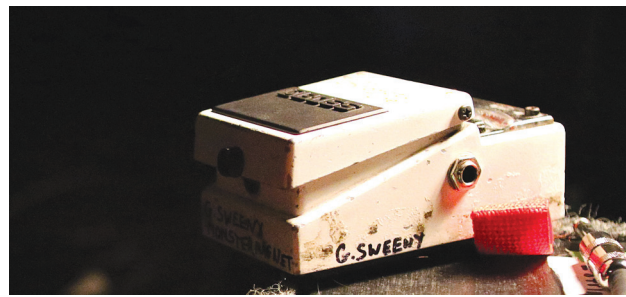




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LIFE&ARTS PAGE 10

# THE DAILY TEXAN

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Lauren Ussery / Daily Texan Staff

Three years ago Tre' Newton made the most difficult decision of his life — to give up the game of football after he suffered seven concussions in nine seasons. The former University of Texas running back is now a graduate student at UT, but the road there wasn't easy. Letting go never is.

## CONCUSSIONS

Part one of a two-part series about head injuries in football and their effects

### Life after football, Tre' Newton's road back

*Editor's Note: This series explores personal and institutional responses to concussions, which have become an increasingly integral point of discussion surrounding football. Part two will explore the NCAA's procedures in dealing with head injuries.*

By Chris Hummer  
@chris\_hummer

Stepping into an elevator oblivious to his surroundings, former UT football

player Tre' Newton pressed nine, and the door shut. As the button light flickered on and the elevator lurched upwards, his mind began to whirl.

One. This will be the last time I talk to the media.

Two. I'm not prepared for this moment.

Three. There is no going back.

Four. My teammates will be there watching me.

Five. How can I stop? It's the only thing I know.

Six. What am I supposed to say?

Seven. What will people say?

Eight. Is this really the right decision?

The elevator flashed nine and as the doors opened, Newton strolled out of the elevator into Belmont Hall on Nov. 15, 2010 for the last time as Tre' Newton — football player.

During the next 30 minutes, that side of Newton would be cast aside. The son of an NFL player and a person who had identified himself almost singularly with the sport for a decade would

voluntarily give up the sport he adores. It wasn't because of an injury that robbed him of his speed or natural gift of strength. Instead, football raided his potential for long-term health after dealing him seven concussions in nine seasons.

With this in mind, Newton strode to the podium suddenly panicking about what to say.

He sat down and gazed

out to a mass of cameras and somewhat familiar faces staring back at him. Newton, who had missed the team's last game against Oklahoma State because of concussion symptoms, faced two rows of reporters anticipating his announcement.

A normally eloquent and heady speaker, Newton began with an unusual lack of

NEWTON page 6

#### UNIVERSITY

### Lease will cause departments to relocate

By Madlin Mekelburg  
@madlinmek

Eight University departments will be relocated when UT leases 109 acres of land on the J.J. Pickle Research Campus for commercial development.

The land UT is planning to lease to Houston-based developer Hines includes the West Pickle Research Building, an office building and a small storage building, according to Amy Wanamaker, campus director of real estate.

The land is located at the corner of the North MoPac expressway and West Braker Lane and is part of the J.J. Pickle Research Campus



Sam Ortega / Daily Texan Staff

The University plans to lease 109 acres of land on the J.J. Pickle Research Campus, including the land the West Pickle Research Building sits on.

LEASE page 2

#### CITY

### Kid-friendly garden to bloom in spring

By Amanda Voeller  
@amandaevoeller

A hedge maze, 10-foot wide bird nests and a wildlife blind are some of the features the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center will install in its new family garden, which is currently halfway completed.

Center director of horticulture Andrea DeLong-Amaya said the \$5 million Luci and Ian Family Garden, which will open in May of 2014, will be a 4.5-acre area aimed at educating children about wildflowers and nature.

"Visitors would come to the Wildflower Center, and it's not terribly

kid-friendly ... There's a lot of 'Don't run,' 'Don't throw rocks,' 'Don't pick the flowers,'" DeLong-Amaya said. "We really want the new children's garden to be designed more so that there is a space where kids can run around and make lots of noise if they want to."

Mark Simmons, director of research and consulting at the Wildlife Center, said although the addition of the garden could skew some research data because it will create more pollination activity, the garden should significantly improve research

GARDEN page 2

2 Oct

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TOMORROW'S WEATHER High 66 Low 34 The last thing I remember was roasted potatoes.

FRAMES FEATURED PHOTO



Jarrid Denman / Daily Texan Staff

Studio art senior Lakeem Wilson works on his final serigraphy project at the Art Building and Museum on Tuesday evening.

LEASE

continues from page 1

tract, which is 475 acres in total. At the last Faculty Council meeting, President William Powers Jr said the University never had plans to use all of the research campus' tract.

Wanamaker said Hines will decide whether or not to demolish the complex, but the UT departments within the building will be relocated. Wanamaker said University officials have yet to determine if there are buildings available on the main research campus to utilize for the relocation.

Hines spokeswoman Kim Jagger said Hines has not made any decision regarding the research facility's future on the property.

"Hines will work closely with UT to make that determination, but no decision has been made at this point in time," Jagger said.

According to Jagger, Hines has worked on a

variety of properties, including industrial parks, medical facilities, skyscrapers and residential communities. She said Hines worked to develop the athletic alumni center at the University of Houston and the Shepherd School of Music building at Rice University.

Kevin Hegarty, executive vice president and chief financial officer, said the University accepted bids on the land from developers. The University is negotiating a contract with Hines that should be finalized within the next few months.

Hegarty said the University has previously leased land bordering the research campus for commercial development. In 2003, the University leased 46 acres of land to Simon Properties, creating The Shops at Arbor Walk, a shopping center including a Home Depot, Marshalls and DSW Shoe Warehouse.

The Shops at Arbor Walk is located directly across the

In the arrangement, which we have gotten approval to negotiate with [Hines], we will work hand in hand with the developer.

-Kevin Hegarty, Executive vice president and chief financial officer

North MoPac Expressway from the Pickle Research Campus West project area. Hegarty said the University will have more involvement in the development of the 109 acres than they did with Simon Properties.

"In the arrangement, which we have gotten approval to negotiate with [Hines], we will work hand in hand with the developer," Hegarty said. "I'll distinguish that from across the street where, with Simon properties, we went to market, but we were just out in the market to lease that land to a developer to put up a commercial facility as they deem fit."

Jagger said Hines has a general idea of what will be

constructed on the land.

"Hines intends to develop a mixed-use master plan primarily consisting of office, multifamily, retail and hospitality uses in addition to significant preservation of natural open space," Jagger said.

Hegarty said the University hopes to see residential apartments constructed on the land in order to address the needs of UT employees.

"We were happy to see the residential development because many of our researchers and people who work at Pickle have expressed an interest to be able to live close to where they work," Hegarty said. "Yet, there are no neighborhoods around there — this will create its own neighborhood."

GARDEN

continues from page 1

opportunities, especially possible sociological behavior research.

"Potentially, you can imagine that sort of data, which is badly needed, on how people react to the natural world, how that improves interaction and how people learn," Simmons said. "There's been quite a lot done on that already, but certainly this could be an opportunity to do that because [research] is what [the garden] is designed to do."

The garden is part of the pilot program of the Sustainable Sites Initiative, also known as SITES, which is an international program aimed at promoting sustainable landscape development.

TBG Partners, an Austin-based landscape architecture firm, helps ensure the project meets as many SITES credits as possible, TBG senior associate Ronnie Stafford said.

DeLong-Amaya said the garden will include a hedge maze that will have sculptures depicting the life cycle of a frog, from egg to tadpole to adult.

"I think of the maze itself as being sort of a metaphor for life," DeLong-Amaya said. "You progress throughout your life, change into different things and sometimes you make a wrong turn, and that's okay. You just turn around and go back the other way."

The garden is the largest project since the Wildflower Center opened in 1982, DeLong-Amaya said.

"There's a lot of need for families to have places where they can go to let their children be outside in a safe environment, so that's one of our main goals," DeLong-Amaya said. "The idea is that kids will discover things in a more natural setting but also in a more controlled setting."

Stafford said the project will be helpful to the Austin community because it is focused on nature.

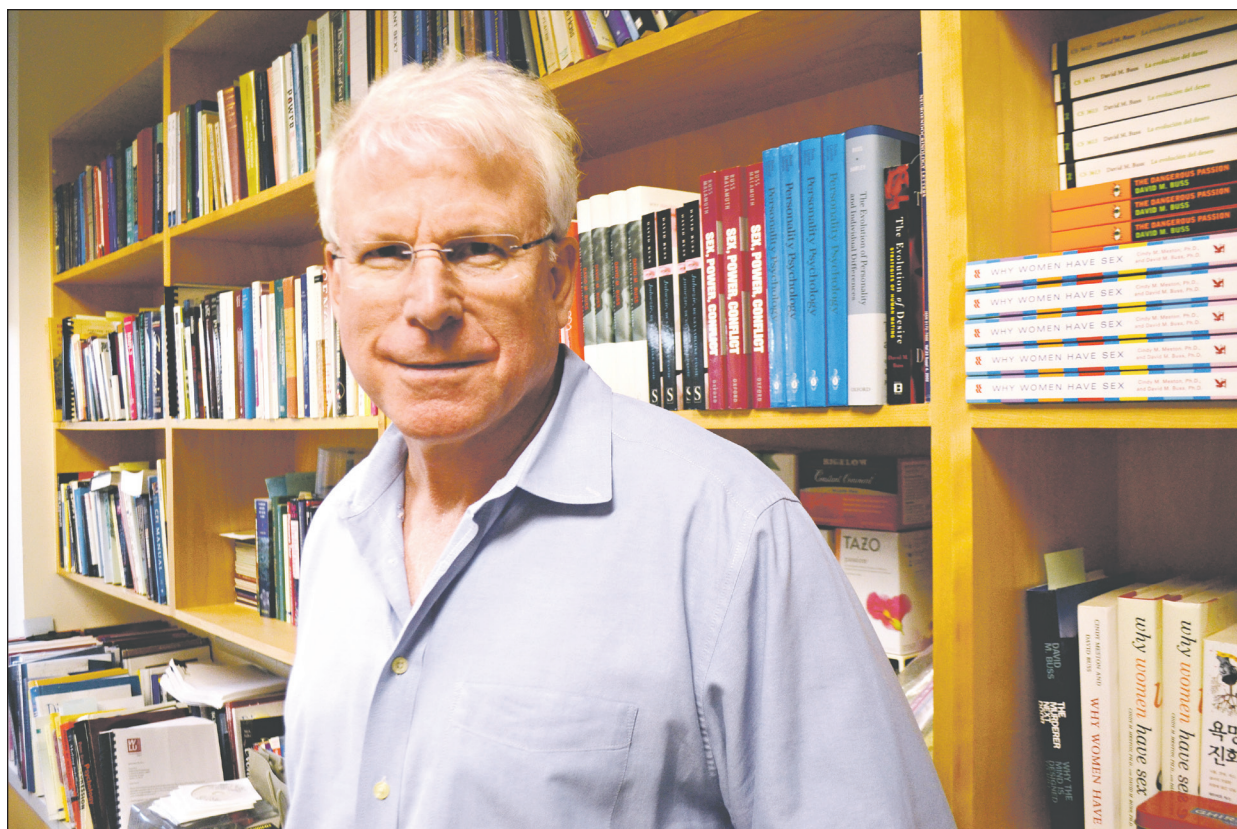
"If people come to it, I think they'll find out that it's different than going to a regular playground," Stafford said. "It gives them an opportunity that a lot of kids don't have anymore just by playing on a structured playground versus being able to be hands-on, put your hands in the water, utilize the canopy walk to get up into the trees, and go out and get dirty."

THE DAILY TEXAN This issue of The Daily Texan is valued at \$1.25 Permanent Staff Issue Staff Business and Advertising 12/4/13 Texan Ad Deadlines

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RESEARCH



Marshall Nolen / Daily Texan Staff

Psychology professor David Buss recently conducted a study that found that because of evolutionary reasoning, females were more likely to experience regret after sex than men, while men were more likely to feel regret after a missed sexual opportunity.

# Sexual regret differs by gender

By Niq Velez  
@knyqvelez

Men and women experience sexual regret for different reasons, according to a study conducted in part by UT psychology professor David Buss. In the study, researchers coded participants' responses from three different experiments for sexual regret and determined whether the regret stemmed from action or inaction. Buss said on average, men experience regret following instances when they did not act on a sexual impulse, whereas women experience regret after acting on a sexual impulse. International relations senior Adrienne Mikesova said she does not find the study's results surprising.

"I can't speak for everybody, but I would more likely regret something than not doing it," Mikesova said. Buss said sexual psychology is the end product of a long evolutionary process that may not consciously factor into decision making but is nevertheless important to understanding human relationships. "There's an enormous difference in parental investment," Buss said. "Women, by having sex, risk nine months; men, by having sex, invest an hour or an evening. The costs of making bad sexual decisions historically have been much greater for women than for men." Buss said even though most people are not aware of the influence of evolution, human history does play a role. "A lot of the underlying

machinery is not available to consciousness, but the underlying feeling of regret is," Buss said. Buss said evolutionarily ingrained attitudes toward sex remain unchanged despite the widespread availability of modern contraceptives. "We live in a modern world with a Stone Age brain," Buss said. "Our sexual psychology evolved in a time and place that is radically different." Psychology and finance senior Victor Silva, one of Buss' students, said evolution has wired the human brain to react in certain ways. He believes it can take a long time to alter the hardware. "These evolutionary mechanisms took millions and millions of years to develop," Silva said. "It's going

to take millions and millions of years to change them." Silva said regret serves as motivation to achieve better outcomes going forward. "Emotions in general have a purpose — if you have sexual regret, that's going to change future behavior." Silva said, in his opinion, women wield the power in relationships, but men use strategies to circumvent this imbalance. "Men have the ability to feign commitment and deceive women," Silva said. Buss said the hook-up culture on college campuses can adversely affect women more than men. "Men and women hook up for casual encounters, but all the studies show that women feel worse about it than men do," Buss said.

CITY

# For businesses on Sixth, city plans pose problems

By Alyssa Mahoney  
@TheAlyssaM

As Austin City Council continues to plan renovations to 6th Street, some local bar and business owners claim extensive construction will cause disruption, decrease traffic flow and dismantle the street's historic features. The proposed renovations, designed in partnership with the Public Works Department, would widen sidewalks, add street lighting and multi-use transit lanes and update the infrastructure underneath the sidewalks. Susan Garnett, Capital Outputs Program Coordinator, said the plan should allow for more pedestrian and bicycle traffic and reduce motor vehicle congestion. Though the full budget has not yet been found, Garnett said the project will cost an estimated \$19 million.

Jason Carrier, who owns three bars on the street, said the renovations would severely limit pedestrian access to the sidewalks and decrease revenue, potentially putting bars out of business. "[City officials] have been assuring us that it's for the better, saying that they will incentivize the contractors to finish on time," Courier said. "There's no such thing as a city project finishing on time." Carl Daywood, president of the Austin Bar Association, has proposed an alternate plan that he said would generate revenue for the city and cost less than the city council's current proposal. He said the city plan would disrupt students' ability to access live music, bars and entertainment downtown. "We submitted a survey or letter, whatever you want to call it, to the director of public works," Daywood said. "86 out

of 112 property owners signed their name that they are opposed to the plan that the city of Austin is proposing." Daywood said the alternate plan would expose the original red brick under the street, keep historic light fixtures and add angle parking. He said the alternate plan will save the city more than \$16 million and increase parking on 6th Street by 60 percent. Daywood said some demographics will not go downtown except by car. "We're not New York — this is Texas," Daywood said. "There are people who won't ride buses." Daywood said the city is spending money to fix things that have not presented problems yet, including replacing existing storm drains, which he said have not led to flooding. "The city wants to say, 'What if it does fail, maybe in 10 or 20 years?'" Daywood said. "But it's not failing now, so why do we want to spend \$20 million when it's not failing yet?" Daywood said the existing storm drains created in the 1980's are more than adequate. "I'm 62 years old and I was born and raised on 6th Street," Daywood said. "There's no flooding." Garnett said the city is aware that the majority of stakeholders want to maintain the historic features of the original 6th Street designs and will work to preserve the features. She said updating the storm drains now is more cost-efficient and would last up to 80 years. "The only thing about those alternate options is that it's from only one group of stakeholders," Garnett said. "Now, we're trying to see what the majority wants."



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EBBELER ON EDUCATION

## OnRamps high school courses can improve graduation rates



**By Jen Ebbeler**  
Daily Texan Columnist  
@jenebbeler

*Editor's Note: This column is one in a series by associate classics professor Jennifer Ebbeler on the changing nature of higher education at UT-Austin and other institutions. Look for Prof. Ebbeler's column in the Opinion section of this paper every other Wednesday.*

At a select number of high schools and community colleges around Texas, venture-some students and their teachers are pioneering a bold initiative called OnRamps. Funded by the University of Texas at Austin's Center for Teaching and Learning and directed by former senior educational researcher at Harvard's School of Engineering and Applied Sciences Julie Schell, OnRamps courses offer high school students the opportunity to take dual credit UT-Austin courses with their own teachers and on their high school campus.

An OnRamps course differs from an AP or IB course in that it is designed by UT-Austin faculty, with guidance from learning specialists, and is meant to be equal to the difficulty level and content coverage of a UT campus-based course. Credit is received by completing the course with a passing grade rather than by passing an examination set by a third party. The goals of the initiative are two-fold: to help high school students meet some of their state-mandated core requirements before they arrive on campus and to acclimate high school students to the rigor and pace of college-level coursework in an effort to ease the transition between high school and college for freshmen.

Among the more serious social and economic problems facing the state of Texas is low college completion rates. Only 25 percent of enrolled students graduate in four years and 34 percent after seven to nine years. While completion rates aren't the only measure of college success, these numbers are shockingly low. The rates are higher for UT, where 52 percent of enrolled students graduate in four years, but increasing the four-year graduation rate to 70 percent is an important priority as the University moves forward. We know that there is a



Ideally, an OnRamps course will balance the autonomy of the local high school instructor with the core content and learning activities designed by teams of UT faculty.

strong correlation between higher levels of initial transfer credit and faster graduation rates.

Yet it is not just about checking off a box — after all, high school students have been doing that for generations by taking AP/IB courses or community college courses. The truly significant benefit of an OnRamps course is the access it provides to a challenging, well-designed course that helps high school students prepare for the kind — and depth — of learning they will be asked to do in college.

"All too often students report that the dual credit courses they completed in high school didn't align well with the expectations at UT-Austin," said Harrison Keller, vice-provost for Higher Education Policy and Research and director of the Center for Teaching and Learning. "By providing engaging, rigorous dual credit courses that are directly aligned with our expectations, working in close partnership with school districts, community colleges and other universities, we want to eliminate that expectations gap and help students transition seamlessly into subsequent courses."

All OnRamps courses are designed and delivered as blended courses. That is, they utilize a mix of online and in-class learning activities. There is strong evidence that a blended model supports increased student learning, but it is not without its challenges — particularly when the instructors of the course were not the primary course designers. Megan Parry, the OnRamps partnership coordinator, reports that as the initiative continues to evolve and expand, opportunities for professional development for the high school teachers who are running the courses will be critical. Teachers will need specialized and likely extensive training to run a blended classroom, which can be a significant obstacle to implementation. It will be crucial for teachers to be provided with a strong network of support from the administration of their local school districts, from OnRamps staff, and from fellow OnRamps teachers around the state. It will also be important for the teachers and students to have opportunities to provide detailed feedback on what works and does not work in the pilot versions of the courses and to have the opportunity to work with the course designers to adapt future iterations to the specific needs of their students.

Ideally, an OnRamps course will balance the autonomy of the local high school instructor with the core content and learning activities designed by teams of UT faculty. It is an initiative that has the potential to dramatically change the often rocky transition between high school and college and, in so doing, to edge up four-year and six-year graduation rates around the state of Texas. Freshmen will continue to arrive with significant numbers of transfer credit, but now those credits will truly represent UT-level coursework and prepare students to succeed in more advanced courses on the UT campus.

*Ebbeler is an associate classics professor from Claremont, Calif.*

HORNS DOWN: TEXAS POVERTY-BY-COUNTY NUMBERS TOO HIGH



An interactive feature published in the Texas Tribune on Tuesday highlights the number of children in poverty in each state county, as well as the total number of unemployed. Despite the growth in the Texas economy, child poverty rates in our state have continued to rise, according to a report by the liberal think tank Center for Public Policy Priorities. Though Travis County ranks low

on the list (No. 142), the feature is worth checking out for any Texas citizen. It draws attention to some alarmingly high figures, such as the 48 percent child poverty rate in Hidalgo County, which is one of the fastest growing counties in the U.S. and home to the University of Texas-Pan American. Though we hope drawing awareness to such issues can help reduce the number of children around us who suffer from the brutal realities of poverty every day, we are disappointed that almost 10 percent of Texas counties have child poverty rates of 30 percent or higher.



Despite the growth in the Texas economy, child poverty rates in our state have continued to rise, according to a report by the liberal think tank Center for Public Policy Priorities.

HORNS UP: RAINFALL BENEFITS BASTROP TREES



As the Austin American-Statesman reported Monday, it's tree planting season in the wildfire-ravaged Bastrop County, and volunteers are pouring in from across the country to help replant trees in an area destroyed by the 2011 fires. If the volunteers, led by local Austin nonprofit TreeFolks, Bastrop State Park and the Texas A&M Forest Service, meet their goal, they will plant

more than 1.5 million trees in Bastrop this winter. Last year, a similar effort had little success: Most of the seedlings planted died from lack of water. But heavy October rains this year have made volunteers enthusiastic. Knowing that, it's easier to take the recent rain in stride.



Deborah Cannon / Associated Press

Mike Booth and Elizabeth Kitay plant loblolly pine seedlings on Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2013, in Bastrop County.

HORNS DOWN: AUSTIN BEHIND AGGIES IN HIGHER ED RANKINGS



According to data from the Houston Chronicle, 45.4 percent of Austin residents have a bachelor's degree or higher, the second highest out of all the cities in Texas. Though the percentage of residents who have a bachelor's degree or higher in Austin surpasses the percentage in the United States as a whole, which comes in at 29.1 percent, Austin ranks behind College Station, which comes in at

57.3 percent. While this statistic is likely a result of Austin's larger population, and therefore our city's greater overall diversity, it would be a lie to say that we're not a little disappointed to fall behind College Station. It just always feels a little better when we beat the Aggies.

COLUMN

## UT's Turtle Pond now lacks an official caretaker



**By Chuck Matula**  
Daily Texan Columnist  
@chuckmatula

"And the turtles, of course ... all the turtles are free, as turtles and, maybe, all creatures should be," read the closing lines of Dr. Seuss's children's book, "Yertle the Turtle." Although Dr. Seuss's work is littered with memorable aphorisms, this one rings particularly true when read in the shade of the idyllic UT Turtle Pond. In the midst of a stressful finals season, it's helpful to have a place like the pond for quiet self-reflection. UT students, faculty and staff are lucky enough to have the micro-ecosystem on campus.



This campus treasure should be appropriately cared for by an official sponsor that understands the delicate, natural processes that govern the Turtle Pond and its surrounding garden.

But the future of the turtles and their pond is not as secure as it once was. Those noble, sleepy-eyed creatures have lost their long-time steward, David Hillis, a professor in the integrative biology department. Hillis has volunteered at the pond, taking care of the turtles and other inhabitants of the micro-ecosystem since 1998 until earlier this year. He told The Daily Texan in an email that back problems have forced him to curtail his involvement with the pond.

"The biggest problem I faced was people releasing pet turtles into the pond, which disrupted the system and sometimes introduced diseases to the population," Hillis told the Texan, recounting the difficulties of maintaining the ecosystem. "There are also issues with run-off into the pond, maintaining water quality, maintaining water level, maintaining suitable plant populations, maintaining sunning sites for the turtles, accumulation of silt and debris and occasional vandalism."

Although some of the turtles are content to sun themselves on rocks and eat French fries thrown into the pond, some species are more aggressive. According to the Texas Exes website, botany professor emeritus Guy Thompson reported that the larger snapping turtles have been known to attack pigeons that wander too close to the water, so that they appear to "suddenly disappear below the surface with a frantic flapping of wings." Hillis confirmed that of the four or five native Texas turtle species in the pond at any given time, there are usually a few snapping turtles.

As Texan writer Christine Ayala reported last May, UT Facilities Services maintains the pond for the most part. Although the biology department has been heavily involved in the pond's upkeep in the recent past, the garden has no regular group to maintain it. I reached out to the office of the dean of the biology department to see if anyone had assumed Hillis' righteous mantle in an official capacity, but no one was aware if a faculty member was involved in the pond's maintenance.

Although we should be grateful to Facility

Services for the role they play in maintaining the pond, this campus treasure should be appropriately cared for by an official sponsor that understands the delicate, natural processes that govern the Turtle Pond and its surrounding garden. The turtles and other organisms that make up the pond community have done amazing work toward creating an oasis of nature on campus for students and faculty, and we should acknowledge the responsibility to return the favor.

*Matula is a finance junior from Austin.*



Chelsea Purgahn / Daily Texan Staff

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FOOTBALL

# Johnson returns for Texas

By Garrett Callahan  
@CallahanGarrett

Steve Edmond out for the season

After sitting out a one-game suspension, sophomore wide receiver Daje Johnson is ready to return to the field. Johnson, along with fullback Chet Moss, sat out against Texas Tech for an unspecified violation of team rules.

This is the second violation of team rules for Johnson, who missed the 2012 season opener against Wyoming for the same reason. A main focus at the beginning of the season for the sophomore was that his issues were behind him, and he had grown in his maturity. Unfortunately, after suffering an ankle injury against BYU earlier in the season, Johnson has had limited big play production, and those issues resurfaced.

The Pflugerville native is listed back in his usual wide receiver position, and head coach Mack Brown said he will also be back in the mix on punt and kickoff returns.

Junior linebacker Steve Edmond suffered a lacerated liver in last Thursday's Thanksgiving matchup and will miss the rest of the season. Edmond was injured after he took a hard block to the rib area in the second quarter, which caused him to leave the game.

Edmond leads the team in tackles with 73 and has also tallied two interceptions this season. Brown said he expects the junior to be fully ready to play again in the spring.

Edmond's injury further thins the linebacker front for Texas, as senior Jordan Hicks and junior Tevin Jackson are also out with injuries. The Longhorns now look at sophomore Peter Jinkins, redshirt freshman Timothy Cole and junior Kendall Thompson to step up in Edmond's place.

Texas to close out Floyd Casey Stadium

The Longhorns' game against Baylor on Saturday will be the last contest played at the Bears' Floyd Casey Stadium.



Sam Ortega / Daily Texan file photo

Daje Johnson will return to the Texas lineup for the season finale against Baylor this Saturday. Johnson missed the Texas Tech game after being suspended for a violation of team rules.

The Waco stadium, which opened in 1950, was first named Baylor Stadium and has become a staple of Baylor athletics. Texas fans usually flock to the oval-shaped stadium when the Longhorns make an appearance in Waco, bringing, at times, about 25,000 to 30,000 fans

in burnt orange. The tarp, which usually covers the seats in the south end zone at the stadium, will be lifted for the season finale.

Texas has a 29-15-2 record in Waco in the 102-game series and will look to add one more to the win column as it tries for at least a share of the

Big 12 title. "I think it's a great story line," senior offensive lineman Mason Walters said. "We like that opportunity. We like our odds, [and we're] looking forward to a great game. [With] that being the last in Floyd Casey Stadium, it will just be a great environment."

VOLLEYBALL

# Texas prepares to defend national title

By Evan Berkowitz  
@Evan\_Berkowitz

Big 12 Freshman of the Year Chiaka Ogbogu remembers watching Texas take on Michigan in the semifinals last year. She played alongside freshman setter Chloe Collins in the Under Armour All-America Volleyball Match & Skills Competition just a day earlier in the same arena — the KFC Yum! Center in Louisville, Ky.

She stayed the extra day to watch the team she had committed to join. She remembers sitting in the stands with Collins, getting excited about her future collegiate career.

"[Everything], from [Sarah] Palmers' defense to Bailey [Webster's] hitting was amazing," Ogbogu said. "It was just so exciting to watch. I remember getting chills and thinking about possibly being there next year."

That opportunity is finally here. The stands are already set up for the first-round matchup against Texas State on Thursday. The top-seeded Longhorns are not fazed. Two days before their first game on the road to a repeat, the atmosphere in Gregory was surprisingly relaxed.

Jokes were being told, and the laughs were loud.

"You got to make sure they are laughing," head coach Jerritt Elliott said. "You have to make the journey fun. It can't be all business and [seriousness]."

The Longhorns are looking to repeat what they did last season when they dog piled in Louisville. But the defending champions are the team everyone wants to take down.

"We have a big bull's-eye on our back," sophomore middle blocker Molly McCage said. "But I don't think it affects our team. We don't discuss that we are the number one seed."

But McCage realizes last

year's run is in the past and that they need to be focused on the tournament this year.

"It's definitely not 'no big deal,'" McCage said. "It's a huge deal for us to win another national championship. Last year was great and was a great achievement, but that was last year. It's a whole new year and new team."

The tournament starts Thursday at 7 p.m. against a Bobcat team Elliott believes is very strong.

"It's the best Texas State squad they have ever had," Elliott said. "We aren't looking ahead. Our focus is Texas State and Texas State only."

If the Longhorns beat Texas State, they move on to face the winner of the UTSA-Texas A&M game for a chance to go to the round of 16. The rest of their quarter of the bracket features the No. 8 seed Nebraska, No. 9 seed San Diego, No. 16 seed Duke and the team that Texas knocked off last year for their first title since 1988 — Oregon.

Tickets are already sold out for Gregory Gym both days.

"I heard people talking about how intimidating Gregory is," McCage said. "The fact that [the audience] is right on top of the court is a huge advantage."

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C	O	P	O	R	A	U	S	J	E	K	U	D	C	R
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# NEWTON

 continues from page 1


Caleb Bryant Miller / Daily Texan file photo

Former Texas running back Tre' Newton chose to end his career early, fearing causing further damage to his brain. Newton suffered seven concussions, including three at UT.

grace, his words supplemented with a flurry of "ums" and "uhs." But what he said resonated clearly.

"The best decision for me and my future is to not play football at the University of Texas," Newton said. "I'm done playing."

The kid who grew up in the Dallas Cowboys' locker room, catching balls from Troy Aikman and shadowing his father Nate Newton, had taken one hit too many.

It's stories like Newton's, as told by himself, his mother and his former teammates, that have sparked public interest into the issue of concussions in sport. The NFL settled a lawsuit with former players for \$785 million in October of this year. High-profile documentaries such as "League of Denial" raise awareness and rule changes implemented by the NFL and FBS have attempted to curtail concussions. PBS, which began tracking the number of concussions in the NFL this season, already reports 102. Concussions and football are intertwined — players like Newton are caught in between.

Nathaniel "Tre" Newton began playing football in the fourth grade, much to the chagrin of his father — a 318-pound offensive line behemoth with 14 years of experience in the NFL and six Pro Bowl berths — who did not want his son to strap on pads as a youth.

Despite this, Newton quickly flourished on the gridiron, combining natural genetic ability with a prescribed passion for the sport. Newton did not always exclusively play football, but he felt most at home between the hash marks.

He isn't nearly as big as his dad, but he took his father's quick feet and football knowledge to the field as a running back. There, he displayed speed and a taste for contact, running through people for years.

In sixth grade, Newton played running back for the Dragons, one of many

**“Concussions seemed to be the only opponent he couldn't shimmy past, let alone bruise through.”**

youth football teams named after the eight-time 5A state champions, Carroll Senior High. Dressed in Southlake green during one game late in his final pee-wee season, Newton broke toward the sideline when an opponent snagged him from behind, pulled him around and slung him out of bounds. Newton's head slammed against the track surrounding the outside of the field.

He staggered up and gingerly paced toward the sideline to tell the coach, his dad, that he felt woozy. Coach, caught up in the game, brushed him aside.

But the injury wasn't a minor bruise on a sensitive sixth grader. Instead, it was the first concussion in a career defined by them.

He moved on to junior high football the next season and remained concussion free for a year. Then in a game in eighth grade, Newton, attempting to break a big run, was met by a defender who laid into him, torpedoing the crown of his helmet under Newton's chin.

Everything went black. Newton awoke in the hospital with no memory of the incident.

He returned to field the next year without a second thought as the starting running back on Carroll's JV team. To Newton, his concussions weren't a pattern — only a pair of brutal hits that resulted in unfortunate injuries.

But his parents were concerned.

They sent him to a neuro-specialist after each incident. Following the second concussion, the doctors recommended that if Newton suffered another he should give up football, an opinion his mom strongly supported. Concussions at such a young age are dangerous because the brain is sensitive. Repetitive damage will cause brain swelling and can be fatal.

His parents warned him. If he sustained another concussion, he had to quit football.

With three games remaining in the season, Newton's nightmare soon transformed into a groggy reality. In a game against Denton Ryan High School, Newton tried to throw a block for a teammate down field, but he was caught unprepared and took a solid blow above the shoulders returning him to an all-too-familiar fuzzy state — his third concussion.

This couldn't be brushed

off as chance. He had been advised of the threat they posed too often.

So he did what any ninth grader would do — he cried.

Newton was not ready to be finished with the game, and his parents eventually relented.

As a sophomore, Newton excelled at the high school level, rushing for 1,345 yards and 13 touchdowns on 171 carries in his first varsity season. Even at 16, while quick, Newton preferred to plow through defenders.

Concussions seemed to be the only opponent he couldn't shimmy past, let alone bruise through. He suffered his fourth career concussion in the same

**“Newton hesitated. He didn't want to quit, but he knew himself better than anyone. If he didn't quit now, he'd change his decision and play next season. He decided to let go.”**

stadium he endured the previous one. He didn't agonize after this injury, returning to the field three weeks later — head clear.

For the remainder of his sophomore season and high school career, his vision was pristine. Newton helped lead the Dragons to the 2005 5A State Championship title over Katy High School.

Newton rushed for 2,010 yards and 20 touchdowns as a junior, spearheading the Dragons' offense to a second 5A state title. His senior season, Newton assisted a three-peat effort rushing for 1,373 yards and 16 touchdowns.

Newton committed to the University of Texas on Feb. 24, 2007. The injury that plagued him, and even terrified him in high school, could not be further from his mind. This sense of security wouldn't last long.

When the class of 2008 arrived at Texas, they were poked, prodded and measured at length by the Longhorn medical staff in an NFL combine-like atmosphere. Newton's concussion history was no secret, and Texas' doctors would handle him with care.

Still, Newton suffered his fifth concussion during a spring practice his freshman year, when he eventually redshirted.

His first year on the field was a culmination of everything he believed Texas football to be. He took the feature back role from

Jamaal Charles, who left for the NFL as a junior, and helped lead the Longhorns to a 12-0 record, a Big 12 title and a national championship appearance. Newton rushed for 552 yards, six touchdowns and an average of 4.8 yards a carry.

But Newton suffered his sixth concussion in seven seasons during Texas' fifth game of the year against Colorado University when Colt McCoy threw an interception. Newton raced back in pursuit of the ball carrier, but he was blindsided by a hit from a Buffalo blocker.

Newton's symptoms following the hit were mild. Bright light, flashes on a television and loud noises bothered him. At

huddled with the coordinators on the sidelines afterward, Newton asked fellow running back Fozzy Whittaker what he later termed as "stupid questions" about the play calls. Whittaker, worried about his teammate, told the trainers about the incident.

A few minutes later, team trainers peppered Newton with questions about the game. But he had no recollection of the contest to that point. Moments later he sat on the bench alone, head in hand.

Soon after, a trainer informed Newton of his concussion. Newton then ambled toward the locker room, oblivious to the 50,000 purple-clad fans yelling around him.

The following Monday, Newton was directed to the medical training staff's office for what he thought would be a routine status checkup.

Instead, he was greeted with an unexpected question. "Have you thought about your future in football?"

Newton wanted to blow the query off. Of course he wanted to play football. He couldn't imagine a scenario in which he didn't, but the doctor's tone was too serious to ignore.

After a week of deliberation, Newton, still undecided, met with his parents.

"When is enough, enough?" his dad simply asked.

He asked Newton to consider the minor concussions he had gotten away with. Those are the incidents that accumulate, building slowly and finally exploding to the surface — leaving him with holes in his memory and a dull headache that took days, even weeks, to shake.

When the Longhorns

Newton opened his sophomore year with three touchdowns in a 34-17 win over Rice University. But after the victory, Newton, like the Longhorns, began to slip. He averaged less than four yards a carry while Texas lost four of its next seven contests.

The Longhorns traveled to Kansas State at 4-4 the next week, hoping to turn around a horrendous start to the season. But in the first quarter, Newton suddenly had no idea what the play call was.

When the Longhorns

## TRE' NEWTON COLLEGIATE STATS

**2009**  
12 games played  
116 carries  
552 rushing yards  
6 TDs  
108 yards receiving

**2010**  
7 games played  
64 carries  
229 rushing yards  
3 TDs  
56 yards receiving

Then his mom, who had wanted him to quit football for a while, asked him to consider all of the people his health would affect and the burden he would become if he lost his memory or ability to function.

Many former collegiate and professional players suffer depression and in serious cases, Alzheimer's disease because of concussion-related symptoms. Other studies have shown that some former NFL players are left with symptoms of Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy, a progressive degenerative disease of the brain.

A few hours later, Newton and his parents arrived at Darrell K Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium for a scheduled meeting with a team of doctors who laid out the possibility of his future and the risks that came with concussions.

Newton hesitated. He didn't want to quit, but he knew himself better than anyone. If he didn't quit now, he'd change his decision and play next season.

He decided to let go.

Newton answered

**INJURIES** page 7



Derek Stout / Daily Texan file photo

Tre' Newton found success during his short career at Texas. Newton carried the ball 180 times for 781 yards and nine touchdowns from 2009-10 with the Longhorns.

**INJURIES**

continues from page 6

questions from media members spinning his pronouncement as a positive, but he hated giving up the game.

His shocked teammates watched from across the room. Only a handful of players knew about Newton's decision before the announcement.

Over the next two months, the Longhorns' season spiraled toward a 5-7 finish, and Newton wanted no part. He missed football desperately, but being around the team resulted in a pain any number of concussions couldn't have prepared him for.

He avoided his former brothers at all costs. When his roommate Blake Gideon invited him to hang out with the team, he'd make up excuses. After the injury, the Longhorns' coaching staff offered him a student coaching job, but he politely declined. He would make small talk in classes with members of the team, but he avoided football with the same maneuvering he used on the field.

The pain and symptoms from the concussion subsided after a few weeks, but Newton was left to deal with the mental backlash of quitting something that had organized every aspect of his life.

Newton would go to class, do his homework and then stew, unaccustomed to free time. He filled the void with a video game binge. Marathon sessions of the NBA 2K basketball series served as an escape; his favorite game, Madden (NFL), was cast to the side.

The rebuilding process was slow. One morning early in the spring semester, Newton sought a routine and decided to begin working out once again, slogging with Longhorn trainers each day. But Newton scheduled his lifting sessions during practices and team meetings. He didn't want to trick himself into believing football remained an option.

Newton eventually took up the student coaching position he had previously turned down. He didn't start until the following fall, but he attacked the job with a renewed fervor. It wasn't the same thrill as playing, but it was the closest he could find.

After the 2011 season, he graduated with a degree in corporate communication and decided to attend graduate school to pursue sports management.

Now 24 years old, Newton pushed forward at UT with a new goal in mind — to become an athletic director. Football is a sport he just can't shake.

He now works full time with the Longhorn Foundation helping raise money for Texas Athletics after interning with Texas Sports Information, Longhorn Network and Texas Athletics' compliance department. He's motivated, charging at his new goal with the same zeal he had when running for the goal line.

Newton's experience provided context his former roommate Jackson Jeffcoat, a player with a very similar upbringing. Both had NFL dads, majored in corporate communication and always had football dreams. Jeffcoat is a likely first-round pick in the 2014 NFL draft, but he faced a huge obstacle last season when he tore a pectoral muscle for the second-straight year.

One day late in the fall semester, Jeffcoat complained about the long rehab process to Newton, a friend for more than a decade.

Newton, as he's done with other players, suggested Jeffcoat realize how lucky he was to still



Chelsea Purgahn / Daily Texan Staff

Texas defensive end Jackson Jeffcoat has struggled with injuries throughout his collegiate career, twice tearing his pectoral muscle — one on each shoulder. Jeffcoat, who roomed with Tre' Newton last year, has learned a lot from Newton about dealing with injuries and adversity.

have football. "Be happy you are playing football," Jeffcoat said Newton told him. "Because anything can happen and it can be gone and taken away from me, the game I love, like it happened to him. He put it in perspective."

Newton may not ever shed another block or quickly flip the ball to a referee after a touchdown, but he believes the qualities he's gained fighting through adversity will serve him for decades.

Decades is the key word. There is no telling how Newton's concussions will affect him in the future. For now, he's symptom-free and living without the constant wooziness and confusion that shadowed him during his football career. The decision to quit early, foregoing further damage, limits the possibility that Newton will join the quickly expanding line of former collegiate and NFL players suffering from the long-term effects of concussions.

"I know I made the right decision," Newton said. "The rate I was having concussions and the ones I was able to hide, it was definitely time to stop playing."

Doubts still occasionally creep into Newton's mind. He records every Texas game instead of viewing it live, because — what he credits to the coach within him — he still loves breaking down the team's plays. But turning on the TV on a Sunday afternoon is still occasionally a trial for Newton, even three years later. Newton knows if a few things broke differently, he'd be a Sunday gladiator, too.

But he's not angry at the game, and he doesn't blame Texas or what some label the ambivalent nature surrounding concussions in football. Newton knows the sport he grew up with is violent, and there's no way to change that.

A recent report from the Institute of Medicine on sport-related concussions in youth identified football's "culture of resistance" as one of the biggest issues

**“Be happy you are playing football. Because anything can happen and it can be gone and taken away from me, the game I love, like it happened to him. He put in perspective.”**

—Jackson Jeffcoat, Senior defensive end

in addressing the issue of concussions in the sport. It's a macho stigma that's surrounded football from its roots.

Newton agrees football isn't perfect, but says there is no way to completely prevent consistent injuries like his. It's up to the players to know when they must let go.

Newton sits quietly in the Red McCombs Red Zone of DKR, only a few hundred yards away from the site of so many of his most memorable football moments.

He works, headphones in, on one of his final collegiate presentations, typing away, pushing through the bore for the reward of an "A," just like he fought for tough yards and the satisfaction of a win. But in his quiet place, Newton is not left alone.

Every few minutes or so, a person strolls past him and waves. Newton responds in kind with an easy smile.

"Hey Tre."

"How's it going Tre?" Almost everyone who ambled by, all Texas athletes far removed from Newton's stint at running back, gave a friendly greeting.

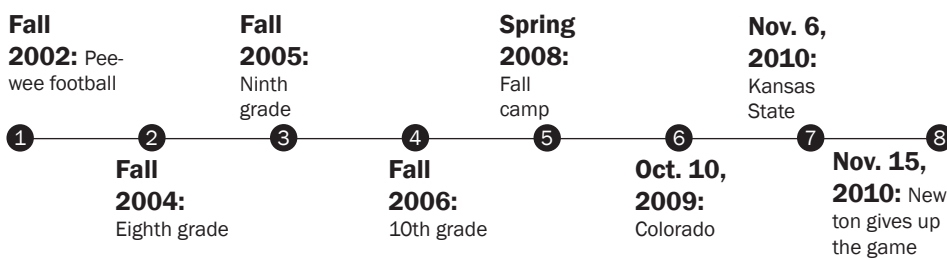
He even gets a "Happy Birthday," which he plans on celebrating over a quiet dinner with a friend. He realizes now that his decision of three years ago likely buys him a number of healthy birthdays to come.

Each time, Newton responded to the greeter by name, memory as sharp as ever.

Newton closes his laptop and walks away with sure strides.

With age comes perspective — Newton becomes more sure of this each day.

**Tre' Newton's Concussion Timeline**



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**“I know I made the right decision. The rate I was having concussions and the ones I was able to hide, it was definitely time to stop playing.”**

—Tre' Newton, Former UT football player

## Q-AND-A

# Through music, play's actress relives history

By Eleanor Dearman  
@EllyDearman

Set in the 1950s, "MEMPHIS" tells the story of disc jockey Huey Calhoun's decision to break racial boundaries by sharing rhythm and blues music with the world. Calhoun also falls in love with African-American singer Felicia Farrell, beginning a forbidden romance.

The Daily Texan interviewed Jasmin Richardson, who plays Farrell, about her time on "MEMPHIS"'s national tour.

**The Daily Texan: What made you want to pursue musical theatre?**

**Jasmin Richardson:** It wasn't until my senior year of high school that I started to do theatre. I went and auditioned for "The Wiz." I had always sung, and I'd always sing at church but never thought about acting. That really changed the course of my life, to be honest, and where it was going.

**DT: What was your reaction when you found out you'd been cast as Felicia?**

**JR:** I was over the moon because I remember seeing the show on Broadway when I moved to New York. I loved it, so when I heard auditions were coming up for the tour, I was just praying to God that they would just see me. They actually came to a show I was in, "DreamGirls." I think that kind of helped me a little bit, that they got to see me in a theatrical element.

**DT: What has been your favorite part of playing Felicia?**

**JR:** My favorite part has been singing the music. One of the hardest things can be the most rewarding as well. It's a tough ride but it's all worth it at the end. It's



Jasmin Richardson as Felicia and Joey Elrose as Huey star in the National Touring Cast of MEMPHIS.

Photo courtesy of Jeremy Daniel

a world that I wasn't born into, but I get to step into it every night.

**DT: Do you have a favorite memory from tour so far?**

**JR:** We just had Thanksgiving, and we had a group of people who wanted to have a home-cooked meal because, obviously, it's kind of hard to do that. We have to get catering. So our company rented out a house, and a group of people after the show drove five hours to the next city to get started cooking. They cooked, and then the rest of the cast went to the city. They set up this incredible space in the hotel, and they

brought all the food from the house. The food was amazing. It reminded me of home, just to think about in that spirit of thanks — how they just went out of their way after the show. We were all tired, and they drove down and cooked, and it was just so beautiful.

**DT: What messages do you hope the audience leaves with walking away from the show?**

**JR:** I hope the audience walks away knowing that it only takes one person to spark change, and in our show that person is Huey Calhoun, played by Joey Elrose, my leading man.

His character believed in taking over rhythm and blues and jazz and that style of music, which was for African-Americans only. He took that music, and he thought he'd make the world hear it, and if you look at today, it takes one person to start a conversation, to get the ball rolling.

**DT: Why do you think it helps people to tell history through music?**

**JR:** Music makes messages like this more ... I don't want to say tolerable, but I want to say tolerable. It allows you to not get overwhelmed or so weighed

down because some of these moments in our show and some of the underlying themes of our show are very heavy, even for a lot of people who were around during the time. My grandmother, when she came to see the show, it was very heavy for her because she lived through that — the racial inequality and racism. I think the music element makes it not so bad. You can have a little play with it but still get the message.

**DT: What has it been like trying to put yourself, through your character, in the place of those who lived through the civil**

## MEMPHIS

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**Where:** Bass Concert Hall

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**JR:** It has been a physical, emotional [and] psychological fight. I had to do a lot of research to be true to the character and the show itself. It is very tough to do it every night, and it is humbling because if I think about all the people who had to endure those things to have the rights that I have today, it's very serious, and I take it seriously.

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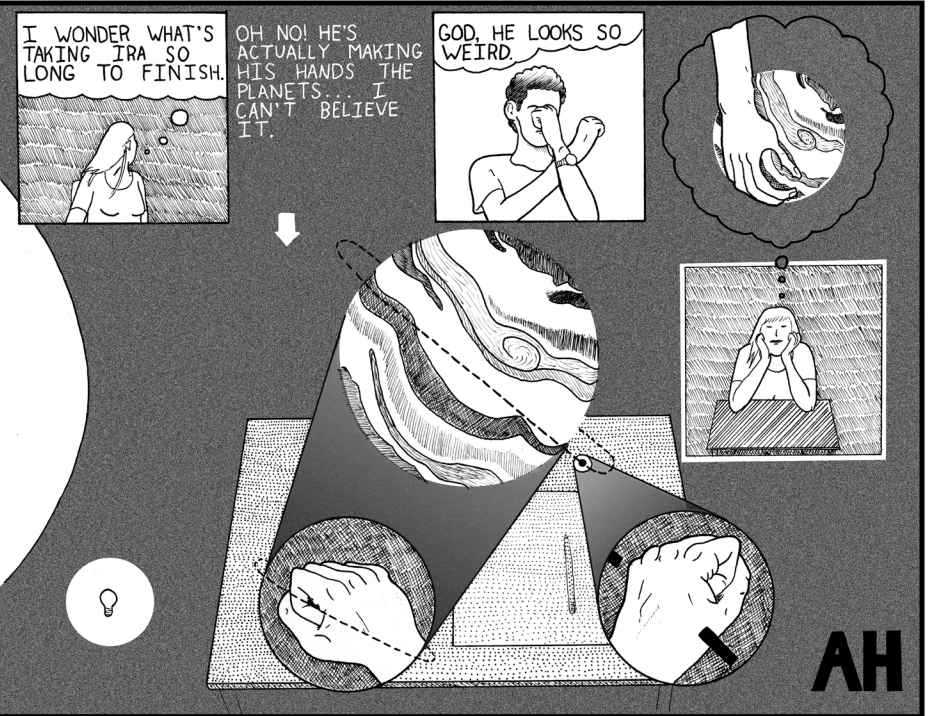


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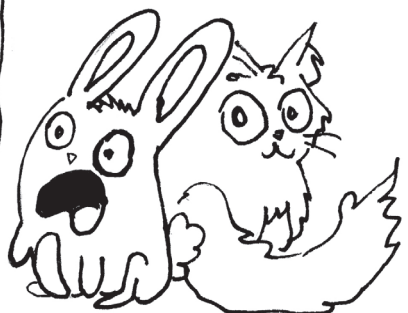
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6	7	5	1	3	2	8	4	9

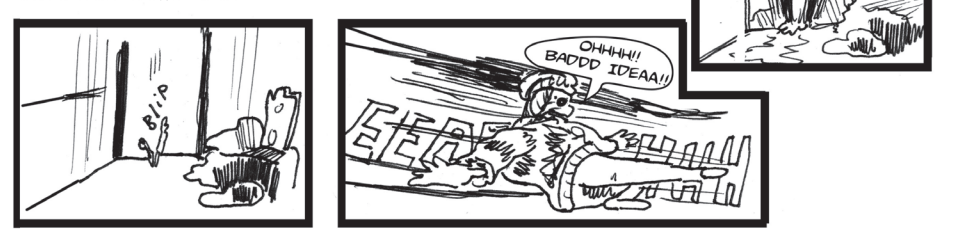
## TODAY'S REASON TO PARTY

"SHAWN CARTER was born December 4th/ weighing in at 10 pounds, 8 ounces..."  
-December 4th  
The Black Album

Happy 44th Birthday, Jay-Z!



A. NGUYEN



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### The New York Times Crossword

- Edited by Will Shortz No. 1030
- ACROSS**
- 1 What quoth the raven?
  - 4 Moving well for one's age
  - 8 1988 Salt-N-Pepa hit
  - 14 Washington in D.C., e.g.
  - 15 Idiot
  - 16 Country on el Mediterraneo
  - 17 Coastal inlet
  - 18 Part of a Halloween dinner?
  - 20 Girl in tartan
  - 22 Moisten, in a way
  - 23 Upstate N.Y. college
  - 24 Soft-shell clam
  - 27 "Prince Igor" composer
  - 29 Part of a Halloween dinner?
  - 31 "Me neither"
  - 32 Ways to go: Abbr.
  - 33 Breathtaking creatures?
  - 34 Checks out
  - 35 Part of a Halloween dinner?
  - 38 Pricey violin
  - 41 Icicle site
  - 42 \_\_\_ salad
  - 45 Bed size
  - 46 Part of a Halloween dinner?
  - 49 One pushing the envelope?
  - 51 Something found on a chemist's table
  - 52 Certain Halloween costumes, for short
  - 53 "Battling Bella" of '70s politics
  - 55 State
  - 56 Part of a Halloween dinner?
  - 60 Man's name that's another man's name backward
  - 61 Recruit
  - 62 Stagehand
  - 63 Part of the alloy britannium
  - 64 Peanut Butter Cups
  - 65 What a colon represents in an emoticon
  - 66 Heart chart: Abbr.
- DOWN**
- 1 Fast-food chain with a smiling star in its logo
  - 2 Flew
  - 3 Deceitful sorts
  - 4 Part of GPS: Abbr.
  - 5 Punch line?
  - 6 Deli loaf
  - 7 Jedi Council leader
  - 8 Basil-based sauces
  - 9 Walk down the aisle
  - 10 Lotion inits.
  - 11 Bob and others in "Do the Right Thing"
  - 12 Give rise to
  - 13 Pastes used in Middle Eastern cuisine
  - 19 Publisher's ID
  - 21 Pizzeria owner in "Do the Right Thing"
  - 25 "Whoops"
  - 26 Jet
  - 28 \_\_\_ impulse
  - 30 Heretofore
  - 34 Thick, sweet liqueur
  - 35 Tilt

PUZZLE BY JOEL FAGLIANO

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14			15				16					
17			18				19					
20		21		22				23				
24			25	26		27		28				
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32				33				34				
35					36	37						
38	39	40				41		42	43	44		
45				46	47			48				
49				50			51					
52				53			54			55		
56		57				58	59		60			
61						62				63		
64						65				66		

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

A	S	T	R	A		E	I	D	E	R		C	A	B		
L	I	R	A			L	D	O	P	A		O	V	I		
A	G	A	S	P		F	I	R	E	P	O	W	E	R		
W	H	I	T	E	S	M	O	K	E		P	E	R	T		
S	T	A	R	E	A	T					B	E	R	T		
		S	T	N		O	D	I	N							
S	P	I	C	E	S		B	I	R	D	B	A	T	H		
E	A	C	H			H	O	U	S	E		A	L	S	O	
C	L	E	A	N	O	U	T			A	I	R	B	A	G	
				N	O	T	I			P	M	S				
A	C	I	N	G			T	R	O	O	P	E	R			
W	A	N	E			G	R	E	E	N		L	I	G	H	
F	U	L	L			C	O	U	R	T		A	E	R	I	E
U	S	A				A	G	E	N	T		T	R	E	N	D
L	E	W				M	O	S	S		E	S	T	E	S	

36 "Jeopardy!" column

37 42-Across shape

38 First pope

39 Black and blue, say

40 Savory deep-fried pastry

42 Lift

43 Not brand-name

44 Spare wear

46 Nuns' wear

47 Dix + 1

48 Org. with a snake in its logo

50 Billiards trick shot

54 Impulse

59 Groovy music?

57 \_\_\_ So Sweet to Trust in Jesus?

58 Say "I do" when you don't?

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

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Illustration by Hannah Hadidi / Daily Texan Staff

## SETTING THE STAGE

By David Sackllah  
@dsackllah

While many people stand in the audiences at the more than 250 music venues in Austin, few know the ins and outs that make Austin's famous live music happen. The Daily Texan spoke with Red 7 club manager Joaquin Ramirez, stage manager Rob Glynn and sound engineer Joey Hook to understand how they prepare for a typical concert.

### Prior to the day of the show

Transmission Entertainment handles most of the booking at Red 7, and a show is typically booked one to two months in advance. Once the band is booked, a promoter works on making all the arrangements with Red 7's booking agent. The

promoter works with the band to figure out the band's payment, catering and set times. The stage plot is one of the most important steps of this process because it indicates how the band will be arranged on stage and what instruments the band will use.

7:00

Glynn begins to set up the green room and cleaning the outdoor area, which can hold up to 500 people. First, Glynn checks all the lights. He gestures to the carpet on stage. "See those red stains?" Glynn asks. He turns down the red lights so the stains become more noticeable. "That's pig's blood." The Swedish black metal band Watain was there in October, and

“

See those red stains?  
That's pig's blood.

—Rob Glynn,  
Stage manager

their show included a pyrotechnic display as well as pouring pig's blood everywhere.

7:30



Sam Ortega / Daily Texan Staff

Audio engineer Andrew McCalla works at the sound booth while the stage is set up for the performers.

Hook arrives to work on the sound. He undoes the previous show's set-up and plugs in all of the microphones and cables. At the back of the venue is the sound booth where Hook monitors levels during the show. He tests the speakers with his iPod and describes the process as "a waiting game" until the bands are ready. He realizes one of the sound monitors is broken and explains that a big part of the job is fixing technical difficulties on the fly.

6:30



Sam Ortega / Daily Texan Staff

Bartender MC Young stocks liquor bottles as he prepares the bar for the show.

Ramirez and the bartenders begin stocking the bar with cases of beer and liquor. MC Young, one of Red 7's bartenders, says the bar takes anywhere from 30 to 45 minutes to set up and that his shift lasts anywhere from five to 10 hours,

depending on the night. Tending bar at Red 7 differs from other venues because, as Young puts it, "the music changes everything." Glynn types the set list for the night and the headlining band usually arrives at this time.

8:30

Hook begins sound check, during which they iron out problems or deal with unusual instruments such as harps or ukuleles. Glynn says the ideal set-up for Red 7 is a traditional rock band, but it depends how prepared the bands

are. Hook says it is tempting to call hip-hop or electronic shows easier to set up, but challenges often arise. Rappers may want the monitor levels turned up loudly, and as they move, there can be high levels of feedback to monitor.

### During the show

Hook listens closely to the music. But he's listening for problems, not for enjoyment. Glynn keeps an eye on the microphones while also watching the crowd to make sure no one spills anything on equipment, which could be disastrous. When something does go wrong, Glynn must move swiftly to avoid interruption the set. Once, while running across the stage to fix a problem, Glynn got stuck behind the guitarist who sat on top of him for a while. Between sets, Hook and Glynn have only 15 minutes to break down and set up equipment, which both agree is barely enough time.



Sam Ortega / Daily Texan Staff

Mel Parsonz, frontwoman and bassist of the band Royal Thunder, plays guitar during stage set-up.

### Cleanup

The cleanup process at Red 7 is fairly easy. By law, the venue has to close at 2 a.m. every night. The biggest issue for Glynn is to make sure the stage is clean and all the gear is accounted for. He takes

inventory to make sure none of the bands left anything behind. The staff usually leaves around 3 a.m., closing down for the night. If they've succeeded, the audience will have no idea they were there.

### WANTED: WRITERS

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