THE DAILY TEXAN

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STATE

Bill eases provisions on alcohol offenses for minors

By Albert Zhao
@thedailytexan

During his first semester at UT, Jason Taylor woke up in a holding cell with no idea how he got there Charged with public intoxication, the psychology alumnus said he only remembered dropping off his date at her dorm and blacking out afterward. When he woke up, he was struck with the sobering fear that a potential employer could see his record.

On Thursday afternoon, the Texas House of Representatives tentatively approved House Bill 2059, filed by state Rep. Larry Phillips, R-Sherman, which would make it easier for minors to remove first-time alcohol offenses if no further offenses are committed by age 21.

Under the state's Alcoholic Beverage Code, a minor can currently file an expunction request to

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STATE

Sanctuary cities ban passes House

By Mikaela Canizzo
@mikaelac16

Senate Bill 4, which would prevent cities from creating "sanctuary" policies known to protect immigrants who are in the country illegally, passed in the Texas House of Representatives Thursday afternoon by a 93-54 vote along party lines.

The decision came after a nearly 17-hour debate starting Wednesday morning that persisted until 3 a.m., enduring lulls as representatives from both parties met behind closed doors in an attempt to compromise provisions in the bill.

House Democrats expressed their disappointment and some were moved to tears throughout the night when an amendment filed by Rep. Matt Schaefer, R-Tyler, that would expand officers' questioning of immigration status to those who are detained rather than solely arrested, passed.

Rep. Rafael Anchia, D-Dallas, said the provision would create a culture of fear among the undocumented community and encourage a racist approach among law enforcement officials.

"The message that we are sending from this body is that once your work is done, you and your families had better stay in the shadows," Anchia said moments before the final vote was taken Thursday. "Immigrants to this country commit crimes at materially lower rates than even our native-born Americans, but you

SB4 page 2

Juan Figueroa | Daily Texan Staff

Senate Bill 4's house sponsor Charlie Geren, R-Fort Worth, answers questions during the 17 hour debate on Wednesday.

STATE

Student urges opt-out organ donations

By Claire Allbright
@claireallbright

The founder of a student-run advocacy group testified Thursday in support of a bill that would make adult driver's license recipients organ donors by default.

Kelsey Mumford, a nursing and biology sophomore, said she started the organization after learning about different organ donation approaches in one of her classes. House Bill 1938, authored by state Rep. Jason Villalba, R-Dallas, would switch Texas from having an opt-in system to an opt-out one. Mumford said this change would save lives.

"Texas has this huge opportunity right now to change the system and lead the way in America to save thousands of lives potentially by increasing donation rates," Mumford said.

Mumford said after researching the bill more

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Juan Figueroa | Daily Texan Staff

Kelsey Mumford, a nursing and biology sophomore, testified in support of House Bill 1938 on Thursday morning. HB 1938 would automatically make driver license recipients organ donors and allow them the choice to opt out.

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Robots at UT are getting better at soccer.
Read more online at
dailytexanonline.com

CAMPUS

O's kiosk at Ransom Center collects dust for two years

By Chase Karacostas
@chasekaracostas

An abandoned food stand has sat empty in front of the of the Harry Ransom Center for two years.

The University-owned stand was shut down by O's Campus Cafe, the company that used to manage it, after not being able to make any profit. Pending interests in reopening have kept the stand there since its closing in 2015, according to Marla Martinez, associate vice president for financial and campus services.

Joe Sauta, O's Campus Cafe general manager, said the stand's location makes it hard to generate profit. Competitors on Guadalupe Street made it difficult for the stand, almost unnoticeable amidst the greenery near the HRC, to attract customers, Sauta said.

"It's not a great location," Sauta said. "Foot traffic is relatively close, and you might think, 'Oh, well it's not that far to walk over,' but you're out there on 21st Street, and you're right next to other food vendors."

O's Campus Cafe runs food stands and coffee shops in the Tower, the Belo Center for New Media and 10 other locations on campus. The stand was originally placed in front of the HRC in 2003 to give visitors and staff a place to grab refreshments. Sauta said he asked a few years ago for the stand to be moved elsewhere on campus with more foot traffic.

"We would love to have it moved or have somebody take it," Sauta said. "I'd rather somebody move in there and do something with it other than just having it out there because it's in really good shape."

Martinez said in an email that the University contemplated moving the

Angel Ulloa | Daily Texan Staff

The University-owned O's cafe truck has been shut down and abandoned for two years now. It is located on 21st Street close to the Harry Ransom Center.

> "I'd rather somebody move in there and do something with it other than just having it out there because it's in really good shape.
>
> — Joe Sauta, O's Campus Cafe general mangager

CAFE page 2

CAMPUS

Longhorn memes go viral, relieve stress

By Ashley Liu
@ashley_liu111

One does not simply expect a meme page to go viral — but UT LONGmemes for HORNSy Teens did.

The Facebook page features UT-specific jokes about rivalries between majors, midterm stress and construction along Speedway. The page, which was created in January, has almost 4,000 members and more than 700 meme posts.

Founder and administrator Joseph Bae said he was not expecting the page to gain such popularity.

"I made the page with my friends as a joke," electrical engineering junior Bae said. "All of a sudden we had 1,000 members within a week. Now we get at least 20 to 50 new posts per day. I had to turn off my notification or else I wouldn't see anything else on my Facebook feed."

The page contains original posts specific to UT issues.

"Students probably relate to them more than generic memes from Twitter and Reddit," Bae said. "Finals are also coming up so students are probably looking for a quick pick-me-up. They can also tag their Facebook friends in comments and spread the joy around."

Bae said although the page is meant to be lighthearted and fun, some memes related to the recent vandalism of fraternity houses have caused controversy.

"I'm glad there is discussion, but a meme page just isn't the place for it," Bae said. "Controversy isn't going to be taken seriously here and that undermines the seriousness of the problem as well. I try to delete some of the offensive material to keep the page friendly for everyone."

Petroleum engineering freshman Mitchel Broten said he enjoys the page and its major-related memes.

"Because I'm an engineering major, I especially enjoy the rivalry memes between

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THE DAILY TEXAN

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CONTACT US

Main Telephone
(512) 471-4591

Editor-in-Chief
Alexander Chase
(512) 232-2212
editor@dailytexanonline.com

Managing Editor
Akshay Mirchandani
(512) 232-2217
managingeditor@
dailytexanonline.com

News Office
(512) 232-2207
news@dailytexanonline.com

Sports Office
sports@dailytexanonline.com

Life & Arts Office
(512) 232-2209
lifeandarts@dailytexanon-
line.com

Multimedia Office
(512) 471-7835
multimedia@
dailytexanonline.com

Retail Advertising
(512) 471-1865
advertise@texasstudentme-
dia.com

Classified Advertising
(512) 471-5244
classifieds@
dailytexanonline.com

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TOMORROW'S WEATHER

High **89** Low **57**

HornzyTeenz!

FRAMES FEATURED PHOTO thedailytexan

Juan Figueroa | Daily Texan Staff

From left, Alexis Ayala, 5, Balbina Mauro and Luis Fernando Ayala, 10, participate in the cacerolazo in front of the Capitol on Thursday afternoon.

ALCOHOL

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clear first-time alcohol convictions usually without hiring a lawyer.

Taylor, who was convicted of public intoxication, was able to work with Legal Services for Students to clear his record.

"It was cheaper than getting a lawyer," Taylor said. "At that time, I just didn't want employers or anyone to see and make pre-judgments based on bad behavior."

However, minors with only citations don't share the same legal privileges, making offenses such as consumption of alcohol as a minor more expensive and difficult to clear, Phillips said.

"(Minors) that didn't get convicted, to get (alcohol offenses) expunged, they have to pay (a) several hundred dollars district court filing fee (and) go to district court," Phillips said during a House Licensing and Administrative Procedures Committee hearing on April 3. "You have to have a lawyer and go through that whole process."

Employers won't find out about citations — such as a ticket for underaged drinking — through state background checks because they don't pick these up, said Sylvia Holmes, associate director for Legal Services for Students. The only record of the citation will be in the specific court that handled the offense, which is not a student's criminal record, Holmes said.

"If money is tight and you're concerned and you don't have an arrest record and you got one of these underage drinking tickets … you should (instead) buy yourself a new interview suit and a good haircut and new shoes for that interview," Holmes said.

One more procedural vote in the House will send the bill to the Senate for a committee hearing. If passed, it will go into effect no later than Sept. 1.

ORGAN

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extensively, she held an information session about organ donation.

"Thirty kids showed up to hear me talk about organ donation for half an hour and I realized that a lot of students really are interested in this issue," Mumford said.

From there, Mumford said her organization worked with Student Government to adopt a resolution in support of HB 1938 and circulated a survey throughout the UT community to gauge students' support of the bill.

Mumford said the survey showed 75 percent of the 945 respondents were already organ donors and if HB 1938 was passed, 87 percent answered they wouldn't opt out of the policy — a 12 percent increase in organ donors.

"We're talking about the age group that's … already the most likely to be donors … and you have a 12 percent increase," Mumford said. "Think about the increases you could have in other age groups in Texas."

Citing the survey during his public testimony, Micky Wolf, student body vice president, said the opt-out policy would change how society views organ donation.

"That this policy would improve the donation rates of the already best performing age group is a testament to its potential to alter the stigma and expectations around organ donation," Wolf said.

Those opposed to the bill said the opt-out language of the bill would be confusing since most policies, such as warranties, operate on opt-in systems.

"We oppose the bill because it would replace an effective and growing system with one that is confusing, controversial and would bar donation in many cases," said Susie Miller, the executive director of the Glenda Dawson Donate Life Texas Donor Registry, a nonprofit organization founded by the Texas Legislature.

Mumford said countries around the world with opt-out policies have higher donations rates than the U.S.

"We only have a 48 percent registration rate, and that's better than it was ten years ago, but we are still being beat by Spain — they have 13 percent higher rates than us," Mumford said. "It's almost a moral issue to take an interest in this. If there is a way to save lives, why aren't we doing it?"

Villalba said while his bill is controversial, it is about saving lives.

"Is it bold? Yes, we haven't done this before," Villalba said. "It's a new step in the way we deal with this issue. But we've got to find ways to provide additional organs for people who are dying."

The bill was left pending in the Transportation committee of the Texas House of Representatives.

THE DAILY TEXAN

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(512) 471-8590 I advertise@texasstudentmedia.com

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Tuesday ..... Thursday, 12 p.m. Friday ..... Tuesday, 12 p.m.
Wednesday ..... Friday, 12 p.m. Classified Word Ads 11 a.m. (Last Business Day Prior to Publication)

SB 4

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would not know that from the discussion we had on the House floor yesterday."

The bill's House sponsor, Charlie Geren, R-Fort Worth, said his version of the bill, which only included arrests, intended to ensure safety for all community members and keep criminals out of the country rather than target the undocumented population. However, both Democrat and Republican representatives said Schaefer's amendment opposed Geren's intention by implementing language used in the original version passed by the Senate in February.

Rep. Roland Gutierrez, D-San Antonio, said while he does not support the bill, the hope for a more lenient version disappeared with the addition of the amendment.

"The very notion that we were going to do a softer house bill is a complete farce," Gutierrez said early Thursday morning before the House recessed for the night.

Despite concerns from legislators that the detainment provision in the bill could potentially affect individuals in any circumstance where they have contact with the police, Schaefer said his amendment still requires the prerequisite of reasonable suspicion under state law to detain someone for a crime.

"This in no way allows any more authority to state law enforcement than exists right now," Schaefer said in regards to his amendment. "It just ensures that once a person is now being detained or they have been arrested lawfully, that when the police are doing their work and as part of that they are inquiring into this person's identity and they learn that the person has a federal detainer, that they can honor that."

SB 4 will now return to the Senate where senators will either accept the version of the bill passed by the House or call for a conference committee where members of both chambers will be tasked with agreeing on a revised version.

After an agreement is reached by both chambers on the final version of the bill, Gov. Greg Abbott, who named it one of his emergency priorities at the beginning of the session, will have the opportunity to sign it into law.

THE DAILY TEXAN

NEWSCAST

LISTEN FRIDAYS AT 5 P.M.

Jordyn Caruso | Daily Texan Staff

Junior Electrical Engineer Joseph Bae is the founder of UT LONGmemes For HORNsy Teens on Facebook. The memes found on this page are original and specifically related to UT.

MEMES

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(engineering) and liberal arts," Broten said. "It's fun to see other majors joke about their perception of us. The rivalry makes me feel like I'm part of a team and that gives me a sense of community."

Nutrition freshman Heema Patel said seeing relatable memes makes her feel better about her own problems.

"I feel like I'm not alone," Patel said. "I was really frustrated with registration because I couldn't get a lot of the popular classes, but seeing other students tease the UT registration process made me realize that everyone has these kinds of problems. I'll be OK."

CAFE

continues from page 1

cart to Speedway after its closure.

"We considered moving it to Speedway but with the redesign of Speedway and the plan for food trucks, this was not done," Martinez said.

Attempts were made to have Austin Roasting Company take over the cart, but they backed out after complications involving licensing and other fees, Sauta said.

HRC retail manager Monte Monreal said in the three years he's been at the University, he only went to the cart once, shortly after he began working at the HRC.

"Ever since then it's always been closed and sitting there," Monreal said. "Eventually you just stop noticing it, it just becomes a part of the background. At this point if it suddenly moved, I would be more jarred by that than the years of watching it sit there and gather dust."

STANDOUT Awards

presented by The Cactus Yearbook

Since the 1930s the Cactus Yearbook, the official yearbook of The University of Texas at Austin, has recognized outstanding students who embody the spirit and values of The University. The following students were chosen by a selection committee comprised of representatives from the University faculty, the Dean of Students' office, and UT's Student Government.

Texas Student Media and the Cactus Yearbook congratulates them!

Franz Belz

Kayla Blanchard

Tejas Choudhary

Cara Clayton

Katherine Dennington

Shannon Geison

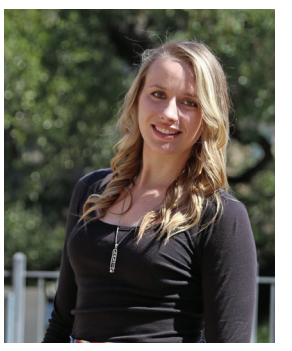
Abigail Griffin

Olivia Griffin

Daisy Holland

Wande Isola

Sam Karnes


Alanis King

Eszter Kish

Rishabh Kothari

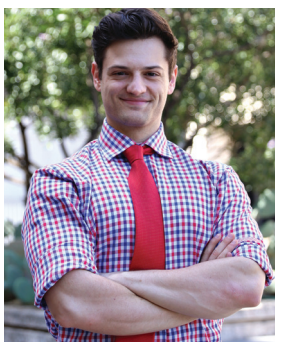
Sailesh Kumar

Hong-Dan (Dana) Le

Christopher Medlin

Zoraima Pelaez

Bethany Rolan


Jonathan Rufrano

Bahar Sahami

Eric Saldanha

Jake Schwartz

Bronwyn Scott

Alicia Sego

Sean Sellers

Cassie Stuurman

Suchi Sundaram

Vivian Tat

Oanh Tran

Jeffrey Xia

Yaowen (Laura) Zhang

The 2017 Cactus Yearbook arrives May 3rd. To purchase your piece of history, go to buytsm.com

FORUM

Daily Texan Forum says goodbye, for now

By Alexander Chase, Jordan Shenhar and Emily Vernon
Daily Texan Forum Team

After months of terrible jokes and overexplaining other writers' pieces, this week's Forum is our last of the semester. In our place in next Friday's issue will be the opinion department -30- columns, where departing members of our staff will say goodbye to The Daily Texan. But today, we want to say thank you to all of those who have written for us this year. It's been a great run.

David Laude, senior vice provost for strategic initiatives and a chemistry professor known for his lively in-class demonstrations, caps off this year's Forum contributions with a paean to the class of 2017, the first to matriculate under the University's four-year graduation initiative. While some members of our staff have mixed feelings about this focus, we accept that improving educational access in this state is a worthwhile goal and are excited to clear the way for future Longhorns, voluntarily or not.

For the Texan, at least, it helps ease the transition that those taking over for us are more talented than we are. Among them is incoming editor-in-chief Laura Hallas, who writes for us this week about experiential learning programs that can help students develop professional experience while receiving financial aid. This issue is one that has interested those of us in management positions at The Daily Texan for years, and we hope to see the paper find ways to invest in its staffers in the future, especially those who could not participate without that help.

Before we step out, we owe it to ourselves to reflect on what we've done wrong, and what good has happened despite our best efforts. First and foremost, we owe a large thanks to the public figures both across and outside of the political spectrum who have written for our page this year — especially those who students tend to disagree with. We owe a special acknowledgment, then, to Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick for discussing tuition set-asides and to UT System Chancellor William McRaven for discussing his position on kneeling during the national anthem. We encourage more of these interactions going forward, and hope that all politicians who serve our students will heed McRaven's words on the importance of media.

We also owe a word of thanks to Kevin Helgren and Binna Kim, who set aside hours during their hectic tenure as president and vice president of Student Government to make their voices heard many times over the past year on issues that have deeply affected our campus. We hope that Alejandrina Guzman and Micky Wolf can live up to the example they have set.

All that said, we still have another week of classes left, and, with it, another week to take your contributions and discuss the issues that you care about most. We prepare to leave an institution that, while deeply flawed, is well worth fixing and is invaluable to those such as us on the way out. Send your words to *editor@dailytexanonline.com*, and we'll give improving it one last shot.

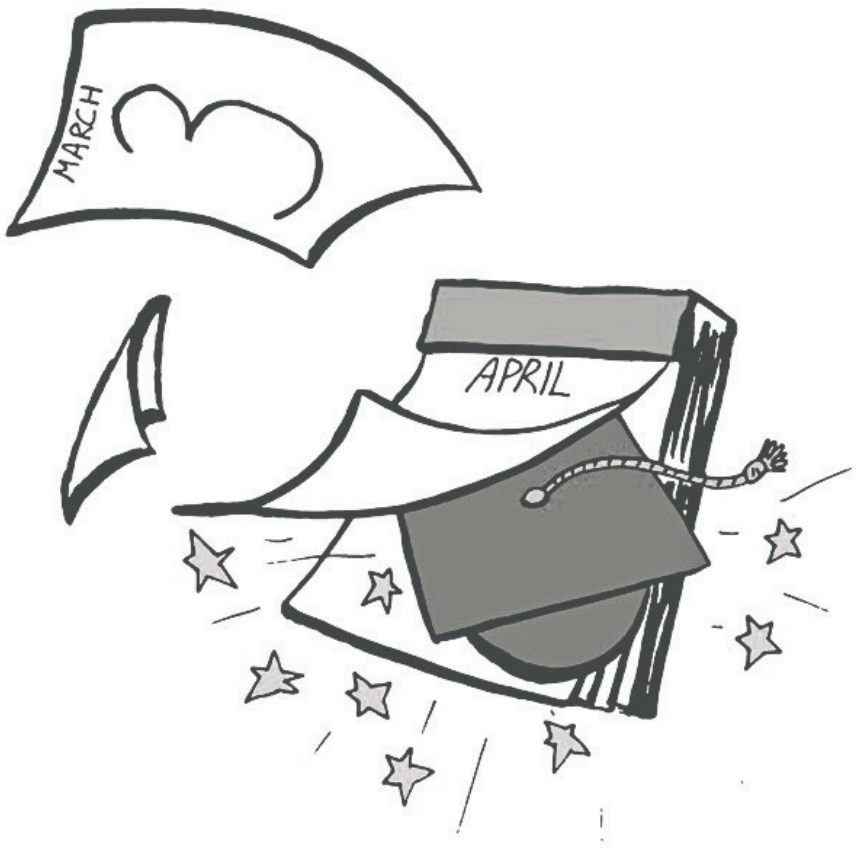


Illustration by Albert Lee | Daily Texan file

Chase is a Plan II and economics senior from Royse City. Shenhar is a Plan II, economics and government senior from Westport, Connecticut. Vernon is an anthropology and rhetoric and writing sophomore from The Woodlands.

FORUM

Class of 2017 benefits from graduation initiative

By David Laude
Senior Vice Provost for Strategic Initiatives

In the spring of 2012, UT-Austin leaders accepted a task force report in support of the goal of increasing four-year graduation rates at UT-Austin from what had been a consistent rate of around 51 percent, to a target of 70 percent. Over the last three years, implementation of task force recommendations has resulted in substantial annual gains, with last year's class of 2016 graduating at a rate of 61 percent. An impressive 875 more undergraduates received their degrees last year compared to 2015.

We won't know until October whether the Class of 2017 will reach the ambitious 70 percent goal, but it's clear already they've made tremendous progress. This is the first cohort of students to have the full "four-year graduation rate" experience, from standing on the football field making a giant Bevo for their class photo, to belonging to a 360 Connections, to knowing their PTD (Progress-to-Degree) when they registered for courses. But most importantly, this is the cohort that is leading the way in changing the culture of the university to one in which timely graduation is the expected outcome for an incoming freshman.

Along the way, the campus has rallied around the idea of student success as the real priority of the four-year graduation rate initiative. Individual students will necessarily have different time frames to complete their degrees, maybe because of a change of major or an economic or personal challenge. But what all students have come to expect is that the University is with them every step of the way. And if this means that more students graduate in four years because they get the course they need, or because they found a mentor who made them feel like they belonged, then we should celebrate their success.

Chemistry professor David Laude runs a demonstration using liquid nitrogen on Sept. 15, 2014. In his other role as senior vice provost for strategic initiatives, Laude has helped increase the four-year graduation rate.

Claire Schaper
Daily Texan file photo

UT-Austin is recognized nationally for what it has accomplished on the student success front, and visitors from other institutions are enormously impressed by our progress. When asked how we do it, I offer that this is something this campus has always done — tucked away in the thousands of offices across campus are faculty, advisers and other university partners who have for years made their commitment to students on the 40 Acres a priority. As a chemist, I offer that the only thing really new was to turn all that energy into a singular commitment built around helping students to succeed.

But the real heroes in this story are the 7,118 students who formed the Class of 2017. Arriving in the fall of 2013, they are the people who took on the personal responsibility of making the most of their UT-Austin experience, and yes, getting themselves graduated to make room for younger siblings.

So, how is this class doing? At the very least, they are going to come very close to the ambitious goal of 70 percent graduating in four years. Whether or not they hit the goal, this class has made their mark. And when years from now, the culture on the 40 Acres is to take on even loftier goals for student success, the Class of 2017 can take enormous pride in knowing that they led the charge.

Laude is the senior vice provost for strategic initiatives.

FORUM

Experiential learning creates student opportunities

By Laura Hallas
Daily Texan Editor-in-Chief-elect
@LauraHallas

Her freshman year, radio-television-film and journalism sophomore Krystal Cruz walked into one of her first journalism classes. The professor, gauging the room, asked the class who had previously worked on their high school newspaper.

Cruz, remembering the poorly-structured newspaper in her hometown, sat unmoving while the rest of the class shot their hands up.

"I thought I was really behind because I didn't have that background in journalism," Cruz said. "Media students are so pressured to start their work now so that they won't be behind when they graduate, you want your degree to count."

Not all learning happens inside the classroom. At the cusp of professional life, students (and their future employers) measure undergraduate success not only by GPA, but by relevant experience and professional connections gained. Undergraduate courses — especially in the first two years of a degree program — can feel more like a high school style checklist of prerequisites than valuable career prep.

Experiential learning offers a place for students to make (and recover from) critical mistakes, build portfolios and form friendships and mentorships that can evolve into first professional networks. To commit to the professional skill sets colleges purport to give its graduates, university entities must leverage existing resources while opening doors for students.

University Leadership Network (ULN), a nationally recognized incentive scholarship, recognizes this need. The program pairs students with outstanding academics with professional experiences they might not otherwise be exposed to, along with a four-year renewable scholarship to help fund the experiences.

A common problem here at the Texan, as well as elsewhere in the University, stems from the students' inability to continually justify the cost of their volunteered time on staff. Even editorships and leadership roles, despite their immense career importance, become secondary concerns to rent and textbooks. Scholarships and federal work study help cover costs but the impetus is on organizations to propose their respective jobs as legitimate experiential learning.

This is where University leaders must step forward. Texas Student Media recently partnered with ULN to add seven job openings across seven media entities and office support, and we at the Texan hope to explore more funding and credit options to provide students as much involvement as possible.

Cruz, a ULN scholar, hand-crafted one of these experiences with BurntX. She was volunteering her time as a staffer at BurntX and TSTV when, as a part of a ULN requirement, she needed to find an on-campus internship. Recognizing the mentorship and relevant professional skills she was gaining, she worked with ULN to exercise an option in which students craft their own internships.

Cruz said that students even beyond ULN program could benefit from university entities taking the extra step of opening up their opportunities.

"I feel like a lot of (impactful internships) are hidden, the bigger opportunities," Cruz said. "Many people will have to make copies or just sitting for hours whereas mine is collaborating with a team and doing creative things, and pitching, and all of this other stuff — I was able to see the difference."

More departments, on-campus programs and even individual professionals should think deeply and sincerely about what professional internships they can publicize. Some of our biggest challenges at the University, from the Top 10 Percent Rule to budget cuts, come down to identifying ways to better serve deserving students. Innumerable opportunities exist on campus, and ULN cannot be the only program to tackle the issue. On-campus professionals must leverage the deserving students waiting to build their professional experience.

Hallas is an economics, health and society and Plan II sophomore from Allen.

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SOFTBALL

Longhorns face Kansas, looking to overcome disappointing loss

By Wills Layton
@willsdebeast

The last Big 12 series for Texas did not go as planned: the Burnt Orange lost to the worst team in the Big 12 in Iowa State. Hoping to reverse its fortunes, the team takes on Kansas in Lawrence at the Arrocha Ballpark this weekend.

The Jayhawks come into the series with a 24–23 overall record, while carrying the burdens of a 3–9 conference record. The Longhorns are on the heels of a midweek victory over North Texas, and are looking to lock up a spot in the Big 12 tournament.

This will be the seventh time the team has played a series after a midweek matchup, with varied results. However, week in and week out, the preparation has been the same.

"It's what we do every week," sophomore Bekah Alcozer said. "We come out, we get ready, we practice, and then we play a game. It's just kind of a routine for us now."

After the series versus Kansas is yet another midweek matchup versus Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, followed by a matchup with No. 15 Baylor. With the season coming to a close, the team has those games to bolster its tournament resume.

With the Big 12 Tournament kicking off on May 12, Texas needs a few victories versus a Big 12 foe to officially clinch its own spot in the tournament. However, with the last and second-to-last teams in the conference set to face each other in the final weekend of the season, the team is in a good spot.

"Right now we're just taking it game by game," Alcozer said. "If you start looking too far ahead, you lose focus. Right now we're just focusing on Kansas."

Kansas poses a big hurdle when it comes to the team proving itself. Texas has lost every Big 12 series away and at home except for a road-series victory versus Tech. While Kansas is not ranked as highly as No. 7 Oklahoma, they still present a unique challenge.

"Typically, they swing the bat well," head coach Connie Clark said. "They'll put up runs. Hopefully we can get to their pitchers. They power up pretty good and they compete well at home."

Texas has developed a standard for excellence over program history. While the season has not been all it had the potential to be, there is still something to fight for in Lawrence this weekend.

"The first word that comes to mind is pride," Alcozer said. "We are at a University where some of the best athletes in the world are. Just to put on this uniform everyday and to wear the name Texas across your chest, all you have is pride. Both in the school, in yourself, and in your teammates."

Joshua Guerra | Daily Texan Staff

Sophomore outfielder Bekah Alcozer swings for the fences at Red and Charline McCombs Field. Alcozer and the Longhorns hope to get back on track against Kansas this weekend.

Noel Mahouch | Daily Texan Staff

No. 45 sophomore Harrison Scott pumps his fist in triumph at Caswell Tennis Center. Scott recently won over No. 18 Spencer Papa during Texas' 4-3 loss to Oklahoma on Thursday.

TENNIS

continues from page 7

opportunities in some of the matches, but I've got to give OU credit," Center said. "I saw a lot of good signs, but I also saw a few things that we need to clean up."

The focus now shifts to the NCAA Championships as the Longhorns seek their first title in program history.

The route to the championship could go through Austin as Texas is expected to host first and second-round matches from May 12-14. The complete field of 64 will be revealed on May 2.

"We've had great crowds over at Caswell, and we'll definitely need our fans to come out for those matches," Center said. "We've got two weeks to get ready and hopefully play our best tennis down the stretch."

BASEBALL

continues from page 7

"We know that we're good and when everything is clicking, we can beat anybody," Cooper said. "I think the main thing is we just got to take the same mindset on the road and not worry about where we're playing, just worry about playing the game how we know how to play it."

Although the right-handed pitcher expressed the deflation following the team's loss Tuesday, head coach David Pierce remained his usual self: calm, ready to move forward and reluctant to overreact.

He can't afford to do otherwise.

"We're unlike a basketball or especially a football season, where you play once a week and you have all week to worry about it and try to fix everything in practice — we have to move on," Pierce said. "We play 54 to 56 regular season games, so it's key for us to have short memories, understand what we did wrong, understand where we can improve, work on our weaknesses and move on."

Texas now prepares for a series with Oklahoma State. Although the Cowboys are tied for seventh in the Big 12, they are coming off a series win against No. 8 Texas Tech.

Despite their road woes, the Longhorns are still in a decent position. They have an opportunity to move up a couple of spots from the sixth slot they currently sit in, but that will take something they've yet to do: win a series on the road.

"Our fate is right in front of us," Pierce said. "Oklahoma State is really hot, they've played really well last weekend. It's going to be a good environment for them. We've just got to toughen up and be better on the road — it's that simple."

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Keeping it together.

Channing

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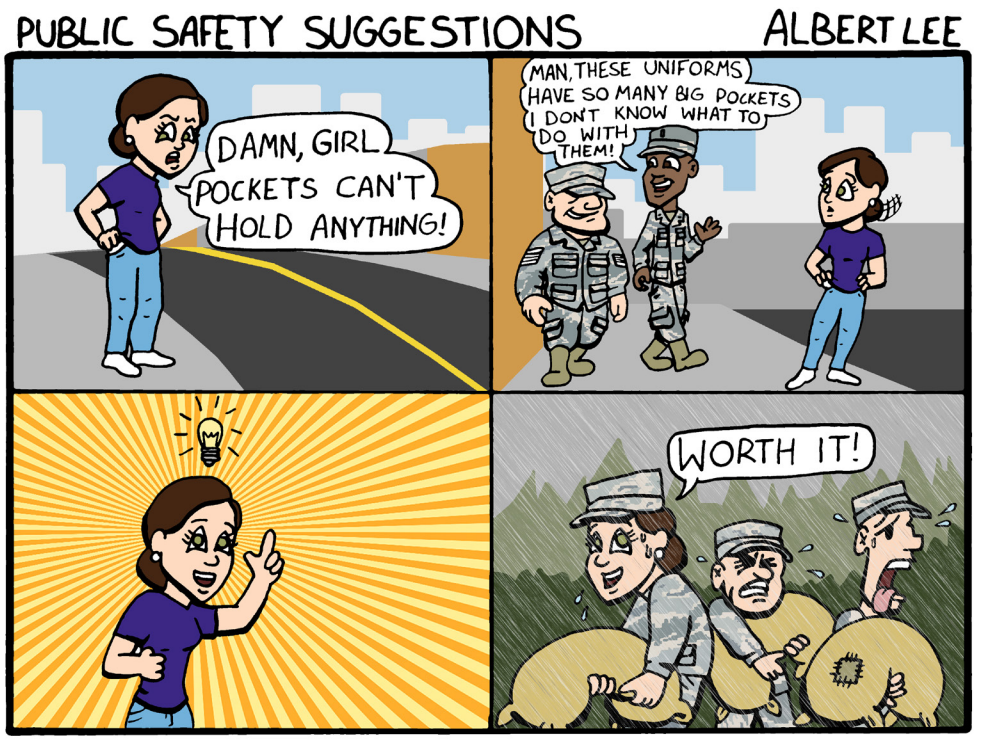
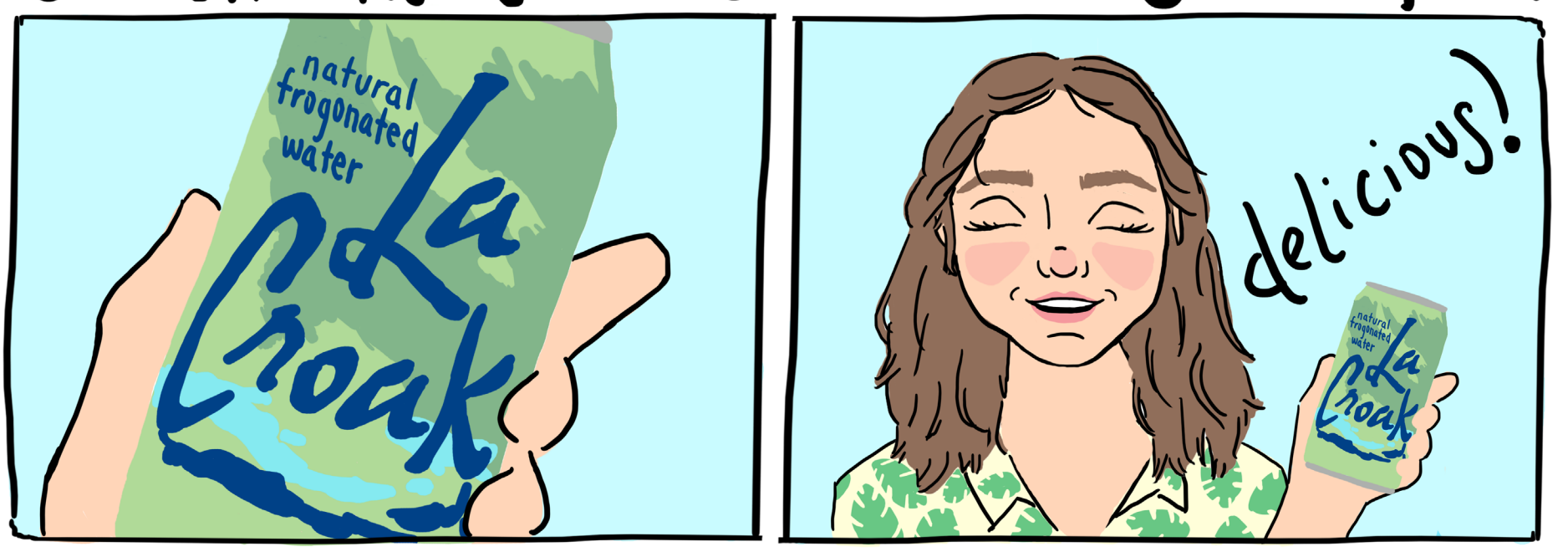


SCARY STORIES TO TELL @ LUNCH

BY JACKY TOVAR

LONE STAR RECOLLECTIONS — jac alford



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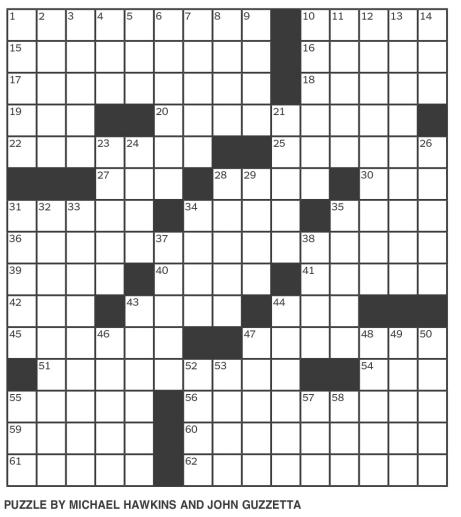
Edited by Will Shortz — No. 0324



PUZZLE BY MICHAEL HAWKINS AND JOHN GUZZETTA

ACROSS

1 Indications of one's qualifications?
10 They can be found in two different sections of home-improvement stores
15 Men's fashion shortcut
16 Completely wiped out
17 Bad occasion for an anchor to drag
18 Like many beta programs
19 Burrowing sea creature
20 Practically begs to be hurt
22 Through the roof
25 Clip art?
27 ___ George H. W. Bush
28 1982 Disney film
30 Hybrid business entity: Abbr.
31 Ancient Roman citizenry
34 Traveled in trunks, say
35 Ritual drink in Shintoism
36 Diamond delivery
39 Judith with two Tonys
40 Metal finish?
41 Turns off
42 "___ for Alibi"
43 Become attentive, with "up"
44 Stop working for good
45 Tizzy
47 Protectors sent packing?
51 Foiled
54 Blues group, in brief
55 "___ true"
56 What'll give someone a bleeping chance?
59 Writer/director of "The Evil Dead"
60 Stiff material under a ball gown
61 Novelist Hammond ___
62 Proved sound

DOWN

1 The Bronx Zoo has 265 of them
2 Aerodynamic
3 1985 Oscar nominee for "Agnes of God"
4 Wetlands regulator, for short
5 Jazz trumpeter Hargrove with two Grammys
6 Shabby
7 Sniffer dog's discovery
8 Thrill
9 Grasps
10 Uncivilized sort
11 Flip-flop
12 Take care of bills
13 Boastful sort
14 Challenge for a housecleaner
21 It might be caught by a 56-Across
23 One of a hitched pair
24 California congressman Darrell
26 People with decorating tips?
28 Do some dirty dancing
29 Like walk-off touchdowns
31 Hospital vessel
32 Moby Dick, e.g.
33 Reading problem
34 One receiving top billing
35 "In Luxury Beware" painter, 1663
37 Punk
38 Nike alternative
43 Tab alternatives
44 Hang (on)
46 Request for a hand
47 It grows in the dark
48 Dark
49 Banquo, for one
50 Better with trickery
52 Really impress?
53 Test of one's backbone
55 Prefix with athlete
57 Giant in chemicals
58 She, in Rio

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

T	B	S		T	I	P		H	R	S		P	E	U
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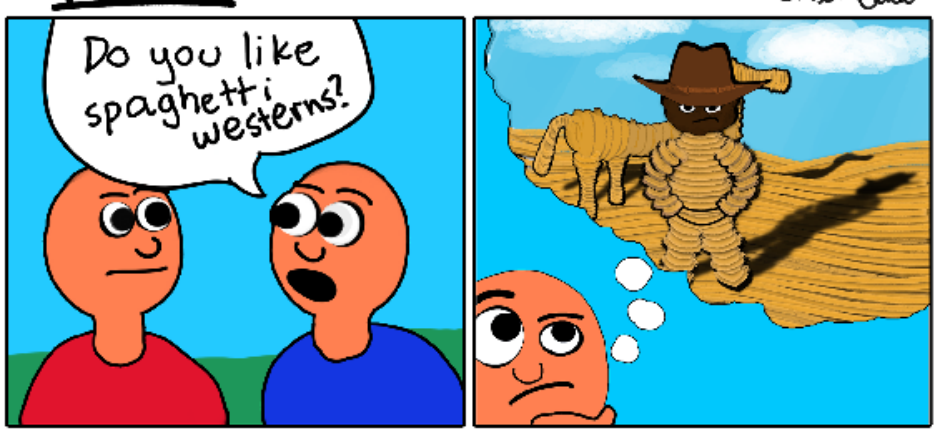
ILLOMANIA — Jason Gade



Today's solution will appear here next issue

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BASEBALL

Redshirt junior pitcher Morgan Cooper launches a ball towards home plate at UFCU Disch-Falk Field. Cooper and his Longhorn squad are still looking for their first road series win this season as they head to Stillwater, Oklahoma to battle Oklahoma State this weekend.

Joshua Guerra
Daily Texan Staff

Column: Texas looks for road series win

By Vanessa Le & Alex Briseno
@vanesssale @Alexxbriseno

The Longhorns need to figure something out, and fast.

As Texas prepares for its final three series of the regular season, a common theme has arisen for the Longhorns: their struggles on the road. The Longhorns sling an atrocious 4–8 road record over their shoulders as they head to Stillwater, Oklahoma, for their weekend series with Oklahoma State.

Texas' overall record (28–16) is well above .500, but the Longhorns continue to struggle outside the fences of UFCU Disch-Falk Field. The latest road defeat came on Tuesday night when Texas and No. 24 Louisiana Lafeyette met at Constellation Field in Sugar Land, Texas, for the neutral site matchup.

Texas was the designated home team, but it didn't protect the Longhorns from yet another loss off the 40 Acres — they suffered an 8-1 blowout loss to the Ragin' Cajuns on Tuesday.

Although redshirt junior pitcher Morgan Cooper and his team realize their issue of road woes has been weighing them down all season, they still can't locate the exact cause.

"Baseball is funny," Cooper said. "There's not really one thing that I can say, 'This is why.' If that was the reason we would fix it and we would start winning, but baseball is not that easy. Whatever it is, we've just got to get past it. We've got to move forward and stop worrying about where we're at."

Tuesday night's defeat ended a five-game winning streak for Texas. This setback admittedly weakened the Longhorns' momentum, but they hope to rekindle their confidence when they resume conference play this weekend.

"I'd be lying if I said, 'No, we're fine,'" Cooper said. "(Tuesday) night was not fun. Getting beat will demoralize you a little bit and deflate you a little bit, but it's over with … We got to get ready for Big 12 because that's what is important."

But a tough task lies ahead — the Longhorns are still trying to find their first series win on the road. With only two road series remaining in the regular season, and one coming against No. 5 TCU, this weekend's series against Oklahoma State is crucial — unless the Longhorns plan to find their one road series win against the No. 5 ball club in the country.

That doesn't seem to be out of the equation for Cooper.

BASEBALL page 5

TRACK AND FIELD

Gordon leads by example, ready for Longhorn Invitational

By Drew King
@drewking0222

Sitting inside the McFerrin Athletic Center at Texas A&M, senior sprinter Chrisann Gordon had her face buried in her hands.

She had just taken sixth place in the women's 400 meters finals at the NCAA Indoor Championships, finishing in 52.81 seconds. Though most athletes would have been reasonably satisfied with the time, the 2016 Olympic silver-medalist found it unacceptable.

"I was just so mad at myself," Gordon said. "I knew that I could do better."

But just a moment later, Gordon put her game face back on and began her cool-down exercises with sophomore sprinter Zola Golden. She knew she had to set an example for her younger teammates.

"We've had various types of leadership over the years," head coach Mario Sategna said. "Courtney (Okolo) was a leader by example. Morolake (Akinosun) was a lot more vocal. Chrisann likes to be more of a mentor both on and off the track."

Though she maintains personal relationships with all her teammates, Gordon has found a particular closeness with freshman sprinter/hurdler Rushelle Burton, her Jamaican counterpart.

This is Burton's first year in the United States. Gordon made the move three years ago, spending her first year at South Plains College before transferring to Texas. Having gone through similar experiences, Gordon feels as though it is her responsibility to look out for Burton.

"Chrisann considers herself as my mother, so she's always here encouraging me," Burton said. "As I started the year, it was really hard. I was struggling. It's really a big transition moving from high school and coming into the college system. (She's) a big help."

Gordon embraces her role as a mentor and has found a second family among her Longhorn teammates.

"We're from the same country, so I take up that job and try to be there for (Burton)," Gordon said. "I'm older than her, so that's why I call her my daughter. I try to make sure she's doing the right thing because she's talented. She could be a really great athlete."

The relationship has proved fruitful for both sprinters. Two weeks ago, at the Texas Invitational, Burton went neck-and-neck with world-record holder Kendra Harrison and posted the nation's top 100-meter hurdles time, clocking in at a wind-aided 12.65 seconds. The result earned Burton Big 12 Athlete of the Week honors.

Joshua Guerra | Daily Texan Staff
Senior sprinter Chrisann Gordon has been a leader to her Longhorn team this season. She hopes to deliver a strong performance on the track at the Longhorn Invitational this weekend.

"Sometimes when she realizes she has fast people in her heat, she'll be like, 'Oh, I can't beat these people, I don't think I'm going to run well today,'" Gordon said. "I always try to tell her, 'No Rushelle, you can do it, you're fast too!'"

Last week, Gordon also took the No. 1 ranking in her event, running a 50.64-second 400 meters at the LSU Alumni Gold to claim a new personal record and Big 12 Athlete of the Week honors as well.

"We're just close, always pushing each other," Burton said. "Always behind each other."

Now in the last few weeks of her final season as a Longhorn, Gordon looks to remain on top and accomplish her goal of becoming the NCAA champion, which will require a great amount of consistency.

"For her, it's not even about improving her time," Sategna said. "It's more about being consistent through each race and having great performances each time."

When Gordon takes part in the Longhorn Invitational beginning Friday at noon, she will challenge herself to realize her full potential on the track.

"I'm trying to stay hungry and not be comfortable," Gordon said. "I know that if I work really hard, I can be a really good athlete. I'm just trying to be consistent. The sky's the limit for me."

MEN'S TENNIS | TEXAS 3-4 OKLAHOMA

Longhorns fall short to Oklahoma in Big 12 quarterfinals

By Justin Martinez
@justjustin956

Oklahoma stormed the court following its 4-3 win over No. 9 Texas on Thursday.

But on the other side of the court, the Longhorns walked away from the ongoing celebration, knowing they let an opportunity slip past them.

After fighting tooth and nail from the first serve, Texas found itself on the losing end of a nail biter. The Sooners found success after their 4-3 loss to the Longhorns on March 31 with a victory that advanced them to the semifinals of the Big 12 Championships.

Oklahoma got off to a fiery start in doubles play, rallying behind the home crowd to win the first two matches 6-4, 6-2 and take a 1-0 lead.

But the Longhorns showed grit in singles play. Sophomore Julian Zlobinsky delivered in his first singles match since March 5, besting Oklahoma's Adrian Oetzbach 6-4, 6-1 to tie the score at one.

Sophomore Harrison Scott, ranked No. 45 in the country, kept the run going with a 7-6, 6-1 win over No. 18 Spencer Papa.

"Julian stepped in and had a nice result today," head coach Michael Center said. "We also got a great effort out Harrison to beat (Spencer) Papa, who is another really good player. Overall, both teams did a lot of great things."

The Sooners responded every time the Longhorns seemed to be on the verge of pulling away. Oklahoma's Jochen Bertsch knotted the score at two with a 6-3, 7-5 victory over sophomore Rodrigo Banzer.

After splitting the next two matches, both sides huddled around the No. 3 court as senior George Goldhoff and Alex Ghilea duked it out in the final set.

Goldhoff stormed out to a quick 2-0 start before Ghilea strung together six straight games to give him the 7-6, 3-6, 6-2 victory and send Texas home in disappointment.

"We had some

TENNIS page 5

SPORTS BRIEFLY

Women's tennis set for Big 12 tournament

It has been quite a hectic season for a young Longhorn squad. Texas' play in the regular season has seen its fair share of highs and lows, ending at a season record of 12–7. But this weekend, the team from Austin looks to find consistency in the Big 12 Championships.

No. 24 Texas (12–7, 6–3 Big 12) has shown plenty of growth this season since its first match against Columbia, taking down many tough teams on the way to earning a No. 4 seed in the Big 12 tournament. The Longhorns managed this feat with only one senior on the squad, compared to seven underclassmen.

Texas comes into the tournament after finishing off the regular season with a pair of emphatic wins against Kansas and Kansas State, as well as an emotional senior night honoring the career of lone senior Neda Koprcina.

Although the Longhorns have gathered more and more experience with every tournament they've played throughout the season, a tall task still lies ahead of them — delivering a strong performance at the Big 12 Championships.

Head coach Howard Joffe realizes the key to being successful at this meaningful tournament is conquering the fatigue that comes with the lengthy duration of each match.

"The obvious thing like any tournament is if you're fortunate enough to win matches, you'll play even better teams as you go forward," Joffe said. "If you want to win a conference tournament or the NCAA tournament, you'll need to be able to win three or four matches in consecutive days, which is a huge challenge given that these are three- or four-hour duals."

Joffe also stressed the need to see large improvements in singles and doubles play as the Longhorns prepare for the conference tournament.

"The singles have been good, but I think we can improve on it," Joffe said. "The doubles will need a major overhaul if we're going to do something in the postseason."

Texas was knocked out of the first round of last year's tournament by Texas Tech after a disappointing 4-3 loss in Stillwater, Oklahoma.

But the Longhorns look to turn the page as they head to this year's Big 12 Championships, which will be hosted by Oklahoma in Norman, Oklahoma. Texas will enter the quarterfinals on Friday, facing fifth-seeded No. 25 TCU (13–8, 5–4 Big 12) at 1 p.m.

Although the current roster is filled with youth, the Longhorns will remember their nine previous Big 12 Championship wins as they step onto the court this weekend. In the tournament's 20-year history, the Longhorns have reached the finals a conference-leading 16 times.

Earlier this season, the Horned Frogs had no answer for the overpowering Texas team, which won a 4-0 shutout on March 26. Texas dominated in the shutout — each win came in straight sets.

If Texas can replicate its success from its most recent match against TCU and find strength in its doubles play, the bout should make for a quick walk to the second round, where Texas will face either Texas Tech or Kansas State or Iowa State.

—Dawson Hinkley

CITY

Unwanted pet pigs find forever homes

By Rachel Zein
@radibez

Thirty miles southeast of Austin's leash-free dog parks and cat cafés, there's a different kind of animal stomping ground: a three-acre rescue center for nearly 100 abandoned and unwanted pigs.

Two and a half years ago Dan and Brittany Illescas discovered the realities of the pet pig market when they themselves set out to adopt a pig. Illescas estimates that in Central Texas there are around 20 to 30 pig breeders currently selling "teacup" or "micro" pigs — which are really just potbellied pigs who've been weaned from their mothers' milk several weeks early. A "size guarantee" often accompanies the pigs when they're sold, claiming that the pigs will not grow to weigh more than 40 or 50 pounds. In reality, however, it is difficult to predict how large a properly fed pig will grow to be.

"Pigs are a novelty," Illescas said. "They're seen as an exotic pet."

Because of the demand for pigs, Illescas said there are a number of piglets who are bought and then given up by their owners after they realize they cannot care for the pigs.

"At any one time, I'd say there are about 75 to 85 posts on Craigslist, where it's illegal to sell animals," Illescas said.

After searching on Craigslist, the pair came across a potbellied pig named Eleanor, who was in need of a new home after a barn flood. The Illescas decided to rescue the healthy, two-month-old pig, but were unsure of what to do when she began to exhibit strange, self-isolating behaviors.

"We spent six months not really knowing what to do, but then we realized that (Eleanor) was just lonely," Illescas said.

The couple returned to Craigslist to see if they could rescue another pig to serve as a companion to Eleanor. Soon after adopting another potbelly named Franklin, Eleanor's demeanor improved considerably.

About a year later, the couple came across a Craigslist post for a "teacup" pig that weighed 11 pounds.

"That was Annie," Illescas said. "She was severely malnourished (and) her lungs were about 75 percent filled with fluid from bacterial pneumonia."

After getting surgery to correct a dislocated hip due to malnutrition and eating a better diet, Annie now weighs a little over 40 pounds.

"(Annie) is the reason we started the rescue," Illescas said. "She taught us that people didn't know what they were doing. They were taking advice from people who did not have the animals' best interest (in mind)."

With three pigs and counting, the Illescas reached a point where they realized they didn't have a choice but to get involved in pig rescue.

The couple put their house on the market and started looking for a larger property outside the city. Over three months, Dan converted three acres of empty space into a heaven for rescued pigs, complete with mini pools and custom-designed pig huts.

"We said to ourselves, 'We have to do something about this,'" Illescas said. "We cannot sit idly by as everybody goes through and makes all of these mistakes and then at the end of these mistakes, says, 'Oh, this pig's not right for me.'"

Stephanie Cordelle had the opposite problem: She was looking to buy a pig, not give it away. While searching Craigslist, she stumbled upon several postings for pigs being sold around Austin. One in particular got her attention: a 1-year-old pig named Hamilton.

Cordelle met with Hamilton's owner, who was trying to re-home the pig after she could no longer take care of him properly, and took the pig home that same day. But after a week of flipped tables, aggressive behavior and a destroyed backyard, she turned to Google for help.

"He was not what I expected," Cordelle said. "(Hamilton) requires just as much attention as a dog does."

After four more months of similar behavior, Cordelle began looking into re-homing options for Hamilton. Her search led her to Central Texas Pig Rescue.

"When I found (CTPR), I emailed them and asked, 'Hey, can I bring in my pig?'" Cordelle said. "Illescas said while Cordelle couldn't bring in her pig, he would help her work through the problems she was facing with her current situation. Kristen Auerbach, an officer in the Travis County Department of Animal Services, said every month a few pigs of varying types are brought in to the Austin Animal Center by owners who are attempting to surrender them. Unfortunately, the Center cannot accept these pigs since they are considered livestock. However, Auerbach said this isn't necessarily a problem.

"What we advise is that pet owners really read about and understand the care needs of their pets (regardless of the type of pet)," Auerbach said.

Cordelle said she now recognizes that she was uninformed about the nature of pig ownership prior to buying Hamilton, and laments the lack of information available to pet pig owners.

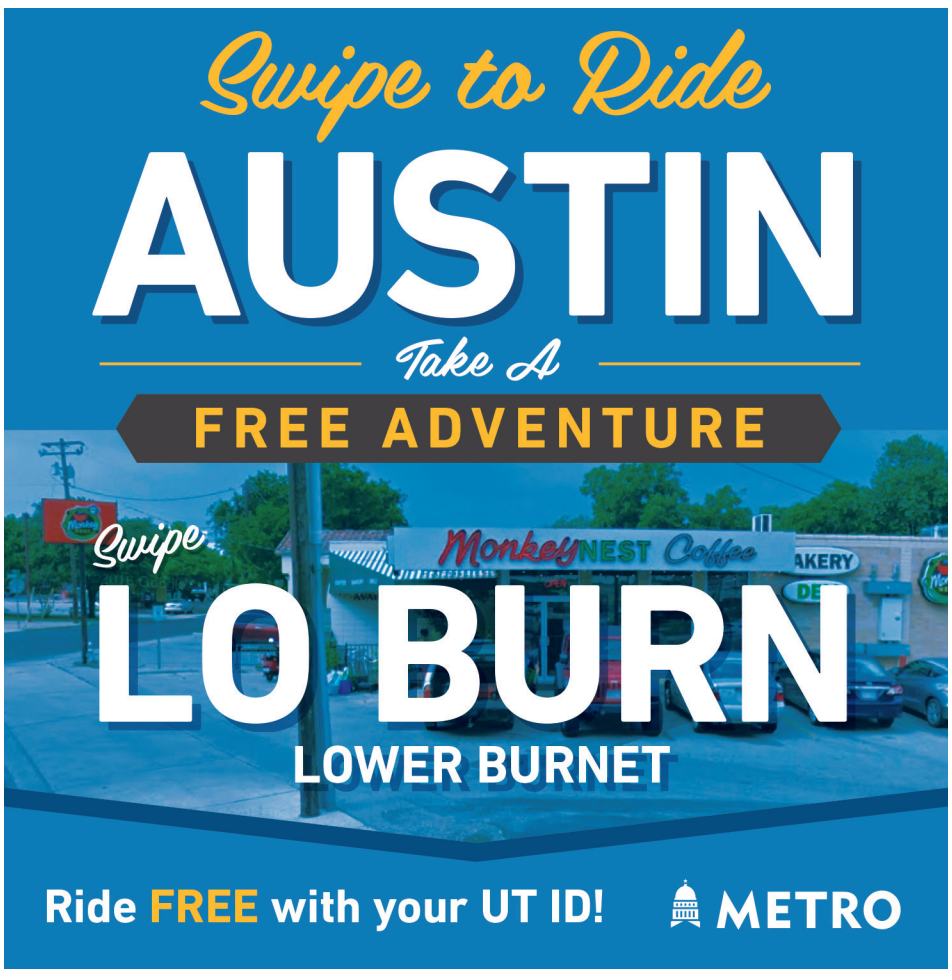
"Knowing what I know now, I wouldn't have gone (to Craigslist)," Cordelle said. "I wouldn't find a dog through Craigslist, so why didn't I go look for a rescued pig? It just didn't process through my mind at the time," Cordelle said.

Despite the issues that have resulted after Hamilton's adoption, Cordelle says that she doesn't regret her decision.

"Everything is solvable that I thought wasn't, (and) everything has a solution," Cordelle said. "It just requires patience and consistence, which is really hard to come by in my life, let alone with a pig. But it's worth it."

Rachel Zein | Daily Texan Staff

Dan Illescas founded Central Texas Pig Rescue with his wife, Brittany, over two years ago after adopting three pigs of their own and recognizing the need for a pig rescue network in the community. Today, nearly 100 pigs inhabit the three-acre Bastrop space.



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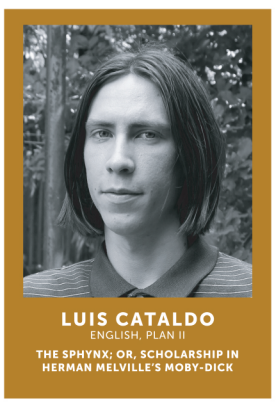

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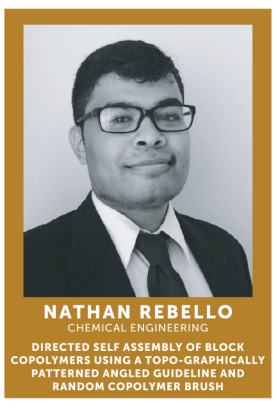

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