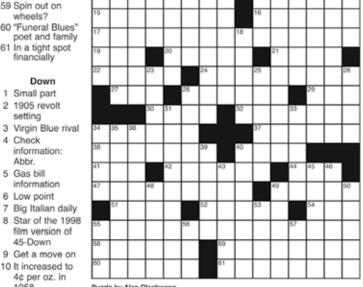
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CHEF: Old School menu hard to master

From page 12

dining establishments in the past. "Back in the day, when you were going out, it was a big deal,"

he said. "It wasn't the norm. We wanted to take it back to that. People can make more money. They can't make more time."

No, the stand isn't fancy — a single plastic picnic table usually sits outside the bus at its East Martin Luther King location. But Parrott says the commitment to quality and involvement with the UT community sets it apart.

They found the bus (known as "Big Mama") in Kentucky, the state from which Cook hails, and had it outfitted with the grill by a welder from San Marcos. But finding the right location was a bit harder. They spent some time in North Austin, which "looks like a thousand other places," Parrott ly on word of mouth and limited

said. The South Austin area was "a little too tourist-y." They then set up briefly off of Montopolis Drive before settling into their current East Austin location.

"I wanted something a little more funky," Parrott said.

Cook said Old School was immediately embraced by the neighborhood.

You do something on this side, everybody takes you in," he said.

The school bus barbecue is only the first project Parrott has planned for Austin, while he figures out what type of business is likely to do best. Eventually, he envisions a brick-and-mortar location connected to the bus. He has five different concepts in the works and said that each one might have its own mobile bus with a permanent location to operate from.

So far, the bus has relied most-

publicity to advertise its product. Until its website is operational,

Old School relies on its Facebook page to keep fans updated on its movement. The bus usually sits at its East Side location at 2907 E. Martin Luther King Blvd. from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. But the school bus regularly picks up and heads to special events like the UT Polo Competition and serves staff and players at UT baseball events and the

occasional house party. Cook was the general manager of four Domino's Pizza franchises in Kentucky but had no previous experience working as a chef in restaurants before catching on with Parrott's project.

He said he has been around food his whole life but has found mastering Parrott's menu challenging.

"It's a lot of repetition," he said.

"Everything's got to be perfect. It took me about three months, and I'm still not totally there yet."

In the meantime, Parrott says he is enjoying the project more than anything he has worked on in the past 20 years.

"A lot of it was for my son and for Trey, to show them how to build a restaurant and not lose your heart doing it," he said. "We just get to see our friends, is the way we look at it."

Several residents near the East Side location are such frequent patrons that Parrott knows what they'll order as soon as they cross the bridge. Others stop by just to talk about their days, girl problems or the parties they went to that weekend.

"I got into this because I loved people and I loved food," he said. 'You can't get any closer to your guests than this."

CHUCK: Author has 'little influence' on movies adapted from his novels

From page 12

was accused of making up portions of her life story in her memoirs.

'In our time, we think of James Frey, who changed his story to make it more interesting, but throughout history, people have done that," Palahniuk said. "It's something that we condemn because it is something that we ourselves do. We hate to acknowledge that we do it, so when we catch a public person doing it, we have to really condemn them.'

The core of Palahniuk's reputation relies on the consistent exploration of extreme and often taboo themes in his novels. Palahniuk does have a threshold for subjects he refuses to breach.

"Sex with children is something that is so ludicrous and distasteful that I wouldn't go there," Palahniuk said. Although he does admit to broaching this subject in "Haunted," a collection of short stories, the sexual acts depicted were "initiated by the child.'

Film versions of Palahniuk's novels "Fight Club" and "Choke"

Palahniuk, eight of his other novels are currently in various forms of production. "Pygmy" is the only one that has yet to be optioned for film adaptation.

Palahniuk said he has very little influence on the films.

"I have a lot of meetings and a lot of talks with the screenwriters and actors, but in a way, my job is to enable their vision," Palahiuk said. "I really would like to see what they're going to do with the material. I don't want to steer them too much, and they don't want to be steered."

In order to prepare for his next novel, "Damned," due to be released in 2011, Palahniuk is currently reading all of the classic young adult novels of Judy Blume.

"Yep, ask me anything about menstruation or my hymen," Palahniuk jokes. "The book is structurally based on 'Are You There God? It's me Margaret.' It's just such a classic, and it seemed to be the perfect form. The book itself uses a very 19th-century, Charles-Dickens form. So, in a way, Judy Blume is borrowing from Charles Dickens, have already been adapted for and I'm borrowing the same techthe big screen, and according to niques from Judy Blume."



Chuck Palahniuk's recently published 'Tell-All," a

satirical novel set in the Golden Age of Hollywood, mocks current society's obsession with celebrities.

Palahniuk

TOUR: Song lyrics come from real struggles

From page 12

inclusion on the soundtrack to "American Wedding." The band's big break came with 2004's platinum-selling "Foiled," an album that spawned "Hate Me" and "Into the Ocean," the band's biggest singles to date. Last year, they released Approaching Normal. Although Furstenfeld said the band's sets for the Pick Up The Phone Tour will feathe lowest points of his life, those same songs have begun to take on new meanings over time.

"It's not all dark and gloomy," he said. "A lot of the songs are about weeding out the negative people in your life and surrounding yourself with good people and standing up for what you believe in. Speak out when you want to speak out."

Along with the duties of the tour, Furstenfeld and the

speak on Capitol Hill for funding for suicide prevention efforts. But Furstenfeld's struggles and subsequent recovery led him to heal in the best way he knows how: writing. He's already written a new album that's waiting to be recorded once the tour finishes.

"It's a pretty schizophrenic album," he said. "It takes you through my travels of going through the hospital again ture songs he wrote at some of and everything that's going on in my head. It's not about record sales or anything like that. It's about being as honest as I can as a father and a husband and a person who wants to be a good role model. When you pull up a Wikipedia page and it says, you know, 'Justin Furstenfeld – depression,' I want to be known as a person who tries to help people, and that's what this next album is about."

Ask anyone who's seen a Blue band have also taken on a large October concert, and they'll tell people will want to hear what I

lobbying role, going so far as to you it's a passionate experience. No matter how many times Furstenfeld has sung a particular song, it becomes new with each and every play. It's as if the situation that sparked the tune's construction has happened anew, and Furstenfeld takes the listener with him in the process of dealing with it.

'I'm not writing songs about breaking up with a girlfriend or a lot of the other stuff you'll hear," Furstenfeld said. "I write about things like depression, which obviously I'm still going through if I black out in an airport when I'm 34 and have a child. I think 'Calling You' is one of the least depressing songs I've written, and I don't think it will touch people as much as 'Hate Me' did. That was right out of my heart, and I think people connected with it more because of that. As long as I keep being a human being and not a rock star,

have to say. And if they don't want to hear it, that's fine, too. But it's what I know how to do, and I'm going to keep doing it

The "I'm not a rock star" thread comes up a lot with Furstenfeld, and it's refreshing to see. He loves Blue October and is quick to talk about the band, but he's even quicker to talk about the overall goals of the Pick Up The Phone Tour, and for anyone who suffers or has suffered with depression, even if it's one negative thought, he has a simple message.

"It gets better. I promise it gets better," he said. "Go be with someone who loves you. At that moment, whether it's 3 a.m. or not, just be with that person who loves you, because when it's three in the morning and it's just you, you don't know shit, and you can't think about anything. But, I promise, I swear, it gets better."

Show spotlights Texan photographers



Danielle Villasana | Daily Texan Staff

The Daily Texan photo show on Sunday will feature the work of 26 staff photographers. The show is free of charge, and most of the prints are for sale.

Daily Texan photographers will offer a glimpse of individuality in the Daily Texan photo show, House of Images — featuring images from photographers' personal collections — Sunday night.

"It's kind of liberating to have your personal work in a show," Daily Texan photo editor Sara Young said. "You get to express some kind of idea to the audience or show your style a little more."

The show offers the photographers a chance to escape the confines of news and explore the realm of art and offers the community an opportunity to experience new and personal takes on life.

"It's interesting to see different peoples' perspectives — that's the point of viewing photography," Young said. "It's about learning something either about a subject or about yourself because you're forced to think about the photo."

Young said viewing images in a gallery promises a more personal

experience. Food and drinks will be available at the show, which runs from 5 to 8 p.m. at 5325 Sendero Hills Parkway. Most of the pieces are available for purchase. For more information, visit dtphotoshow.com.

- Ben Wermund



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Old School Barbecue prides itself on being an authentic barbecue outlet for the East Austin community, serving slow-cooked brisket and pure beef burgers. Austin residents Kyra McCarthy, Shawn Tyson and their dog Lilly visit the bus at its location off of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

City chef goes from riches to rags

By Andrew Kreighbaum **Daily Texan Staff**

Dan Parrott had reached about every goal he could have in the restaurant business. The European-trained chef was bringing in big paychecks working in some of the finest restaurants in Los Angeles.

His latest project in California was Wurstkuche, a gourmet sausage grill in downtown Los Angeles. Before that, he worked at the Cadillac Bar, a Tex-Mex restaurant in Manhattan. He's been the general manager and director of purchasing at T.G.I. Friday's and

the food and beverage director of BBQ & Grill was born. The con- was making mad money doing Hard Rock Cafe. His resume in-verted yellow school bus that cludes work at 56 restaurants.

But Parrott felt that he had lost touch with why he got into the a common site in East Austin restaurant business in the first place — making great food and interacting with customers.

So, almost a year ago, he moved to Austin to set up a new business that would allow him to do just that. He settled on the idea of a mobile kitchen to test the waters of the Austin restaurant scene before establishing a more permanent presence.

Nine months later, Old School I'm stuck in there," he said. "I

houses the kitchen and cooker for the mobile restaurant is now and at many UT-related events. The business is run by Parrott; his son, Danny; and Trey Cook, whose brother was a roommate of Dan's in California. Together,

The move back to Texas was natural for Parrott, a Dallas native.

they have 55 years of restaurant

"I needed it. I felt like my soul was getting to the point where

what I was doing, and just not feeling food."

The city already has more than 600 registered mobile food vendors. But Parrott wasn't convinced the barbecue he had tried in Austin was that great. And, he brags, they've got the best burger in town — a big, tender patty topped with melted cheese, caramelized onions and tomatoes.

The Old School moniker comes from a commitment to quality that Parrott says was a fixture of

CHEF continues on page 11

Palahniuk dishes about inspiration for 'tell-all' novel

By Kate Ergenbright

Daily Texan Staff

What is there to say about Chuck Palahniuk that hasn't already been said? To fans, he's a literary genius with a considerable cult following and an innate ability to tap into the dark side of human nature. To critics, he's a literary shock jock writing about taboo subjects simply to incite extreme reactions from readers.

Although Palahniuk has written 10 books since publishing his first novel, "Fight Club," in 1996, he doesn't consider himself a workaholic.

"I just love to write. It's funny how we don't have a term for a playaholic, because that would be more applicable to me," Palahniuk said.

His latest novel, "Tell-All," is written in a format similar to the gossip columns of the 1940s with celebrity names highlighted in boldface type. "Tell-All" is the story of Hazie Coogan, the faithful, paid companion of the magnificent but fading film star Katherine Kenton. Set in the Golden Age of Hollywood, "Tell-All" satirizes modern culture's obsession with celebrities and their torrid affairs.

Palahniuk was inspired to write "Tell-All" while promoting the film adaptation of his novel "Choke," which was released in 2008 and starred Sam Rockwell and Anjelica Huston.

"Sam Rockwell and I were just talking at lunch one day, and he was telling me about shooting the Jesse James movie with Brad Pitt, and he suddenly stopped himself and said, 'Listen to me. All I'm saying is blah, blah, blah, Brad Pitt blah, blah, blah, Brad

Pitt.' It's like he had some namedropping form of Tourette's syndrome. It was really funny to hear a celebrity become very self-conscious about name-dropping," Palahniuk said.

Palahniuk found inspiration for the unusual relationship between the glamorous Katherine Kenton and her faithful servant Hazie Coogan while attending the Sundance Film Festival.

"There were all these beautifully groomed female movie stars, and no one was carrying a purse," Palahniuk said. "They were just these beautiful detached things wandering in the landscape being photographed. But always about 10 or 12 steps behind them would be a very sort of mousy and slightly overweight girl, like a female pack mule, carrying the burden of all the things that make a beautiful woman beautiful."

To write "Tell-All," Palahniuk researched 1930s and '40s gossip columns to use "as a structural blueprint" for the novel's unique format. Palahniuk also read countless biographies of female movie stars to create the character of Katherine Kenton.

Palahniuk set "Tell-All" in Hollywood's Golden Age partially so he could use the names of deceased celebrities and avoid the possibility of being sued for libel or slander. For example, playwright Lillian Hellman, author of "The Children's Hour" and "Toys in the Attic," makes an appearance in "Tell-All."

"She was just incredible," Palahniuk said of Hellman. In addition to writing plays, Hellman

CHUCK continues on page 11



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Courtesy of Blue October

Blue October's current tour is aimed at suicide prevention and bringing awareness to mental illness and

Lead singer shares mental recovery

By Robert Rich Daily Texan Staff

Last year, Blue October was preparing for a lengthy nationwide tour aimed at suicide prevention and bringing awareness to mental illness and depression. And then, in the cruelest of ironies, vocalist Justin Furstenfeld, who has battled with mental health issues for much of his life, passed out in an airport in Minneapolis and landed in a mental hospital. The incident happened in October.

"I thought I was at a strong place, and then all of the personal stuff I was going through hit me, and I just came to a halt," Furstenfeld said. "Everyone with depression knows you never know what's going to happen. I learned more about the bipolar illness I've been struggling with, and I found ways to deal with it. I've got a 3-year-old daughter at home, and I knew it was time to just close it down and focus on what's going on."

One thing he knew for sure, however, was that when he got back on his feet, the tour would be reinstated and take its message of hope and support for sufferers of mental diseases to as many people as possible. Sponsored by 1-800-SUICIDE, To

Write Love on Her Arms and PostSecret, each concert on the Pick Up The Phone Tour, as it has been named, will feature booths set up to allow guests to talk with counselors about the devastating, and often uncertain,

"The thing about depression is that it strips away all of your will to even talk about the things that are going on," Furstenfeld said. "We're trying to let people call in or talk to someone and get some help before it gets to that point where they don't know what to do."

Although Blue October often fits snugly in the "love them or hate them" category, Furstenfeld is one of the most intense and passionate front men in rock, mainly because of his lyrics. He is not shy when it comes to writing about the problems he's suffered with, and the sheer rawness and emotional honesty of his songs have played a large part in garnering the band their enormous fan base. But Furstenfeld is quick to point out this doesn't make him a rock star. He doesn't want to be a rock star; he wants to connect with every one of his listeners, fan of the band or mainstream acceptance after its not, on a deeper level.

"You know, I wake up

WHAT: Pick Up The Phone Tour featuring Blue October

WHERE: Stubb's Outdoor

WHEN: Doors open at 7 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m.

TICKETS: \$35

every morning just like everybody else, and I have all these medicines I have to take, and I hear things that aren't there," Furstenfeld said. "But we're gonna stick together through all of it, and I want to speak out about it and just say that if you're feeling these negative things or going through these struggles, talk about them. I may come across preachy, but it's for a damn good cause, and I want people to know that."

Formed in Houston in 1995, Blue October quickly found popularity with the college crowd and toured the Southwest for the majority of their early career. After an up-and-down jaunt with Universal Records, the band was dropped and quickly resigned based on the success of "Calling You," a song that found

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