

THE DAILY TEXAN

Serving the University of Texas at Austin community since 1900

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GOOOOOOOOOOOOAL
Sophomore Lexi Harris kicks women's soccer team to the top
SPORTS PAGE 9



PING-PONG-PING-PONG
Local competitive duo set up table-tennis tournament at bar
LIFE ARTS PAGE 16

>> Breaking news, blogs and more: www.dailytexanonline.com @thedailytexan facebook.com/dailytexan

Wednesday, August 31, 2011

TODAY

Calendar

Party on the Plaza

Come learn about the many activities on campus at this welcome back to school festival. The event begins at 10 a.m. in the Gregory Gym Plaza.

Slacker 2011

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of Richard Linklater's classic, 24 Austin filmmakers remade scenes from Slacker. The film will premier at 7 p.m. at the Paramount Theatre.

Weird Wednesdays

The audience selects what obscure film to watch from the theater vaults at this weekly Alamo Drafthouse event. Show starts at 10:30 and tickets are \$1.

Feminist Action Project

The activist organization will hold its first planning meeting of the semester at 7 p.m. in SAC 2.112. The group, sponsored by the Gender and Sexuality Center, hosts a student run conference every year.

Today in history

In 1955

General Motors exhibits a 15-inch model of the first solar-powered car at a convention in Chicago.

Campus watch

20 Questions

San Jacinto Residence Hall
309 East 21st Street
Theft: A UT staff member witnessed a UT student enter into the Cypress Cafe and walk around picking up items to purchase. Somewhere between the aisle and the cash register, the student placed a bag of candy into his front pocket and walked to the cashier. The student paid for the other lunch items, but neglected to remove the candy and walked out of the cafe.



Quote to note

We wanted to do what we do in our garage: drink beer and play ping-pong.

— **Richard Panter**
PongRock co-founder

LIFE&ARTS PAGE 16

Friends honor UT sophomore at memorial

By **Jillian Bliss**
Daily Texan Staff

University Catholic Center director Edward Nowak read prayers and scriptures in an otherwise silent chapel where loved ones of business sophomore Richard Holland gathered to remember him.

Holland, 19, accidentally fell from the fifth floor balcony of his apartment at the Block on Pearl Street Monday night, according to the Austin Police Department. He was transported to University Medical Center Brackenridge and later pronounced dead. APD could not comment on if there was alcohol involved.

Holland was a graduate of Plano West Senior High School. More than 100 friends and acquaintances left notes on his Facebook page, many of them expressing what a happy, upbeat person Holland was. Approximately 40 of his friends attended the prayer service honoring him at the UCC Tuesday.

Nowak blessed the people who at-

tended the service, many of whom shared hugs and tears among the candlelight.

"All of the campus ministries, whatever people's background, have ministers always available for counseling," Nowak said after the service. "It's good that we



Richard Holland

MEMORIAL continues on **PAGE 2**



Lauren Gerson | Daily Texan Staff

Hazardous Materials specialist John Oldag and technician April Idlett move salvage drums away from Waller Creek after an emergency drill Tuesday morning. The drill was conducted by several UT departments and outside agencies to insure a successful response to a chemical spill.

Public services collaborate for drill

By **Andrew Messamore**
Daily Texan Staff

Police tape, fire trucks and people in hazmat suits lined San Jacinto Boulevard on Tuesday morning.

The University partnered with the Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals to test how responders would react to a chemical spill into Waller Creek on campus.

Members of UT Police Department, Austin Fire Department, University Operations and city and state representatives made up the approximately 25-member team that drilled for a chemical danger.

Under a tent, members of the media and the AHMP were briefed on the progress of the exercise using a play-by-play style of presentation as the drill progressed. AFD

Battalion Chief Palmer Buck narrated the progress of two safety workers as they carefully moved fake chemical barrels from the river bed.

"The main goal was that we want to minimize the time spent here and maximize the shielding to protect as many lives as possible," Buck said.

The exercise was also intended

as a demonstration for the public, said UTPD Lt. James Gabriel.

"This creek runs into Lady Bird Lake, and we work with the city, county and state level forces to ensure that a contamination like that couldn't happen."

The AHMP has conducted previous preparedness exercises at nu-

DRILL continues on **PAGE 5**

Homeless seek cool refuge in campus areas open to public

By **Jillian Bliss**
Daily Texan Staff

Extreme heat conditions have forced Austin's homeless population to seek refuge in air-conditioned settings across the city, including areas on and around campus.

While UT students and faculty can avoid high temperatures in their air-conditioned offices and classrooms, homeless people do not have the same resources to keep themselves cool during this record heat wave.

Mitchell Gibbs, director of development and communications at Front Steps, a local nonprofit providing resources to the homeless, said finding shade and water sources is a high priority for those without a place to live. He said in addition to homeless shelters, public buildings such as hospitals and libraries are frequented by the homeless because they often provide both.

Perry-Casteñeda Library spokesman Travis Willmann said the library is open to nonstudents, as well as UT students. Willmann said he has noticed an increase in library visitors this summer and feels it could be related to the heat.

"We're open to the public, so we get people from the local Austin community who may come in off the streets and use our place to relax," Willmann said. "Anybody can walk into any building

HEAT continues on **PAGE 2**

Officials discuss Longhorn Network's limited audience

By **Sarah White**
Daily Texan Staff

Although many Central Texas UT fans still cannot watch the recently launched Longhorn Network, channel officials said Tuesday greater access should be available soon.

Athletics director Chris Plonsky joined Dave Brown, Vice President of Programming for the Longhorn Network, and Stephanie Druley, Vice President of Production for the Longhorn Network, to discuss the distribution, programming and coverage of the network onstage at the Cactus Cafe. The network is a collaboration between ESPN and UT.

The network first aired last Friday to a limited audience, but according to Brown, deals with the major cable companies are still being negotiated

and most fans still do not have access to the content.

Druley said the lack of widespread access will be worked out to address the concern that the network is still unavailable to many fans.

When asked what made the Longhorn Network a good investment for ESPN, Brown said that it was due in part to the "great economic power" of Texas' large fanbase. He said that this was a groundbreaking and unique project. Brown said the strength of the Longhorn brand is part of the reason that this will be a successful project for ESPN.

Representatives at the public forum discussed the availability of a suitable amount of content for

NETWORK continues on **PAGE 5**



Rebecca Rodriguez | Daily Texan Staff

KUT's reporter Ben Philpott, far left, interviews ESPN's Dave Brown and Stephanie Druley, along with UT Athletics Director Chris Plonsky on Tuesday night.

THIS WEEK'S DEALS FOR UT STUDENTS
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VIEWPOINT

The university assembly line

In recent months and in the context of decreased financial support from the state Legislature, UT has come under increasing pressure to optimize its operations. Special attention has been paid — by Gov. Rick Perry, Rick O'Donnell and others — to the perceived inefficiency of various parts of UT's teaching and research missions.

One aspect of this that has received a fair amount of attention from commentators and University administrators has been UT's four-year graduation rate, which currently stands at 52.1 percent. This compares favorably with the statewide average, which is 49.3 percent, according to The Texas Tribune.

President William Powers Jr. has repeatedly called on colleges and departments to address UT's low completion rate. Students taking longer than four years to graduate cost the University money, so the argument goes, and we should therefore encourage more students finish their programs in a timely manner. In his Framework for Advancing Excellence in Higher Education announced last Thursday, UT System Chancellor Francisco Cigarroa recommended that universities in the system "implement tuition policies to incentivize students to graduate in four years" beginning next fall.

Positive incentives are a good way to address this issue, but in implementing them, administrators should be careful not to create a prohibitively costly alternative to students who would not graduate on time.

Any incentives should recognize and account for the various factors that can cause a student to take longer than four years to graduate. If a student is double-majoring or pursuing two degrees, he or she will need to take more classes. Interdisciplinary education is becoming increasingly important in an age where, according to Duke University professor Cathy Davidson, almost 65 percent of students entering grade school will be employed in jobs that have not yet been invented. But individual undergraduate programs have been slow to recognize the value of learning from multiple traditions.

Additionally, if a student works, he or she may need to take fewer hours per semester. As tuition prices continue to rise, more students may need to pay their own way. And if a student entered the University with a large number of AP credits, he or she will no doubt be able to finish faster than a student coming from a high school that, for example, did not offer calculus. These types of students should not be effectively punished for taking longer than others. University-wide averages at a school as large as UT do not take these individual factors into account. But education is an individual experience.

Much of the criticism of various attempts to measure the efficiency of professors at UT and Texas A&M focused on the inherently qualitative nature of education. It is not something which can be easily reduced to data to code into spreadsheets and pie charts.

Four-year graduation rates can be easily quantified. They relate to data that can be easily measured — for example, the average credit hours per semester or the number of times a student changes his or her major — and are therefore a tempting target for efficiency analysis.

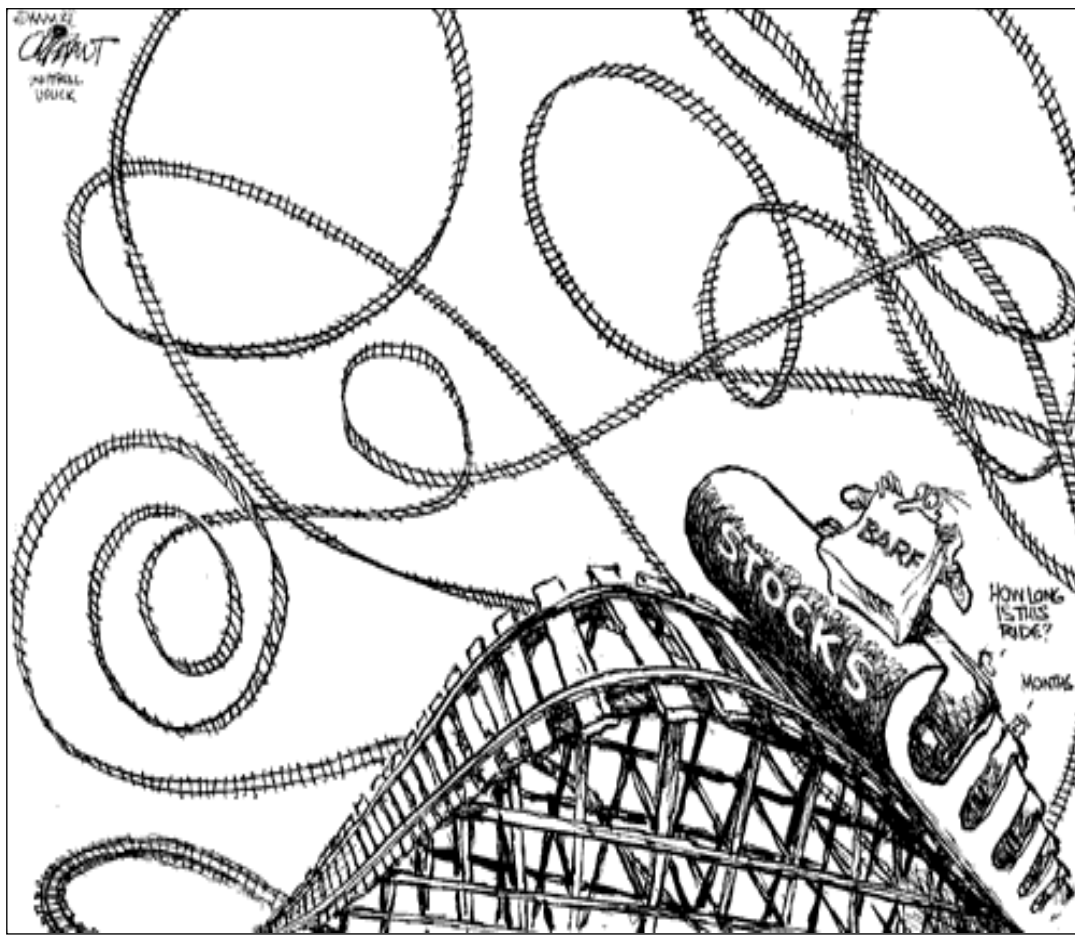
In citing these figures, which admittedly deserve serious attention, University administrators must be careful not to buy into the narrative created by the very politicians and commentators they seek to placate — namely, that the standard by which universities should be measured is the number of degrees they confer and the amount of money it takes to do so.

Unduly emphasizing graduation rates buys into the pervasive metaphor in modern higher education policy that constantly compares universities to businesses. The model is as follows: If X number of students enroll in the engineering school in 2012, then in 2016, UT will churn out Y number of engineers — or at least, Y number of people with a diploma and "educated" stamped on their foreheads — who will then contribute Z dollars to the state economy, therefore justifying the investment that taxpayers make in public higher education.

This predictable, mechanical style of operation would certainly please a factory's shareholders. But students are not widgets, and universities of the first class are not factories.

— Matt Daley for the editorial board.

GALLERY



Write for The Daily Texan

By You
Daily Texan Columnist

Have something to say? Say it in print — and to the entire campus.

The Daily Texan Editorial Board is currently accepting applications for columnists and cartoonists. We're looking for talented writers and artists to provide as much diversity of opinion as possible. Anyone and everyone is encouraged to apply.

Writing for the Texan is a great way to get your voice heard. Our columnists' and reporters' work is often syndicated nationwide, and every issue of the Texan is a historical document archived at the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History.

Barack Obama may not be a frequent reader, but a copy of the Texan runs across UT President William Powers Jr.'s desk each day, and the opinions

on this page have great potential to affect University policy.

It's no rare occurrence for Texan staff members to receive feedback from local or state officials or to be contacted by a reader whose life was changed by an article.

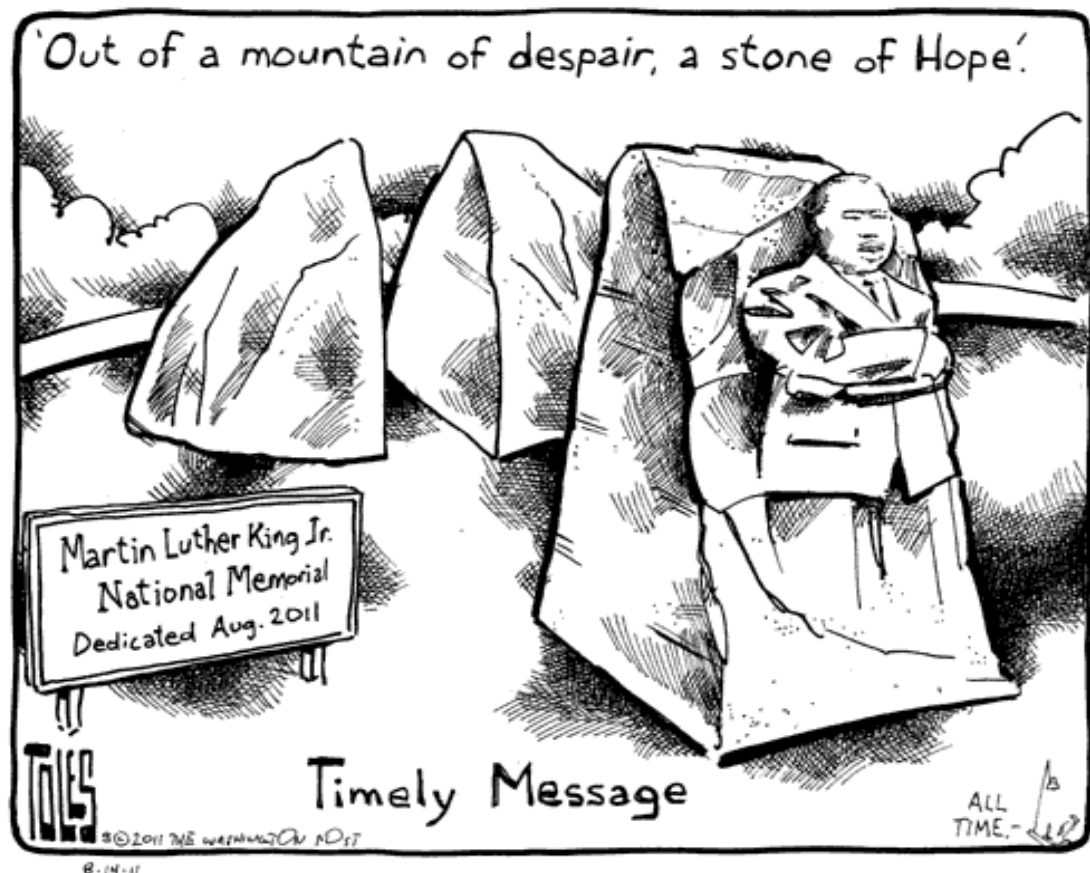
In such instances, the power of writing for the Texan becomes real, motivating our staffers to provide the best public service possible.

If interested, please come to the Texan office in the basement of the Hearst Student Media building at 25th and Whitis streets to complete an application form and sign up for an interview time. If you have any additional questions, please contact Viviana Aldous at (512) 232-2212 or editor@dailytexanonline.com.

You can be a Daily Texan columnist or cartoonist.

*Your words could
be here.*

GALLERY



LEGALESE

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

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Email your Firing Lines to firingline@dailytexanonline.com. Letters must be more than 100 and fewer than 300 words. The Texan reserves the right to edit all submissions for brevity, clarity and liability.

SUBMIT A GUEST COLUMN

The editorial board welcomes guest column submissions. Columns must be between 600 and 800 words. Send columns to editor@dailytexanonline.com. The Daily Texan reserves the right to edit all columns for clarity, brevity and liability.

Federal judge rules Texas sonogram law violates free speech

By Megan Strickland
The Associated Press

AUSTIN — A federal judge on Tuesday blocked key provisions of Texas' new law requiring a doctor to perform a sonogram before an abortion, ruling the measure violates the free speech rights of both doctors and patients.

U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks upheld the requirement that sonograms be performed, but struck down the provisions requiring doctors to describe the images to their patients and requiring women to hear the descriptions.

The law made exceptions for women who were willing to sign statements saying they were pregnant as a result of rape or incest or that their fetus had an irreversible abnormality. Sparks questioned whether the Republican-controlled Texas Legislature was trying to “permanently brand” women who are victims of sexual assault.

The law — one of dozens of anti-abortion measures that advanced through state capitals across the United States this year — takes effect Thursday. The New York-based Center for Reproductive Rights had sued to block it.

Supporters argued the law ensures women fully understand what an abortion entails and said some women have regretted having abortions. They said the law would lead to fewer abortions in Texas. About 81,000 abortions are performed every year in Texas.

Opponents argued that requiring doctors to describe a fetus' features would force them to say things against their will and would violate medical ethics requiring doctors to respect a patient's autonomy and act in the patient's best interest.

The Texas Medical Association opposed the law because it dictat-

ed when a doctor must perform a procedure and how the doctor must deal with a patient. While a pre-abortion ultrasound is routine, it is not considered medically necessary.

Sparks wrote that forcing doctors to discuss the results with a patient who may not want to listen "compels physicians to advance an ideological agenda with which they may not agree, regardless of any medical necessity and irrespective of whether the pregnant women wish to listen."

Sparks was particularly troubled by the requirement that victims of sexual assault or incest sign statements attesting to that fact to get around the provision. That would require women to disclose "extremely personal, medically irrelevant facts" that will be "memorialized in records that are, at best, semi-private," Sparks wrote.

"[I]t is difficult to avoid the troubling conclusion the Texas Legislature either wants to permanently brand women who choose to get abortions, or views these certifications as potential evidence to be used against physicians and women," Sparks wrote.

Sparks also struck down several enforcement penalties for doctors who faced losing their medical license and possible criminal misdemeanor prosecution if they did not comply.

The ruling is a “huge victory for women in Texas and a clear signal to the state Legislature that it went too far when it passed this law,” said Nancy Northup, president and CEO of the Center for Reproductive Rights.

The group said it had already received notice the state plans to appeal.

Texas Gov. Rick Perry, a Republican running for president, was critical of Tuesday's ruling.



Ryan Edwards | Daily Texan Staff

Biomedical engineering Ph.D. candidate Vanessa Aguilar receives instruction from UTPD officer Darrell Halstead about how to properly perform CPR Tuesday night. The free class was hosted by the University of Texas Future First Responders to properly train students for emergencies.

UTPD, student group offer CPR classes

By Megan Strickland
Daily Texan Staff

A student group is holding free CPR classes instructed by UT Police Department officers to train students for emergency response to cardiac arrest.

The University of Texas Future First Responders hosted their first free CPR class Tuesday in an effort to increase the survival rate of patients suffering from cardiac arrest. According to the American Heart Association, every 90 seconds, a person's heart will stop somewhere in the U.S. Without proper response, there could be severe damage to the brain of the patient and death can occur, according to the association.

"CPR is a critical life saving

knowledge to have," said Future First Responders President John Horton. "You never know when you will need it."

The Austin-Travis County Emergency Medical Services system responds to an average of 600 cardiac arrest cases per year, according to a June press release from the organization. Only 34 percent of bystanders performed CPR on the victims in 2010, which is on par with the national rate of 33.3 percent.

"It may take a while for EMS to get there and you will be the only one there to help," UTPD officer Darrell Halstead said.

During the CPR class Tuesday, three UT police officers spent two hours instructing students on how to identify the signs of cardiac arrest

and how to perform CPR. In addition to chest compressions, which are what bystanders usually perform on patients, students received training in CPR and learned how to use an automated external defibrillator, a device used to electronically restart the heart. Only one of the seven students had noticed the defibrillators around campus although there are many, according to Halstead.

"When you start walking into these buildings don't just put your blinders on. Pay attention and notice where those AEDs are," Halstead said. "Commit these sites to memory. You never know when you need an AED."

During Halstead's 24 years in the force, he has had to perform CPR once, but was unable to revive the

patient. A couple of years ago, someone did save a life in Gregory Gym by performing CPR and using AED just in time, Halstead said.

Rebecca Moore, graduate global policy studies student, decided to take the class as a refresher for her job.

"I babysit but I hadn't taken a CPR class since middle school," Moore said.

The overwhelming response to the class has caused the Future First Responders to increase CPR training in the coming months, after officially becoming sponsored by UTPD this week. Training classes are full for September and October, but the organization might schedule more spots for students in the coming weeks, Horton said.



**STUDENT
ORGANIZATION FAIR**
10am–4pm

FREE PHOTO BOOTH
10am–4pm

**TEXAS STUDENT
MEDIA/BUYS OF TEXAS**
10am–4pm

**FREE MECHANICAL
BULL RIDES**
10am–4pm

PIZZA LUNCH
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2 slices & drink \$3
11am–2pm

FREE ICE CREAM
*Sponsored by
Amy's Ice Cream*
11am–2pm

PLAY TO WIN

SCHOLARSHIP SHOOTOUT

10am–5pm

Prize: \$2,000 Scholarship for Spring '12
1 female, 1 male student winner

\$1 per
shot to
qualify

MINI-PUTT CHALLENGE

10am–5pm

Prize: iPad 2

\$1 per
shot to
qualify

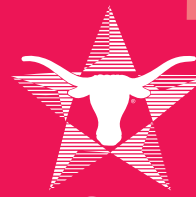
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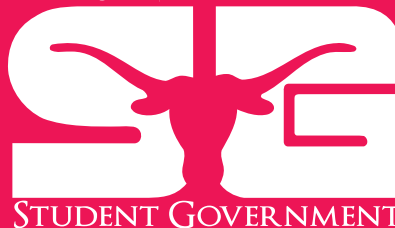


RecSports



**Student
Activities**
WHAT STARTS HERE CHANGES THE WORLD

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS



SENATE
Of College Councils

**BENEFITING THE
UT STUDENT EMERGENCY FUND**

Wildfires burn up Texas, Oklahoma homes

By Sean Murphy
The Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Wildfires fueled by extremely dry conditions and strong winds destroyed dozens of homes in Oklahoma City and North Texas on Tuesday and forced hundreds of residents to evacuate.

Officials did not yet know what started the blazes, but a summer heat wave and drought in Oklahoma and Texas have left the ground parched and vegetation dry.

“We’re in severe drought conditions, so just the tiniest little spark can start a wildfire,” Texas Forest Service spokeswoman April Saginor said.

In Oklahoma City, bursts of flame rose amid thick black smoke as oil-packed cedar trees ignited, giving gawkers a stunning view even from blocks away. Utility poles lit up like match-

sticks, and power was out to more than 7,000 homes and businesses.

The fire destroyed 10 to 12 homes and consumed 1,500 acres in a sparsely populated and heavily wooded section of the city, fire department spokesman Mark Woodard said. Several hundred homes were evacuated, according to Red Cross spokesman Rust Surette.

Meanwhile, a fast-moving wildfire in North Texas destroyed at least 20 homes and prompted authorities to evacuate at least 125 other homes in a lakeside community, state Forest Service officials said.

Agency spokesman John Nichols said the fire, which started earlier in the day, had spread to about 7,500 acres in Palo Pinto County by Tuesday night. Part of a state highway was shut down in the area because of tall flames and huge plumes of smoke, of-

ficials said.

Temperatures in the area got up to 106 degrees on Tuesday afternoon with winds gusting up to 28 mph, said National Weather Service meteorologist Jason Dunn. He said by nightfall, gusts were at about 20 mph and the temperature was around 99.

The Oklahoma City fire was largely under control by Tuesday night, but a flare-up at the head of the blaze was in a wooded area that firefighters were having trouble reaching, Woodard said.

“Luckily the sun is going down and everything will calm down,” Emergency Medical Services Authority spokeswoman Lara O’Leary said Tuesday evening. “It’s been a long day.”

O’Leary said four people, including two firefighters, were treated for minor injuries. Three were transported to hospitals where all were in good condition,

she said. No major injuries were reported in Texas.

Air tankers and helicopters were brought in to help fight the blazes.

The fire in Oklahoma City’s rural northeast corner paralleled Interstate 35, with smoke rolling northward as strong winds stoked the fire. From time to time flames could be seen amid the roiling black cloud. The blaze moved about four miles from where it started about 1 p.m., Bryant said.

“This is a heavily wooded area,” Bryant said. “There are cedar trees out here. Cedar trees burn very hot. They’re very heavily laden with oil. A lot of times when the cedar trees do go up, they burn very hot.”

A separate grass fire was reported near Bethel Acres, just east of the Oklahoma City area, said Jennifer Dawson at the Pottawatomie County Emergency Management.

TRY OUT

THE DAILY TEXAN

JAN. 18 - FEB. 3

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in all departments.

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basement of HSM.

Questions?

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managingeditor@dailytexanonline.com

DRILL

continues from **PAGE 1**

clear reactors and other sites, and has been on campus before when it tested the ability of the University to respond to a theoretical radioactive leak in January 2011. Gabriel said these tests are one of many that the University conducts.

“The University has drills like this somewhere between every six months to a year. We train together with environmental health services, the fire department — we even notify the EPA and then sometimes they become fully engaging,” Gabriel said. “The UT police had eight officers here alone.”

AHMP selected UT as the location for the drill at its last national conference because of some AHMP members’ involvement with UT, said Peter Schneider, safety officer for AHMP at the drill.

University Operations spokeswoman Cindy Posey demonstrated how her department would use social networks like Facebook and Twitter to keep the public updated in the event of a chemical danger, as well as where they would set up the media crews and what messages would be sent out.

“In order to prepare for something like this you just have to go through the motions,” Posey said. “It’s unlike a tabletop exercise where we just sit in a conference room and act like we are dealing with virtual people. Here we’re actually in the field and it gets us really ready for any possible event.”

NETWORK

continues from **PAGE 1**

the network. Plonsky said finding quality events would not be a problem for the network.

“There are a whole lot of other events left over once the conference takes its selection [of events],” Plonsky said.

She said that usually these lower-profile events are aired online, but with the Longhorn Network fans will be able to watch them on TV.

“The production is incredible,” Plonsky said. “It’s like ESPN with an orange tinge.”

In addition to game coverage, Druley spoke of original content which will air on the network, including an all-access show with the football team and coverage of Longhorn football practices. Druley said that as an ESPN project quality is a priority for the network.

“The bar is set higher for us in terms of what we must achieve because of those four letters,” she stated.

KXAN sports director Roger Wallace discussed the effects of the Longhorn Network on local news stations such as his own. He believed the Longhorn Network would not have an adverse effect on local sports coverage.

Wallace said that KXAN will maintain the same pre-game and post-game coverage for UT football and will continue to report on other events such as women’s basketball.

“I don’t think it really will [affect sports coverage at KXAN]. Our access will be essentially the same and, if anything, [the Longhorn Network] could enhance it,” Wallace said. “We could even receive access through the Longhorn Network to some events that we normally couldn’t get to.”

Grow your own way

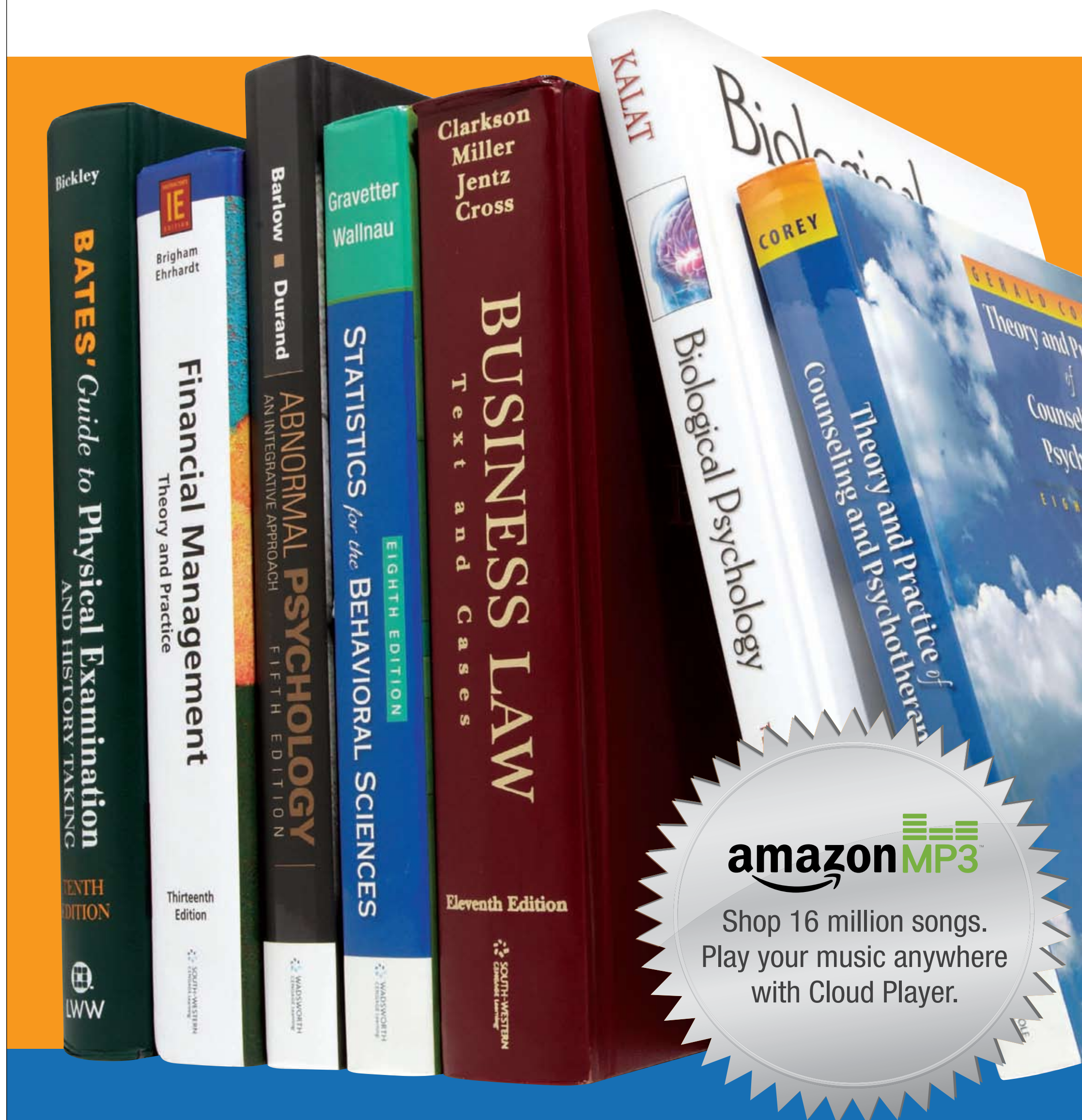


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That’s why we help you design your own. We’ll provide the training, coaching, and experiences to help you build relationships and take advantage of opportunities that will help shape your career—at PwC and beyond. Find out how you can grow your own way at www.pwc.tv

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TEXAS' 10 MOST IMPORTANT LONGHORNS

Randall's run stopping ability key to defense

Editor's Note: The Daily Texan will introduce one more important Longhorn each issue. Here is No. 3 of Texas' 10 Most Important Longhorns.

Kheeston Randall

Defensive Tackle

By Christian Corona
Daily Texan Staff

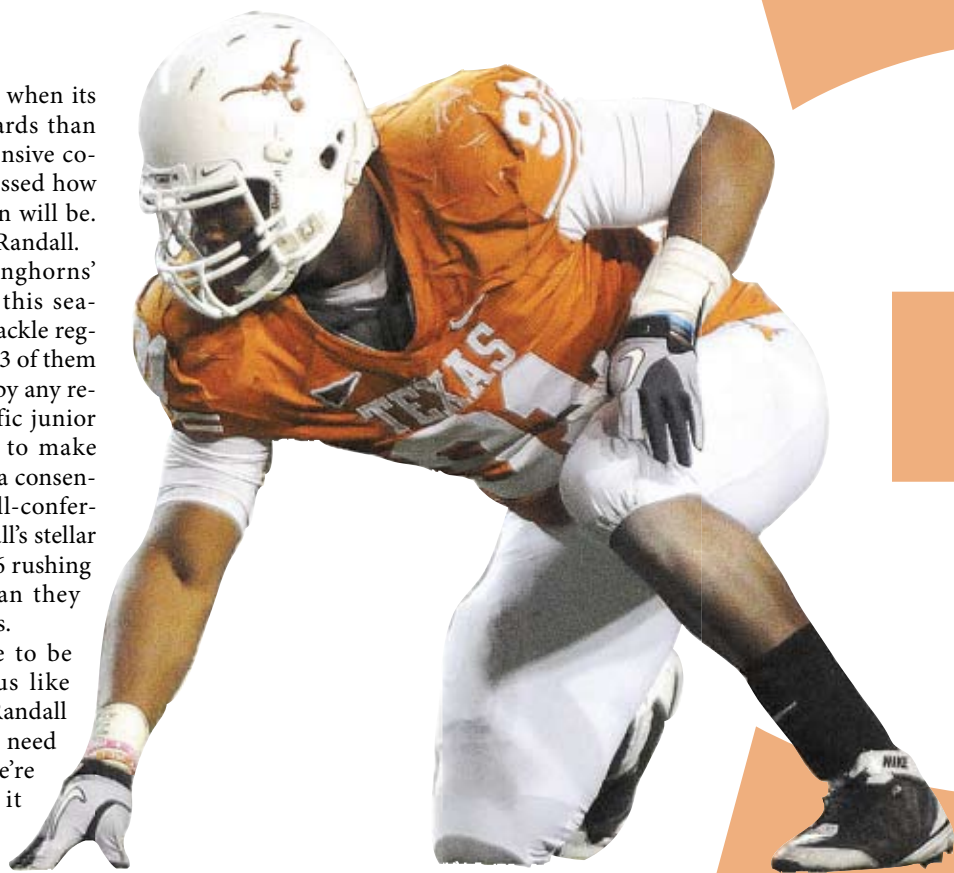
Last year, Texas was 0-5 when its opponent ran for more yards than it did. This offseason, defensive coordinator Manny Diaz stressed how important stopping the run will be. That starts with Kheeston Randall.

Randall may be the Longhorns' most dominant defender this season. The senior defensive tackle registered 39 tackles in 2010, 13 of them for loss, which is the most by any returner this year. The terrific junior season was good enough to make the 6-foot-5, 305-pounder a consensus first-team preseason all-conference choice. Despite Randall's stellar season, Texas allowed 138.6 rushing yards per game, more than they had given up in seven years.

"We don't want anyone to be able to run the ball on us like what happened last year," Randall said. "That's something we need to constantly improve. We're going to be working on it this week, next week, and all through the season."

Until the release of the depth chart Monday morning, there was some uncertainty

RANDALL continues on PAGE 10



Longhorns chosen so far:

4. Alex Okafor
5. Mike Davis
6. David Snow
7. Keenan Robinson
8. Jackson Jeffcoat
9. Justin Tucker
10. Emmanuel Acho

SIDELINE

MLB



BY THE NUMBERS

100

The amount of money in millions that Eagles quarterback Michael Vick signed for over six years, making him the third-highest paid player in the NFL.

21

The amount of money in millions that running back Frank Gore just signed for with the San Francisco 49ers over 3 years.

0

The amount of preseason games running back Chris Johnson has played so far during his contract dispute, causing fantasy owners panic everywhere.

VOLLEYBALL

Seniors provide leadership on, off court for young Texas squad

By Lauren Giudice
Daily Texan Staff

A lot of attention this season has been focused on the youth in the Longhorn's squad. After four games, the team has proven it is ready to compete. But a team is not a team without leaders — and the seniors on the squad are prepared to do that. Rachael Adams, Sydney Yogi, Michelle Kocher and Amber Roberson have been to three final fours in their three years in burnt orange. But now they plan to take Texas even farther.

"We have a very young team and what they need now is an example and that's exactly what I'm trying to do," Adams said. "Each day come in and take no days off and hopefully they can follow in my footsteps and work just as hard."

So far this season, Adams has not disappointed her teammates. In Sunday's game against Israel, she had 11 kills on 14 error-free swings and hit .786. On Saturday's game against Ole Miss, she had a career-best three service aces. A senior with vast experience, she's leading by example.

"As a senior, I have to step up and lead the team," Adams said. "I've had some great leaders who have come before me and they've done some great things and I'm trying to do that just like them."

Adams said former Longhorn Juliann Faucette, who she was teamed with at the 2010 USA Volleyball Open National Championship, is an inspiration to her.

LEADERSHIP continues on PAGE 10



Thomas Allison | Daily Texan Staff

Senior libero Sydney Yogi will look to lead the Longhorns to another final four in 2011.

SOCCER

Harris uses soccer as gateway to reach her goals

By Sara Beth Purdy
Daily Texan Staff

From the stands, Lexi Harris looks just like every other player on the Longhorn's bench. She's quick, makes good decisions on the field and loves to win. But this sophomore midfielder from Plano will surprise you.

Up close and personal, Harris likes a challenge and lives for the physical and mental toughness that soccer brings to the table.

"The sport requires so much from you physically and mentally," Harris said. "No matter how good you become, the sport never ceases to push you to your limits."

In high school, Harris racked up a long list of accolades. From the Texas stage, Harris helped to lead Plano West High School to a 5A State Championship in 2007. In 2008, she was an Under-17 Women's World Cup Finalist before going on to become a member of the United States Under-20 Women's National Team.

Texas head coach Chris Petrucci recruited Harris heavily in high school. Top Drawer Soccer labeled her as the No. 1 recruit in Texas and No. 2 recruit nationally in 2010.

She didn't stop once she got



Danielle Villasana | Daily Texan Staff

Sophomore Lexi Harris has had a huge impact on the Longhorns this season, starting in every game thus far, while contributing to two goals this year.

to college. As a freshman, Harris started in 18 of 21 games for the Longhorns and was named to the Big 12 All-Newcomer Team. So far this season, Harris has started all four games at midfielder and has accounted for two Texas scores.

Her motivation to work hard and to win is what sets her apart. Harris is the first of her family to go to college and credits soccer with providing her the opportunities she has at Texas.

"It just opens up everything for me," Harris said. "I never had goals

or anything like that. I am able to dream now. Soccer is my gateway to going where I want to go."

Harris wants to finish college as an exercise science major before going to grad school to become a physical therapist. After that? Not even she knows.

FOOTBALL

O-line is out to prove their toughness for 2011 season

By Austin Laymance
Daily Texan Staff

The Longhorns offensive line is out to prove one thing this season — their toughness.

Many considered the O-line to be soft after a poor showing in 2010, the result of a nonexistent running game and an increase in sacks allowed.

But with new offensive line coach Stacy Searels, who joined the Texas staff this offseason after spending his last four years at Georgia, the Longhorns have taken on a new mentality up front.

"It's all about smashing you in the mouth and moving quickly to get there," said senior left guard David Snow.

Searels is an imposing figure on the practice field, standing 6-foot-6-inches and weighing

O-LINE continues on PAGE 10

SPORTS BRIEFLY

Ex-Horn Cedric Benson begins jail sentence Tuesday in Austin

Former Longhorn and Cincinnati Bengal running back Cedric Benson pleaded no contest to a July 2011 assault charge and began his jail sentence Tuesday night, according to Benson's lawyer Sam Bassett.

"Cedric is happy the July 2011 case is being dismissed," Bassett said in a statement. "Though originally scheduled to serve the jail sentence in October, Cedric decided he needs to complete the jail sentence before the season. This is best for everyone involved."

Benson is serving his jail time at the Travis County Jail.

— Trey Scott

LIVECHAT

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RANDALL continues from PAGE 9

surrounding who would line up beside Randall as the second starting defensive tackle. Sophomore Calvin Howell won the starting job, but others like Ashton Dorsy and former running back Chris Whaley, both sophomores, should see the field as well. Don't count out Desmond Jackson, who Randall called "one of the best freshman defensive tackles I've seen."

"I'm proud to finally see Calvin playing," Randall said. "He stepped his game up. He did everything [defensive tackle] coach [Bo] Davis has asked him to do, along with the other guys. It's allowed us to have some depth."

Whoever is playing, they will have a considerable amount of freedom thanks to Diaz. Starting defensive ends Jackson Jeffcoat and Alex Okafor have claimed they can switch sides at their leisure. Diaz has talked about how he will send safeties to rush the passer and drop defensive linemen into coverage.

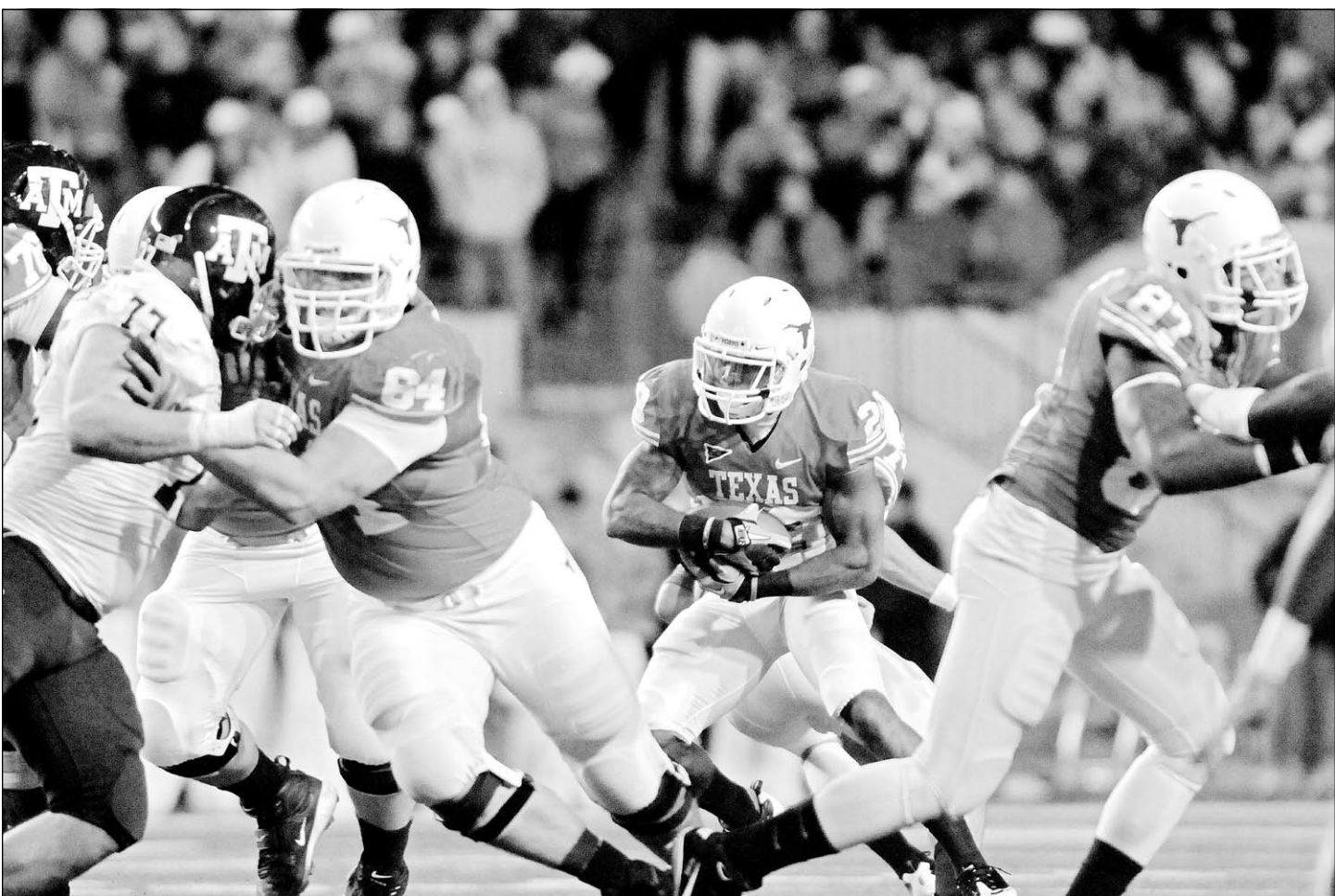
"It's controlled insanity," Randall said. "This defense with coach Diaz gives us so much freedom, whether we shoot an A-gap or shoot a B-gap or cross over and play defensive end. It's

a lot of fun."

What isn't a lot of fun, however, is going 5-7. The defense took a step back last season, allowing a whopping 28.1 points per game over its last nine contests. The Longhorns started the season 3-0 with victories over Rice, Wyoming and Texas Tech but there were red flags from the beginning, even in the season opener against the Owls, who Texas plays in its first game again this year.

"I wouldn't say we didn't put forth a great effort, we just didn't win the way we were expected to," Randall said. "We had too many mental mistakes, too many busts, and like coach [Mack] Brown said, it started in those three scrimmages we had. But this year, those scrimmages we had were totally different. We had great effort. It's just a totally different team."

Texas has an excellent history of line-clogging defensive tackles such as Shaun Rogers, Casey Hampton, Frank Okam and Lamarr Houston. If Randall plays the way he did last season, his name could soon be mentioned among those greats. Maybe he could help Texas win a few games while he's at it as well.



Tamir Kalifa | Daily Texan file photo

Texas hopes its offensive line will be better than last year, when it struggled to open up holes in the running game and give quarterback Garrett Gilbert protection. New line coach Stacy Searels is trying to establish a more physical mentality.

O-LINE continues from PAGE 9

over 280 pounds, and brings a tougher, meaner and nastier edge to his new squad.

Senior left tackle Tray Allen said the linemen talked about being a punishing group after the Longhorns loss to Texas A&M on Thanksgiving, and they've been striving for that persona ever since.

"Being a tougher offensive line is what we've been working on and hopefully we show everybody on [Saturday]," Allen said.

The Longhorns admit they were complacent a year ago, after coming off back-to-back trips to BCS bowl games. With Searels in the fold, though, that's unlikely to be the case in 2011.

"He's going to make practice as hard as he can [to prepare]

for game situations," Snow said. "He's going to push you throughout the whole practice."

"He has a lot of energy, he's very exuberant. He's going to get after you."

Gone are the days of zone blocking schemes and lateral running plays. Searels has Texas blocking downhill this year, a return to the philosophy that preceded the spread offense.

Now, the Longhorns' mental-

ity is to come right at the defense, a change that Searels instituted on the first day of camp.

"He established it the first day," Snow said. "When a new coach comes in they have to change the culture."

Searels is one of six new Longhorns coaches this year. Despite all the new faces on the staff, head coach Mack Brown says he's been pleased with the way the group has meshed.

"It's always hard to fit your line coach in with all the other guys," Brown said. "Stacy's come in and been great. Stacy and [first-year defensive tackles coach] Bo Davis are best friends, so the offensive and defensive lines have worked."

So far, Searels has put his stamp on the offensive line and settled on a starting five. Now it's up to him to identify the backups.

"Stacy feels pretty good about the first five," Brown said. "Now he's got to find seven, then he's got to find eight, then he's got to find 10 and we're not there yet."

Whoever the top 10 linemen will be, one thing is certain: Searels won't tolerate softness. Come Saturday, he'll find out just who has the toughness to restore Texas to prominence.

LEADERSHIP continues from PAGE 9

Junior Sha'Dare McNeal spoke of Adams' importance.

"Rachael is a very competitive player," McNeal said. "The things that she does, I've never seen any middle do before. I feel like everybody contributes something to the team and with her athleticism, it makes us a little more steady in the middle."

Yogi, a libero, said the experience she and her fellow seniors have helps them with the underclassmen. In addition, the seniors understand and remember what it was like being new at Texas and to the volleyball program.

"It is a completely different game than high school or club," Yogi said. "They come in and the first couple days of practice you can tell they are kind of shell-shocked as to the

speed of the game and the intensity of practices."

And that's where the seniors come in.

"I think us four seniors have a lot more weight on our shoulders I think just because we have that experience," Yogi said. "We have a lot of younger girls who are going to get significant playing time."

Head coach Jerritt Elliott has been impressed with the leadership displayed by the upperclassmen. He believes the trait is vital to the Longhorns making another deep postseason run.

"At the end of the day our leadership is going to have to get there [to the National Championship] and we are going to have to execute when it's crunch time," he said.

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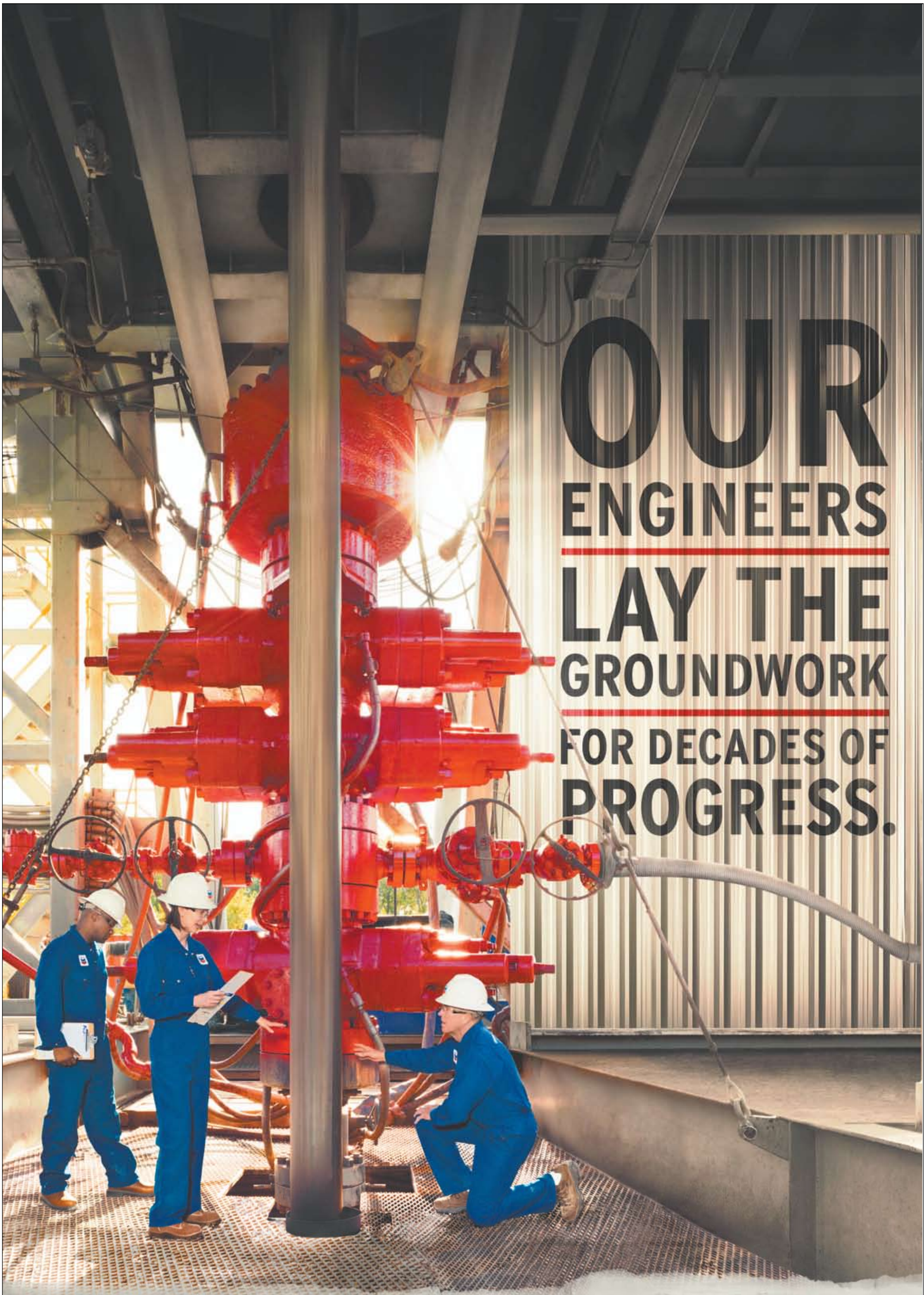
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Sensabaugh back in 'Big D' in big way

By Jaime Aron
The Associated Press

IRVING— Seeing Gerald Sensabaugh get turned around while allowing a long touchdown pass on the opening drive of the last preseason game reminded the Dallas Cowboys of why they shopped around for an upgrade at safety this offseason.

Seeing him leap over the center and leap again to block a field goal, then seeing him grab a deflected pass for an interception later in the same game reminded the Cowboys of why they ended up bringing him back.

Sensabaugh's return was sort of a consolation prize, both for him and for Dallas.

The Cowboys sorely needed to improve the back end of their defense, but team owner Jerry Jones didn't want to spend as much as the top safeties available were getting. He tried helping the secondary by pursuing cornerback Nnamdi Asomugha, then eventually worked his way to safety Abram Elam. Still needing a second safety, Jones turned to Sensabaugh.

Sensabaugh was available because he couldn't get any of those whopper deals that were going around. He accepted a one-year contract in hopes of getting a longer, more-lucrative deal from Dallas or trying again as a free agent next summer.

He's off to a good start.

Facing San Diego in the second preseason game, Sensabaugh got tough and wedged his helmet into the belly of running back Mike Tol-

bert to force a fumble, then made an athletic move to intercept a pass. It was erased because the back of his heel landed out of bounds, but Cowboys coaches considered it good enough to call it a game for the first team after that play.

On Saturday night, in Minnesota, Sensabaugh was involved in three big plays — one bad, two good.

"I guess I was plus-one for the day," he said, smiling. "I had to do something to make up for the big touchdown."

Sensabaugh hopes to be more of a ball-hawker this season.

Coach Rob Ryan's defense is all about forcing pressure up front, which could make for more wayward passes. Sensabaugh had a career-high five interceptions last year, with four coming over the last six games.

Sensabaugh played strong safety last year, which meant he covered tight ends. Ryan's scheme basically has two free safeties, so it will be up to Sensabaugh and Elam to figure out the coverages. It helps that Elam played for Ryan in Cleveland the last two years, so he's more familiar with the role.

"I'm learning his play style and he's learning mine," Sensabaugh said. "You get to help out on whoever you want, kind of. You just read the quarterback. If he's looking one way, I have the freedom to just go that way, as opposed to strong safety, where if you're man up on a guy you have to stay on your man until the play is over. It frees you up to make more plays, I guess. I'm getting used to it. It's fun."

Cowboys coach Jason Garrett stresses winning the turnover battle as much as any statistic, and Dallas' defense didn't have a single takeaway the first two games. (San Diego recovered Tolbert's fumble.) So Sensabaugh's pickoff against the Vikings was a bit of a breakthrough for Ryan's group, and the blocked field goal turned out even better because Alan Ball returned it for a touchdown.

Which was more fun?

Sensabaugh leaned toward the blocked kick because of the momentum swing — from the opponent possibly scoring points to his team getting a touchdown.

"I started my career on special teams, and I always feel it's real important to make a big play," he said. "So I always try to stress going really hard on special teams whenever I get an opportunity."

Sensabaugh's career began in Jacksonville, where his special teams coordinator was Joe DeCamillis. (or Joe D, as he's known) is now Dallas' special teams coordinator.

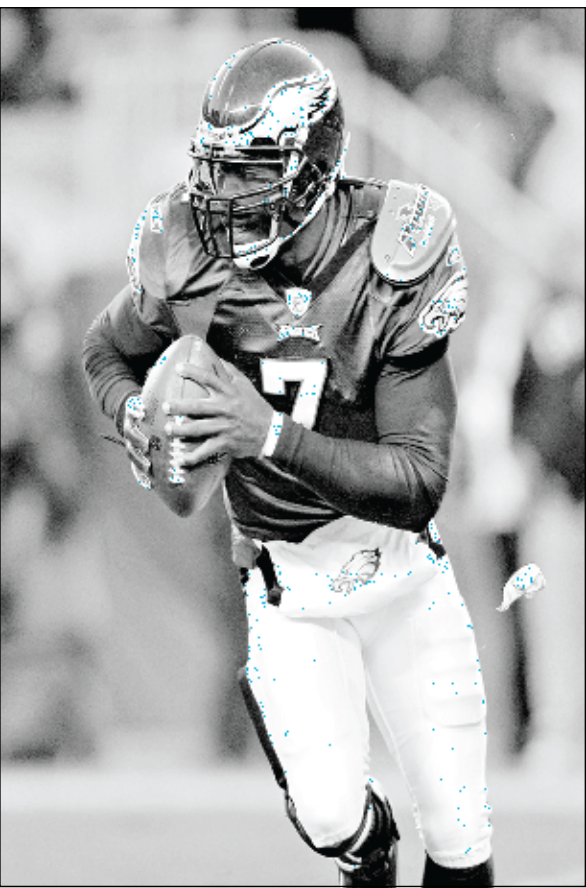
DeCamillis has used Sensabaugh as a bunny-hopping kick blocker before and decided to break out that play again after seeing on tape that the Vikings' front line tended to drop low to fight off blockers.

With Jay Ratliff and Igor Olshansky making sure those Minnesota linemen stayed down, Sensabaugh made his move. He jumped over the pile of bodies, then quickly jumped up and out to get his hands on the kick.



LM Otero | Associated Press
Saftey Gerald Sensabaugh is back with the Dallas Cowboys after exploring his options in free-agency. He will look to make a big impact on the secondary and improve an aspect of the team that was weak in 2010.

Michael Vick has just signed a 6 year, 100-million dollar deal with the Philadelphia Eagles, making him the third highest player in the NFL. This is just two years after he was released from jail.



Michael Perez
Associated Press

Vick gets paid like the best, but has he earned it?

By Chris Hummer
Daily Texan Columnist

Quick — name the three best quarterbacks in the NFL. Most people come up with Peyton Manning and Tom Brady right off the bat. The third quarterback chosen might be Drew Brees, Aaron Rodgers or Philip Rivers.

All of these players are deserving of consideration for the spot, but none of those signal callers are the third-highest paid at the position. That distinction belongs to the Eagles' Michael Vick, who signed a six-year, \$100 million contract on Tuesday.

This is the same player who, just over two years ago, was serving jail time. He was out of work and bankrupt. Now he's the first player ever in league history to sign two deals worth \$100 million.

"The thing for me was believing in the people who were there for me in my time of need," Vick said at his press conference. "You never know what's going to happen."

Vick's story is a great one, and completely exemplifies the beauty of the American justice system and the way it gives people the opportunity to redeem themselves.

But has Vick really earned that sum of money in just two years back in the NFL? The short answer to that question is no, not yet.

In his first year back, he rarely saw the field, just coming in briefly to run the wildcat package behind Donovan McNabb.

In his second year — a season that began on the bench behind Kevin Kolb — he put up some gaudy numbers, throwing 21 touchdowns and running for

nine more in 11 starts. He finished second in the Most Valuable Player voting to Brady.

The key number there is 11 — as in only 11 starts out of 32 chances since he has been back. That's not enough of a sample size to support a \$100 million contract.

Vick is also injury prone, and has only been healthy for a full 16-game schedule just once in his eight-year career.

But perhaps most importantly, Vick has not proven himself as a winner in the big games yet with a 2-3 all time playoff record. Manning, Brady, Brees and Rodgers have each won at least one championship.

So while Vick's story is a great one, a redemption story for the ages, the Eagles may have jumped the gun a little on the contract, paying an injury-prone 31-year-old like an all-time great.

NUMBER OF GAMES MIKE VICK MISSED	
2001	- 8 of 16
2002	- 1 of 16
2003	- 11 of 16
2004	- 1 of 16
2005	- 1 of 16
2006	- No games missed
2009	- 4 of 16*
2010	- 4 of 16
*Due to suspension	
Source: ESPN.com	

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A&M denies report of withdrawal letter

By Kristie Rieken
The Associated Press

COLLEGE STATION — Texas A&M said Tuesday it has not sent a letter of withdrawal to the Big 12 Conference.

The brief statement by school spokesman Jason Cook comes a day after The New York Times said in a story posted on its website Monday night that university President R. Bowen Loftin sent a letter to Missouri Chancellor and Big 12 board chairman Brady Deaton to inform the league it was leaving. The report cited two unidentified college officials with direct knowledge of the decision.

Cook declined to comment further on the newspaper report.

The university said Monday it had received a letter from Big 12 Commissioner Dan Beebe outlining the withdrawal procedure should the Aggies decide to leave the league.

Cook said on Monday that the letter "outlines the withdrawal procedures according to the financial provisions of the Big 12 bylaws and mutual waivers of legal claims." He wouldn't provide any other details of the letter or comment on what A&M's next step might be.

The Aggies are interested in joining the Southeastern Conference. Loftin sent a letter to the Big 12 last week formally telling Beebe they are exploring their options and asked for the conference to outline the

process if they decide to leave.

The league's board of directors addressed the possible departure of the Aggies last weekend.

"I certainly appreciate the discussion among the Big 12 presidents/chancellors and the expression of their desire for Texas A&M to remain in the conference," Loftin said in a statement Monday afternoon before The New York Times report. "We all agree that Texas A&M is an extremely valuable institution; thus, it is incumbent upon me, as the president of the university, to ensure that we are in a position to enhance our national visibility and future financial opportunity."

Loftin added this is a "complex and long-term decision," but "it is not our intent to prolong our conference exploration for an extended period of time."

The SEC said earlier this month it was happy with its current 12-school membership but left the door open to expansion. Loftin then received authority from the board of regents to take any action he deems necessary in terms of realignment.

There is concern that a departure by the Aggies could jeopardize the future of the Big 12, which is

down to 10 teams after Nebraska (Big Ten) and Colorado (Pac-12) left the league in July 2010. Loftin has said the Aggies would consider how their departure would impact the future of the Big 12 before any decision is made.

The Big 12 would need to find a team to replace the Aggies if they exit the conference and there has been a lot of speculation about possible schools. So far, the only school to publicly express interest in moving to the Big 12 is SMU.

Athletic director Steve Orsini said he's had informal talks with Big 12 officials for some time to inform them of the school's improvements and growth.

In the letter Loftin sent to the Big 12 last week, he said if the Aggies leave, they would want to do it in a manner that complies with league bylaws. He also has said financial concerns will factor into any decision to leave. The school likely would face an exit fee.

The Big 12, including Texas A&M, agreed to a 13-year television deal with Fox Sports in April worth more than \$1 billion. There is a chance the contract could be voided if the Aggies leave the conference, which could lead to legal issues for Texas A&M and its new league.

The Big 12 declined to comment on Monday's letter outlining the procedures the Aggies would need to follow if they decide to leave the league.

I certainly appreciate the discussion among the Big 12 presidents [and] chancellors

— R. Bowen Loftin, Texas A&M university president



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Danielle Villasana | Daily Texan Staff

Dustin Maxey, who co-founded Austin's social ping-pong league PongRock, plays a game Monday evening at Lavaca Street Bar. The league, which has about 70 members, meets every Wednesday at Belmont Hall to play matches, listen to live music and socialize.

Ping-pong league relishes relaxed vibe

By Aaron West
Daily Texan Staff

Friends and business partners Dustin Maxey and Richard Panter play a quick game of table tennis at Lavaca Street Bar & Grill. They trash-talk each other jokingly as they hit the ball back and forth, and Maxey holds a Lone Star in one hand.

"It's hard to play in the dark," Maxey says when he hits the ball off the table.

Panter asks a friend to grab him a

Dos Equis from the bar.

"I'd be saying that too if I was losing by two points," he answers.

The laid-back vibe is part of what separates what Maxey and Panter call the game they're playing — ping-pong — from table tennis, the official name for the sport. The two men are the co-founders and operators of PongRock, a local table tennis league that's all about competitive fun and drinking beer.

"It's like you're playing against your friend in your garage," Maxey, 28, said. "We try to keep the

vibe relaxed."

PongRock, which begins its fifth season today (each season lasts eight weeks), meets on Wednesday evenings at The Belmont. Competitors can choose a nickname, which have ranged from the simple ("D") to the witty ("Tommy Tong the Pong Kong" and "Sgt. Paddles") to the more intimidating ("The Butcher"). Registration fees go toward keeping the equipment maintained, printing T-shirts and buying prizes for the competitors. The grand champion receives a ping-pong table at the

WHAT: PongRock Social Ping Pong League

WHERE: Belmont Hall

WHEN: Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

HOW MUCH: \$50 registration

WEB: pongrock.com

end of the season.

"I've been playing since the begin-

PONG continues on **PAGE 15**

Hipster fashion left in 2007, prep clothes make comeback

By Ali Breland
Daily Texan Staff

Nantucket Reds, Sperry Top-Siders, Brooks Brothers shirts and knit v-neck tennis sweaters delicately draped over the shoulders have been the traditional garb of the Northeastern elite who spend their weekends dividing time between regattas and country clubs. More recently however, "prep fashion" has started to permeate into sartorial spheres outside of the yacht club, faring on a more prominent level than in years past.

Books such as Shosuke Ishizu's 1965 fashion book, "Take Ivy," and "The Official Preppy Handbook" are gaining popularity with their recently released sequels and reissues. Former prep mainstay Abercrombie & Fitch is returning to its roots with the release of a new collection, Elements of Ivy. The collection features a varsity cardigan, sweaters and not one, but two different khaki chinos, just in case you want to mix it up.

Most notably, hipsters have taken notice and have co-opted the trend in a paradoxical manner — just as most suburbanites cannot under-

stand the emotional terror of brutal gang violence, most hipsters know nothing of boat races on the lake and tennis matches at the club. Retailers like Abercrombie, Hollister and American Eagle Outfitters are actually considered "poor people" brands by the Ivy League style crowd.

The term hipster itself also carries several meanings. The hipsters referred to here aren't people with a slight interest in fashion and music that extends beyond the realm of radio, but the self-proclaimed cultured elite, who make obscenely large differentiations from normative social and fashion codes. Trying to be hip is fine. Trying to be the epitome of hip is obnoxious.

Mark McNairy, former creative director of prep-wear mainstay J. Press and perhaps the human manifestation of the mesh between hipsterdom and preppy, noted the clientele shift within Ivy League-inspired fashion.

"When I started [at J. Press], basically their customers were dy-

PREP continues on **PAGE 15**



Photo illustration by Mary Kang

The style of the northeast's elite is becoming the "hipper-than-thou" culture's sartorial preference.



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