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THE WAITING GAME

ROCKY HIGINE / THE DAILY TEXAN STAFF



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Frustrated with ways to report off-campus parties, students have turned to social media platforms to publicly shame those attending and hosting.

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AUSTIN WEATHER

TODAY

Nov. 10



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LO 50°

TOMORROW

Nov. 11



HI 79°

LO 54°

do ya'll SEE the time???

UT Senate hosts town hall, discusses COVID-19 safety, pass/fail grading policies

By Anna Canizales
@annaleonorc

UT's Senate of College Councils hosted a virtual COVID-19 town hall Monday with the University administration to answer questions about testing mandates, pass/fail policies and COVID-19 safety.

The town hall was hosted by the Senate's Equity and Inclusion Committee and Academic Policy Committee and featured questions from students, faculty and staff. Sameeha Rizvi, co-chair for the Equity and Inclusion Committee, said the Senate has met with the administration regularly about COVID-19.

Rizvi said she hopes the town hall will help increase transparency and communication between administrators and students.

"It is their role to ensure the safety and security of students especially during this time ... but in some cases, there have been areas where a lot of us in the UT community believe they are falling short," said Rizvi, a public health and social work sophomore. "We're hoping that today they do have answers for a lot of stuff that people just have had questions about for the past few months."

UT President Jay Hartzell said the University has tested about 3,000 people per week, and there has been no evidence of



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UT President Jay Hartzell attends a virtual town hall Monday. The Senate of College Councils hosted the town hall to answer questions about pass/fail policies and COVID-19 precautions.

COVID-19 transmission in classrooms.

"There have been lapses as we all know, but in general, I'm just really proud of the job that you, our student body, are doing," Hartzell said. "Our campus numbers are quite modest compared to other campuses of our size, and we have a very low hospitalization rate."

Daniel Jaffe, interim executive vice president and provost, said the University does not plan to implement another pass/fail blanket policy like in the spring.

"The rules kind of got changed in the middle of the game in the spring

because of the change to online instruction, but now everyone knew going in what the policy was and we kind of don't want to change it in the middle," Jaffe said.

Soncia Reagins-Lilly, vice president for student affairs and dean of students, said the University is working closely with the city of Austin and student leaders to identify where gatherings are taking place and discourage large events from happening.

"When we become aware of a large gathering, there is follow up," Reagins-Lilly said. "It may not be public and you don't see it, but we are able to. When we're

able to identify who was where, who hosted, who owns the property, there's follow-up."

Jaffe said when the University conducts contact tracing, the goal is to slow the spread of COVID-19 and not to scapegoat students who may have been in contact with other students.

"Our fight is not with the student body. Our fight is with the virus," Jaffe said. "We're trying to encourage everyone in all the different student communities to help support that fight by cooperating with the contact tracing which is our way to get ahead of the virus."

MAIN TELEPHONE
(512) 471-4591

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Emily Caldwell
(512) 232-2212
editor@dailytexanonline.com

MANAGING EDITOR
Megan Menchaca
(512) 232-2217
managingeditor@thedailytexan.com

NEWS OFFICE
(512) 232-2207
news@thedailytexan.com

The Texan strives to present all information fairly, accurately and completely. If we have made an error, let us know about it. E-mail managingeditor@thedailytexan.com.

BUSINESS & ADVERTISING

(512) 471-8590
advertise@texasstudentmedia.com

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CAMPUS

Virtual bike auction ends this week with 159 bikes available for sale

By Brooke Ontiveros
@brookexpanic

The annual UT bike auction is returning virtually this week with 159 bikes for sale after it was not held last school year.

After laying unclaimed for at least 90 days, bikes abandoned on campus are collected and auctioned each year at an average sale price of \$70, said Blanca Gamez, associate director of transportation for Parking and Transportation Services.

The UT Surplus Store partnered with UT Parking and Transportation Services to host the virtual bike auction Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Participants will need to make an account with the Swico Auction website to bid. Bidding began Nov. 2, and all bikes' starting price was \$5.

"In most cases, the bikes need a little bit of TLC, so they might need a new tire because it's gone flat, it might need a little lube

or grease on the chain," Gamez said. "But you can get a pretty decent bike that is going to be new for you for \$20 or \$25."

All sales are final, but buyers can schedule a preview of the bike before bidding, said Mark Engelman, assistant manager for UT Surplus.

Although PTS usually impounds bikes left on campus over the summer to create space for the fall, they did not impound any this summer unless they were blocking construction or doorways, Gamez said.

Profits from the auction are spent on building more bike racks and lockers on campus and hosting events such as Bike to UT Day.

In previous years, auctions gathered up to a thousand people, but Gamez said a virtual auction might increase accessibility for buyers.

"The advantage for doing it online is having the ability to better organize the bicycles

for the buyer, (and) it allows them to have more time to decide on a bicycle," Engelman said. "It allows them to bid from the comfort of their home or office."

Depending on the success of this year's auction, Gamez said PTS may host future bike auctions virtually.

Physics senior Richard Najera, who participated in the 2017 bike auction, said the event brought large crowds of people when hosted in person. He said some bidders would guard tables to ensure they submitted the final claim to their desired bicycle.

Najera said because of the competition to submit a final bid, he didn't take home a bike that year, but he would still prefer to search in person for the bicycle to gift his little brother and cousin.

"You can compare bikes on your own and go back and forth between them quickly and see which one you prefer," Najera said.



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The UT Surplus Store is hosting a virtual bike auction with 159 bikes for sale this week in partnership with Parking and Transportation Services.

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EDITORIAL

Rename School of Advertising

The Moody College of Communication must cut its ties to Stan Richards after racist comments.

By The Daily Texan
Editorial Board

Stan Richards is the founder of Dallas-based advertising agency The Richards Group, the country's largest independent advertising agency, and namesake of UT's School of Advertising and Public Relations in the Moody College of Communication. On Oct. 14, The Dallas Morning News and other news outlets reported Richards had referred to an advertising pitch for Motel 6, an American motel chain, as "too Black" for the company's "white supremacist" guests in a Zoom call with 40 other employees.

Richards left the company the next day.

UT sent out an email to Moody students and faculty on Oct. 14 to say it was following up on Richards' comments. On Nov. 6, Jay Bernhardt, dean of the Moody College of Communication, sent out an email to say the University was bringing in two outside experts to further analyze the comments and their impact on students and faculty.

University leaders shouldn't have to rely on an "outside expert" to tell them what the majority of their students, faculty and staff

already know: Stan Richards' words were racist and hurtful.

"My initial reaction was that this is definitely racist," radio-television-film freshman Tarniesha Floyd said. "I was upset, like, how can you as a person, who has donated to this school with diverse students, talk about people in this way?"

It's been almost a month since the incident. Instead of spending time analyzing the "context and history" of Richards' comments, UT must move forward with tangible solutions that directly address the pain those comments brought to our community.

"Moody should have reacted quicker," journalism freshman Morgan Severson said. "They sent out a video ... but I found it really hard to accept (Richards') apology. (Richards) quit his job, so obviously he didn't see what he did as acceptable, so I don't see how we're supposed to accept it."

It's clear Moody must sever its relationship with Richards by removing his name from the School of Advertising and Public Relations. But change should not stop there.

"I would say (the University and Moody should) put in more initiatives to help students of color," Floyd said. "Changing the name of the school would be a start, but just changing the name would be performative. You have to do both."

Ya'Ke Smith, Moody's associate dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, agreed.

"I would want Stan Richards' name off my building," Smith said. "I would want us to really find a new way to move forward — finding a new namesake, finding a new donor, finding someone that we can name our college after who we have vetted, who we know

is not anti-Black, who we know would never make comments like that, who would support Black lives and who is a strong supporter of all things diversity, equity and inclusion."

We spoke with Jay Bernhardt about what the College plans to do moving forward.

"We have attained the services of an organization called Overcoming Racism, led by Matthew Kincaid," Bernhardt said. "Matthew is going to lead a number of facilitated listening sessions to give our students, faculty, staff, alumni and partners a chance in a safe, confidential way to share their feelings and their feedback on this issue."

Feedback from students is critical for any decision, but facilitating "listening sessions" isn't a decision or a change. We still have yet to see any significant action from Moody leadership.

"I received an email about the student listening sessions, so that was another step in the right direction," public relations freshman Munji Nfor said. "But there are a lot of things that went wrong with this entire case."

UT has let down its Black students over and over, especially in the past year. Unless Moody administration acts decisively now, this will simply be another example of the racism our Black peers must routinely endure at this University.

"I'm not surprised (by the incident), but that doesn't mean I'm okay with it," Floyd said. "Knowing that this University has (a history) of taking money from white supremacists, and especially during a time like this, it does make me feel unsafe and uncomfortable. Do y'all really care about me, or am I a diversity quota? Am I here to make you not seem as racist as you probably are?"



ROCKY HIGINE / THE DAILY TEXAN STAFF



ROCKY HIGINE / THE DAILY TEXAN STAFF

2020 ELECTION

STUDENTS REACT TO DRAWN-OUT ELECTIONS

As ballots are counted nationwide, students comment on the stress of waiting for the results.

By Andrew Zhang
@andrewczhang

Students kept their eyes glued to their televisions and cell phones on election night, waiting for the results determining the next president of the United States. However, the race would not be called until days later, causing a nerve-racking week for some students.

Decision Desk HQ, the first major outlet to announce President-elect Joe Biden's win against incumbent President Donald Trump, called the race Friday morning. The Associated Press called the race for Biden Saturday morning.

Associate government professor Bethany Albertson said the pandemic-driven influx of mail-in ballots caused election delays.

"(The election was) drawn out because we have a pandemic," Albertson said. "A

number of states expanded their vote by mail, so ballots are taking longer to count. At the same time, states are expanding vote by mail and early voting, you have partisans stop(ping) the counting of ballots from happening until Election Day."

Business freshman Michael Pugh said he googled the Associated Press map for election updates more than 10 times a day while he waited for election results.

"I definitely don't think I've ever looked at a map of

the U.S. as much within my entire life as I did this week because I was constantly just refreshing that map trying to know what's changing," Pugh said.

Political communication sophomore Journey Sais said she could not complete any work on Election Day.

Sais said as a bisexual woman of color, she feels relieved about Biden's election and is excited about potential progress for LGBTQ+ individuals, immigration and climate change. However, Sais said she thinks Democrats could have utilized better methods of outreach for Hispanic and Latinx communities.

"I was one of the people who really thought Texas was going to turn blue. I had so much hope," Sais said. "When Texas was red, I wasn't surprised."

Leading into the election, pollsters including FiveThirtyEight and RealClearPolitics listed Texas as a swing state. Media outlets across the country speculated about the prospect, and some Democratic politicians on the ballot hoped for a blue wave in the traditionally red state.

However, Trump defeated Biden by 6 percentage points in Texas, and Democrats failed to make significant gains in Congress or the state legislature.

Albertson said polls can provide a snapshot of what the electorate might look like, but can differ from election results. Individuals who distrust institutions, like newspapers and universities, that run polls may be less likely to respond to them and skew the results, she said.

"The lesson out of 2016 was that pollsters

undercounted whites without college education, particularly in some of the key battleground states," Albertson said. "We need time to see the data (from this election) to try and figure out what's going on. It's not completely clear what the miss is this time."

Grant Rommel, UT chapter president of College Republicans, said the idea of Texas turning blue was a "pipe dream," and he was pleased with Republican victories across Texas.

"People who don't live in Austin or in Dallas or in Houston or in the metro areas of Texas, they really came out," said Rommel, a journalism and economics sophomore. "They showed that Texas is not going to be a place that is open to, in my

opinion, a lot of the bad ideas from the Democratic Party."

Bennett Burke, steering committee co-chair of UT Young Democratic Socialists of America, said he was happy with many election results, specifically Travis County District Attorney-elect José Garza. Burke, a political communication and history sophomore, said Biden's victory was bitter-sweet and he worries it may lead to complacency.

"The work has only just begun," Burke said. "We need to ... build mass movements and materially hold people in power accountable regardless of what party they are or how nice they are outwardly. I would encourage people to get involved in politics beyond voting."



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WEST CAMPUS

STUDENTS USE SOCIAL MEDIA TO SHAME PARTIES

As COVID-19 cases rise nationwide, students express frustration with large crowds in Austin.

By Nicole Stuessy
@nicolestuessy

Caleb Brock could see bumper-to-bumper cars lining the stretch of Leon Street from the balcony of his West Campus apartment Oct. 29.

“We thought there had to have been an accident or something,” said Brock, a public relations and government sophomore.

He soon realized the cars were Ubers and Lyfts, full of students in costumes heading out to party before Halloween.

“It really dawned on (my roommates and I) ... just how screwed we really are,” Brock said. “Hundreds of thousands of people are dying. People just don’t seem to care.”

In September, the Austin Fire Marshal shut down a gathering of dozens of students at the Texas Rho fraternity house before the first football game of the season. Over Halloween weekend, the Austin

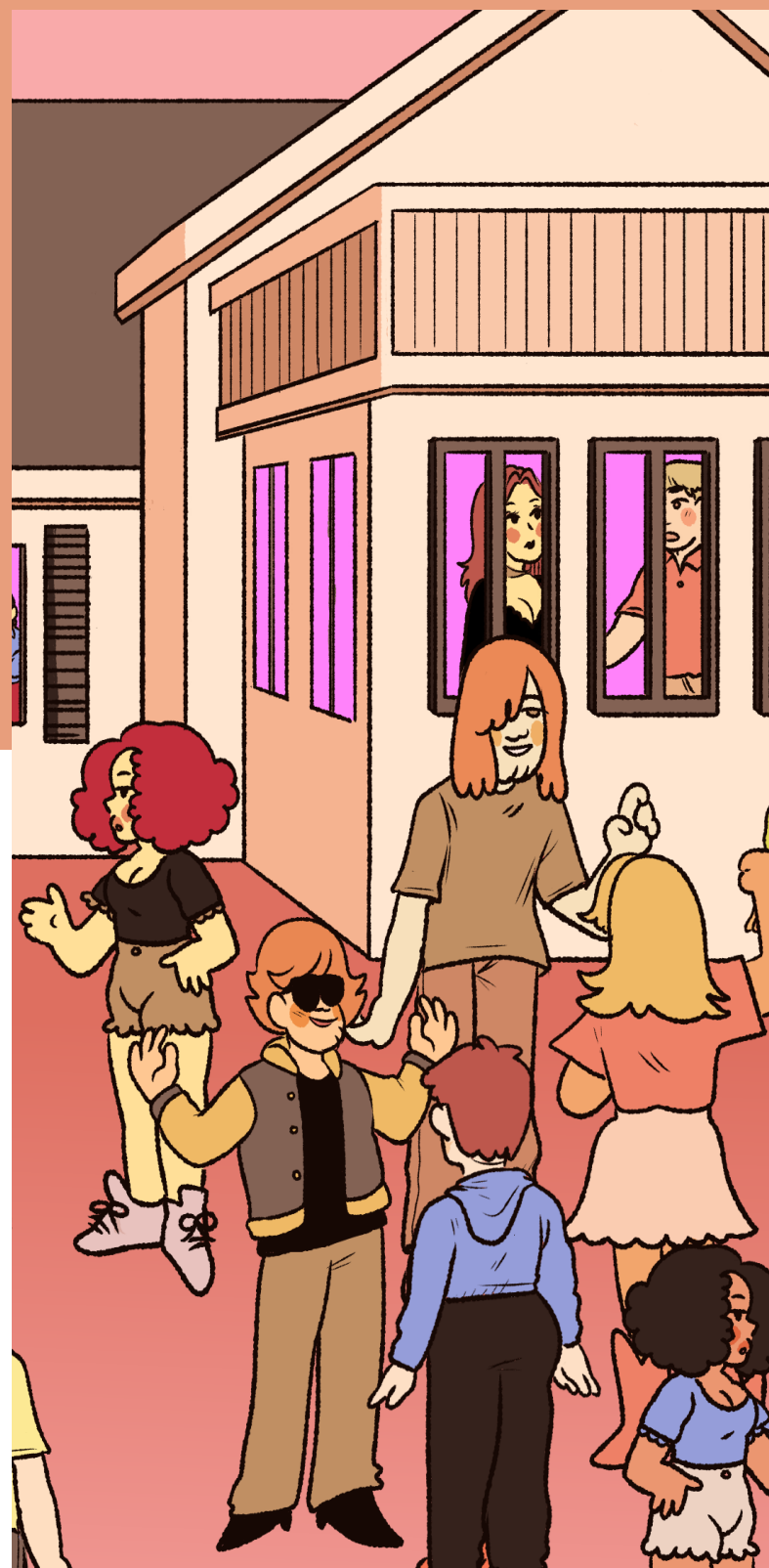
Police Department reported 16 311 calls — which are routed to Austin Public Health, Austin Code or the Austin Fire Marshal — for large gatherings in the West Campus area, according to data provided to The Daily Texan.

“People seem to think that the pandemic is over,” Brock said. “It’s like they’re living in a completely different world.”

Travis County reported 1,034 active coronavirus cases as of Nov. 4, the highest number of cases since Aug. 15, according to data from the city’s COVID-19 dashboard. On Nov. 8, Texas’ statewide total of active cases was estimated to be over 124,000, up from 69,595 active cases on Oct. 1.

Coronavirus cases at UT are also rising, with the University reporting 61 positive saliva tests last week — the most in one week since Sept. 6, according to the UT COVID-19 Dashboard.

As students party on, those in their apartments limiting contact with others like Brock are conflicted. He said he does not want to take



ROCKY HIGINE / THE DAILY TEXAN STAFF



JACK MYER / THE DAILY TEXAN FILE

Austinites wait in line to get into a 6th Street bar Sept. 4. Students posted pictures on social media of people in large crowds downtown on Halloween weekend to express frustration with partygoers as coronavirus cases rise nationwide.

“
Hundreds of thousands of people are dying. People just don't seem to care.”
CALEB BROCK
 PUBLIC RELATIONS AND GOVERNMENT SOPHOMORE

classes — through Nov. 9, 112 resulted in no violation found. One complaint case resulted in COVID-19 education being provided, according to the dashboard.

According to previous reporting from the Texan, the UT Police Department will educate students on proper safety measures, but because it is a state-funded agency, it lacks the authority to enforce consequences for students gathering in large groups off campus.

The University has previously said it will not shut down off-campus events because it lacks the ability to enforce punishments and verify the identity of violators. According to the Protect Texas Together website, UT instead relies on the city of Austin and other authorities to enforce social distancing and gathering rules.

Frustrated with their options to stop parties, students have turned to social media platforms to publicly shame those attending and hosting. That's why Brock took out his phone, recorded the stream of rideshare vehicles outside of his apartment and tweeted it.

“It seems like that's really the

only option there is at this point,” Brock said.

Similar posts showing students ignoring social distancing guidelines have gone viral. A tweet from Oct. 10 with a screen recording of an Instagram story shows around 50 maskless students jumping up and down and singing in an apartment during a Texas-OU football game watch party.

The tweet gathered over 20,000 likes and nearly 7,000 retweets, with many responses ridiculing those in attendance, and the original source of the video eventually deactivated their Instagram account.

Public relations sophomore Dhivya Bala said she was disheartened when she saw videos of people partying on Twitter. While she still gathers with a small number of friends for special occasions, she said they take precautions such as limiting contact with those outside of their bubble and getting tested before meeting up.

Bala said shaming people who attend these events on social media is a way to hold them accountable for their actions, but is only effective if they are willing to listen.

“It definitely can be an opportunity for growth,” Bala said.

“But on the other hand, if people are like, ‘Oh, well I'm just gonna keep doing what I'm doing,’ that's just useless to everybody.”

The partying spreads beyond student apartments. A photo on Twitter of shoulder-to-shoulder crowds waiting outside of 6th Street bars over Halloween weekend accumulated nearly 1,000 likes and hundreds of quote tweets shaming those in the photo.

Rafael Adrian Garcia, a human ecology and biology junior, tweeted his frustration after seeing the crowded Halloween photo.

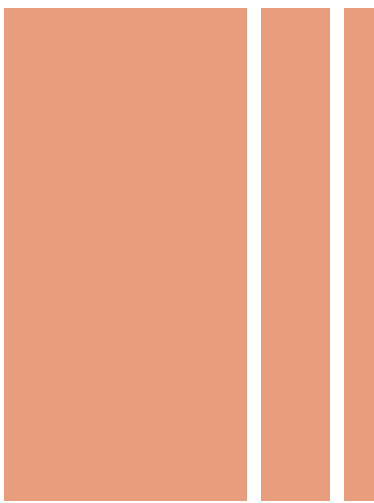
“Well guys it was nice having friends that I was able to see pre-pandemic,” Garcia tweeted. “It was great knowing y'all, but I guess we'll never see each other in person for a long time.”

After campus shut down in March, Garcia said he has spent most of his time home in Blanco County. He said he hasn't seen any of his friends in-person since then.

“I miss being able to see (them),” Garcia said in an interview. “(Being with friends) sparks joy. It sparks excitement. Without being able to see them, (my) motivation goes down.”

As winter approaches and cases rise nationwide, Brock said he hopes students choose safer methods of coping with the pandemic.

“People want to have the sense of normalcy back, (and) people are reacting to the pandemic differently,” Brock said. “But it's affecting everybody, and I don't feel the need to go out and party.”



the risk of calling the police to shut down large gatherings amid national calls for police reform.

“People just feel like ... when you're bringing the police into the community, you're putting people of color at risk just so that a cop can walk up to (frat parties), tell them to tone it down and then just give them a warning and leave,” said Brock, who is white.

Of the 161 Austin Code COVID-19 Complaint Cases in the campus area listed on the city's dashboard from Aug. 26 — the first day of

FEATURE

Student spreads joy through baking cakesicles

From New Orleans to Austin, UT student brings her baking passion to campus through Sprinkled Gems.

By Dina Barrish
@dinabarrish

When Hillary Landry walked onto her front porch one afternoon, she was surprised to find a mysterious box of mini pink and white

popsicle-shaped cakes, each with a white chocolate shell and pearl-like sprinkles.

“We were cakesicle bombed,” said Landry, a resident of New Orleans.

The culprit was Zoe Guillen, a communication and leadership freshman who is also from New Orleans. When her school closed for the pandemic in March, Guillen baked for Landry, a longtime family friend, and others across her community to spread joy.

“I’ve been baking for as long as I can remember,” Guillen said. “It’s kind of therapeutic for me. We all had our spirits down, and I realized that if I could just package up little baked goods, it would bring a warm feeling to people. It’s instant gratification.”

Guillen launched a “campaign for kindness” — a series of baking projects that included delivering 20 customized cupcakes to her fellow high school seniors on National College Decision Day. In April, she turned this campaign into a baking business: Sprinkled Gems.

“During corona when things were closed, my kitchen was still open,” Guillen said. “People (in New Orleans) are really supportive, especially of self-startups.”

Guillen said her friends encouraged her to make a Snapchat account to

showcase her baking. Word of her business spread through her community and people began contacting her for birthdays and other special occasions.

“The cakes, cupcakes and cookies are really what skyrocketed my business,” Guillen said. “It’s a treat to remember that we didn’t forget about you. This day is still important.”

By late May, Guillen said she had enough orders to make Sprinkled Gems her official part-time job. She designed the Sprinkled Gems logo, an image of a purple, glittering mouth, and began taking orders through the @sprinkledgems Instagram page. The requests continued to pour in, and by the end of the summer, Guillen had made over \$1,000.

Landry said she orders from Guillen “too much,” and she has used Sprinkled Gems to celebrate both of her daughters’ birthdays.

“I always want to support women-owned businesses,” Landry said. “There’s no better thing than waking up to find those cakesicles in my fridge.”

For massive orders, Guillen asks to borrow friends’ ovens, but more often than not, she bakes without one.

“I’ve had a broken oven in my household for three or four years,” Guillen said. “So I have become this very skilled toaster oven baker.”

Using her toaster oven at The Callaway House in West Campus, Guillen transferred Sprinkled Gems from New Orleans to Austin. To promote her business, Guillen offered free baked goods to her new Instagram followers.

“I’m trying to get a feel for the UT community and how people will



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Zoe Guillen, a communication and leadership freshman, started her baking business in April. She made over \$1,000 by the end of the summer through the Sprinkled Gems Instagram page.

respond,” Guillen said.

Gabby Perez, a sophomore at George Washington University, attended high school with Guillen and watched Sprinkled Gems grow from the onset.

“(Guillen) is very driven and determined, so I think you can see that reflected in her business,” Perez said.

“She’s basically an artist in the kitchen.”

For the time being, Guillen said she wants to keep making people smile, one cakesicle at a time.

“I never expected (Sprinkled Gems) to grow this type of way,” Guillen said. “I hope that Sprinkled Gems inspires the same kindness it started with.”

STUDENT LIFE

Student mentoring groups adapt to virtual support system

By Ikram Mohamed
@ikramxmoham

Sitting around the school's library table, Nasim Abdi's games of Connect Four with her two mentees would often grow competitive. They would chat about their dream jobs before saying goodbye until the next week.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, Abdi now tries to bond with her mentees over Zoom.

Abdi is a volunteer with the Refugee Student Mentor Program, which helps about 50 refugee and asylee students adapt to their new lives in the U.S. by matching students to a mentor with the same cultural background.

"We try to match volunteers with students who have the same sort of language capabilities," student coordinator Bryan Sitzes said. "(We want) students to be able to ... connect with (mentors) at a different (level) than they're connecting with their classmates or teachers ... who are from different backgrounds."

Through mentorship organizations such as the Refugee Student Mentor Program and Project MALES, UT students use their shared personal experiences to support high and middle school students. Now, mentors only meet with students over Zoom, but they are still working to make an impact on them.

"I know that things are weird, and (the program is) probably not how it was, but it's ... such a positive experience in my life," said Abdi, a biochemistry and art history sophomore. "It's this symbiotic relationship where we both get a lot out of it."

Project MALES is a student organization that pairs UT students with middle and high school boys of color in the Austin area to work through the challenges they may face as people of color.

"We know our young men face many challenges as far as overcoming the school-to-prison pipeline," program coordinator Rodrigo Aguayo said. "We try to avoid a lot of the deficit narratives that are often portrayed around our young men, and understanding that the ... structural factors in place aren't necessarily their fault."



CATE LOWRY / THE DAILY TEXAN STAFF

The organization partners with schools in the East Austin area, which Aguayo said have been historically underserved and are undergoing gentrification. Their goal is to break down systematic barriers and demystify the idea of college.

"A lot of these students are promising first generation (students)," Aguayo said. "We would have a college-for-a-day field trip ... to bring our young men to campus and continue the conversation there, represented by community leaders and faculty that look like them."

Both groups have had difficulty getting started this school year after

switching to a virtual setting.

"Things are changing all the time," Sitzes said. "AISD employees are having to react and adapt, so it just slows down communications. But that being said, everyone we've worked with has ... made a sincere effort to keep things going this semester in the face of everything."

In mid-October, Project MALES matched each of their 65 mentors with an Austin ISD school. Currently, mentors enter classroom Zoom calls to connect with mentees.

"We have a strong team of graduate, undergraduate and (middle and high

school) students so we are up to a challenge and overcoming our current situation as a familia," Aguayo said. "We understand that times are challenging not only for us but for everyone, and times like this is when our young men need us most."

Though both groups have had to adapt to COVID-19 regulations, they said they understand the importance of continuing their programs.

"During these times, it's even more important to have a mentor," Aguayo said. "Someone who will listen to you and share ideas with, as we are all going through this together."

FOOTBALL

Robinson explodes for 151 yards

The freshman running back enjoyed a breakthrough performance against West Virginia.

By Stephen Wagner
@stephenwag22

Bijan Robinson has lived up to the hype so far in his freshman season.

The Texas running back rushed for his first 100-yard game as a college athlete in a 17-13 win over West Virginia Saturday and leads the Longhorns' running backs in total rushing yards this season, with 294. He was named the Big 12 Newcomer of the Week on Monday.

Robinson's coaches and teammates all believe he has the opportunity to be a truly "special" running back at Texas. Head coach Tom Herman has raved about his ability, and senior quarterback Sam Ehlinger has gushed over how fun Robinson is to watch. In Saturday's win over the Mountaineers, the freshman exploded for a 54-yard run on the first play from scrimmage.

On the next drive, Robinson spun off a tackler as he bounced a power run to the edge, stiff-armed a pair of defenders and hit the sideline for 18 yards. It was just a glimpse of what the freshman, making his third career start, would do to the Mountaineers.

"Bijan is such an exciting player," Ehlinger said after the win over West Virginia. "Obviously still a freshman, so has a lot of growth to go, but he's

starting to show his natural ability and the game's starting to slow down for him. I can't even imagine what type of player he's going to be."

The Arizona product finished with 151 total yards of offense and averaged nearly 11 yards per touch in a performance that drew comparisons to Ricky Williams, Texas' all-time leading rusher and Heisman-winning running back.

But Robinson isn't ready for

the comparisons to Williams just yet.

"Ricky Williams is a legend," Robinson said after Saturday's game. "I'm still just a freshman and just trying to find my way in college football. I have so much work to do as a young guy."

Statistically, it would be difficult for Robinson to close in on Williams' 6,279 career rushing yards and 75 total touchdowns at Texas, even with repeats of Saturday's

performance. Despite having 75 rushing yards on four carries in the first quarter, Robinson only received one carry in the second quarter.

Herman said after the game that Robinson "is not used to a 20, 25-carry day" and that he didn't want to put "too much weight on his shoulders."

Robinson said he doesn't care about carries regardless of how well he plays or if he plays at all. He just wants to help the team win.

"I'm good where coach (Herman) needs me," Robinson said. "If that's 20 carries, that's fine. I don't really focus on that, I just focus on trying to make this team better anyway I (can). We've still got (sophomore and junior running backs) Roschon (Johnson) (and) Keaontay (Ingram), and we all need to share the ball together and work with this offense as well."

Regardless of how he's used, all signs point north for Robinson moving forward. He

said Saturday the game is finally starting to slow down for him and that he's just starting to add new tools, like his first-quarter spin move.

"For me, it's just finding holes, finding the offensive line, finding the gaps," Robinson said. "I feel really comfortable with this offense. At first, I was just trying to get a feel for this game, but I had to keep slowing down. With the speed of the game, it's looking good. It's looking good."



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Freshman running back Bijan Robinson sticks his foot in the ground to evade a tackler during Texas's game against West Virginia at Darrell K. Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium Nov. 7. Robinson enjoyed a breakout game against the Mountaineers, racking up 151 total yards on only 14 touches.

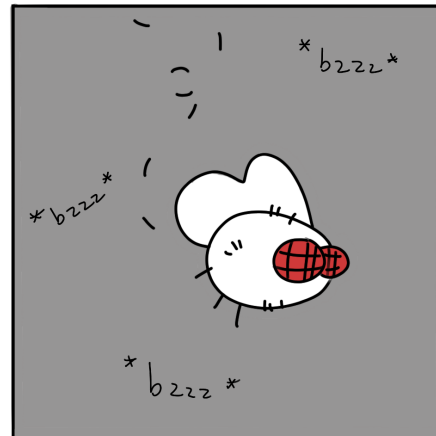
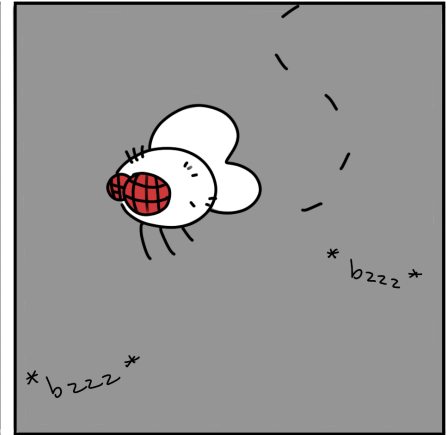
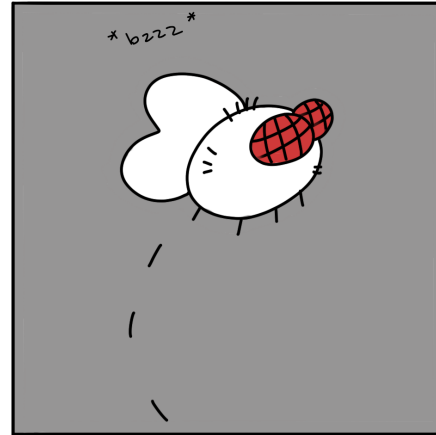
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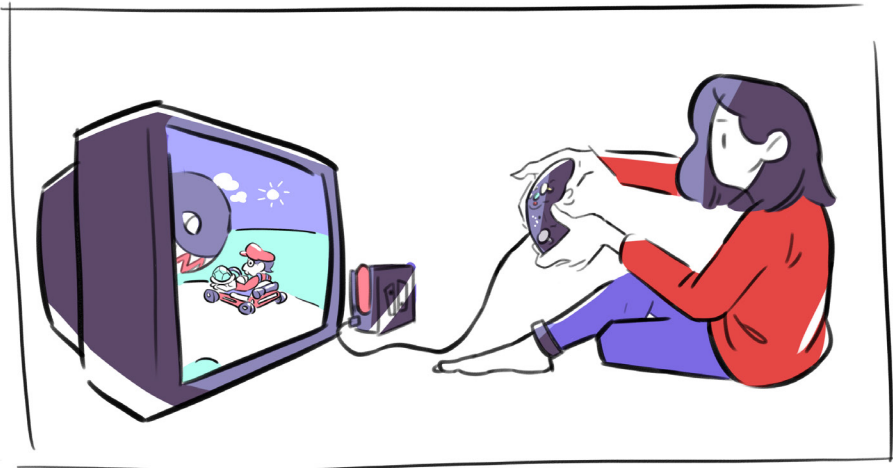
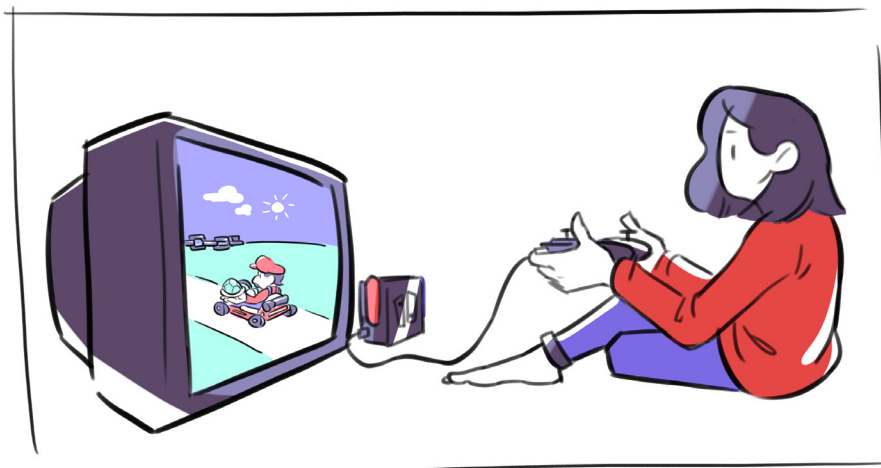


ABOVE AVERAGE

"2 A.M."



Steph S.



MNDYV

WOMEN'S GOLF

High school rivals continue lifelong friendship in burnt orange

By Luke Casola
@CasolaLuke

Coming off a state championship, Lake Travis High School was in the midst of a girls golf state title three-peat, dominating its infamous rivalry with Westlake High School. Bentley Cotton was eager to defeat her childhood best friend, Macy Fox, who attended Lake Travis 12 miles away and bring a state championship back to Westlake.

"It's like OU and Texas," Cotton said. "Our football teams hate each other."

For many years, the girls golf teams at each high school have battled it out on a state championship level. Dating back to 2015, Lake Travis and Westlake have enjoyed sustained success in the girls golf world with one of the two winning the state championship each year.

Now, Cotton and Fox wear burnt orange on the course together, putting the rivalry behind them and carrying on with their lasting friendship.

Both freshmen grew up in the Austin area and met each other before they were even tweens. Even though most of the fun was spent on the course, Fox said the pair's friendship

translated beyond the golf course to dinners or hangouts after rounds and practice.

"Our personalities are really similar to each other, so we've had that in common," Fox said. "We've always liked to hunt and fish or just hangout outdoors. ... We had a lot more in common than just golf."

Texas head coach Ryan Murphy said he was very familiar with both high schools when recruiting Cotton and Fox.

"We don't put a lot of stock in (the rivalry)," Murphy said. "We just try to identify great players and bring them here, and if they fit our program, we try to get them here on our team."

A competitive spirit fueled Cotton and Fox's golf matches against each other on their respective teams throughout their high school careers, but the duo's strong bond remained intact, Cotton said.

"We played a bunch of junior golf together and I think the first time I ever played, when I was really young, (Fox) was there," Cotton said. "Although she went to Lake Travis, a rival school, we still had a great relationship and always have remained close friends."

Murphy recruited

current senior standout Kaitlyn Papp from Lake Travis when she was a nationally ranked player. Both he and Fox are aware of the local talent pool.

"I would say it is for sure one of the most competitive cities in the world golf based," Fox said. "There's so much talent and just growing up around it definitely helped tremendously. It's insane in Austin."

Cotton, Fox and Papp all share an apartment together this year, which allows Papp to act as a mentor to the freshman duo. Fox is thankful for the chance to play with Papp again.

"It's really good to get to see how she goes about practicing and how focussed and driven she is," Fox said.

Papp and Fox won the state title together at Lake Travis during the Cavaliers' state title in 2017.

Even though the pair still competed against each other at the time, Murphy said he could feel the tightness and connection between Cotton and Fox when they were around each other for campus visits.

"You can put that word 'rivalry' in quotation marks for those two," Murphy said.



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Freshman golfer Bentley Cotton throws up the Hook 'Em sign in front of a Bevo statue. Cotton, a two-time state champion at Westlake High School, is now sharing the green and rooming with her childhood best friend and high school rival, Macy Fox.



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Freshman golfer Macy Fox flashes the signature Hook 'Em sign during a preseason photo shoot. A two-time AJGA All-American at Lake Travis High School, Fox is now donning burnt orange with her lifelong friend and former Westlake Chaparral, Bentley Cotton.