



UHD hosts DREAM Act Summit

Four area schools travel to UHD to participate in Summit

TANU UPPAL
Assistant Editor

On October 2, the University of Houston-Downtown's Registrar Office, in collaboration with Familias Inmigrantes y Estudiantes de la Lucha (FIEL) and the Student Government Association (SGA), hosted an information session titled "We Have a Dream," which focused on the issue of undocumented college students.

The seminar was planned in response to the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act, which prevents deportation of undocumented students who have been in the United States continuously for at least five years, arrived in the U.S. as a minor, graduated from a U.S. high school, and have demonstrated good moral character.

The information session provided detailed information on

the status of the DREAM Act in Congress as well as ways students can help to draw attention to the policy.

"The best thing we can do right now is call our state representatives and show them that this issue is extremely vital to us; if it is important to us, then it should be important to them," said Matthew Ojeda.

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—Matthew Ojeda

FIEL is a local community organization that advocates rights for immigrant students and their families; their main goal is to provide higher education opportunities for everyone, regardless of immigration status.

Apart from lobbying for the passing of the DREAM Act, FIEL offers immigration services, translations of federal documents, financial assistance for college and legal information to students and families.

Students and faculty from UHD, as well as Texas A&M, University of Texas, Houston Community College and the

University of Houston attended the session.

There are more undocumented students here at UHD than most people think," said Victor Martinez. "It would be a great tragedy to see all their academic efforts go to waste after graduation, because without the DREAM Act, they cannot apply for decent jobs."

The DREAM Act was first introduced to Congress in 2001, and was re-introduced in 2009, but on Sept. 21 the policy was stalled by Republican senators. Lawmakers accused the Obama Administration of attempting to provide amnesty for illegal immigrants through changes in administration of the Department of Homeland Security.

Democratic senators hope to get the bill reintroduced as soon as possible, but chances this year are unlikely.

More information can be found at <http://www.fielhouston.org> and <http://www.opencongress.org>.

Data reveals US taxpayers used billions on dropouts

—*Uwire* Taxpayers spent more than \$9 billion in federal and state financial aid to college freshman who did not return for their sophomore years, according to data from a nonprofit social science research group.

U.S. taxpayers spent \$6.2 billion in state appropriations, \$1.4 billion in state grants and \$1.5 billion in federal grants. Texas spent \$470.5 million in all state appropriations and \$91.1 million in federal grants on students at public and private four-year institutions who dropped out after their freshman year, according to a report released Monday by the American Institutes for Research.

U. Texas' Office of Student Financial Services awarded nearly \$500 million in financial aid in the 2009-2010 school year, including more than \$200 million in grants and scholarships. But the University does not have a large amount of students who drop out, said Tom Melecki, director of Student Financial Services.

"[The low dropout rate] is because of the students who come to UT-Austin," he said. "We have an exceptional student body here. We are very blessed to have students who are as well prepared and who worked as hard as they did in high school to get here."

UT and Texas A&M University both have a freshman retention rate of more than 92 percent. The average freshman retention rate is 74.4 percent in all Texas public and private four-year institutions, "UT and A&M have the least problems, but that's not to say they don't have a higher-than-desirable dropout rate," he said.



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The Texas Legislature passed the "six drop" rule during the 81st legislative session, which limits the number of classes a student can drop at public four-year insti-

tutions without consequence to their grade. The board focuses more on the cost of freshmen's uncompleted hours, not the amount of financial aid given to them, said Fred Heldenfels, vice chair of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

"The idea of the six drop rule is to give institutions an incentive to keep kids in school and to prevent them from dropping courses or dropping out," he said.

American Institutes for Research created collegemeasures.org as a way to access information on any public or private four-year instruction in the U.S. and find data such as first-year retention rates, graduation rates and cost of attrition. The website is intended to help students focus on individual universities when applying for college, said Mark Schneider, the institute's vice president.

"We don't really know much about student success, but we need to think harder about keeping students in school instead of thinking about how many students we can get enrolled," he said. "UT is pretty good about monitoring performance rates as opposed to enrollment rates and more institutions need to do that as well."

New website analyzes political tweeting



—*Uwire* As election season approaches, the usual backstabbing, rumor-spreading and slander of politicians can naturally be expected.

A new website created by Indiana U. information and computer scientists, Truthy.indiana.edu, plans to highlight such misinformation and smear tactics occurring through the popular social media outlet Twitter.

"The research goal is to study how ideas propagate through social media," said Filippo Menczer, an associate professor of computer science and informatics in the IU School of Informatics and Computing. "A lot of things propagate in an organic way, but people also try to engineer this process hoping to generate traffic around a topic that may be a lie."

The website analyzes the thousands of tweets occurring by the hour in search of keywords related to politics and sorts them into commonly-recurring themes, Menczer said.

These patterns, referred to as "memes," are then examined to gather more information about their background and creation, in search of tweets being generated with false content or to mislead people.

Menczer said he hopes the website helps raise awareness that not everything read can be considered true, and the source must be considered. He also said such tools looking to keep politicians and activists responsible might motivate candidates to clean up campaigns.

"Political operatives of questionable ethics might be attracted to this technique of distributing whatever information they like through social media because it's hard to get caught, and when you do, it's often too late," Menczer said. "The embarrassment of manipulating social media may be enough motivation, though."

The information acquired through this Twitter research device is documented with visual diffusions of the tweets related to each subject and a live tweet feed on the Truthy website, Menczer said.

Even the individual words of tweets are analyzed to measure the mood of the tweet, including hostile, kind, confused, calm and other classifications. Such data allows the researchers behind Truthy to show where the information is coming from and how it is being so highly dispersed.

Menczer said the ability to distribute information so quickly and in large quantities through Twitter can be dangerous.

"With enough traffic, Twitter themes can be displayed on search engines like Google, and people tend to trust the information

they see on such sites as being fact, even if it's not," Menczer said.

Jacob Ratkiewicz and Mike Conover, Ph.D. students working on the project, said they agreed with the potential danger in social media.

"Twitter is resilient and self-organizing," Conover said. "On Twitter, you have no central control or constraint for journalistic integrity. It's decentralized with no accountability. This creates an environment where rumors can spread like wildfire."

Ratkiewicz said the ability of information to spread quickly to so many people can cause misinformation.

"If something comes to you from your friends, you are much more likely to accept it as fact," Ratkiewicz said.

The researchers encourage users to partake in the interactive aspects that allow people to mark information as "truthy" when they think it is false or is generated with an agenda in mind.

"It's like Wikipedia," Conover said. "If you get enough people contributing, usually you get a good estimate of where the truth is."

UHD Science Department holds Intervention Symposium series

TANU UPPAL
Assistant Editor

“Outliers and Your Academic Success,” the third installment of a four-part Intervention Symposium, was held Oct. 13, at the University of Houston-Downtown (UHD) and was led by UHD professors Dr. Lisa Morano, associate professor of biology and microbiology, and Dr. Jerry Johnson, Professor of biology and biochemistry.

tery over the subject matter in their courses.

“Our project was twofold: we wanted to distill the concepts related to thermodynamics and free energy so undergrads would have an understanding of the essentials,” said Gottumukkala. “Next, we wanted to evaluate the misconceptions that deter undergrads from understanding these concepts correctly, and give attendees academic tools to better equip them in their classes.”

The intervention symposiums are held three to four times a semester and target

tion vs. Fermentation,” was held on Oct. 8, and led by seniors Nic Howery and Doug Litwin. Howery and Litwin discussed the basic

inar used popsicle sticks to demonstrate the input and output of these processes. Over 70 students attended the seminar.

“An academic is a lifelong learner, someone who shows leadership, ownership, and self-direction in their education.”

– Dr. Morano and Dr. Johnson



Photo by Rene Garcia

Sujana Gottumukkala and Elda Rueda, seniors, illustrate the body’s use of ATP as an energy source. They used different-sized water balloons to demonstrate how energy is conserved and lost during reactions.

During the seminar, faculty presented excerpts from the book, *Outliers: the Story of Success* by Malcolm Gladwell, and explained to incoming freshmen, who were required to read the text, what it takes to be an academic.

“An academic is a lifelong learner, someone who shows leadership, ownership, and self-direction in their education,” said Dr. Morano and Dr. Johnson.

The first installment of the symposium was held Sept. 10, and was the first ever student-run Intervention Symposium. The topic, “Getting Reactions in the Cell to Go: Gibb’s Free Energy and ATP Hydrolysis,” was led by seniors Elda Rueda and Sujana Gottumukkala, who were chosen for this topic because they have demonstrated mas-

concepts related to natural sciences that are not only difficult to master, but also relate to different fields and course levels. More than 50 students and faculty attended the first event.

“By planning the intervention symposium, our understanding of the material is now more profound, and we have a better idea of what it takes to teach a difficult subject,” said Rueda.

Rueda and Gottumukkala used various props and demonstrations, such as a pendulum to demonstrate a reaction’s drive toward equilibrium, and diffusers to illustrate spontaneous processes.

The second intervention symposium, titled “Energy from Food: Cellular Respira-

mechanisms behind metabolism, especially how there are multiple processes involved in converting food to energy.

The students who participated in the sem-

The next and last seminar, titled “Organic Chemistry Essentials: Resonance and Orbital Chemistry,” will be held Nov. 5.

Bullied to death: Suicide increase demands attention

LAUREN ROLLINS

Contributing Writer

At least five teenagers have reportedly committed suicide in the recent weeks as a result of being bullied over their sexual orientation, raising serious questions about who is to blame, and what measures need to be taken in order to prevent this string of tragedies from happening again?

This recent eruption of suicides has spanned across the country, from Indiana to California, and recently landed right next door in Cypress, Texas.

Asher Brown, an eighth-grader at Cypress-area Hamilton Middle School took his own life on September 23. The 13 year-old, his family claimed, was "bullied to death." Classmates allegedly taunted him for his sexual orientation, religion, lack of designer clothing and small size.

Brown's parents, Amy and David Truong, claim they contacted Hamilton Middle School several times prior to his death about the on-going harassment. Their calls were never returned. A Cy-Fair school official

claims that the school was never contacted. Numerous parents and students rebutted the official's statement, insisting that they were all aware that Brown had been bullied for years and that the school system did nothing to stop the harassment.

Upon hearing the school official's claims, the Truongs became increasingly infuriated. The Truongs say that this type of harassment must come to a halt so that other students do not have to suffer like Brown, and so other families do not have to experience the loss of losing a child.

"We want justice," David Truong told Houston Chronicle's Peggy O'Hare. "The people here need to be held responsible and need to be stopped. It did happen. There are witnesses everywhere."

In response to the multiple suicides, various areas of the country are pushing to create a change in how bullying is dealt with. At a national level, the National Education Policy Center in collaboration with the UCLA Law School assembled an extensive report, "Safe at School," addressing previous structural and institutional failures. The report also

presents a menu of new policies and legislative options for which they are urging states districts to immediately adopt on a national level to create a safer environment for all children.

Many national groups have also been created to aid gay, lesbian, transgendered or questioned (LGBTQ) youth in time of need. One of the most popular groups is The Trevor Project. The Trevor Project is the leading national organization focused on crisis and suicide prevention among LGBTQ youth. The organization provides a confidential, toll-free, around-the-clock helpline with trained counselors ready to help youth in need. The Trevor Project also provides guidance to parents and educators in order to provide a supportive, protective environment for all youth.

No matter who you are, you can make a difference in someone's life. Given that UHD is so diverse, it is easy to see that most students are very different from one another. Some students are only a few months out of high school. Other students have careers and children in college as well. UHD

is a melting pot of different races, religions, age, gender, social status, income levels and sexual orientations. The fact of the matter is, regardless of who you are and where you are in your life, this problem has to stop, and you, as a citizen of one of the most culturally diverse cities in the world, can do something about it.

If you are the victim of bullying, or witness someone being bullied, say something. If you are afraid to speak out, tell someone. You are not the only one. Stay strong. Have pride in who you are, and know that it eventually gets better. If you are a parent, talk to your children. Make sure they feel protected, loved and supported. Teach your children that it is okay to be different, and it is cool to stand out.

If you suspect your children of bullying, make them understand the severity of bullying and the consequences it may have. If any sort of bullying is permitted by the parent, it can and will get worse. Children must realize that bullying of any sort is not to be tolerated. No one deserves to be the victim of bullying for any reason.

Did we forget to notice North Korea has nuclear weapons?

OLIVER SUDDUTH

Contributing Writer

Amid massive neighbors and athwart large bodies of water is a tiny, almost insignificant strip of land which culminates into a peninsula. It thrusts itself away from the mainland and begins to carve its way into the Sea, curving into a crescent before finally descending below the waters.

This is Korea, a land so full of contradictions that the word "paradoxical" undermines the near bipolar duplicity of the region. Korea: A land which has been this way since the Cold War, a land which time has forgotten. Whereupon the rest of the world has moved on from the bilateral division of power between the Western bloc (the United States and the capitalists) and the Eastern bloc (The Soviet Union and the communists), Korea remains divided in the same old teams, completely untouched by modernity.

We have team North Korea; a poor and underdeveloped communist nation which had been an old ally of the Soviet Union, and is now heavily dependent on China for its survival. Then we have team South Korea, a thriving and prosperous multiparty democracy which easily aligns itself with the West and other capitalist nations. These

two teams, like the Cold War teams which begat them, hate each other. In fact, they are still technically at war with only a ceasefire treaty and a heavily fortified demilitarized zone standing in between them. Actually, scratch the first one. North Korea rendered



the ceasefire treaty null and void on May 27 of last year. So why does all this matter to us here, in our cushy alcove called America?

North Korea, a nation which we are not on very good terms with (in case you did not know), has nuclear weapons and is not afraid to use them. As recently as last year North Korea detonated a nuclear device, displaying both its trigger happiness and utter disregard

for the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, which it withdrew from.

North Korea also has a large military at approximately 1.1 billion active military persons, only .4 billion less than the United States and almost twice the size of its southern neighbor, our ally, South Korea. So why should we care about South Korea?

Because it is vitally important to keep a reliable and stable partner in this region. With an unstable, trigger happy, nuclear power in the region that hates us, it is best to adhere to the adage of keeping your friends close and your enemies closer. Also with the increasing economic and political power of a not necessarily hostile, but certainly not friendly China, it is best to keep tabs on the region to serve American interests.

Yet this is not even the worst news. The reason the spotlight is on North Korea at all is because it is currently going through a diligent, pre-succession preening for Kim Jong-il's son and heir, Kim Jong-un. Joyous parades and jovial celebrations are being held to celebrate the 65th anniversary of the founding of the Worker's Party of Korea, but that's not the bad news. The bad news is what this will spell for the West and the rest of the world upon Kim Jong-un's actual succession.

Upon seizing the throne as his country's leader, Kim Jong-un will pursue one of two

options: One, to try and strengthen relations with the Western world while receding from its previous isolation or two, continue on the path which had been trodden by his father and grandfather.

The latter is a much likelier option, but it is actually more dangerous than it appears. To continue on the path of his patriarchs, Kim Jong-un knows he must not only emulate them, but be better than them as well. To prove to the North Korean people, and most importantly the world, that he is a real ruler, a real leader of his people, he will act in an irrationally bold way. In his first official year as "Dear Leader," the West should expect nuclear tests, threatening military exercises, and pompous military parades directed at South Korea. Also expect a range of diplomatic moves that isolate the nation further away from the West and closer towards its enemies. But don't take my word for it, take the word of Ri Yong Ho, chief of the General Staff of the North Korean army who said this on October 10, 2010: "If the U.S. imperialists and their followers infringe on our sovereignty and dignity even slightly, we will blow up the stronghold of their aggression with a merciless and righteous retaliatory strike by mobilizing all physical means, including self-defensive nuclear deterrent force, and achieve the historic task of unification [of Korea]."

Who says change is bad?



DYLAN OSBORNE
Columnist

The University of Houston- Downtown is going to have a name change soon, and a lot of the students are not happy with it. The new name

will probably be Houston City University, and while students may be less than excited about the new name, the name of the school should not be such a concern- quality of student life should be.

The education students receive is the same as most schools. Some classes are harder than others and some teachers are great, others not so much. It is what you make of it and with education you really do get what you put in. Students at UHD learn as much as they want to, just as other schools. Unfortunately, the perception of UHD throughout the community does not seem to reflect that. We can change this misconception about our school, but it will take leadership, student interests and money. Lots of money, and that will be a major problem over the next few years. Texas is facing an \$18 billion shortage over the next couple of years, so expect higher education to take a hit. Now is not a good time to go to Austin and ask for more money.

There are several things I think UHD, or HCU, can do to become more ingrained in the community and to become a more re-

spected institution. I personally think the name change is a great start, as UHD does equal UH to most people in the city. I have overheard students say they will be putting University of Houston on their resumes when they graduate, and I had a professor that listed UH on her personal website. Most of this seems to come from the fact that members of the UHD family simply get tired of explaining the difference. I do not go to the University of Houston, I go to the University of Houston- Downtown. The name was clearly never a good idea and should have been changed years ago.

Academics are why we are here to begin with and an expansion of academic programs would go a long way to helping recruit students and improve the perception of the university. Interdisciplinary Studies is the most sought after degree here, and that is not the hottest degree in the marketplace. Not only should students have more degree plans to choose from, but they should be encouraged to seek a degree in a more traditional field of study. I think the arts and music should be some of the first areas expanded. These majors bring in interesting students and help diversify the student body. These fields also represent areas that students can compete in, therefore increasing the visibility of the school. I would like to see an International Relations degree offered and Restaurant and Hotel Management is a popular major now. E-Commerce would be a great idea and I think more traditional engineering degrees would attract top students to the university.

Not only should more undergrad degrees be offered, the graduate programs should be greatly expanded. UHD simply does not offer many grad level degrees. As a four year university I find this to be unacceptable. This school must develop more traditional graduate programs in order to be taken seriously. This would be expensive, I admit, but well worth the investment.

If the undergraduate and graduate degree plans are expanded this would help to recruit new, more traditional students to UHD. This would be a big plus for a lot of reasons. Traditional students are generally more involved with campus life and bring a lot to the table. This would not be a detriment to the older students that are drawn to UHD, but would be an added boost to the student body.

Our university is located in the middle of one of the largest cities in the country and this should be a huge advantage for UHD in a variety of areas. A student led radio station would help connect the school with the community and increase the profile of the university. If done right, a radio station would be unbelievably helpful to the students involved and would allow UHD to market itself to millions of people on a daily basis.

The ideas I have listed here are not meant to be all encompassing and are not meant to be a quick fix. Increasing the profile of UHD will take a long term strategy and loads of money that may not be available for a while, but this is a worthy goal and should be examined at length.

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The little known “gym” on UHD campus

DERRICK WILEY

Contributing Writer

The Student Life Center, also known as the gym, was built in 1997 for the students of the University of Houston-Downtown (UHD), but many students either don't use the gym or do not know the building exists.

Richard Sebastiani, the director of the gym, has worked timeless hours on improvements to the gym.

Sebasti has installed a new radio system, complete with satellite radio, which can be heard in every part of the gym. The basketball goals have been replaced and the floor repainted. Sebastiani also replaced some of the treadmills, and is expecting to get more in the near future.

The biggest attractions at the gym are the sports that are offered.

UHD offers both club sports and intramural sports.

Club sports give students the opportunity to play against other universities. Students

believe after high school, their sports dreams are over, but club sports give them a chance to play at a highly competitive level against other schools. Teams are fielded in men's and women's basketball, men's and women's soccer, men's and women's volleyball, power lifting and cheerleading.

The intramural sports are offered and played by UHD students and staff. Intramural sports are available to students who are not able to play on the club teams and are offered each semester. The sports offered in the fall are bowling, bench press, volleyball, flag football, dodge ball and badminton. There is a small fee to play intramurals.

The other great attractions for students are the classes offered at the gym. There are many classes offered to meet a variety of students' needs. Some of the available classes are Boot Camp, Zumba, Latin Aerobics and many more. Some classes cost a small fee of \$10, but most are offered for free.

For more information, visit the Student Life Center or log on to <http://www.uhd.edu/sportsandfitness/facilities.html>.



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- Tour UHD's dynamic campus
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- Explore financial-aid options
- Visit with our many student organizations
- Win prizes and giveaways

We're Making a Name for Ourselves!

Award-winning author performs moving poetry reading

ASHANTI BABERS

Contributing Writer

On Thursday, October 7, United States Army veteran and author Brian Turner read poetry from two of his novels to University of Houston-Downtown students, faculty and staff.

Turner's novel, "Here Bullet," is composed of poems written during the seven years he served in the war against Iraq from 1999-2000. The poems are a first-hand account of what Turner experienced and witnessed during his time as U.S. Army Sergeant Turner. Turner says veterans need help to deal with the explosives inside their hearts and minds, and he did this by writing in his journal every day and composing poems from that journal.

Although the words that compose the poems are already powerful, the emotions that Turner put into the reading brought the feelings of the dangers of war to the audience.

"I like how Turner interacts with the audience," said Erica, a UHD student.

"Here Bullet" won the 2005 Beatrice Hawley Award, the New York Times Editor's

Choice selection, and the 2006 Pen Center USA Best in the West Award, and the 2007 Poets Prize award.

Turner also read "Last Night's Dream," "Night in Blue," "Phantom of Morals" and "Insignia," which are all from his latest novel, "Phantom Noise."

"Insignia" describes a female soldier who was sexually assaulted repeatedly by her male commanders. Turner told the audience that female soldiers and male soldiers are sexually assaulted many times while they are in the army. Female soldiers not only have to worry about the enemy they are fighting, but also their comrades in arms who may cause them harm.

"I was really surprised about how many women have been raped in the army," said one female UHD student.

During a question and answer session held after the reading, Turner said, "Veterans need help to deal with life after they have come back home, and also we (Americans) need to help the Iraqi people get their lives back on track."

Turner also offered his participation in any program that students or faculty wanted to initiate to help veterans.



Brian Turner, Courtesy Photo

Environmental Club devotes time to local elementary school

TANU UPPAL

Assistant Editor

On October 2, Environmental Club (EVC) participated in the Urban Harvest, an event dedicated to teaching elementary school level children the importance of gardening and sustainability.

"We interact with college students everyday; eventually, it gets boring. With this project, we get to interact with the next generation, so it becomes a learning experience for both of us."

*—Jordan Cline
EVC Member*

EVC has been involved with the Urban Harvest Education Program since 2006. A Houston-based organization, Urban Harvest seeks to promote healthy communities, balanced nutrition, and a general respect for the environment by educating adults and children about sustainable gardens and harvesting.

Nine members of EVC and students from Durham Elementary built flowerbeds, tilled

and plowed the land, removed weeds and built a compost pile. They expect to return in a few months to finish planting flowers.

In past years, EVC has planted trees, vegetables and fruits while interacting with young students.

"We interact with college students everyday; eventually, it gets boring," said Jordan Cline. "With this project, we get to interact

with the next generation, so it becomes a learning experience for both of us."

EVC will be participating in another Urban Harvest on October 30 at Oates Elementary School. For more information or to get involved, contact the officers at uhd.evc@gmail.com.

For more information on Urban Harvest, please visit www.urbanharvest.org.

About 30 different vendors from across the Houston area participated in Community Involvement Day, Oct. 13.

The event was held to help students to become more involved in the community and allowed students to get information on how to volunteer for the different vendors.



(Above) UHD President William Flores stops to chat with Terry Gardner of the Texas Wildlife Rehabilitation Coalition, Inc.

(Below) SGA Chief of Staff Diana Lopez (left) shares information about the Pink Ribbons Project with UHD sophomore Rozlind Power





*(Left photo)
Daniel Heathcock gave
freshmen Melanie
Campos and Bianca
Camacho informa-
tion on the Alzheim-
ers Association*

*(Right photo)
Kimberlyn
Clarkson (left)
was on location
representing the
Ronald
McDonald
House*



The Rose speaks out on breast cancer awareness

BRITTANY MUSGRAVE

Staff Writer

The University of Houston-Downtown (UHD) hosted Breast Cancer Awareness with The Rose On Oct. 6, in hour of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Radiographer Amy Rigsby is the technical director for The Rose, Houston's leading non-profit breast cancer organization, and has been with the organization for over 18 years.

Rigsby came to speak to UHD about self-examinations of the breasts and to make the UHD community more aware of breast cancer.



Photo by Brittany Musgrave

Senior Anna Weekes participates in the self-examination demonstration during The Rose seminar.

Rigsby said women who are in their 20s have a 1 in 1060 chance of developing breast cancer before they turn 30, and that as women get older their chances of developing breast cancer increases. A woman's risk of developing breast cancer also increases if she has a first degree relative who had breast cancer. A first degree relative is a mother or sister. A second degree relative is a grandmother or aunt. If a woman's father had

prostate cancer, her chances of getting breast cancer are also increased.

Rigsby stressed the importance of getting a mammogram done annually for women in their late 30s and older.

The Rose offers mammograms for women of all backgrounds, regardless of their ability to pay, and offers many payment methods, such as: affordable payment installments, getting partnered with a sponsor or being set up with a physician who will donate his or her time for the patient. The Rose offers an entire network of physicians all over the Houston area so patients are never inconvenienced.

Support groups are also offered through The Rose. One of the support groups Rigsby finds most inspiring is the Knockout Roses support group. These women have been diagnosed with breast cancer at a young age and are called the Knockout Roses because the knockout rose is the hardest rose to kill.

"Sophie" is a mobile mammography machine that The Rose takes businesses, schools, and other organizations to provide mammograms for women who may not be able to make it to their doctor's office for their mammogram. Sophie is high quality and just as qualified to perform a mammogram as any other mammogram machine in a doctor's office. The results are sent to the woman's primary care physician, and a letter informing her of her results is mailed to her house.

Following the information seminar, Rigsby discussed information on self-examinations of the breasts. She said the first thing to know about self-examinations is that they should be performed once a month and about five to seven days after your menstrual cycle. Rigsby then put three breast models on display for the audience to practice on. One model was completely healthy, one suffered from fibromyalgia, and the other had lumps in it. This practice was to help the audience know what to look and feel for in their own breasts.

The Rose will celebrate its 25th anniversary in 2011. If you, or someone you know, has any questions about breast cancer, testing, facts or getting a mammogram they can visit www.therose.org.



Sexual Health: A Focus on Human Papillomavirus-HPV

Many people have heard of human papillomavirus, or HPV, in the news or from friends, but don't really know what HPV really is. Human papillomavirus is a virus that is a sexually transmitted infection which can infect genital areas of both males and females.

In addition to infecting the genital area and sometimes the cervix, HPV can also infect the throat, anus, and rectal area through direct contact. Although HPV is referred to as a single virus, there are actually more than 40 types of HPV, and certain types can cause cervical cancer and genital warts.

HPV is transmitted through direct contact, such as vaginal, oral, and anal sex. Unfortunately, since HPV doesn't always present as genital warts and may not be causing other symptoms. It can be transmitted without either partner realizing they are infected.

Approximately 20 million Americans are currently infected with HPV.

Preventing HPV infection can be done by receiving the HPV vaccine, however, the vaccine is most effective when given before the person's first sexual encounter.

Using condoms for sexual contact can also lower the risk of HPV, but areas not covered by the condom can still transmit HPV.

Lastly, a monogamous relationship will also reduce, but not guarantee, the chance of exposure to HPV.

Since HPV can infect the cervix, one of the primary means of detecting HPV is the Papanicolaou test, better known as the pap smear. This test is performed as part of the annual well-woman exam. Changes in the cells of the cervix can indicate HPV infection and your medical provider will inform you of treatment options for HPV related cervical changes.

Both men and women should be checked by a medical provider if they observe any lumps, bumps, or skin tags in the genital area, to assure that they are not HPV. If the skin area is a genital wart, there are medications and treatments to remove them and prevent regrowth. HPV infections of the throat and rectum will require specialized medical care to detect, remove, and treat the HPV infected area.

Clear communication with your health care provider about your sexual practices will help your provider to determine the correct examination techniques to detect HPV infection.

—Robert Hanks, PhD, FNP-C, RNC
Faculty Practice at UHD Student Health Services
Assistant Professor-Clinical

UHD to showcase Oscar winner Ang Lee

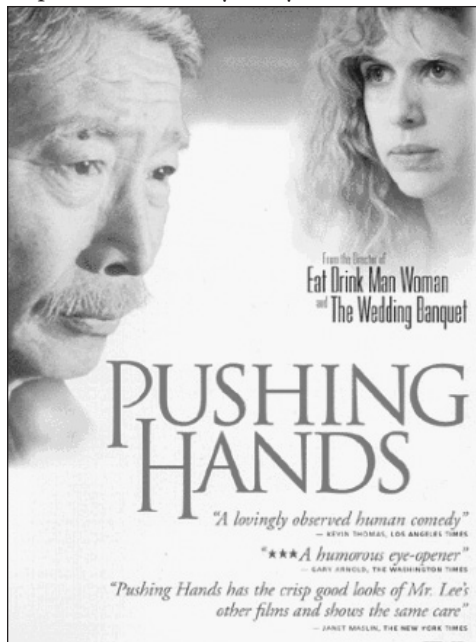
CHRISTINA RODRIGUEZ

Assistant Editor

The Houston Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) of Houston and the University of Houston-Downtown Cultural Enrichment Center are teaming up to host a film series featuring the work of Oscar winner Ang Lee, from Oct. 19-21.

Lee, a Taiwanese-American film director, won the Oscar for Best Director for his controversial and well-known film, "Brokeback Mountain" in 2005. Lee, 55, has been working as a director since his 1992 film "Pushing Hands" was released.

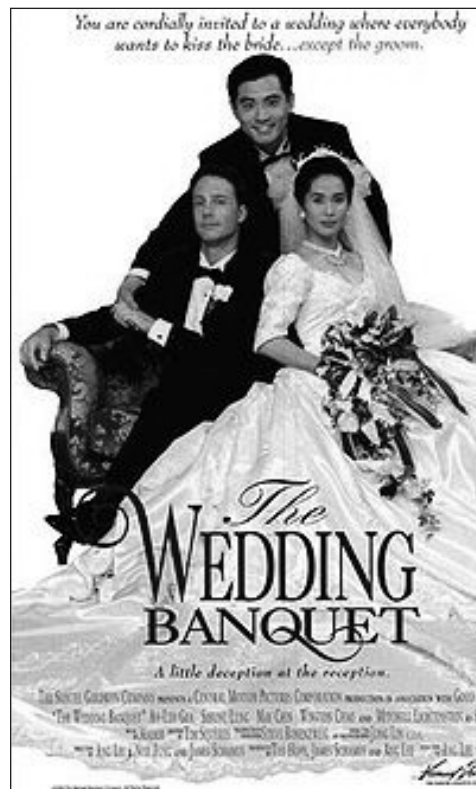
While Lee will not be in attendance, the film series will have multiple events in addition to the movies, such as an opening reception, a tai chi demonstration and a scholarly roundtable designed to answer students' questions about the importance of film and its place in university study.



Dr. Chuck Jackson, Assistant Professor of English, is one of the coordinators of the event and said that one of the goals of the film series is to get students thinking about how the humanities area of study applies to the public sphere. By hosting this cultural exchange, he hopes that it will make the connection more interesting and better understood.

Many people know of Lee's work from more recent years, but none of his blockbuster films are included in the festival. When asked about the films that were chosen, Dr. Jackson said that Lee's earlier work addresses things that UHD students already deal with in their own lives. He listed issues such as

"national and cultural hybridity, dual citizenship, generational differences, the bonds and binds of family, and what it means to be a sexual minority in an already minoritized community." All of these things are current issues for many people who are a part of the diverse community of UHD.



The inspiration for the series struck last year after meetings were held with TECO following a successful collaboration through the O'Kane Gallery. Those who attempted to get the interdisciplinary Film Studies minor incorporated into UHD's catalog also hope that this will bring attention to the new minor from the UHD community.

Tuesday, Oct. 19, the opening reception will be held at 5:15 p.m. with beverages and snacks available to everyone. The 1992 film "Pushing Hands" will be shown immediately following the reception and is about an elderly tai chi master from China, who must live with his son and family in America, and the struggles the family experiences with his presence. It ultimately becomes a conflict for the son, who has to deal with the strain of two different cultures.

A tai chi demonstration by Houston-based Tai Chi Master, Mr. Wu, and his students, will be performed following the movie.

Wednesday at 5:30 p.m., the featured film is "The Wedding Banquet"; a 1993 film about Simon and Wei-Tung, a gay couple living together in Manhattan. To hide their relationship from the Wei-Tung's parents, they



decide that Wei-Tung will marry Wei-Wei, a girl who needs a green card to stay in the country. Of course, when Wei-Tung's parents arrive for the wedding, they insist on an elaborate wedding that puts stress on everyone involved.



On the last night of the series, the film shown will be 1994's "Eat, Drink, Man, Woman," which revolves around the ritual

of a Sunday dinner involving a chef, his three grown daughters and each participants backgrounds and love lives.

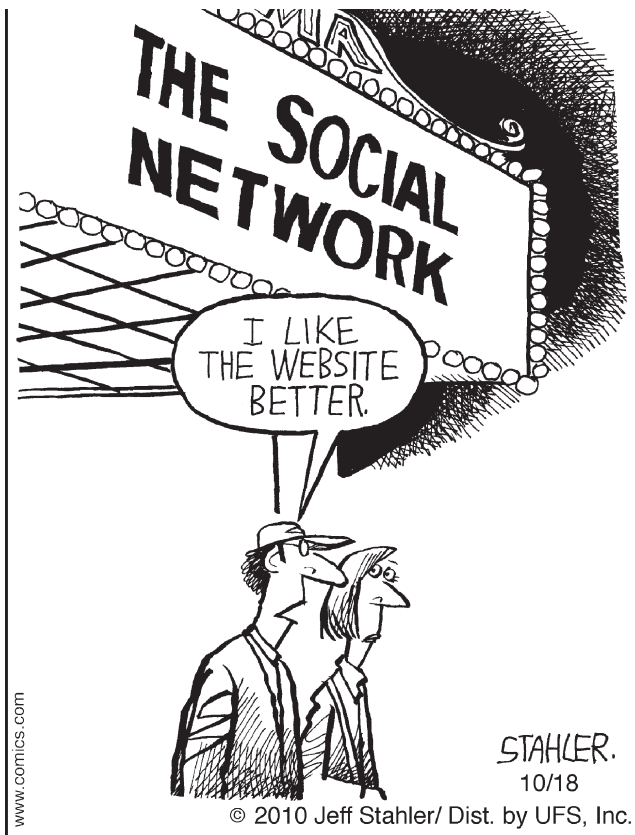
The final movie will be followed by a Taiwanese buffet from Café la Tea, which will be provided by TECO. The dinner will be accompanied by a scholarly roundtable, ANG LEE NOW!, and will present ideas and take questions starting at 7:45 p.m.

The three scholars participating in the roundtable are Dr. Edmund Cueva, Chair of Arts and Humanities, Dr. William Nowak, Associate Professor of Spanish and Dr. Johanna Schertz, Associate Professor of English.

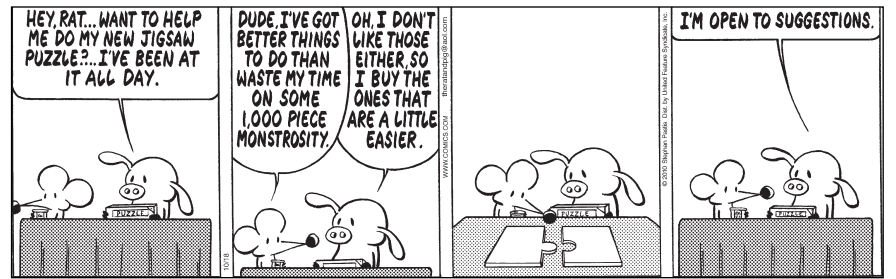
Dr. Cueva, an expert on the classics, myth and fiction, will be discussing myth and Lee's films. Professor Nowak will discuss nation and sexuality in the films, and Dr. Schertz will be discussing the role of gender and feminism in the films.

Dr. Jackson and everyone involved hopes the three day event will help announce to the community of UHD, and Houston, that the Film Studies minor is available and immensely relevant to the area of academia, as well as to the cultural exchange that takes place everyday.

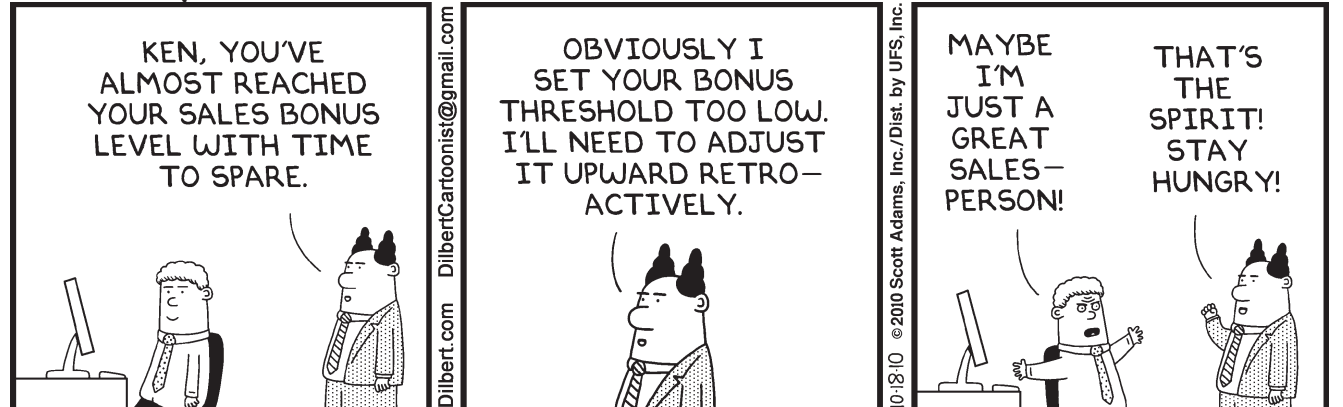
Moderately Confused by Jeff Stahler



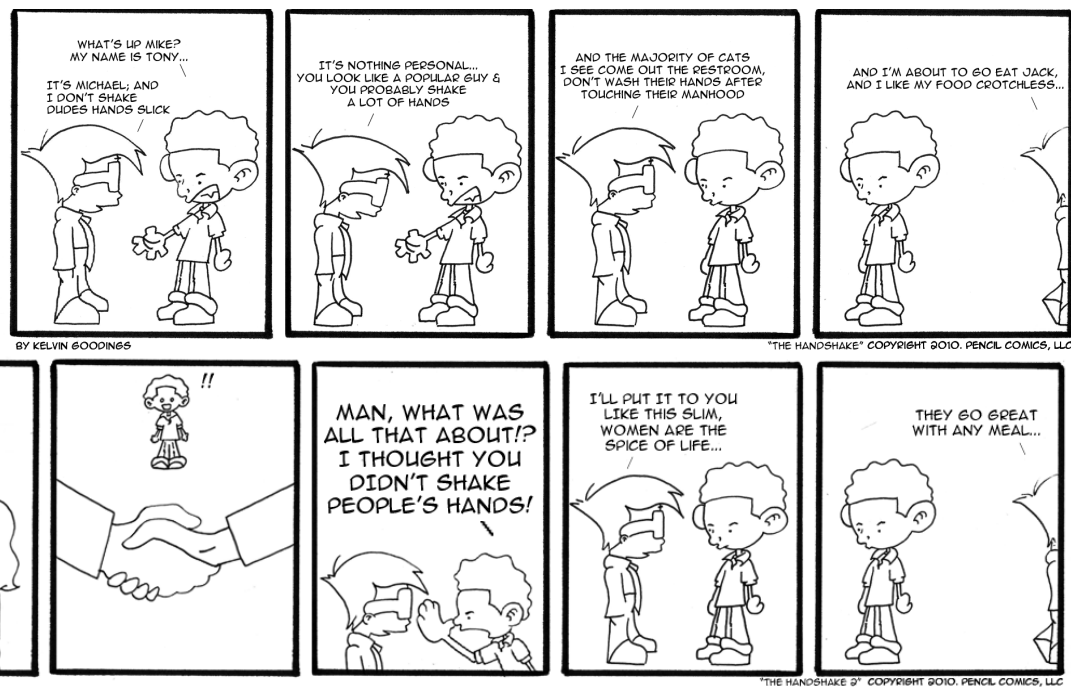
Pearls Before Swine
 by Stephan Pastis



Dilbert by Scott Adams



The Adventures of Tony and Ash



SUDOKU

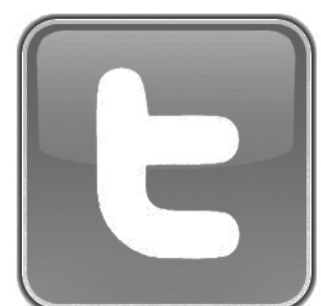
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HOW TO PLAY:

Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

Look for the solution to the Oct. 4 Sudoku on the Back Page (16).

Follow Us

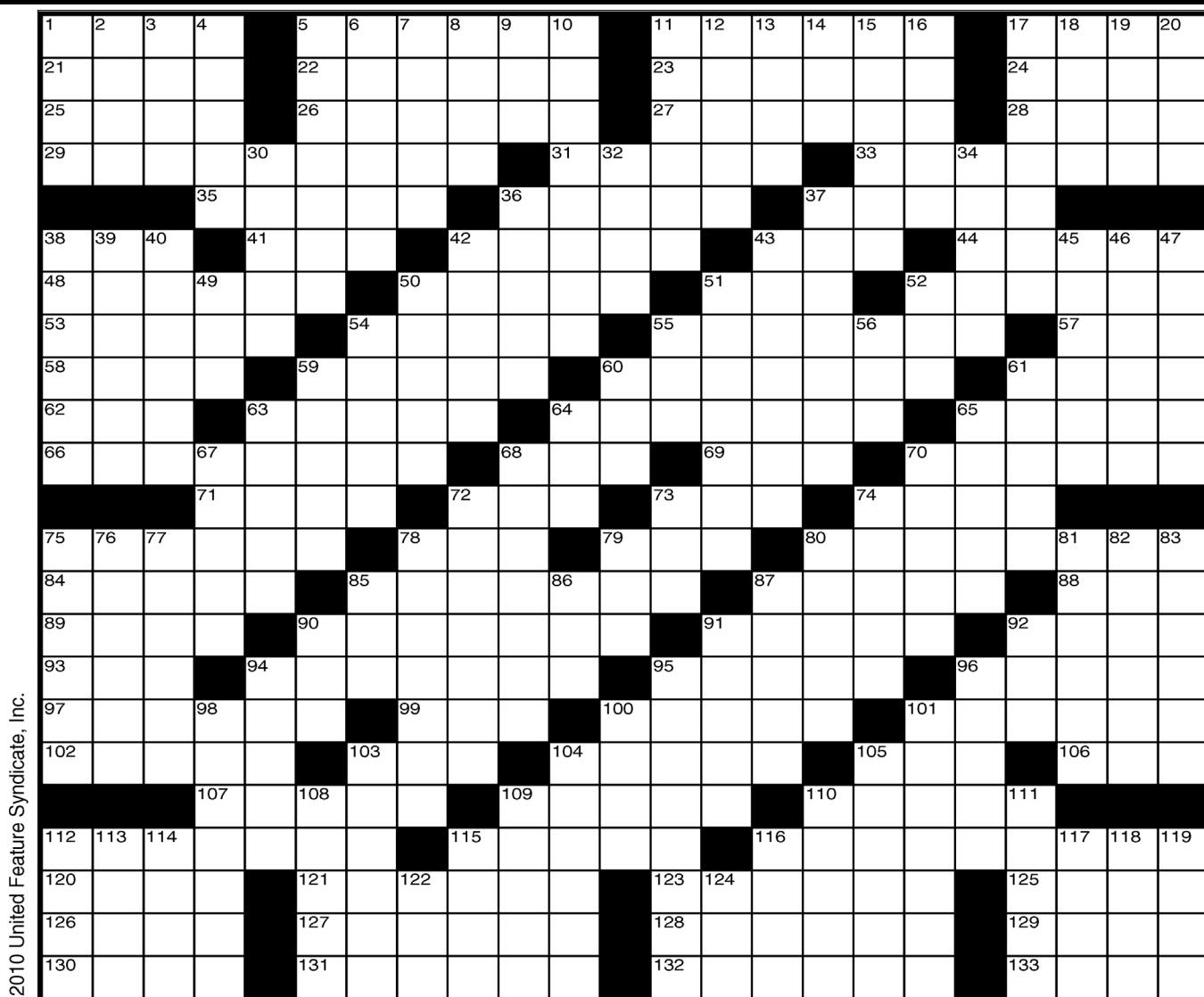


@ The Dateline Downtown

@ The Dateline

Today's Crossword

- | | | | |
|--------|-------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|
| ACROSS | 84 | Vestibule | |
| 1 | Memo abbr. | 85 | African garment |
| 5 | Dock work | 87 | Swiss capital |
| 11 | Cuts too short | 88 | Wintry cry |
| 17 | Unwelcome mail | 89 | Dollops |
| 21 | Novelist Joyce | 90 | RVs |
| 22 | Dickens waif | 91 | Locality |
| 23 | Compete for a position | 92 | Bronco "brake" |
| 24 | Grimace | 93 | Insurance gp. |
| 25 | Wee drink | 94 | Frogs and rabbits |
| 26 | Like instantly (2 wds.) | 95 | Trainer |
| 27 | Tell | 96 | Lumber flaw |
| 28 | Holds the deed | 97 | Car safety device (2 wds.) |
| 29 | Includes | 99 | Funny Charlotte |
| 31 | Leaf pore | 100 | From Donegal |
| 33 | Personal | 101 | Spoils rotten |
| 35 | Tackle box items | 102 | Desert near Sinai |
| 36 | Stand for | 103 | Cartoon shriek |
| 37 | Mushrooms, actually | 104 | Roomy |
| 38 | Fiesta shout | 105 | Ear of corn |
| 41 | Wheel buy (2 wds.) | 106 | PC key |
| 42 | Reunion attendee | 107 | Humble |
| 43 | Bacon feature | 109 | Vicar's residence |
| 44 | Percolate | 110 | Surveys |
| 48 | Unfounded reports | 112 | Brazier |
| 50 | Fizzy drinks | 115 | "If I Ran the Zoo" author |
| 51 | Lo- — graphics | 116 | Suffering from damp |
| 52 | High-priced | 120 | Platoon |
| 53 | Metal eaters | 121 | Sturdy shoe |
| 54 | Mr. Spock's father | 123 | Platinum or ash — fixe |
| 55 | Stoa | 125 | Genealogy chart |
| 57 | Tint | 126 | Prone |
| 58 | Rake tooth | 127 | Rock tumbler stones |
| 59 | Soothes | 128 | Eve's opposite |
| 60 | Ice cream treats | 129 | Thrill |
| 61 | Quaker colonist | 130 | Pencil end |
| 62 | Monsieur's summer | 131 | Answer back |
| 63 | Den pieces | 133 | — -eyed |
| 64 | Ocean game fish | | |
| 65 | Sri — | DOWN | |
| 66 | Insisted on | 1 | Down Under rockers |
| 68 | Give a squeeze | 2 | Edible root |
| 69 | Metro RRs | 3 | Bloke's streetcar |
| 70 | Postpones | 4 | Dryad |
| 71 | Average grades | 5 | Skin softeners |
| 72 | Compete at auction | 6 | Michener novel |
| 73 | Opposite of post- | 7 | Levees |
| 74 | Foreshadow | 8 | Carrier's partner |
| 75 | Emulated kitty | 9 | Soccer goal |
| 78 | Rent out | 10 | Rose-breasted bird |
| 79 | Sighs of distress | 11 | Walked tall |
| 80 | Best boxing ticks | 12 | Sweet liqueur |
| | | 13 | Jean Auel heroine |
| | | 14 | Hawaii's Mauna |



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|----|-------------------|----|-------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----|---------------------|
| 15 | Dinky motor boat | 47 | Jungle scavengers | 76 | Dorm sharer | 105 | Snowier |
| 16 | (hyph.) | 49 | Lyric poem | 77 | RoboCop, for one | 108 | Complete |
| 17 | Grim | 50 | Lettuce and such | 78 | Type of eel | 109 | Actress Oberon |
| 18 | Low-budget films | 51 | Painters' tools | 79 | Signs off on | 110 | Bean or horse |
| 19 | (2 wds.) | 52 | Vaccine meas. | 80 | Get through to | 111 | Does laps |
| 20 | The Hawkeyes | 54 | Hotel convenienc | 81 | Spain and Portu | 112 | Rough shelters |
| 30 | Fontanne's hus | 55 | es | 82 | gal | 113 | Concerning (2 wds.) |
| 32 | band | 56 | Common level | 83 | Gibberish | 114 | Good, in Guate |
| 34 | — majeste | 59 | Visa and passport | 85 | Pyle or Borgnine | 115 | mala |
| 36 | Thunders | 60 | Encrypted | 86 | Drop bait on | 116 | Shows distress |
| 37 | Muscle quivers | 61 | Kiosk buy, slang | 87 | water | 117 | Trench |
| 38 | Home with a | 63 | ily | 88 | April 15 org. | 118 | Matinee — |
| 39 | dome | 64 | Fence pickets | 90 | World-weary | 119 | First-century |
| 40 | Hospital workers | 65 | Look of loathing | 91 | Machine tooth | 122 | emperor |
| 41 | Zips up | 66 | Flood residue | 92 | Social asset | 124 | Siskel or Kelly |
| 42 | Made a speech | 67 | Mantel | 94 | Polish | | ORD regulators |
| 43 | Plexiglas | 68 | Hurts | 95 | Devastation | | Not sm. or med. |
| 44 | Levees | 70 | Casual greeting | 96 | Pole vaulter's | | |
| 45 | Carrier's partner | 72 | (2 wds.) | 98 | hurdle | | |
| 46 | Soccer goal | 73 | Metaphysical poet | 100 | Satellite alternative | | |
| 47 | Rose-breasted | 74 | Ask for in ad | 101 | After the fact | | |
| 48 | bird | 75 | vance | 103 | Charged particles | | |
| 49 | Walked tall | | dess | 104 | Most daring | | |
| 50 | Sweet liqueur | | Heavy and awk | | Magic potion | | |
| 51 | Jean Auel heroine | | ward | | Cosmetics queen | | |
| 52 | Hawaii's Mauna | | | | | | |

Turn to the Back Page
(16) to find
solutions to the puzzles
from the Oct. 4 edition of
Dateline: Downtown

“Devil” a sure thriller for Halloween

WHITNEY BARRETT

Staff Writer

I'll take the stairs.

Those are the exact words people will be saying after watching M. Night Shyamalan's new supernatural/thriller “Devil”, which has a classic horror feel to it. It seems simple since most of the story revolves around one setting, but is riveting to the very end.

The film is centered on a story that the narrator's mother used to tell him, which is about the devil roaming the earth, torturing evil-doers.

Things are set in motion when five people get trapped in an elevator together in a building each had appointments in.

Why this particular group of people is trapped together seems random at first, but as the story progresses, the audience realizes everything was predestined, and that one of the five people is the

devil.

As the detectives, assisted by the building's security team, try everything they can to understand the murders in the elevator and help the number of people in the elevator start to dwindle down.

When Sarah, played by Bojana Novakovic, is wounded on her back after the lights go off in the elevator, everyone becomes suspicious of everyone else.

It makes the situation that the characters are in seem realistic, when even Tony breaks down. Tony, who seemed like the most sensible one out of the group, is a former mechanic who served in the U.S. military and is played by Logan Marshall-Green.

The transition of each character's mood is smooth and believ-

able. First they start off irritated and slightly infuriated due to being stuck in the elevator and that later changes to fear, panic and a strong paranoia.

What seems to be just a superstitious story that only the narrator believes suddenly becomes shockingly real.

“Devil” is a one of a kind film and provides everything you might expect in a supernatural-thriller, but with such excess and exuberance that is still has the power to surprise.

It's definitely something worthy of seeing because it is straight to the point and doesn't try to confuse the audience with too many details. It still allows the end of the movie to stick with you even after it's over.





*5th Annual
Fall Family Festival*
Saturday, Oct. 23, - 12 pm to 5 pm
University of Houston - Downtown Campus

**Bring your family to UHD and join us
for a day full of fun!**

Everyone Welcome

Kids costume contest, raffles, hot dog eating contest, food,
Arts & Crafts Show, Houston Rockets inflatables, games,
music and so much more!




For more information, please contact the Office of Student Activities
at: 713-221-8573 or visit www.uhd.edu/sae/fall_family_festival/

The tricks-or-treats of Halloween and Blacksmith Jack

BRITTANY MUSGRAVE

Staff Writer

Halloween, All Hallows Eve or simply October 31 is a holiday we all know and many love. Today Halloween is when little kids go trick-or-treating, pranks are played and everyone gets to dress up in a scary costume. Halloween has not always been a fun-filled holiday. Halloween has a history with harvest time, the end of summer and spirituality.

The Halloween we know today has roots in multiple cultures.

The tradition of wearing masks and trick-or-treating comes from the Celts and the Middle Ages. Many religions celebrate Halloween differently. In the Christian faith there are many different interpretations of Halloween. Some Christians will celebrate the holiday as a time for kids to dress up and go door-to-door for ticks-or-treats.

Others believe the holiday to be evil and refuse to acknowledge it. The belief that Halloween is "evil" comes from the belief that the barrier between the world of the living and the world of the dead is thinned and the spirits cross over.

Halloween falls on the Celtic holiday Samhain, which is the time when the Celts harvest their crops and celebrate the passing of harvest season and the beginning of winter. They also believe that during Samhain the line between the world of the living and the spirit world is thinned, and spirits, both harmful and not, would cross over. Celts wear masks to dress up like evil spirits to

mimic them and entertain them. Celts would build bonfires to cleanse the area and would often walk between two bonfires to cleanse themselves.

Jack o' lanterns receive their name from



an old Irish folk story. As the story goes, an Irish blacksmith named Jack came across the devil one night. The Devil wanted to take

Jack's soul. Sneakily, Jack asked him to climb a tree to get him an apple and then the Devil could have his soul. The Devil complied, and after climbing the tree, Jack carved a cross in the trunk of the tree and the devil was stuck.

years later, he went to Heaven, but was denied access because of his earthly sins; he was sent to Hell, but was denied access because of his promise with the Devil. He asked the Devil where he was to go since he cannot enter Heaven or Hell. The Devil said he must go back to where he came. Jack begged the Devil not to send him back without some light. The Devil gave Jack some Hellfire and Jack stuck the Hellfire inside of a turnip he had and began to wander back to where he came from. Because of this story, the jack o' lantern has become synonymous with damned souls.

In Mexico Halloween falls on el Dia de los Muertos, or the Day of the Dead. This holiday is celebrated by people traveling to cemeteries and building alters to set the favorite foods and drinks of the dead on. This holiday is meant to celebrate the lives of loved ones who have past and to encourage their souls to contact the living. This holiday can get very comical when reminiscing about the memories of the dead.

In the Middle Ages on November 1, or Hallowmas, poor people would go home to home and beg for food in return for prayers for the dead on All Souls Day which falls on November 2. Trick-or-treating was also used in a question form; kids would say "trick or treat?" meaning they would play a trick if they did not receive a treat.

The trick-or-treating tradition has carried on into our modern Halloween celebrations, as has dressing up. However, in today's celebration of Halloween the meaning behind masks and trick-or-treating is not the same as it once was.

National Math Competition Comes to Houston Area October 30, 2010

MathFest, the national math competition aimed at igniting students' interest in pursuing careers in math, is coming to the Houston Area on Oct. 30. During a nearly nine-hour day, elementary and middle school students will rotate in and out of the Convention Center on Galveston Island solving math problems. MathFest is a competition for students in First through Eighth Grade in public, private, charter, Christian and home school programs. The event founder, Dr. Ron K. Boykins a former principal in Atlanta, has been guiding the program for over eight years. Dr. Boykins said that too many of our competitions in academics are limited to the best and brightest therefore only a few students benefit from the experience. All children, regardless of math ability level, are welcome to compete at MathFest. Dr. Boykins feels that it is important for students to get involved at an early age because these will be our competitors and mathematicians of tomorrow. The competition generates tremendous interest and enthusiasm for math while also reinforcing existing mathematics curriculum.

Boykins continued that we need a new way to get our kids motivated for math. In too many classrooms, educators are presenting material the same way that it was presented 20 years ago and our kids are not buying it. Where are the math programs in our communities? We have so few that we shouldn't wonder why are kids are not interested. When the MathFest comes to town, you will see the excitement and energy that a critical area like math deserves. During this competition you will find the math music, shirts and carnival-like competition that are unlike anything that Texans have seen before.

The event has seen numbers exceeding 7,000 in Atlanta according to Boykins. This year their goal is to reach across the country in 34 states to impact students. The MathFest Competition will be making three stops in Texas at the Gonzales Convention Center in San Antonio, the Galveston Island Convention Center in Galveston, and the Dallas Convention Center in Dallas There is a charge of \$395 for a school to register 80 students, or \$20 to register a child individually.

The top students from each grade level will progress to the Regional and National Championships. To get involved or to get more information contact Dr. Boykins at 404 391-0249 or visit www.mathfest.us.

Solutions to last edition's puzzles Last Edition's Crossword

D	A	N	C	E	D		B	L	I	N	I		E	L	B	O	W		R	I	T	E			
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SUDOKU

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