

Monday, October 31, 2011

THE WEEK

TODAY

Howling **Bake Sale**

Stop by Jester West from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the Howling Bake Sale for brownies and cookies (pre-decorated or do-ityourself). All proceeds benefit the Ronald McDonald House.

TUESDAY

Art in Practice

Art in Practice presents a talk by Aaron Baker, curator of the Playboy Collection. The talk will be held in ART 1.110 from 6:30 to 8 p.m., and is free and open to the public.

WEDNESDAY

The Miles Davis Experience

Miles Davis will be performing at the Bass Concert Hall, featuring a new multi-media musical production. The event is from 8 to 10 p.m. and tickets range from \$10-34.

THURSDAY

Study seeks participants

Three plans aim to improve higher education

By Liz Farmer Daily Texan Staff

Each party in the Texas higher education debate presents their plan as the correct answer. But are the plans really that different? The Daily Texan compares the three plans meant to enhance the efficiency of higher education.

ument created in 2004 which established goals "for the purposes of reinvigorating UT's aspirations for the next 25 years."

The Texas Public Policy Foundation, a conservative think tank, published Seven Breakthrough Solutions for Higher Education to "strenghten higher education for Texas' future." Texas Sen. The final report from the Commission of 125, Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, chair of the Sen-

en Solutions played a part in invigorating a public debate last Spring about the role of research at state institutions.

UT System Chancellor Francisco Cigarroa presented his Framework for Excellence Action Plan in August in partial response to the significant cut in state funding. The framework is an effort to increase efficiencies at each of the UT in-

one of the plans discussed, is a UT Austin doc- ate Higher Education Committee, said the Sev- stitutions. Zaffirini said many of the initiatives in the framework touted as innovative by the UT System were presented in the Commission of 125's report.

"These are not new ideas in the action plan," Zaffirini said.

Thomas Lindsay, new director for the

Occupy Austin

PLAN continues on PAGE 2

demonstrators arrested after law confusion

By Nick Hadjigeorge **Daily Texan Staff**

Thirty-eight Occupy Austin protesters were arrested Sunday morning for criminal trespassing on City Hall property after preventing the removal of a food table and refusing to vacate the plaza for pressure washing crews.

City hall officials released a memo

on Saturday announcing new regulations Read more on the that apply to nationwide Occupy the activities of the Occu-

movements World&Nation page 3

INSIDE

py Austin protest. The memo states that sleeping and camping are

prohibited and includes new regulations for the use of signs and food distribution tables.

Occupy Austin protester Michelle



The UT Sound Lab seeks native speakers of American English ages of 18-35 to participate in a perception study. Email utsoundlab@gmail.com with "native speaker" in the subject heading. There is a \$10/hr compensation for participants.

FRIDAY

Day of the Dead

Las Calacas is a Dia de los Muertos show featuring dance, music and a spoken word performance about the cultural significance of the holiday. The event will be held in the Union theater 2.228 from 7:30 to 9 PM. Free punch and pie.

Inside In Opinion:

Lobby to effect change page 4



I wrote this book in a way that reflects how I think. Sometimes it's an essay or story, and sometimes it's a pliest, which is a piece with a list-y quality, a term l've just made up.

> — Mindy Kaling Actress and author

LIFE&ARTS PAGE 8

Halloweekend activities continue

Drummer Ky Williams and other members of the marching club KreweDCM warm up before a gig Thursday at Abel's On The Lake. The self-

described "Halloween marching club and parade Krewe" marches in elaborate costumes on sixth street every Halloween.

Millette said there was uncertainty among the group about the enforcement of these new regulations. She said the Occupy Austin protesters treated the memo as a list of propos-

INSIDE: Halloween parade takes over 6th Street on page 10 Musem shows off creepy critters on page 5 ONLINE: Dorm creates haunted house

OCCUPY continues on PAGE 2

UT Olympic athletes share advice, discuss University influence

By Sylvia Butanda **Daily Texan Staff**

UT Olympians earned 14 medals in the 2008 Beijing Olympics, enough to tie with Kenya for 18th in the national medal count.

Some of UT's former and current Olympians returned to campus to share their stories.

The Texas Program in Sports and Media hosted a panel discussion where Longhorn Olympians came together to share their journeys towards the world's biggest athletic stage and the les- the Olympic team when he was sons they learned along the way. From 1936 to 2010, UT has had 139 Olympians who have won a

total of 117 medals.

Five Longhorn Olympians representing various decades swimmer Josh Davis, swimmer Tracey McFarlane, basketball player Andrea Lloyd, track and field athlete Johnny "Lam" Jones and swimmer Brendan Hansen — all discussed their Olympic experiences Friday.

Davis, a graduate of the College of Communication, competed in the Atlanta 1996 and Sydney 2000 Olympics in swimming.

He discussed his one-year road training and trying out for living in a non-air conditioned

OLYMPIC continues on PAGE 2



Zachary Strain | Daily Texan Staff

Johnny "Lam" Jones, former track and field Olympian and UT Alumnus, speaks to students at the Student Activity Center Friday.



Marisa Vasquez | Daily Texan Staf

The Texas Dragon/Lion Dance Team performs at the TASA Night Market on Friday. The event's activities, performances and food created an experience similar to night markets in Taiwan.

Taiwanese students host night market

By Allison Harris Daily Texan Staff

Singing, dance performances and students eating green onion pancakes dominated the Main Mall at the ninth annual night market hosted by the Taiwanese American Students' Association.

Association co-president Bryan Han said night markets are an important cultural tradition in East Asia, especially in Taiwan, which has the biggest night markets in the region. Han said night markets are the Taiwanese equivalent to a state fair and offer unique food at low prices. Han make green onion pancakes, alsaid the organization designed the event, which about 1,000 people attended Friday night, to highlight the Taiwanese culture, which is frequently overshadowed by the Chinese culture.

"There's this ongoing argument whether Taiwan is its own nation or whether it's under China," Han said. "We try to embrace the Taiwanese culture as a separate identity to China, but we also embrace our shared culture together."

Han said the night market's interactive elements, such as a food station that showed people how to low non-Asian students to actively learn about Taiwanese culture.

"Food is just so universal that everyone can understand it," Han said. "This is a piece of Taiwanese culture that people can embrace and they can make it for themselves on a daily basis."

Seventeen student organizations hosted booths at the fair that offered games, face painting and crafts. Nine musical and dance acts performed, including a Chinese lion dancing group, tradi-

MARKET continues on PAGE 2

NEWS

"I don't think the framework is par-

One point shared by the frame-

work and the 7 Solutions is the es-

tablishment of quantitative mea-

surements to evaluate faculty per-

formance and to compensate pro-

fessors based on their performance.

According to the 7 Solutions, profes-

sor bonuses should be based on the

in line, but the framework doesn't say

which criteria it will use to determine

Number two of the 7 Solutions is

who's a good teacher," Nietsche said.

to "publicly recognize and reward ex-

traordinary teachers." The UT System

Board of Regents started an awards

system for teaching excellence which

is outlined in the framework. UT Sys-

tem Board of Regents Chairman Gene

Powell described the initiative at a

taken care of great teachers," Powell said.

"We've taken care of our researcher but

Nietsche said there are similarities

"A lot of people are describ-

proaching them in different ways,"

"None of us in higher education have

meeting a few weeks ago.

not our great teachers."

Nietsche said.

across the three documents.

"The overall goal there is very much

results of student evaluations.



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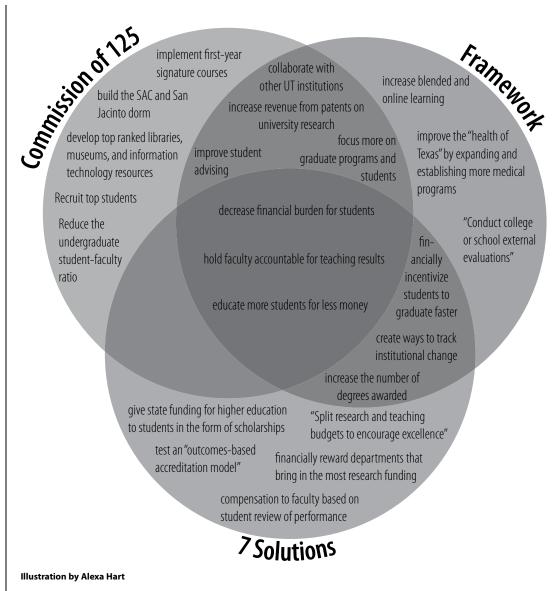
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PLAN continues from PAGE 1

Center for Higher Education at the mary factor in determining the size Texas Public Policy Foundation, said of the student body." the think tank fully agrees with the efforts in the framework. ticularly explicit there," Nietsche said. "It doesn't talk about the quality."

President of the Senate of College Councils, Carisa Nietsche, said Senate does not move forward with anything contrary to the Commission of 125, which points to quality of education as the end goal.

"I think that's why there is some flexibility — to allow for task forces to follow up on those recommendations," Nietsche said.

She said the framework has broader objectives than the Commission of 125.

"I think there is some flexibility in the framework so that the recommendations can be applied different at the system schools," Nietsche said.

Both the "Commission of 125" and the framework emphasize the improvement of four-year graduation rates. The Commission of 125's report states low four-year graduation rates can partially be blamed on the fact that UT students "take, on average, just 13.1 semester hours, which is unacceptable."

"In the framework they talk about the pathways for students whereas, the commission puts a lot of the blame the students," Nietsche said. "It asks students to step up."

One of the main commission ing the same problems, but appoints is that "the quality of the educational experience must be the pri-

OLYMPIC continues from PAGE 1

apartment — to his three gold and Farlane said.

Steven Ungerleider, a visiting scholar with the Texas Program in Sports and Media, wrote a book titled "Faust's Gold: Inside the East German Doping Machine," in which he discussed the subject.

He said that the athletes featured in the panel, especially in McFarlane's case, learned their values at the University.

"Sure, they came as gifted athletes and they had great coaches, but their value system was built upon the UT experience with faculty, coaches and mentors," Ungerleider said.

East German swimmers using Lloyd, a gold medalist in "Our relay team ranged from women's basketball, discussed her experience with Title IX, a a height of 5'8 to 5'10, and once law enacted in 1972, which statwe stood next to those women from Germany, we looked like ed no one could be discrimielementary school kids," Mc- nated against under any educa- setting goals."

tional program or activity based on gender.

The Title IX law allowed her to play basketball, traditionally a men's sport, and later go on to compete at the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

Moderator for the discussion was Longhorn Olympian Donna de Varona, who competed in the 1960 and 1964 Olympics in swimming.

De Varona said all the Olympians had great lessons to share about achieving their goals as shown by their experiences.

"The Olympians' experiences really are a metaphor of how to achieve in life," De Varona said. "As they all basically said, the way you succeed is hard work, reaching out to a mentor, dedicating yourself and

large number of activities at the

"It's really lively and when I

event and the large crowd.

OCCUPY continues from PAGE 1

two silver medals.

they choose.

Davis said.

He said making a commit-

ment to excellence, with the

help of UT, will help some-

one achieve in whatever field

ty and resources here at UT

coupled with commitment to

excellence can take you any-

where, just like it took us to

the Olympics and beyond,"

Fellow swimmer McFar-

lane discussed her path to the

Olympics and the issue of the

performance-enhancing drugs.

"The opportunities, facul-

als and not the actual law.

"The general assembly wanted to let people know about what the memo said," Millette said. "We requested 48 hours to discuss the proposals, but they never got back to us."

At a press conference Sunday afternoon, Austin Police Chief Art Acevedo addressed the arrests and reflected on what they mean for the city of Austin and the Occupy Austin protests.

and the regular power washings are required to make the environment safe and comfortable for the Occupy Austin movement and anyone who wants to participate in it. He said many of the new regulations were arrested for refusing to vacate came at the request of people who City Hall for the scheduled power were concerned about the environment of the protests.

"There are a few folks that creat- ond group to ed an environment that is challenging get arrestfor the occupiers, visitors and workers ed and said around city hall," he said. "Some families with children showing up to show to engage in support Occupy Austin have been discouraged because of these conditions." Acevedo said the vast majority of the Occupy Austin members, including those who were arrested, have been extremely respectful and

he is proud that 38 people were arrested Sunday morning without injuries to protesters or police officers.

"I'm very proud of the fact that folks that chose to challenge the rules did so in a responsible manner without resorting to violence," Acevedo said. "We have shown that people can engage in civil disobedience and the police, the city and everyone can work together."

Eighteen protesters were arrested Acevedo said the new regulations for criminal trespassing after refusing to allow police to remove Occupy Austin's food table after the new regulations stated the tables must be taken down from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.

> A second group of 20 protesters wash cleaning. Bryson Gilreath was among the sec-

TOMORROW'S WEATHER

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he wanted arrests through photos, tweets. civil disobebit.ly,dt_ dience after occupy the protesters were arrested earlier

ON THE WEB:

A look at Sunday's

for standing by the food table.

Zechariah Vasquez, one of the protesters arrested for guarding the food table, said he helped a woman who was pushed to the ground by a police officer. He said he was arrested after telling another police officer to arrest the one who pushed the woman.

"They said I was an organizer and an antagonizer, and I couldn't be involved with the rest of the protesters," Vasquez said.

Protester Kirk Goodman said the police were arresting people who refused to move and people who were compliant with moving.

"Some police were just picking random people from the crowd," Goodman said.

MARKET continues from PAGE 1

tional Chinese fan dancers and Los Angeles Taiwanese-American musician Dawen.

The Texas Dragon/Lion Dance Team performed a lion dance with two performers under a red and black lion while six other performers danced and played percussion. Client contact manager Jin Kwon said their lion performance, frequently used in Chinese New Year celebrations, helps spread awareness of East Asian culture.

"America is a diverse, multicultural country," Kwon said. "I say I do Chinese dance, [peofeel like it's always important for people to see what other kind of cultures there are and what other cultures do."

The three members of the Blacknall said she enjoyed the Texas Chinese Fan Dance Company performed a dance with fabric fans that incorporated modern elements like music that featured saxophones. Company co-founder Janet Zhou said the group's performance helped overturn misconceptions people may have had about Chinese dance.

"Our main thing was just showing them how unique, how beautiful Chinese dance can be," Zhou said. "When I ple] think 'Oh, is that the really slow kind of thing the grannies do in the parks?' And it's like, 'No, not really, there is a different side to it."

Studio art freshman Briana

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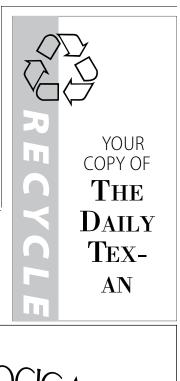
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first got here it was really exciting," Blacknal said. "It makes me want to go to Taiwan and go to

an actual night market."



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Monday, October 31, 2011 THE DAILY TEXAN Klarissa Fitzpatrick, Wire Editor | dailytexanonline.com

Heavy October snow storm surprises Northeast

By Michael Melia The Associated Press

SOUTH WINDSOR, Conn. — When winter's white mixes with autumn's orange and gold, nature gets ugly.

A freak October nor'easter knocked out power to more than 3 million homes and businesses across the Northeast on Sunday in large part because leaves still on the trees caught more snow, overloading branches that snapped and wreaked havoc. Close to 2 feet of snow fell in some areas over the weekend, and it was particularly wet and heavy, making the storm even more damaging.

"You just have absolute tree carnage with this heavy snow just had more than 600,000 outages, straining the branches," said National Weather Service spokesman Chris Vaccaro.

From Maryland to Maine, officials said it would take days to restore electricity, even though the snow ended Sunday.

The storm smashed record snowfall totals for October and worsened as it moved north. Communities in western Massachusetts were among the hardest hit. Snowfall to- around the state, and Malloy asked

and nearby Windsor had gotten 26 inches by early Sunday.

It was blamed for at least nine deaths, and states of emergency were declared in New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts and parts of New York

Roads, rails and airline flights were knocked out, and passengers on a Jet-Blue flight were stuck on a plane in Hartford, Conn., for more than seven hours. And while children across the region were thrilled to see snow so early, it also complicated many of their Halloween plans.

More than 800,000 power customers were without electricity in Connecticut alone — shattering the record set just two months ago by Hurricane Irene. Massachusetts and so did New Jersey — including Gov. Chris Christie's house. Parts of Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, New York, Maine, Maryland and Vermont also were without power.

"It's going to be a more difficult situation than we experienced in Irene," Connecticut Gov. Dannel P. Malloy said. "We are expecting extensive and long-term power outages."

Thirty-two shelters were open tals topped 27 inches in Plainfield, volunteer fire departments to allow



Sarah Arel clears snow from her roof in Ashburnham, Mass. on Sunday. Millions of people in Northeast lost power as a storm dumped heavy, wet snow over the weekend.

on generators for power. In New Jersey's Hamilton Town-

people in for warmth and showers. ship, Tom Jacobsen also recalled ly ticked off Mother Nature some-At least four hospitals were relying heavy spring flooding and a particularly heavy winter before that. "I'm starting to think we real-

how, because we've been getting spanked by her for about a year now," he said.



By Ibrahim Barzak & Josef Federman The Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — A new round of violence between Israel and Palestinian militants has Gaza's Hamas rulers caught between reluctance to take on Israel and discomfort with reining in fellow Islamists from smaller, more radical groups involved in the fighting.

estinians and an Israeli, casting raelis in suicide bombings and doubts on assessments that the other attacks, remains committed recent prisoner swap between Is- to armed struggle against Israel. rael and Hamas might improve Threatened by even more radical relations between the bitter foes. rivals in Gaza, Hamas has not criti-Despite the worst bloodshed in cized anyone for attacking Israel. months, both sides indicated they were interested in restoring calm.

Hamas, which has ruled Gaza since 2007, has avoided direct involvement in the latest burst of fighting.

At the same time, the group, for attacks from Gaza, and there The fighting has killed 10 Pal- which has killed hundreds of Is- is little doubt that Hamas' control

— when it wants to exercise it is strong.

Gaza on Sunday as they prepared try said one man was killed and a vilian were killed. It took place as Egyptian mediators were trying to za's border with Egypt — is needbroker a truce. Egypt, which bor-

ders Gaza to the south, brokered this months' prisoner swap between Israel and Hamas.

That deal has raised speculation that the two enemies might somehow create a working relationship despite their rejection of each other, perhaps with Israel says the closure — which enables basic goods to get in through Israel's border and does not affect Gaed to halt arms smuggling.

NEWS BRIEFLY

Nationwide 'Occupy' protests escalate over weekend

COLORADO

Officers in riot gear moved into a Denver park late in the day where protesters were attempting to establish an encampment, hauling off demonstrators just hours after a standoff at the Capitol steps degenerated into a fight that ended in a cloud of Mace and pepper spray and the arrests of 15 people.

OREGON

Police have begun arresting demonstrators with the Occupy Portland movement who refused to leave a park in the affluent Pearl District after a midnight curfew. An Associated Press photographer says at least one protester has been arrested and police appear poised to make more.

CALIFORNIA

Demonstrators held a festive march through San Francisco Saturday, but tension marked another march in nearby Oakland as protesters rallied against police violence in the name of an Iraq War veteran who was injured during a police clash. Hundreds marched through the streets of Oakland in protest of police violence, as helicopters hovered overhead and officers in riot gear lined the streets.

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston Mayor Thomas Menino urged Occupy Boston activists who've been camped out on a downtown square for weeks in an anti-Wall Street protest to leave for the night due amid an October snowstorm. But media volunteer Jason Potteiger said Saturday night that about 200 people still staying in tents at the site were in good spirits and the people running the food tent had more donations of hot meals than they knew what to do with.

NEW YORK

Drenched protesters in Central Park hunkered down in tents and under tarps as the plaza filled with rainwater and melted snow. Technically, tents are banned in the park, but protesters say authorities have been looking the other way, despite a crackdown on generators that were keeping them warm.

The Associated Press

In the latest violence, an Israe-

second was wounded. The fighting easing its blockade on Gaza. Israel

more extreme than Hamas. Israel says it holds Hamas responsible

Most of the violence this weekend has been between Israel and Islamic Jihad, an Iranian-backed group that is considered even

li airstrike hit a pair of militants in to fire a rocket into Israel, the military said. Gaza's Health Minis-Sunday came a day after eight Palestinian militants and an Israeli ci-



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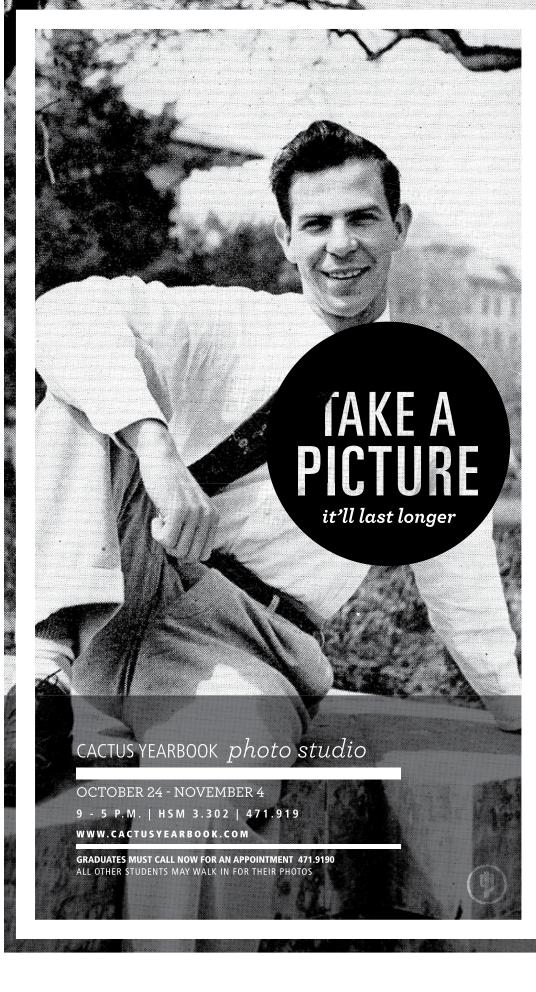
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QUOTES TO NOTE

UT invests in MyEdu

The UT System Board of Regents recently invested \$10 million from the Permanent University Fund in the Austin company MyEdu as part of an effort to improve four-year graduation rates at system institutions. The board's decision was surrounded in secrecy, and the Austin American-Statesman revealed on Sunday that former UT System chancellor William Cunningham owns a \$175,000 stake in the privately held company. Cunningham's son John is MyEdu's senior vice president for information architecture. The Board of Regents made the investment "unconditionally," but MyEdu will develop UT system-specific tools for use at system schools. The following quotes are from the Statesman's story.

"I have no knowledge of that, either. Nor was it pertinent to this agreement. We felt comfortable with exactly how this agreement went forward."

— UT System Chancellor Francisco Cigarroa on whether he had knowledge of former UT System Chancellor William Cunningham's \$175,000 stake in MyEdu.

"It was not an issue we felt was controversial or required public input."

— Gene Powell, chairman of the UT System Board of Regents, on the lack of public disclosure and transparency surrounding the system's investment in MyEdu.

"These things are often undertaken with positive purposes and good people, but when they're not fully disclosed, it really hurts them. It's much better to be transparent about it, and then you don't run into conflict."

— Aims McGuinness Jr., a senior associate with the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, on the secrecy surrounding the system's investment.

"I don't think so. I'm not a major shareholder in the company. I have no administrative input. I don't think that's relevant, and obviously they didn't think it was relevant."

— Cunningham on whether his stake in MyEdu should have been disclosed by the regents prior to their investment.

"These things are often undertaken with positive purposes and good people, but when they're not fully disclosed, it really hurts them. It's much better to be transparent about it, and then you don't run into conflict."

— Aims McGuinness Jr., a senior associate with the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, on the secrecy surrounding the system's investment.

Longhorn Network lockout

The University's iconoclastic, divisive and ESPN-backed Longhorn Network





10-30-11 THE PHILADELPHIA (HIGHER, UNIVERSAL UCLICK

Lobby to effect change

By Zoya Waliany Daily Texan Columnist

When meandering through the West Mall, one is certain to catch a glimpse of dozens of vibrant student organizations fundraising, informing and advocating for a variety of causes. While these student organizations excel at spreading their messages, many groups are forgetting to use our city's most important asset to cause the change they wish to see. At an impressive 308 feet, the Texas Capitol puts the Washington, D.C. capitol building to shame. The 150 state representatives and 31 state senators are not simply in office to pass questionable legislation; they are here for our use, too.

On the weekend of Oct. 22, alongside a number of students from around the country, I lobbied at the D.C. offices of U.S. Senators John Cornyn and Kay Bailey Hutchison to co-sponsor the Syria Sanctions Act of 2011. Though the senators receive lobbyists often, they rarely encounter lobbyists from Texas. While I was fortunate to experience lobbying in our nation's capital, I still have access to an entire network of influential politicians in Austin, as do the rest of us. UT students need to place a greater importance on lobbying our representatives and senators to

Lobbying seems a daunting task, involving business-casual dress, concrete facts about current and previous legislation and, the most intimidating of all, interacting with members of the governing elite. However, normal citizens interacting with these elites is vital to the democratic process. While the lure of continued reelection is a powerful motivator to ensure that our elected officials represent our viewpoints, decisions on which pieces of legislation to create or support falls to these representatives. Furthermore, if one's elected officials' political views fail to align with one's own views, important issues will remain unresolved, ignored or mishandled.

Lobbying gives the average citizen an opportunity to communicate which issues are of importance and to educate our elected officials, who often are ill-informed. In D.C., my colleagues and I made our appeals to one of Hutchison's staffers and one of Cornyn's staffers. The senators use these employees to research legislation, investigate domestic and international conflicts and inform policy choices. As many of the staffers are recent college graduates, lobbyists who procide information about complicated, convoluted issues can immensely benefit policy decisions.

While lobbying itself is a powerful action, what you do while bbying also influences policy makers. Bringing along petitions with hundreds of signatures or dozens of hand-written letters urging representatives to take action or delivering a giant, hand-painted banner, as we did in D.C., further demonstrates one's commitment to an issue. The trick of this political game is to raise your voice loud enough so the representatives have no choice but to listen. The results of my lobbying experience were fruitful, as we better educated the staffers on the situation in Syria, argued persuasive points as to why the senators should co-sponsor the legislation and warned of repeated follow-ups until our demands were met. Both staffers responded positively, and our cause has now advanced. If student activists at UT realize the importance of lobbying our policy makers and take their protests from West Mall to the Capitol, they may begin to effect change.

broadcast its first conference game on Saturday, as Texas took on Kansas at Darrell K Royal Texas Memorial Stadium. Because Verizon is currently the network's largest carrier, many Longhorns fans were unable to watch the broadcast.

"It's not our decision to play or not to play the LHN. Some people would say we just don't want to pay the extra money, but I would have LHN playing here every day if I could."

— Munson Stodder, general manager for Pluckers on Rio Grande, according to The Daily Texan. The popular West Campus destination has Time Warner Cable and DirecTV, but neither company has come to an agreement with ESPN on offering the network.

"We haven't been as successful at explaining to the public that this is a slow-growing process, so unfortunately, you might not find it on your TV screen right away. It's a start-up — we've only been on the air since August. The Big Ten Network started slow, the Yankees' YES Network started slow. ... In the end, though, we know this is something really, really good. People will enjoy it.""

— DeLoss Dodds, UT head athletic director, according to TexasSports.com.

achieve the changes we often discuss and rally behind.

Voting is the main mechanism Americans use to select their representatives and have their voices heard. However, after the results of the election are published and many of our chosen politicians lose, apathy begins to invade our system. Americans aged 18 to 24 are generally considered politically apathetic. This stereotype often proves true, as the Economist cites that only 24 percent of 18- to 24-year-olds voted in the 2010 midterm. As a result, politicians do little to cater to this demographic, and many of the political issues we find important, including higher education reform and the international crises and efforts that so many of us advocate in West Mall, are not priorities. Increased voting and campaign participation may demonstrate the youth's interests in politics, but a more influential demonstration is lobbying. Entering a politician's office and demanding that our voices be heard is the most powerful message we can transmit.

Waliany is a Plan II and government senior.

LEGALESE

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THE FIRING LINE

No loans means no bad loans

The Know Before You Owe initiative, as reported by The Daily Texan in Thursday's paper, fails to address the root of the problem of student debt, which is the government's own intervention in the education industry.

If more people have access to a college education, then the price of that education will go up. But price increases lead only to calls for more student loans, which again lead to higher tuition and more debt. But as more college degrees are granted, degrees necessarily become less valuable. If everyone has a college degree, then a college degree says no more about a job candidate than that he is a warm body. The result of government student loans is quite predictable: a generation of underemployed adults laden with crippling student loans they cannot pay.

By contrast, a system without government intrusion would be very different: No student would be able to get a loan without strong evidence that their future degree would lead to a lucrative career. People not likely to benefit from a college degree would be less likely to be approved for a loan and therefore less likely to be tricked into the mistake that so many graduates have today.

In a perfect world, not everyone will have access to a college education. The benefit a person provides to his society comes from how he differentiates himself from the rest. Some will be college-educated, but others will be educated by their own deliberate efforts, careers or experiences in everyday life.

Daniel Krawisz Electrical and computer engineering graduate student

SUBMIT A FIRING LINE

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 brevi-ty, clarity and liability.

Monday, October 31, 2011

NEWS



Marisa Vasquez | Daily Texan Staff

Children in costumes watch a green slime creation at the Texas Memorial Museum on Sunday afternoon. The museum hosted several free themed exhibits to celebrate Halloween.

Museum hosts fright fest for kids

By Sylvia Butanda **Daily Texan Staff**

The 3rd Annual "Fright at the Museum" at the Texas Memorial Museum featured special exhibits that highlighted the museum's scariest specimens and offered a variety of Halloween-themed children's arts and crafts activities.

This Halloween event was aimed at educating kids about animals they might think are "spooky" and "creepy," said Christina Cid, education director at the Texas Memorial Museum.

"Animals such as insects and snakes that are considered to be scary are ones that we can help the kids learn about and get excited about with the booths we have set up," Cid said.

The central focus of the event included several booths that exhibited live scorpions, spiders, worms and bugs for the public to learn about.

One of the three scorpion booths featured African Emperor scorpions in a white box with a black light. The effect of this black light showed kids how all scorpion species have a fluorescent outer shell.

"We're trying to show kids that [scorpions are] really interesting and there's no need to be afraid of the animals," said Lynne featured a variety of fossilized insects Marie Weber, a volunteer at the Texas Memorial Museum.

The Blood Center of Central Texas hosted a blood drive in front of the museum and an activity titled, "Who's out for Blood?" where kids explored the museum exhibits about blood-drinking animals.

One station transformed the museum's paleontology lab into the "Skele-

YOUR COPY OF

THE DAILY TEXAN

ton Sorcery," which featured several animal skulls for the public to view and learn about.

"This is a chance for visitors to explore the beauty of skulls," said Pamela Owen, senior paleontology educator for the Texas Memorial Museum. We're showing skulls from the museum's teaching collection and talking to people about them."

Kids gathered around a station that which are uncommon to find with as much detail as the examples at the museum.

"The level of resolution that you need to get a fossil insect well preserved is incredible and really rare so to have these fossils on display is something pretty cool for the kids to see," said geological sciences graduate student Natasha Vitek.

Local church aims to give out Thanksgiving meals to poor

Bv Allison Harris Daily Texan Staff

With almost 18 percent of the city's approximately 750,000 residents living in poverty, a local church is registering families to receive Thanksgiving care packages for the 21st year as part of the organization's ongoing efforts to fight hunger.

The El Buen Samaritano Episcopal Mission registered an additional 444 families for its Hands for Hope charity program Saturday to pick up Thanksgiving care packages on Nov. 19, which brings the total number to 844. The church plans to have another registration drive to reach its goal of 1,400 families, said Communication Coordinator Ivan Dávila. Dávila said the Thanksgiving holiday highlights stark income inequalities.

"We are sitting at the table with an abundance of food on Thanksgiving, but there might be people who don't have that," Dávila said. "I will feel so much better, sitting at the table, seeing all the abundance of food on Thanksgiving, knowing that I did what I could to help those in need."

An estimated 17.5 percent of Austin residents live below the federal poverty level, according to 2005-2009 American Community Survey estimates. This is higher than the state value of 16.8 percent during the same period and the U.S. Census 2009 national poverty rate of 14.3 percent.

Dávila said the number of new clients visiting the mission's food pantry has doubled in the past three months, up to an average of 60 new clients every week for the past month and a half. Poverty and hunger affect more people than is commonly assumed, he said.

"People often think the face into society."



Julia Bunch | Daily

Children decorate trick-or-treat bags for Halloween at the Hands for Hope event Saturday morning. The event registered 1,000 families who would be elegible to receive Thanksgiving meal baskets.

of poverty is homelessness, and that's not the case," Dávila said. "Our families are working or recently lost their job due to extenuating circumstances."

About 65 staff members and volunteers screened applicants and input data from those who registered. To qualify, an individual had to show proof of address, a birth certificate and proof that household income was at or below 185 percent of the federal poverty level, which is \$22,314 of annual income for a family of four, the average household size of people served by El Buen's food pantry.

Miranda Tacoronti, a UT graduate curriculum and instruction student, said the Thanksgiving program helps people feel more integrated into mainstream U.S. society, especially recent Hispanic immigrants.

"They come to this society, and they're told Thanksgiving dinner is such this big deal, but then they don't have the money to buy the food," Tacoronti said. "They feel like that's one more way that they're not to share this with my friends



— Ivan Dávila, Mission Coordinator



Antonia Ramirez, a housecleaner from Dale, said receiving the Thanksgiving care package will allow her to celebrate without worrying about how it will impact her ability to pay bills.

'The thought comes to mind of not being able to afford a Thanksgiving meal because of having to pay bills, and that thought is sad," Ramirez said. "I see it as a blessing being able able to be able to incorporate and family, being able to have a Thanksgiving meal."

Come and enjoy a good 'ol time! Enjoy free stuff from our sponsors & watch the game on a big screen tv under the tent!!

APPLICATIONS

are being accepted for the following student position with Texas Student Media

Daily Texan Managing Editor, Spring 2012

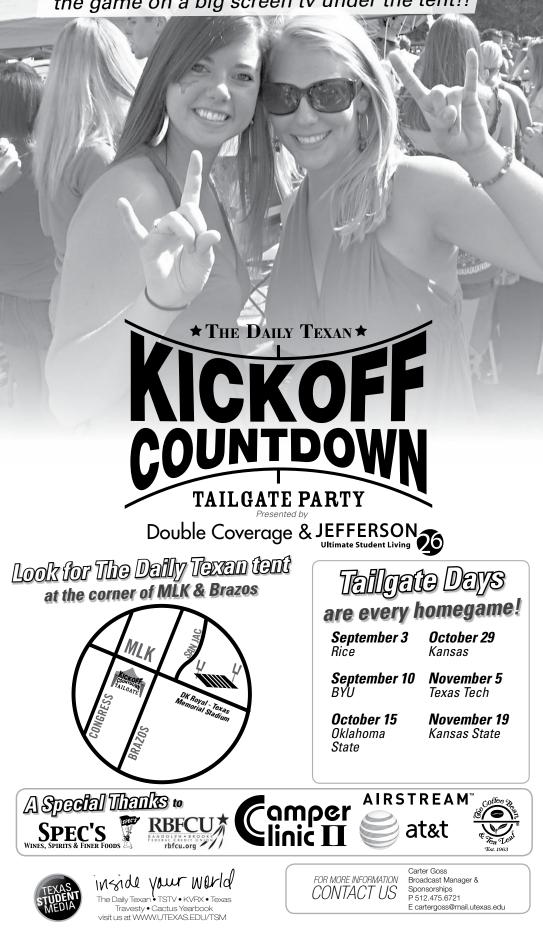
Application forms and a list of qualifications are available in the Office of the Director. Texas Student Media, HSM, Room 3.304.

The TSM Board of Operating Trustees will interview applicants and appoint a Managing Editor for Spring 2012 at 1:00 p.m. on November 18, 2011 College of Communications (CMA), LBJ Room #5.160

DEADLINE Noon, Tuesday, November 8, 2011

Please return completed applications and all supporting materials to the Director's Office.

Interested applicants are invited to stop by and visit with the Director to discuss student positions.





GROUND AND POUND

By Christian Corona Daily Texan Staff

Texas defensive coordinator Manny Diaz sent the second-team defense in for Kansas' final drive. His starters took the field instead.

TEXAS

"We kind of all snuck back on back Quandre Diggs. "We wanted that shutout. We all went back on the field to make sure there was a goose egg on that scoreboard."

And that's exactly what they did. The Jayhawks got their third and final first down before turning the ball over on downs, allowing the Longhorns to preserve the shutout and a 43-0 win over Kansas on Saturday at Darren K Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium. The defense turned in its best performance of the season, stuffing Kansas for -2 rushing yards and just 46 yards overall.

"It was huge for them to get a shutout," said head coach Mack Brown. "Those seniors were going to back out there. I told them if they had gone in there and gotten hurt, we would have had a discussion. But it was okay. I was happy for them."

Texas was just as physical on the offensive side of the ball, with Malcolm Brown running for 119 yards and Joe Bergeron picking up 136 to become the first freshmen duo to run for more than 100 yards in school history. They both scored twice to pace a ground game that racked up 441 yards, the Longhorns' highest total since 2004. Senior Fozzy Whittaker had 68 yards on nine carries and junior receiver Marquise Goodwin pitched in 52, making the most of his five carries to help Texas surpass its goal of 300 rushing yards. Even junior Jeremy Hills, who ran watching them chew up the clock. for 31 yards on six carries dur- We're hard to score on when we're ing Texas' last possession, took on the bench." advantage of an opportunity to shine against an atrocious Kansas run defense. "Running the ball was our Brown said. "We focused on it a little bit more, and the offensive line it was about as easy as it gets. did a great job of getting the push,

and we kept pounding the rock." A rushing attack of that caliber made David Ash's job a lot easier. The freshmen was more efficient in his second career start, going 14of-18 and scoring on a 2-yard run after having trouble against Oklahoma State two weeks ago. Ash the field," said freshman defensive still made some mistakes, taking a sack for a 20-yard loss and throwing an interception trying to find D.J. Grant in the end zone. But he threw just four incompletions, 14 less than he had in his last game, making crisper throws downfield and benefitting from an effective screen game.

> "He made some good decisions out there," said co-offensive coordinator Bryan Harsin. "I thought he managed the game well. He was seeing what we needed him to see. The sacks and interceptions — when we eliminate those, we'll be headed in the right direction."

> Texas' offensive outburst was not surprising considering it was facing a defense that gave up more yards than any in the country. But the Longhorns were not expected to blank a Kansas offense that averaged more than 30 points in its first seven games. Jackson Jeffcoat got his first sack of the season, as did converted running back Chris Whaley, and Alex Okafor had two tackles for loss, forced two fumbles and also notched a sack

> "It was big," Jeffcoat said. "It is very special when you can do something like that."

With Texas having the ball for more than 44 minutes, its defense was on the field for just 36 plays, providing the defense to pitch its first shutout since 2005.

"We were talking about how we should scrimmage tomorrow," Diaz said. "It was unbelievable



KANSAS











LONGHORNS IN THE NFL

Colt McCoy

With Texas Tech, Missouri, Kansas State, Texas A&M and Baylor left on the regular season schedule, Saturday likely marked the game plan for the week," Malcolm last time the Longhorns will conceivably pick up an easy win. And



Elisabeth Dillon | Daily Texan Staff Running back Joe Bergeron celebrates after scoring a touchdown. He led the Longhorns with 136 yards and two touchdowns.

Horns sweep Cyclones,

sit at first in conference

VOLLEYBALL

By Chris Hummer

Daily Texan Staff

(25-14, 28-26, 25-21).

12) this season.

TEXAS 3, IOWA STATE 0

Texas took a big step toward its

goal of winning its fourth Big 12

title in the last five years by de-

feating Iowa State in straight sets

The No. 9 Longhorns (17-4, 8-1

Big 12) moved into sole posses-

sion of first place in the confer-

ence with their second defeat of

the No. 14 Cyclones (15-4, 8-2 Big

"I think going in, we both knew

that we were tied for first place.

Our goal, first off, was to win Big

12," said freshman Hayley Ecker-

man. "So to get past Iowa State was to get another step closer to [win-

Bergeron gets his chance and runs with it

By Austin Laymance Daily Texan Staff

It was worth the wait. After not carrying the ball in a game for more than six quarters a span of three weeks — Joe Bergeron exploded for 136 yards against Kansas on Saturday. The freshman tailback averaged 10.5 yards per rush and scored twice in the Longhorns' rout.

Bergeron, who's been in the shadow of the other Texas backs for six games, shined against the Jayhawks in the second half. He entered the game with just 18 carries for 87 yards and rushed for 78

yards in the fourth quarter alone. He hadn't touched the ball since the final minutes of the Oklahoma game on Oct. 8, but the lack of carries wasn't a problem against KU.

"I didn't really let it get to me," Bergeron said. "Just getting a lot of mental reps, waiting my turn, waiting for my number to be called. And when they did, I showed what I had."

What he displayed was a bruising running style that will serve the Longhorns well over the next few weeks.

The freshman ran through, over and around the Jayhawks, making a defense that's ranked second-to-

last in the nation against the run look even more hapless. Bergeron pinballed his way for 35-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter, the second of his career.

Elisabeth Dillon | Daily Texan Staff

"He did a nice job of setting the play up and getting vertical," said Bryan Harsin, the Longhorns playcaller. "I thought he finished the run well. Just his mentality, the way he ran and watching him out there, he was running with a purpose. That's what we want. When there was a crease, we weren't dancing around."

The 6-foot-1, 230 lb. Mesquite, Texas, product didn't waste any

RUNNING continues on **PAGE 7**



Chris Ogbonnaya

37 yards

11 attempts



Bailey Webster (23) jumps for the ball during Texas' win over Iowa State on Friday night. Webster had 13 kills and hit .323 in the win, which extended the Longhorns' winning streak to seven.

were finally able to put it away with a Khat Bell kill and an Eckerman ace.

ning] the Big 12. So we knew that

we had to go in thinking that they

Texas set the tone early, win-

ning the first set in dominating

fashion 25-14 — spurred on by a

14-3 run in the middle of the set

The second set was much clos-

er, with both teams fighting hard

for every point. Texas was up

in the set 24-21, but Iowa State

clawed back to tie it on three dif-

ferent occasions. The Longhorns

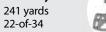
to put it away for good.

were going to be a tough team."

The last set was more comfort-



SWEEP continues on PAGE 7





SPORTS

With the win, the Aggies were

awarded 1 point and took the league

in this year's edition of the State Farm

Lone Star Showdown by a score of

1-0.5. The half-point awarded to the

Longhorns was from a volleyball vic-

going to have to rebound and get

"A&M played quite well," said Tex-

Texas will take on Texas Tech on

Wednesday in San Antonio for the

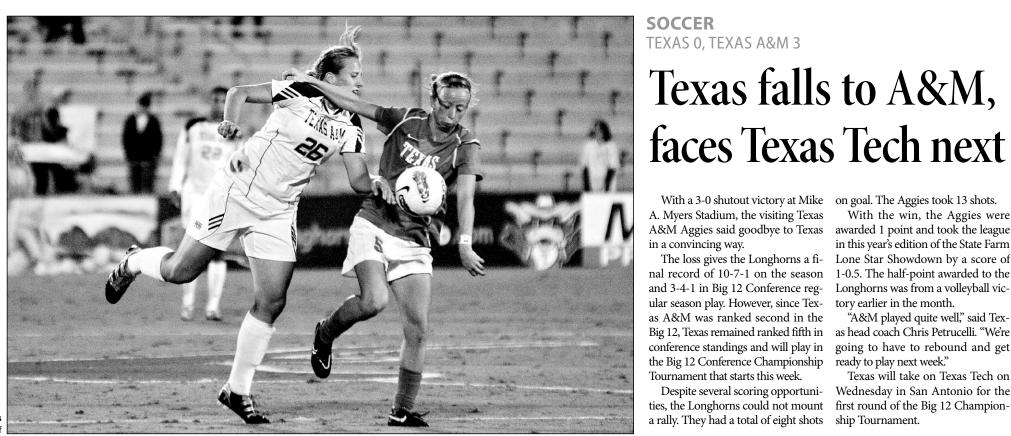
tory earlier in the month.

ready to play next week."

ship Tournament.

Monday, October 31, 2011

Junior Hannah **Higgins fights** for the ball on Saturday. Texas had seven shots in the second half, but the effort was not enough to get back in the game.



Kiersten Holms Daily Texan Staff

SWEEP continues from PAGE 6

and never relinquished the lead, ginning, but we were still trying winning the set 25-21.

Compared to their last game terms." against the Cylcones, in which they had to go to five sets, this one was easy for the Longhorns.

"We're getting a lot better," said sophomore Bailey Webster. "We're a totally different team from the beginning of the season, and it's a good thing. Not of the season," she said.

able; the team came out firing that we weren't good in the beto find ourselves, in the simplest

"Now, we're getting our groove, and we know what we want to do, and we can say, 'We want to win this game. Let's go out and do the things that we want to do to win the game.' We weren't able to execute that in the beginning

RUNNING continues from PAGE 6

time when his number was called. He broke free for a 21-yard gain on his second rush. On the next play, he scored from four yards out to put Texas ahead, 33-0. Bergeron also had a 21-yard score called back because of a holding penalty.

The Longhorns rushed for 441 yards on the night, prompting head coach Mack Brown to call it the most physical game he's seen his team play in a long time. Bergeron was no exception.

"I knew we were going to come out and dominate," he said.

The Longhorns running attack didn't skip a beat in the second half once Bergeron replaced fellow freshman Malcolm Brown, who rushed for 119 yards and two touchdowns.

"Joe was doing great," said Malcolm Brown, who leads Texas with 635 rushing yards. "Joe did a real good job. Nothing really slowed down when he got into the game."

The two are the first pair of on the edge during the bye week. freshman to each rush for more than 100 yards in the same game in school history.

The loss gives the Longhorns a fi-

Despite several scoring opportuni-

"We're a one-two punch," Bergeron said.

Bergeron benefitted from a dominating performance from the offensive line, which was bolstered by Luke Poehlmann, a backup tackle who often lined up at tight end.

The coaches decided to move the 6-foot-7-inch, 295-pound junior out

"It worked out well," Harsin said. "Just having him out there is an opportunity to get another big body on the edge. He set the edge. He got us out there on the perimeter by just being physical."

Bergeron will have another opportunity for a big game this week against a Texas Tech defense that ranks No. 114 nationally against the run.

PRESS BOX OBSERVATIONS — FOOTBALL

Marquise Goodwin is back

Even before playing Okla- State or Oklahoma but was homa State, Mack Brown ed to get Marquise Goodwin more involved. The junior wide receiver has been clocked at under 10.5 sec- along with what we're doonds in the 100-meter dash ing inside, really complebut had only recently got- ments us on the outside on cording to Brown. Because fensive coordinator Bryan Goodwin did not re-join the Harsin. "Finding more ways team until after Texas' sea- to try to distribute the ball is

productive against Kansas, said that his offense need- catching four passes for 36 yards and running for 52 more on just five carries.

"Marquise is a guy that, ten into football shape, ac- the perimeter," said co-of-

Texas found solution at tight end

For the fourth-straight game, no Texas tight end in at tight end tonight and had more than two catches that really helped us," said for 19 yards. But the Long- head coach Mack Brown. horns got their most productive performance from trouble knocking people a tight end since D.J. Grant around on the edges. It caught three touchdown looked like he did a great passes against UCLA. Ju- job." nior Luke Poehlmann, listed as the backup left guard behind senior David Snow,

"We put Luke Poehlmann "We've been having some

Secondary holds its own without Phillips

HERE ARE THREE OBSERVATIONS ABOUT TEXAS' WIN OVER KANSAS. [BY CHRISTIAN CORONA]

With a 3-0 shutout victory at Mike on goal. The Aggies took 13 shots.

The Longhorns were not Thanks to the Longhorns'

facing a quarterback near- prolific running game, Texly as good as they had in as was able to dominate the their last two games, which time of possession battle, made the absence of soph- and Kansas attempted just omore defensive back Adri- 16 passes. The Longhorns an Phillips hurt a little less. had 93 passes attempt-But Jordan Webb helped ed on their defense in their develop a respectable Kan- last two games. "The sky is sas offense and threw for the limit with this defense," an average of more than Diggs said. "It was different 200 yards per game com- from playing offenses like ing into Saturday. Thanks to Oklahoma and Oklahoma State when you're on the

used to the new offense. ers' hands." Goodwin did not touch the ball in either of the Longhorns' contests against lowa

son opener against Rice, it what we were doing - gettook him some time to get ting the ball in our playmakmoved over and helped pave the way for Texas to run for a season-high 441 yards.

sophomore Carrington Byndom and freshman Quan- field maybe 75 plays. When dre Diggs, who intercepted you go from playing 75 to his second pass of the year, 36, it's a relief on your legs. Texas held the Jayhawks' Playing those 36 snaps was aerial attack in check, allow- great." ing just 48 passing yards.

West Virginia officially accepted into Big 12

By Chijoke Okorie Daily Texan Staff

This past week, West Virginia University was officially accepted into the Big 12 Conference. The Mountaineers were voted in unanimously during a teleconference call involving the Big 12's Board of Directors on Friday morning and are expected to leave the Big East Conference and become a full member in Big 12 athletics starting July 1, 2012. The move to add West Virginia resulted from the anticipated departure of the University of Missouri from the Big 12. The admission process for West Virginia was first put on hold because of a late push by the University of Louisville and Senator Mitch McConnell, who desired acceptance into the Big 12. Texas A&M will be starting play in the Southeastern Conference next summer as well.

FOR WEB EXCLUSIVE



West Virginia University President

without ever having won a national championship and has made it to two BCS bowl games. Its other various athletics, such as the men's and women's basketball teams, have also had success over the last few years.

"The addition of West Virginia, West Virginia was a founding while expanding the reach of the member of the Big East during its Big 12, brings an impressive ininception in 1991. Its football pro-stitution with esteemed academgram has the most FBS victories ics and a proud athletic tradition

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Hargis, the chairman of the Big 12 Board of Directors. "This is another step in building a strong foundation for the future of the Big 12."

Though both the Big 12 and West Virginia have agreed to July 1 as the day that West Virginia officially joins the conference, the Big East has bylaws requiring a 27-month waiting period before the teams can leave the conference. The departures of Syracuse and Pittsburgh from the Big East to the Atlantic Coast Conference have been delayed by these laws. However, James Clements, President for West Virginia Uni-

into the conference," said Burns versity, does not seem too concerned about the laws. "Our intent is clearly July 1 we'll

be a member of the Big 12," Clements said on Friday. "We're in discussions with the Big East regarding how we make that happen."

Though this movement may have caused a bit of drama over the last week between the conferences, West Virginia Senator Joe Manchin may have summed up the feelings of the West Virginia University community best when he told the Associated Press, "It's a great day to be a Mountaineer."

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LIFE&ARTS

IS EVERYONE HANGING OUT WITHOUT ME? (AND OTHER CONCERNS

'The Office' writer showcases witty humor in 'Is Everyone Hanging Out Without Me?'

Mindy Kaling's debut book rent state of American marriages includes humorous musing ^{III} ^{IVIAITICU TCOPICTICCE COPICTICCE COPICTICE COPICTI} on everyday life, childhood imaginative motivational workout

By Katie Stroh Daily Texan Staff

Office" probably don't realize how much influence Mindy Kaling, the actress behind the ditzy, boy-obsessed Kelly Kapoor, has on the show. In addition to her small role, Kaling is an executive producer and writer for the show and has written some of its most standout episodes including "The Dundies" and "Diwali."

Those who have been following Kaling's career and those who ache, and my childhood ... Just are familiar with her lighthearted, self-deprecating sense of humor via Twitter (@mindykaling) and her blog, "The Concerns of Mindy Kaling," will be thrilled with Kaling's new book, "Is Everyone Hanging Out Without Me? (And Other Concerns)."

Kaling draws on her own personal experiences, neuroses and ideals for material in this collection of essays. She discusses everything from her childhood as the chubby, androgynous "obedient child of immigrant professionals" who was afraid of riding her own bike to her time living in a tiny apartment in a dangerous neighborhood when she began working on "The Office," unsure if the nowclassic show would even get a second season.

a conversational, self-effacing style brunch) and "Someone Explain that works perfectly for her subject matter. Her story about trying to find work in New York City after graduating from Dartmouth is called "Failing at Everything in the vents her frustration with the cur-

in "Married People Need to Step It techniques in "Revenge Fantasies While Jogging."

Although she doesn't delve too deeply into her role on "The Of-Casual viewers of NBC's "The fice," Kaling does dedicate an entire chapter to the subject, offering her thoughts on the mega-star Steve Carell ("I've always found Steve very gentlemanly and private, like a Jane Austen character") and guiltily recalling her first big fight with her boss, executive producer Greg Daniels.

Kaling manages to write about the things she's interested in ("romance, female friendships, heartthat really hard-core, masculine stuff men love to read about") in a thoughtful and entertaining way that never comes off as shallow or irritating as her on-screen alter ego Kelly.

"I wrote this book in a way that reflects how I think," Kaling writes. "Sometimes it's an essay or story, and sometimes it's a pliest, which is a piece with a list-y quality, a term I've just made up."

"Is Everyone Hanging Out Without Me?" proves not just entertaining, but incredibly, insightfully funny. Beware of reading this book in public. It's nearly impossible not to laugh audibly reading pieces such as "The Exact Level of Fame I Want" (enough that she could never go to jail, even if she murdered someone, and would The short vignettes are written in never have to stand in line for One-Night Stands to Me."

The real heart of the book, though, is its relatability. Any girl - or guy, for that matter - who was an obedient wallflower in high school or who Greatest City in the World;" she has geeked out over compiling a list of their favorite comedy moments



Me? (And Other Concerns Mindy Kaling Genre: Humor Pages: 219 For those who like: "Bossypants," Nora Ephron Grade: A

Is Everyone Hanging Out Without



Photo courtesy of Creative Commons

"The Office" writer and producer Mindy Kaling's collection of humorous essays, "Is Everyone Hanging Out Without Me? (And Other Concerns)" will be released tomorrow.

on SNL, anyone?) will find a kindred spirit in Kaling. The only deficiency of "Is Everyone Hanging Out sharply-written wisdom.

(Kristen Wiig's Bjork impression Without Me?" is that, at 219 pages, the book is far too short. It's hard not to want more of Kaling's bubbly but

Austin residents celebrate nonreligious Halloween



I wanted to write an article about the religious aspects of Halloween in Austin.

I set out expectantly, seeking pagan groups celebrating Samhain, an ancient tradition that celebrates the dead. I thought I might find examples of Austin Christian groups protesting the holiday or using it as an opportunity to evangelize.

But in a city famous for its Halloween spirit

on Sixth Street and in West Campus, I found little mention of religious activity. Sure, there were dozens of Facebook events for Halloween carnivals and fundraisers at churches. But these are not by nature religious events. Tejas Web, one of the most active Witch-

craft communities in Austin, will celebrate Samhain on Tuesday at the Vortex. They'll erect an ancestor altar, participate in a ritual trance and collect donations for SafePlace, a shelter for victims of domestic violence.

"Join us as we journey to commune with our ancestors and descendants," says the group's website. "We restore the balance and heal ourselves and our communities."

And the Mexic-Arte Museum held its annual Day of the Dead festival on Oct. 22, 10 days before the holiday itself.

But that was all I found. No protests, no celebrations of the tradi-

tional Oct. 31 Gaelic Harvest Festival, nothing city-wide to mark the Christian All Saints' Day.

It seems that in Austin, the period from Oct. 31 to Nov. 2 is celebrated in an almost entirely secular fashion. And this city is not unusual in that capacity. According to a Sept. 29 Time Magazine article, the National Retail Federation estimated that Americans will pour \$7 billion into secular Halloween paraphernalia this year, including costumes, candy and decor.

But Time also recently reported on JesusWeen, an initiative Canadian pastor Paul Ade started in 2002. Ade told Gawker for an Oct. 7 article, "Halloween is not consistent with the Christian faith ... We think people should choose an alternative activity."

The group uses Halloween as an

opportunity to evangelize by encouraging fol-It seems that in lowers to give out Bibles in-Austin, the period from Oct. 31-Nov. 2 is celebrated in an almost entirely secular fashion. And this city is not unusual

in that capacity.

every article and blog I found, including ones posted on Jesusween.com, the concept was met with derision or amusement. Famed conservative Christian Pat Robertson

chimed in last

stead of candy.

But on nearly

month, calling Halloween "Satan's night," and online commentors largely scoffed at him too.

In Austin and throughout North America, Halloween is almost entirely a nonreligious holiday. Festivals such as Samhain and Day of the Dead have their own celebrations divorced from Halloween, honoring ancestors while the majority of Americans dress as cats or slutty beer mugs and eat chocolate.

Enjoy your candy tonight, and store up some energy for what is to come — tomorrow begins the ultimate secular vs. religious throw down known as "holiday shopping season."

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By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR** LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

STEVE JOBS (1955-2011)

Solution: 6 letters

10/31



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COMICS 9 Monday, October 31, 2011 OH NO TODAY IS THE DAY OF. INCOHERENT JARGON BY GABE ALVAREZ SWARGH ы 0 0 MAZEL TOU THIS IS THAT'S WHEN COMICS ... wazzat? 00 ... ARE DONE BY DIFFERENT ARTISTS! check out the rest online at our blog: dailytexanonline.com/blog/comic-blog HEY CHIKITA HEY! no. 16/2 - PARAPAGUS PROBLEMS V.G.ELUOTT Psst, Hazel! by claudine ben the box pigeon Oh, that. What happened Well, no... between you it was Cool and Buddy? C00 C00 just too... COO COD COD. 6 M ··· complicated Is there ່ອໍ , Θ any drama? Tonight's been An. Yaire a nice guy, Buddy. EARLIER it's a ٥h F shame about your TWIN, though Roques (by Starpony Comics): Seduction Savy Thanks By: Katie C. Hazel No time!) all or OMGO MGO MGOMGOMGO NF I-I. nothing, sir! HELLO I'm getting hit - 甜甜 3 You'll never babe. on by My Fir Bomb deactivate the droppe ITT normally by CM-ZELLERS Semale Xillian. bomb before-6 5:(? I'm the F OMO GOOG: PRIVATE EYE C.M.ZELLERS Terrible You'll OMG stop me? Trank You're OMG a dude I killed OMG my husband! But OMG did it because Π Goog OMG I love you! Yes, pot GOOG: can't ke АННН :))) not violently. it from you any longer! Private ou've found 3 Starpony Comies: Cat Ears BY: EMery F. me out! Eye. ee: WHAT/ Gimme In the City that keeps its Secrets those! One thing searches for the truthknow I can' to you eal love

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Monday, October 31, 2011 THE DAILY TEXAN Aleksander Chan, Life&Arts Editor | (512) 232-2209 | dailytexan@gmail.com

Parade brings dead to life

Annual celebration features marching bands, crowds on Sixth Street

Paranormal researchers to tour historical house

By Elizabeth Hinojos Daily Texan Staff

"I'm trying to keep myself from sounding completely insane," said Robyn Ramsey, a paranormal researcher. "But it's difficult to do."

Ramsey is part of the team of paranormal researchers that will lead the Haunted History Mystery at Austin's oldest home, the French Legation Museum. On Halloween night, Ramsey and her colleagues, Darla Andrews and Melissa Burk, will guide search myself instead of obsessmuseum-goers in groups of 10 and demonstrate ways to detect paranormal presences with investigative tools.

The 170-year-old home will undergo preservation work start- which led her to inquire about ing in early November. The construction provides impeccable timing for paranormal investigation since all museum collections ory. This is a theory that a dehave been moved away from the ceased person's emotional scesite. The house is now complete- narios from their past life can be ly empty — with the exception of eerie chandeliers and light fixtures — for the first time in almost 60 years.

Director of the French Legation, Lise Ragbir, said the basis heard noises or felt a presence," for the belief of "paranormal activity" in the house is likely because of the Robertson family, who owned the home for more than 100 years. Joseph and Lyd- lieves in paranormal activity, ia Lee Robertson raised their 11 Ragbir declined to comment. children there. Ragbir said Mrs. Robertson was the first to be born in the house in 1850 and the last to die there in 1940. Other residents also lived on Robert- tential for a residual haunting, son Hill during the family's time which happens in a place memat the home.

osity. Ramsey and Andrews, a ghost. There could be sourcsessions," also known as elec- cardboard-like cutouts of people tronic voice phenomena, on a cassette recorder.

"We knew we were getting sounds a possibility. we didn't make," Ramsey said.

WHAT: Haunted History Mystery WHERE: The French Legation Museum WHEN: Oct. 31 from 3 p.m. to 2 a.m.

WEB: \$15 to \$35

TICKETS: http:// frenchlegationmuseum. blogspot.com/2011/09/ haunted-history-mysteryoctober-31-2011.html

ing and being scared over the situation," Ramsey said.

But it was her paranormal experience during her first visit at the French Legation the site further.

Ramsey said the home is a site which holds a strong place memreplayed and that living onlookers can eventually catch a glimpse of the spirit re-living the scenario, unaware of viewers.

"Some people say they have said Ragbir. "Though I haven't had any paranormal experiences myself."

When asked whether she be-

At a venue filled with possibilities for the paranormal, Ramsey said there could be a variety of presences. There is poory situation. There is also po-Ramsey was a child when the tential for a poltergeist, which paranormal sparked her curi- is a noisy source that could be whom she has known since es of high energy that can move third grade, recorded "EVP items around, or transparent may also arise. Demons, animal spirits and other sources are also

"It's natural to get scared, but Ramsey explained that it was there's this zone you get into,"

perience that may last a few sec-

onds, you don't want to lose it,

going on, I get into work mode

flashes and the Sixth Street hoards who McMillan said are welcome to dance along "in the back, behind the clowns" - the zombie marchers will split at the intersection of Seventh Street and Red River and host two haunted carnival after parties, one at Red 7 and one at Elysium.

After braving the sea of camera

KreweDCM, a local nonprofit started by McMillan in 2007, describes itself as a "Halloween marching club and parade krewe" on its website. The club recruited local circus-punk brass bands Major Mayhem, Best Best Best Friends and the Dead Music Capitol Marching Band - which Mc-Millan is a part of - for music.

The music will be performed by the three marching bands and include original compositions like "The Monster March," written by local music producer and composer Ron Car- Millan said. "Even though we've been size of a VW Beetle and a homemade son, McMillan's own "Circus of the doing this for five years, a lot of peo-Seven Dawns" and also carr that glows different colors and the ations on spooky classics like Chopin's "Funeral March."



FECARTS

Lawrence Peart | Daily Texan Staff

KreweDCM march through a school parking lot while practicing for its Halloween performance.

ambitious this year than ever before. "Austin has definitely grown," Mcple are still unaware that there's Orleans-style parade group for Halloween. There's a lot of folks downtown that see us, and its just a kind of 'holy crap' moment."

practices saxophone before a rehearsal march in Slaughter on Wednesday. Marshall and his fellow bandmates will perform at Sixth Street on Halloween night.

Patrick Marshall

Lawrence Peart

WHAT: Circus of the Seven Dawns parade

WHERE: Downtown Austin

the death of an immediate family Ramsey said. "If you put so member that was the main reason much time and effort into an exshe decided to delve into the field. Acquaintances would tell Ramsey that spirits are stuck on earth so if I feel there's real activity when they are "violently killed."

"That's when I decided to re- ready to catch it."

Pu Ying Huang | Daily Texan Staff

Programs coordinator Franke Smith at the French Legation Museum peers around the corner of the recently emptied out house. Tours will be conducted Monday with ghost hunters scanning the house for paranormal activity.

mythical, bat-winged wraith elephant Circus of The Seven Dawns is all accounted for. Between 150 and 200 parade participants are expected to show up, according to parade captain Chris McMillan, 32, who said that when the circus begins its death march at 9 p.m., everyone on Sixth Street will know.

By Aaron West

Daily Texan Staff

On Halloween, the restless, un-

dead souls of the Circus of the Sev-

en Dawns - a haunted, New Orleans

style carnival-parade that, accord-

ing to legend, resides in the world of

the dead until the new moon rises

seven days before All Hallow's Eve -

will invade Austin's rowdy downtown

streets and show the world of the liv-

ing what we've been missing out on.

The cast of characters in the pa-

rade are all over the place, as long

as that place is a hair-raising, su-

pernatural circus. There will be

three undead marching bands

fronted by skeleton zombie drum-

lines, dozens of DIY, twisted carni-

val creature-puppets with reptilian

legs and lifeless souls and cursed

Throw in a haunted clown float the

costumed stilt-walkers.

"We have to warn marchers to keep their heads down because of the camera flashes," McMillan said. He also organized the Circus of the Seven Dawns and the local parade club behind it, KreweDCM. "It's just crazy. The flashes will totally blind you."

The Halloween parade, the fifth McMillan and KreweDCM have arranged since 2007 and the first they've needed a police escort and a special event permit from the city for, will start at Auditorium Shores by the South First Street bridge. It will then march down Congress to Fifth Street, take a left onto Brazos Street and then "be released," according to McMillan, "into the Sixth Street enclosure," where they'll mingle among thousands of drunken onlookers.

McMillan said the haunted sound is a big part of what gives KreweD-CM's New Orleans-style parades "an Austin twist." He said Austin is a city that's ripe for a parade movement especially a Halloween-themed one - since it's a city that is built around music and is infamous for its downtown Halloween celebrations.

He came up with the idea for KreweDCM while driving back to Texas from New Orleans, where he has family.

"It couldn't be Mardi Gras, but Halloween - my other favorite holiday that could work," McMillan said. "Halloween is the big holiday that a lot of people celebrate in Austin."

march while pounding a bass drum and screaming through an electronic megaphone like a zombie Tom Waits, said surprise is a big part of the parade's thrill. People on Sixth Street on Monday probably won't be expecting the parade, which is bigger and more aluminum-framed ghost elephant.

That "holy crap" moment is partly because of the totally outrageous puppets and visuals that KreweD-CM prepared for this year's march. Ben Williams, a local metal fabricator and the group's official Master Builder and Lieutenant of Logistics, oversaw much of that aspect of the parade and said that every year the creations get "a little bit bigger and a little bit cooler."

In 2009, Williams and his crew constructed a 60-foot-long "Chinese light dragon" that blew both smoke and minds when KreweDCM un-McMillan, who will lead the dragon was featured in the 2010 documentary "Halloween on 6th Street."

The visuals this year include an evil clown float that will release menacing, clowns out of its mouth, circus animal puppets with mutated features and the "Skelephant" - a 7-foot-long,

WHEN: 9 p.m. at Auditorium Shores

WEB: krewedcm.com

"I'm going to carry it on a backpack harness and pull its wings up and down," Williams said. "He's a flying elephant. He's got bat wings, elephant ears, tusks, we put a smoke machine inside of his trunk, he's got seven eyeballs. He's kind of a mythical creature."

When Williams and KreweDCM's work is combined with the marching bands and a legion of clowns and stilt-walkers and then set loose downtown, McMillan said that Halloweenrevelers won't know what hit them,

"We get pretty much the same veiled it during their march. The reaction every year from people who haven't seen us before," McMillan said. "They freak out at first because there's a zombie skeleton drumline up front parting the crowd. Then, they look up and see these visuals above the crowd, and it's this amazing jaw-dropping moment."



THIS MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, START THE **COSTUME PARTY EARLY ON THE E-BUS!**

Capital Metro will provide E-Bus service on Halloween via routes 410, 411 and 412, between 8:30 p.m. and 3 a.m. E-Bus routes provide convenient service between student-dense neighborhoods and Austin's entertainment district. And don't forget the Night Owls, which run from midnight to 3 a.m.

Regular fares apply. UT students ride free with valid school ID and ACC students ride with the Green

Pass. Happy Halloween!





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