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"keeping an eye for news"

DATELINE DOWNTOWN

THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON - DOWNTOWN
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STUDENT RUN NEWSPAPER SINCE VOLUME ONE
Volume 53 Issue 1

Will Recent Construction alleviate parking issues?



Construction site photos at Academic Building - One Main Street August 8, 2014

(Dustee Torres / Dateline Downtown)

Campus Life

by Jason Rivas
Staff Reporter

This Fall, incoming students will be greeted with welcome banners, excited faces, and a full-scale construction project. UHD's continued growth will be seen in a three-phase project where the Girard Street parking garage once stood. To put it in perspective, UHD's Public Relations Coordinator, Claire Caton, provided a plethora of information about the project. The first phase will be a rebuilt, three level faculty parking garage that will provide 419 spaces for UHD faculty, as well as additional spaces nearby for visitors. The second phase will construct a brand new shell space, on top of the parking garage, for offices such as Admissions, Veteran Affairs, Dis-

ability Services, and the testing center. The final phase will build a glass-enclosed, Welcome Center for students, faculty, and visitors. The Welcome Center will be a "major opportunity" for UHD's continued growth as a burgeoning choice for future students, and a symbol for current students and alumni. It will be located on top of the parking garage and be leveled with the third floor of the One Main and Academic buildings, providing a smooth transition to the campus. The overall project will cost approximately 19 million dollars, with the bulk of the amount paid for via student parking fees. The project is scheduled for completion by August 2015.

In addition to the afore-
(continued on page 10)

News

The Texas Gubernatorial Race Heats Up



(Texas Governors's Mansion / Creative Commons)

By GeRoyal Jackson
Staff Reporter

The first open election for Texas governor since 1990 will take place on November 4, 2014, giving Texans their first gubernatorial

election without an incumbent candidate in 24 years. The governor's race features two candidates representing the major parties, Republican State Attorney General Greg Ab-

bott, Democratic State Senator Wendy Davis, Green Party candidate, Brandon Parmer and Libertarian candidate Kathie Glass. However despite the differences in this race and previous governor's race, some themes remain the same. The latest Rasmussen poll taken from 8/4-8/5 shows the race heating up with Abbott 8 points ahead of Davis (48%-40%), making it the closest poll in months. As Election Day approaches, both of the marquee candidates have taken to the airways with campaign ads.

Abbott's campaign launched an ad broadcast in English and Spanish featuring his mother-in-law, Mary Lucy Phelan, the child of Mexican immigrants, singing his praises. "This is nothing more than an attempt by Greg Abbott to distract from his pattern of siding with Austin insiders and hurting Texans in the process," said Davis spokesman Zac Petkanas. Simultaneously the Davis campaign released ads, in English and Spanish as well, attacking Abbott for a Texas Supreme Court ruling where he sided

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Student Government

New Leaders: Big Ideas



(noodlesandbeef / flickr via creative commons)

By Ted Shull
Editor-in-Chief

"I want the University of Houston-Downtown to be seen as one of the best schools in Houston, as a minority-serving institution with little name rec-

ognition, we still stand out among much larger, tier one universities. I want our school to get the attention that it deserves because of the challenges we are able to overcome" New Student Government Association President John Locke spoke with Dateline Downtown about his hopes and plans for the University of Houston-Downtown and what his priorities will be for the upcoming year. As president, Locke was elected to be the collective voice of

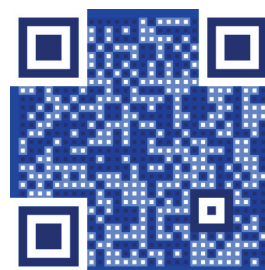
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University

Dateline Downtown's new online presence and podcast



(courtesy of uhd.edu)

by Juan Hernandez
Assistant Editor

Dateline Downtown has been the University of Houston-Downtown's student-run newspaper for many years. The 2014-2015 school year at UHD will be much different for Dateline, as Editor-In-Chief Theodore Shull and Assistant Editor Juan Hernandez prepare

to take Dateline to the next level of online presence and deep into the podcast world.

Over the course of the new school year, the Dateline will feature stories relating to UHD events, activities, and just about everything that is happening around campus. In an age where technology remains dominant, a bigger online presence and a podcast makes a lot of sense for a newspaper to stay relevant in 2014 and beyond. The online presence format will feature stories that serve as "teasers" in print issues, and will often feature stories that did not make print.

Podcasts have

been the latest trend of delivering audio content to people worldwide, and it makes perfect sense to have a podcast that serves a purpose to UHD's community. The podcast format will launch with 1 episode after each issue is released, with a 30-minute length that will eventually be extended to 1 hour in the future. Additionally, a monthly interview with UHD's SGA President John Locke will also follow each podcast episode at the same length, totaling to 2 episodes per issue. The format of the podcast will serve as commentary between Theodore and Juan, covering tidbits from each section's

stories that have been published on both print and online editions of the newspaper. Interviews will also be the basis of the podcast, as relevant issues that can be presented within the stories can be discussed with individuals who are experts or have more knowledge in a specific field or topic that is being addressed.

Dateline Downtown serves to promote and advertise everything UHD and the goals set by Ted and Juan will have listeners and readers become more engaged and involved within the UHD community, and have an opportunity to have a voice as students.

LIST OF EVENTS

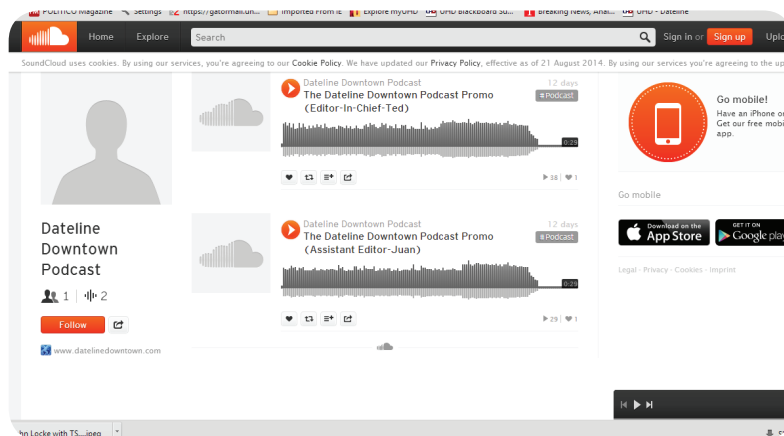
Walk to Vote - October 23, 2014

Safe Zone First General Assembly - Thursday
September 12, 2014 2:30 p.m. in S290

UHD Club Sports Tryouts Now through
September 4th

O'Kane Gallery Opening September 4th

people to the Registry so blood cancer patients have HOPE for a cure. You could be someone's MATCH!



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Dateline Downtown welcomes submissions to the editor from any member of the UH system. Submissions should be no more than 300 words, include the author's full name, phone number or email address, and affiliation with the University, including classification and major. Anonymous submissions will not be published.

Deliver submissions to room S-260, email them to dateline.editor@yahoo.com or fax them to (713) 223 7466. Letters to the editor may be edited for space. They will be edited for spelling, grammar and malicious or libelous statements. Submissions must be the work of the writer and must be signed. All submissions become property of Dateline Downtown and will not be returned.

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Governor Rick Perry indicted on two felony counts

By Joshua Burgman
Staff Reporter

A Travis County, Texas grand jury indicted Governor Rick Perry on two felony counts. The jury charged that Governor Perry abused the authority of his office when he demanded the resignation of Travis County District Attorney Rosemary Lehmberg. Lehmberg, who has been with the district attorney's office since 1976, was elected as its top litigator in 2008 and remains in office. On April 12, 2013, Lehmberg was found by Austin police officers parked in a church parking lot, after having been followed by a concerned citizen who would call 911 on her for reckless driving. After approaching and conducting a field sobriety test, police would later arrest the district attorney who had a blood alcohol level that was three times the legal limit. Video of the arrest and subsequent booking procedure was later released to the public, showing the Travis County DA acting belligerent and unruly with the

police officers that handled her. Lehmberg pled guilty to DWI charges and was sentenced to 45 days in jail, of which she served 21. Upon her arrest and the release of the video, Governor Rick Perry called for Lehmberg to resign, but was met with resistance from the prosecutor who later released a statement stating, "I deeply regret my actions and take full responsibility. As I continue to carry out my responsibilities as district attorney, I hope that the community will forgive my mistake." Not satisfied with Lehmberg still being in office, Perry vowed to veto \$7.5 million in state funding, which was allocated to the public corruption unit in Lehmberg's office if she did not resign. The indictment filed against Perry states that he abused his authority as governor by threatening to use his veto powers to pressure a pub-



(Governor Perry leaves Travis County Courthouse via flickr / creative commons)

lic official to resign from office. The indictment charges Perry with two felony counts, with the first count charging that the governor, "intentionally or knowingly misused government property by dealing with the property contrary to an agreement with [Perry] held such property or contrary to the oath of office he took as a public servant." The governor spoke out against the indictments in a public statement he made from his Austin office on August 16, 2014, stating that, "as governor, I took an oath to faithfully uphold the constitution of the state of

Texas...that's the same constitution that clearly outlines the authority of any governor to veto items at his or her discretion, just as I have." The governor went on to say how he would fight all charges to the very end, and that he felt like he did nothing wrong in exercising the constitutional authority entrusted to him by the citizens of the state of Texas. He also stated that he and the citizens of Texas had "lost confidence" in District Attorney Lehmberg, and that her resigning seemed like the only way to rectify the situation. It is unknown how the in-

dictments will affect the governor, who is preparing for a second presidential run after his failed 2012 presidential election campaign.

Later on in the month

the governor will have to turn himself in to authorities for booking and processing. The indictments mark only the second time in Texas history that a sitting governor has faced charges of wrongdoing. The first time being in 1917 when Texas Governor James E "Pa" Ferguson was indicted on embezzlement charges which caused him to eventually resign from office. It is not known how these charges will affect the current Texas governor or his upcoming presidential bid, but either way, Rick Perry has vowed to fight until the very end.

Texas Governor's Race (Cont. Page 1)



(Texas Capitol via Flickr)

against a woman who was raped by a door-to-door salesman. In their response, the Abbott campaign called the ad, "gutter politics" and said that it proved that the ad came from a candidate without substance. "In the case referenced in

Sen. Davis' despicable ad, Greg Abbott's decision left intact the liability against the sex offender and his employer," Abbott campaign spokesman Chasse said. "No amount of desperate

distortion attempts or taken ad buys by Sen. Davis can change the facts of Greg Abbott's record of fighting for Texans." Abbott in fact has had a long history in Texas. He was appointed to the Texas Supreme Court in 1995 by then governor George W. Bush, where he served until 2001, when he sought the Texas Attorney General post left vacant by John Cornyn's U.S. Senate run.

He has served as Texas Attorney General since 2002. Abbott has famously said of his job as Attorney General, "I go into the office in the morning, I sue Barack Obama, and then I go home." State Senator Davis, plunged into the race after her national headlines grabbing marathon filibuster against abortion restriction in 2013. Davis' heightened profile excited Democrats nationally, about her chances of retaking the Governor's mansion for Texas and possible 'turning Texas blue' and making it a battleground state for Presidential Elec-

tions. Davis has a long history of serving Texas as well. Davis was first elected to city council in 1999 where she served for ten years, focusing on issues such as transportation, neighborhood issues and economic development. She unseated Republican State Senator Kim Brimer in 2008, and was reelected to the State Senator post again in 2012. Since July 2013, Davis has raised about \$20 million and has about \$8.8 million on hand now. Abbott has raised about \$28 million in the same time frame, but maintains a larger war chest of about \$35 million

comprised of funds, he had on hand before the race even began. Attorney General Abbott and State Senator Davis have agreed to two gubernatorial debates, on September 19th in the Rio Grande Valley and on Sept. 30th in McAllen which will be televised statewide. The election is Tuesday, November 4th.

UH-Downtown takes leadership role in Texas Student Association and other community initiatives

By Ted Shull
Editor-in-Chief

Our mid-sized, commuter campus university has started playing an oversized role in statewide educational issues and policy through Student Government Association's new leadership initiatives and its commitment to community service. UHD has spearheaded an effort to form a statewide alli-

ance with sixteen other colleges this summer through the Texas Student Association conference. A direct result of UHD's high impact learning curriculum, TSA will be a forum for students to "change the face of education, and to empower students and to have their voices heard in a collective fashion" according to SGA president John

Locke. Once a constitution and charter is written and passed, representatives will lobby for pro-education legislation and work with larger organizations like the National Campus Leadership Council to coordinate problem resolution on issues such as sexual assault prevention and student debt. UHD's Voter Registration drive, the Deputization Drive

and Walk to Vote initiatives, signature events of SGA, have are having a major impact on the larger Houston community by getting students involved in public service. In 2012, the first ever Walk to Vote campaign, sponsored by SGA, saw over 2,500 students register to vote and nearly 700 students attended the event. Overall, UHD witnessed voter par-

ticipation rates at over 40 percent of total student population, while other local schools hovered at 5 – 15 percent participation rates. The 2014 Walk to Vote event will be hosted in conjunction with UHD's homecoming pep rally on Thursday, October 23 at 11:00 am on the South Deck.



SGA President John Locke with TSA Certificate
(Dustee Torres / Dateline Downtown)

How to Ease your way into the college experience

by Jason Arbaiza

As summer quickly comes to an end and the fall semester comes ever so close, many students may be apprehensive or even scared about starting college for the first time. Taking the step to pursue higher education is a tough one, but it is even tougher when there seems to be no one to guide you through it. There are a plethora of classes available, so many organizations, and even more social events to take into consideration. Where should one begin to focus their attention? Well, there is no easy answer. There are many ways to go about a successful semester at UHD, but I would like to share with you some common choices and characteristics of success-

ful first year students. There are many things that can help a student deal with the shock of entering college, but some of the most important are:

1. **Relaxing**
Calm down, do not be anxious over classes, tests, or professors. All things will be sorted out in due time.
2. **Sleeping Well**
It goes without saying that health is of utmost importance in any intellectual endeavor. Make sure you sleep well and at appropriate times.
3. **Exercising/ Eating Healthy**
In order to be successful in any endeavor, one should be of sound mind and body. Also, as an added bonus, exercise

has been known to help relieve stress and manage depression.

4. **Studying**
The best way to excel in class is to study the material. There are many resources available to you. Use them, you pay for them!
5. **Stop Procrastinating**
Work hard, do your assignments on time, and do your best to succeed.

Do these things, and you will be on your way to becoming a successful UHD student. Do not be afraid of change. Change is good. Embrace this phase of your life, do your best, and you will be rewarded.



(Dustee Torres / Dateline Downtown)

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National

Ferguson, A City in Turmoil

By GeRoyal Jackson
Staff Writer

A fatal shooting in Ferguson, Missouri has left a college bound young man dead and unleashed a firestorm of activism, unrest and anger, as our nation is left once again to reexamine the nature of race and discrimination in a country that prides itself on justice and equality.

On Saturday August 9, 2014, Michael Brown and a friend were walking in the street when they were stopped by a police officer. In a series of events not yet fully disclosed, an unarmed Brown was shot to death by the police officer, after a physical confrontation between the two.

Following the shooting, the unrest in the city of Ferguson over Brown's death, erupted into violence when a candlelight vigil on August 10th escalated into a violent riot with law enforcement officials that involved looting. More than a dozen businesses are vandalized and over 30 people are arrested.

In the following days, Brown's parents Lesley McSpadden and Michael Brown Sr. retain Benjamin Crump as their lawyer, the same lawyer who represented slain teen, Trayvon Martin's parents. McSpadden and Brown appeal for justice and not violence as means of remembering their son. But nightfall would bring more protests, more arrests, as well as more police who began using tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse crowds who did not protest peacefully.

By Tuesday August 11th, the story had gone viral. Rev. Al Sharpton flew in to help organize protests. President Obama released a statement lamenting the situation as a "tragedy". The news of the events of Ferguson spread throughout social media becoming so popular, it has its own hashtag #Ferguson and police and protesters clash for a third consecutive night.

Wednesday night August 12th, the clashes between police and protesters continue, with police using force and tear gas to disperse protesters and journalists. Several journalists were arrested as well as a city Alderman. The FAA briefly imposes a "no fly zone" over Ferguson to the unrest and reports of several shots being fired into the air.

The following morning on the 13th, Governor of Missouri, Jay Nixon arrives and tours the area, while President Obama urges "calm" during an address to the nation. Governor Nixon announces that the Missouri Highway Patrol will take over security in Ferguson and that the local law enforcement unit will be led by Capt. Ron Johnson, an African American police officer with ties to the community. This leads to the first night of peaceful protests, since

Brown's death.

On Friday August 15th, the name of the officer who shot Brown, Darren Wilson, is finally released, simultaneously as new information and video footage implicating Brown in a gas station robbery is released. The family of Michael Brown releases a statement saying they are "beyond outraged" by how the information was released in a way to "assassinate the character of their son," tying him to the robbery. The Ferguson Police Chief confirms to media that Officer Wilson did not have knowledge that Brown was a suspect in a recent robbery prior to shooting Brown. That night, police and nearly 200 protesters clash once again as protesters armed with rocks confront police, while law enforcement deploys armored tanks, tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse crowds. In addition more vandalism and looting are reported Friday night.

Over the weekend, Governor Nixon declares a state of emergency in Ferguson and sets a curfew for protests, as the Department of Justice and FBI announce parallel investigations into Brown's death. More arrests follow, including at least one reported shooting. On Sunday, August 17th, an independent autopsy done at the behest of Brown's family reveals he was shot 6 times, twice in the head and four times in the arm, with no gun residue on the body, suggesting that shooting did not occur from a close range. That night the protests remain despite the curfew with police reporting that protesters have hurled Molotov cocktails at law enforcement. In addition, protesters carried out coordinated attempts to overrun the police command center.

As we enter another week of escalating tension surrounding Brown's death, it is important to put the events of the past week into perspective. Michael Brown's death in of itself is not unusual. Every day in this country, people die at the hands of law enforcement, whether controversially or mundanely. What is unusual however is that in the cases of most police officer casualties, police are able to justify the shootings and prove causation for murder. Based on the evidence that has been provided, this was not the case with the Michael Brown shooting. Michael Brown was shot 6 times to the front of his body. The police officer in question, Darren Wilson, had no knowledge of Brown's involvement in a crime, and Brown did not have a criminal record which would have led the officer to believe that he could be a threat or a flight risk. Aside from a physical confrontation between Wilson and Brown, reported by the Chief of Police, we have no evidence that there was indeed an altercation between the two.

The echoes of the Trayvon Martin case ring loud

and true in this case with Brown. Yes, Brown was a suspect for a robbery he had just committed, but it had nothing to do with his murder. Instead an officer murdered Brown for some other reason that the public has not been permitted to know.

I believe this is the cause of the protests, the sense of urgency, the national pride that has driven people all over the country to symbolically join and support the #Ferguson protests. Under normal circumstances, when a person has been murdered, there is a police investigation, there are arrests and there is justice. In this case, there has been none of this has happened, almost as if suggesting that the murders of Black men are unimportant or somehow underserving of justice.

African Americans across the country from North to South, East to West, see parallels of their own lives, their sons, their husbands, their fathers in this case. Likewise, they all can relate to a history of police harassment and a complete lack of respect and justice from law enforcement officials.

This is not just a #Ferguson issue it is an #American issue. And this American issue will not go away, until our country addresses the history of racial bias and discrimination in its law enforcement ranks across the country, as well as with itself.



(Ferguson Police via Flickr / Creative Commons)

Do you agree or disagree? We want to know -- gives us your two cents about this topic. Email us at dateline-downtownweb@yahoo.com. Please refer to the "Submission Policy" on page two before sending us your response.

Reviews

Boyhood: One of the decades best films



By Mohammed Zain
Arts / Entertainment Editor

12 years.

For the ears who haven't yet been graced by the miracle tale of the latest great cinematic achievement, enter Boyhood. It's Directed by Texas native and under-rated mastermind Richard Linklater, responsible for an eclectic filmography spawning Dazed and Confused, School of Rock and the Before trilogy (Before Sunset, Before Midnight), Boyhood comes as latest achievement and, quite possibly, his finest.

In the simplest terms, Boyhood invites you to follow the simple, yet nuanced story of a boy growing up in Texas from ages 6 to 18. Where every other coming-of-age narrative relies on a cutting edge make-up department, Linklater relies on a more honest aging machine: time.

Using the exact same actors, down to every relevant background extra, Linklater spent an actual 12 years filming an boy and his family age and go through experiences from the past decade plus. Enlisting known actors Ethan Hawke and Patricia Arquette as parents, the film serves as a time capsule for their work alongside the created narrative.

The result is one of unprecedented catharsis. Over the course of a three hour running time, you're graced into a deeply personal tale of an individual's most pivotal years of growth. In Linklater's expert craftsmanship, the personal becomes effortlessly universal and the time flies by.

With Linklater's signature long takes of conversation, impeccable control of idiosyncratic, humanistic humor and effortless depictions of ordinary, yet unforgettably endearing characters, Boyhood comes as yet another successful installment of Linklater existentialism. A film, for those who saw it this summer, never left our thoughts or our conversations.

Capturing the human experience itself, Boyhood is a tribute to countless pockets of life. It may be a boy's tale in Texas, but there isn't a soul alive who couldn't find themselves in Boyhood: one of the purest expressions and earnestly ambitious achievements in cinema.

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O'Kane Gallery opens with "Left Bank"

By Ashley Donamaria
Staff Writer

Starting Sept. 4, the O'Kane Gallery brings The 'Left Bank' on the Bayou: Avant-garde Art and Theatre in 1930's Houston gallery to the academic building located on One Main St. Centering around the eternally progressive performance and visual arts style: Avant-Garde, a medium attracting true and inspiring artists to Houston for years to come. Particularly shaping the way art is perceived today, avant-garde made its mark on Houston during the 1930's. Among many was Marjo Jones, a key inspiration during the art scene's pivotal era to a group of artists bringing modern art to the Bayou City, much of which will be featured at the gallery. Opening Sept. 9 and closing Oct. 15 at midnight, the O'Kane Gallery offers free admission and is open to the public.



Courtesy of www.uhd.edu



(Dustee Torres / Dateline Downtown)

UHD introduces Club Sports for Fall 2014

Coming Fall 2014 UHD Club Sports



Women's Soccer Club



Men's Soccer Club



Women's Basketball Club



Men's Basketball Club



Men's Baseball Club

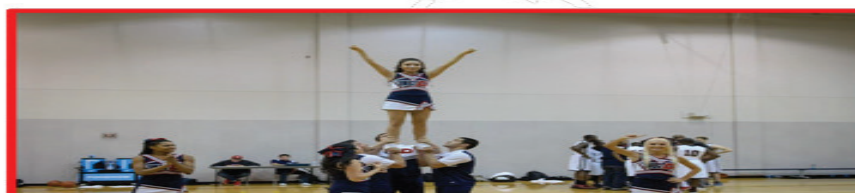


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Monsters of the Gulf Coast: Winnig Games through Defense

By Sean Syed
Staff Writer

After the nightmare 2-14 season that the Houston Texans went through last year, they are ready to bounce back into playoff contention with a shift and change within their organization and a really easy schedule. First thing that they did after parting ways with the previous coaching staff that had a predictable play-calling and hired a respectable coach in Bill O'Brien, who happens to be from Bill Belichick's coaching tree. The next big splash they added was drafting Jadeveon Clowney, with the first overall pick in this year's draft that will help anchor the defense with JJ Watt and a healthy Brian Cushing coming back from rehab on his torn ACL from last season. The last thing that will help the Texans get into playoff contention will be the schedule. When it comes to teams with a Quarterback leading an offense full of weapons, they will be going face-to-face with Johnny Cleveland, Nick Foles, and Andrew Luck (twice). Down below are the records that I

predict the Houston Texans finish with. Bold Prediction: Sweep the AFC South & NFC East Division and finish with a 12-4 or 10-6 record Realistically: Finish with an 8-8 or 6-10 record Source of Kubiak getting axed by Bob McNair: Farrar, Doug. "Houston Texans Fire Head Coach Gary Kubiak after 11-game Losing Streak." SI.com. CNN, 6 Dec. 2013. Web. 14 Aug. 2014.

Flourishing in Fantasy Football: The Top 3 Cornerstone Players to take in each position

Fantasy Football can be more stressful than signing up for classes, a printer jam, and turning in a paper before 11:59 pm on turnitin.com; but with the right personnel, strategizing, and analyzing the schedule, there will be less grey hairs in your future. Down below is a list of players from each position that I would highly recommend.

Hard Hitting Expectations for Upcoming NFL Season



By Sean Syed
Staff Writer

The 2013 NFL Season was unreal. Matt Stafford's fake spike at the goal line in a comeback win against the Cowboys, Alshon Jeffery's on-field amazement, and witnessing Richard Sherman, a Stanford University Alumni from Compton, CA that happens to be the best cornerback in the league, win the Super

Bowl with his deaf teammate, Derrick Coleman. But that was last year. What should we expect from this upcoming season in the NFL? During the regular Season, expect Johnny Cleveland to start during the midseason and torch an elite defense. During the playoffs expect Another NFC West Showdown in the NFC Championship game between the Seahawks and 49ers, this

time Kaepernick throws a touchdown pass at the end of the game instead of an interception. Who will San Francisco beat in the Super Bowl this upcoming February in Phoenix? My homerism says the Houston Texans, but realistically it will be the New England Patriots. Source: Richard Sherman has previously stated that he is from

A Reflection on the life of Actor Robin Williams

By

GeRoyal Jackson
Staff Reporter

"I started doing comedy because that was the only stage that I could find. It was the pure idea of being on stage. That was the only thing that interested me, along with learning the craft and working, and just being in productions with people."- Robin Williams
Robin Williams, the prolific comedian and talented actor best remembered for roles in films such as Good Will Hunting, Dead Poet's

Society, Good Morning Vietnam, Aladdin, and many more, died on August 11, 2014 from an apparent suicide. He was the father of three children, Zachary, Zelda Rae and Cody. In subsequent statements released by Williams' publicists and family, Williams had been suffering from depression, as well as a recent Parkinson's disease diagnosis. Williams was also very public about his history of drug use and alcohol addiction, including rehab in July to, "fine-tune and focus on his continued commitment to sobriety," as his rep de-

scribed the brief stint. Born in Chicago, Illinois on July 21, 1951, Williams first caught the performance bug at Claremont Men's College after attending improvisation lessons, which he found fit his sharp wit and energetic presence. He then enrolled at a different college, this time to study acting and subsequently won a scholarship to attend the prestigious Julliard School in New York City. While attending Julliard, Williams began performing stand up in his spare time and quickly realized that comedy was his way forward.

He subsequently dropped out of Julliard and relocated to the west coast. There, he performed his stand-up routine before getting his first break on the Richard Pryor Show, which led to his big break as the infamous Mork on Happy Days. Williams' appearance as Mork on Happy Days led to his own spin off show titled Mork and Mindy, which ran four seasons on ABC and earned Williams his first Golden Globe award in 1979. From there, Williams' appeared in several films over the course of three decades and was

nominated for an Academy Award three times before winning a Best Supporting Oscar in 1998 for his role as the tough-love therapist in Good Will Hunting. Williams' roles were as diverse as they were endearing and unforgettable. Each of his roles offer something different to everyone, from the Genie in Aladdin, John Keating in Dead Poet's Society, to the struggling dad in Mrs. Doubtfire; almost everyone has a favorite role or film that has personal significance. In addition to his many roles and reverence amongst his peers, Williams

was also a philanthropist. He worked with Comic Relief USA since its inception to raise money for the homeless, performed in countless USO tours for American troops and served on the board of directors for the Dana and Christopher Reeve Foundation. He was also a fundraiser and spokesman for the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and founded the Windfall Foundation to channel contributions to various charities as well



NFL Season continue from page 7

Compton, CA and graduated from Stanford with a communications degree; Derrick Coleman is deaf, the heartwarming Duracell commercial can confirm it.

as Super Bowl champions. This year, however, things are looking to be more interesting and filled with more excitement.

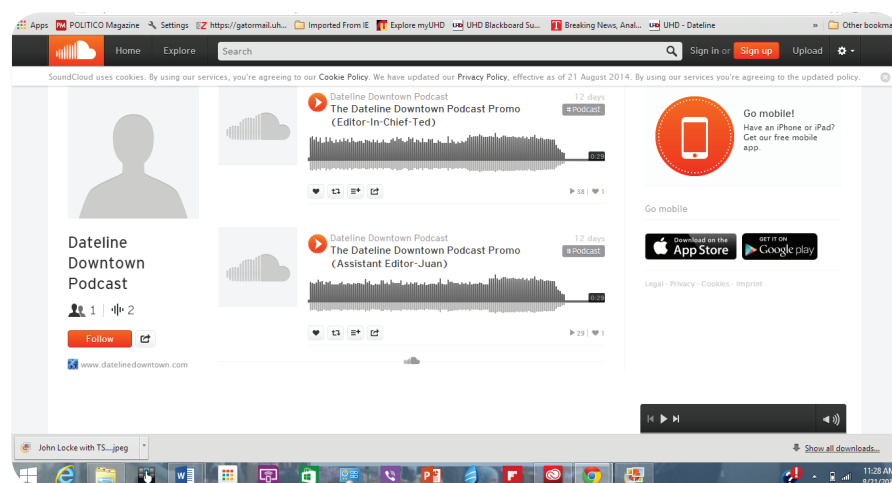
Super Bowl by hosting it in 2017. The last time that Houston hosted a Super Bowl was in 2004, where the Patriots defeated the



(logospictures.blogspot.com) by attracting mil-

Panthers and also lions of people featured the Janet Jackson halftime show controversy.

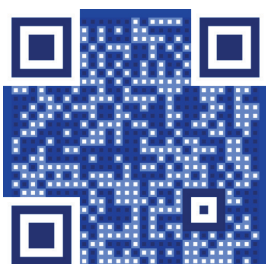
The latest renovations at Reliant Stadium will make for a great Super Bowl experience, and the city's economy will ultimately benefit



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(Jason Rivas / Dateline Downtown)

Our Moment in the Red Dragon

UH-Downtown Study Abroad Program in China

Jason Rivas
Staff Writer

An email from Dr. Islam is what began our journey. In February, the esteemed professor of the College of Business and IBA had a proposal: taking part in a 12-day adventure to China. After a meeting with our intrepid coordinator, Ms. Toledo, a chance of a lifetime was at hand: representing our university while exploring the tapestry of wonder and intrigue that is China. 33 students answered the call and boarded a flight to China on May 23rd.

Eventually we arrived to the “Pearl of the Orient,” Shanghai. A city of lights, life, and wonder. We proceeded to visit its treasures. Shanghai International Studies University, the Jade Temple and Yuyuan Garden where the past enchants the present’s minds; the Bund and Pudong District where buildings climb to the heavens and allow patrons to see the sky kiss the horizon. We learned of the art of business and haggling, while eating every night like emperors and

empresses.

While Shanghai continues to develop internationally, Beijing and her citizens relish in the traditional lifestyle and practices of before. Ancient stone buildings rise above the simple dwellings and beside modern structures. The city’s true enchantment though, was found on the day we visited China’s most precious treasures.

As we stood for a group photo, the moment hit us. We stood on the grounds of Tiananmen Square. In front of us was the memorial where Mao laid for all to see. On opposite sides of us stood the meeting place of the Great Hall of the People, and China’s grand history for all to admire, the National Museum. Behind us was the Forbidden City. A walk through imperial China from centuries’ past led then us to a long and winding road that ended at The Wall. A wonder for all to see, an experience we all would never forget. The Great Wall of China weaved and wove with the terrain, creating an intricate embroidery of stone and nature. Every person

knew he/she would never forget the experience we shared that day.

That’s the essence of Ms. Toledo’s Study Abroad Programs: learning different aspects of life while building a connection with others. Whether calling themselves the A-Team, a happy feet sorority, etc.; we all bonded over gatherings, experiences, and birthdays as siblings from different cultures. Dr. Islam would say, “We are now a family,” and though life will inevitably separate us, we always will be.



The “Monday Blues” is not just for famous actors

By GeRoyal Jackson
Staff Writer

Amidst the public sentiments, peer honors, tributes, and media scrutiny of the actor’s death, many were shocked that Robin Williams, who was constantly upbeat and energetic, some might even say— ‘manic’, could have been battling with depression for many years. However, the Centers for Disease Control reports that about “1 out of 20 Americans 12 years of age and older reported current depression in 2005–2006,” which would be roughly 15 million Americans who suffer from the disease. Despite the prevalence of depression in America, there is still a stigma associated with the mental disorder. Many people simply dismiss depression, assuming it is an emotional condition similar to the “Monday Blues,” rather than a serious illness. As a result millions of people go undiagnosed and untreated, while those who have been diagnosed face difficulty in sharing

their condition or finding people who understand the severity of the disease.

A student here at the University of Houston-Downtown who asked to remain anonymous, is familiar with the struggles of battling depression and while surprised at the actor’s passing, had a hunch about his condition. “His humor while hilarious, was so self-deprecating at times, that I had an idea that it might be depression, which goes hand in hand with addiction.”

However, the UH-D student cautions that hiding the disease can make it worse. “Talk about it. Reach out. Isolation is the absolute worst thing you can do. I hope that anyone suffering would get some help. It’s nothing to be ashamed of.”

The student reports that after two years of seeking treatment for his depression, is recovering; “before it ruled my life, now it’s nonexistent.” While we remember Robin Williams, and as our society freshly reflect on the gravity of depression, let us not forget that beyond the great entertainer, philanthropist, and even someone battling demons; let us also remember his best

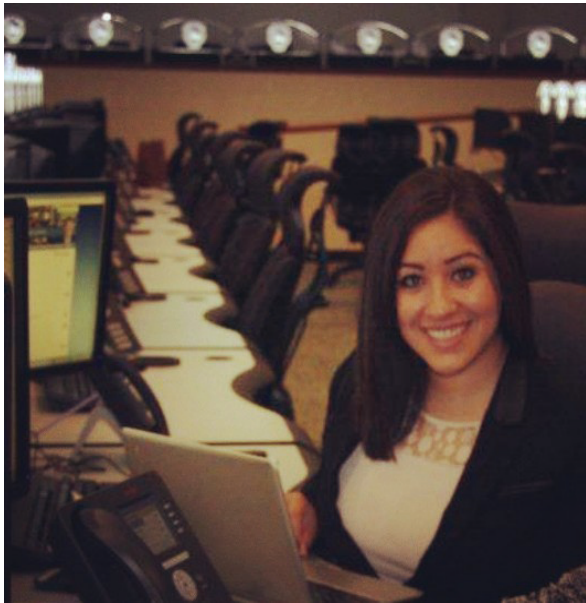
and most fulfilling role as a father.

In a 2013 Reddit AMA to promote the premiere of his new CBS comedy, Williams offered fans this anecdote about reading to his only daughter, Zelda Rae:

“Growing up, it was *The Lion*, *The Witch* and *The Wardrobe* - I would read the whole C.S. Lewis series out loud to my kids. I was once reading to Zelda, and she said “don’t do any voices. Just read it as yourself.” So I did, I just read it straight, and she said ‘that’s better.’”

UH-D Offers Student Counseling Services for all students seeking help with mental health issues. Call 713-221-8121

The Student Counseling Services 24 hour Emergency Line 713-500-3852



(Jason Rivas / Dateline Downtown)

Jason J. Rivas
Staff Writer
Francis Rodriguez

This season on 24: a threat off the Galveston Bay coast. Jack Bauer arrives, infiltrates the threat, breaks some rules, dramatically whispers to his team, unravels plot twists, com-

mercial break, shoots bad guys, and saves America in 24 hours. That's Hollywood's take but at Harris County Homeland Security & Emergency (HCOHSEM), their 24 hour days are usually less dramatic. Francis Rodriguez is an intern with HCOHSEM,

An evolving look at local internships

while studying towards her Bachelor's in Social Science at UHD. I had the pleasure of sitting down and discussing Francis' time with HCOHSEM:

• Dateline Downtown: Thank you for your time Francis, I hope we're not intruding you from your current mission.

• Francis: Definitely not.

• DD: What is HCOHSEM and their mission?

• Francis: Our mission is to be a national model of best practices in emergency planning, preparation, response, and recovery. Our office helps to protect residents of Harris County from the effects of natural and man-made disas-

ters.

• DD: How did you find this internship?

• Francis: It was recommended to me by a professor, so I think it's extremely important that students get to know their professors.

• DD: What are your responsibilities at HCOHSEM?

• Francis: I'm part of the Public Information Office and my responsibilities are writing news releases, helping with press releases, revising any type of editorial work, social media, and public outreach.

• DD: Did you find the experience enjoy-

able?

• Francis: I most definitely did, I love it! It was probably the best experience of my life. This office actually included me in their everyday activities. I wasn't just stuck filing, I was right there next to them, it was awesome!

• DD: Has the internship prepared you for whatever your future holds?

• Francis: I definitely believe so. I DEFINITELY believe so.

• DD: Any final thoughts to share?

• Francis: I didn't get to know my professors until my senior year, and I wish I had done it much sooner. I think it's important because not

only was I able to get an amazing internship through one of my professor, but my professors became my mentors, my professor wrote my letter of recommendation, and they're going to open doors that I wouldn't have without them.

• DD: Last question, has HCOHSEM ever asked you to save America?

• Francis: Not yet, but if they do I'm ready! HCOHSEM values its relationship and history with UHD and the internship experience, while serving Harris County if and when disaster strikes.

Welcome Center continued from page 1

mentioned, UHD's commitment to safety for its students and faculty will be displayed with additional light fixtures, cameras, and call boxes to the city-owned parking lots near Main Street, increased light fixtures to the Daly Street parking lot, and prevalent enforcement officials, particularly at night. Future planning calls for a new student parking garage, once proper real estate has been acquired.

With the current availability of parking for students, David Bradley, Vice-President for Administration and Finance, assures Dateline Downtown that a potential lack of parking is unfounded. Even during peak hours, the Daly Street lot will have a plethora of available spaces on the West end, as well as the San Jacinto lot, Replacement Lot B, and Vine Street student garage. With a growing trend in students enrolling into online classes,

the approximate 1,956 parking spots available at UHD will be more than enough for students this Fall. And with the reliable shuttle bus services available, students need not fear having to park far and walk an unexpected journey across Middle Earth.



John Locke continue from page 1

the 14,000 students enrolled at UHD and to interact with officials to implement positive reforms for all students, and from all outside appearances, he is on track to transform the culture of student involvement and leadership at the institutional level and beyond. John said his goal in representing students is to foster individual student growth through high-impact learning, to highlight UHD's unique attributes as a minority serving institution and, despite limitations in public funding, to prove how UHD is able to stand out among better-funded and more reputation-oriented institutions.

Locke, a junior studying psychology, discovered a passion for leadership and service through volunteerism, and became involved with SGA to fulfill the commitment that all higher-learning in-

stitutions have to the community in which they are located. He began by starting an ad hoc committee called community outreach, which helped provide students with volunteer opportunities. Once this initiative proved successful he realized that this engagement with the surrounding community satisfied his own desires for education through public service and experience. Locke believes these high-impact learning experiences are what helps UHD and its students stand out among other local universities.

Locke summed up by saying "I have experienced a transformation that occurs when you volunteer and get these real life experiences to mark on with the education that you get at the university. Volunteerism has really changed my life and changed my path. I have been

able to see firsthand the struggles that people are going through and hear the genuineness of people when you are able to help them. If you're able to make a living off of something that you really care about then I feel like that should be one's goal in life".

Do you have what it takes to be a White House Intern?

By: Joshua Burgman
Staff Reporter

After applying and being accepted into one of the most competitive internship programs in the nation, White House Intern and University of Houston-Downtown student Tarah Taylor has committed herself to a promise she made upon her acceptance into the White House intern program. "I promised that I would ensure that anyone else who wanted to [apply] had the opportunity to apply," Taylor said. On August 22, 2014 she will be fulfilling that promise by hosting what she anticipates will become, the first annual White House Internship Program Interest Group. The meeting will be held at the UHD in room A627, and will feature Miss. Taylor, as well as another fellow White House intern from Texas Southern University. Taylor, who is pur-

suings a degree in Marketing, granted Dateline Downtown an interview and elaborated on how she plans to establish a foundation for UHD students who are interested in serving their country as an intern at the White House. What drives her the most is her passion for wanting UHD students to ascertain a commanding presence in this highly competitive arena that comes with an internship at the White House. Taylor states "we have a lot of potential at our school, and there is no reason why there is only one person from a University of Houston system school at the White House per year." Taylor believes that there is a lack of awareness, among the student body as well as university administra-



(Courtesy of Tarah Taylor)

tion, of the benefits and prestige of having UHD students competing for such a great opportunity to enhance their future careers. She also believes that because of a lack of experience in dealing with students that apply for White House internships, the university is not prepared to adequately support its students who, by being a intern at the white house

would bring an exorbitant amount of appeal to future students of UHD. She explained that, "the White House does a press release when students are selected as an intern... and that's a recruitment tool!"

When applying for the internship, most students are unaware of the cost associated with acceptance into the program. Interns for the White

House are not paid, and students are expected to manage the cost themselves. According to Taylor, "if the university is not prepared to help the students get there [financially,] they will not be able to go." Because of rules set down by the White House, students applying for the internship are not allowed to do any type of fund raising to help them ease the financial burden of picking up and moving to Washington D.C. at a moment's notice. With increased awareness and support from the university, Taylor believes that more students will become increasingly interested in applying for the program.

While financial assistance is essential to guarantee the success of any student who is ac-

cepted into the program at the White House, encouragement from fellow students like Taylor is also imperative to reinforce the steadfast commitment that the university should have while endorsing and supporting its students and future leaders of America. Taylor states, "We have the capability to put these kids in this program so we need to put a system in place to do that."

When interviewing Miss. Taylor it became very clear that she is dedicated to serving her country as well as giving back to the school that she believes helped her get to where she is today. When asked what her ultimate goal was by establishing the White House Internship Program Group, Taylor declared that, "I want the university to be seen as a major player in that internship program." Clearly she is the right person for the job.

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Welcome to the University of Houston-Downtown



(Dustee Torres / Dateline Downtown)



(Dustee Torres / Dateline Downtown)



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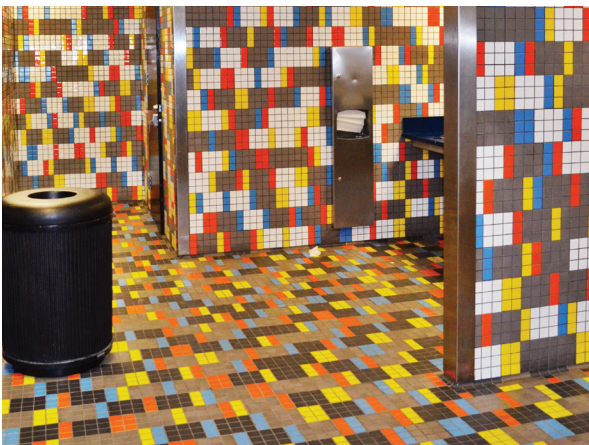
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(Dustee Torres / Dateline Downtown)



(Dustee Torres / Dateline Downtown)



(Dustee Torres / Dateline Downtown)



(Courtesy of SGA)