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CAMPUS

Musical to recast after controversy

By Anthony Green @AnthonyGrreen

After receiving backlash about casting professional guest actors instead of students in its upcoming musical "In the Heights," the theatre and dance department has decided to reverse its original decision and recast roles for the musical.

Brant Pope, chair of the

department and producer for "In The Heights" said he has begun the musical's recasting because the original cast did not reflect student involvement in the best possible way.

"If there's a person responsible, it is me because I said that I wanted this to be an excelled production," Pope said. "I didn't say 'do it with students [and] we'll do the best we can."

Pope said the decision was not from a disregard for students, but from a desire to put on the best and most ethnically accurate production possible.

"[The director and music director] honestly didn't know how to combine wanting to cast this with ethnic authenticity and also have really excellent musical performers," Pope said. "They didn't know how to make both of those work. Their answer was to seek outside people and land on the side of authenticity rather than student involvement, and that's when I decided I couldn't accept that."

Danny Herman, the production's director, was not available for comment.

Pope said the department always acknowledged the possibility of including regional or outside artists to play some of the production's older-aged roles but no contracts were ever signed.

"You have to plan ahead," Pope said. "The director and music director talked to the likely subjects of two or three of those very mature roles about availability

MUSICAL page 2

FOOTBALL

McCoy, Brown defy odds once again



By Chris Hummer Daily Texan Columnist @chris_hummer

Case McCoy couldn't do it again — at least in regulation.

The senior quarterback, whose confidence oozes out of him and seems to build as every second melts off the clock, only managed to lead the Longhorns on a 57-yard, game-tying field goal drive against West Virginia. The orchestration last-minute wasn't quite equal to his gamewinning magical moments earlier in his career, but it's just as meaningful.

Because of McCoy, and a gutsy, inspired effort from the entire roster, head coach Mack Brown experienced his first overtime game in 16 years at Texas. It was the first overtime appearance for one of the Mc-Coya at Texas too, and, once again, the fate of the names Brown and McCoy seemed to be intertwined.

With a loss, the Longhorn grave diggers would have resumed construction of Brown's



Joe Capraro / Daily Texan Staff

Senior quarterback Case McCoy orchestrated another fourth quarter comeback, leading Texas to a 47-40 overtime victory. Despite a shaky start, McCoy managed 283 passing yards and three touchdowns. Texas has now won six straight.

plot, while fans prepared their "Saban for Governor" T-shirts. Instead, after a terrible start to the game, McCoy managed to throw for 283 yards and a trio of touchdowns - each

of which came in succession, each of which was timelier and each of which was more impressive than the last one.

The first was a 49-yard strike down the left sideline to senior wide receiver Mike Davis, a throw many thought McCoy unable to make only a year ago. The second, a perfect over-the-shoulder, back corner throw to junior wide

receiver Jaxon Shipley to tie the game in the fourth quarter. The third, the easiest throw of the group, a two-yard toss to

MCCOY page 6

POLICE

Man injured after standoff by Red River apartments

By Jordan Rudner @jrud

A man is wounded and in custody after pointing a handgun at Austin Police Department officers from the window of a North Campus apartment Sunday night.

Two APD officers fired at the unnamed suspect after a series of interactions through the man's apartment window. According to APD assistant chief Raul Munguia, the subject pointed his gun, which was equipped with a laser, at the officers, before retreating deeper into the apartment and firing several shots.

When the man returned to the window, he pointed his laser at several APD officers' chests, at which point two officers fired, Munguia said. One officer, whose name has not been released, believes he wounded the subject, who had retreated.

"Within a few minutes, the subject in the apartment said he was bleeding and that he needed help," Munguia said. "At that point, he came to the front door with his hands up and pretty much gave up. The officers took him into custody and helped him into the ambulance."

Munguia said the subject is stable, but received one to two gunshots in his left torso.

APD officers were called to the scene after the subject placed a 911 call to a friend. The subject said he needed help and ended the call abruptly, prompting the call's recipient to alert the police.

Munguia said the incident took place at 2900 Cole St., which is the address of the La Casita apartments located a few blocks from St. David's Medical Center.

> Communication associate profes-

sor Talia Stroud

and Lance Ben-

nett. a communi-

cation professor

at the University

of Washington,

discuss digital

engagement and

social connection

at the Texas Con-

ference on Civil

Life on Saturday

afternoon.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Research team designs disaster response robot

By Alyssa Mahoney @TheAlyssaM

A UT engineering research team is developing a robot to compete in a governmentsponsored robotics competition that will test the robot's ability to perform tasks in emergency situations.

The team will compete against other American and international teams in the U.S. Defense Advanced Research Project Agency Robotics Challenge on Dec. 21.

Engineering assistant professor Luis Sentis is leading the team, which is collaborating with NASA to develop Valkyrie, a robot designed to complete eight tasks often needed in disaster scenarios.

Engineering graduate student Chien-Liang Fok said the challenge is important because building robots that can act as first responders in

disaster scenarios can help keep people safe.

"Robots can do things and go places that real first responders simply cannot go due to the dangerous environment," Fok said.

as the Disasters such nuclear meltdown in Fukushima, Japan prompted the U.S. government to set aside money for competitions such as the DARPA Robotics Challenge, Sentis said.

"Existing technology is only able to provide observation of dangerous environments," engineering graduate student Nicholas Paine said. "If the DARPA Robotics Challenge is successful, the robots developed for the challenge may be the first iteration of a technology capable of not only observing dangerous environments but also

ROBOT page 2

CAMPUS

Conference encourages Texans to vote

By Nicole Cobler @nicolecobler

Texans are some of the engaged citizens in civic life in the United States, according to a national index.

The low ranking was spotlighted on campus Saturday during the Texas Conference on Civic Life. In 2010, Texas ranked 51st in voter turnout among the 50 states and Washington, D.C., according to the Texas Civic Health Index. UT's Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Life produced the report in partnership with the National Conference on Citizenship.

In political participation, the report showed the top two reasons Texans said they did not vote in 2010 were because they were too busy, and they felt like their vote didn't matter. Political participation also correlated with race and ethnicity, finding that the white population was twice as high



Erica Reed Daily Texan Staff

in voter turnout than the Hispanic population.

In last week's election, only 15 percent of registered voters in Travis County cast a ballot.

At the conference, students, faculty and residents from around the state discussed the future of civic engagement in Texas and how they can work together toward greater civic health.

A variety of speakers at

statistics in The Texas Civic Health Index and allowed audience members to interact with each other about the issues they thought were important in their communities.

the conference addressed the

Institute director Regina Lawrence said the report's civic health indicators reflect social connectedness, political participation and civic involvement.

we found is that Texas is not doing so well compared to other states," Lawrence said.

"Unfortunately, one thing

Lawrence said one glimmer of hope for Texas' low civic engagement is the state's rank as 16th in social connectedness, which the institute describes as frequently interacting and trusting neighbors and family.

CONFERENCE page 2

NEWS

Brain researchers investigate decision making. **ONLINE**

Engineering community deals with EERC transition. **ONLINE**

OPINION

GSA's budget not as bad as some have claimed.

PAGE 4

What theater controversy says about race in society.

Football tops West Virginia

PAGE 4

SPORTS

Basketball wins opener against the Mercer Bears. PAGE 6

in overtime thriller. PAGE 6

UT aims to beat record for

LIFE&ARTS

largest cardboard castle. PAGE 8

Mighty Mountain hopes to inspire audiences.

PAGE 8

ONLINE

Experience the wide range of attractions found at Fun Fun Fun Fest in the video online.

REASON TO PARTY



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TOMORROW'S WEATHER

High





Austin Meatball Festival.

FRAMES FEATURED PHOTO



Shweta Gulati / Daily Texan Staff

Exhibition act Nritya Sangam performs at Jhalak 2013 at Hogg Auditorium on Saturday evening.

MUSICAL

continues from page 1

but we did not sign any contracts. It was an anticipation for a couple, not nine."

This semester marks the first time the department has moved away from graduate students to include only undergraduate students in acting. Pope said undergraduate students will be on stage in large numbers for the first time in 30 years, as there will be 74 roles for undergraduates up from 19 roles two years ago.

"We've completely committed to undergraduate actors," Pope said.

Theater and dance sophomore Ursula Walker said she hopes the department will continue to respond to student concerns.

"It shows that they care about our concerns, and I'm hoping this means that they'll continue to consider our concerns and incorporate our ideas as they go through the casting process in the future," Walker said.

The new cast will consist of an ensemble of 24 undergraduate students, and leading roles consisting of eight undergraduate students and four guest performers.

Dominique Gonzalez, theater studies junior who plans to re-audition for the musical, said the decision to use less guest actors is a good idea.

"Civing the other five roles

"Giving the other five roles back to the students is a fantastic thing because now these students will get a chance to learn the roles of musical theater," Gonzalez said.

Pope said the department believes guest actors working alongside students is beneficial to the learning process, but in this situation, it was not in the right proportions. He said the production was chosen from the season selection committee because it filled a need for the music theatre program and students.

"It is a tremendously popular title that would anchor



Brant PopeTheater professor and producer for "In the Heights"

our season," Pope said. "Dial "M" for Murder' and 'In The Heights' are two box office draws that will allow us to do new plays no one has ever heard of. Not only are we dedicated to our undergraduates but we're dedicated to building a Latino component in this department. We feel that the obvious demographics in Texas mandates this."

"Dial 'M' for Murder" ran from Oct. 4 to 13. The current production's recasting is currently underway and the musical is set to premiere on April 9.

CONFERENCE

continues from page 1

Lawrence said the conference aimed to increase community interaction allowing participants to discuss issues that were important to them in their neighborhoods.

Kathryn Flowers, graduate research assistant at the institute, said the conference allowed people to share the issues that are important to them, including a station to create a visual collage of their neighborhood identity.

"It's important to do civic engagement activities like this where people aren't doing research and aren't being pushed to do anything specific," Flowers said. "Strauss is about engaging people wherever they are on the political spectrum."

The event gave citizens the opportunity to talk about what policies they would like their representatives on Austin City Council to address.

Ann Stehling, government

4

It's important to do civic engagement activities like this where people aren't doing research and aren't being pushed to do anything specific.

Kathryn Flowers,
 Graduate research assistant at the Annette Strauss Institute
 for Civic Life

senior and administrative assistant at the institute, said that the dim lighting and crime in West Campus were her biggest concerns.

"I would really appreciate having a city councilman who is concerned about the safety of the students in West Campus and for women especially who may not have a man to walk home with them every night," Stehling said.

THE DAILY TEXAN

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ROBOT

continues from page 1

acting in them to prevent loss of life and property."

Paine said each task is actually made up of many individual functions. Paine said when Valkryie climbs a ladder, it must do multiple individual actions such as lifting its left leg and grasping an object with its right hand, Paine's said his role in the project is to ensure that when individual commands are given to Valkyrie's 44 joints, the actions are performed successfully and accurately.

"DARPA set a very high bar in the task list they chose for the challenge," Paine said. "At the beginning of the challenge, most of these tasks had never been com-

Pleted by any robot."

Paine said he thinks cost issues will prevent robots like Valkyrie from being used by entities other than governments and large comparations.

ments and large corporations. "These robots are very high-end machines, not hobbies," Sentis said. "Each of them costs probably \$4 to \$5 million."

Paine said some companies, such as Rethink Robotics and Unbounded Robotics, are trying to produce more affordable robots, but right now, these robots have limited mobility and are best suited for use in structured environments, such as office buildings. In the next five to 10 years, Paine said these kinds of robots will be used

Fok said in the future, robots will have more important roles, including assisting first responders in disaster scenarios. He said people will probably take their presence and services for granted in the coming future.

more widely.

44

These robots are very high-end machines, not hobbies. Each of them costs probably \$4 to \$5 million

–Luis Sentis,Engineering assistant professor

"At 20 years, I hope that some of the technology being developed for the DRC will be able to walk, crawl and climb its way out of the lab," Paine said.



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- 1. MGMT performs on the Orange Stage on Sunday evening. **Charlie Pearce / Daily Texan Staff**
 - 2. Anarchy Championship wrestlers Claudia del Solis and Scotty Santiago wrestle Saturday afternoon. **Shelby Tauber / Daily Texan Staff**
 - 3. A guest performer sings with Bonobo on the Blue Stage on Sunday evening. **Charlie Pearce / Daily Texan Staff**
- 4. Lupe Fiasco performs on the Blue Stage on Friday evening. Jonathan Garza / Daily Texan Staff
- **5.** Festival goers relax between concert sets Sunday afternoon. **Shweta Gulati / Daily Texan Staff**
 - **6.** A BMX rider practices various tricks Saturday afternoon. Sam Ortega / Daily Texan Staff

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GSA budget deserves scrutiny, but not witch hunt

On Nov. 1, this paper reported on a controversy within the Graduate Student Assembly surrounding the amount of money that the organization spends on social activities like the nearly \$8,500 carnival it's planning to put on Sunday.

The controversy ultimately boils down to the question of how best to split funds between student organizations and student body-wide social events. As the Texan reported, law student Dave Player — who is

GSA is on the right track with the new family-friendly focus, but it's only gone halfway in its new approach. If GSA wants to sing a different tune, it needs the instrumentation to back it up.

also president of the Texas Student Media board, which oversees the Texan — has argued that GSA is overspending on social activities and underspending on student organizations like his own, the Texas Journal of Oil, Gas, and Energy Law. Player told the Texan's Lizzie Jespersen, "When I looked at [GSA's] budget and found they were spending thousands of dollars on pizza and a carnival, I was blown away."

So were we when we first read the story. But our initial reaction has tempered somewhat since then. While certain aspects of the new budget encourage us, there are still others that give us pause.

No one can dispute the good motives of the assembly. As GSA President Columbia Mishra told the editorial board last week, "Graduate student life can be a very isolating experience at times due to the nature of research life and the rigor of programs. Because of this, one of our primary missions is to organize community-building

programs that help graduate students interact with each other in a casual, funfilled environment." Justifying the carnival in particular, Mishra continued, "The carnival is unique from our previous efforts in that, for the first time, it provides an opportunity to graduate students and their families to enjoy fun activities on campus. This is important because traditional social events such as happy hours and evening socials are unavailable to students with family obligations."

These are both points well taken. The graduate community shouldn't be expected to fit the same mold as the undergraduate community. But like Player, we worry about the cost of casting a new mold for graduate student social gatherings. The roughly \$8,500 set aside for the carnival is part of an increased budget for community-building events. In years past, GSA spent between \$12,000 and \$13,000 on these social gatherings, but this year that figure has been upped

to nearly \$20,000 simply by tacking on the cost of the carnival.

In other words, they kept several of the old expenses when they added the new ones. That addition has brought the social spending budget well above the \$12,000 budget for appropriations, and that's cause for concern. If, as Mishra says, GSA wanted to improve the tone of its social gatherings, it should have cut the events that didn't meet that new standard. Sure, one could argue that this year's cuts to director stipends essentially make up for the increase in social spending. But this is not just a matter of balancing a budget; it's also a matter of making spending decisions consistent with a stated ideology.

We agree in substance, if not in tone, with Player's financial concerns. GSA is on the right track with the new family-friendly focus, but it's only gone halfway in its new approach. If GSA wants to sing a different tune, it needs the instrumentation to back it up.

HORNS DOWN: LBJ LIBRARY TO START CHARGING ADMISSION



Starting on Tuesday, the LBJ Library will start charging admission for the first time in its 41-year history, according to the Austin American-Statesman. The change was announced last November when the library opened after technological renovations. But thanks to the government shutdown, enforcement was delayed until this week. Though the LBJ Library has been the only presidential library not to charge

admission, we find the new policy disturbing since the late president insisted that his library be open to all. With a wall full of big-time donors on display in the library, we find it hard to believe that it's necessary to pass the renovation costs on to visitors.

HORNS UP: BIKE RIDE RAISES AWARENESS OF VIOLENCE IN MEXICO



In a time when advocacy bike rides are so ubiquitous as to be instantly forgettable, Carlos Gutierrez's completion Saturday of his 12-day, 800-mile bike ride from El Paso to Austin is memorable both for his intent — to call attention to Mexicans seeking asylum in the U.S. — and the visibility of the horror Gutierrez is attempting to escape. Gutierrez, a victim of drug cartel violence, had both of his legs cut off below the knee for

refusing to pay extortion fees to cartel members. Gutierrez is just one of thousands of Mexicans affected by drug violence who have sought asylum in the U.S. Ninety percent of those requests, according to the Texas Tribune, are denied. But Gutierrez, who is currently awaiting a decision on his application for asylum, has said that the ride was not an effort to protest the U.S. government but to bring attention to the cause. We applaud Gutierrez for his strength and hope that more conversations about immigration make note of the violence facing Mexican citizens seeking asylum from their home country.

HORNS DOWN: NEW RULES HURT STUDENTS LIVING OFF CAMPUS



On Nov. 21, the Austin City Council is tentatively scheduled to consider a measure targeting "stealth dorms," or single family homes/duplexes that house more than the number of individuals allowed by city rules, according to an article in the Austin American-Statesman on Sunday. The move reflects a growing dissatisfaction with the number of college students living in homes around campus. City Council members Mike

Martinez and Chris Riley's proposal to remedy the issue includes a measure to reduce Austin's occupancy limit — the number of unrelated individuals who can live in a single-family home — from six to four. This would force college students out of the now more-affordable off-campus neighborhoods, as individual rent prices there would effectively rise. While bad tenant behavior of college students may be a legitimate concern, occupancy limits are a roundabout way of remedying the situation. Not only would they avoid targeting the root cause of "stealth dorms," the lack of affordable housing in Austin, they would put in place a measure that banks on the historically low voice students have in local politics. And where would those supporting stricter occupancy limits propose students go for affordable living — 45 minutes off campus? Out of all the compromises people must make to live close to campus in a college town, having students as neighbors seems to be the most obvious one. So, rather than legislating on their own, we encourage the City Council to involve students in any discussion concerning our residential patterns.

GALLERY



Illustration by Grace Biggs / Daily Texan Staff

COLUMN

Minority students deserve recasting in school plays



Theater department faculty session at the Winship Drama Building on Oct.

Debby Garcia



By Lauren Franklin Daily Texan Columnist @franklin_lauren

In the past two weeks, the UT theatre department has found itself caught in a casting controversy, and racial inequalities may be to blame. According to a Daily Texan article published Oct. 30, the department chose "In the Heights," a drama about 12 young Dominican Americans living in New York, as the upcoming musical.

However, according to the department, there were not enough students whose races matched those of the characters of the play and met all the audition requirements, so many theatre students were left without leading roles.

Consequently, the majority of the main parts will not be played by UT students. Instead, nine out of 12 of the lead roles were contracted to actors outside the University.

For theater students, this situation is not only frustrating but infuriating. The casting decision bars students from getting the on-stage experience they need to succeed in their industry. If the students only have one musical per semester, being unable to participate in "In the Heights" is, for white students, a valuable opportunity gone.

But non-white students face this problem on a regular basis. Generally, lead roles in productions set in a specific place and time period are racially restricting. The main cast of characters tends to be all of one race: Try and remember the last time there was a mixed-race version of "Oklahoma!"

However, many non-white students who finally saw an opportunity to act in a lead role were not cast.

In more modern musicals, such as "Rent," a multiethnic cast is necessary, but



Generally, lead roles in productions set in a specific place and time period are racially restricting. The main cast of characters tends to be all of one race: Try and remember the last time you saw a mixed-race version of "Oklahoma!"

musicals written to be multiethnic may not be the norm. The solution may lie in non-traditional casting. According to Angela Pao in her book "No Safe Spaces: Recasting Race, Ethnicity, and Nationality in American Theater," a trend toward recasting classic musicals with a multiethnic and multiracial cast is growing, with the aims of increasing employment for non-white actors and challenging racial stereotypes. This trend is often criticized for disrupting the "reality effect" of the performance, causing the pertormance to be either too realistic or not realistic enough by making the audience aware of its unfulfilled expectations between the character and the actor's appearance.

Pao, interestingly, argues that recasting does not threaten the realism of the performance per se, but rather "the normativity of white social and cultural dominance." In other words, our pre-existing notions of how people of different races and ethnicities should interact in the United States may cause us to feel a disconnect between what we see onstage and what we experience in our culture and is furthered by an underlying "whiteness" of American identity.

If theater is supposed to be a reflection of reality, the controversy in the UT theatre department speaks to a larger problem in our society. In order to give students the opportunity to play lead roles, the department had to overlook other students' needs and choose a play that requires a cast that could not accommodate as many people as possible.

That a musical with ethnically varied characters was not chosen — and might not have been available — shows the deep racial divides that still mark our society but go relatively unnoticed. That recasting a musical with an ethnically varied main cast, as Pao advises, was out of the question shows that even the leaders of the department may be normalized to the white social and cultural dominance that Pao writes about.

This controversy extends past our University and into the societal norms that we have come to accept. Rather than blaming the department for its choices in production and casting, we must look critically at the factors that drove those choices. That is the only way that the citizens of our multiethnic University will actually have the opportunities they deserve, both on the stage and in the world at large.

Franklin is a Plan II, linguistics and Middle Eastern languages and cultures senior from Sugar Land.

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By DAVID **OUELLET**

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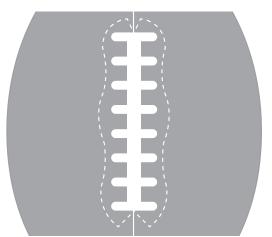
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WEST VIRGINIA



Joe Capraro / Daily Texan Staff

After sophomore running back Johnathan Gray's Achilles injury, junior running back Malcolm Brown stepped up, rushing for 89 yards and a score in Texas' 47-40 overtime win.

Longhorns survive shootout

By Peter Sblendorio @petersblendorio

Sophomore fullback Alex De La Torre failed to record a reception in his first 15 games at Texas, but he picked a timely moment for his first.

His two-yard touchdown reception in Texas' first possession of overtime proved to be the game winner in the Longhorns' 47-40 over West Virginia on Saturday.

The Mountaineers had the opportunity to match De La Torre's score in their first drive of overtime, but the Longhorns held the Mountaineers to just one yard in their final four plays after having a first and goal from the five.

Senior quarterback Case McCoy forced overtime by

leading a 57-yard fourth quarter drive, capped by a 24-yard field goal by senior kicker Anthony Fera to even the score at 40. McCoy threw three touchdown passes in the second half and finished the game with 283 yards on 27-of-49 passing.

Junior wide receiver Jaxon Shipley paced Texas through the air with seven receptions for 82 yards, including his first touchdown catch of the season on a 10-yard strike in the fourth quarter.

The Longhorns continued their strong play on the ground as well, rushing for 152 yards on 41 carries as a team. Junior running back Malcolm Brown led the way with 89 rushing yards and a touchdown.

"I thought we were playing

very well for a long period of time," head coach Mack Brown said. "I give them credit, they did some things great. We made a mistake or two, but at the same time they were challenging us."

Sophomore running back Johnathan Gray also racked up 56 rushing yards on eight carries before leaving the game with an Achilles injury, sidelining him for the rest of the season, in the third quarter. In addition, senior defensive tackle Chris Whaley will also miss the rest of the season after suffering a left leg injury in the first quarter.

The defense struggled without Whaley, allowing 399 yards of total offense while surrendering more than 30 points for the first time in conference play. Texas did manage to record seven sacks and five turnovers in the game, though.

"We just knew we had to put pressure on these guys and disrupt them," senior defensive end Jackson Jeffcoat said. "That's what we have to do as a defensive line and as a defense. It's a little nerve-wracking to play in an overtime game. We work on that stuff all the time. You have to have a fast start, and then you finish the game."

The Longhorns will now enter a stretch of games against three ranked opponents to close the season, starting with next weekend's matchup against No. 14 Oklahoma State.

McCoy made a number of ahead of No. 5 Baylor.

halfway into retirement and the pair has given a team close to total reconstruction a new blueprint. Sure, it's not perfect, championship.

The challenges to reach this goal are significant, though.

Injuries have proved devastating to Texas this season. The loss of sophomore running back Johnathan Gray and senior defensive tackle Chris Whaley on Saturday night, arguably the team's best offensive and defensive player, could prove significant.

The Longhorns also have a challenging schedule ahead of them. Matchups with top 12 teams Oklahoma State and Baylor sandwich a Thanksgiving showdown Texas Tech.

But perhaps the biggest challenge for the Longhorns is to maintain their own sense of timeliness and, in extension, luck. They've lived in the middle of the scale this year, managing to tip it in their favor at the last-minute for weeks. Much of that credit can go to the Longhorns, but often luck manages to prove fleeting.

McCoy and Brown will look to challenge that logic moving forward. Who's to doubt them after all? Those two names have been intertwined at Texas for nearly a decade, and there are still blank pages in their history

MCCOY

continues from page 1

sophomore fullback Alex De La Torre in overtime, which proved to be the game winner.

"what are you doing?" throws and side-armed more passes than a submarine pitcher, but, once again, did enough. With the win, the Longhorns are 6-0 in Big 12 play and in first place,

Seven weeks ago, Brown was McCoy an afterthought. Now, and at times tough to watch. But the Longhorns are only three games away from a Big 12

books to fill.

Defensive line propels Longhorns to top of Big 12

By Garrett Callahan @CallahanGarrett

After thrilling overtime play, Texas was able to escape from Morgantown, W.Va., with its sixth Big 12 victory of the season in as many tries. Here are four key aspects of Texas' 47-40 Saturday night win.

Strong defensive line

Texas' defensive line has been a widely discussed aspect of the Longhorns play this season for good reason. And Saturday night, the front four

Texas tallied seven sacks and forced two fumbles against the Mountaineers. Junior defensive end Cedric Reed produced All-American-like play as he recorded his second forced fumble in consecutive games, while senior defensive end Jackson Jeffcoat recorded another sack. Through the last six games, Texas has now recorded 24 sacks.

Inconsistent offense

again,

once again produced a quarterback Case McCoy Injuries came through in the end to win the game. But the offense was inconsistent for most of the night as McCoy completed just 27 of his 49 pass

Twice the Longhorns had 1st-and-goal from the seven-yard line and failed to get the ball in the end zone. Their first four drives of the game ended in a safety, fumble, interception and a punt. Despite this, in the second half, Texas was able to score 27 points as it traded leads with West Virginia.

to gain their sixth Big 12 victory of the season without two of their main forces who are now sidelined for the rest of the season — junior running back Johnathan Gray and senior defensive tackle Chris Whaley. Whaley was carted off the field after injuring his left knee on a goal line play in the first quarter. Whaley has accounted for two defensive touchdowns this season. In the third quarter, Gray suffered an Achilles injury. Gray has gathered 780 yards of rushing this season

with four touchdowns, mak-The Longhorns were able ing him one of Texas' biggest offensive weapons.

Turnovers

Despite two losses, Texas has yet to lose the turnover battle this season. The Longhorns suffered two turnovers against West Virginia while the Mountaineers gave up the ball five times. Turnovers have been a key factor to the Longhorns success in the Big 12. Against Oklahoma and Kansas, scores from turnovers produced the muchneeded momentum that has kept Texas undefeated.

TOP TWEETS UT vs. West Virginia

Fans, alumni and reporters expressed their thoughts about the game on Twitter.

Bob Ballou @KEYESportsBob The replay does not look good. Chris Whaley's left leg rolls the wrong way. He's in tears getting on the cart.

Stedman Bailey @iamSB

@FlashGoodwin this is a game Brudha! **#Shootout in Morgantown!**

Greg Abbott @GregAbbott_TX Holy Shipley, what a catch. Hook Em #Longhorns #UT

Jamaal Charles @jcharles25 Hope my lil bro @JGray32 injury isn't too serious...prayers up

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Texas avoids upset bid in opener

By Chris Hummer

@chris_hummer

The first game of a new rebuilding era of Texas basketball kicked off with an uneven performance from the Longhorns in a 76-73 win over Mercer.

It was a scrappy effort as Texas endured multiple runs from an underrated Bears team. Mercer returned five starters, from a team that won its regular season conference championship last season before falling to NCAA tournament darling Florida Gulf Coast in their conference tournament.

"A lot of people look at this and think Mercer," head coach Rick Barnes said. "But if they know basketball ... Especially the way we had to come back."

Freshman point guard Isaiah Taylor provided the biggest offensive spark for Texas, scoring 17 points while registering two assists and three rebounds. The effort fell three points shy of Kevin Durant's freshman debut

scoring record. "They are calling the game a little more touchy this year," Taylor said. "So I just wanted

to drive as much as I can and



Four freshmen, including guard Damarcus Croaker, sparked the Longhorns in Friday's 76-73 victory against Mercer.

draw some calls."

Texas shot the ball with accuracy from range in the first half, completing 86 percent of its three-point attempts. But a second half performance frequented with off-kilter three balls provided a springboard for Mercer to grab a nine-point lead midway through the second half after an 18-2 run.

But the Longhorns endured Mercer's run, and pushed back thanks to a timely defensive alteration. Texas employed an aggressive 2-3 zone for the

when the Bears began their thrust, Barnes switched to a man-to-man defense. This kept Mercer off the

majority of the contest, but

three-point line, where it had shot 6-of-9 from deep in the second half up to that point, and forced the Bears to attack the basket and challenge the Longhorns' length inside.

A last-second block by sophomore forward Connor Lammert on a potential game-tying three-point attempt sealed the victory.

NFL







NBA





BRIEFLY Top-ranked Longhorns

With five conference games remaining until the Big 12 tournament, the Longhorns remain undefeated after a fourset win against No. 24 Kansas on Saturday.

volleyball stay perfect

Top-ranked Texas (18-2, 11-0 Big 12) notched its 14th-straight victory this season against Kansas (19-6, 9-3 Big 12), outhitting the Jayhawks .293-.191 in a win that was closer than the score would indicate.

—Matt Warden

Women's basketball wins season opener

With the help of UTSA shooting 2-for-30 from the 3-point line in Austin on Sunday, Texas started the season on the right foot, defeating the Roadrunners 63-42.

The Longhorns were led by sophomore center Imani McGee-Stafford who recorded 16 points, 12 rebounds and five blocks off the bench.

—Jori Epstein

BCS Poll:

1. Alabama

2. Florida State

3. Ohio State

4. Stanford **5.** Baylor

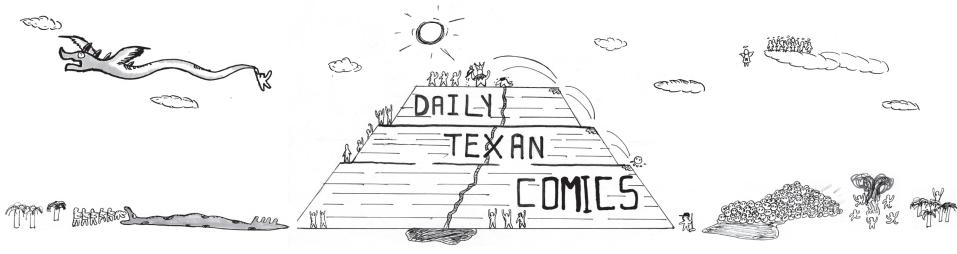
12. Oklahoma State

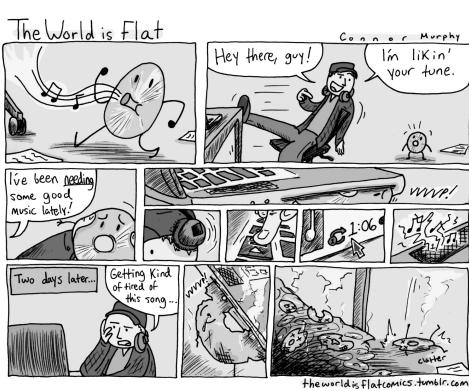
18. Oklahoma

24. Texas



Andrew Cooke Daily Texan Staff





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49 1978 hit by Journey

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__ in apple"

70 Piece of fly-casting equipment

71 Roseanne, before and

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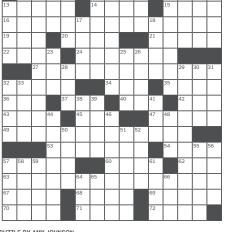
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17 Nobel-winning author André 18 Fisherman's tale ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE SANTANA NETFLIX 23 Org. for the C H U N N E L A I R T A X I L T S G U M S H O E A M O D U E T S O L O S T W I X E N R O N N O W G R A Z E D A Y L I L Y S P L A Y E D 25 "But of course, amigo!" 26 Garden of ___ 28 Fed. air marshal's org. D I P 29 Locale for an 1863 address 30 "B.C." creator N O T E S I N C Z Z T O P C O E N I V I E S E U R E 31 A waiter carries plates on it 32 Sketched A S I B A M O E B A S N N E M O N S T E R A M I S T A D O S N O C O N E H A I R D O S 33 Cry before "I know!"

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1007



PUZZLE BY AMY JOHNSON 50 Anderson of "WKRP in Cincinnati"

- **38** Worms, to a fisherman
- 39 Not at all nutso
- 41 Network with an "eye" for entertainment
- 44 Dakar's land 46 Pearly Gates sentinel

48 Alias letters

- 52 Rim
 - 55 ___ football

51 "That's so funny I forgot to laugh"

- 65 Fed. property
- 56 Fail's opposite manager **57** Bygone Kremlin **66** Philosopher resident ____-tzu

58 Cabernet, for

59 Feminine suffix

61 Follow, as orders

64 Arrest

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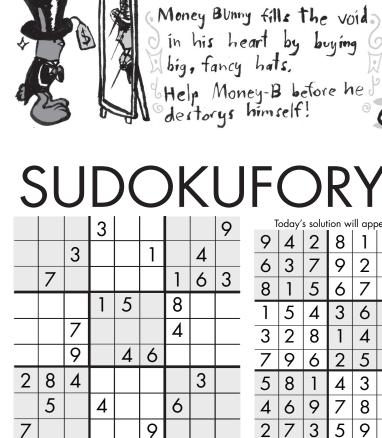
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Austin band promotes positivity

By Claire Gordon

@clairegordon9

The small indoor stage at Mohawk would be crowded with four people on it. With seven people, it is jampacked. But Mighty Mountain uses every inch of the stage to deliver a memorable show. The band's catchy music and enchanting stage presence helped it garner the reputation as one of Austin's up-and-coming indie rock bands.

Formed just a little more than a year ago, the band mixes orchestral elements, provided by Jodi Lang on cello and Alejandra Cardenas on violin, with rock 'n' roll. Mighty Mountain wants to use its music to bring people together and lift them spiritually. They won't be found holding hands and singing "Kumbaya," although ukulele player John Edwards jokes about writing a cover of it. Mighty Mountain isn't a Christian, or even a religious, band. Rather, they believe that everyone could benefit from some positive thinking

and encouragement. As Jonathan Horstmann, lead singer and bassist, rips into the first song of the set with a leap and a howl, every member of Mighty Mountain starts moving and they don't stop until the last note. Horstmann speaks directly to the audience in a speech that is half motivational and half call-to-action. The moment he finishes, the crowd begins to cheer but is cut

off by the band immediately



Lauren Ussery / Daily Texan Staff

(Left to right) Stacey Volland, John Edwards, Jodi Lang, Tom Lang, Alejandra Cardenas and Jonathan Horstmann of the local indie rock group Mighty Mountain. The band will be playing at Mohawk with Of Montreal on Friday.

resuming the vigorous pace of their show.

LIFE&ARTS

"You don't really come to watch a Mighty Mountain show, you come to be a part of it," Edwards said. "You're not separate from it, you're involved. It's unique and you're feeling the music in your bones, heart and soul."

During the show, as confetti cannons explode and a bubble machine adds to the atmosphere, the band inspires the audience to move. Horstmann, jumping around far more than seems possible on such a small stage, constantly brings the head of his bass within inches of Cardenas' head, but she doesn't

so much as flinch as she plays her violin and dances.

"You go to our shows and see these big frat dudes with their arms out and eyes closed, just really into it and you know that we're doing something special here," Horstmann said. "People know that they will meet great people at our shows."

For the band, the music is about bringing their own passions to the next level, and inspiring others to do the same.

'It's better to be broke and be doing something that you love, and that goes for anything," Horstmann said.

At the end of the day, the band just wants everyone to have a good time.

"Come see us if you've had a bad day," Horstmann said. "If people want to have a good time and feel better about their lives and just want to see a great show, we don't hold back."

Meryl Streep frontrunner in Oscar race



Editor's note: This is the third installment in a series in which two Life & Arts staff writers discuss big releases that are garnering buzz for the awards season.

By Colin McLaughlin and Lee Henry

Lee Henry: In our past discussions, it seemed like we'd covered everything, but we somehow managed to completely miss talking about supporting actress in any sort of depth. Let's start that off by discussing a film packed with potential candidates, "August: Osage County." I'm assuming The Weinstein Company will be running every member of the cast in supporting categories and just hoping one or two stick. Besides Meryl Streep, the most likely nominees seem to be Julia Roberts and the superb Margo Martindale.

Colin McLaughlin: Streep is the obvious nominee here, but Martindale elevated the best role in the play to be almost on Streep's level. "12 Years a Slave's" Lupita Nyong'o looks to be the frontrunner in the supporting actress category, unsurprisingly. She was one of the strongest parts of one of the most well-assembled films this year. Do you see any potential upsets that could take the statue from Nyong'o on Oscar night?

LH: Oprah could run a campaign that would win her an Oscar for Lee Daniels' "The Butler," but it's not likely. Still, expect her to show up in that category. Martindale's part in "August" was a Tony-winning one, and she's a well-respected character actress, even winning an Emmy recently for her work in "Justified." Plus,



Photo courtesy of Jaap Buitendiik

Lupita Nyong'o plays Patsey in "12 Years A Slave" and is expected to be a nominee for Best Supporting Actress in this year's Oscar Awards.

she's just brilliant in this performance. The film is full of over-the-top characters trying to blow each other off screen, but Martindale succeeds in being hilarious, terrifying and painfully quiet all in the same film. Roberts, in the latest of the season's category frauds, is also going for supporting actress, which completely dashes the chances of my other favorite in the film, Juliette Lewis.

CM: I don't see it as a case of category fraud. The theatrical nominations have always recognized Violet, Streep's character, as a lead role. Julia Roberts also plays a lead in the film, but Weinstein probably figured that she'll have a better chance for a nomination as a supporting actress. I'd be surprised to see Roberts make it into the race at all. She was better than I expected but she wasn't up to snuff against the other more deserving members of that cast. Still, she's the other big name in the movie. "August," "12 Years" and "The Butler" are the only movies I've seen that look to have serious supporting actress possibilities. What else is there to

LH:There are plenty of other

candidates to consider here. Octavia Spencer has been the benefit of a second wind of recognition for her work in "Fruitvale Station," and she may be the film's last chance at a high-profile nomination. Jennifer Lawrence should be considered a contender for "American Hustle," Carey Mulligan was funny in "Inside Llewyn Davis" and Naomie Harris's compelling work as Winnie Mandela was the best part of "Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom." I would like to throw my hat in the ring for Sally Hawkins, who should be nominated for her work in "Blue Jasmine." She's funny and poignant, providing a perfect emotional counterweight to Cate Blanchett. It may be a long shot, but if the voters like the movie enough, anything is possible. Who's your dream pick or must-have in this category?

CM: I've said my piece on Nyong'o and I don't see myself changing my position on her deserving the win. For dream picks, I actually have two: Amy Acker and and Julianne Nicholson. Nicholson, who plays middle sister Ivy in "August: Osage County," is probably the least-known member of

its sizable ensemble, but she is

incendiary in the few moments the film gives her. The supporting nominations for "August" are likely going to better known players. Amy Acker plays Beatrice in my favorite movie of the year so far, Joss Whedon's "Much Ado About Nothing." Though she's arguably the lead actress, the film's ensemble cast would likely see her listed as a supporting actress if there was any chance of her being nominated. "Much Ado" won't see much attention this year, but the way that movie makes Shakespeare's language feel so effortless and natural is a feat unto itself, and Acker is a large part of what makes that succeed.

LH: I hate to crush your spirits, but "Much Ado" won't get anywhere.

CM: I'm curious to see where "August" goes for the rest of the year; It won't see a theatrical release until Christmas, and it's rumored that the Weinsteins plan to change the horrible ending scene. It's continually seeing positive reception on the festival circuit, but it will be overshadowed by "Saving Mr. Banks" and "The Wolf of Wall Street," also

opening on Christmas.

UT attempts to build largest box castle ever

By Elena Keltner @elenakeltner

Fliers and emails educating students on which materials to toss into which bins rarely catch the attention of college students, but a group is hoping a towering fort made of cardboard

boxes will. America Recycles Day is Friday and instead of handing out promotional fliers on pieces of paper, the Campus Environmental Center and the UT Office of Sustainability are teaming up to promote recycling by building the largest box castle ever built by a university.

"We are by far the biggest university to go for this," said Karen Blaney, program coordinator of operations within the Office of Sustainability.

The first university to set the record for largest university box castle was Harvard University in 2011. Brigham Young University is the most recent university to claim the title, and UT hopes to beat BYU to raise awareness for its recycling endeavors. This is the first year UT is attempting to build a giant cardboard fort and beat the current record.

"It's really hard to get information out around campus and so we figured if there's a massive cardboard box fort outside of Gregory you can't really miss it," the center's adviser Hobson.

The groups hope the cardboard box castle will draw attention to UT's switch over the summer to single-stream recycling, which means that instead of choosing from five different bins for one material, students will usually be able to use just one. Fewer materials will need to be separated out

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Where: Gregory Plaza

when recycled.

"Since we have facilities that can process single stream, we figured it's easier," Hobson said. "It would be such an educational campaign. It's a nightmare at a campus this big to try to tell people to sort everything."

The box castle competition will also raise awareness of UT's general commitment to recycling. Aside from the activities on America Recycles Day, the center is working on a major project called Trash to Treasure. In this program, the center will collect unwanted belongings from students as they move out at the end of the school year and store them over the summer. When school begins again, the center will recycle those materials to create one huge garage sale.

"I think the students all know what recycling is, and I think 10 years ago not everybody was coming from a place where they would recycle at home," Blaney said. "We're working on getting recycling more available to them, and more convenient, so you can just look at a material and know what to do with what you're holding." The center also has pro-

grams year-round that are meant to promote UT's mission to recycle.

"We'll have a fair that will highlight some of the other things, like we have some Styrofoam recycling and tailgate recycling," Hobson said. "So we'll start to give recognition to some of the smaller programs that we have on campus."