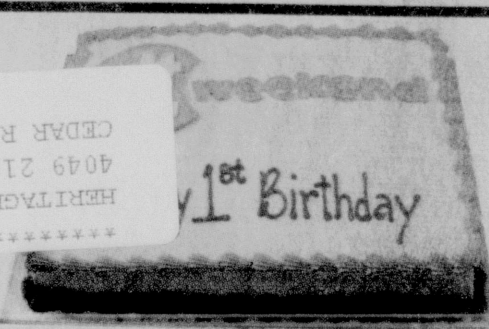




SPORTS PAGE 1B

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competition drives him



DT WEEKEND • INSIDE  
The moustache that  
shocked a nation  
'Borat' follows trend  
of controversial films

LIFE & ARTS PAGE 8B  
Season change brings  
new winter fashions  
Layering key in adjusting  
trends to Austin climate



# THE DAILY TEXAN

Thursday, November 2, 2006

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## UT System student regent sets precedent

Successor needs broad perspective, Haley says

By Jessica Sondgeroth  
Daily Texan Staff

As Brian Haley enters the last leg of his term as the first UT System student regent, his potential replacements had their final opportunity to submit an application to student governments before they go to the System chancellor's office Wednesday.

UT System Chancellor Mark Yudof will select at least two applicants to recommend to the governor from a pool submitted by student governments at all UT student institutions, except the University. The next student regent cannot come from the same institution as the previous student regent.

Yudof will submit his student regent recommendations along with the applications to the governor by Dec. 1. The governor can

REGENTS continues on page 5A

## Automated red light enforcement up for vote

By Colleen Leahy  
Daily Texan Staff

The Austin City Council is expected to vote today on a plan that would allow the city to issue citations based on images captured by cameras placed on traffic signals.

The current law states that a witness must be present for a car owner to be charged with a civil offense. Automated red light enforcement would allow drivers to be charged without the presence of a witness and based solely on camera snapshots.

The Central Texas chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union held a press conference Wednesday at the City Hall Plaza to protest

CAMERAS continues on page 5A

### TOMORROW'S WEATHER

High

67

Low

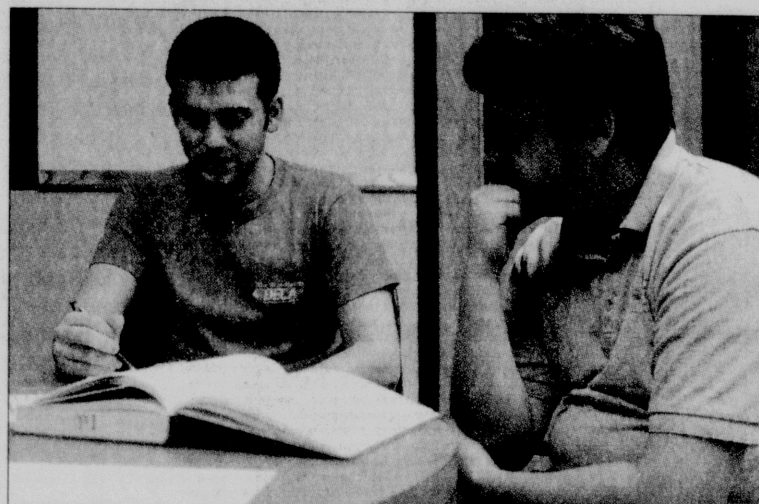
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No cake for  
you!

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25 cents

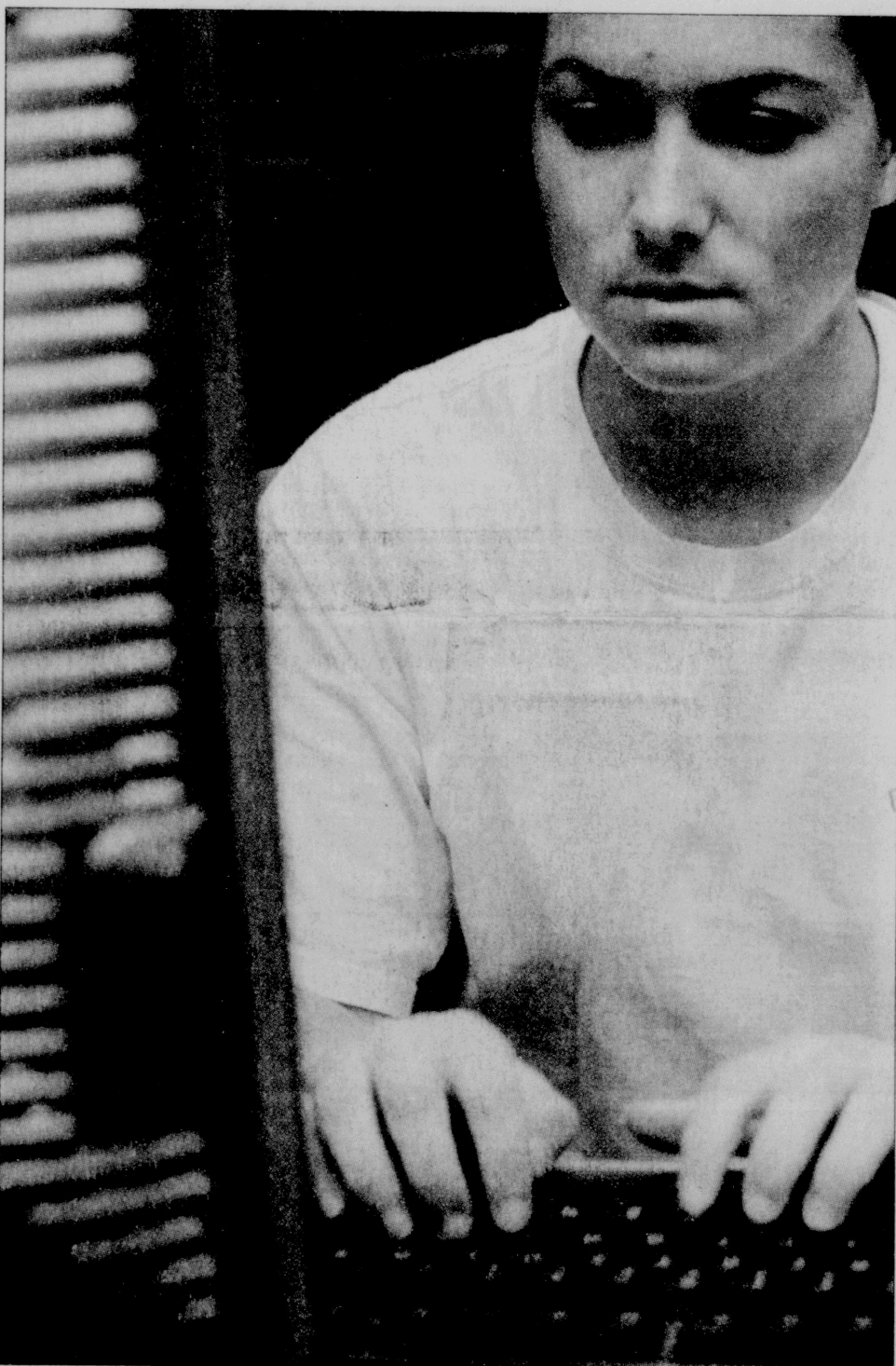
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David Price, right, helps David Rosen study physical sciences at the Academic Mentoring Center in L. Theo Belmont Hall on Monday afternoon.

Tri Vo  
Daily Texan Staff

## ATHLETES, ACADEMICS



Tri Vo | Daily Texan Staff

Soccer player Leslie Imber studies at one of the computer labs at the Academic Mentoring Center in L. Theo Belmont Hall Monday afternoon. Intercollegiate Athletics provides academic support for busy student athletes.

## Academic support for athletes a juggling act under scrutiny

By Ian Warren  
Daily Texan Staff

When Petra Dizdar came to the United States four years ago as a top tennis recruit, she intended to visit many colleges, but cancelled the rest of her trip after seeing UT.

Dizdar, a public relations senior from Split, Croatia, said the tradition, pride, academic reputation and family environment at UT all contributed to the comfort she felt in Austin. She decided to accept a full scholarship and became a Texas Longhorn in 2003.

Speaking English as a second language, Dizdar said she had a very difficult first semester. However, Intercollegiate Athletics' academic support system taught her time management, personal accountability and study skills and provided her with tutors, advisers, academic mentors and other tools necessary for success.

Academic support for athletes is often criticized on campus. Some students complain that athletes receive too much assistance, claiming they are guaranteed passing grades and preferential treatment, such as advance copies of tests. At the same time, many professors condemn athletes for having low grade point averages and for coasting through the easiest classes offered.

### A day in her shoes

UT tennis player Petra Dizdar's daily schedule:

7:30 a.m.: Wake up

8 a.m.: Report to the training room for strengthening exercises and a checkup with medical trainers

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.: Class

1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.: Practice

4 p.m. - 5 p.m.: Weightlifting and conditioning

5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.: Works at her internship or studies in the academic support center at Belmont Hall

Source: Petra Dizdar

UT athletics will also come under the scrutiny of the National Collegiate Athletic Association this year, as it undergoes a certification process that all Division I universities must submit to every 10 years. Over the next 18 months, the NCAA will inspect UT's academic integrity, student-athlete well-being,

ATHLETE continues on page 2A

## 27 miles of toll road open today



Natasha Hill waves cars through one of the new tollbooths on Loop 1 Wednesday afternoon. Use of the toll roads in the Central Texas Turnpike System will be free of charge until January 2007, when the toll roads are expected to be finished.

Eby Harvey  
Daily Texan Staff

Turnpikes aim to ease traffic, will be free to public until Jan.

By Paige Cantrell  
Daily Texan Staff

The three toll roads collectively called the Central Texas Turnpike System, designed to alleviate traffic headaches in Austin, officially open today.

Twenty-seven miles of the turnpike system are open, but eventually the three toll roads will complete a 65-mile system, said Marcus Cooper, spokesman for the Texas Department of Transportation, which developed the toll road project. Partial sections of the roads opened Tuesday and Wednesday. The toll roads will be free to the public until Jan. 5, Cooper said. After Jan. 5, toll charges will be between 75 cents and \$1.50.

The turnpike system includes: State Highway 130, running perpendicular to I-35 from Hutto to Round Rock; State Highway 45, an east-to-west route in north Travis County that will connect Interstate 35, Loop 1 and the new SH 130; and an extension of Loop 1 to SH 45, Cooper said.

SH 130 will eventually extend from north of Georgetown to south of Seguin and will take two to three years at to complete, Cooper said.

The toll roads aim to relieve congestion and move traffic more effectively, Cooper said.

"None of us want to be sitting in traffic when we could be productive or be spending time with our families," he said.

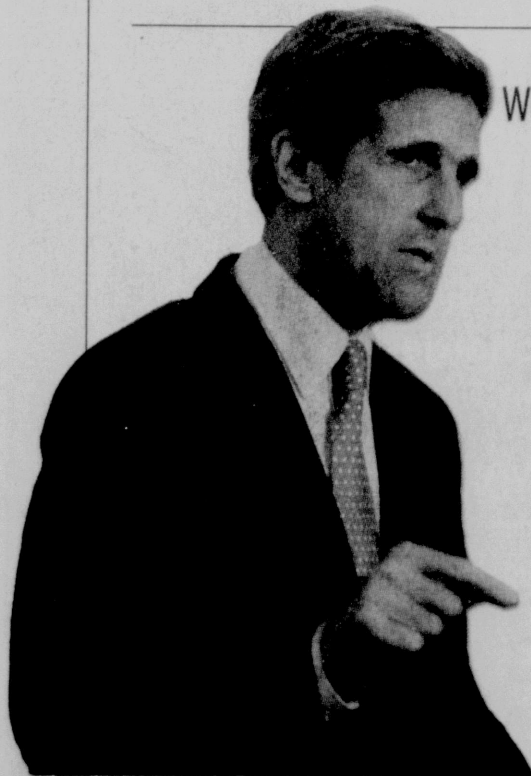
"I haven't driven on them, and I do not plan on purchasing a tag or driving on them daily," said Cody Kalmbach, a UT computer sciences freshman who commutes from Pflugerville. He said he thinks the toll roads will benefit him because they will divert traffic from the main roads he normally uses.

Getting to class on time is even more difficult for students who commute, he said. The traffic makes the trip daunting, Kalmbach said.

"I have to leave my house a couple hours before my classes start just to get there on time," Kalmbach said. "And part of that time is just sitting in traffic for about 45 minutes to an hour."

Kalmbach said one deterrent from using the turnpike system regularly is the expense. He said he thinks the toll road will eventually become just as crowded as the regular highways.

"We are still crunching numbers, but we are a year ahead of schedule, and we are 350 million under the \$4 billion budget," Cooper said.



WORLD & NATION  
PAGE 3A

Kerry  
apologizes  
for remark  
against  
troops

Move timed  
to quell  
controversy  
before  
midterm  
elections





## Around Campus today

**SCREENING: "L'ULTIMO BACIO,"** 8 p.m., MEZ B0.306. Il Circolo Italiano presents "The Last Kiss" (2001) in Italian with English subtitles.

**RESEARCH INTEGRITY: BEYOND PLAGIARISM, FABRICATION AND FALSIFICATION,** 12 p.m. - 1 p.m., NUR 2.104F. Marion Broome, Ph.D., the editor of Nursing Outlook, will present current thinking and empirical research on research integrity and scientific misconduct will be discussed. Reports from individuals involved in research, as well as those who regulate the research enterprise, will be presented and challenges for the future identified.

**NST BUILDING OPENING CEREMONY,** 5:45 p.m. - 8 p.m., NST. Tour the new Nano Science and Technology Building. Following the ceremony, Paul Barbara will give a public lecture titled, "Nanotechnology: Solutions for Societies Greatest Technological Challenges" in Welch 2.224.

**ALTERNATIVE IMPROVISATION MUSIC ENSEMBLE,** 8 p.m., Bates Recital Hall. The free performance will feature new works by: Dave Renter, Connor Brace, Tommy Poole, Kris Afflerbaugh and UT professor John Fremgen. The concert will also be webcast via the School of Music site [www.music.utexas.edu](http://www.music.utexas.edu).

**TANIA PÉREZ-SALAS COMPAÑIA DE DANZA,** 8 p.m., Hogg Memorial Auditorium. Visually inventive and theatrically arresting, the dances of Tania Pérez-Salas change how we think about contemporary dance. \$10 student tickets available.

Find more listings at [www.dailytexanonline.com](http://www.dailytexanonline.com).

To submit your event to this calendar, send your information to [aroundcampus@dailytexanonline.com](mailto:aroundcampus@dailytexanonline.com) or call 471-4591.

**BEN BARNES SPEAKS,** 3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m., GEB 3.312. The former Texas lieutenant governor and speaker of the house will speak about his new book "Barn Burning, Barn Building: Tales of a Political Life from LBJ to George W. Bush and Beyond."

**APPLYING BUDDHISM IN YOUR DAILY LIFE,** 7 p.m., MEZ 1.120. Introduction to Nichiren Buddhism and introductory meeting of the SGI-USA Student Group. Snacks and drinks provided. See <http://utdirect.utexas.edu/dsorg/detail.wb?code=02923> for more information.

**SCREENING: "LOST IN TRANSLATION,"** 7 p.m., UTC 4.112. Hosted by AIESEC, there will also be free sushi and lecture by Deirdre Mendez on Japanese business etiquette.

**THE ABCs OF STIs CLASS,** 1 p.m. - 2 p.m., SSB 2.204. Provided by University Health Services. Call 475-8252 to register.

**PROJECT OPPORTUNITY,** 8 p.m., BEN 1.122. Project Opportunity is a student organization that aims to identify social problems that lead to poverty. Through a strong community outreach, we help research poverty problems, create and propose policy solutions and provide better opportunities for others through community service events.

**INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS,** 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., Parlin 306. Regular meeting open to the public. Discussion of current events and social movements.

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### CONTACT US

**Main Telephone:**  
(512) 471-4591

**Editor:**  
JJ Hermes  
(512) 232-2212  
[editor@dailytexanonline.com](mailto:editor@dailytexanonline.com)

**Managing Editor:**  
Zachary Warmbrodt  
(512) 232-2217  
[managingeditor@dailytexanonline.com](mailto:managingeditor@dailytexanonline.com)

**News Office:**  
(512) 232-2207  
[news@dailytexanonline.com](mailto:news@dailytexanonline.com)

**Web Office:**  
(512) 471-8616  
[online@dailytexanonline.com](mailto:online@dailytexanonline.com)

**Sports Office:**  
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(512) 232-2209  
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### GOLF ODDITIES

#### Tip leads to warehouse of counterfeit golf gear

SAN CLEMENTE, Calif. — A raid on a warehouse yielded more than 1,000 high-end counterfeit golfing items that were offered for sale over the Internet, a sheriff's official said.

The clubs, golf bags and other items are marked with such names as Titleist, Cleveland and Callaway golfing equipment, said Jim Amormino, a spokesman for the Orange County Sheriff's Department.

About 20 investigators seized about \$500,000 worth of gear Tuesday after acting on a tip, Amormino said. Thousands of items were believed to have already been sold over the auction site [eBay.com](http://eBay.com), Amormino said.

No one has been arrested, but the investigation was continuing, he said.

#### Golfer sues teammate over use of prize money

SAN ANTONIO — A golfer who made a hole-in-one last month at a charity golf tournament and won \$50,000 is being sued by a teammate over how the money should be spent.

Brit Martin was recruited by Mike Neutze to play on a four-man team in a September tournament at Comanche Trace Golf Course. Neutze, who sponsored the team, picked Martin to try his swing at the hole-in-one competition.

Before the ball dropped in, the two hadn't discussed what would become of the prize.

Martin sank it and said he wants to use the money to jump-start his dream of becoming a pro golfer.

Neutze said in court filings he wants the team to split the prize with the Kerrville Professional Firefighters Association, the event's organizer. He argued that he should decide who gets the money because he was a major sponsor of the 9-11 Golf Tournament and his position made Martin eligible to take the shot.

Martin hasn't yet received the check. A court hearing is set for Friday.

Compiled from Associated Press reports

## ATHLETE: Support builds personal responsibility

From page 1A

commitment to equity and commitment to rules compliance.

UT President William Powers said he is heading the effort to prepare a self-study of the University for the NCAA. He said he is confident the University will be accredited.

"The experience of student-athletes at UT is primarily an academic one, and everyone involved with athletics, including coaches and athletic directors, is devoted to that," Powers said.

Dizdar said juggling academics with 20 hours of practice per week and the individual responsibilities of an athlete, including conditioning and physical therapy, proves very challenging.

Randa Ryan, senior associate athletic director, has the responsibility of making this juggling act flow smoothly. She is in charge of academic support for every UT sport except football.

She said her work begins as soon as an athlete signs a letter of intent to play for UT. The first steps are to work with the student to set up a schedule, buy textbooks and outline what is expected of them. Student-athletes then meet with their academic advisers — master's and doctoral students at UT. These advisers help athletes create an overall plan for the coming semester. They learn to plan their calendars around sports, to be proactive with their professors and to use all of the campus resources, Ryan said.

Once the semester begins, new student-athletes are required to attend structured study halls with tutors on hand. Ryan emphasized how full athletes' schedules are. They are often busy from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., she said.

"Our work makes a tremendous difference, especially for freshmen who are making a transition to college and developing their academic focus," Ryan said.

The goal of academic support is not to create an isolated environment for student-athletes, but to move toward personal responsibility, she said. The number of years each student-athlete is required to spend in a structured learning environment is based on his or her academic progress. Some athletes are more independent and take matters into their own hands after one year, while others take full advantage of the services for all four years, she said.

"This is not about good or bad students. It is about each student-athlete's individual comfort level with his or her

academic situation," Ryan said.

Both Ryan and Dizdar denied the notion that student-athletes receive unfair assistance. No one writes papers for them, and no one gives them copies of tests in advance, they said.

Assistant Athletic Director Brian Davis supervises academic support for football players. He said football is independent of the other sports, partially because of the program's size: 130 men, with 85 on full scholarship. Davis said academic support for football players is very similar to the support available to other athletes, with a focus on life skills and "learning how to do college."

To help freshman football players prepare for a hectic first semester and season, the football program recently instituted a rule requiring all incoming freshmen to take summer classes prior to arriving in the fall, he said.

According to the Intercollegiate Athletics Faculty Council report, the average grade point average for a UT football player is 2.55.

Davis said the department strives to make the college experience of a student-athlete like that of every other student, but acknowledged that it can sometimes be difficult.

That is one of the criticisms Thomas Palaima, a classics professor, has of athletics.

"When the athletic department has student-athletes most of the day, it is hard to imagine how a student-athlete can approximate a normal student's experience," he said.

Palaima questioned whether student-athletes gain one of the most important skills a college student learns: how to self-manage life as an adult. He pointed to UT's low standing in athlete-graduation rates and to the fact that the Faculty Council has not reviewed the athletic department's budget once in the last six years as major problems.

He called for more serious coordination between academics and athletics and said UT needs to rethink its priorities.

Powers defended the role of athletics at UT, saying that although academics are a student's first priority, what goes on outside the classroom is also an important part of the college experience. He said athletics plays an important part in creating camaraderie between students, faculty and alumni.

"In campuses across the nation, it's an important issue that athletics be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the academic and research missions of the university," Powers said.

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## WORLD BRIEFLY

### North Korea returns to talks to regain bank access

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea said Wednesday it was returning to nuclear disarmament talks to get access to its frozen overseas bank accounts, a vital source of hard currency.

The North's Foreign Ministry made only indirect mention of its underground nuclear test last month. Instead, it focused in an official statement on its desire to end U.S. financial restrictions by going back to six-nation arms talks that it has boycotted for a year.

Confirming other nations' reports of the Tuesday agreement, the Foreign Ministry said Pyongyang decided to return to negotiations "on the premise that the issue of lifting financial sanctions will be discussed and settled between the [North] and the U.S. within the framework of the six-party talks."

### Attacks continue after U.S. ends blockade of Sadr City

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Gunmen abducted a top Iraqi basketball official and a blind athletic coach, both Sunnis, on Wednesday, a day after U.S. and Iraqi forces lifted a blockade on Baghdad's Shiite militia stronghold of Sadr City.

The attack took place at a youth club on relatively prosperous Palestine Street in eastern Baghdad near the Sadr City district, which is controlled by anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr's Mahdi Army. The militia has been linked to scores of abductions and torture killings of Sunnis.

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki ordered military roadblocks dismantled Tuesday around the sprawling slum of 2.5 million. Al-Maliki acted under pressure from al-Sadr, whose political faction is a key part of the governing coalition.

A total of 105 American service members died in Iraq in October, the fourth deadliest month since the Iraq war began in March 2003.

Compiled from Associated Press reports

# Kerry apologizes to U.S. forces

By David Espo  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Fearful of damaging his own party in next week's elections, Sen. John Kerry apologized Wednesday to "any service member, family member or American" offended by remarks deemed by Republicans and Democrats to be insulting to U.S. forces in Iraq.

Six days before the election, the Democrats' 2004 presidential nominee said he wanted to avoid becoming a distraction in the final days of the battle for control of Congress. He added he sincerely regretted that his words were "misinterpreted to imply anything negative about those in uniform."

In a brief statement, Kerry attacked President Bush for a "failed security policy." Yet his apology, issued after prominent Democrats had urged him to cancel public appearances, was designed to quell a controversy that party leaders feared would stall their drive for big gains on Nov. 7.

With polls showing the public opposed to the war in Iraq,



George Widman | Associated Press

Surrounded by supportive veterans, Democratic congressional challenger Joe Sestak, right, arrives with Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., center, at a campaign stop in Radnor, Pa., on Thursday, Oct. 26.

Democrats have expressed increasing optimism in recent days that they will gain the 15 seats they need to win control of the House. Democrats must pick up six seats to win the Senate, a taller challenge, and both parties made last-minute efforts to increase the

number of competitive races.

For the Democratic senatorial committee, that meant pumping about \$1 million into an Arizona race long thought out of reach. For the counterpart Republican committee, it meant a foray into Maryland, also viewed as an

unlikely state to pick up a seat.

Kerry beat a grudging retreat in his return to the national campaign spotlight. Earlier, on the radio program "Imus in the Morning," the Massachusetts senator said he was "sorry about a botched joke" about Bush. He heaped praise on the troops, adamantly accused Republicans of twisting his words and said it was the commander in chief and his aides who "owe America an apology for this disaster in Iraq."

Democrats cringed, though, at the prospect of the Massachusetts senator becoming the face of the party for the second consecutive campaign. "No one wants to have the 2004 election replayed," said Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., like Kerry, a potential contender for the 2008 nomination.

Two days ago, Kerry stirred controversy when he told a group of California students that individuals who don't study hard and do their homework would likely "get stuck in Iraq." Aides said the senator had mistakenly dropped one word from his prepared remarks.

# U.S. says Lebanese government faces peril

By Anne Gearan  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration on Wednesday accused Syria, Iran and the Hezbollah militants they back of trying to oust the Lebanese government. But officials acknowledged the U.S. can do little to prevent outside interference with Beirut's fragile democracy.

White House spokesman Tony Snow cited "mounting evidence that the Syrian and Iranian governments, Hezbollah, and their Lebanese allies are preparing plans to topple Lebanon's democratically elected government."

A strongly worded statement from the White House did not

detail that evidence. It did single out Syria for an alleged plan to derail possible prosecutions for the assassination of Rafik Hariri, a Lebanese politician who had tried to draw his country away from Syrian domination.

The U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, John Bolton, accused Syria and Iran on Monday of violating a U.N. embargo meant to keep Hezbollah from rearming after the 34-day war it waged with Israel last summer. He said Tuesday that violations of that embargo are part of the "evidence base" the White House used.

Syria denies it is violating the embargo. It and Iran provide weaponry, training and funding

to Hezbollah, an Islamic militant group that held de facto control in southern Lebanon before the cross-border war.

Hezbollah leader Sheik Hassan Nasrallah gave the government of Prime Minister Fuad Saniora an ultimatum on Tuesday: Establish a Cabinet of "national unity" by Nov. 13 or face street protests. Such a Cabinet would give the Islamic militants and their allies veto power over key decisions.

U.S. officials said they consider Nasrallah's threat serious, especially if supporters of the embattled Saniora took to the streets in protests that Saniora might be unable to control. The United States considers Hezbollah a ter-

rorist group and refuses direct dealings with it.

In Beirut, Hezbollah spokesman Hussein Rahhal said on al-Arabiya television that the U.S. statement was "just one more American interference in Lebanese affairs." He said the accusation is designed to support the Saniora government "after the Americans felt that it enjoys no popular support."

Saniora is a lukewarm U.S. ally who has held onto power in part by distributing favors and political power among Lebanon's competing political and religious factions, and by appealing to some of the same nationalist sentiment that sustains Hezbollah.

## NATION BRIEFLY

### Doctors warn Medicare cuts could lead to less providers

WASHINGTON — Doctors caring for the elderly and the disabled will see a 5-percent cut in reimbursement rates when they treat Medicare patients next year.

But in an effort to give more personalized care, the government will pay physicians more to counsel patients on ways to improve their health.

Doctors warned that that the lower rates would lead to fewer doctors taking on new Medicare cases.

The new rates were announced in rules the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services made public Wednesday.

Doctors were not happy about the announcement, which they had expected. Nearly half of physicians face payment cuts ranging from 6 percent to 20 percent, the American Medical Association said.

### Hunger report's late release due to politics, Dems say

WASHINGTON — Democrats are accusing the Bush administration of holding up a report on the number of people going hungry in the United States.

Since 1999, the number of people struggling with hunger has risen from 31 million to 38 million in 2004. The Agriculture Department report has generally been released in October, a month after annual poverty figures are released by the Census Department.

Democrats said the delay appears political. Competitive elections across the country will decide next Tuesday whether President Bush's party keeps control of Congress.

USDA officials said the report has long been set for a mid-November release.

Done by the department's Economic Research Service, the report details the number of people without enough money or resources to get food.

Compiled from Associated Press reports

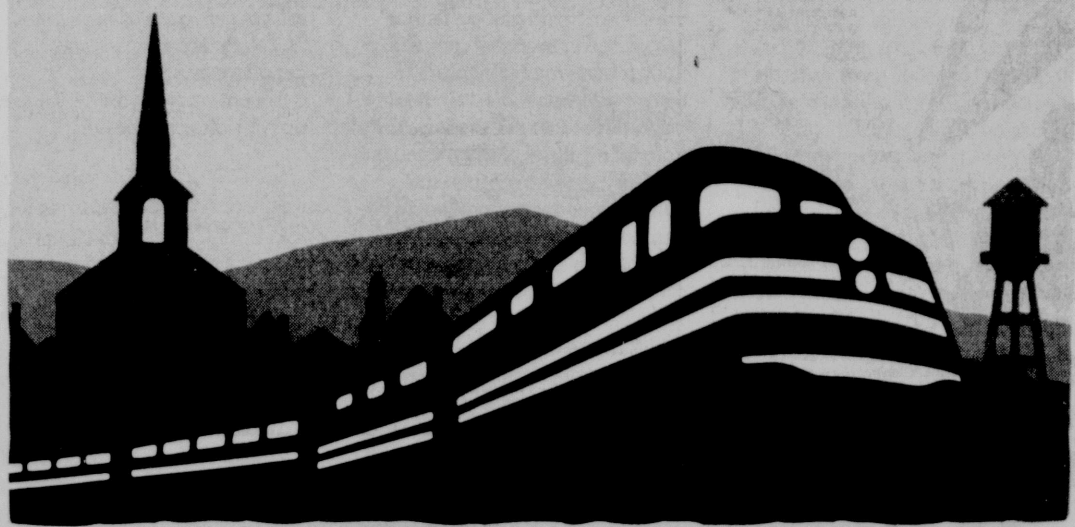
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## A dark, Democratic revolution

By Grant Manning  
 Daily Texan Columnist

With countless disillusioned voters nationwide poised to turn away from Republicans and President Bush's approval ratings mired in the 30s for months, it seems a very real possibility that Democrats can regain control of Congress for the first time in 12 years.

While I would not go so far as to agree with the president's claims that a victory for the Democrats is a victory for "the terrorists," it is clear that the Democrats cannot make the country a better place and may be poised to recklessly implement policies that would bring great harm.

The party's newfound popularity is motivated by misguided reasons and is unjustified. One of the primary reasons cited for Republicans' recent lack of popularity is that this midterm election is a referendum on an unpopular president and his war, a motive that is extremely irresponsible. Not only are the powers of Congress and the executive branch very different, the Republicans serving in Congress do not constitute a giant collective President Bush.

After the midterm elections, Bush will still be president. Congress is in question, and it must be one with a vision on how to shape domestic, legal and budget policies. Democrats have yet to strike a common theme on

these issues. Not being Bush isn't enough.

The war in Iraq is easy to criticize, and indeed many of these criticisms are valid. But while a pundit or columnist can get away with making comments from the peanut gallery, a candidate asking the public for power over policy must be able to form a plan. Most Democrats have been successful in pointing out they are against the war, but voting them in will not turn back time and prevent the war from ever happening.

A new Congress would instead need to either provide a drastically different way to win the war or point out how we could quickly withdraw while still protecting the credibility of America's power, which would surely be damaged. Unfortunately, no unified solution for the Democrats exists, and the resolution of the war under a Democratic Congress is not only unclear, but it may be no different than what Republicans would do.

Franklin Roosevelt brought about a Democrat revolution by promising a hurt country hope. Newt Gingrich helped Republicans gain control of Congress in 1994 by rethinking how powerful government should be. Today's Democrats, though, would be voted in primarily because Bush promoted a war most Democrats don't support (even though the majority of their senators voted for it).

The Republicans have certainly made mistakes and shown their flaws — a direct consequence of actually taking action. What is frightening about the Democratic party today, though, is not what specific policies they may have, or how they would address foreign policy threats. It is the attitude of most of the party's members that problems should be addressed with politically popular solutions. This is why control of Congress should not shift to them.

This sentiment can be summed up by the appalling reaction of many party members to high gas prices this summer. Calls for "windfall profit" taxes and price ceilings for oil companies were made that would have harmed the market's ability to correct the problems causing high prices.

Any energy economist or expert in commodity prices could have told you such measures would be disastrous, or that \$3 a gallon is what you get for buying a gas-guzzling SUV. Despite the facts, Democrats still touted these ideas because they are expedient and politically appealing, an easy fix offered by a party that for some reason is currently unable to offer substantial solutions.

This is nothing new, as the Democratic Party has consistently opposed a trend that promises to increase prosperity and bring countries closer together — free trade — in order to protect the

interests of their union supporters.

The Central American Free Trade Agreement, which offers Central American countries the same benefits Mexico has reaped from NAFTA and has expanded markets available to American companies, was almost scrapped by Democrats attempting to protect their core union vote.

Prominent party members have also put more focus on bashing China and India than how to make American industry more competitive in a real sense or how to transition workers displaced by foreign competitors. Despite empirical and theoretical evidence to the contrary, these politicians repeatedly call for protectionism as the easy short-term answer to save workers' jobs.

If the Democrats gain control of Congress next week, we will undoubtedly see more of this. Populism will reign, as each problem is addressed not with a fundamental solution, but a pretty, politically appealing quick fix. The world economy will be harmed and countries driven apart to save a few jobs. Oil companies may at a whim be penalized for following basic rules of business and economics.

This is not say to say that the sky will fall if the Democrats win this midterm, but it will get a little darker.

Manning is a finance and economics junior.

## Keeping it short

By Derek Davidson  
 and Kanaka Sathasivan  
 Daily Texan Guest Columnists

Concision. You know you want it. Your professors want you to have it.

But for some peculiarly preposterous reason unknown to you, you feel like you just can't possibly conceive of a way in which you might possibly be able to put an end to the ever-present, very increasingly multifaceted long-windedness.

Whew.

You may be wondering, "Concision? What's the big deal?"

It's important to write reader-friendly prose. Tight, clear sentences get ideas across better than long, complicated ones. Readers are impatient and fussy. They don't want to dig through unnecessary words to get to your point.

If you're like most writers, you make excuses to avoid concision. Maybe you're too attached to your writing, or you fear sounding simple. Perhaps you need to fill five pages, but don't have enough ideas.

Whatever the reason, concision is too valuable to ignore. Taking the time to tighten your paper will not only make things easier on your reader, but will make your prose muscular yet refined. Like Bruce Wayne.

Always ask yourself, "Is this important?" Each word in your sentence should convey meaning and strengthen your argument. If it doesn't, cut it. The same rule goes for whole sentences.

Eliminate unnecessary adjectives and adverbs. Often, there is a more precise (and more interesting) noun or verb you can use instead. Rather than "ran quickly," try "sprinted" or "raced." Instead of "strong dislike," try "hatred" or "loathing."

Intensifiers also muddle things. These include three words we all know and love: like, very and really. While emphatic in conversation, in prose, they seem, like, very weak and really informal.

The next thing to remember is simplicity and specificity. Don't make the mistake of using big words and sentences to sound smart. (And take off your top hat and monocle while you're at

it.) If a short word works, use it. Resist the urge to pull polysyllabic clunkers from a thesaurus.

Word clusters are another problem. Look for groups of short words that sound boring or monotonous. Often, these words are introductory phrases that add little to your prose. Replace them with a more specific idea or cut them altogether.

Consider the following sentence and its revision:

- Math is a subject that serves as a means by which students can understand physics.
- Math helps students understand physics.

The first sentence contains redundancy and a verb cluster. There is no need to define math, and the long phrase "that serves as a means by which" just means "helps."

Now for the verbs themselves.

The key thing to remember in any essay (as well as in life): Stay active. We are so accustomed to passive voice and using "to be" verbs in conversation that they plague our writing as well.

Active voice often shortens lengthy phrases, infusing your prose with confidence. From "The essay was written by John," to "John wrote the essay." The result is direct and firm.

Finally, we have "emotional" words: feel, believe, think and so on. Cut them from your academic papers. Most essays contain arguments — anything that isn't fact is inherently your opinion. No need to remind us.

Removing phrases such as "in my opinion" has the same effect as removing intensifiers. The prose sounds confident and polished. Compare:

- I agree that the top 10 percent rule does more harm than good.
- The top 10 percent rule does more harm than good.

Remember, simple wording leaves room for sophisticated thinking. Keep all of this in mind, and get rid of that wordiness.

Davidson, a history senior, and Sathasivan, an English and biology senior, are consultants at the Undergraduate Writing Center on campus. The center (FAC 211) offers free, one-on-one writing advice for UT undergraduates on any writing project.

### LEGALESE

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## THE FIRING LINE

### A taxing Halloween surprise

The Daily Texan hit the nail on the head on Tuesday: The birth of the toll road age in Texas was, without a doubt, the scariest thing to happen this Halloween. The push to implement tolls is not happening because we are low on funds. With the comptroller's office predicting that we will once again have a \$10 billion surplus, it would be much easier to simply adjust the budgeting laws so that we can pour some of that money into long-term infrastructure projects.

In reality, the push for tolls is focused on controlling the actions of Texas citizens and making government fatter at the people's expense. The tolls that the Central Texas Metropolitan Planning Organization had proposed placing on existing highways into Austin would have effectively created a tax on entering and exiting the city. With the Trans-Texas Corridor and other toll road proposals, Texans may soon be dealing with effective taxes on travel to and from any region of the state, not just into Austin. Add to this the very secretive and shady nature of many of the deals that have brought about these toll roads, and one has to be concerned that our elected leaders are more interested in kickbacks than our common interest.

Free mobility of people and goods is not just good for our economy and attractive to business: It is truly an American ideal. Let's make sure that our politicians, both Republicans and Democrats, understand that we are not willing to allow our state government to tax our individual movement.

Tony McDonald  
 Chairman  
 Young Conservatives of Texas  
 Economics and government  
 sophomore  
 October 31, 2006

### Peaceful nuclear ambitions

After reading Ana Wolfowicz's Firing Line on Tuesday, I think some

of her points need to be corrected. She claims that a nuclear power plant is space-intensive, but it is no larger than an equivalent fossil fuel-based plant and is typically located in rural areas hours away from the nearest city. Wolfowicz also has concerns about drinking "radioactive water." The water that is used by a nuclear plant does not become radioactive. She should also be aware that, due to the natural abundance of uranium in coal, current hydrocarbon-based plants spew more uranium and other radioactive materials into the atmosphere than even nuclear plants.

When you pay for nuclear-generated electricity, you are also paying for the disposal of any hazardous waste produced and the eventual decommissioning of the plant. No other energy source builds such externalities into its cost. The waste from a nuclear power plant, while dangerous, goes into a container that is buried in a facility designed to contain it for 10,000 years. There have been proposals to up this specification to 100,000 years.

Additionally, proposals that would close the nuclear fuel cycle are being made. At this point, nuclear fuel that is considered spent is disposed of despite still containing about 98 percent of its potential energy. If we reprocessed spent fuel and reused it, we would drastically eliminate waste and the need to mine uranium.

Nuclear energy is something we should have embraced decades ago. France derives 80 percent of its power from nuclear energy and has yet to have a major accident. In fact, they export their excess electricity to other countries. If it hadn't been for the misinformed arguments of people like Wolfowicz over the last few decades, electricity in the United States would be sold for a fraction of its current cost, an electric car might have become feasible and widespread and U.S. dependence on Middle Eastern oil would be a tiny fraction of what it is today.

Solar and wind power are nice ideas, but they are simply not enough to meet our energy demands. At this point, our choice is between hydrocarbon and nuclear power, and

nuclear is vastly superior.

I'll close with a recent statement by Patrick Moore, a founder of Greenpeace: "Thirty years on, my views have changed, and the rest of the environmental movement needs to update its views, too, because nuclear energy may just be the energy source that can save our planet from another possible disaster: catastrophic climate change."

Zach Woo  
 Physics senior  
 October 31, 2006

### Dump the prom reference

Garth Heutel was probably thinking of the timeless Southern political maxim "Dance with the one that brung ya" when he coined his considerably less pithy simile "like the kid at prom stuck dancing with the ugly girl, while the cheerleader they were too scared to ask out stands available nearby" ("The closing Bell brings little surprise," Nov. 1).

Heutel's comments about the split Democratic Texas gubernatorial ticket are obviously well-intentioned and really pretty insightful, but his choice of illustrative language, in this case, is strikingly insensitive and, frankly, downright offensive. Consider the assumptions inherent in Heutel's phrasing:

1. All the "kids" at prom are interested in dancing with girls. Never mind all the straight women present.
2. The ugly girl is undesirable. Never mind that she's got a viola scholarship at Juilliard.
3. "Cheerleaders" and "ugly girls" are mutually exclusive. Never mind that there are plenty of ugly cheerleaders in the world — both inside and out.
4. The pretty girl is desirable. Never mind that she has a three-word vocabulary and a burgeoning coke habit.
5. It is appropriate and meaningful to compare a statewide election to the choosing of partners at a high school prom.

Are these things really what Heutel and the Texan want to be saying? Personally, I doubt it. I think this disaster of a sentence started out as

an attempt to lend a certain down-home, earthy, good-ol'-boy kind of feel to Heutel's prose — the kind of phrase you add to round out a paragraph in a rough draft, thinking to polish it up later in revision. A better editor would have cut it. Heutel's editor, for some reason, decided it was the best sentence in the column and emboldened it as a subtitle.

Future journalists, take note: It is wise to avoid phrases likely to offend better than half one's readership.

Sean Ragan  
 Chemistry graduate student  
 November 1, 2006

### Paying UTPD for responsibility

I agree with the police chief that "people have to be responsible for their actions" ("New UT police chief talks to students at forum," July 20). However, being responsible usually means paying a ridiculous fine and taking care of numerous penalties.

I was caught driving under the influence this year on Oct. 1. The police officer pulled me over, because my friend was about to puke out the window. He then gave me a sobriety test, which I passed. Then he told me they were going to tow my car and give us all citations. Apparently, I smelled like beer. I thought all of this was too much for a penalty. I had a few drinks that night (three or four), but I gave my body six hours to recuperate. The officer told me I didn't understand, repeatedly.

Paying for my consequences has cost me a lot of money, time and pain. My impounded car cost me \$273 dollars, my suspended license is going to cost me \$140 to reinstate it and there's no knowing how much my ticket is going to be. The law is right. People have to be responsible for their actions. However, I clearly wasn't being a dangerous driver. I was going the speed limit, and I was in total control of my vehicle. In my opinion, the police went too far in their actions. They have too much power that can be easily abused.

Campus safety is an important issue, but after they took my vehicle,

I had to walk back with three drunk friends. How is that safe?

Thank you, UTPD, for taking care of us and ensuring our safety. I was being a responsible drinker and driver. I was clearly out of line by going the speed limit, staying within my lane and taking care of my friends. For being responsible, I am paying for my actions.

Chowgene Koay  
 Biomedical engineering sophomore  
 October 29, 2006

### Equal treatment in dorms

I first came to UT three years ago, living on campus in Moore-Hill. Some of the people on my floor were very friendly. However, some were very prejudiced towards me and called me "a motherfucking faggot," among many other epithets and threats.

These types of people made my time living in dorms a living hell. Most people find comfort and security in their residence, but mine was an environment of hostility and malice. That semester I withdrew from the University.

This fall I came back to UT and entered on-campus housing again. However, I did not tell anyone that I am gay. Instead, I pretended that I was heterosexual. While walking around, betraying myself, I still heard the lines of "that's gay" or "faggot" being used in everyday conversations. It hurts me. I don't want to be degraded anymore. I am tired of being driven into the shadows to hide from being persecuted. I moved out.

Ideally, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons would be treated with respect by all of their heterosexual peers. However, this simply does not coincide with reality. The recent Queer Students Alliance report contains an underlying theme that queer students need to be recognized as queer and equal. Two recent Firing Lines were concerned with segregation by allowing LGBTQ students their own floor. While having the option of separate housing might sound like queer students are being singled out as unequal, my experience suggests just the opposite. A

separate floor option does not treat LGBTQ students as unequal. It offers them the opportunity to have safe housing, a place to be comfortable and a place to be treated as equals.

Daniel Haas  
 Undeclared liberal arts sophomore  
 October 30, 2006

### Going 'round and 'round

The future leaders of America are at the University of Texas. We have no problem protesting on the West Mall, speaking up in class and getting involved on campus. So how come everyone acts like an idiot on the bus?

I can not tell you how many times I've been cut off, stepped on or trampled. There is always one person who thinks that they are more important, so they must force themselves to the front of the line to get off the bus. People are just plain rude.

Here are some suggestions to alleviate this problem:

1. If you sit down in an empty row, take the seat next to the window. By leaving that seat open, you are automatically inviting everyone on the bus to hate you.
2. If the bus is crowded, you are standing and there is room behind you, move to the back! There is no reason to hang out at the front of the bus — it will not get you to campus faster.
3. If there are people standing, they get off the bus first.

I'm not crazy. I promise. I'm just fed up with idiots on the bus.

Erika Knudson  
 Pharmacy senior  
 November 1, 2006

### SUBMIT A FIRING LINE

Please e-mail your Firing Lines to [firingline@dailytexanonline.com](mailto:firingline@dailytexanonline.com). Letters must be fewer than 300 words and should include your major and classification. The Texan reserves the right to edit all letters for brevity, clarity and liability.

Additional Firing Lines were posted today on the Web site at [www.dailytexanonline.com](http://www.dailytexanonline.com).



TODDLER'S BEST FRIEND



Dylan Henke, 2, pulls along a toy dog as he rides in a stroller pushed by his grandmother, Margaret Morkert, in Amber Township, Mich., on Monday.

Jeff Keissel | Associated Press

CAMERAS: Fines, not taxes, would fund red light camera program

From page 1A

the possible implementation of the estimated \$1.5 million red light camera system. They said a red light camera system violates constitutional liberties.

Debbie Russell, an ACLU board member and spokeswoman at the press conference, said if today's vote passes, the city council would be "implementing a pilot program for red light cameras." Such programs have proven to not only detract from public safety, but violate constitutional liberties, she said.

If passed, the ordinance would allow the city to charge a \$75 civil penalty to people who run a red light and are caught by the proposed cameras at up to 15 intersections, said Devon Madrigal, assistant to Assistant City Manager

Rudy Garza. Madrigal said the ordinance would not implement a red light camera program, but would begin the process of looking into such a program, including receiving bids from companies.

Russell said the cameras would violate due process, privacy statutes and possibly the 14th Amendment. She also cited federal studies that encouraged red light cameras only in conjunction with other preventative measures.

"Increasing the yellow light time by one second will result in a 40 percent decrease in accidents. If the city really cared, they would implement these simple fixes today," Russell said.

Madrigal said the cameras would photograph a car's license plate, not the driver. A citation

would then be issued to the owner of the car, not the driver. However, the owner would have the opportunity to clear up a mistake between owner and driver in court, she said.

The cameras would be installed at no cost to the city.

"Someone who ran a red light would be given a fine of \$75," Madrigal said. "The fines will pay for the program, and taxpayers' money will not be used."

Russell said she challenged the mayor and city council to vote 'no' and protect the safety and civil liberties of the Austin community. The ACLU believes a study should be conducted before any action to move forward with the cameras takes place, Russell said.

"Prevention is much easier and much less expensive," she said.

REGENTS:

Haley says position shouldn't be 'light'

From page 1A

either select from the pool of applicants recommended by Yudof or pick any other UT-System student not attending UT-Austin.

Former UT Student Government President Omar Ochoa, who applied for student regent in 2005, said there was a lot of momentum and excitement over the new position and the application process at all the System campuses last year. Students had a lot of incentive to make sure the right person was selected the first time around and set a good precedent, he said.

While the Texas Legislature defines the student regent as a non-voting member of the board, students hope privileges will come with time.

For Haley, who said he doesn't want to be seen as the "light version" of the Board of Regents, setting a precedent means blurring the line distinguishing a student regent from a regent. He said he would like to see the student regent meet the same criteria set forth for any of the other board members.

"That's the only way that the student regent will ever get a vote," he said.

Since the beginning of his term, Haley said he began shaping his position into a mold of the other regents.

Just as the regents are supposed to represent the state of Texas and the System, not a constituency, Haley said he serves not merely as a representative for student voices, but as a trustee for the greater interests of the state.

"I don't think it's a good idea for a student to come in only with the perspective that they're there to simply do what students want," he said. "A lot of the issues that come before the board may or may not affect students."

It's important that student regents come in with a much broader perspective, he said.

"I will certainly do my best to say, 'This is what I've heard from students, faculty and staff, from the campuses and the System,'" Haley said. "But at the end of the day, my final recommendation will be what I think is best for the people of Texas."

Ochoa said Haley has advocated for student input in issues such as increasing graduation rates. But there is a fear that a student regent could become so absorbed in the professional and elite Board of Regents that they lose touch with student perspective, Ochoa said.

"What it comes down to is: Are the student governments at each UT campus putting up good people for the chancellor to review? Is the chancellor selecting good people to move on to the governor? And is the governor taking the advice of the students and the chancellor?" Ochoa said.

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# UT to house supercomputer

By Shara Challa  
Daily Texan Staff

Construction is expected to begin within the next few months on a new supercomputer capable of making more than 400 trillion calculations per second.

A \$59 million grant from the National Science Foundation will go toward building the best high-performance computational research supercomputer, said Jim Browne, the UT-System Regents chair in computer sciences.

"This will be the largest supercomputer in any academic institution in the world," said Juan Sanchez, UT vice president for research.

The Texas Advanced Computing Center at the J.J. Pickle Research Campus will build and house the computer, Browne said. Sun Microsystems will provide the hardware and Austin-based Advanced Micro Devices Inc. will provide the processors.

Construction on the computer is expected to finish by June, said Tommy Minyard, project manager for the supercomputer and a research associate for Texas Advanced Computing Center.

The University has two primary supercomputer systems,

the IBM Champion and Dell Lonestar. Lonestar, the more powerful of the two, has the power to compute 55 trillion calculations at a time.

"It shows that the University is a leading computational research institution," Minyard said.

The system will be available to academic researchers throughout the nation, and the world-class facility will attract top-notch faculty, he said.

"[The new supercomputer] will provide the capacity to tackle realistic problems in both science and engineering," Sanchez said.

Keshav Pingali, a computer sciences professor, said there is less experimentation and more simulations in science. Sometimes theories, such as the big-bang theory, cannot be proven through experiments, he said.

Omar Ghattas, geological sciences professor and director of the Center for Computational Geosciences, said he will use the computer to model earthquakes. He said earthquakes are one of the most difficult models due to the number of equations necessary. With the help of the computer, Ghattas said he can predict the consequences of earthquakes by modeling how the waves generate and propagate through land.

## RING AROUND THE MASCOT



Megan Shelby | Daily Texan Staff

UT students gather around the Bevo statue in front of the Etter-Harbin Alumni Center Wednesday afternoon for a flash mob which is an Internet-organized group that meets briefly to do something bizzare, then disperses. This flash mob circled the statue and made mooing noises in an homage to the mascot.

## Aggies plan to continue bonfire tradition

By The Associated Press

COLLEGE STATION — Texas A&M University students and alumni plan to once again build and light a huge bonfire off campus, reviving the traditional blaze once staged before every football game against archrival University of Texas.

The group plans to build a 45-foot-tall log stack near Hearne and light it Nov. 21, three days before the game. The on-campus tradition was canceled after the log stack toppled in 1999, killing 12 people.

But students and alumni have worked to revive the tradition off-campus since.

"This is a great tradition worth continuing," said student organizer Jack Shallock. "The bonfire we build is built by students and is a great event. It's good for the community and good for students and a tremendous teaching tool. It fosters camaraderie and community."

Last year students organized a bonfire off-campus in Brazos



Mark Mulligan | Daily Texan File Photo

A member of the Texas A&M University Corps of Cadets stands in silence at an informal candlelight vigil remembering the 1999 collapse of the Texas A&M bonfire that killed 12 and injured 27 others. Hundreds of students filled the site of a new memorial honoring the victims on Nov. 18, 2004, five years after the collapse of the bonfire.

County, but that event didn't go as planned.

Brazos County was under a burn ban that prohibited outdoor fires because of the severe drought conditions, so the nine people who ignited the fire received citations. Also, the logs failed to ignite properly and never collapsed. Then, on New Year's Day, someone lit the bonfire despite the continued burn ban.

Organizers settled on this year's site because trees for the bonfire can be cut at the same location and the land offers parking.

Although he doesn't oppose the bonfire, Robertson County Judge

Fred Elliott said he has concerns over safety. He expects underage drinking and arrests stemming from the event.

No alcohol will be allowed at the bonfire, organizers say. Sheriff's deputies will step up patrols on the night the bonfire is lit, Elliott said.

"I just pray everyone will come out alive and safe," Elliott said.

Students began organizing off-campus bonfires in 2002, three years after the deadly collapse. Alumni also organized informal bonfires after 1999.

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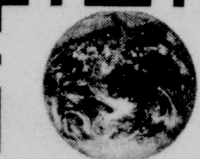
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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14  
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12pm - 4pm

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16  
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Quadrangle Room  
12pm - 4pm



## Prop. 5 may alleviate housing costs for city

*Editor's Note: This is the third in a series of stories examining the propositions for Austin's upcoming bond election.*

By Michelle West  
Daily Texan Staff

For the first time in Austin, affordable housing bonds are on the ballot.

Proposition 5 designates \$55 million to fund the construction and renovation of low-income housing units and to fund low-income housing programs.

"In the last 15 years, Austin has gone from being one of the most affordable places to having one of the highest housing costs in the state, and that isn't leveling off," said Frank Fernandez, executive director for the Community Partnership for the Homeless.

According to the latest statistics, released in May from the National Association of Home Builders, the median cost of a home in the Austin-Round Rock area is \$167,000, a figure that has increased by more than 18 percent from 2001 and is expected to increase another 3.7 percent by

June. The average rent in Austin is \$653 per month for a 750 square foot apartment, according to statistics from the Texas Real Estate Center published in the city bond election program.

**"In the last 15 years, Austin has gone from being one of the most affordable places to having one of the highest housing costs in the state..."**

Frank Fernandez  
executive director, Community Partnership for the Homeless

"Working couples essentially can't afford to live in a home anywhere where they would like to be living," said Mayor Will Wynn. "We've got to check that out as a society."

The money allotted by the proposition would be distributed between two programs targeting two income brackets, according to city documents

from the Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Office. If passed, the bond would provide \$33 million to fund programs for people earning less than 30 percent of the \$69,600 median family income in Austin. This demographic includes low-wage earners, the homeless and the elderly. The other \$22 million would fund programs designated for those earning 50 percent to 65 percent of the median family income, such as first-time homebuyers, working-class families and elderly homeowners.

"As housing gets more expensive, it's going to take more and more money to address the issue," Fernandez said.

Proposition 5 does have its critics, however. A committee within the Travis County Republican Party had decided to recommend voting no on the proposition, said Sally Aiello, the party's executive director.

In a statement released Oct. 24, the party said, "How about keeping all of our homes affordable by lowering our taxes and reducing our bond debt?"



**SO I CAN WATCH YOU WEAVE**

Texas Cowboys Stephen Goldfarb, left, in hat, and Brock Niezgoda are reflected in Colin Cross' sunglasses on the West Mall Wednesday morning. They were passing out flyers to promote the annual Harvest Moon concert with Pat Green at Waterloo Park on Friday.

Pat Michels  
Daily Texan Staff

## County clashes with nonprofit group; Thunderpalooza postponed

By Stephen Clark  
Daily Texan Staff

A two-day music festival scheduled for this weekend was postponed Wednesday after it did not meet state-mandated permit requirements earlier this week for events with a large gathering of people.

Thunderpalooza organizers decided to postpone the concert one day after announcing it would move from Hays County's Thunder Hill Raceway in Kyle, Texas, to the Travis County Exposition Center, said Rocky DeMarco, founder of Human Spirit, the nonprofit

organization promoting the concert.

Around 20,000 people were expected to attend over both days, said Brian Callaway, co-owner of Thunder Hill Raceway.

The bill features more than 30 bands, including the Beach Boys and Eddie Money, as well as a number of Austin bands, according to the Thunderpalooza Web site. Proceeds from the event were slated for uninsured Austin children and a mobile mammography unit for the Austin area.

Thunderpalooza was originally moved from Thunder Hill

Raceway, because Human Spirit was unable to secure a mass-gathering permit required by the state, he said.

State law requires the permit request be submitted at least 45 days in advance to ensure the event's safety, but a permit application for Thunderpalooza was not received until last week, said Brad Bailey, special assistant for the Hays County Commissioners Court.

"Hays County just pulled their legs out from under us — kind of a selective enforcement is what's really happening out there," DeMarco said.

County officials contend they were left with no options under state law.

City of Kyle spokesman Jerry Hendrix said the city, a co-sponsor of the event, was ready to move the concert within Kyle city limits, lifting the state requirement for a permit because the city would have responsibility for the event rather than the county. Organizers then moved the concert to the Travis County Exposition Center inside Austin city limits and postponed the event.

"They didn't respond to our calls saying we were ready to move it into the city. They just basically walked away," he said.

The city of Kyle approved a \$40,000 grant to Human Spirit on Sept. 5 to help attract entertainers to the concert, Hendrix said.

Human Spirit was responsible for meeting all legal requirements for the event, and DeMarco has not responded to phone calls from city officials, Hendrix said.

"We've conveyed to the promoter that we would like to talk to him about our money," Hendrix said. "If he were to return it, that would be great, but I don't think he's going to do that."

The city is not yet considering a lawsuit against Human Spirit, and any litigation would have to originate from the Kyle City Council, Hendrix said.

"It wouldn't surprise me if somebody ends up suing somebody," he said. "I think we'd like to avoid that."

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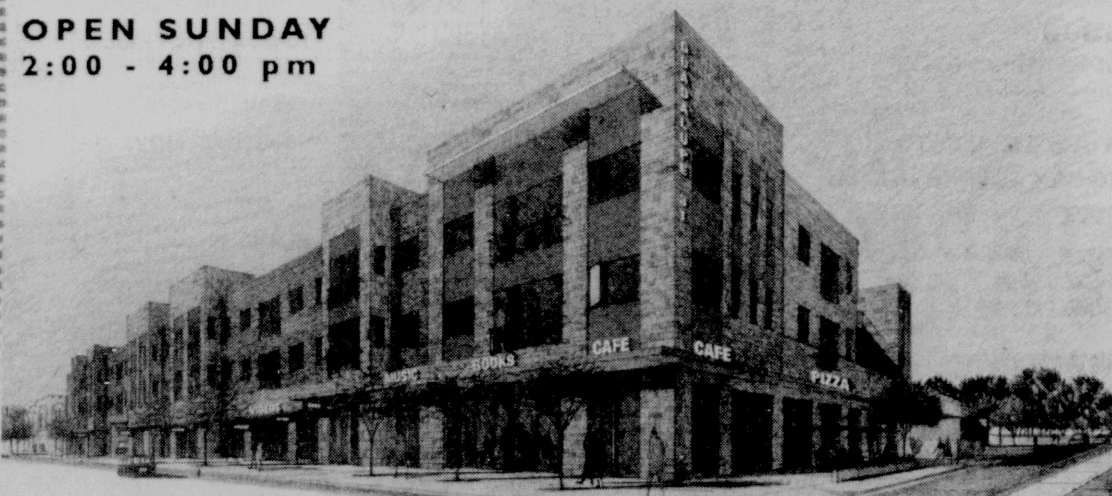
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# Cancer victim finds solace in college drill team

By Rhiannon Meyers

The Associated Press

TYLER — With 56 minutes on the clock before kickoff, the Apache Band and Apache Belles are loud behind the visitors' side at Tyler Junior College's homecoming.

Band members scramble for their instruments. Belles, past and present, hug each other and smile big red-lipstick smiles for photographs just minutes before they "walk the rim" of the stadium.

Away from the chaos, Sharon Wynn sits in the top bleacher of the visitors' stand, wooden cane in her left hand. A cool breeze ruffles her short curls. She looks down at Earl Campbell Field, remembering the pre-game thrill she once felt as she wore her gold Apache Belles skirt 44 years ago. Someone yells for the lineup.

"I gotta go," Sharon says, handing her cane to her friends.

The drum beat begins.

Bang.

Tap. Tap. Tap.

Without her cane, Sharon holds tight to the hands of the women to her right and left — former Belles, her sisters. They face the crowd and smile the same big, toothy smile.

Bang.

Tap. Tap. Tap.

For a few seconds, Sharon is not dying of breast cancer.

Bang.

Tap. Tap. Tap.

She's walking the rim for the last time.

When Sharon's doctor diagnosed her with breast cancer in 1997, he assured her that a mastec-

tomy and two treatments of radiation and chemotherapy would rid her of cancer.

In June, Sharon discovered that not only had her cancer returned, it had spread from her head to her toes. Doctors found spots in 11 organs, including her lungs. They diagnosed her with stage 4 cancer, adding that chemotherapy and radiation were no longer options.

"I didn't count on this," Sharon said before the recent game. "I counted on a lot of things — being told I had cancer, being told I needed chemo. I didn't count on, 'Chemo wouldn't help.' I didn't count on there being a timeline."

She now has five to eight months to live.

Now that her life is on a timeline, as she puts it, Sharon has made a list of 13 things she wants to do before she dies: planting a rose and lily garden at her church; spending a night in the loft of a ship in Mystic Seaport, Conn.; taking her grandchildren to the Smithsonian; watching a Major League Baseball game with her son and grandson; crossing the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Ala., that Martin Luther King walked during the civil rights movement.

Most things on the list are not about her — they are memory-makers for her family and friends. But not No. 11. No. 11 is just for her. No. 11 is a flashback to her alma mater, her glory days as a gold-clad member of TJC's drill team. Before she dies, Sharon wants to relive the tradition she once treasured so much.

"I remember how awesome it

was [to walk the rim]," she said. "We were the spotlight. Belles are always the spotlight. We're the No. 1 people in the whole world at that moment, and it's an awesome, awesome feeling."

Sharon came to TJC because she was offered a music scholarship. When she came to scout the community college one summer week in 1960, she met the Belles.

"I immediately thought I wasn't going to take the band scholarship. I was going to pay my way through the Belles," she said.

Sharon grew up in an abusive family, and the Belles seemed like a great contrast to that.

"They were people I could trust. It was like a band of sisters," she said.

She still remembers the details of her bright gold Belle uniform. She can still mouth the words to the alma mater as the band plays.

"Hail to thee ..." She can close her eyes and tell you exactly what it looked like when the Belles walked the rim four decades ago.

When Sharon graduated from TJC in 1962, she got married and moved to California to follow the

flower child movement. She had children and went back to school to get her bachelor's, master's and doctorate.

She got divorced. She moved back to Waco. She raised two kids and a grandchild by herself. She got a job at Waco ISD six years ago and fell in love with working with elementary students. She lost touch with some of the Belles, but kept in touch with others.

Cancer put her out of commission for two years, but she bounced back. She had a brief cancer scare in 2005 and organized a program called Cruisin' 4 Cures — a plan to ride 10,000 miles on her motorcycle in 100 days, carrying the names of 1,000 women who couldn't make the ride because of cancer. She's saddened that her 2006 diagnosis will keep from completing that ride.

The last time she walked the rim was nine years ago, long before her cancer diagnosis, during the Belles' 50th anniversary.

On this recent Saturday, women who were once Belles with Sharon trickled over to her table, giving her huge hugs and even bigger

smiles.

Sharon happily hugged them back. She never cried.

Sharon is not scared of dying. Quoting Emily Dickinson ("Hope is the thing with feathers ..."), Sharon says hope is what gets her through each day.

She's readied herself for her final days by painting her room a serene burgundy and khaki. She's prepared her grandchildren for her funeral by telling them that it's going to be a "big party" with lots of candles, singing and chocolate-chip cookies afterward.

She's happy that she will be able to spend Christmas, Thanksgiving and her great-grandson's first birthday with her family.

She only cries when she talks about not being able to see her grandchildren grow up.

Most of the time, Sharon has strength that she says comes with a peace only she can understand.

Her grandfather once told her if she falls, she must pick herself up by her bootstraps. She asked him, "What if you don't have any bootstraps left?"

"He said, 'You find some, sew

them in and pick yourself back up,'" she said.

There are two things she wants people to remember of her: that she died with character and grace, and that she fought the good fight and ran the race well.

So, she's ready for death when it comes.

Doctors want to place Sharon in hospice care now, but she's holding off until January. Not until she's finished her list, she told them. The recent walk was her fourth accomplishment, and she still has nine to go.

An hour before she was set to walk, Sharon thought she would need to use her cane. Her legs are weak. But seconds before she was set to walk the rim, Sharon decided she didn't need the cane. She walked. She smiled. Her friends from Waco ISD, Betty Murphy and Debbie Simms, snapped photographs on her digital camera.

Afterward, an out-of-breath Sharon glowed with pride. "When I got to the halfway mark, I said, 'I can do this,'" she said. "It got my heart moving, my blood foaming. I'm so happy."



Former Tyler Junior College Apache Belle drill team member Sharon Wynn, right, makes the traditional walk the rim around the Trinity Mother Frances Rose Stadium in Tyler on Saturday.

Herb Nygren  
Associated Press

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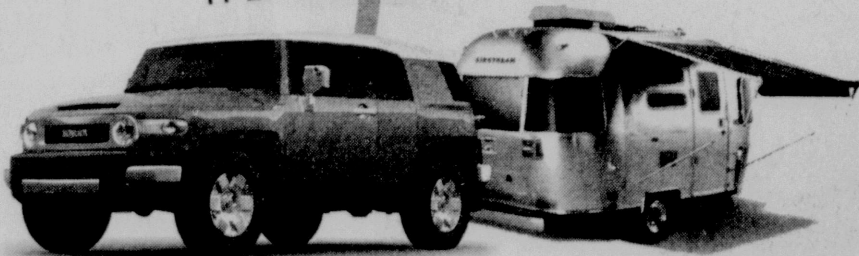
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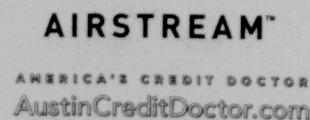
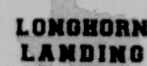
|         |                   |                    |
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| game 2  | Ohio State        | Saturday, Sept. 9  |
| game 4  | Iowa State        | Saturday, Sept. 23 |
| game 5  | Sam Houston State | Saturday, Sept. 30 |
| game 7  | Baylor            | Saturday, Oct. 14  |
| game 10 | Oklahoma State    | Saturday, Nov. 4   |
| game 12 | Texas A&M         | Friday, Nov. 24    |

For more information, contact Carter at [cgross@texasstudentmedia.com](mailto:cgross@texasstudentmedia.com)



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# SPORTS

THE DAILY TEXAN

SECTION

B

Thursday, November 2, 2006

## Newsworthy



## Texas Big 12 power ranking

When the bottom half of the Big 12 North is only separated by one win, it's easy for teams to gain ground on each other. That's why Kansas moved up in this week's power ranking. See who else is making late-season moves around the Big 12.

» SEE PAGE 2B

## Ex-Longhorn signs with Reds

Former University of Texas outfielder Carson Kainer, who underwent a kidney transplant in September, has signed with the Cincinnati Reds.

Kainer was drafted in the 14th round in June but had told the Reds he intended to stay at Texas for his senior season. His signing was first reported by Houston television station KRIV on Tuesday night.

Kainer led UT starters in batting average (.364), RBIs (66) and doubles (25) during the regular season.

He was born with acute renal failure, a condition that prevents the kidney from cleaning toxins and waste products from the blood. Tests in May revealed the kidney was functioning at only 13 percent of normal performance.

He said in Wednesday's edition of the Austin American-Statesman that the Reds gave him a \$60,000 signing bonus and agreed to pay for his final two semesters of college.

"I know there are some people in Austin who may be upset with me, but it's my lifelong dream," Kainer said. "For me to get this opportunity is a blessing and something that would have been hard to pass up."

— The Associated Press

## Michigan State fires head coach

EAST LANSING, Mich. — The up-and-down tenure of John L. Smith at Michigan State is coming to an end.

Smith will finish the season as the struggling Spartans' head coach, but he won't be back in 2007.

"What we asked John L. Smith to do when he got here, he has done a lot of it," Michigan State athletic director Ron Mason said Wednesday. "It hasn't shown up on the field like we wanted."

The firing came as no surprise. The Spartans are 22-23 under Smith and have been maddeningly inconsistent.

Smith had been under pressure at Michigan State and some fans were calling for his departure the last few years. School officials gave him a vote of confidence after last season's losing campaign, but were looking for better results in 2006.

— AP

## Scoreboard

NBA  
Philadelphia 88, Atlanta 75  
Indiana 106, Charlotte 99  
Chicago 94, Orlando 109  
Boston 87, New Orleans 91  
Toronto 92, New Jersey 102  
Milwaukee 105, Detroit 97  
Washington 94, Cleveland 97  
Sacramento 83, Minnesota 92  
Portland 108, Seattle 106  
Houston 97, Utah 107  
NY Knicks 118, Memphis 117  
LA Clippers, Phoenix LATE

## NFL COLUMN

# Patriots will defeat the Colts yet again



Ed Andrieski | Associated Press

Indianapolis Colts' quarterback Peyton Manning audibles during the game against the Denver Broncos Sunday.

By Ramon Ramirez  
Daily Texan Columnist

For the past 17 minutes I've been blankly staring at my "Facebook" profile, wondering who will emerge victorious in Sunday night's titanic duel between the Indianapolis Colts and New England Patriots. It's historically been a wise move to draw inspiration from greatness.

The game will get its proper analysis, but first, let's flash back a week and marvel at my flawless forecast. I told all the doubters the Cowboys would rally around Romo and win in Carolina. After a series of brilliant assessments, the end result was Ramon Ramirez's first career 5-0 week.

I've since begun speaking in the third person, leasing Navigators (my rims

are 22s, so they're old enough to drink, baby) and snail-mailing copies of last week's column to all the haters. Now it's time to sit back and let Ramon Ramirez be Ramon Ramirez. Peyton Manning or Tom Brady? People can talk about trivial poppycock like teamwork all they wish, but whichever of these two quarterbacks has the better outing is going to be on the winning side. This uncertainty makes the Colts-Pats game so difficult to predict.

The storyline has finally evolved. Until last October, Peyton Manning was 0-6 in Foxboro against the Patriots. No matter how gargantuan his statistics, an army of overachieving Italian linebackers would pick him apart in the snow. All the while, the Patriots won three championships in four years.

That is, until last October when Indy blasted New England and Manning got that sniveling little monkey off his back. The Patriots' secondary was admittedly depleted by injuries (wide receiver Troy Brown was back there pulling double duty), and the win was fairly meaningless. Try telling Peyton that to his face.

With the tables turned, the Patriots are now the squad full of question marks, and the Colts are undefeated and coming off a big win in Denver. Speaking of which, did anyone see the Texas Tech-like numbers Indianapolis gave up to a Jake Plummer-led offense? That's cause for concern, given Brady's emergence as a fantasy football stud.

I think this one comes down to pride

NFL continues on page 3B



Drew Smith | Daily Texan Staff

Texas runner Leonel Manzano found out he has the heart of a 7-footer after the director of the UT Department of Kinesiology and Health Education ran several tests on the junior.

# Runner's heart matches desire

Record-setting track star got start in junior high, has not looked back

By Clay Whittington  
Daily Texan Staff

Leonel Manzano is one of the most impressive runners to come to Texas in a long time.

To start, he won a NCAA Championship his freshman year. He ran the second-fastest time by an American up to that point in the 1500 meters. He has earned the Big 12 Men's Outdoor Freshman of the Year, three All-American honors and five selections to the All-Big 12 team.

Manzano, currently a junior, holds three school records and broke his own school record in the mile with a time of 3:58.84 last year.

After his impressive freshman year, Manzano became a test subject for Edward Coyle, director of the Department of Kinesiology and Health Education.

Coyle is known for his research in the area of athletic performance testing and has over 100 published studies on athletes, including seven years of studies on Lance Armstrong.

His goal was to find out exactly how efficiently Manzano's body used oxygen during running. It was determined that Manzano was more proficient than most athletes tested.

In addition, a test was performed to determine the size of arteries within his heart. The results found Manzano (5-foot-5-inches) had a heart comparable to a person between 6-foot-6-inches and 7-foot-0-inches.

More in-depth testing is planned for the future, as Coyle hopes to further observe the

body's processes while Manzano progresses from relatively out-of-condition into top-notch form.

Manzano believes what truly drives him is the need for competition.

"When you're a competitor, having somebody challenge you at something, especially something your good at, I think that's what my motivation really is," said Manzano.

Growing up, running had always been a part of Manzano's life, but it wasn't until after he joined his middle school track team that his full potential began to be revealed.

By the time he reached his senior year in high school, it was apparent that Manzano was on his way to the next level of competitive running. Before leaving his hometown of Marble Falls for Austin, Manzano had become a nine-time Texas 4A champion.

His focus became even more intense upon arriving at Texas. He began to monitor his diet more closely and spend more time in the weight room. But his biggest adjustment came with the increased mileage during his runs, as he went from 20 miles each week to about 70 or 80 miles per week.

"Through that big jump, the body kind of goes through a phase, where you always feel tired," said Manzano. "Your body is evolving to be more efficient."

His biggest challenge will come in 2007, when he will attempt to qualify for 2008 Olympics in Beijing, China.

But presently, he is enjoying his role as an upperclassman on the team and mentor to a younger group of runners.

"As a junior, I feel like I'm more of a leader now than I was as a freshman," said Manzano. "We're just laying down the base for the next group of guys to come in and, hopefully, do better than us."

## SOCCER

# Longhorns beat Nebraska in OT at Big 12 tourney

Carpenter scores winning goal after 'frustrating' offensive game

By Dennis Killian  
Daily Texan Staff

Texas defeated Nebraska 1-0 in overtime during the opening round of the Big 12 Tournament on Wednesday night in San Antonio.

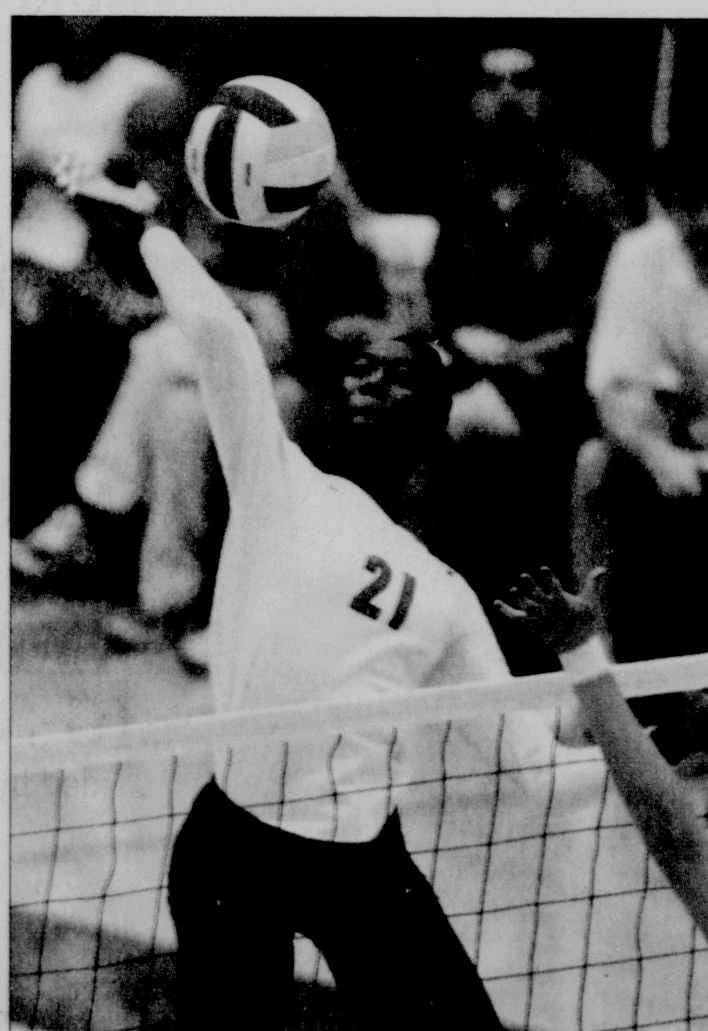
Kelsey Carpenter sped past two defenders and hit the game-winning shot seven minutes into the first overtime session. Caitlin Kennedy provided the assist on the score.

"It was a frustrating game," Carpenter said. "It was one of those nights where you pound away at the goal, and it just doesn't go your way. Finally, I just saw a wide open goal and ripped the shot."

During the second half, the Longhorns controlled the tempo and the game offensively, but were unable to put a score past Nebraska goalkeeper Jamie Klages. Overall, Texas dominated possession and outshot the Cornhuskers 24-8, but Nebraska played aggressive and physical defense, totaling 14 fouls through the first 90 minutes.

Despite the pesky Cornhusker defense, Texas still had golden opportunities to end the match, but their shots hit the post on several occasions late in

## VOLLEYBALL



Eby Harvey | Daily Texan Staff

Texas freshman Destinee Hooker hits one of her 15 kills Wednesday during the Longhorns' 3-0 victory over Kansas at Gregory Gym.

# Texas sweeps Kansas, blocks crucial in win

By Brad Gray  
Daily Texan Staff

The Texas volleyball team kicked back its feet and relaxed Wednesday night.

That's the way it looked, anyway.

The No. 8 Longhorns cruised to a 30-20, 30-35, 30-20 sweep of Kansas, but most noticeably, they dismissed their opponents with unusual ease.

"I think we've kind of found our rhythm again," setter Michelle Moriarty said. "It just shows in everything, during the middle of the play, after the play and celebrating after the match."

Destinee Hooker led Texas in kills with 15, followed by Lauren Paolini, Jennifer Todd and Jen Christian, all of whom hit 10.

"I just tried to keep the ball in play," Hooker said.

Texas is just now getting closer to filling the hole that emerged when its star middle blocker Brandy Magee tore her ACL early this season.

What once was Texas' primary weakness is turning into one of its strengths. Texas had nine blocks against Kansas and has been consistently putting forward similar numbers in recent matches.

VBALL continues on page 3B

SOCCER continues on page 3B



## BIG 12 POWER RANKINGS

## NORTH

## 1) NEBRASKA

The Cornhuskers suffered their first bad loss Saturday against lowly Oklahoma State, and it wasn't pretty. Fortunately for Nebraska (6-3, 3-2 Big 12), the rest of the Big 12 North had a bad week too, so the 'Huskers haven't been knocked off their perch just yet. Saturday's game will probably determine whether or not they stay there.

UP NEXT: vs. Missouri (7-2, 3-2)

## 2) MISSOURI

Though they lost to Oklahoma on Saturday, their second loss to a Southern division team, the Tigers (7-2, 3-2) still look good. They've got balance on offense and an attitude on defense. Though their next game is a tough road contest, Missouri could definitely end up in Kansas City, Mo., for the conference championship.

UP NEXT: at Nebraska (6-3, 3-2)

## 3) KANSAS STATE

For the team that was picked to finish last in the South, the Wildcats fared pretty well. Kansas State (5-4, 2-3) is far from the worst team in the division — or the rest of the conference — and has two winnable games left on their schedule. While the third game they've yet to play is against Texas, it is a home game.

UP NEXT: at Colorado (1-8, 1-4)

## 4) KANSAS

All things being equal between the Jayhawks and Colorado, Kansas has a better non-conference record. That's about the only way to separate Kansas (4-5, 1-4) from Colorado, who's only won one game all season. Kansas is still not a good team by any means, but with one win, they've proved that they're better than the bottom two teams.

UP NEXT: at Iowa State (3-6, 0-5)

## 5) COLORADO

By clobbering Texas Tech earlier this season, Colorado jumped ahead of several teams. But they're slowly creeping their way back down the ladder. Colorado (1-8, 1-4) may be in their last week out of last place in the North, especially if they get trounced. The game that will dictate their final position is Nov. 11 against Iowa State.

UP NEXT: vs. Kansas State (5-4, 2-3)

## 6) IOWA STATE

Obviously, all of the goals the Cyclones had at the beginning of the season are long gone, but there's still something left for them to play for. Iowa State (3-6, 0-5) can still escape the North cellar with a few wins. There are two games left on their schedule that could make that happen, with the most important being on Nov. 11 against Colorado.

UP NEXT: vs. Kansas (4-5, 1-4)

## BY RICKY TREON DAILY TEXAN STAFF

## SOUTH

## 1) NO. 4 TEXAS

Some people think the Longhorns deserve to go to the national championship, so it stands to reason that they're the best team in their own division. Texas (8-1, 5-0 Big 12) is through with what they thought would be the hardest part of its schedule, but Texas A&M should provide a healthy challenge for the Longhorns on Nov. 24.

UP NEXT: vs. Oklahoma State (5-3, 2-2)

## 2) NO. 18 OKLAHOMA

The Sooners continue to display their resilience, especially after handily beating Missouri on Saturday. But Oklahoma (6-2, 3-1) could easily switch spots with Saturday's foe, Texas A&M. The Sooners are only ahead of the Aggies because A&M is such a surprise, and it would be hard to come back from a loss to A&M this late in the season.

UP NEXT: at Texas A&M (8-1, 4-1)

## 3) NO. 21 TEXAS A&amp;M

There's been a big change in College Station. Texas A&M (8-1, 4-1) has a new sense of team spirit and togetherness. Now that the Aggies aren't just dark horses, they look like they have what it takes to be Texas' biggest challenge to the South title. Whether they really are will be determined when they host Oklahoma on Saturday.

UP NEXT: vs. Oklahoma (6-2, 3-1)

## 4) TEXAS TECH

The Red Raiders are inconsistent, to say the least, but when Texas Tech (5-4, 2-3) is on its game, they are as tough as anyone in the South. Unfortunately for them, the Red Raiders have shown too many of their faults to be ranked any higher unless they win on Saturday. Either way, they'll have a second-year quarterback next year.

UP NEXT: vs. Baylor (4-5, 3-2)

## 5) BAYLOR

Though they have a better record than Texas Tech, the Bears haven't shown the same talent or quite as much explosiveness as the Red Raiders. Baylor (4-5, 3-2) is still a much-improved team this year, but the rest of the South is living up to its usually high standards. A win next week is about the only way they'll move up.

UP NEXT: at Texas Tech (5-4, 2-3)

## 6) OKLAHOMA STATE

They did beat Nebraska on Saturday, but that doesn't mean the Cowboys aren't still worse than the rest of the South. What's worse, Oklahoma State (5-3, 2-2) still has to face two of the best offenses in the South, Texas and Texas Tech. Though they have the talent, the Cowboys just haven't been able to put it together this year.

UP NEXT: at Texas (8-1, 5-0)

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## Texas hosts Houston in exhibition tonight

By Chris Schmidt  
Daily Texan Staff

Thank goodness for new beginnings.

The Texas women's basketball season gets underway today with an exhibition game against the Houston Jaguars in the Frank Erwin Center at 7 p.m. The start of the new season has been something the Longhorns have been anticipating for quite some time.

Last year was labeled by head coach Jody Conradt as the "perfect storm." A tough schedule, untimely injuries and a young team amounted to a disappointing 13-15 record on the season. But Conradt is ready to move past last year and work hard to make this season a success.

"What happens when you have a failure is, it's been my experience, that you turn around and go back to work," Conradt said.

And so the Longhorns have.

Leading the way on this charge has been Preseason National Player of the Year candidate Tiffany Jackson. Last year Jackson was the team's leader in points (14.3), rebounds (8.7) and steals (2.3). Jackson will be relied on once again to lead a young team that consists of 11 underclassmen. But unlike last year, she does not feel forced into this position.

"Last year, I had to be the leader," Jackson said. "There is a big difference between having to and wanting to be the leader."

Alongside Jackson will be last year's No. 1 recruit and second leading scorer Erika Arriaran. She is one of the players Conradt refers to as a re-freshman, because after last year's struggles, Conradt wants them to think of this year like a redo. Arriaran is a sharpshooter who lives at the 3-point line, but she may have to play some point guard until redshirt freshman Carla Cortijo fully recovers from a left knee injury she suffered last year. Preseason Big 12 Freshman of the Year Brittainy Raven may also see some time at point guard while Cortijo is out.

Conradt hopes all of her players are able to gain valuable experience in tonight's exhibition, as well as on the road to come. Texas has added depth the past two years with hearty recruiting classes, and this game will be a perfect stage to get this young team some valuable playing time.

"I hope that we can share these minutes with a team that has some depth," said Conradt.

If all goes according to plan, last year will be a distant memory. And that's just the way they want it.

## Boston mourns loss of Celtics coaching legend Red Auerbach

By Jimmy Golen

The Associated Press

BOSTON — A bouquet of green roses topped by a single, unlit cigar sat in Red Auerbach's empty seat at the new Boston Garden on Wednesday night as the Celtics opened the season without their patriarch for the first time in half a century.

A pregame tribute showed video of Auerbach — accompanied by Frank Sinatra's "My Way" — running his teams through drills, berating officials, barking out plays and settling back in his chair to light up a victory cigar.

There was, of course, ample footage of players carrying him off the court on their shoulders, hugging him in a postgame celebration and holding up one of the NBA-record 16 championship trophies the franchise won under his watch.

Bagpipers skirled "Amazing Grace," and some of the 56 years worth of team pictures — with Auerbach in the middle, holding the ball — circled the arena on the message board. On the court, two decals portrayed Auerbach in silhouette, smoking a cigar.

But the fans never got a chance to do what Auerbach did so many times — light up a victory cigar. Those in the expensive courtside seats were given them, but the Celtics lost to the New Orleans Hornets 91-87.

"It was a great honor for me to even know Red," Celtics captain Paul Pierce told the fans from midcourt before the game, surrounded by past greats such as Bob Cousy, John Havlicek, Robert Parish. "As we move forward we've got to continue to celebrate his legacy."

Then, Pierce told the sellout crowd of 18,624 there was one thing that Auerbach liked best.

"Winning," came the shout from the bleachers.

"Even better than winning," Pierce answered, Auerbach liked the chant of "Let's go, Celtics!"

And the crowd responded.

The Celtics wore black, shamrock-shaped patches on their uniforms and said they will dedicate the season to the former coach, general manager and president who died Saturday at the age of 89. He was buried Tuesday in Falls Church, Va.

"Aside from the talk about — and truth about — his competitiveness and people sharing stories about Red yelling at them," NBA commissioner David Stern told reporters before the game,

"this was a real gentleman and a very good friend."

"I can't help smiling when I think of Red. Although it may be said, and it is, when you talk about Red to anybody they start smiling. What a legacy, on top of everything else."

Through deft drafting and cunning trades, Auerbach loaded the Celtics with Hall of Famers and filled the rafters with banners — nine as a coach, seven more from the front office.

"He did whatever it takes to win, without breaking the rules," former Celtic JoJo White said during a ceremony at halftime of the game. "He bent the hell out of them, but he wouldn't break them."

At an afternoon rally on City Hall Plaza, Auerbach's death was felt, too, by Spider Edwards, who spent 33 years sweeping the team's famous parquet floor.

"Red was always a person that looked out for the little fellow," the 76-year-old Edwards said. "He never made the little fellow feel small."

Fans held "Thanks Red" signs, remembered him in guest books and laughed and cheered during a video tribute, which included interviews in which Auerbach recalled tweaking his opponents with obvious glee. Former players, including Parish and M.L. Carr, sat under a giant banner with the Auerbach silhouette, and the speakers made it clear they revered him for more than just winning.

"He'll never be forgotten, and there will never be another like him," U.S. Sen. Edward Kennedy said. "The teams he led, with the legendary Bob Cousy and the incomparable Bill Russell, set the gold standard for professionalism and transformed his sport and this city."

Cousy choked up as he remembered a final conversation with "my old coach and friend."

"He was indefatigable. He was totally committed. He was relentless in the pursuit of his goals," Cousy said.

Kennedy hailed Auerbach for breaking racial barriers — drafting the first black player, Chuck Cooper; hiring the first black head coach, Bill Russell; and fielding the first all-black starting five.

Gov. Mitt Romney spoke of the "Celtics spirit" that Auerbach defined, which he said was about qualities that aren't as easy to measure, such as determination.

"He saw the heart of the Celtics," he said.

## Boise St. downs Fresno St. 45-21

By Tim Booth

The Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho — Jared Zabransky threw with efficiency. Ian Johnson found the end zone twice and No. 14 Boise State dominated Fresno State on a national stage Wednesday night.

Zabransky passed for 180 yards and three touchdowns, Johnson rushed for 136 yards and the Broncos routed the Bulldogs 45-21.

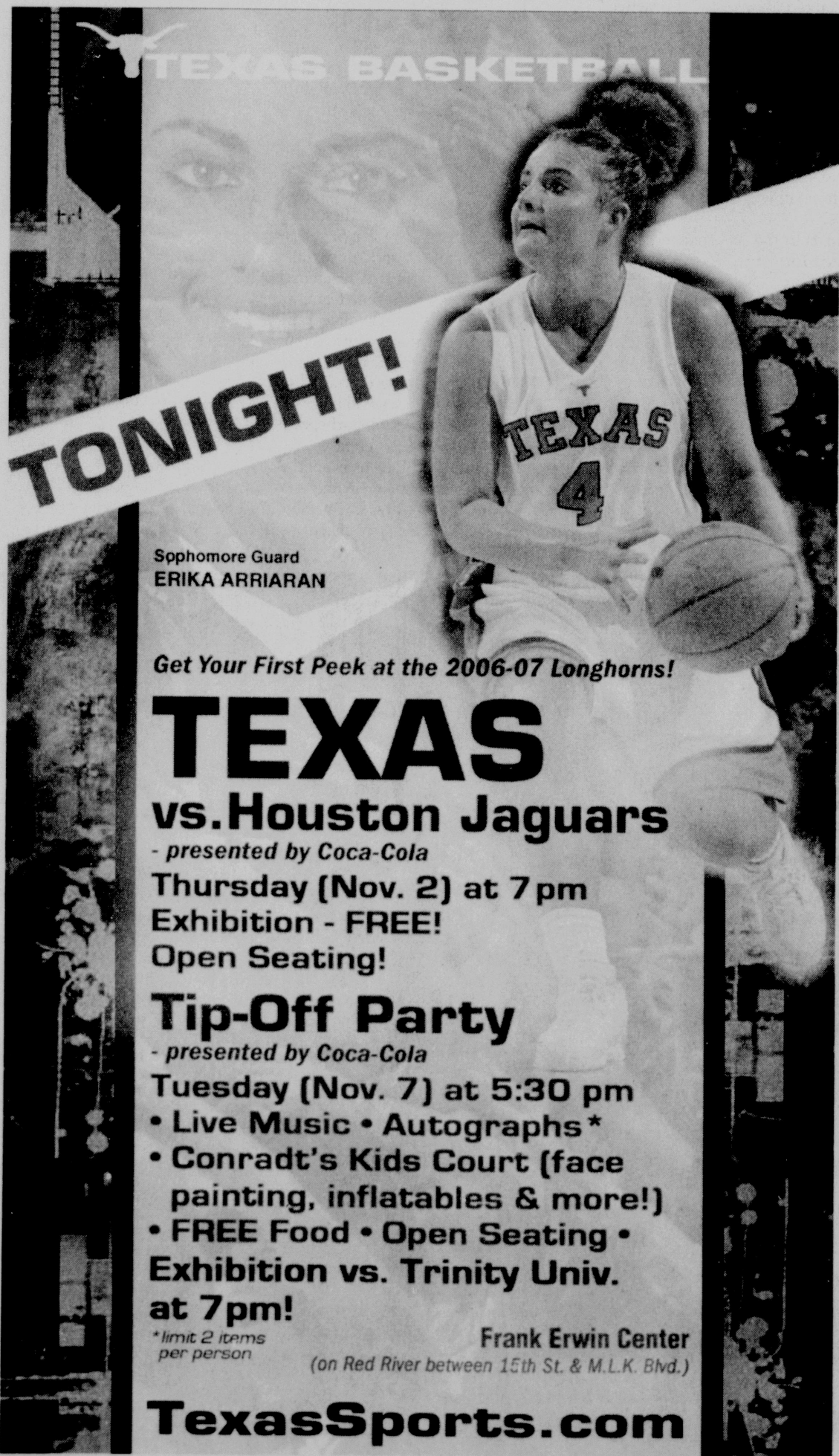
Overshadowed much of the season by Johnson — the national leader in touchdowns — Zabransky directed the Broncos (9-0, 5-0 WAC) to scores on three consecutive possessions in the first half. He also led scoring drives the first two times Boise State had the ball in the second half.

Take away a kneel-down on the last play of the first half, and Boise State reached the end zone on five straight possessions, outscoring Fresno State 35-0 during the stretch. Zabransky completed 19 of 25 passes and added another 57 yards rushing.

The Broncos were ranked 14th in this week's BCS standings, and need to finish in the top 12 of the final poll to become the second team from a non-BCS conference to land a berth in one of the big-money bowl games.

With representatives from the Fiesta, Sugar and Orange bowls in attendance, the Broncos were overpowering for three quarters, then Johnson finished off the Bulldogs (1-7, 1-3) with an impressive final drive.

Fresno State lost its seventh straight since opening the season with a 28-19 win over Nevada. It's the first time the Bulldogs have lost seven straight in one season since 1929.



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# Houston advances to MLS conference finals

**By Simon Provan**  
Daily Texan Columnist

The MLS Cup 2006 participants will be decided this weekend, as the remaining four clubs square off in the one-off affair conference finals.

On Saturday, the first and second seeds meet in the East, as D.C. United hosts the New England Revolution in RFK Stadium at 3 p.m.

In 2004, D.C. and New England staged one of the most memorable MLS playoff games ever. In front of an emotionally charged RFK crowd, the clubs shared shot after shot. Christian Gomez finally broke through midway through the second half, giving D.C. the 1-0 lead. United seemed sure of victory, only to have the Revolution break through in the final five minutes. The game could have gone either way in the extra-time session, but instead went to penalty kicks. Even a regular shoot-out session couldn't decide the game, going to six rounds. With

United's Nick Rimando stuffing a young Clint Dempsey, D.C. went on to win the match and the 2004 MLS Cup.

This year's conference championship could very well replicate that 2004 match, as both teams had to scratch and claw their way to this year's conference final.

D.C. should have easily dispensed of the fourth-seeded New York Red Bulls in the semis, but instead needed late-game heroics in both games from — who else — Gomez.

In the first leg at Giants Stadium, the game stood at a 0-0 stalemate until the 77th minute, when Moreno and Gomez connected on a dazzling give-and-go for the 1-0 win.

In a raucous game that proved passionate soccer fans exist in MLS, Game 2 saw the Red Bulls get on the board first, tying the aggregate at 1-1. Looking like the series would need to go to extra-time, Christian Gomez once again

played the hero role. With four minutes left, Gomez found the side netting with a tightly placed, near-post goal for the 2-1 aggregate win.

In the other conference semifinal, New England needed penalty kicks to beat the Chicago Fire.

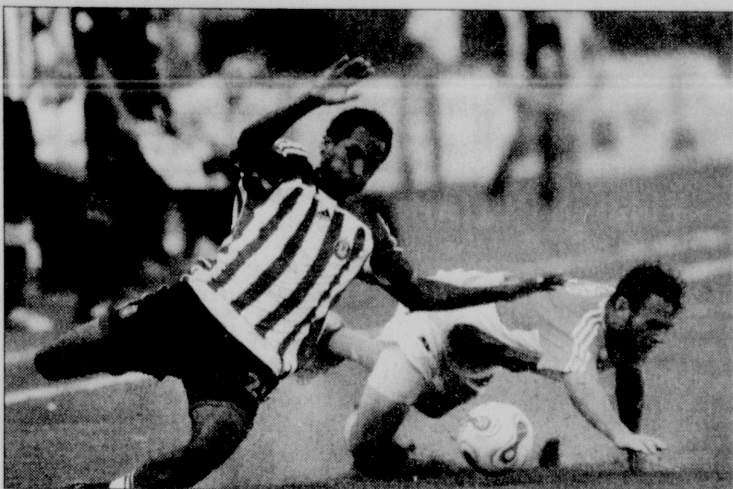
Coming into the second leg at Gillette Stadium, the Fire held a 1-0 aggregate lead. Chicago increased its lead with a first-half Nate Jacqua goal. Down 2-0, the Revs finally got on the board in the final minutes of the first half, thanks to a goal by Taylor Twellman and tied the aggregate on the other side of the whistle with a Pat Noonan goal in the 58th minute.

After a scoreless extra-time, Revs goalkeeper Matt Reis did it all in the penalty-kick session. On top of stopping two Fire attempts, Reis stepped to the spot and converted the Revs' second goal in the shootout. New England won the shootout 4-2.

In the Western Conference final, the second-seeded Houston Dynamo takes on the fourth-seed Colorado Rapids at Robertson Stadium on Sunday at 6 p.m. (Fox Soccer Channel).

Houston has an opportunity to capture its first conference crown in its inaugural season. The club relocated from San Jose last off-season. Although Houston's prospects look good with facing a four-seed, keep in mind that last year's MLS Cup champion, the Los Angeles Galaxy, was also a fourth-seeded and was the last team to qualify for the playoff berth. Furthermore, in the conference semis, Colorado knocked off the regular season Western Conference champion FC Dallas on penalty kicks after FCD was up by two goals on aggregate.

The Rapids are peaking at the right time, but so are the Dynamo. Like Colorado, Houston needed a come-from-behind victory to make the conference final. After



Ric Franis | Associated Press

Houston Dynamo's Brad Davis, right, and Chivas USA's Lawson Vaughn fall while battling for control in an MLS soccer playoff game Oct. 22.

losing the first leg 2-1 to Chivas USA, Houston won the second leg 2-0 (3-2 aggregate), the final goal coming from Brian Ching just seconds before the final whistle.

My picks: Houston beats the overachieving Rapids. New England, who beat the Fire without Clint Dempsey and Sharlie Joseph, will get the better of United and head to its second consecutive MLS Cup.

## PREMIER LEAGUE SOCCER

# Barcelona will bounce back after draw with English league champs

**By Colby White**  
Daily Texan Columnist

It had everything a classic match needs — impressive scoring, controversy and some theatrical flopping for the purists.

But the most important thing to come out of Barcelona's 2-2 draw against Chelsea on Tuesday is the implication for Barcelona's future in the Champions League.

The outcome leaves Barcelona two points behind German club Werder Bremen in the Group A standings and, consequently, in danger of being eliminated. Barcelona has two matches left to retake a bid for the next phase or they will be knocked out, which could possibly set half the soccer world into a violent uprising.

So in order to provide the millions of Barcelona fans some type of comfort before they slip into withdrawal, let me take a look at Barcelona's situation.

Barcelona will travel to Bulgarian club PFC Levski Sofia's home ground in late November. Levski has not won a match thus far in the tournament and has only managed to score one goal. Barcelona embarrassed the club earlier in the tournament, defeating them 5-0.

Levski was overmatched then and will probably face another thumping. Barcelona should be able to pick up three points.

That same day, Chelsea will travel to Bremen's home stadium of Weserstadion in hopes of keeping their undefeated streak in the Champions League alive.

Although Barcelona fans will hate

doing it, they will have to root for a Chelsea win in order to keep Bremen from earning more points.

But even with the cheers of Barcelona with them, Chelsea could struggle.

Bremen is currently the No. 1 team in the Bundesliga, the German league, and have a goal difference of +16, the highest in the league. An upset over Chelsea is fully possible.

It could go either way, but I'm going to predict they battle to a draw, giving each one point and allowing Barcelona to tie Bremen in the standings.

This would put the eyes of Spain on Barcelona and Bremen's December match at Nou Camp. Whoever wins would advance to the next stage.

Barcelona's star striker Samuel Eto'o has been out since late September with

an injury and is reported to be out for at least three more months, which means he will likely be sidelined against Bremen. This leaves Eidur Gudjohnsen to play the role of primary striker. Barcelona still has Argentine Javier Saviola, but knowing Barcelona, they will remain loyal to Gudjohnsen and start him.

Though Gudjohnsen has struggled in the Spanish league, he will be up against a Bremen defense that isn't well known for their goal-stopping abilities. The opportunities will probably be there, but whether or not Gudjohnsen will finish is another story. Bremen's real strength lies in the high-powered offense of Miroslav Klose and Diego, but Barcelona has demonstrated poise against the two before.

Even though the duo has combined for nine goals in Bremen's nine Bundesliga

matches, Barcelona was able to shut them out in their last match-up. (The only goal scored for Bremen in that match was an own goal by Carles Puyol.) The match-ups make it hard to choose a winner — Bremen's weak defense against a depleted Barcelona offense and Bremen's explosive offense versus Barcelona's proven defense.

But in a fifty-fifty, why would you choose against the defending champions?

Barcelona's experience should find a way to earn them a clutch win and advance them to the knockout stage — and prevent a riot from their legions of fans worldwide.

So to all you Barcelona fans: Take a deep breath. Your precious club will be there in February.

## SOCCER: Longhorns were 'confident the whole time'

**From page 1B**

the second half.

"We were confident the whole time," said Texas coach Chris Petrucelli. "It looked like we were going to win just because of the chances we were creating."

The first half was a scoreless affair, but there were several near-misses on

**"Revenge is all I'm thinking about right now. I'm going into this game frustrated and I want to beat this team."**

Kelsey Carpenter,  
Senior forward

both sides of the ball.

Amy Burlingham attacked early and used her speed to get around Nebraska's stingy defense, as she fired shots in the 32nd and 31st minutes of

the match. Nebraska's defense stifled other Texas offensive threats early on, such as Carpenter and Carrie Schmit.

Kluges played an excellent game and made a great save in the 9th minute, leaping up and deflecting a bending shot by Priscilla Fite.

Texas goalkeeper Dianna Pfenninger played solid throughout, recording four saves in the match. The Longhorns' backline contingent also had a great performance, winning balls in the air and crowding any shot attempt by the Cornhuskers.

The Longhorns take on Oklahoma State on Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the semifinal match. Friday's game gives Texas a chance to redeem themselves, as the Longhorns lost to Oklahoma State earlier this season.

"Revenge is all I'm thinking about right now," Carpenter said. "I'm going into this game frustrated, and I want to beat this team. How we played against them earlier in the year is one of the reasons we don't have a Big 12 championship."

## VBALL: Better practice pays off during win

**From page 1B**

"It's something we've talked about a lot at practice," middle blocker Todd said. "The [middle blockers] in general, we've been working on our footwork and to get in position."

While the Longhorns might have looked like they were taking it easy against Kansas, head coach Jerritt Elliott dismissed the notion.

"I just thought they were ready to go," Elliott said. "We had a better two weeks of practice, and that's really carrying over. We came in with a different lineup, and it was a good change."

Moriarty set for 49 assists in the match, keeping her atop the Big 12 standings for assists per game with 14.2.

With the third game in hand, Elliott changed out the guard and gave his backups a chance to enter the match. Senior Jenny Andrew and freshman RuthAnn Feist each came in and got a kill apiece in the waning moments of the match.

Texas travels to Waco on Saturday to play Baylor. The Bears have performed inconsistently this year but have managed to shock top teams like Missouri and took Texas to five games earlier this month.

"It's going to be a tough match," Elliott said. "It's an in-state rivalry, and they played us hard last time, so we expect them to play well."

## NFL: Steelers will beat Broncos in Pittsburgh

**From page 1B**

expected, fumbling away leads late and coming up short in winnable games. The Bengals need it more, while Baltimore is sitting pretty at 6-2. This feels like a good week for Carson Palmer's boys; Cincy does the deed in a mini-upset.

In the spirit of picking all the Monday night games, I'll take Seattle to make the hapless Raiders hurt. This one's a no-brainer, so here's some additional heat to make it interesting: Seneca Wallace throws three touchdowns, the Seahawks win 34-13, and, most daring of all, Randy Moss doesn't throw a tantrum and prematurely head for the locker room.

Lastly, the upset special: Steelers over Broncos. Denver doesn't convince me, and Pittsburgh plays like a contender when Charlie Batch is running the offense. Regardless of who starts at quarterback, Pitt is the pick at home.

Bengals and Ravens is another biggie, as first place in the AFC North is up for grabs. Cincinnati hasn't been as consistent as

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## Houston mayor stops free flu shots at polls

By The Associated Press

HOUSTON — The mayor of Houston on Wednesday halted a program to offer free flu shots at some early voting sites.

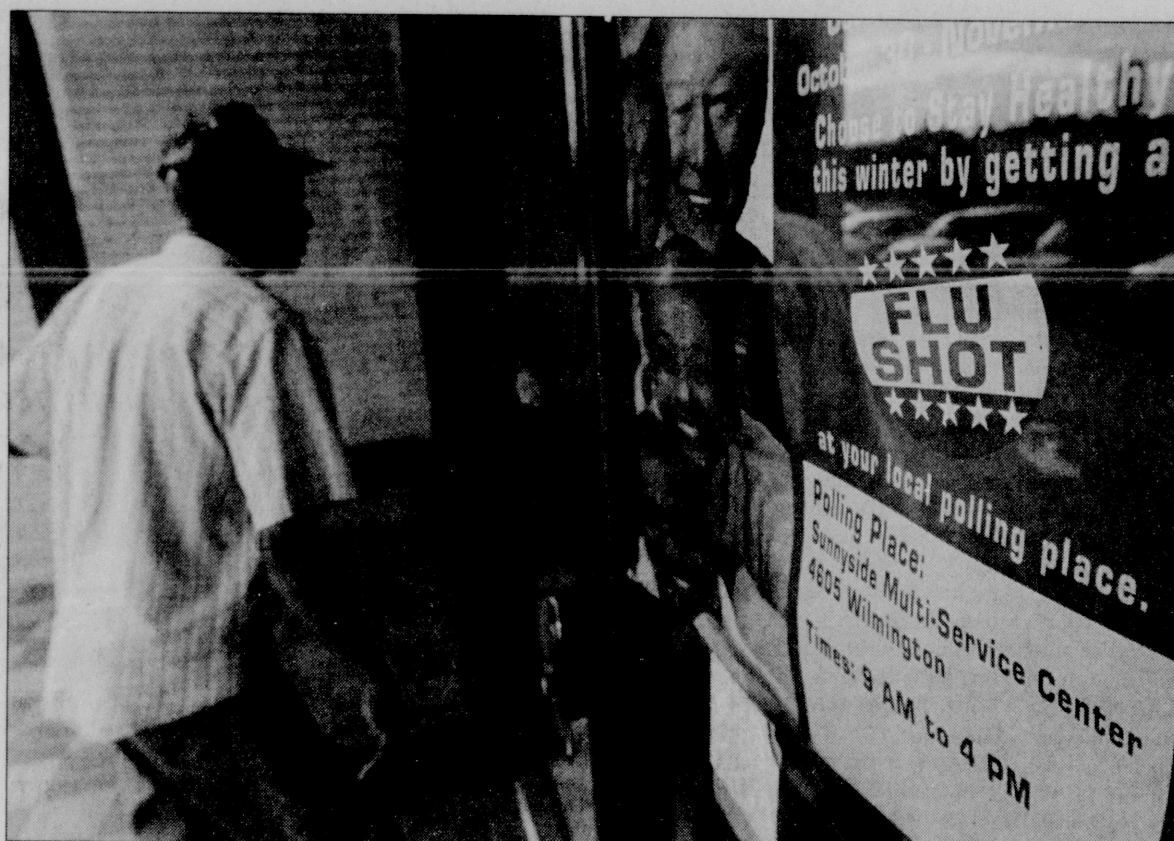
Concerns had been raised about whether the effort targeting Hispanic and black neighborhoods would benefit Democratic candidates. Some Republican officials had criticized the program.

Mayor Bill White, the former head of the Texas Democratic Party, said there was no political motive to offer the free shots. White said the situation involves public health.

A national grant program paid for the flu vaccinations. Guidelines for the grant said the shots needed to be offered in medically underserved areas.

Houston Health and Human Services Department director Stephen Williams said he hoped to get permission to offer flu shots in other polling locations.

Early voting runs through Friday. Election Day is Tuesday.



Harold Dickey enters the Sunnyside Multi-Service Center in Houston for a flu shot on Wednesday

Melissa Phillip  
Associated Press

## UT health president to be TAMU chancellor

By The Associated Press

COLLEGE STATION — A senior executive vice president at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston was named Wednesday as the only finalist for chancellor of the Texas A&M University System.

Dr. Michael D. McKinney, also a former chief of staff to Gov. Rick Perry, was named during a telephone meeting of the A&M Board of Regents. State law requires 21 days of public notice before regents can consider the appointment.

If approved, McKinney would replace A&M System Chancellor Robert D. McTeer, who announced his retirement in August.

"I already have a great love and respect for the Texas A&M System and look forward to getting to know the System leadership and learning more about our universities and agencies," McKinney said.

McKinney has managed operations of the UT Houston Health Science Center's eight components and the medical school's clinical practice plan.

"Dr. Mike McKinney brings a vast amount of experience and energy to the A&M System as both a longtime public servant and a recognized leader in the private sector," said John D. White, chairman of the Board of Regents.

The A&M system is one of the nation's largest for higher education and has a budget of \$2.6 billion.

## Wednesday execution 23rd in state this year

By Michael Graczyk

The Associated Press

HUNTSVILLE — A man convicted of collecting \$200 to kill a teenager to keep him from testifying about a drive-by shooting was executed Wednesday evening.

Donell Jackson expressed love to his family and friends and assured them that he was fine.

He turned his head and addressed Curtis Smith, the uncle of 17-year-old shooting victim Mario Stubblefield.

"I just want you to know that I wronged your family," Jackson said. "I received nothing. I was not paid. I took his life for the love of a friend."

Eight minutes later at 6:21 p.m., Jackson was pronounced dead.

Jackson, 33, was the 23rd convicted killer executed this year in Texas, the nation's busiest capital punishment state. The U.S. Supreme Court on Wednesday afternoon refused appeals to review Jackson's case and block his execution.

Stubblefield was targeted after telling a grand jury about a drive-by shooting he witnessed. He was shot outside his Houston home before he could repeat his testimony in court.

"Basically, it was a murder for hire, a situation where the defendant admitted a friend paid him to kill," said Denise Nassar, the lead Harris County prosecutor at Jackson's trial.

Jackson was 20 when he lured Stubblefield out of his home into the front yard, then shot him in the head and neck. Witnesses identified another man waiting outside by a car as David Smith, who was fingered as the gunman in the earlier drive-by shooting.

Smith later was convicted of paying Jackson the \$200 to shoot Stubblefield and was sentenced to life in prison.

In a statement to police, Jackson admitted accepting payment from his best friend but at his trial denied receiving any money.

He told the Houston Chronicle he knew it was wrong to kill Stubblefield, "But in my warped little world I was looking at it like it's either my friend or some guy I don't know."

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**ACROSS**

1 Most like a chimney sweep

9 Way up

15 Stomach

16 Lunchtime tryst, informally

17 30- and 47-Down in Polish

18 ... in Italian

19 Pick up

20 Activating switches

22 "I am such an idiot!"

24 Actress Vima

25 Teased mercilessly

29 Pot collection

31 Fictional pirate

35 Stars and crosses

37 "Oh, very funny!"

39 Pipe fitting

40 Felt but not seen

41 ... in Danish

**DOWN**

1 Principles. Abbr.

2 Let out slowly

3 Actress Lena

4 Casual wear

5 Got to

6 Mer filler

7 A Gospel writer

8 Many a Facebook listee

9 It's heartrending

10 Alphabetizes, e.g.

11 Ring-tailed animals

12 Women's shoe designer

13 Overseas refusal

14 "\_\_\_ chic!"

21 Unpromising

22 Intl. assn. since 1948

25 "Something to Talk About" singer, 1991

26 Lessor, usually

27 ... in German

28 In the time leading up to

30 With 47-Down, the theme of this puzzle

32 ... in French

33 "Enigma Variations" composer

34 "Family Ties" mother

36 Rap s. Dr. \_\_\_

38 Manjula's spouse on "The Simpsons"

41 Jobs

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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| A | C | C | O | W | L | I | N | G | S | E | M | I |
| C | L | I | N | I | C | O | K | S | I | L | L |   |
| H | O | N | O | R | L | C | D | A | D | L | A | I |
| E | N | D | L | E | I | L | A | Y | E | N | T | E |
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| 4 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 9 |
| 1 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 6 |
| 3 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 5 |
| 7 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 3 | 1 |
| 5 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 2 |

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## Adapting to the season

By Stephanie Matlock  
Daily Texan Staff

Temperatures continue to drop, reminding us that winter is approaching. To make sure your wardrobe is ready, here are some style tips to keep in mind.

The key to successfully pulling off this season's looks lies in adapting trends to the local climate.

Instead of investing in oversized coats to keep you warm, layering is a great way to pile on warmth while still being able to adjust your outfit to the unpredictable Texas weather. Luckily, layering is one of the biggest trends this season. Girls can try pairing shirt dresses over leggings, which are still hugely popular this season, and adding a button-down sweater and scarf to complete the look. Guys can layer button-downs with sweater vests, another cold-weather look that is popular with both guys and girls.

When layering outfits, make use of different lengths by wearing a longer shirt with a cropped jacket to show off the look. Be careful to avoid looking cluttered — you don't want to look as though you're wearing every item of clothing you own, so keep it simple and keep accessories to a minimum.

When it comes to patterns, keep the look clean with solids and geometrical shapes. Fall and winter bring out deeper hues like burgundy, brown and gray, along with this season's favorite, navy. Punk rock and grunge influences shine through stripes, houndstooth and plaid in everything from jackets and skirts to scarves and every accessory in between. Pick a single piece with a great pattern to focus on, such as a plaid cropped jacket, and build the rest of your outfit around it.

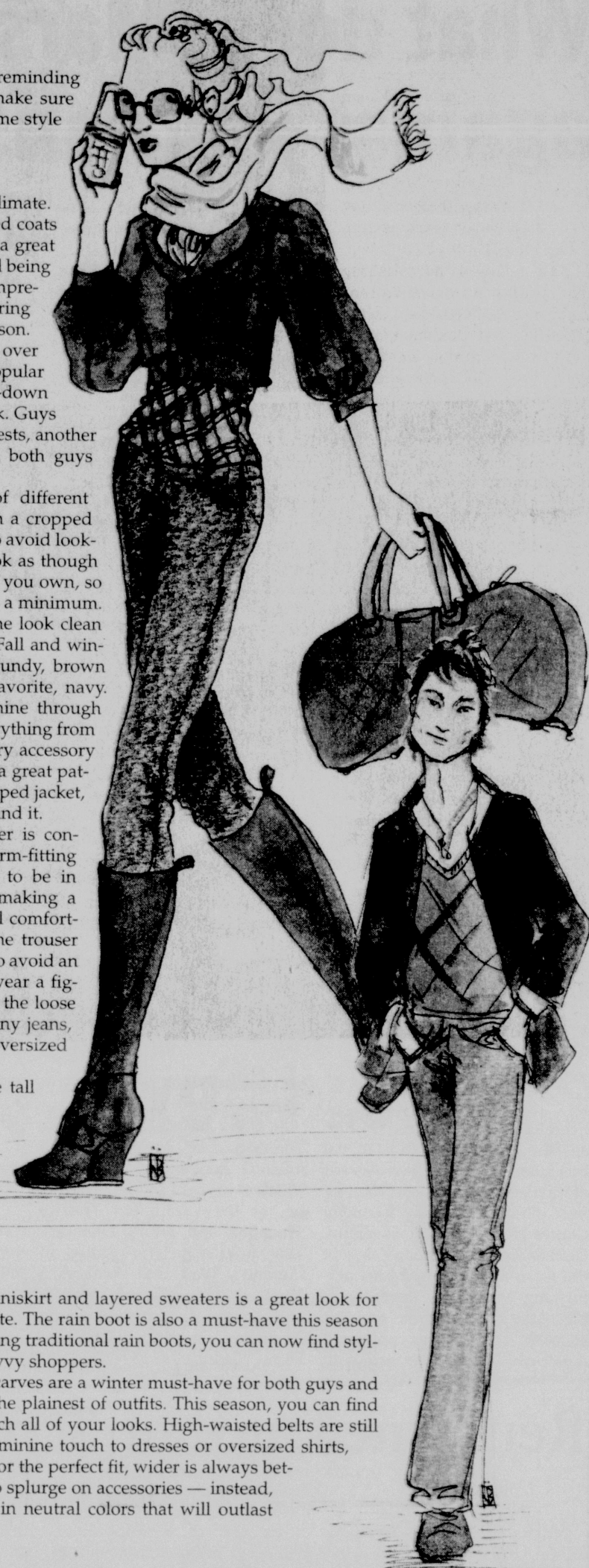
Another great look for the winter is contrasting between oversized and form-fitting pieces. The skinny jean continues to be in style, while the wide-leg pant is making a comeback. For those who don't feel comfortable pulling off the skinny jean, the trouser pant offers a fresh new silhouette. To avoid an overall baggy look, make sure to wear a figure-hugging top to compensate for the loose style of the trouser pant. With skinny jeans, contrast the tight bottom with an oversized sweater or top.

This shoe season is all about the tall boot. There are plenty of varieties to choose from — flat, heels, suede, cowboy, rain, pointy, round-toe — so pick whatever you feel most comfortable in and make a bold statement. Instead of hiding your boots, show them off by wearing them over your jeans — another reason why the skinny jean is so popular and versatile. Wearing the tall boot with a miniskirt and layered sweaters is a great look for girls that's easily adaptable to the Texas climate. The rain boot is also a must-have this season to beat the local weather. Instead of the boring traditional rain boots, you can now find stylish pairs targeted specifically at fashion-savvy shoppers.

Finally, don't overlook the accessories. Scarves are a winter must-have for both guys and girls that add a stylish touch to even the plainest of outfits. This season, you can find them in a variety of patterns to match all of your looks. High-waisted belts are still a great way to add a feminine touch to dresses or oversized shirts, and when searching for the perfect fit, wider is always better. There's no need to splurge on accessories — instead, invest in basic pieces in neutral colors that will outlast any season's trend.



Illustrations by Jane Burson



## 'Forever Plaid' sequel makes its Texas premiere

By Aisha Burns  
Daily Texan Staff

What happens when four dorky guys with amazing voices are summoned from the dead by a phone call from a 1950s celebrity? A little bit of fun, some holiday cheer and comedy shaken like a snow globe all comes together to create the holiday musical "Plaid Tidings." A sequel to the hit "Forever Plaid," "Plaid Tidings" makes its Texas premiere Thursday at Zachary Scott Theatre.

"Plaid Tidings" begins where "Forever Plaid" left off. In the first of the "Plaid" stories, the '50s male vocal quartet dies in a bus accident en route to a Beatles concert. With a magical call from '50s singer Rosemary Clooney, the sequel brings Sparky, Smudge, Jinx and Frankie back from the dead and ready to embark on a Yuletide adventure.

"This holiday spirit takes over their bodies [and makes] these Christmas songs come out of their mouths," said director Dave Steakley.

The men can't figure out why they keep singing these holiday songs, until they realize they're needed to spread some holiday cheer. The group gets the opportunity to perform the concert they never had a chance to sing.

The musical is as goofy as it sounds. Largely a comedy, it's intended to give the audience a chance to forget their problems and be entertained. Writer Stuart Ross dislikes sequels and never planned on writing one, Steakley said, but after Sept. 11, upon request, Ross thought a holiday spin on the successful "Forever Plaid" would provide great escapist entertainment from a chaotic and frightening world.

Although it never takes itself too seriously, "Plaid Tidings" hints at the notion of a deeper side.

"I think there's a real heartfelt change that happens to the characters in the play," said Steakley. "It's really saying that sometimes the family you're born into isn't your family. Along the path of life, you create your own family — though I should add, it says this very lightly."

Light characterizes this production's mood. Actor Kevin Farr is energetic as he describes his character, Jinx, the shy guy

with the quirky misfortune of suffering nosebleeds each time he hits a high note.

"All four of the guys were kind of the nerdy guys in high school, the AV guys," Farr said, laughing.

Steakley describes the singing as "four spectacular voices working together very well."

"It's one thing to cast for roles," Steakley said. "It's another thing to set up a band."

Farr attributes the cast's strong musical abilities to the success of their sound, which mimics the jazzy, 1950s guy-group style. He appeared in the first showing of "Forever Plaid" years ago and is returning to participate in the holiday sequel along with Steven Michael Miller.

Farr admits he was curious about the effects of adding two new actors to the original pair. "It was kind of like, well, I hope this works," said Farr. "And indeed it has."

Expect intricate choreography, with dance numbers paying tribute to "West Side Story" and boy band-like moves. Watch for authentic '60s video featuring Perry Como's Christmas special, the quartet's idol.

Steakley emphasizes the family-oriented nature of "Plaid Tidings" and its ability to connect with all ages, unlike other productions currently showing at the theater.

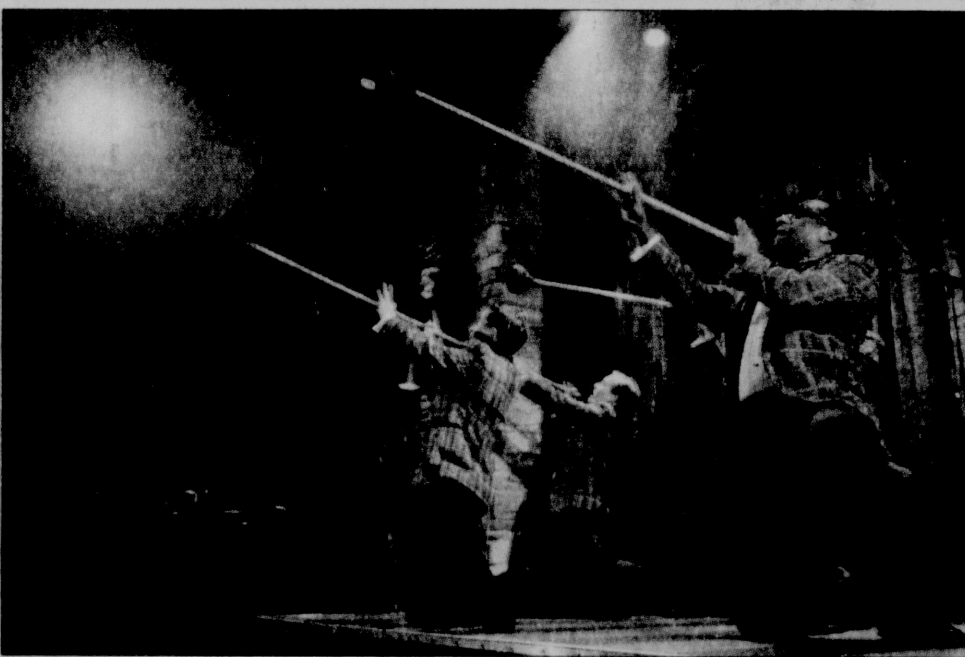
"It'll be exciting for younger people discovering it for the first time. People who know the music from the first time around will be excited to hear some of their favorite tunes."

"Forever Plaid" was a huge success in Austin and ran for over a year. "Plaid Tidings" appears more than capable of living up to the reputation of its "older brother."

"I want to pay homage to the old play," said Steakley. "But this one has its own demands that must be met."

But never fear, "Forever Plaid" lovers. "The things people loved about the first one are back," Steakley said. And they're better than ever.

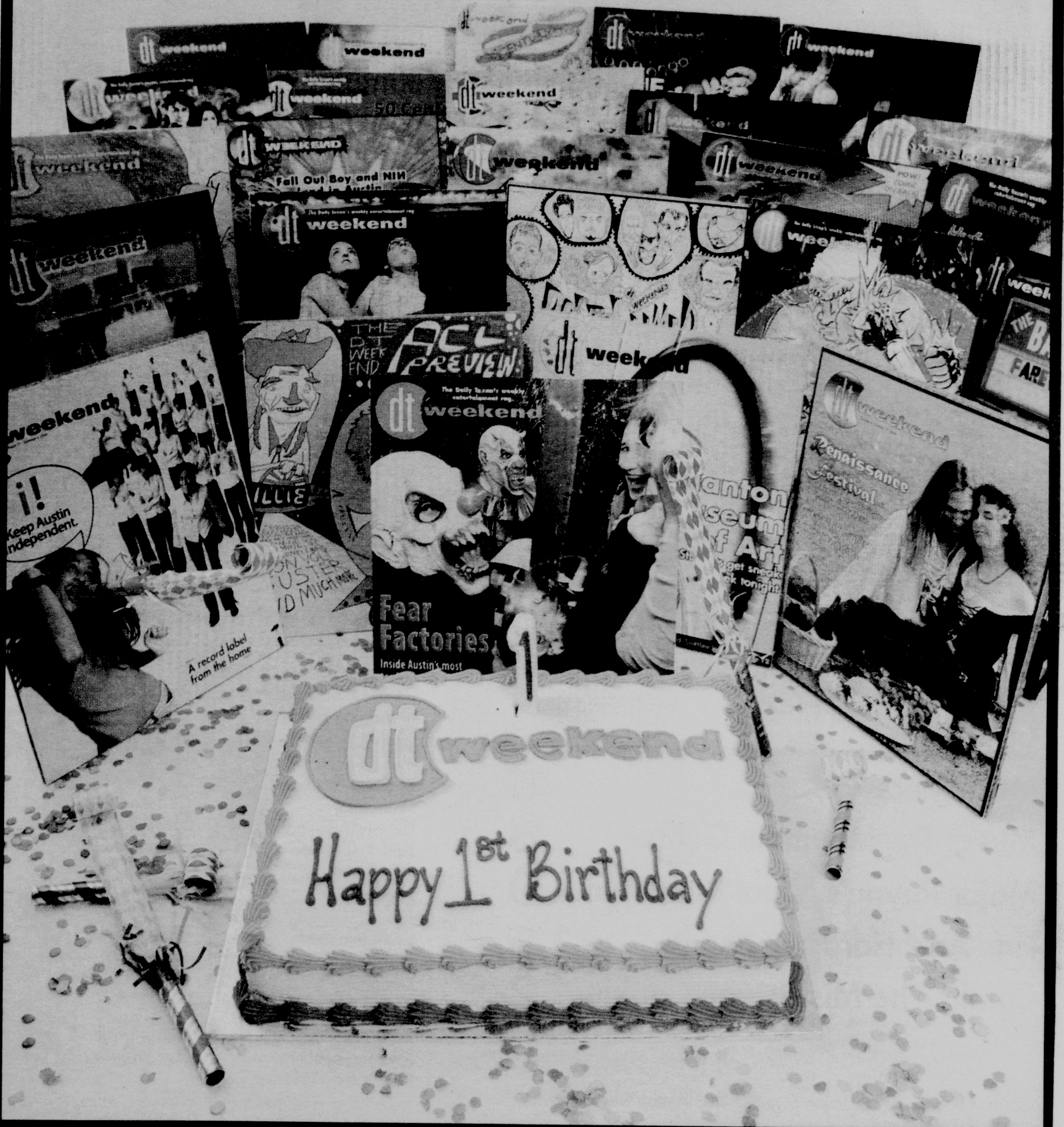
"Plaid Tidings" runs at Zachary Scott Theatre through Dec. 30. Tickets are available through the Zachary Scott box office at (512) 476-0541, ext. 1.



**Top**, Bill Akey and Kevin Farr show off their shades and singing in "Plaid Tidings" Tuesday evening at the Zachary Scott Theatre. "Plaid Tidings" opens this Saturday evening. **Left**, Bill Akey, Charles Brown, Kevin Farr and Steven Michael Miller perform a song and dance number with toilet plungers Tuesday evening during dress rehearsal for "Plaid Tidings." The play is a holiday sequel to the popular musical production "Forever Plaid."

Drew Smith  
Daily Texan Staff



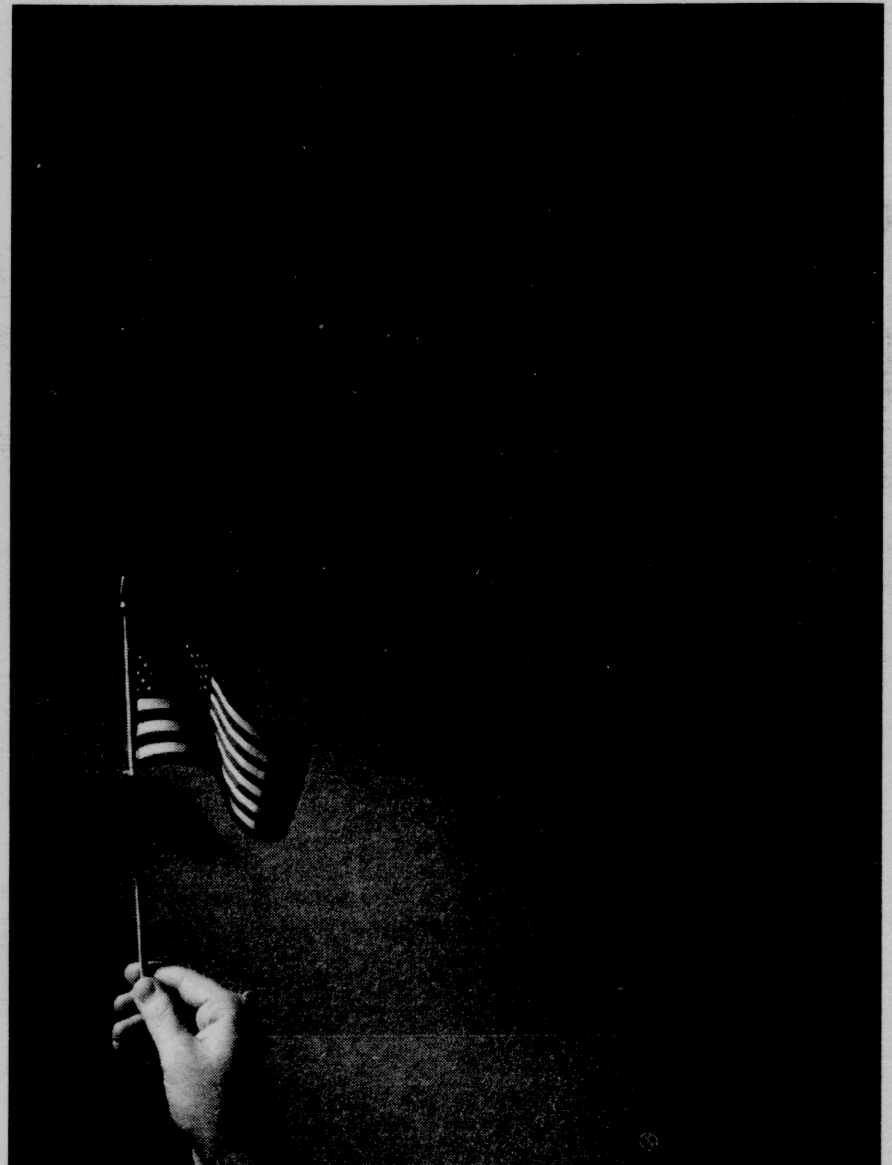


INSIDE 'Borat': A moustache's backlash • Austin days, Harajuku Nights





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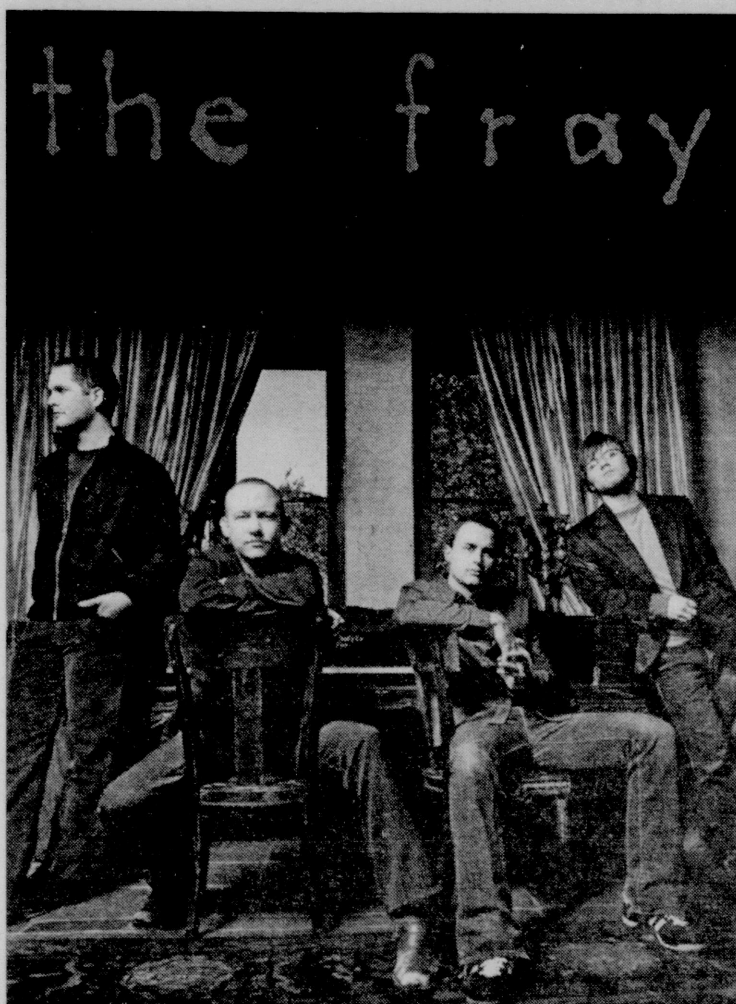
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# Food for your head

By Christine Cha-Sartori

Equipped with an experienced catering team and an easygoing, understated elegance, FoodHeads has carved out its own special niche within the eclectic Austin food scene. The disarming staff and impeccable food have created a gourmet sandwich joint that has fancy fodder without the linen tablecloths and snobby environment. Homemade condiments, locally grown produce and a flair for creative sandwich stacking along with seasonal soups has elevated this house-turned-restaurant from a run-of-the-mill sandwich shop to an Austin favorite since 1992.

Although one of the main draws for visiting clientele is the portability of the meals, take some time to sit down and enjoy the charming ambience. The cozy converted home oozes with welcoming, neighborly vibes and appetizing smells. While you are waiting, pick up a book or two from the built-in shelves that line the walls with cookbooks galore. The unique, bohemian decorum of mismatched tables, chairs and booths is a great place to settle in for the bounty of food that is to come.

I have been lauding the fare found at FoodHeads since I discovered the establishment a year or two ago. To have a more balanced article I made a decision to try things on the menu that I would not like under normal circumstances.

FoodHeads didn't fail to impress me. The salmon salad (\$7.50) was not the goopy, mayonnaise-blasted mess I had come to know and hate. It was a savory blend of oven-roasted salmon, olive oil, apples and pecans that was not only light and refreshing, but also filling and substantial.

Another mayonnaise-based mixture that haunted my childhood food memories was coleslaw. Despite FoodHeads's version being mayonnaise based, they still manage to make it creamy and flavorful without being heavy and stale due to ample seasoning and the use of mayonnaise made in house.

Butternut squash soup (\$2.75 a cup) is yet another food phobia of mine that stems from my distaste for overly sweetened entrees. The soup was actually a bit too sweet and cinnamon-y for my palate.

The texture of the soup did not help matters either. A rough blend of slightly undercooked butternut squash allowed for the occasional, unwelcome crunch of vegetable fiber — a pity because the five or so other soups I have had here were the stuff of culinary dreams and cause for much drooling.

The sandwiches are definitely the main reason why FoodHeads has become so successful. They are sold in coffee shops and grocery stores around Austin. You have probably had one of their delicious sammies around town without knowing to credit them for it. Its sandwiches stand out because of their distinctive layering of unusual ingredients on artisan-baked bread. The "Lami" or grilled sa'lami and fresh mozzarella sandwich (\$6.75) sounds like a light item, perhaps akin to a panini. Do not be fooled — this sandwich arrives toasty warm and overflowing with a mountain of salami which could be almost overpowering for some diners. Luckily, I have no qualms with copious amounts of cured meat. However, while the flavor could be improved with the addition of more vegetables to counteract the saltiness of the meat, it is still a worthwhile bite.

My favorite sandwich is the garlic and herb roasted leg of lamb (\$6.75). How could you go wrong with lamb, feta cheese, cucumber mayonnaise, grilled eggplant, lettuce and tomato served on toasted ciabatta? Well, the grilled eggplant can be slightly crunchy sometimes, but it is usually on the money. Ask for a few cucumbers and the roasted red pepper and eggplant mayonnaise to supplement the already delectable dish. The runner up is its signature sandwich, the Gypsy grove (\$6.75). The ingredient list for this sandwich is quite a mouthful: pork tenderloin, grilled ham, swiss cheese, jalapeño relish (made inhouse, of course), Tabasco slaw and a fried egg. It comes standard with a garlic-toasted baguette, but I prefer it with the ciabatta. The richness of the egg yolk gives a sumptuous mouth feel and the mix of three different animal proteins gives off a heady aroma. A lot to say and a lot to eat, this is a hearty item made for the days when you are



Peter Franklin | Daily Texan Staff

Foodheads' lamb sandwich features a delectable mix of garlic and herb roasted lamb, feta cheese, cucumber mayonnaise and grilled eggplant between ciabatta bread.

really hungry.

The whimsical, endearing atmosphere of FoodHeads will draw you in, although it is the chic food, seasonal menu and affordable pricing that will keep you coming back for more. The

only real drawback is its hours; it is only open until 4 p.m. and it is closed on Sundays. Regardless, FoodHeads merits a visit for its flawless attention to detail and inventive twists on traditional tastes.

## The Low Down

### FoodHeads

616 W. 34th St.  
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## Thursday



Tag Team Media

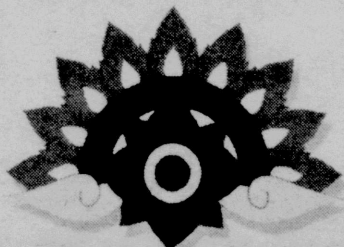
## Britt Daniel @ The Parish Room

Britt Daniel, co-founder, lead singer and guitarist for the all-star indie rock band Spoon, is playing solo this weekend right here in his hometown. A former Longhorn, Daniel was once a DJ at KVRX, the student-run radio station for the University. Under the alias Drake Tungsten, he self-released a demo titled *Clocking Out is for Suckers* in 1994. In 2002, Daniels collaborated with Conor Oberst of Saddle Creek band Bright Eyes on a limited release and highly sought after split album for Post-Parlo Records' Home series. Expect a show true to its Southern roots and folk influences, with a little rock 'n' roll thrown in to keep things interesting.

Britt Daniel plays Thursday with Sally Crewe of the Sudden Moves and Pink Nasy at the Parish Room. Doors open at 9 p.m., and tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door.

— Jess Williamson

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## Saturday

## Widespread Panic @ The Backyard

Widespread Panic plays this Thursday, Friday and Saturday night at The Backyard, with singer-songwriter Randall Bramblett. Widespread Panic is enjoying widespread success with fans of all ages.

The Backyard seems to think Austin needs three consecutive evenings with Widespread Panic's adult-oriented grooves.

Hailing from Athens, Ga., Widespread Panic is a six piece southern rock band that started out as a weekly jam session at the University of Georgia. The band continues to stay true to its jam roots despite selling more than 3 million albums.

Widespread Panic plays Nov. 4-6 at the Backyard. Doors open at 4 p.m. and tickets are \$32.50.

— JW



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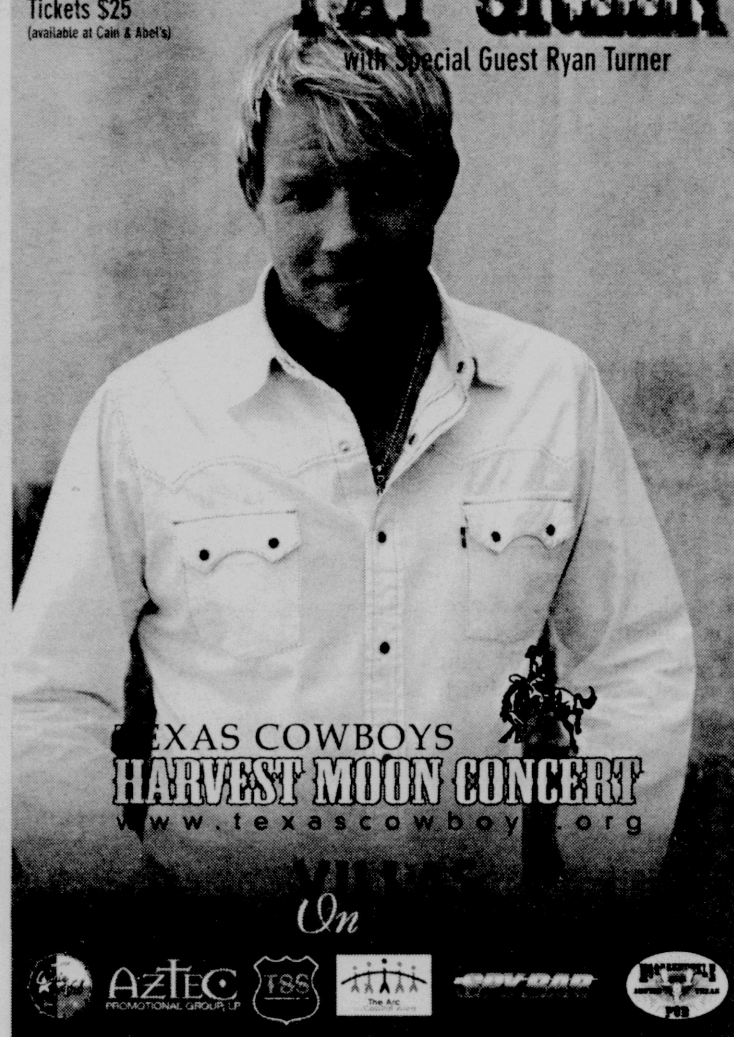
## Mad Caddies @ Flamingo Cantina

Formed one breezy California summer, the Caddies passed the decade mark last year. Despite this fact, the ska-punk band known for inventing "pirate-core" continues to relentlessly tour as if they were still youthful 20 year-olds. Without a new album to promote, the group will shower Austin's Flamingo Cantina this Saturday with its in-your-face brand of rock. So put on your old school Vans, it's time to skank and mosh the night away with a little third wave ska.

— Stephen Keller

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TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE: THE BEGINNING (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1210 1240 115 235 410 440 510) 640 710 750 920 1000 1030  
SCHOOL FOR SCOUNDRELS (PG-13) DIG (1235 725 1015 435) 725 1015  
JACKASS: NUMBER TWO (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1220 250 515) 745 1025  
LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1150 225 505) 755 1040  
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SAW III (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1130 1200 205 235 445 520) 725 800 1000 1035  
THE PRESTIGE (PG-13) DIG (1250 430) 730 1025  
FLICKA (PG) DIG (1130 200 430) 710 940  
FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1230 400)  
MAN OF THE YEAR (PG-13) DIG (1135 210 450) 735 1015  
THE GRUDGE 2 (PG-13) DIG (1205 230 510) 740 1020  
DEPARTED (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1210 330) 645 1005  
THE GUARDIAN (PG-13) DIG (1215 340) 655 955  
OPEN SEASON (PG) DIG (1140 150 420) 630 900  
THE ILLUSIONIST (PG-13) DIG (1145 215 445) 715 945

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CATCH A FIRE (PG-13) DIG (1210 245 510) 740 1010  
SAW III (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1200 240 515) 755 1045  
THE PRESTIGE (PG-13) DIG (1235 340) 730 1035  
MARIE ANTOINETTE (PG-13) DIG (1230 325) 655 950  
FLICKA (PG) DIG (1205 235 500) 725 1015  
FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1220 1250 320 350) 705 735 1000 1030  
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THE GRUDGE 2 (PG-13) DIG (1245)  
ONE NIGHT WITH THE KING (PG) DIG (1215 300) 720 1010  
DEPARTED (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1155 1225 315 345) 640 710 955 1025  
THE GUARDIAN (PG-13) DIG (1215 335) 655 945  
OPEN SEASON (PG) DIG (1215 230 445) 720 935  
UNIDENTIFIED (PG) DIG (1255 305 520) 745 1020  
OC: GRUDGE 2 (PG-13) DIG

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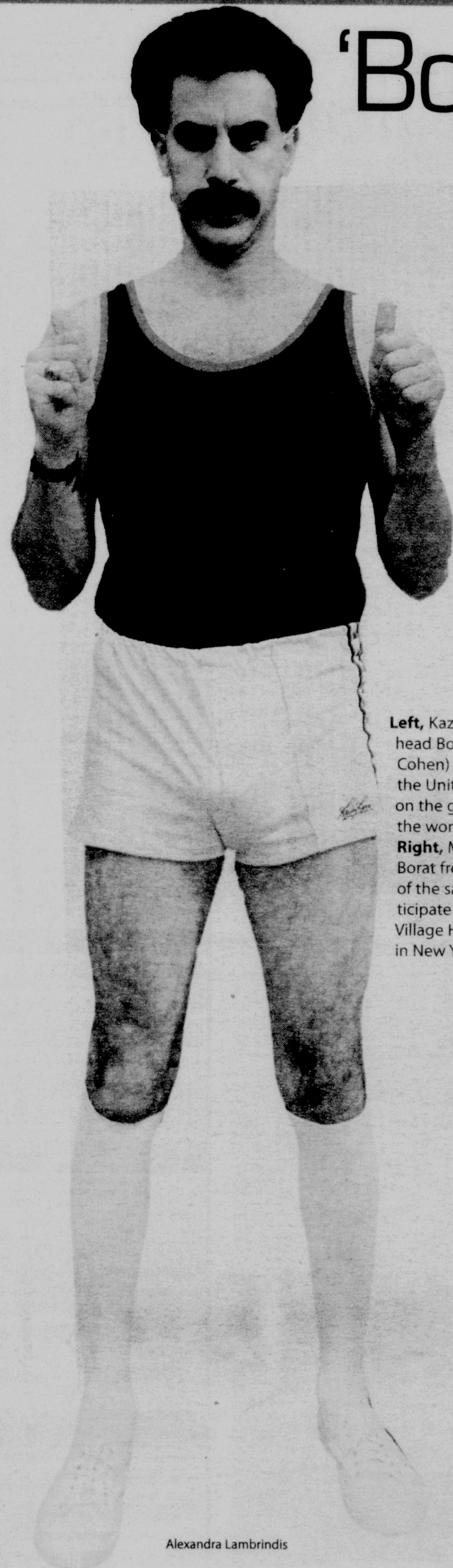
RUNNING WITH SCISSORS (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1230 350) 700 940  
THE QUEEN (PG-13) DIG (1145 100 225 400 455) 645 730 930 1005  
A GUIDE TO RECOGNIZING YOUR SAINTS (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1210 245 525) 750 1015  
THE SCIENCE OF SLEEP (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1250 340) 710 950  
MUTUAL APPRECIATION (NR) DIG (1150 220 500) 735 1010  
KEEPING MUM (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1220 255 515) 740 1000  
LAST KING OF SCOTLAND (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1240 430) 720 955

Times For 11/2/06 ©2006 www.REGmovies.com



# 'Borat' craze follows tradition of controversial popular films

By Lauren Thompson



Alexandra Lambrindis

Sacha Baron Cohen has made a handsome living from his alter-egos on "Da Ali G Show," perhaps the most famous Kazakhstani journalist named Borat. On Borat's official Web site, he claims to be the sixth most famous man in Kazakhstan, which was certainly not the case five years ago.

Cohen has teamed up with "Curb Your Enthusiasm" and "Seinfeld" director Larry Charles to create a film in which Borat takes on the United States, Kazakhstan style — or, more accurately, Borat's version of Kazakhstan style. It originally meant to provide laughs about the West's limited knowledge of Kazakhstan and other countries in the East. But his newest film based on the confused, urine drinking, woman-degrading protagonist, "Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan," has sparked extreme controversy worldwide, making Kazakhstanis out to be primitive and violent. Although the show has been around since 2000, the film introduces many middle-class Americans

to Borat and Kazakhstan for the first time. The Kazakhstani government does not agree with his insensitive portrayal of their country, which actually led the president of Kazakhstan to meet with President Bush.

This is not the first film that has been controversial and offended groups of people. Religious groups have also protested controversial films "Stigmata" and "The Passion of the Christ." The former follows an ordinary woman who is affected by the mysterious wounds of stigmata, but she is not religious or Catholic, and she carries a message releasing a gospel that would ruin the Catholic church ("DaVinci Code," anyone?). Catholics were angry with the film that they deemed impossible and detrimental to the church. "Passion" outraged the Jewish community who thought the film, which was a harsh in-your-face look at the crucifixion of Jesus, was anti-Semitic.

These films were meant to be taken seriously. "Southpark: Bigger, Longer, and Uncut" had a song called "Blame Canada" and was grossly indecent toward many different groups. This song was

nominated for an Oscar, because people recognized that it was a joke, a comedy, a cartoon and a satire.

There are offensive films that are seen as inappropriate, in broader more visceral ways. Foreign films "Visitor Q" and "Le Week-end" come to mind for their vulgarity toward dead bodies and fish. Then there are critically lauded films with moments of abrasiveness such as "Last Tango in Paris" in which a stick of butter is violently used. These films offend those groups of people who are offended by the obscene. Sometimes it has a place, because it can represent the cruelty of humanity, but sometimes it is too much for some.

Whether entire religions, countries, groups of close-minded or just plain normal people are offended by a film, it is guaranteed to be remembered. Cohen understands that any publicity is good publicity, evident when he invited President Bush to an advanced screening of "Borat" in Washington, D.C.

This film pokes fun at what it sees as America's ignorance. Its controversial goal is to make fun of Goliath.



Seth Wenig

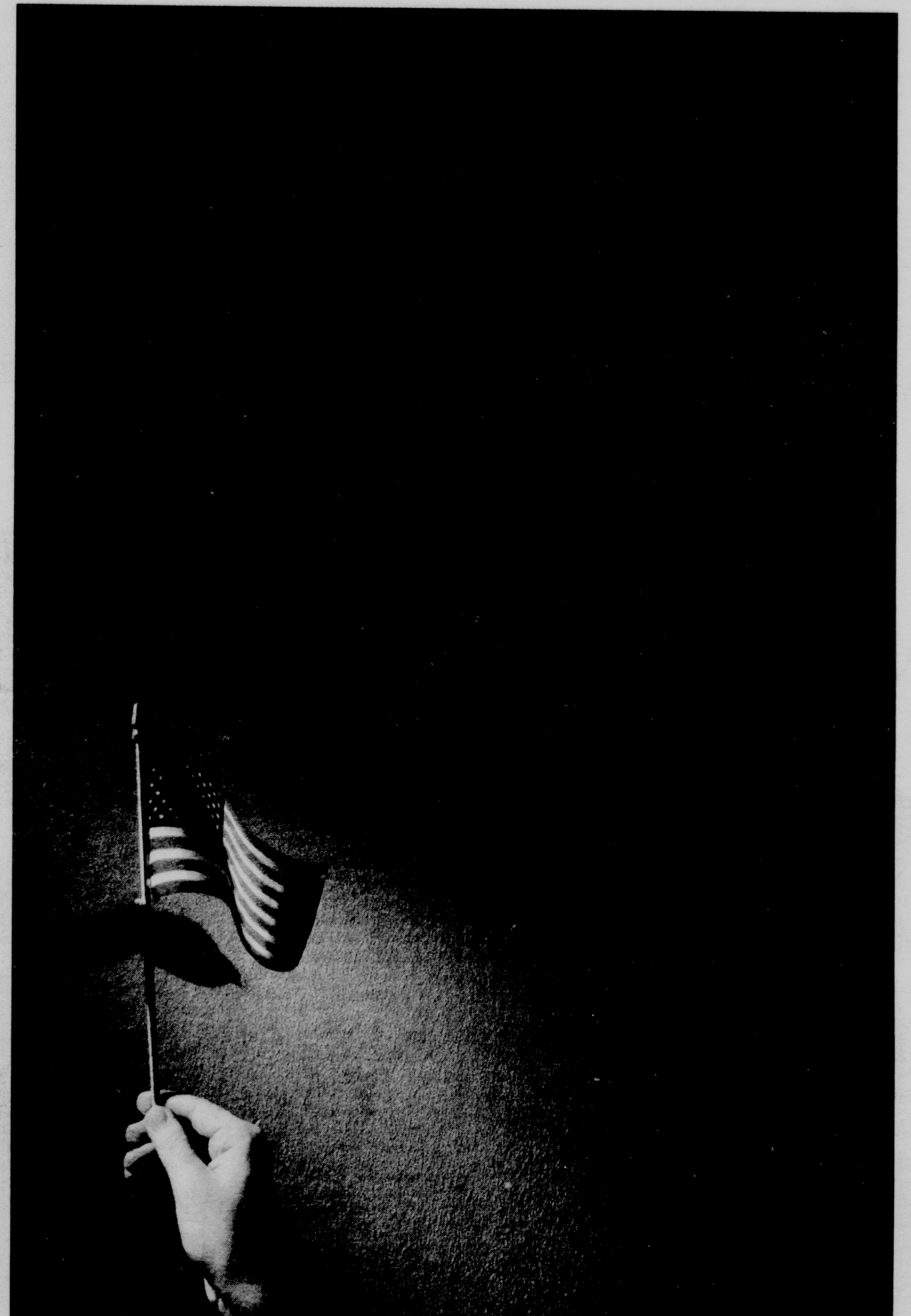


Photo Illustration by Jason Sweeten | Daily Texan Staff



# If you missed The Mountain Goats

By Brian Ledden

The prolific lo-fi indie rock entity The Mountain Goats stopped by Austin last weekend on its tour of the South. For those of you who missed the show, DT Weekend writer Brian Ledden sat down with lead songwriter John Darnielle to talk about headwear, cover bands and the greatness of Houston.

**Daily Texan:** I really don't know where to start asking questions in a setting like this, so I suppose we could begin with essential information: Name,

occupation, favorite color, favorite food, least favorite type of headwear?

**John Darnielle:** I'm John from the Mountain Goats, my favorite color is probably brown but I'm kinda non-committal about that question, I'll eat anything vegetarian, I used to wear hats but now I don't. Little known fact, I wore a black cowboy hat for much of grade school. Not a cheap one, either. A really sweet custom-blocked one. Then Urban Cowboy ruined the effect; every loser on the planet started sport-

ing Stetsons, so now I'm hatless. When I live where it's cold, I rock the pullover cap.

**DT:** With *Get Lonely*, well, really, *Babylon Springs*, being a return back to the fictional songwriting we were previously used to, do you foresee ever making another *Sunset Tree*?

**JD:** No no, I can't imagine that — I think it would kind of cheapen the *Sunset Tree*, to draw from the same well. I want that album to serve a really particular role and I think the best way to let that happen is to let it remain somewhat anomalous.

**DT:** This is sort of tinged with severe personal interest, since the band I play in has done a Mountain Goats cover or two in our time: how do you feel about bands covering your material? I've heard a few covers, like Franklin Bruno's cover of "Lab Rat Blues" with Nothing Painted Blue, or even Atom and His Package's *Going To Ames* tribute EP. Do you like hearing other people's musical approaches to your work?

**JD:** It's fine by me. It's not really something I think about too much, you know? Naturally it's nice to know that people like the songs well enough to want to play them. I'm really only interested in covers that in some way change the original or take it somewhere it couldn't have gone by itself — hearing somebody do a solo-acoustic version of a Mountain Goats song, I'm usually sorta "what's the point," right?

**DT:** To go in a completely different direction, what are some other jobs you've had, making ends meet before cashing in on the oceans of money floating around the independent music scene?

**JD:** I used to be a psychiatric nurse and really enjoyed my work. I remained in the field as long as I possibly could until touring and recording commitments became too pressing and I couldn't give enough of myself to my day job — it was hard to leave.

**DT:** I once read an interview with you that contained perhaps one of the most inspiring things I had ever heard. It was something pertaining to the idea that anyone who can't write 10 songs in a year isn't a songwriter, and that anyone who can't write 20 isn't working hard enough. That said, about how many songs



The Mountain Goats—Peter Hughes, left, and John Darnielle, right—are touring the South.

Steven Dewall

would you say you write in a year? Just how hard do you work?

**JD:** I write a lot — I would say I write 20 to 30 and am happy with maybe 15 of them. The more I tour, the less time I have to write — different sort of work. When I'm at home I try to get down to work at least a little every day — get a song a week done when I can.

**DT:** I'll try to get away from the songwriting focus, but can you explain your writing process, where do you start and how do you get from the beginning to the end?

**JD:** You know, there are as many ways to do it as there are ways to make a grilled cheese sandwich — there's not a template I work from or anything. Sometimes a loose phrase will inspire me, sometimes I'll have a nice chord progression and I'll be looking for words to put to it, sometimes I'll set a task for myself. No hard and fast rules for me on this.

**DT:** Can we ever expect another Extra Glens album?

**JD:** Yes! the Extra Glens, like the American government, refuse to be bound to timetables. We have a few songs and when we have enough to make a new album, we'll do it — we hope to get around to it sometime next year.

**DT:** With the recent incident in Houston involving Two Gallants, are you the least bit apprehensive taking the stage in Houston, or even Texas in general? As a musician, do such blemishes on humanity deter you from wanting to schedule stops in our towns? I cannot help but be concerned for the thousands of people in the various music scenes in Texas who will

certainly feel the repercussions of the officer's actions.

**JD:** Well, unfortunately, we're not going to make it to Houston this time, which is a real shame — I love Houston. I sure don't blame the good people of Walter's on Washington or the music fans in that town for anything — I don't think people should punish such a cool and different town for something one guy did. The only person I really put any blame on is the dude who tasered the musicians and the 14-year-olds or however old they were — personal responsibility man! If the HPD decides to circle the wagons instead of telling the guy "you did the deed, now own up," that's a whole separate level of devilment. But it ain't Houston's fault. Houston's given more good hip-hop to the world than any city except for maybe New York. You can't hate on Houston.

**DT:** Finally, do you know where the road is going to end for you? You're responsible for more than 40 releases as The Mountain Goats alone; do you see any point where you're just going to hang up the guitar and stop?

**JD:** Who knows? I think after a number of years everybody thinks a little about hanging it up, but people seem to like the songs — as long I have ideas that people respond to, there's no reason to do something over-dramatic like announce retirement. If my wife and I have a child, things will change drastically, obviously — I don't wanna be touring-rock-dad. But there's no magic retirement point for me. I'll be done when I'm done.

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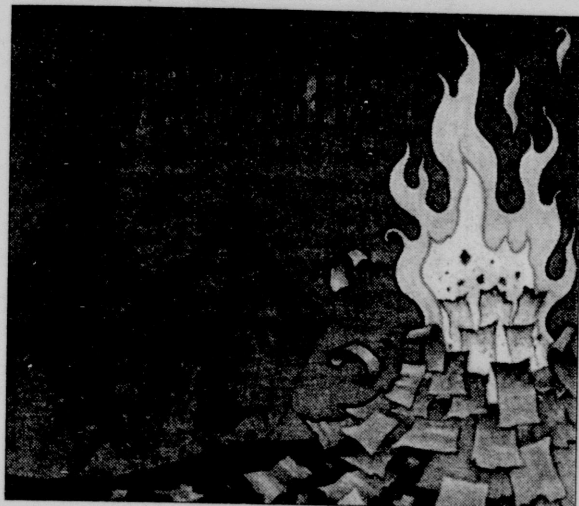
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# Major Payne: The Metal Rundown

By Jacob Payne



## Stolen Babies

*There Be Squabbles Ahead*

Fusing the outlandish oddities of the circus lifestyle with semi-metal grooves, stinging screams and dance-til-you-drop harmonics seems like a success-destined idea. That is the exact ploy of breakout Goth/industrial/prong-pop artists Stolen Babies, whose full-length debut, *There Be Squabbles Ahead*, dropped in late October.

Jerky disc-opener "Spill!" begins with a tolling clock, then jumps between vocalist Dominique Persi singing and shrieking along with upright bassist Rani Sharone's booms. "Push Buttons" relentlessly parades on in repetitive poppy jives that sound playfully fun. The video for the song has the band playing its instruments in an eat-or-be-eaten cartoon world, the perfect setting given the antics of its sound. Probably the most appealing track to people who are not fans of metal, the light and sorrowful "Lifeless" leaves Persi lamenting over wanting to go but staying in her tormented position without reason.

A band that nearly grasps the sound style of System of a Down, this is an outfit for metal fans looking for light-hearted fun, as it has basically mixed two genres that seem to be polar opposites: metal and pop.

## Cradle of Filth

*Thornography*

European black metal ensemble Cradle of Filth has always been able to create a majestic and epic sound while at the same time maintaining a presence that would demonically disturb the average person. Its new album, the demonstratively-titled *Thornography*, tends to grasp moods that will undoubtedly leave the putrid taste of sweat in your mouth. The lyrical content and delivery shouldn't shock given the circumstances, as the band employs a medieval charactership in both tongue and dress, brandishing semblances of witches and warlocks.

Attitudes held on the shaking jammer "Libertina Grimm" has lead howler Dani Filth belching over deception that leaves one helpless and cause him to incarnate 13 curses to the 13th floor while guitarists Paul Allender and Charles Hedger form an intricate riff-making duo. Passionate "Lovesick for Mina" jolts to life with stepping percussion beats from Adrian Erlandsson, also displaying heart throbs by ghoulish bassist David Pybus. The disc's last track and actual first single, mildly electronic "Temptation," showcases songstress Sarah Jezebel Deva's opera-style vocals that delve into states of desire on this one, providing this band's sound with a unique candor.

As an outfit that intends to disgust, the beauty the Cradle create simply cannot be ignored. Bringing differing elements from across the musical stratosphere together, it creates euphorically rich songs and gives metalheads perfect inspiration to raise two horns high into the sky.



## Threat Signal

*Under Reprisal*

With influences ranging from Meshuggah to Pantera and having signed on to the emerging Nuclear Blast record label, Ontario's Threat Signal released its debut album, *Under Reprisal*, a couple of months ago.

Aggression and progression clearly define its presence from the get go, beginning with "Rational Eyes," a staving headbanger that jumbles the mind. Gunshots and searing screams of fearful rage that open "One Last Breath" fuel the track's fury as it develops into a roaringly power-filled ballad.

Determination and persistence are two attributes that, combined, almost guarantee a high level of success, and this is a band that certainly should be able to attest to that fact. With this opening into its discography, Threat Signal proves to be a talented quintet hardcore fans should keep an eye on.



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# Burden Brothers show 'Mercy'

By Patrick Caldwell

In 2001, Vaden Todd Lewis was "spending a lot of time at home being pissed off at things," to hear him tell it.

The Texas grunge icon had just witnessed the breakup of the Toadies, the band he had fronted as a guitarist and a vocalist for more than 10 years. Formerly a leading member in one of the state's most beloved and commercially successful rock bands, he found himself with a surplus of two things: time and angst.

"I was kind of out of a band at that point, and it was really rough times with a lot of legal crap," he said.

What a difference five years can make.

Today, Lewis is serving as the defacto lead for the Burden Brothers, contributing his blistering voice and guitarslinging skills to one of Texas' highest-profile homegrown acts. Their 2003 album, *Buried in Your Black Heart*, enjoyed positive press, and, more importantly, significant regional radio airplay, with the singles "Beautiful Night" and "Shadow" becoming staples of Austin's KROX and KLBJ. Though they were the rare band that came with a sizable built-in audience, thanks to a legion of Toadies fans anxious to see what came next, the Burden Brothers built a strong reputation on their own merits with extensive touring and a refusal to coast on past successes.

Speaking about the band's latest release, *Mercy*, which was released on Tuesday, Lewis couldn't be happier with how things have shaken out. And it all began with a phone call.

Springing forth from the then-fertile Dallas music scene in 1989, the Toadies' stripped-down, raw energy earned them legions of fans and a platinum album with 1994's *Rubberhead*. Touring with the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Bush and the Butthole Surfers cemented their status as Texas legends and kept them visible even in the seven-year stretch between their first album and 2001's *Hell Below/Stars Above*. But politics with label Interscope had strained the band's patience, and they famously dissolved in 2001, leaving Lewis pissed off and with no place to go.

It was then that he got a call from Patrick "Taz" Bentley, former member of the Reverend Horton Heat, the Jagermeister-swigging rockabilly act who had toured with the Toadies throughout the '90s and had a formidable under-

ground reputation of their own.

"Taz called and said that he was going to record some demos in Seattle with some friends of his," Lewis said. "There's no way I'm going to pass that up, so I packed up my guitar, got on a plane and went up to Seattle. We dicked around, had a lot of fun and it was all very informal, and a good time."

The initial lineup of what would become the Burden Brothers read like an ideal Texas rock supergroup: in addition to Bentley and Lewis, members of GWAR and Pinkston played on the handful of songs recorded in that first session. After one, "Beautiful Night," was picked up on the radio in Austin, Lewis and Bentley "got the feeling that we should give it another roll," and settled on a permanent lineup. And thus the Burden Brothers were born.

But business as usual wasn't in the cards for the band. Both Lewis and Bentley had been spurned by the recording industry and were looking to do things a little differently with their newest project, working with a small independent label, Kirtland, and aiming to control as much of the business side of their work as possible.

"Both of us felt pretty burned by the industry, so we wanted to keep politics minimal. The *Buried* record was a lot of pissed-off breakup material from our experiences," Lewis said. "With the Toadies I started off thinking, 'I enjoy this music, I'm going to do it and have a good time.' And I figured it'd get dropped and I'd end up back at the record store with some killer stories. And that was my attitude and I went into it with that. 'In perpetuity? Whatever.'"

But Lewis now knows to look 10 steps ahead when recording, and to choose a label appropriately.

"This music could have some repercussions, it could have some legs, I don't know," he said. "I didn't think 'Possum Kingdom' was going to go anywhere at the time I wrote it."

"Besides," Lewis added, "there's some parts of the business that we're sick of and we know don't work. You don't have to spend \$250,000 on a music video. You can spend \$25,000. It's just a different mindset."

The success of *Buried in Your Black Heart* left the band more assured, and it shows in *Mercy*, a confident work with a more layered sound than its predecessor and a surprisingly thoughtful



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songwriting sensibility. Compared to the sometimes-sparse first album, *Mercy* almost has the feel of a Motown-era "Wall of Sound" recording.

"It took way longer than any other recording session I've ever done, and it spanned four studios. We were able to let the songs stretch out," Lewis said. "It's more lush, and I hate to say more mature, because that's such a goofball thing to say, but we wanted to make something very deep, like a record we grew up listening to."

"The majority of the lyrical content is based on someone who had a really crazy experience in their 20s and told me tons of stories of going to New Orleans and living in an abandoned building and giving up on everything after a good friend had overdosed," he

said of the direction behind his songwriting. "I wrote so many songs around that it's practically a story. It's very personal to me."

Although the recordings may have matured, Lewis says the goal with the live shows is the same as before: to entertain an audience. And he's looking forward to getting back in the grind with the Burden Brothers' Midwest tour, which brings them to Austin Saturday night.

"As I get older and have a family now, it's a different zone than when I was touring then when I was 25," he said. "But I'm still really excited about it."

With the first single from *Mercy* beginning to build a following on local radio and advance word on the album looking good, Lewis said the ultimate goal for both himself and the band is to handle

the business side of rock music with foresight and acumen while sticking true to their roots musically. As ever, the goal is to keep on writing and recording like the punk kid Lewis remembers himself being years ago, listening to records on the bedroom floor and wanting nothing more than to create honest music.

"That punk kid has gotten more experience, more knowledge, more chops," Lewis said. "But it's really about trusting what I know and just going with it. I just do this because it's what I do, regardless of whether people listen to it or not. Writing songs, putting 'em out there and seeing what sticks. I love what I do and it's a good time."

The Burden Brothers will be playing Stubb's Barbecue Saturday. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Texas' own Burden Brothers are following the success of their first album with their newest release *Mercy* and will play Stubb's Barbecue Saturday.



# Tokyo style in downtown Austin

By Aisha Burns

Bright colors, unique style and creative couture come together with all things Japanese in the Arthouse at the Jones Center's annual fall fundraising event Harajuku Nights.

The event's Harajuku theme represents the cultural exchange between America and Japan. Harajuku refers to the shopping area Harajuku Station in Tokyo that became known for the local teenagers who populated the area. Their unique, unorthodox and colorful fashion was popularized as Harajuku style.

A teenage phenomena, Harajuku style is characterized by brightly-colored, original fashion. Painted faces, exaggerated make-up and hair as brilliant as the neon pinks and blues of the outfits are the norm. Simply put, the style can easily be described as over-the-top. Some add their twist to punk rock styles, others dress in costumes mimicking Japanese animation characters while others construct outfits outsiders may simply see as "mismatched." There is no doubt that Harajuku was made to stand out.

Akira Mukai, a UT graduate

student and member of the Austin Japan Association, describes Harajuku as a way for teens to express themselves and magnify their individuality. Although Mukai, like many others, finds the style appealing to the eye, he says Harajuku fashion isn't for him.

"Although we have fun looking at their unique and colorful style," Mukai said, "I won't do their style, and I believe there are a lot of people who think like me."

The downtown gallery is hosting its first of two fundraisers at 7 p.m. Friday. Harajuku Nights sets itself apart from past fundraisers with new additions to the yearly event.

"We've definitely never done karaoke before," said Jennifer Gardner, development associate at Arthouse.

A seated dinner, silent auction and celebrity-judged karaoke contest will comprise the evening that Arthouse hopes will bring bountiful funds into the arms of the gallery. The gallery is aiming to raise between \$100,000 and \$120,000, Gardner said. But with tickets at \$300 a pop, simply filling the house should provide a

good start.

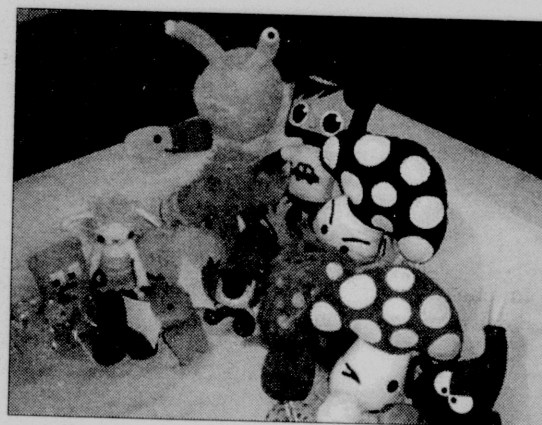
All proceeds will help fund Arthouse's many programs.

"All of our exhibitions and programs are free to the public," Gardner said. "That's why fundraising is so important to us."

Artists from across the globe and across town donated various works in the form of "plushies" to be sold and auctioned at the event. Plushies are colorful mini stuffed animal-like creations that have become a worldwide phenomenon. Part of the grassroots art movement, these creations push the envelope and challenge us to define the line between craft and art.

Creative in design and often in meaning, the plushies donated were inspired by Japanese pop art. Austin artist Jen Frost Smith supplied a plushie from her Love Mongers collection to the fundraiser.

"I made these little creatures from scratch, and they each have a specific wish inside of their fluff," said Smith, who found inspiration in the plushies of other artists. "I love Japanese pop culture with its bright colors and cute icons."



Japanese plushies will be on display at the Harajuku Nights event Friday, a Tokyo-themed fundraiser at the Arthouse at the Jones Center.

Arthouse

In Austin, the presence of Japanese culture, beyond the many sushi restaurants, is sparse, Mukai said.

"Unfortunately, there are only a few opportunities that I can experience Japanese culture here in Austin," said Mukai, who lived in Japan for 32 years before moving to Austin. He cites the small local population of Japanese students for the culture's scarcity.

"Sushi is obviously Japanese culture, but it's not the only part," Mukai said.

Although the fundraiser won't include any art straight from

Japan, there will be an item for auction by prominent Japanese artist Takashi Morakami.

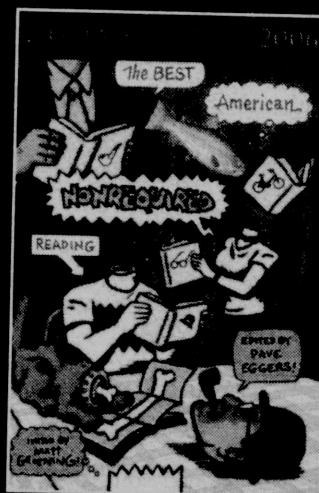
"Arthouse strives to encourage public support and exploration of local contemporary art," said spokeswoman Virginia Jones. "As Texas' oldest statewide contemporary art center, the gallery hopes to gain sufficient funds to continue its support of local artists, and fund exhibitions and programs in the coming months."

Jones describes last year's fundraiser as "wildly successful" and hopes this year's event will be the same.

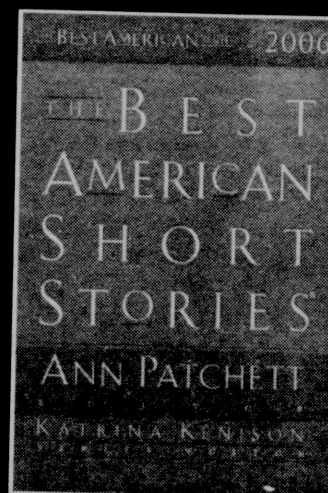
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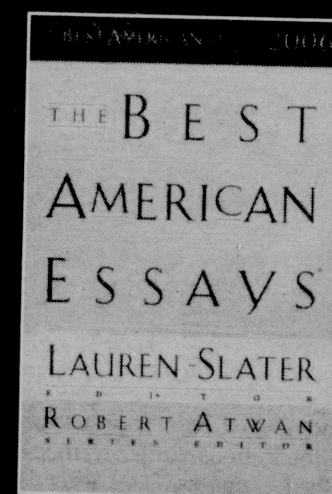
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