POKÉMON CULTURE

The Pokémon franchise of shows, video games and more is an ever-growing phenomena. See page 5.

E SHORTHOR

TEXAS UNIVERSITY ARLINGTON

the shorthorn.com

Volume 95, No. 9 Since 1919

INDEX

Ms. UTA Melisa Gonzalez is celebrating her 22nd birthday by completing 22 acts of kindness.

See page 3.

Senior middle blocker Charmaine Whitmore was named fourth in the nation in blocking.

See page 10.

FRATERNITY AND SORORITY LIFE

President hopes end of suspension is near

Sigma Phi Epsilon looks forward to resuming organizational programs.

Wednesday

October 9, 2013

BY KRISTA M. TORRALVA

Christofer Slocum hopes the interim suspension placed on his fraternity, Sigma Phi Epsilon, is lifted by the end of next week so members can resume organizational activities.

UTA began questioning Sigma Phi Epsilon members

Monday about accusations that the fraternity held an unregistered party, provided alcohol to a minor and that a sexual assault occurred at the chapter house Sept. 7.

Slocum, Sigma Phi Epsilon president, denied accusations that a sexual assault occurred and denied hosting an unregistered party that night. Student Conduct officials told fraternity members the investigation could be wrapped up within two weeks, he said.

University spokeswoman Kristin Sullivan wouldn't confirm when the investigation into Sigma Phi Epsilon, or any of the other four fraternities placed under interim suspension in connection with Bid Day activities Sept. 7, began or is expected to end.

"All the investigations have begun, none of those have been resolved, and there has not been any formal hearing process. That's not where we're at. We're in the investigative

process," Sullivan said.

Three sexual assaults reported to police were said to have happened at the Sigma Phi Epsilon house in September. After the first sexual assault report made on Sept. 7, the university released a statement saying a male student was placed on interim suspension in connection with the report.

Following the report, five fraternities were issued interim suspensions in connection with underage alcohol use during

the fraternity Bid Day weekend, which was Sept. 7 though 8: Sigma Phi Epsilon, Pi Kappa Phi, Sigma Chi, Pi Kappa Alpha and Alpha Tau Omega. Alpha Tau Omega is being investigated for "allegations of underage alcohol abuse and possible use of illegal drugs," according to a university statement.

Sigma Phi Epsilon and Pi Kappa Phi also received the interim suspensions for possible unregistered parties, according to a university statement. As a

result, the national headquarters of Sigma Phi Epsilon issued the UTA chapter an order to cease and desist.

As of Tuesday, the police investigation into one of the sexual assault reports had been

Slocum declined interviews with The Shorthorn until the individual's investigation was complete. Slocum said the individual received a letter that he

FRATERNITY continues on page 9

BODY IMAGE



BY ANN MAI The Shorthorn staff

A full bust, smaller figure and, now, a gap between the thighs will mark a female's beauty. The perceived need for the thigh gap - a gap that occurs when a girl's legs are so thin that her thighs don't touch when she stands with her feet together - is a trend spreading across social media sites that has spurred what may be unhealthy diet or exercise habits.

This phenomenon is welldocumented on sites such as Tumblr, where photos of silhouetted thighs with the coveted gap are labelled with

ONLINE For more on how UTA students feel about thigh gap visit, www.theshorthorn.com/

phrases like "do it for the thigh gap." Browsing the thigh gap or thinspo tag on Tumblr brings up blogs that promote ways to become thin enough to get the gap. Many of these blogs are also pro-ana or promia blogs, which means they support and promote anorexia and bulimia.

Many health experts have come out against this trend

because genetics and a natural body shape play so heavily into whether achieving that gap is feasible or healthy.

"I don't think it's realistic for most people," said Julie DuBois, a nutritionist and dietitian at Fueled Fitness in Fort Worth. "You can have someone who is really thin who wouldn't have that genetic build to get that gap. Ĭ grew up in the valley, and even the skinniest people won't have that kind of build. It's not necessarily a good goal, and it's pretty much impossible to spot reduce. With exercise and a proper diet, you can see results overall, but you can't just

target that area."

The ever-growing presence

of thigh gaps on social media can facilitate its establishment as a social norm. Many studies have shown social media plays a large part in body image and self-esteem.

Trend pushes for women to have

gap between thighs

"I think that women shouldn't be concerned with trying to manipulate their bodies to fit a social trend," business junior Jesse Wallace, student coordinator of UTA Hosts, said. UTA Hosts is an organization that mentors freshman students on cam-

"Just be yourself. At the end of the day, you'll never be happy being something else. And at the end of the day, the photos of the celebrities are photoshopped, anyway," Wallace said. "Be comfortable with who you are and embrace that."

Of 13 students interviewed, none said it was necessary for a girl to have a thigh gap to be

"At first, I didn't think they were attractive, but then I saw them on models on TV," software engineering junior Jessica Mireles said. "I admit I would try to achieve a thigh gap."

> @MISSANNMAI ann.mai@mavs.uta.edu

LIBERAL ARTS

Event will push new history

First-ever Disability Studies conference will feature guest speakers.

> BY DAVID KLINE The Shorthorn staff

The History Department will present two panels of guest speakers during the university's first Disability Studies conference on Oct. 17. Because of the response, coordinators moved the event to the Maverick Activities Center second floor lounge for more room.

The conference will feature eight guest speakers from five different schools and colleges throughout UTA including education and health professions, architecture, social work and liberal arts, and other universities in the Metroplex. The goal of the conference is to promote the new disability studies minor at UTA, said Sarah Rose, Disabilities Studies program director.

The new minor will be available to students in about two weeks, and nine students are already committed to it, Rose said.

"The field started about 30 years ago and really started getting attention probably about 12 to 15 years ago," Rose said. "UTA's history involving disabled students and serving them

CONFERENCE continues on page 4

ENGINEERING

UTA engineering team grounded by shutdown

The team could not test its work because space center was closed.

> BY DYLAN WOOD The Shorthorn staff

An aerospace engineering team was supposed to test its work at the Johnson Space Center in Houston last week. Instead, the U.S. government

ONLINE

Read more about how the shutdown could affect students at www.theshorthorn. com/news

shutdown closed the space center and the team returned to Arlington on Monday.

"It's a big disappointment

that this happened to the team and that they have to wait until another opportunity comes up for them to try this," said Erian Armanios, mechanical and aerospace engineering chair-

The team arrived in Houston on Sept. 25. The government shutdown went into effect Oct. 1. The team waited, hoping the shutdown would end by Friday, Armanios said. Mears, Jun Yao, mechani-When it did not, the team decided to return to Arlington.

The team that went to Houston included UTA graduates Ya-yu Monica Hew and Erica Castillo. Hew is enrolled in Stanford University but returned to help with the project.

Other members of the team were mechanical engineering junior Austin

cal engineering doctoral student, and psychology doctoral student Fernando

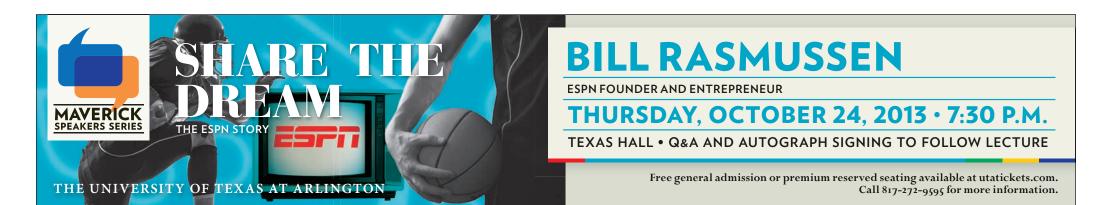
The team went to test a series of wireless sensors, primarily used to monitor planes, in a reduced gravity environment aboard the one of the Vomit Comets, one of NASA's planes known to fly

Leal-Arizpe.

in parabolic arcs.

The sensors are health monitoring sensors, used to see the stability and integrity of the plane," Armanios said. "The purpose of the experiment was to test what would happen to these sensors in a microgravity setting."

> @UTASHORTHORN dylan.wood@mavs.uta.edu



ONLINE NOW

Visit www.theshorthorn.com for news anytime. Here's a look at what's online now:

SAFETY

Student dies after fall from balcony

Undeclared freshman Ebony Warner died after falling on Oct. 2 from the third floor of an apartment landing at Campus Edge on UTA Boulevard, according to a University Housing letter sent to Vandergriff Hall residents. Warner was a resident there. She was 17 and studying nursing.

-Rafael Sears

EDUCATION

Summit to discuss graduation reform

State Rep. Diane Patrick will be on campus Oct. 21 for the Educational Policy Summit. The summit will focus on how educational institutions and workforce entities can collaborate to implement a new Texas graduation reform.

President Vistasp Karbhari will be one of the panelists.

-Lindsey Juarez

CRIME

Police end 2 assault report investigations

Police did not file criminal charges in two recent reports of sexual assaults on campus, and police have concluded its investigation into both, university spokeswoman Kristin Sullivan

Four sexual assault reports were made to UTA Police since Sept. 7. Two of the investigations remain ongoing, Sullivan

One report was said to have occurred on Sept. 14 in the Life Science Building at 502 S. Nedderman Drive.

"Police determined that the elements of a sexual assault offense were not present in the Sept. 14 case, which reportedly occurred at 501 S. Nedderman Drive," Sullivan said.

The other three reports were said to have occurred at the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity house. The report police have cleared was made on Sept. 13 and said to have occurred on Aug. 24.

"In the Aug. 24 case, police have determined that the complaint cannot move forward unless additional evidence is discovered or presented to investigators," Sullivan said.

-Krista M. Torralva

CORRECTIONS/ **CLARIFICATIONS**

Bring factual errors to The Shorthorn's attention via email to editor. shorthorn@uta.edu or call 817-272-3188. A correction or clarification will be printed in this space.

CALENDAR

must be made by 4 p.m. two days prior to the desired date of publication. To enter your event,

TODAY

Red Flag Campaign: This event is hosted by The Relationship Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Program, and will take place until Oct. 18 all day on the Central Library Mall. For more information contact The Relationship Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention program (RVSP) at 817-272-2354.

"Standing Proud" Gallery Exhibit:

The UTA Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, and Ally Program is hosting this event in honor of Pride Week. This event is free and open to all and will be from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the University Center Art Gallery through Sunday Oct. 13. For more information contact the LGBTQA Program at 817-272-2099 or lgbtqa@uta.edu.

The Maverick Lens: Views From the **Library:** This annual photo exhibit is designed to reflect the diversity of living, learning and working at UTA. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Central Library on the sixth floor and is free. For more information contact Erin O'Malley at omalley@uta.edu.

Breast Cancer Awareness: October is breast cancer awareness month and students are invited to join Health Services, Campus Recreation and the Susan G. Komen foundation for education, fun and awareness. Susan G. Komen Fort Worth affiliates will be in attendance from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the University Center Palo Duro Lounge. This is a free event. For more information contact Donielle Smith or Latoya Oduniyi at 817-272-2771 or dnsmith@uta.edu.

Success Series: Navigating Academic Terrain (Persevering): This seminar helps students navigate the difficult terrain of a college campus. Topics include how to talk to professors, how to network and study with fellow students and learning about campus culture. The seminar starts at noon in Ransom Hall room 303. For more information contact The University Tutorial and Supplemental Instruction at 817-272-2617.

Mock Interview Day: Employers will be present to ask students interview questions and provide feedback to improve interviewing skills.

Students must sign up for a time slot through HIREAMAVERICK. Each student will have 30 minutes. This event will begin at 1 p.m. in Davis Hall Room 216 and is free. For more information contact the Career Development Center at 817-272-2932 or careers@uta.edu.

Success Series: Exploring Undergraduate Research & Graduate School Opp: Presented by Joan Reinhardt, director of the McNair Scholars Program, and Jennifer Luken Sutton, Director of TRiO Student Support Services, this event focuses on research opportunities at UTA and highlights the TRiO McNair Scholars Program. The workshop presents steps to prepare students for graduate school. The event will start at 2 p.m. in the University Center Sabine Room. For more information contact TRiO Student Support Services at 817-272-3684.

Lecture by Russell Buchanan: This lecture by Buchanan Architecture will be held at 4 p.m. in Architecture room 204 and is free.

School of Urban and Political Affairs Information Forum: This forum will be from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in University Hall room 521 and is free. For more information contact Karolyn Field at kfield@uta.edu or call 817-272-3340.

THURSDAY

Department of Biology Colloquium Series: Research associate Sula Vanderplank from Botanical Research Institute of Texas will present a this lecture and titled "Fog, Flowering Times, and Plant Endemism along the Coast of Mediterranean Baja California". The talk will be from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Life Science room 119 and is free. For more information contact Laura Gough at 817-272-1453 or gough@uta.edu.

SPACE WEEK: Planetarium Show: Engineering students can see a special screening of "Stars of the Pharaohs," a production that allows its audience to travel to ancient Egypt to see how science was used to tell time, make a working calendar and more. The showing will be at 6 p.m. at the Planetarium and the cost will be \$3.

Bed Races (33rd Annual): In this event teams of students push beds on wheels in creative costumes. This spectacle will begin at 7 p.m. at the Maverick Stadium. Team entries cost \$40, general admission to see the "longest running" UTA tradition is free. For more information contact Campus Traditions at excel-traditions@uta.edu or call 817-272-6051.

FRIDAY

Maverick Spirit Fridays at The Parks Mall in Arlington: The Parks Mall at Arlington presents Maverick Spirit Fridays, where participating stores will offer

discounts for shoppers in UTA apparel. The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sept. 13 to Nov. 15. For more information contact maverickcommunications@uta.edu.

CSE Colloquium: Gregory D. Hager: Gregory D. Hager from the Center for Computer-Integrated Surgical Systems and Technology at Johns Hopkins University will provide an overview of projects his university is pursuing, all of which have a common theme of enhancing information, visualization and physical performance of the surgeon. This lecture is from 1 n m to 2 n m in the Engineering Research Building Room 103 and is free.

The Complaint Department Happy Hour: Attendees can complain, vent, congregate and belly ache about anything getting them down. This event will take place from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Gallery 76102 located at 1401 Jones Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102. There will be a cash bar. For more information contact Daniela Cardenas at 817-

272-5988 or utafw@uta.edu.

at 1 p.m. at the Planetarium and child tickets are \$4, adults are \$6. For more information contact the Planetarium at 817-272-1183 or planetarium@uta.edu.

Bad Astronomy: This show is based on the book and website of the same name. It aims to offer a unique and fun approach to learning about the universe. Phil Plait takes a critical look at popular myths to show how science evaluates questionable claims. This will start at 2:30 p.m. at the Planetarium, child tickets are \$4 and adults are \$6. For more information contact the Planetarium at 817-272-1183 or planetarium@uta.edu.

Graduate Business Forum: This information seminar is for prospective graduate students, including doctoral level. RSVP is required. The seminar will begin at 9:30 a.m. For more information contact 817-272-3005 or reserve@uta.edu.



Students look at a booth from the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning and Ally Program on the Central Library mall on Oct. 11, 2012. National Coming Out day will take place on Friday.

National Coming Out Day: Pink

UTA's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning and Ally Program is hosting this event. This event will be from noon to 2 p.m. on the Central Library Mall and is free. For more information call 817-272-2099 or email Igbtqa@uta.edu.

SPACE WEEK: Rocket Competition: Build your own rocket using bottles, paper and glue and then compete against others to see whose is best. This event will begin at noon on the Engineering Mall.

Friday Night Film: Free popcorn will be provided at this film series. The movie starts at 8 p.m. in the University Center Rosebud Theatre, and is \$1 or \$1.50 with credit card. The movie has not yet been selected. For more information contact Entertainment & Arts at excel-entertainment@uta.edu or call 817-272-6051.

SATURDAY

Secret of the Cardboard Rocket: Two children embark on a magical journey through the solar system guided by a talking astronomy book,

a cardboard rocket and a vivid

imagination. The show will start

International Observe the Moon Night: This event will be from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Planetarium. the cost to attend is free. For more information contact the Planetarium at 817-272-1183 or planetarium@uta.edu

Stars of the Pharaohs: Production

that allows its audience to travel

to ancient Egypt to see how sci-

ence was used to tell time, make

a working calendar and more.

The show will be from 5:30 p.m.

to 6:30 p.m. at the Planetarium,

child tickets are \$4, and adults are

\$6. For more information contact

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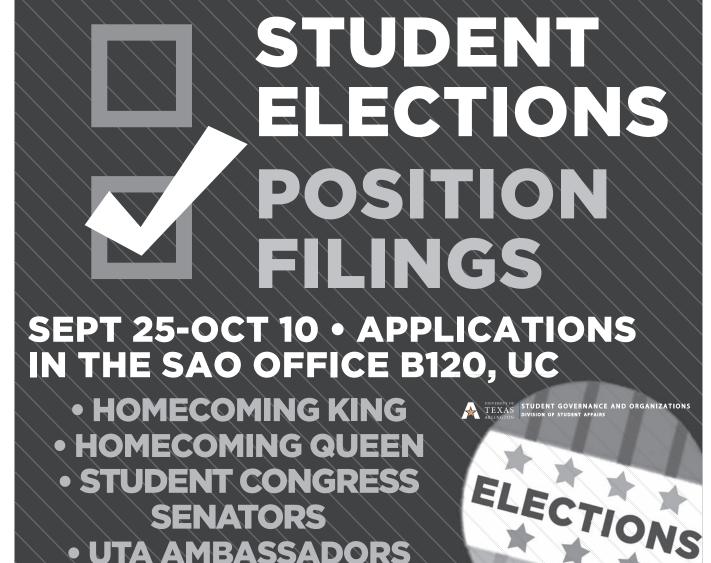
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PEOPLE AND INTERESTS

Student gives back on birthday

encouragement that

I wasn't involved in

has helped me achieve

my goals. In high school

anything. When I got to

more involved, and I

UTA, I started becoming

wouldn't be where I am

6. GIVE SOMEONE A

BALLOON FLOWER

"I gave this cute balloon

Eric. We laugh and quote

SpongeBob all the time.'

7. THANK THREE

INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE

"I just wanted to thank the

8. THANK MR. DONNIE

"Mr. Donnie is a janitor

he's always so positive

and excited about life. I

wanted to thank him for

here on campus and

influential people in my

life. I thanked my mom,

my big sister and my

flower to my friend,

without that support."

Ms. UTA Melisa Gonzalez "I am so proud of her. She's spread joy on campus with acts of kindness

BY CARLA SOLORZANO

Instead of expecting gifts on her birthday, interdisciplinary studies senior Melisa Gonzalez decided she was going to give back.

Gonzalez's birthday was Sept. 25. She said she has always liked doing nice things for other people because she feels that small gestures can mean much more in the end.

"I saw this post on the Internet about all these people doing random acts of kindness," Gonzalez said. "Then I saw this post specifically about this girl doing 22 acts of kindness for her 22nd birthday."

Hillary Sadlon, a Seton Hall University senior, completed 22 random acts of kindness across five cities for her 22nd birthday in July. The media began picking up the story in September.

"When I campaigned for Homecoming queen and Ms. UTA, I gave free hugs," Gonzalez said. "That's just the person I am."

As a member of Delta Zeta sorority, Gonzalez said her "big sister" had a part in inspiring her to spread kindness in everyday life.

"My big sister in Delta Zeta, Amanda, is the sweetest person," Gonzalez said. "She loves working with older people and kids. Any community service she could do, she would do it."

Amanda Davila, Gonzalez's "big sister," said she has tried to be a leader and to influence the sorority, but that Gonzalez is a role model on her own.

"She is the most selfless person I know," Davila said.

been really great at supporting Delta Zeta."

Gonzalez completed all but four of the items on her birthday. Time constraints restricted her from crossing everything off before the end of the day, but Gonzalez said she is not discouraged by it. Gonzalez plans on completing everything before the end of the week.

"I know it's not when I get it done, but what does matter is that I get it done," Gonzalez

She said she has plans to make a longer list with broader goals for her New Year's resolution.

@CARLASOL UTA

Some of the acts:

1. PAY FOR SOMEONE'S COFFEE "I know I always need coffee to get me up in the morning, so I iust wanted to provide that for someone else and give them

one last thing they don't have to worry about."

2. GIVE A STRESSED PERSON A HUG

"Exams are coming up and that can be really stressful, so I wanted to give someone a hug and give them some confidence."

3. GIVE SOMEONE A FLOWER

"I think flowers make people feel special."

4. HELP SOMEONE WHO IS **HOMELESS**

"Homeless people get a lot of criticism and people often ask why they don't get jobs, but I think some people fail to realize that nobody wants to be in that situation."

5. ENCOURAGE FIVE PEOPLE

"I have gotten a lot of

being so upbeat."

9. DONATE CLOTHES TO MISSION ARLINGTON

"I'm waiting on this one because I also want to get my sorority involved and bring a bigger donation than I would be able to on my own."

10. TIE SOMEONE'S SHOES

"Since we're so busy, I think we often forget to do even the little things to take care of ourselves."

11. THANK A VETERAN

"This one is pretty close to my heart because I've seen the sacrifices my sister's boyfriend has had to make as a Marine. Not just service to the country, but sacrificing holidays and home-cooked meals.'

12. SERENADE SOMEONE

ONLINE

For all 22 acts of kindness with commentary visit, www.theshorthorn.com/news.

"I coordinated a serenade for Ms. Marilyn Goff and Jennifer Fox. They give a lot to this department."

13. THANK MY PARENTS

"I rarely get to see my parents because I'm so busy, so I just wanted to take some time out of my day to call them and thank them. I wanted to let them know that I can barely see them because I'm so busy, but I am so busy and taking advantage of opportunities because of them."

14. BUY SOMEONE'S LUNCH

"I know us college students sometimes

struggle to afford lunch."



Page 3



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COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

College restructures to push involvement

The college has added new deans and advisers to help students.

KATHRYN CARGO

The College of Science has undergone changes in the past year to achieve more student success and keep up with current times.

Changes include new associate and assistant dean positions, a central advising center and a push toward more student involvement in internships and research.

"I want students to navigate their journey through the College of Science," Science Dean Pamela Jansma

The college received a central advising center last year, Jansma said. When Jansma first came to UTA, the faculty did student advising. She said by having a central advising center, someone will always be available to help a student choose the right path for him

"We know advising matters," Jansma said. "Along with advising we want to provide additional opportunities for students to get help in key courses and be more engaged."

Jansma wants to see more students graduate from the College of Science and student success increase.

The primary emphasis is to make the experience better for the student and to help students make the right decisions," she said. "First thing we have to address is to have students who come in as science majors stay and are suc-

An associate dean position for the college was split into two different positions. Now Minerva Cordero, associate and James Grover, associate dean for research and graduate studies, hold the new positions. The newest addition to the team is Ashley Purgason, assistant dean for undergraduate research and student advancement. Jansma said each of the deans fit perfectly for their position.

"We took the positions and responsibilities we had to create this new structure," Jansma said.

The reason for recent changes is because the environment is constantly changing with new technologies.

Jansma wants undergraduate research to be extended to more students and said the college is trying to integrate more research it does not have. Working with undergraduate research falls under the belt of Purgason.

A long-term goal Purgason wants is for every undergraduate in the College of Science to have at least one semester of research before they graduate. This would get students involved

in research early on. She said research can be several different things, such as literature or survey based instead of laboratory research. This would require students to have critical thinking skills.

"We want them to really be exposed to the entire scientific process," Purgason

She wants to find ways for students to acquire skills they may not be exposed to in the classroom, such as through

This fall will require a lot of planning for Purgason and the other science deans for these opportunities, and she says by next fall she hopes some of these initiatives will be exploding.

Cordero said she focuses on the curriculum of the college and has many years of

"The primary

emphasis is

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better for the

student and to

help students

decisions.

First thing

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address is to

have students

who come in

as science

and are

majors stay

successful."

Pamela Jansma

Dean of Science

make the right

experience

teaching experience. She said the College of Science wants to involve more service learning. This is where students go out into the real world and community to learn skills they may not learn in the classroom, such as sending students to talk about science or their research at local schools.

Cordero said she wants the teaching of the college to be at the highest quality and she plans to meet with faculty to talk about the best ways to teach.

"I want to share my experience with teaching with the faculty and the college," Cordero said.

The college has never had this plan with separate divisions focused on certain aspects, she said. To have deans seeing different aspects of the program capitalizing on their strengths is great, she said.

"Everything we do we do together," Cordero said.

> @KATHRYNCARGO kathryn.cargo@mavs.uta.edu



The Shorthorn: Victoria Poncet

A REVEALING CAMPAIGN

A variety of bras dangle from a clothesline outside of Brazos House on Tuesday as a part of the annual Bra Bridge. This is the 12th year that Brazos House has hosted this campaign during the month of October, which is recognized as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Conference

continued from page 1

has quite a few people interested in disabilities. Part of this conference is also to get people interested to really think about it."

People with disabilities are one of the largest minorities in the country with about 15 percent of people in the U.S. living with a disability of some kind, according to a UTA press release citing the U.S. Census Bureau. The U.S. Census Bureau website was inactive because of the government shutdown at press time. The Office of Student Disabilities has about 700 students registered, but some students with disabilities are not registered because they don't have a need for accommodations, Rose said.

UT-Dallas sociology professor Richard Scotch will be one of the guest speakers

and will discuss the history of disability studies. Scotch has been involved with disability studies for more than 30 years and has seen how things have developed in the field over time, he said.

"A lot of people used to see it as a kind of personal tragedy," Scotch said. "Now, we see it as more of a product of a number of social and political forces where the response to the impairment is just as important as the impairment itself."

People with disabilities are empowered through the spreading of information about the field and many students ask him all the time about it, said Miles Shaffer, Delta Alpha Pi Honor Society chapter president, an organization for honors students with disabilities.

"I know for me as a person with a disability, I would say the positive outlook on disabilities is close

ENABLING DISABILITY: DISABILITY STUDIES AT UT ARLINGTON CONFERENCE

Where: Maverick Activities Center second floor lounge

Cost: Free

Registration: http://www.uta. edu/history/disabilitystudies/ registration.html Registration must be completed by Monday, Oct. 14.

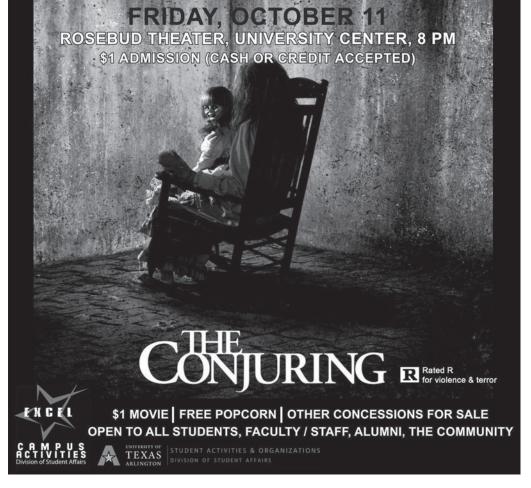
to my heart," Shaffer said. "It helps myself and those around me to understand how our rights are going to be protected and how I can advocate for myself so I can be successful in life."

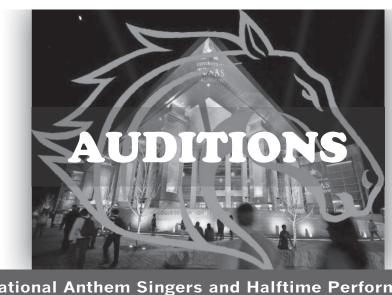
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National Anthem Singers and Halftime Performers!

Have you dreamed of performing in front of thousands of fans? Come audition to sing the National Anthem or perform a half time show during UT Arlington athletic events. Auditions will be held at the College Park Center on the campus of UT Arlington.

> October 11, 2013 5:00-9:00 P.M.

The College Park Center is located at 601 Spaniolo Drive.

For more information please contact Chelsea Spurlock at



THE SHORTHORN

The saga of Pokémon 15 years, 16 seasons and more than 40 games later, this train is not slowing down

BY RYAN WAGONER

A child rushes into his room with a small box and clunky gray Game Boy in hand and hurriedly kicks off his shoes, sitting crosslegged on the floor. He places the Game Boy to the side and eagerly fumbles with the box, fingers tracing the edges, searching for a small piece of tape that keeps the contents sealed inside. After removing the tape, he opens the box. briefly leafs through the pages of an instruction manual, and finally pulls out the item he was searching for: a small blue cartridge with the word Pokémon showing boldly in yellow across the front. After slamming the cartridge into his Game Boy, the words Nintendo and Game Freak flash across the screen as it flickers to life, where a small, pixelated man ushers him into a world of adventure.

It has been 15 years since Pokémon Red Version and Blue Version were released Sept. 30, 1998, in the U.S., yet Pokémon has remained one of the most successful media franchises in the world, selling more than 219 million copies of its video games as of 2012. After its release, Pokémon sparked a pop culture phenomenon in the late '90s, spawning an animated series, more than 40 video game titles, movies, a collectible trading card game and more.

Pokémon X and Y, the next games in the main series, are slated for a worldwide release Oct. 12 for the Nintendo 3DS and 2DS game systems and look to be two of the most ambitious titles to date. Campus experts and students chimed in on what makes Pokémon the media juggernaut that it is today, and why it resonates with new players, veteran Pokémasters and former Pokéfanatics alike.

The Games

The Pokémon game series has received both praise and criticism for its core gameplay features, both combat and overarching storyline, which have received only minor tweaks since the first release. The initial appeal of the original games, outside of the battle system, came from the new way they were designed on a handheld device, said Vick Nguyen, biology senior and president of UTA eSports.

"Many of the original Game Boy games were one-dimensional experiences," Nguyen said. "You had maybe one to two tasks to do that were pretty obvious. Pokémon was so different because it opened you up to this large world to explore and find Pokémon."

Players focus on capturing all of the Pokémon using Pokéballs and completing the Pokédex, a handheld encyclopedia that logs information on all Pokémon seen or caught. Players are tasked with defeating gym leaders to collect badges and earn the right to challenge the Pokémon League Champion and thwart the deeds of a villainous team that use Pokémon for evil.

This natural and familiar sense of progression in Pokémon games keeps players coming back for more, said Joshua Brady, social work senior and UTA eSports club member. Brady has played every game of the main handheld series.

"No matter what you do, you're always slowly working your way up," Brady said. "As soon as you get your first Pokémon, it's 'Make your way onto the next town, or 'Try to get the next badge.' At least for the older players, any one of them can pick up a new game and say, 'Wow, it's just like the older ones,' and they can go off and start a new adventure."

Pokémon battles focus on turnbased combat, where players select from one of four moves to attack the opposer. The severity of damage or effect is often determined by which of 17 different types the move and



The Shorthorn: Above: Genevieve Barron | Below: Kristin Lindslev

Squirtle

This is an illustration of Brock, Ash and Misty as 25-year-olds.

Bulbasaur

Type: Grass/poison Species: Seed Height: 2'04" Weight: 15.2 lbs Occupation: Systems analyst

opposing Pokémon are classified.

Dalton Donnell, undeclared freshman and eSports member, said the generations following Pokémon Red and Pokémon Blue have each added milestones to the series that have kept the gameplay fresh.

"In the second generation with Silver and Gold, they introduced the steel and dark types," Donnell said. "This was huge because they countered psychic types, which were the strongest in the first generation."

When Pokémon Ruby Version and Sapphire Version were released for the Gameboy Advance on March 23, 2003, in the U.S., individual Pokémon gained access to passive abilities that added another strategy level to the game, Donnell said. Pokémon also could hold items that increased their power, helped them train more effectively or gave them an edge in battle.

Some Pokémon had an ability that made them stronger when they had weaker health and things like that," Donnell said. "This threw in a huge amount of complexity and threw in competitive teams. That was the first time I had heard of Pokémon becoming



Where are they now? Below is an artist's rendering of the original starter Pokémon as adults. To see a time-line of the Pokémon franchise, go online to www.theshorthorn.com/life_and_entertainment/

really competitive."

When Pokémon Diamond Version and Pearl Version were released April 22, 2007, in the U.S. for the Nintendo DS, players had access to Wi-Fi battles and Pokémon trading, which resulted in a surge toward international competitive play and the rise of video game competition at the Pokémon World Championships, something that had only been popular before with the Pokémon Trading Card

'You didn't have to take these cables, which you had to go buy, they didn't come with the games, to connect," Donnell said. "You could test your team against others around the world to see if your team was worthy of championship-level play."

The Franchise

The second most recent set of games in the main series, *Pokémon* Black Version and White Version, sold more than 1 million copies on their first day on March 6, 2011. Sixteen films have been based on the anime, which itself is in its 16th

season, one of the rarest Pokémon trading cards was recently put up for auction for \$100,000, and Pokémon X and Y have surpassed their predecessors with 1.26 million preorders in Japan alone, making it the most preordered game for 3DS in Japan ever.

Type: Water

Height: 1'08'

Weight: 19.8 lbs

Species: Tiny turtle

Occupation: Barista

Nguyen said the success of the franchise can be attributed in part to the anime series running side by side with the games.

"What is great about the anime is that it gives kids the ability to be on TV and see some of their favorite Pokémon in action," Nguyen said. "To me, it's similar to when you hear a song you really like in a movie. You say, 'Oh I like this song,' then go try to find it online. The games drive you to watch the TV show."

Brady said that the collection aspect of the franchise has helped both merchandise and game sales since Pokémon's release. The phrase "Gotta Catch Em' All!" referring to catching all of the Pokémon, was heavily marketed with the anime series in the U.S. The Pokémon Company International, which is responsible for brand management outside of Asia according to their

biography, launched a campaign touting the same phrase as a promotional series that ends on Oct.

"Collection definitely comes into sales," Brady said. "If you wanted to have all the Pokémon without having to trade, you needed to get both versions of the game, or you have to have a friend who you can trade with."

Brady also said the iconic Pokémon Pikachu helped promote the series by providing a likable face kids could relate to that tagged alongside Ash Ketchum, the anime's main protagonist.

"I know many who aren't big fans of Pikachu, but Pikachu is small, fluffy-looking and cute and was a more marketable candidate then some of the other Pokémon at the time," Brady said.

The Culture

In the past decade, Pikachu became an official mascot of the franchise and was featured in commercials, the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, episodes of "The Simpsons" and even had a car customized to resemble him.

Despite the push for a worldwide same-day release for X and Y to prevent the games from being spoiled in the West, as Japan typically received the games months earlier in previous generations, leaks of images and gameplay have flooded the Internet, so much that Nintendo representatives are taking away advance copies of the game, Brady said. Although probably unintentional, the leaks have done wonders to promote the game and helped bring some older players back.

"One of the things that was leaked was near the start of the game, not only are you allowed to pick one of the new starters, you get to pick one of the original starters as well," Brady said. "All of a sudden, the popularity got right back up to where it was."

The overall approachability of the games has kept the franchise going strong, Nguyen said. New players get to experience the simplicity of the combat system for the first time while old players can pick up where they left off without a huge learning curve.

"Once you join in, there's always new characters and Pokémon to enjoy and interact with," Nguyen said. "For younger players, they can go back to the older games as well."

Raising Pokémon taps into every person's nurturing aspect and is why the games are so addicting, broadcasting junior Sean Fuller

"It's a built-in part of human nature," Fuller said. "Seeing your own character progress alongside their Pokémon is a lot like owning a pet in the real world. It's putting the same process of investing in another thing in a video game world."

Watching your games come to life on a TV screen is the main draw of the series, biochemistry sophomore Jessica Tjahja said.

"It's every kid fulfilling their fantasies on screen," Tjahja said. "Watching Ash do the same thing you are doing, having these ambitions and working toward them made you feel like you could do that. I think the ability to progress as a kid and do something like this on your own is a huge influence."

For biology senior Eugene Otiende, it's the meaning behind the original phrase that will keep old and new players pushing the franchise forward.

"Every time you finish your collection, they add new Pokémon, and you have to get more badges, and collect more cards and so on," Otiende said. "Imagine if you put your life's work into a painting, and someone comes in and attaches a blank canvas to it. That's Pokémon to me."

> @R WAG22 ryan.wagoner@mavs.uta.edu



What's

Here's a look at what has come out recently, or is soon to be released, in the realms of film, music, literature, tech and more this week.

Beyond: Two SoulsQuantic Dream, the developer of the award-winning game Heavy Rain, brings out its new IP this week with Beyond: Two Souls. Players will live the life of Jodie Holmes, a young woman who possesses supernatural powers through her psychic link to an invisible entity, according to the game description on www. gamespot.com. Released: Tuesday. Rating: M. Platform: PS3. Genre: Adventure.

Captain Phillips (2013)

Tom Hanks takes another leading role as Captain Richard Phillips in the true story of the 2009 hijacking by Somali pirates of the USflagged MV Maersk Alabama, the first American cargo ship to be hijacked in 200 years. The movie's received mostly positive review so far. Release Date: Friday. Time: 134 minutes. Rating: PG-13. Genre: Action/Biography/Drama/ Thriller.

Machete Kills (2013)

The U.S. government recruits Machete (Danny Trejo) to battle his way through Mexico in order to take down an arms dealer who looks to launch a weapon into space, according to the www.imdb.com film summary. That's pretty much it. Release Date: Oct. 11. Time: 107 minutes. Rating: R. Genre: Action/Crime/Thriller.

Melophobia, Cage the Elephant

As its third album, Cage the Elephant faced with the challenge of finding cohesiveness in the ideas of five different people, according to its biography. After touring for nearly five years straight on its prior releases, 2008's Cage The Elephant and 2011's Thank You, Happy Birthday, the musicians took some time off the road, to write as individuals before getting back together to work on *Melophobia*. The album released this Tuesday. Released: Tuesday. Genre: Alternative/Indie Řock.

Too Weird to Live, Too Rare to Die! Panic! At the Disco

Panic! is back with its fourth studio album, which picks up where it left off on the synth pop and '80s new wave direction of its 2011 album, Vices & Virtues, Panic!, according to a brief synopsis on www.allmusic.com. Released: Tuesday. Genre: Alternative/Indie Rock.

ENTERTAINMENT CALENDAR

Each week, The Shorthorn will spotlight fun, unique Arlington events for students to enjoy during the week and on the weekend. Here's what's coming up for students this week.

MUSIC

Bridgit Mendler: Most people know her as the character Teddy Duncan on Disney Channel's "Good Luck Charlie," but like some Disney stars, Bridgit Mendler likes to express her musical side as well. Come see her perform hits from her 2012 debut album, Hello, My Name Is... at Six Flags this weekend. 7 p.m. Sunday. Six Flags Over Texas, 2201 Road to Six Flags. \$10 (plus park admission). Contact Six Flags at 817-640-8900 for more information, or visit Mendler's website at www.bridgitmendlermusic.com.

Connie Smith: Country Music Hall of Fame artist Connie Smith is visiting Arlington Music Hall this weekend. Smith has been active since 1964, and is considered to be one of the genre's best female vocalists, according to her bio on Arlington Music Hall's website. 7 p.m., doors at 5 p.m. Friday. Arlington Music Hall, 224 N. Center St. \$40, \$35 or \$30, depending on available seating. For more information, call the Arlington Music Hall box office at 817-226-4400 or www.arlingtonmusichall.com.

John D. Hale Band: As part of 95.9 The Ranch's 11th annual music series, the John D. Hale Band is playing at Capital Bar. The band, who released its third studio album, *More Than I* Can Handle in 2012, focuses on country music blended with bluegrass, Americana and Southern rock influences, according to its biography. 7 p.m. Thursday. Capital Bar, 400 E. South Street. Free (food and drinks not included). Contact Capital Bar at 817-801-1488 or www.capital-bar.com.

Modern 'til Midnight: Featuring live bands and a whole host of art to explore, Modern 'til Midnight is in its ninth year. At the event, guests will be able to tour the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth's gallery activities, films and cuisine from Café Modern, according to the event page. Bands performing include Dan Croll, Ronnie Heart, Yells at Eels and Cleanup. 6 p.m. to midnight. Friday. Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, 3200 Darnell St., Fort Worth. \$20, \$15 for advance tickets. Contact the museum for more information at 817-738-9215 or www.themodern.org. To learn more about México Inside Out: Themes in Art Since 1990, one of the featured galleries at the museum, check out our story at www.theshorthorn.com/

IMPROV

life_and_entertainment.

Earthquake: If the key to success in Hollywood is longevity and all the Hollywood players get their 15 minutes of fame, then Comedian Earthquake has to have somehow lucked up on an hour, according to his bio on www. improv.com. The performer is making his way to Arlington this weekend for a special limited engagement. 7 p.m., 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. Saturday or 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Sunday. Arlington Improv, 309 Curtis Mathes Way #147. \$25-\$35, depending on available seating. Contact the Arlington Improv box office at 817-635-5555 or www.improv.com

MOVIES

Girls' Night Out: Mean Girls: An event that's perfect if your name happens to be Glen Coco, Studio Movie Grill is showing *Mean* Girls for a reduced ticket price and are offering a drink special. Cady Heron is a hit with The Plastics, the A-list girl clique at her new school, until she makes the mistake of falling for Aaron

Samuels, the ex-boyfriend of alpha Plastic Regina George, according to the movie synopsis on www.imdb.com. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday. Studio Movie Grill, 225 Merchants Row. \$1. Contact Studio Movie Grill at 817-466-4440 for more information.

OTHER

After Dark in the Park: This is a family-friendly fall festival featuring storytelling, karaoke, a pumpkin carving contest, animal encounters and children's games, crafts and activities, according to the event listing. Proceeds from After Dark in the Park will go to River Legacy Parks, River

Legacy Foundation and the River Legacy Living Science Center. 5-9 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday. River Legacy, 703 N.W. Green Oaks Blvd. \$7 (children 2 and younger are free). Contact River Legacy at 817-860-6752 or visit www.riverlegacy.org for more information.

Paws in the Park 5K/1 Mile Run/ Walk: Hosted by Friends of Arlington Animal Services, this event features adoptable pets, dog costume contents, low-cost microchipping, vaccinations and door prizes. Those who register early will receive a free T-shirt at the event. Proceeds will go to Friends of Arlington Animal Services. 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday. River Legacy, 703 N.W. Green Oaks Blvd. pre-registration for 5K, \$25 day of race. \$15 pre-registration for 1-Mile Dog Walk, \$20 day of 1 Mile Dog Walk. Contact River Legacy at 817-860-6752, or visit the Friends of Arlington Animal Services

National Martial Arts Day: If students have ever wanted to explore the world of martial arts. this weekend is their chance. AT&T Stadium will feature mar-

Facebook page.

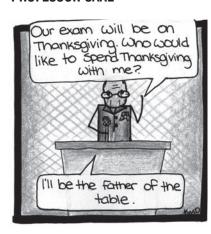
tial arts demos, seminars and stadium tours this Saturday. Attendees can also get a little taste of football through locker room tours, field goal kick and throw attempts and end zone and sideline catch activities. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. AT&T Stadium, 1 Legends Way. \$35. Contact John Graden at 727-644-3384 or johngraden@mac. com for more information, or visit www.nationalmartialartsday.

The Walking Dead Watch Party, hosted by Zombie Manor: Get more scared than ever before by watching the premiere of Walking Dead's 4th season, hosted by Zombie Manor, Arlington's local zombie haunted house. Come in your best zombie costume for a chance to win prizes. For tips on how to do zombie makeup, check out The Shorthorn's story on Halloween makeup tips at www.theshorthorn. com/live and entertainment. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Sunday. Studio Movie Grill, 225 Merchants Row. Free. Contact Studio Movie Grill at 817-466-4440 for more information, or visit the Zombie Manor Facebook page.

Get your read on These figures display the research behind Arlington's reading corps main motivation By the end of fifth grade, children from low-income families are nearly **3** grade levels behind their more privileged peers. 67% of children in the U.S. are not proficient readers by the end of third grade. The average reading corps **10** UTA students are term is **2 - 3** months. enrolled/involved in the local program so far. School-aged participants improve their literacy by an average increase of **15** 50 school aged children are inwords per minute at the end of each corps term. volved in the local program. To read the full story visit, www.theshorthorn.com/news.

The Shorthorn: Beaty Richardson and Ashley Pena

THE WORLD ACCORDING TO PROFESSOR SAXE



ELIA VS. THE WORLD







The Shorthorn: Elia Madrid-Onofre

THE SHORTHORN

THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY HAPPY HOUR 2PM-7PM HAPPY HOUR 2PM-7PM HAPPY HOUR HAPPY HOUR HAPPY HOUR HAPPY HOUR HAPPY HOUR 2PM-7PM \$2.25 Dom. Pints \$2.10 Wells \$2.60 Dom. Bottles 2PM-7PM \$2.25 Dom. Pints \$2.10 Wells Showdown Saloon (817) 460-4893 Football & Cookout 2019 S. Cooper \$2.60 Dom. Bottles \$2.60 Dom. Bottles \$2.60 Dom. Bottles \$2.60 Dom. Bottles Arlington, TX 76010 POOL TOURN. 8.30PM POKER NIGHT LADIES NITE: \$1.25 Wells Pool Leagues MON. NITE Pool Leagues WED. NITE **TGIF** POOL TOURN. 3PM 7PM & 9PM Flying Fish (817) 303-3335 1LB. Hot Bioled Shrimp \$12.99 \$0.50 Oysters on the 1/2 shell Fried Tilapia \$8.99 Tilapia Veracruz \$9.99 Rainbow Trout \$8.99 ALL U CAN EAT Friend Catfish \$14.99 300 E. Abram St Arlington, TX 76010 2PLAYER TUESDAYS SUNDAY FUNDAY \$2.75 BIG MUG BEER Monday Movie Night Rock Paper Scissors Cave's Lounge \$2 Shiner Bocks & Rolling Rocks KARAOKE NIGHT! \$2 U-call-it's Until 11pm \$3 Blonde Bombshell \$2 U-call-its until 11pm \$2.50 Dos Equis Drafts (817) 460-5510 AT 10PM ANY Tall Draft Beer for Tournament at 10pm \$1.75 Dom. Drafts \$2.75 Craft Drafts \$4 Jagerbombs 900 W Division St \$1 Wells ALL NIGHT LONG \$3 Jack-n-Cokes Service Industry Night small draft price Arlington, TX 76012 Outdoor Video Game Free Hot Dogs & Popcorn Arcade at 10pm \$5.99 LUNCH SPECIAL Old School Pizza 8″ 1-topping Pizza & Soda 603 W Abram St, Arlington, TX 76010 Phone: (682) 323-4441 \$2.50 Whiskey Wednesdays

HAPPY HOUR ALL DAY SUNDAY

Ziegenbock Pitchers

\$3.50 Craft Beer





Above: A foot lifts out of ankle-deep mud during an Oozeball match on Friday on the Oozeball lots. Left: Students huddle around the showers to try to wash themselves clean after participating in a match.

Good, clean fun

Participants slipped, dove and fell during the annual Oozeball mud volleyball tournament on Friday at the Oozeball lots. For more photos, go to www.theshorthorn.com/gallery/



Above: Business sophomore Tammy Huynh sits up in the mud as two other students move to help lift her on Friday on the Oozeball lots. About 120 teams were registered to participate in the tournament. Right: Students wait in line to be sprayed by the water hose. Below: Undeclared sophomore Kyle Duncan washes mud off his face after a match.



The Shorthorn: Adrian Gandara



The Shorthorn: Adrian Gandara

Dr. Ruth

Dr. Ruth

Send your

Syndicate

Q: I discovered female masturbation two years ago, and I found out that the quickest way to orgasm was to squeeze my legs together and rub

my clitoris. I have gotten so used to it that I can't find any other way to orgasm. I can climax as much as I want this way. I believe this has a lot to do with classical conditioning, and I want to know how to undo this. When I have sex with my partner, it is rare for me to achieve orgasm. Even when I do, I always have to rub my clitoris while he is penetrating me. Plus, it takes much longer than if I were to do it alone. How can I retrain my brain so that I can orgasm in different positions and not take half an hour to do so?

A: A majority of women cannot attain orgasm from intercourse alone. I say this over and over, but this message still hasn't gotten through. So you shouldn't worry that you need to touch yourself. As long as it works, that is all that counts. Maybe if you accept that what you are doing is all right, you won't worry about it so much and will be able to reach orgasm more quickly. If he is complain-

ing that it takes too long, then it's perfectly acceptable for him to give you an orgasm via clitoral stimulation using his fingers or mouth either before or after intercourse. As

long as you achieve sexual satisfaction, the exact arrangements as to how this happens really are of no consequence.

Q: My boyfriend and I like to have sex very often. I have a huge sexual appetite. I'd like to have sex at least once a day, but I get sore, and it puts questions to a stop to things. Some-Dr. Ruth Westheimer times we have to wait c/o King Features two or three days. We use plenty of high-quality, 235 E. 45th St., water-based lube and New York, NY have lots of foreplay, but I still get sore. What else can I do to prevent this?

Perhaps a natural or home remedy? Soaking in a warm bath with Epsom

A: You need to be checked out by your gynecologist. I'm not a medical doctor, but it doesn't seem like you should be so sore from having sex, especially if you are using lots of lubrication. Hopefully after an examination, a doctor will be able to figure out why you are so sore and will offer a

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewi ACROSS 1 10% donation 6 "12 Angry Men" actor 10 Credit card bill nos. 14 Lucy's landlady 15 __ code 16 Sodium hydroxide, on a chem test 17 1949 Olivia de Havilland film 19 Kathryn of HBO's "Oz" 20 Dermatologist's concerns 21 Rowboat propeller 23 "Where ___ sign?" 24 Cold drink brand 25 Home of the Clinton Presidential

By Gerry Wildenberg 66 Sound that fits this puzzle's theme 67 Outmoded

32 Singer Shore 33 Pope of 903 35 Van Cleef & ___ French jeweler/perfumer 36 Bead in a DOWN 1 Shape-fitting 40 Small sword 41 Corduroy ridges game 2 Cayuga Lake city 3 Ph.D. hurdles 4 Dastardly chuckle 5 Gen. Robert ___ 6 Train unit

42 "__ Is Born" 43 Double-helix molecule 44 Coke and Pepsi 49 Sam's Choice, e.g. 52 Dramatic

Library 29 White House

tween 31 Delightful time

necklace

opening? 53 Blackguard 54 Small pop group 55 When, in Act III, Romeo cries, "O, I am fortune's

57 Course for Crusoe?: Abbr. 59 Nitpick, and what this puzzle's circled letters represent 62 Actor Jared 63 What NHL shootouts

64 Mountain ridge 65 Galley order

drink 9 metabolic rate
10 "Wheel of
Fortune" buy
11 The president, vis-à-vis one Thanksgiving turkey
12 Autodialed

7 Mineral resource

8 Stupefies with

electioneering tactic 13 Arab tribal leaders
18 Map speck: Abbr.
22 Right, as a wrong
26 Lab assistant of film 27 Greek café

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved 30 Took in or let out 45 1998 British Open

champ Mark
46 Declares untrue
47 Warnings
48 "That's quite 35 Msg. to the whole squad 36 Hand-held clicker

37 Current 38 Perjurer 39 Gorilla observe Fossey 40 "Good Lovin"

group, with "the" 43 Stop by unannounced

clear" 50 Some gallery statuary 51 Summer hrs. 56 English guy 58 Caught on to 60 Floral chain

61 AOL, e.g.

su do ku

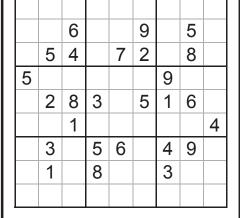
© Puzzles by Pappocom

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means that no number is repeated in any row, column

or box.

Solution

Solutions, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com



The Shorthorn invites students, university employees and alumni to submit guest columns to the Opinion page.

Wednesday, October 9, 2013

Each week, we'll present online opinion content and/or reader commentary. Check out what's going on online and share your thoughts at www. theshorthorn.com/opinion.

LETTERS AND COMMENTARY

RE: "WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE THE FUTURE GOVERNOR OF TEXAS SHOULD FOCUS ON?" OCT. 2

"I agree with Ike on what he says completely. For me, I feel that the most important issue for our future governor to deal with is the unconstitutional violations of our civil liberties through oppressive laws like the Patriot Act and the National Defense Authorization Act, which everyone needs to look up. The ACLU [American Civil Liberties Union has launched many a lawsuit in conjunction with a coalition of libertarian, Tea Party supporters and progressive liberals associated with the Occupy Wall Street movement. As a libertarian, I feel that defending our constitutional rights through nullification is the most important job of our future governor. It's not just about guns. It's about the rights of individuals, like me as a Muslim, to act and do as we please without fear of repression or being monitored constantly. It's time we commit to our duty as citizens of the United States to do what we and our veterans swore to do and that is to preserve and defend our Constitution from all threats, foreign and domestic, and we need to realize, like our troops have, that the greatest threat to our Constitution is not to be found in some far off sands of another land. It's right here at home!"

– business freshman Syed Suhail

RE: "CRIME BLOG: TRUCK JUMPS CURB, DOWNS LIGHT POLE," SEPT. 30

"My thoughts concerning a student being taken to the hospital: although we do not know who you are referencing in this portion of your article, there was no need to put this in here. That is because we, the readers, are not affected by this person or what they have done. However, I am sure that the person whom you are talking about would not appreciate the fact that you have spoken about a very personal situation in your article. I am a student at UTA. As someone who has dealt with the UTA Police Department this year over a malicious situation, I can tell you that in the case of perceived mental illness, the police at this particular institution are not discerning, and they are also hyper suspicious of anything considered "odd" behavior. I really feel for this person, and I, as well as many others I'm sure, think that it was simply inappropriate, foolish, invasive and simply rude to put this here. There was no point."

– social work junior Brianna Franklin

RE: "EXCEL ANNOUNCES POSSIBLE SPRING CONCERT ARTISTS," SEPT. 30

I'm really hoping it'll be Lorde! I'm not into rap that much, so it would be disappointing if another rapper was chosen to perform.

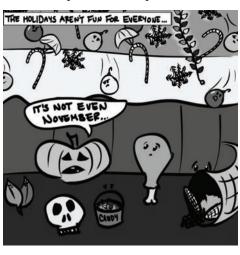
- education sophomore Megan Bates

RE: "COURAGEOUS MADDIE WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN," OCT. 2

I saw Maddie and her parents at the park one day. She pointed at me and told me, 'I love your pants!' I didn't know until later that she was sick. I even went to see if they sold those pants anymore so I could send some to her. She was adorable, and I'm sad to see her go. Rest in peace, Maddie.

– Andrea Eller, alumna who graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication (Advertising) in 2012

CARTOON by Kristin Lindsley



OPINION THE SHORTHORN

EDITORIAL/OUR VIEW

E-cigarette ban blows smoke

The alternative smoking device isn't a tobacco product

TA reiterated that its tobacco ban policy includes electronic cigarettes, but it

The campuswide tobacco ban, which went into effect Aug. 1, 2011, still elicits ire from current students and alumni. More than two years ago, arguments brewed about whether it was fair to enact such a ban. Currently, the debate is whether electronic cigarettes, which are a substitute for tobacco smoking, should be banned. Today's debate is less convoluted. The answer is no. University leadership should remove this aspect of the ban.

The tobacco-free campus policy exists to provide university community members with "a healthy, welcoming learning environment" and the opportunity to stop using such products, according to UTA. Electronic cigarettes, or electronic nicotine delivery systems, are marketed as a healthier alternative for those who choose not to use, but want, tobacco.

The university policy lumps electronic cigarettes into the "tobacco products" category multiple times. They are not tobacco products.

Electronic cigarettes are described as devices that vaporize and deliver chemicals, sometimes including nicotine, to the lungs. Some electronic cigarettes also are offered in flavors.

The Food and Drug Administration does not regulate them like tobacco products. The World Health Organization presented no scientific findings in a July statement, but concluded: "Until such time as a given ENDS [electronic nicotine delivery systems] is deemed safe and effective and of acceptable quality by a competent national regulatory body, consumers should be strongly advised not to use any of these products, including electronic cigarettes." What can be said is neither refer to these devices as tobacco products.

Sure, electronic cigarettes may have their pitfalls, but they are not tobacco products, and an electronic cigarette policy should not fall under a tobacco ban policy. The university administration ought to say what it means. Either UTA has a tobacco ban or a tobacco ban and electronic cigarettes ban.

The Shorthorn Editorial Board

THE ISSUE

Using electronic cigarettes on campus violates the university's tobacco ban policy.

WE THINK

Electronic cigarettes are not tobacco products and should not be included in the university's tobacco ban policy

TAKE ACTION

The university should end its ban on electronic cigarettes.

YOUR VIEW



Don't get sidetracked by fall

The weather is nice, but students should focus

etting let out of my philosophy class early because of a local band soundchecking for an event on the University Center mall is always a welcome sign for the week. Several people stopping on a bike trail at local parks to see the bobcat that's just ambling about makes me feel a little better about the world. Watching people take pictures of the resident squirrels on campus makes me laugh

Lately, on college campuses across Texas, students have been interested in wildlife. It's like some bug that since it's now relatively nice weather, we should go watch squirrels for a bit. It's great that students are into new hobbies all of a sudden, but why? The answer should be somewhat obvious, as the fever is somewhat dying down: midterms are upon us. I'm willing to say right now that there are actually an almost infinite number of things I'd rather do than study for midterms. I will take anything over reviewing the force on a charge because of a charged plate for the 10th time in the past day. In a matter of a few days,

JACK SIMMONS



Jack Simmons is a physics sophomore and columnist for *The Shorthorn*.

Join the discussion by commenting at www. theshorthorn.com/ opinion

we become stand-up comedians, musicians, athletes, birdwatchers, masters of something completely unrelated to our majors.

This is all very normal, though. We live in the age of distraction. How many times have you checked your phone's Facebook app while logged into Facebook on your computer, all while you should have been doing something else? Unfortunately, the fact that we have everything at our fingertips is hurting our studying and learning. The Internet is a wonderful tool, but it's difficult to go and take your quiz on Blackboard without first checking all sorts of things beforehand.

We can call ourselves masters of multitasking all we want, but our brains are only able to focus on so many things at once, and often times the important things like the notes you are reading are overshadowed by what happened on "Breaking Bad," and then what all Bryan Cranston has been in, did Frankie Muniz do anything recently, how much did Walk Hard gross in box office, and the rabbit hole just goes deeper and deeper until it's 3 a.m., and you have a test that morning.

Distractions themselves are problem enough. We end up wasting hours upon hours on websites such as YouTube and Reddit learning things that really don't need to be learned. For those times when you're waiting for something to start, distractions are great, but when it's crunch time, they become an addiction that needs to be dealt with. So turn off the computer, turn off your phone, read your textbook and ace those midterms.

SCIENCE

Space Week to educate UTA

Space celebration will raise awareness of space exploration.

> BY ZARA HASSAN The Shorthorn staff

During her family's trips to the NASA space center as a child, aerospace engineering doctoral student Ezgihan Baydar saw going to space as merely an illusion.

"Space seems to me as a world far from our imagination," said Baydar, who was recently awarded the NASA Harriet G. Jenkins Pre-doctoral Fellowship for her research in engine design.

The future NASA fellow feels that space is something worthy of appreciation and knowledge. The internationally-known Space Week celebration works to do just that. Space Week, celebrated annually from October 4-10, occurs in hopes to celebrate science, technology, and its involvement in bettering humanity.

Although Space Week is internationally celebrated, UTA's engineering department is putting on their own series of

The Engineering Student Council (ESC) at UTA, an organization which gathers all engineering majors into one, hopes to unify students with Space Week using something we all have in common: residency on Earth.

"We try to make it a social celebration in which we bring our members and other engineering associations together," said Yara Hussein, industrial engineering junior and special events committee chair for the Engineering Student Council. "We set all our events based off of themes."

"Exploring Mars, Discovering Earth", this year's Space Week theme, stands to allow participants to learn about the earliest possible hint of civilization. By studying Mars, the World Space Week Association, said that participants of space week can learn things that they can apply not only to other planets, but especially to the one we live on now.

Space Week at UTA aims to educate its participants and shine light on accomplishments by past and present Maverick engineers like Kalpana Chawla.

Chawla, the first Indian

events to honor the celebration. woman in space and alumni of UTA, passed away on February 1, 2003 during the landing of the Columbia space shuttle, which was supposed to conclude her second trip to space.

Donald Wilson, professor for aerospace and mechanical engineering, taught Chawla in two classes and was her thesis advisor when she was at UTA.

"I worked with her fairly closely, and anyone can agree that she was truly phenomenal," said Wilson. "Coming from India as a shy, conservative young woman and turning into quite a legend goes to show her determination."

Wilson said he remembers seeing Chawla during her first days at UTA.

"I was there when she first came from India to register for classes," said Wilson. "She seemed very shy, but she caught on to American lifestyle very quickly."

Chawla got her bachelor's degree in Aeronautical Engineering at Punjab Engineering College at Chandigarhin 1982, when she moved to the United States to work on her masters at UTA. For her Ph.D., Chawla went to the University of Colorado at Boulder, after which she began her affiliations with NASA.

"She's my idol," Baydar said of Chawla. "She came all the way from India, had this outof-the-world view in her mind, and took her dreams as far as she could, literally: She went beyond the atmosphere."

Baydar, hoping to one day fulfill her dreams of experiencing outer space, said she feels that it would be an honor.

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Aerospace engineering is so full of options and choices," said Baydar. "I went from just being a girl with a dream and good math skills to getting a fellowship with NASA."

Wilson said he felt that Space Week is a spectacular opportunity for the campus to be exposed to new discoveries.

"Studying space, but more recently, Mars, may impact our world more than we can imagine," Wilson said. "Mars used to have an atmosphere, and water. It may still be there, absorbed in the ground or elsewhere. Point is that studying this stuff can have incredibly practical applications."

Wilson emphasized the fact that Mars can directly teach us

SPACE WEEK EVENTS

TODAY

AIAA Paper Plane Contest Cookout

THURSDAY

"Cheap Lunch" 2 slices of pizza, chips, and a drink for \$4. 12 p.m.-1 p.m. Nedderman Hall

Planetarium show "Stars of the Pharaohs" 6 p.m. Planetarium

FRIDAY

Aero Mavs rocket competition Trivia finale

AIAA/ NSS Fundraising Extravaganza This event will boast a raffle

off of space-themed Lego sets, along with astronaut food and music.

AiAA Hot Dog Sale noon Nedderman Hall room 100

Rocket Competition Students can build their own rocket from bottles, paper and glue and then compete against others. noon **Engineering Mall**

Old School Pizza Fundraiser

6 p.m.

about Earth.

"This is the kind of stuff that impacts everyone-engineer or not," he said.

Space Week will feature events for students all over campus.

"Ît's such a great idea," said Baydar. "Everyone should gain more knowledge about space. We are here because of gravity. There could be other worlds beyond this one. We should know about this stuff."

UTA's events for Space Week are not effected by the temporary Government Shut-

"The national space week association might have parts or events funded by the government, and those plans may not have ended up being funded, thus messing up scheduled plans," said Hussein. "For UTA, however, even our speaker is a UTA staff member, so it's pretty much enclosed to our campus-not affected by any governmental obstacles.

The NASA foundation is closed and all projects are at a halt during the government shut down.

> @ZARATHEREPORTER zara.hassan@mavs.uta.edu

ARLINGTON

Fraternity

continued from page 1

had been cleared of the accusation. He would not give the individual's name.

Sullivan would not confirm the results of the investigation into the individual, and university officials have declined to give specifics about what they believe happened at the Sigma Phi Epsilon house the night of Sept. 7.

"We don't disclose proceedings for individual conduct cases," Sullivan said.

Slocum said the fraternity did not hold an unregistered party. Instead, members attended a party at the home of an alumnus who was celebrating a new job.

"I have no control over what a graduate of UTA does at his residence," Slocum said.

The accusations have caused damages to the fraternity's reputation and has cost them about \$10,000 in member dues, Slocum said.

The chapter has about 70 members. The interim suspension was issued before members paid their dues, so the fraternity could not accept the money once suspended. Chapter dues help pay for activities related to recruitment, member development, social events and hosting speakers.

The fraternity has been prohibited from participating in its routine academic programs and intramural sports.

"We pride ourselves in doing well in sports and academics," Slocum said. "But our academic program is shut down and we can't play sports."

Nationally, the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity partnered with Big Brothers Big Sisters in the summer. The UTA chapter planned on inducting its new members before pairing students with little brothers, but Slocum said they now have been unable to because of the interim suspension.

Slocum said the waiting process has been frustrating. Sullivan would not comment on when the Student Conduct investigations will

conclude. "We've said from the get go that we didn't know how long this would take because there's a lot of factors that play in there – the size of the organization, the number of witnesses, that's a big thing," she said. "If there are multiple people involved, it just takes long."

The Shorthorn reached out to the president of each fraternity on interim suspension for this story. None returned calls by press time.

> Shorthorn staffer Rafael Sears contributed to this report.

@KRISTAMTORRALVA krista.torralva@mavs.uta.edu



Page 10



WHAT'S ONLINE



UTA Athletics noteworthy tweets

Vistasp Karbhari @VistaspKarbhari Oct.5 Congrats to @utamavs volleyball team, now 3-0 in the SunBelt, one of only 3 unbeaten teams! @utarlington

Darin Thomas @drt1434 Oct. 6

Had a great alumni baseball weekend. Thanks to the over 100 ex players that attended the golf/baseball game/ barbeque. @UTAMAVS

Krista Gerlich @CoachGerlich Oct. 3

Pumped to have a difference maker on campus today and tomorrow! #buildingateam #futurelooksbright

UTA Women's Basketball @UTAWomensBBall Oct. 8

Working hard in the gym! pic. twitter.com/57NyF05dQx

UPCOMING GAMES

UTA VOLLEYBALL VS. TEXAS STATE

When: 7 p.m. Wednesday Where: College Park Center Goverage: @UTAShorthorn and www.theshorthorn.com/sports Gost: \$3 students, \$5 nonstudents

UTA VOLLEYBALL VS. ARKANSAS-LITTLE ROCK

When: 7 p.m. Friday Where: College Park Center Goverage: @UTAShorthorn and www.theshorthorn.com/sports Gost: \$3 students, \$5 nonstudents

UTA WOMEN'S TENNIS AT USTA IN-VITATIONAI

When: All day Oct. 11-13 Where: New York, NY

UTA VOLLEYBALL VS. ARKANSAS

When: 7 p.m. Saturday
Where: College Park Center
Goverage: @UTAShorthorn and
www.theshorthorn.com/sports
Gost: \$3 students, \$5 nonstudents

UTA CROSS-COUNTRY AT CRIMSON CLASSIC

When: 5 p.m. Oct. 18 Where: Tuscaloosa, Ala.

UTA VOLLEYBALL VS. SOUTH ALA-BAMA

When: 6:30 p.m. Oct. 18
Where: College Park Center
Coverage: @UTAShorthorn and
www.theshorthorn.com/sports
Cost: \$3 students, \$5 nonstu-

UTA WOMEN'S TENNIS AT REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

When: All day Oct. 18-21 Where: Fort Worth Coverage: @UTAShorthorn and www.theshorthorn.com/sports

ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT

New player brings energy to basketball

The men's basketball team has a new player on the team. Junior guard Courtney Austin, who joined from Paris Junior College is the latest member of the Mavericks. Read what head coach Scott Cross said about his newest player online at www. theshorthorn.com/sports.

Intramurals redefine competition

Intramural outdoor basketball is an outlet for some students who played competitively in high school, read more about it online at www. theshorthorn.com/sports. VOLLEYBALL

Senior seeks bragging rights as time runs out

Whitmore is 4th in the nation in blocks, after being 7th last week.

BY MARLEY MALENFANT
The Shorthorn staff

Time is running out for senior middle blocker Charmaine Whitmore.

Whitmore is now ranked fourth in the nation in blocks. Last week, she was ranked seventh. She is averaging 1.52 blocks per set and has a total of 93 blocks for the season.

After Wednesday's game against rival Texas State, she has her mind set on defeating her hometown teams, Arkansas-Little Rock and Arkansas State.

She not only wants to graduate with a degree but with bragging rights for competitive banter.

"These next three games are going to be tough competition, and I'm from Arkansas, so I'm ready to beat the Arkansas schools," she

Last season, Whitmore averaged 1.21 blocks per

She's on pace to break her 119 blocks she set last

Whitmore is doing a better job of taking care of her body, head coach Diane

ONLINE

For more volleyball coverage, visit www. theshorthorn.com/sports and follow along on Twitter at @ LITAShorthorn.

Seymour said. She said Whitmore went through some Achilles tendon problems last year so she didn't get to practice at 100 percent.

"First of all, Charmaine is in better shape. Bottom line," she said. "We limited the number of times she jumped and I think most of it is she's just physically in such better shape. My gosh, she's jumping so well. And she knows it's an important part of her game that will help us succeed if she is a dominant threat at the net."

Assistant coach Jason Bibler works with Whitmore individually.

Bibler said the key to Whitmore's game is getting plenty of reps during practice.

"I just remind her of little things," he said. "We like making sure she's reaching over low and fast, making sure her foot work is right. She adds a lot emotionally to the team when she's on the court."

WHITMORE AT A GLANCE

Charmaine Whitmore Class: Senior Position: Middle blocker Height: 6-1

2013-2014 season Sets played-61 Blocks per set-1.52 Total blocks- 93

2012-2013 season Sets played-98 Blocks per set-1.21 Total blocks-113

Whitmore said she's opened her game offensively and is looking to earn more kills than previous seasons. Whitmore is averaging 1.84 kills per set, which is third best on the team, and currently has 112 kills on the season.

Last year, she averaged 1.82 kills per set and finished with 178 kills for the season

"I'm making sure I'm low and over on the block," she said about a technique she's working on. "I'm trying to get better at each part of my game, and it is my senior year so I have a small time span to get better."

@MARLEYMALENFANT marley.malenfant@mavs.uta.edu



The Shorthorn: Stephanie Goddard

Senior middle blocker Charmaine Whitmore celebrates a score against UTSA on Sept. 13 at the College Park Center. So far this season, Whitmore has played in 63 sets and averages at 1.52 blocks per set.

BASKETBALL



The Shorthorn: Tasleem Khai

Head coach Krista Gerlich wraps up the girls' basketball practice with a pep talk and overview of what was learned that day on Oct. 7 at College Park Center. Gerlich started coaching for the team in this semester.

Coach introduces new training techniques

Krista Gerlich is testing her team's knowledge on plays and keywords.

BY GUS CONTRERAS
The Shorthorn Sports editor

Head coach Krista Gerlich has introduced the women's basketball team to quizzes about plays and positioning, something the players aren't used to.

Players and coaches are buying in to the new philosophy that Gerlich, who started in April, is implementing: "If it doesn't challenge you, it doesn't change you." In their second week of practice, players are embracing being held accountable for their

Players are more relaxed and focused on what they are doing, said senior forward Desherra Nwangu-

"It's different, but it's a good different," Nwanguma said. "We work a lot harder. There's more enthusiasm and energy. It's been good all around for

During practice, Gerlich watches from the side and then steps in and instructs

ONLINE

For more women's basketball content. check out www.theshorthorn.com/ sports or follow along on Twitter at @UTAShorthorn.

the players on what they should be doing when the play stops. This stood out to Nwanguma, who said Gerlich is more than a coach. She is a teacher for them.

UTA finished last season 7-23 in the middle of losing head coach Samantha Morrow, who learned her contract would not be renewed and stepped down midseason.

Though it's early in the season and some things have been hard, Gerlich said she asks the players to work hard and sees they want to be taught.

"They're doing a nice job of buying in," she said. "We're asking a lot of things of them and really pushing them to some limits maybe they haven't been pushed to before, and didn't know that they could be pushed to, and we've seen a lot of bright spots."

It isn't just Gerlich who can see the difference in the players. Assistant coach Kristin Cole said they are enthusiastic about what they are learning.

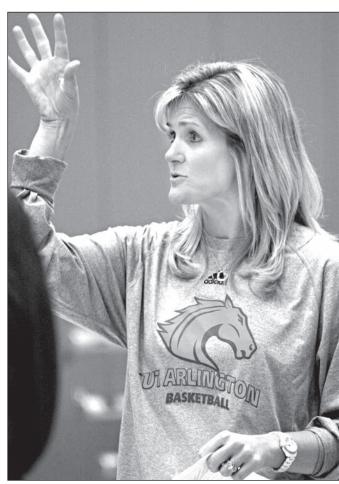
ing.
"The kids are excited for a new experience," Cole said. "It took them a little bit, but I think they're really embracing us and what we're trying to do."

One thing that is helping the players adjust to the changes is seeing the improvements they are making, Cole said.

The coaching staff is also in the process of implementing quizzes on plays and keywords they need to know. The coaching staff has yet to give their first quiz, but it is in the back of the their minds, Nwanguma said.

"There is a reason behind everything she does," Nwanguma said. "I noticed she really knows what she's doing and you grasp the game more and buy in because you believe her."

@GUSCONTRERAS21 gcontreras@mavs.uta.edu



The Shorthorn: Tasleem Kha

Head coach Krista Gerlich gives the basketball team pointers during practice on Oct. 7 at the College Park Center

CAMPUS RECREATION

Coordinator shares his views about new position, players

Jason Morgan, two months in, thinks the program has promise.

BY CANYON MANSKE

The Shorthorn Staff Before coming to UTA, intramural sports coordinator Jason Morgan ran an intramural program at Lamar University that had a small amount of fa-

cilities and no lights. Now he runs a 190,000 square feet, \$34.5 million recreational facility and a great staff.

"I am used to worrying and being stressed out, and they have allowed me to sit back and say, 'All right, you guys know what you are doing, you got it," Morgan said.

Morgan is two months into his job and explains his reactions and feelings of the new job.

The Shorthorn: Now that you have been here for a couple of months, how do you feel?

Jason Morgan: I finally have gotten into my own and gotten a little more comfortable. All of our sports are finally starting. Indoor soccer just started this week, outdoor basketball just ended, softball is about to start playoffs, and flag football is in full swing.

TS: What has been your reaction to the number of participants in intramurals?

Morgan: It has been pretty promising if you ask me, Drew, and the rest of campus rec. It is still a good turnout and not a significant drop. It has been about the same and maybe a little bit lower.

TS: What feedback have you gotten back students and from

Morgan: Last night we had two officials in indoor soccer and one of them was brand new who was a club soccer play and the other has been there for a while. I got a note that both teams came up to the superand visor said they really appreciated these officials and that they did a really good job. We don't get that very often and when we do, we know that we are doing something right.

TS: What has been your biggest surprise?

Morgan: How well run the program is, not on our side, but on the student's side. There is not much teaching when we are out their on the field because of their knowledge.

> @CANYONMANSKE canyon.manske@mavs.uta.edu



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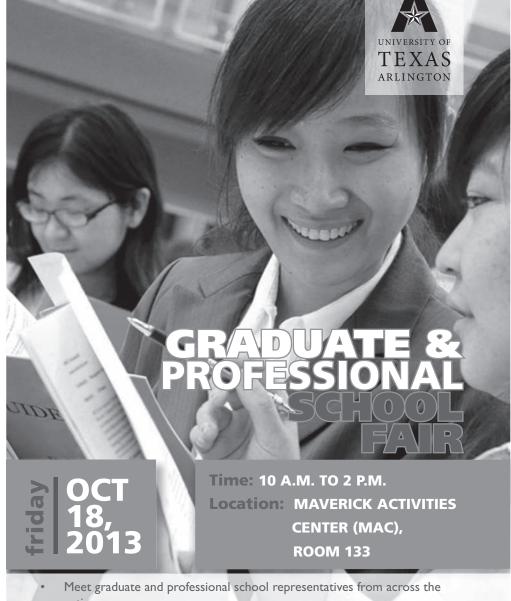
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For the full interview with Jason Morgan, visit www. theshorthorn.com/sports.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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EVENTS BIBLE 101 CLASS

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MISCELLANEOUS

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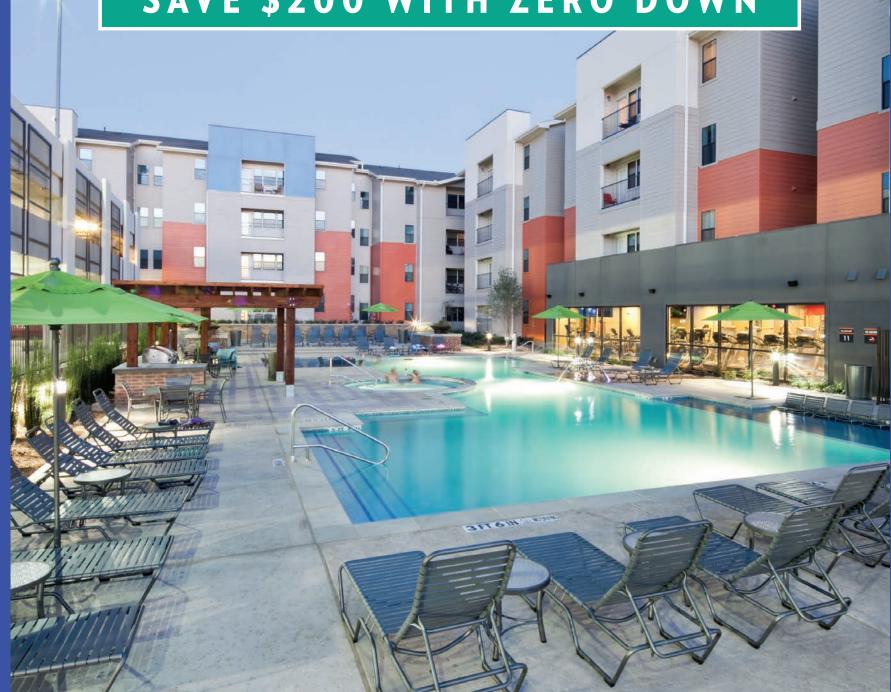
This costume contest is open to current UTA students, faculty and staff, and winners will be determined by popular vote on the shorthorn com. Entries must be emailed to marketing@shorthorn.uta.edu and will be posted online at www.TheShorthorn.com/HalloweenContest for voting between Oct. 10 to Oct. 31, 2013. Winners, announced at noon each Friday in that time period, will be notified by email and receive two Six Flags Fright Fest tickets (does not include Haunted House passes) also valid for the rest of the Six Flags 2013 season. Winner must have current MayExpress card to claim tickets at the Student Publications office from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday during the contest. Winner is not eligible to compete in the following weeks' contests. All non-winning entries can be resubmitted for the following week's contest. Costumes deemed inappropriate by Shorthorn staff will not be accepted. Student Publications employees are not eligible to win.



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