

DATELINE

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UHD Police Department teaches women self defense

BY DIANA AMBROSIO

This semester the UHD police department taught a series of self-defense classes known as the Rape Aggression Defense System program. RAD is meant to teach women to use techniques and tactics against aggressors.

The classes were split into three, four-hour long sessions. Attendance for all three sessions was mandatory in order to receive a certificate of completion.

According to the brochure, the reasoning for this program is to “empower women’s confidence in protecting and defending themselves against unwanted attacks.” The main goal is for students to learn to assess the situation. During the assess-

ment, if the ability to escape from the aggressor is available, women are encouraged to prioritize that choice.

Some women have had unfortunate encounters with people that had negative intentions.

A student in attendance, Francela Gallegos, described her reason for joining the class. She noticed that a group of men in a vehicle were following her while she was exercising at the park.

Gallegos had to come up with a plan on the spot. She walked towards an elderly couple at the parking lot and started talking to them like she knew them.

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UHD students pose the defensive stance taught by this semester’s instructors: UHD Detective Deionne Jackson (left) and UHD Police Officer Lisa Barajas (right) and state representatives. Courtesy: Diana Ambrosio.

UHD Mariachi ‘Los Caimanes’ honors Dia de los Muertos

BY GEAN GARCIA

On Nov. 2, UHD’s student Mariachi band, “Los Caimanes,” performed live on the third floor’s mural area to honor their fallen ancestors. Dressed in new blue suits and covered in traditional face paint, Los Caimanes sang various songs.

They also played a mélange of instruments such as the xylophone, acoustic guitar, trumpet, and the violin.

James Warner, a 19-year-old English major said that he grew up in Fifth Ward, where most Hispanics also celebrate by jamming music.

“It’s interesting, lots of culture vibes here. They’ve got some beautiful songs. The crowd is nice upbeat, and the whole experience is indescribable—got to respect that,” Warner said.

Los Caimanes played classics such as “Amor Eterno” (eternal love) and talked about their reasons for performing music, such as bringing them closer to God and their families. Some students in the audience felt the same way.

“I am here today because of my Mexican culture. Dia de los Muertos [Spanish for “day of the dead”] is an annual tradition where we

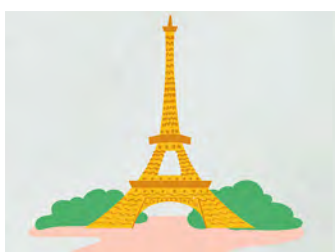
get to honor our fallen family members and remember our ancestors,” Finance major Melanie Delgado said.

The concert brought various groups, such as Greek Life, professors, and UHD administrative staff, together on campus.

“I like that they are student performers because they’re sending a positive message to the community to get educated and to give back to their community through culture, music, and education,” UHD’s Vice President Enrollment Management Daniel Villanueva said.



Los Caimanes from left to right: Fabian Quijano, Marianna Galvan-Sainz, Matt Alvarez, Hector aka “Winniebutt” Valle, Lizzy Rodriguez Alvarez, Abigail Sotelo, Kathy Simón, Mandy Payan, Jeffrey Tijerina, Kevin Barradas, and Valeria Codina. Credit: Gean-Louis Garcia.



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FIND US ONLINE!

UHD volunteers cheer on runners in annual ArtCar IPA 5K social



UHD's Gatoettes cheer on runners crossing the finish line. Credit: Diana Ambrosio

BY DIANA AMBROSIO

The Saint Arnold Art Car IPA 5K presented by UHD took place on Nov. 7. The annual event is a 3-mile-long run that people participate in.

The runners start and end at the Saint Arnold Brewery location. Saint Arnold's India pale ale, the Art Car

IPA, debuted in August 2015. According to the ArtCar5K website, the Art Car IPA was "inspired by a fleet of hand painted Art Cars which were created by local artists for the brewery."

During the event, people were seen taking pictures of cars that are on display and enjoying themselves. This partnership was meant

to involve Gators with the community. UHD had stands passing out items such as towels, fanny packets, stickers, and snacks for the runners.

There were also student volunteers scattered across various sections of the event. Some of the students gave out medals and cups to the runners as

they finished the race. The Gatoettes made an appearance at the event, cheering on the runners as they crossed the finish line.

A representative of UHD stated that the event is "beneficial for both parties," and it helps to "develop a relationship that can bring the communities together."

The brewery is approximately a mile away from UHD, which allows Gators the opportunity to visit the establishment.

There are three social runs from the Flying Saucer that will occur on Jan. 23, Feb. 27, and March 20. The last social run before the main event is from Saint Arnold and will

be on March 26. These runs are planned and scheduled by the Saint Arnold Official Running Club. These social runs are meant to be a practice for the major event. The next Art Car IPA 5K will on April 3, 2022.



Various members of UHD volunteered to offer food and water to the participants. Credit: Diana Ambrosio



This month's 5K run was a social practice for the major event in April. Credit: Diana Ambrosio

UHD Police Department continued



Detective Deionne Jackson demonstrates a technique during class. Credit: Diana Ambrosio

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She explained to the couple her situation and they were understanding. They stayed in a group until the men drove off.

The officers were saddened when hearing Gallegos's experience. Ultimately, she was taking the steps necessary to protect herself from any future incidents.

Her experience pushed her to join the RAD.

Linda Gordillo, UHD education student, said the RAD program lifted a weight off her shoulder. With the help of the tactics and techniques learned in class, Gordillo feels that she has gained confidence in her reaction if a bad situation presents itself.

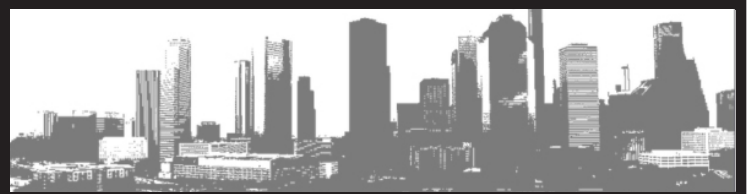
"I am so glad I pushed myself to do this," Gordillo said. "I also encourage every woman to give it a try!"

There will be more classes offered in Spring 2022. Be on the lookout for this information in the future.

For any questions contact instructors Detective Deionne Jackson and Officer Lisa Barajas.



Officer Lisa Barajas (right) gets ready to test UHD student Elizabeth Rosa's (left) new skills. Credit: Diana Ambrosio



THE DATELINE

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Submission Policy

The Dateline staff consists of students from UHD who complete all tasks required to produce the newspaper, which serves all UHD campuses. The opinions and commentaries expressed within reflect the views of the contributing writers. No opinions expressed in The Dateline reflect the viewpoints of UHD, its administration, or students.

The Dateline reserves the right to edit or modify submissions for the sake of clarity, content, grammar, or space limitations. All submissions become property of The Dateline and may not be returned.

All paid writers must be currently enrolled students at UHD. All paid writers must also complete vendor registration with the University of Houston System prior to contributing.

Press releases, story ideas, news tips and suggestions are always welcomed. We encourage all students to contribute. Any student interested in joining The Dateline staff may request more detailed information sending an email to Editor Indira Zaldivar at editor-datelinedowntown@gmail.com.

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New study abroad opportunity lets Gators explore Western Europe

BY ABDULLAH SOLIMAN

The Holocaust Study Abroad is an event where students can go to Western Europe and explore different Holocaust ruins and Jewish artifacts.

The study abroad will take place from May 19-27.

Students will be able to go to different countries such as Czech Republic, Poland, and Germany.

They will see various ruins, artifacts, and other things that show what happened during World War II. It is also an opportunity to meet new people from other countries and get to know them. For a per-

son to be able to attend this study abroad, they must be enrolled in English 2305: Holocaust Literature, taught by Professor Joan Blackwell Wedes.

They also need to enroll in English 3310: Studies in Nonfiction Literature, taught by Professor Paul Fortunato. These two classes are accessible to students of all majors.

A Criminal Justice 4390: Testimonial Evidence and Human Rights class is only accessible to undergraduate criminal justice majors. Another criminal justice class for graduate criminal justice majors is Criminal Justice 6360: Criminal

Justice and Human Rights. Gators can apply for scholarships but must have a minimum 2.5 GPA to receive one.

The higher the GPA, the better chance of earning a scholarship. The cost for this trip is roughly \$2800 to \$3700. Students must have proof of COVID-19 vaccination and a negative PCR test 72 hours before flight time to travel to these countries.



Study Abroad Requirements

- **Be enrolled in both English 2305: Holocaust Literature & English 3310: Studies in Nonfiction Literature**
- **Students must have proof of COVID-19 vaccination and a negative PCR test 72 hours before flight time to travel**
- **The trip will cost between \$2800-\$3700**

Credit: Edward Saenz

UHD's Center for Public Deliberation discusses human trafficking

BY SHAHERYAR KHAN

The Center for Public Deliberation partnered with the Student Government Association on Nov. 3 to host the center's second public deliberation for the fall semester.

The event was focused on human trafficking and how our community can respond to this growing prob-

lem. The public deliberation was held in room A300, in the Academic Building and was open for all members of the Gator community to take part in.

Public deliberation is a form of communication where small groups meet and discuss solutions and possible drawbacks of said solutions.

The diverse groups had the chance to talk about the issue of human trafficking and share and listen to different perspectives and learn from their conversation.

"The public deliberation event was a very eye opening and enriching experience," said Hadia Khan, a senior at the Cizik School of Nursing at UTHealth.

"Human trafficking is a very dense yet delicate topic that needs more awareness, and I was so moved at how respectful and open-minded all the participants were. It was a unique experience to hear different point of views on this topic and how we, as a community, can progress towards change."

As many different perspectives that

were brought to the table, Khan shared her perspective as a person of color and a future healthcare worker.

"As a future healthcare worker, this is a subject that I need to keep in mind at all times. Considering how taboo it is to speak about human trafficking, I was really grateful to see that so many people truly care

and want to make a difference."

Overall, the public deliberation was a very positive experience, and it is encouraged by the CPD to attend an event at least once to gain more insight on different topics in a non-traditional setting.

Now hiring!

Student Run Since Volume One

Hiring until position is filled

The Dateline is seeking applicants for the position of business manager. This paid position begins spring 2022. Applicants must commit to the position for at least one semester. The job involves both advertising sales and managing the business and finan-

cial operations of the newspaper.

The successful candidate will have a strong orientation toward personal selling and developing advertising revenue as well as effective budgeting and management skills. Duties include managing business and financial

matters for the paper, in cooperation with the student editor and faculty adviser, and expanding the sales of advertising space in the paper, including to businesses in the campus neighborhoods of North Downtown and Washington St. Typical commitment is 20

Job descriptions & qualifications for business manager

hours per week; salary is \$800 per month, plus 15% commission on ad sales.

Minimum qualifications include at least sophomore standing or higher, the completion of at least one semester at UHD, successful completion of basic business courses,

and a 2.5 GPA. To apply, please send a letter of application indicating your reasons and qualifications for applying for the position.

Include as well your resume and an unofficial copy of your UHD transcript. Send these documents to The Dateline facul-

ty advisor, Joe Sample, Associate Professor, at samplej@uhd.edu. Applications are sought immediately and will be accepted until position is filled.

More than 100 lawsuits filed following Astroworld Festival tragedy

BY SERGIO PRESA JR.

Houston rapper Travis Scott's concert at the Astroworld Festival in NRG Park turned deadly.

Fans at the concert rushed the gates at the venue and a stampede of people formed, causing some fans to get trampled. Ten people between the ages of 14

and 27 have died as a result of the stampede. Ezra Blount, the 9-year-old boy who was in critical condition, passed away on Nov. 14.

At the concert, authorities warned the promoter about cardiopulmonary resuscitation that was under way. One or more attendees asked for the concert

to be stopped. Due to deaths and injuries from the concert, 108 lawsuits have been filed against Live Nation Entertainment, the producer of the concert, or against Scott himself.

The latest death was of Texas A&M college student Bharti Shahani. She was a computer science

student who died due to "horrific injuries," according to the family's attorney, James Lassiter.

"We want to make sure that the people who decided to put profits over the safety of the lives of children are held responsible," Lassiter said during a news conference attend-

ed by Shahani's family.

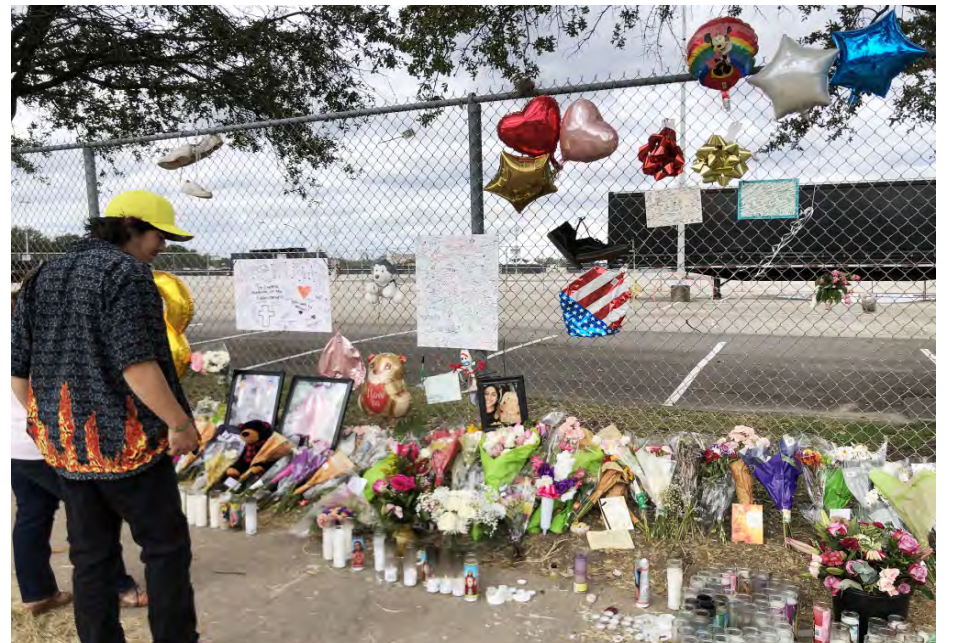
"If they hadn't packed us in with barriers on all three sides, maybe this wouldn't have happened," Shahani's cousin Mohit Bellani said.

Meanwhile, Scott said he "desperately wishes to share his condolences and provide aid" and asked

survivors to reach out to him. He also offered to pay for funeral costs and counseling. Police are building a timeline of events and interviewing witnesses from the concert to get a better understanding of the buildup to the deaths.



People created a memorial along NRG Park's fence to mourn the lives lost at the Astroworld Festival. Credit: Shaheryar Khan



Visitors take a look at the memorial along NRG Park's fence dedicated to the 10 lives lost at the Astroworld Festival. Credit: Shaheryar Khan

Texas law bans transgender girls from female sports teams

BY CAROLINA VALDEZ

The state of Texas passed House Bill 25 last month, regulating public school athletic programs. HB 25 will require K-12 student athletes to participate on the team corresponding with the sex listed on their birth certificate. The new law is set to go into effect on Jan. 18, 2022.

Section 33.0834 of the bill highlights that only the sex declared at or near the time of birth is valid.

The Texas Tribune reported that this specification eliminates the current option of transgender athletes presenting an amended birth certificate to

play according to their gender identity. HB 25 was brought to the Texas capitol by state Rep. Valoree Swanson and state Sen. Charles Perry.

Swanson and Perry worked closely with Texas Values, a political group that centers around traditional Judeo-Christian family values, to endorse this bill.

Swanson believes that biological males have a physical advantage over biological females and that this new law keeps sports fair. In a press brief for HB 25, she pointed out that in Texas, there are 332,000 girls playing sports in grades 7-12.

"That is what we are doing it for," Swanson explained.

"This is about fairness. It's about women's rights. It is about holding our own and not going backwards in rights for women."

Perry expressed at the briefing, alongside Swanson, his "compassion and empathy" for the transgender community. He maintained that children should play sports according to their sex at birth and echoed Swanson's claim that this bill is for the protection of girls.

"All the women out there today, Texas stands with you and the opportunity to compete in your own peer

group safely, and at a level that you're always rewarded when justified," Perry said at the briefing.

Transgender youth in Texas are the group most vulnerable to this bill. According to a report by UCLA, Texas is one of the four states with the largest populations of transgender youth in America. In addition, there are roughly 150,000 youths, aged 13-17, that identify as transgender in the U.S.

A significant amount of anti-transgender legislation has emerged in the U.S. this year. For example, Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, Mon-

tana, Tennessee, and West Virginia have all passed bills like HB 25, dictating public school athletic participation based on sex at birth over gender identity.

Many studies have found a higher risk for suicidal thoughts and behaviors in young transgender people. Dr. Russell Toomey, an expert in family studies and human development, elaborated on this idea in his findings of his own study on transgender children.

"Peer, school, community, and family-based rejection, discrimination, and victimization are associated with greater risk for suicidal behaviors,"

Toomey told Reuters Health. "Transgender youth might respond to these experiences by internalizing this rejection [and] perceiving that they do not belong."

Policies such as HB 25 are an example of such community rejection. Transgender children could become more isolated as their participation in school programs, like athletics, become limited.

If you or anyone you know is in need of support, visit PFLAG.org/hotlines for a list of hotlines and resources for groups in crisis.

FDA authorizes Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for young children

BY SERGIO PRESA JR.

Kids aged 5-11 now have a green light to receive Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine.

An announcement on the Food and Drug Administration's authorization was expected after their Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory

Committee voted to back a smaller vaccine dose for children. CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky also signed off on the shot.

The dose administered in the children's vaccine is a third lower than the dose that adults get. The vaccine has shown to be tolerated well in young children.

The side effects seen were comparable to the side effects in the 16-25 age range.

The Biden Administration plans to roll out children's shots quickly. For instance, the White House's vaccine program includes sending vaccines to pediatric doctors' offices, pharmacies,

and schools. According to the CDC, more than 360,000 kids under 12-years-old have at least one shot of the COVID-19 vaccine.

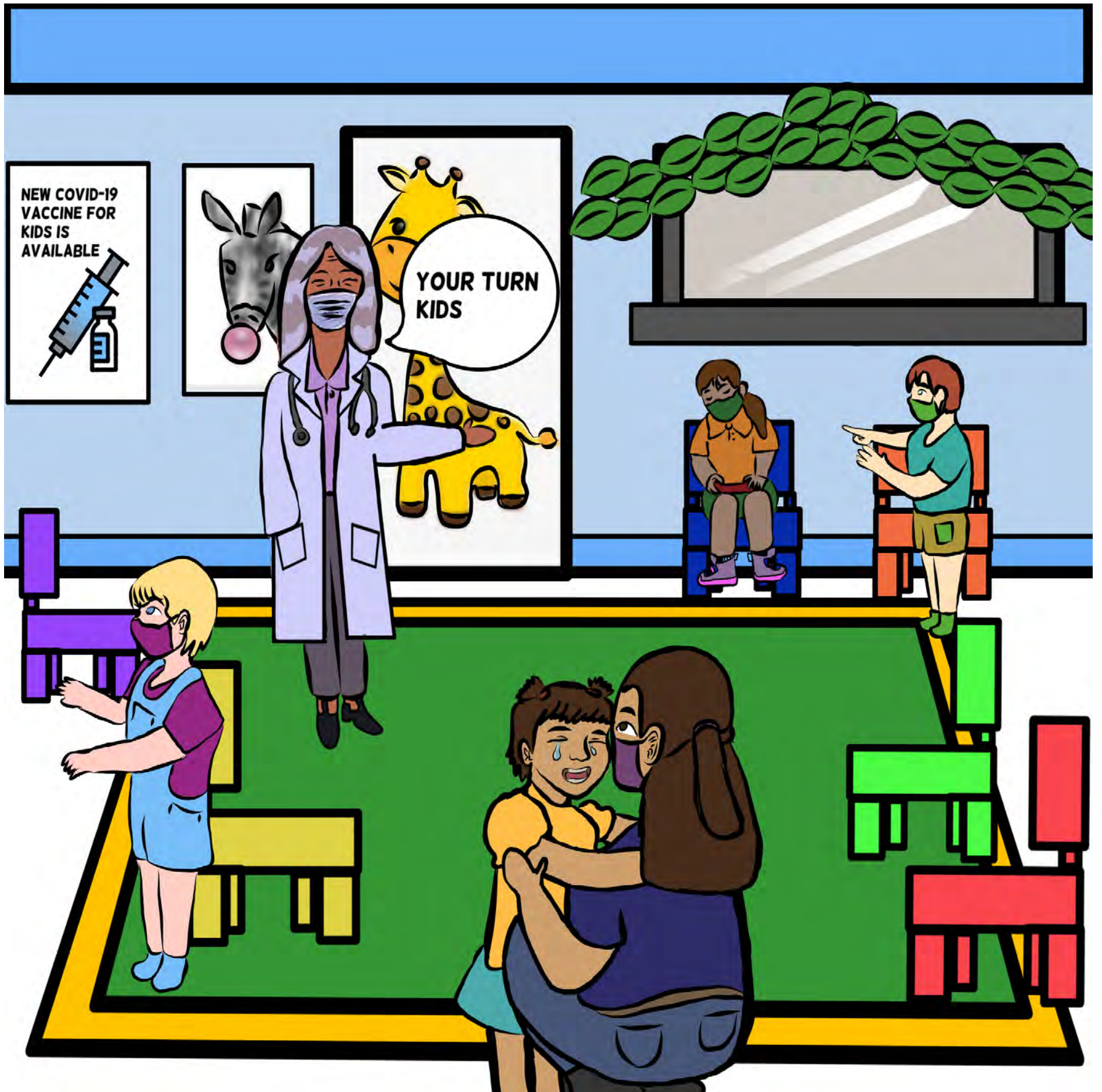
President Biden is pressing for parents to get their children vaccinated. He said the shots are "safe and effective."

"So, get your children vaccinated

to protect themselves, to protect others, and to stop the spread and to help us beat this pandemic," Biden said.

Pfizer estimates the shot for the 5-11-year-old range to be over 90% effective in preventing symptomatic infection. Despite Biden's push for vaccinating children, some

parents are still hesitant to let their kids get the shot. Several polls have found that around 30% of parents that were surveyed will not get their child a COVID-19 vaccine.



Credit: Giselle Oviedo

Experts predict disruptions in supply chain will not improve soon

BY EDWARD SAENZ

Over the past year, the shortage of assorted items has become apparent, everything from computers to car parts, lumber, even cereal. Across the world, tons of products are in short supply, and experts predict it will not be changing any time soon.

The global supply chain system is a massive machine, with millions of moving parts, and if any minor damage were to happen to one of those parts, it could derail the entire machine. What would happen if something were to damage all the parts? COVID-19 answered that question.

When the entire world went into lockdown in March 2020, it disrupted every aspect of the supply chain. Many factories where

goods are made are located across South-east Asia, all places that were heavily affected by the pandemic, and as such, had to go into various forms of lockdown. For example, Vietnam is still undergoing nationwide lockdowns.

It led to factories either closing or heavily limiting the number of workers on-site, causing fewer materials to be manufactured. In response to this, many shipping companies cut shipping schedules and laid-off workers in anticipation of the slowdown in goods from those countries.

Just because the number of supplies being created diminished, it did not mean the demand for such supplies did. If anything, the demand for products only increased when lockdowns started. The

immediate push to work from home had people out buying new laptops and all the fixings for them. The rise in gear purchases such as webcams and microphones caused massive shortages in the tech industry. With restaurants closing or moving to limited schedules, cooking at home became a necessity. Suddenly families needed way more kitchen equipment than ever. This chaos caused a massive chain reaction throughout the system.

Factories for these types of products are not a one-stop-shop of all parts. A computer, for example, will be assembled in China, but the CPU chip is made in Taiwan, and the monitor panel is made in South Korea. Other, more specialized parts, may even come from Europe or North America.

Coupled with the supply shortages on the items already creating a problem, a major shortage of shipping containers only served to make things even worse. A little-known fact about supply shipping containers: they are designed to be used only once. As a final effort to save the supply chain, China began asking that the containers be reused, but many were forgotten or lost.

During the first wave of the pandemic, China was mass-producing protective medical gear with the intent to ship them across the world. This tactic led to China not only sending more shipping containers than ever, but also to places they have never sent them to. West Africa and South Asia became hot spots. The lack of shipping containers caused shipping

prices to skyrocket. Before the pandemic, shipping a container from Shanghai to Los Angeles would cost about \$2000. In 2021, the price far exceeds \$25,000.

For the ships that did manage to make the journey, the employee shortage going on in the U.S. caused the docks to become overwhelmed with ships, causing further delays getting things onto delivery trucks. In the U.S., the vast majority of supply chain travel is done via truck drivers, many of whom were laid off in early 2020 due to the lack of work.

As if all this were not bad enough, the Suez Canal was blocked off by the EverGreen ship in March 2021, which caused even more delays. The Suez Canal is one of the most important global trade

routes, as it allows the most efficient way to get goods from Asia to Western Europe and the Americas. The month-long blockage delayed over 450 ships.

The issue with the supply chain far exceeds one country and just one problem, according to Adjunct Professor of Operations Management Nicole DeHoratius, at the University of Chicago. She believes that if only one or two problems had occurred, we might have been able to survive, "but it's the fact that all these challenges are happening at the same time."

The supply shortage issues will not be fixed by the end of this year, and maybe not even next year, according to experts. This is going to be a slow yet gradual repair.





Reviews

‘The Last Duel’ depicts parallels to Texas anti-abortion law

BY JAMES JUREWICZ

“The Last Duel” is a historical drama set in 14th century France, released Oct. 15. Ridley Scott directed this period piece starring Matt Damon, Jodie Comer, Adam Driver and Ben Affleck. The film was carefully adapted from a non-fiction book with the same name by Professor Eric Jager.

The film follows the life of soon-to-be knighted Jean De Carrouges (Matt Damon). Jean is a soldier who serves the King of France battling the surrounding countries of England and Scotland. Due to financial troubles, Jean entered a courtship negotiation for a wealthy man’s daughter, Marguerite (Jodie Comer). While Jean is fighting in

Scotland, Marguerite is attacked and raped by Jacques Le Gris (Adam Driver). Jean vows to make Jacques pay for his crime.

Affleck’s Peter II, Count of Alencon is adorned with a bleached blonde bowl cut and matching goatee. He is corrupt, lecherous, and Jacques’ cousin. He throws out the rape case, forcing Jean to appeal to the King for the chance to challenge Jacques to a “Trial by Duel.”

The King approves of what would be the official final recorded duel in France.

The winner would be victorious and proven innocent because that is what “God would want.” If Jean were to die and therefore losing the duel, Marguerite would be

burned at the stake.

“The Last Duel” is a film that is divided into three chapters, each containing a differing perspective of how historical events unfolded. Jean, Jacques and finally Marguerite’s side of the story is told throughout the film. Marguerite’s perspective is regarded as the truth.

Damon disappears into his role as Sir Jean de Carrouges. Damon is recognizable but this role lacks his usual charm and charisma. Jean is gruff and serious with facial scars that showcase his career as a knight. Jean is bad with finance and running an estate. Marguerite corrects all the mismanagement while he is away in Scotland and single-handedly turns things around for the

Carrouges. Marguerite is the film’s strongest character by far. Her steely resolve during the trial process is impressive and even more elevated during the actual duel. Comer has the most difficult role in the film, and she delivers a superb performance.

Driver is the most reprehensible character in the film. Driver makes a great villain in “The Last Duel.” He contains a quiet intensity to his characters. When appropriate for the role, it is apparent that Driver’s characters are hiding something.

The actor faces a difficult challenge in inhabiting and portraying such an awful person, though he does it so well. The character is so deluded he believes his victim holds reciprocal romantic love.

“Tell no one of this my love, if your husband finds out, he will surely kill you,” Jacques utters after the assault.

In the film, it is the church’s belief that conception cannot occur without stimulation. A rape is not pleasurable, therefore there can be no conception. The church is portrayed as the judge, jury, and executioner in 14th century France. Religion ruled the old world, so much so that it is integrated into legislative law.

“The Last Duel” was released shortly after Texas passed its anti-abortion legislation. The pseudoscience in the film correlates with the recent announcements by confused American politicians. The untrue sentiment that “rape can’t result

in pregnancy” is echoed in both this film and by real life politicians from Idaho and Missouri.

Director Ridley Scott is well known for the cinematic quality of his films. From the costumes to the castles, the audience is treated to a valid representation of 14th century life. Comer, Damon, Driver and Affleck all contribute to the film with their seamless representations of historic characters.

The Texas anti-abortion law became worthy of international attention around the film’s release date. This significantly contributed to the film’s success. “The Last Duel” runs 153 minutes and is now playing in theaters.

K-POP Darling IU’s new single is a whimsical melody

BY JEMA PANTOJA

With the release of her new single, “Strawberry Moon,” IU once again proves that she is one of the most expressive songwriters of her generation in the Korean music scene. Only days after its release on Oct. 18, her single has generated more than 10 million views on YouTube.

The song’s sentiment is about the lightness and hope of young love.

The song itself is a whimsical and magical feast highlighted by her soft yet strong vocals. The lyrics are reminiscent and nostalgic of a young love that is both relatable and fantasy filled.

IU used the metaphor of a strawberry moon to illustrate an annual cosmic occurrence where the moon appears slightly redder than usual, thus casting a lush pink glow. Her metaphor of the strawberry moon takes on a whole new meaning to the popular phrase “rose-colored glasses.”

The song progresses through the playful piano notes into more atmospheric beats once the chorus picks up. To pair the song, IU does a rose-colored music video to match the single’s sentiment of the magic that is love. Both the song and the music video express the same giddiness and excitement felt when you are young and in love.

In the second verse of the song the lyrics roughly translate to “holding each other’s hand from end to end, and up and down this infinity.” This alludes to the certainty of forever when one falls in love.

No matter how old you are, you can still feel the same butterflies when you were 20 at 50 plus years old and that some things never change. In fact, with the right person, things only become more comfortable.

The song is now available on Apple Music and Spotify.

‘Easy on Me’ tackles heartbreak with grace and wisdom

BY JEMA PANTOJA

Six years have passed since Adele released her third studio album “25” with fans patiently awaiting her comeback. “Easy on Me” is the lead single for her upcoming album “30,” set to release Nov. 19. As expected from Adele, “Easy on Me” is tragically beautiful, easy on the ears but not the heart.

The song is both sorrowful and hopeful. From the song’s first few notes it is obvious that the fans are in for another tear-jerker. Adele’s vocals soar over the piano’s melancholic melody, much like her other works. However, the song’s theme is unlike

anything Adele has released before. “Easy on Me” was inspired by her 9-year-old son Angelo and her relationship with his father, Simon Konecki. The lyrics indicate that Adele is not pointing fingers at anyone but rather has developed a sense of awareness. Instead of a ballad about scorned or lost love, Adele presents a plea for understanding, empathy, and forgiveness.

In an interview with Vogue magazine, Adele explained how she came to terms with the realization that she was the problem in all her past relationships, something that is hard for anyone to admit.

“Easy on Me” illustrates Adele’s growth as an artist and as a human being.

In line with the fall season, the opening line “there ain’t no gold” invokes chills much like her song “Hello” did six years ago. With the release of “Easy on Me,” Adele tackles the painful experience of her break that has caused too much collateral damage with grace and wisdom. If “Easy on Me” is a peek of what is to come from her album “30,” the fans can be sure that they will get a deeper look into her personal life.

The song is now available on Apple Music and Spotify.



Reviews

'Antlers' showcases just the perfect amount of gore

BY JAMES JUREWICZ

"Antlers" is a 2021 American horror film set in a town in rural Oregon. The film follows a boy named Lucas (Jeremy T. Thomas), who is haunted by a timeless supernatural entity which he keeps secret. Siblings with a history in the town get caught up in the boy's plight.

Lucas lives on his own with no apparent supervision and keeps something bizarre behind a locked door in his house. Lucas' odd behavior in school attracts the attention of his concerned teacher Julia (Keri Russell).

"Antlers" also focuses on the relationship between estranged adult siblings living together again in their childhood home. Julia is a teacher, and her

brother Paul (Jessie Plemmons) is the local sheriff. Julia returned when their abusive father committed suicide, wishing to reconnect and heal with Paul.

Lucas is constantly drawing dismembered animal corpses. He shares a disturbing myth with Julia, raising red flags. The boy also seems to be hiding something, his mother died years before and his father can never be reached by phone.

He routinely collects roadkill and butchers the dead animals at home. People in the town begin experiencing vicious animal attacks that are eventually connected to Lucas and his secret.

Keri Russell and Jesse Plemmons are both believable as sister and brother. Their shared screen time are

some of the best performances in the film. "Antlers" is Plemmons' first horror film and Russell's third.

Thomas is the film's true standout star. The young actor conveys a powerful sense of determination. Lucas is a child that has experienced grave trauma. Thomas portrays the haunted character admirably.

Guillermo Del Toro productions are known for fantastic practical effects and the work done for "Antlers" looks great. The makeup and gore are realistic and revolting.

"Antlers" also has very appropriate and effective jump scares. The jolting scares are seamlessly mixed into the movie and are not forced or cheap. When the scare is intelligently crafted into the film, the

audience's engagement is not interrupted.

Director Scott Cooper, is known for directing the Oscar winning film "Crazy Heart" in '09, and more recently, the historical action film "Hostiles" in '17. Cooper slowly introduces the story to audience, properly building the tension. The cinematography is also very well done. Cooper uses shadow and dark space. In addition, Florian Hoffmeister takes the creepy pictures that Lucas draws and recreates them beautifully on screen.

The Oregon mountain vistas with the ever-raining forest offer a spooky and moody setting for the tortured characters. Toward the end of "Antlers" there is a wonderful shot behind a blue and red flashing police cruiser,

black forest on either side with a vibrantly teal colored night sky on the horizon. The scene is particularly striking and memorable.

Although "Antlers" is a fantasy horror film, the small Oregon town suffers from the all-too-real problem of addiction.

Both the opioid and crystal meth epidemic plague the small town. Addiction is a major theme.

The town methadone clinic has a line of people wrapped around the block. Julia herself has an implied history of alcoholism.

On multiple occasions in the film, she stares longingly at the liquor bottles near the cash register of the town's general store.

Family is another theme in "Antlers,"

specifically sibling love. The film brings up questions about sacrifice, guilt, and responsibility between siblings. In this film, Julia believes it is possible to right a past wrong by saving Lucas.

"Antlers" is an exceptionally good horror film with an interesting plot. The focus on myths and fables gives the film the feel of a timeless folktale. The movie monster is unsettling. The film has just the right amount of gore. The thematic choices and addiction symbolism are brilliant allegories to the film's legend. "Antlers" is worth the watch.

"Antlers" is now playing in movie theaters.

'The French Dispatch' is Director Wes Anderson's most complicated film

BY JAMES JUREWICZ

"The French Dispatch" is a vignette romcom-drama film by director Wes Anderson. The film has the most celebrities of any other film in 2021, many of whom are returning Anderson alumni.

The plot of "The French Dispatch" is broken down into four different stories, the first titled "The Cycling Reporter." This story gives the audience a tour of the French city of Ennui to familiarize the audience with the setting and the town's history, present, and future.

The second story, "The Concrete Mastertpiece," is narrated by Tilda Swinton and

stars Benicio Del Toro. Del Toro plays Moses, an artist serving prison time. Committed to his craft, his art is made exclusively from materials found inside the prison, like toothpaste and powdered egg.

Zeffirelli (Timothy Chalamet) and Lucinda Kremantz (Frances McDormand), are the focus of the third story, "Revisions to a Manifesto." A collection of French youths organizes their own revolution and Lucinda proof-reads Zeffirelli's manifesto.

The fourth story, titled "The Private Dining Room of the Police Commissioner," involves a kidnapped child, a food critic, and a wonderful hand-

drawn animated segment. Jeffery Wright, Liev Schreiber, and Edward Norton are some of the actors in this story. "The Private Dining Room of the Police Commissioner."

"The French Dispatch" looks like a storybook for adults. There is an unexpected, animated segment in the film. Anderson has worked extensively with stop motion animation for "The Fantastic Mr. Fox" and "The Isle of Dogs." In a clever scene, the most dangerous stunts occur during the animated sequence, saving money and unnecessary risk.

The French Dispatch is an enjoyable film. The performances

of the talented ensemble cast are fun to take in. The actors' cadence, delivery, and dialogue all reflect highly theatrical performances.

Benicio Del Toro is the standout of the entire film. His tortured-artist character is so committed to his craft, he intentionally takes a survivable jolt from the prison electric chair. Try not to laugh when he repeatedly growls to express his displeasure in any given situation.

Anderson is known for his highly stylized features. "The French Dispatch" includes typical Wes Anderson costumes, sets, and hairstyles. This is by far the strangest film the

director has made.

Everything and everyone has a vintage look that contributes to the "mise-en-scene" (placing on stage). The fourth wall is frequently broken, and the vibrant colors and zany characters truly engage the audience. This film could easily be converted into a live stage play.

Anderson films are layered and intricate and "The French Dispatch" is the most complicated film the director has made. The black and white flashbacks add to these layers.

The film requires multiple viewings to comprehend everything in the plot. The four original stories present-

ed in the film are unique and deeply captivating.

There are so many celebrities in this film, it can be distracting. Some actors have just a few lines, some do not speak in the film at all. The audience receives a welcome surprise for every cameo throughout the 103-minute film. It is like seeing old friends at a party.

"The French Dispatch" is now playing exclusively in movie theaters.

New social movement uplifts employees to raise work expectations

BY CAROLINA VALDEZ

The “Great Resignation” is one of the most significant movements of this generation. People are quitting their jobs, demanding more from their employers, and no longer accepting experience as payment for their services.

Forbes describes it as the “worker’s revolution.” Time Magazine points to the ongoing pandemic as a factor. The New York Times compares social trends, age gaps, and wage gaps. Everyone is trying to make sense of a movement that is made up of many parts.

The Great Resignation is a monster that cannot be defined through facts and statistics alone. The Bureau of Labor Sta-

tistics cannot graph the frustration of healthcare workers fed up with the politicization of the pandemic. There is no graph to illustrate the anxiety of food-industry employees when they receive their too-small paychecks.

Whatever the motivator may have been for each of the 4.3 million Americans who quit their jobs this August, it can be argued that a general unhappiness was the culprit of all of this.

Mental health awareness took center stage in the minds of Americans stuck at home in the early months of the pandemic. The shift from in-person to virtual work was an eye-opener. This disturbance re-

vealed how employers valued their employees in times of crisis. Additionally, more time at home impacted personal relationships for better or worse.

This colliding of personal and professional worlds was perhaps what inspired people to question everything.

The 2021 Fall Symposium & Interactive Rest Experience at UHD featured a discussion panel of experts going into depth about mental health in the working world.

The panel stressed the importance of rest and emotional well-being. They also critiqued the idea of “hustle-culture” and why the ideals of the past no longer work. Panelist Dr. Liza

Barros Lane shared with the audience that being “disconnected from your purpose” is an indicator of burnout and that people should stop, look at themselves, and question what they are doing in these moments of fogginess.

The Harvard Business Review reported that the age group with the greatest resignation increase is between the ages of 30 and 45.

It is refreshing to see older age groups mirror the younger age group’s high expectations of the workforce.

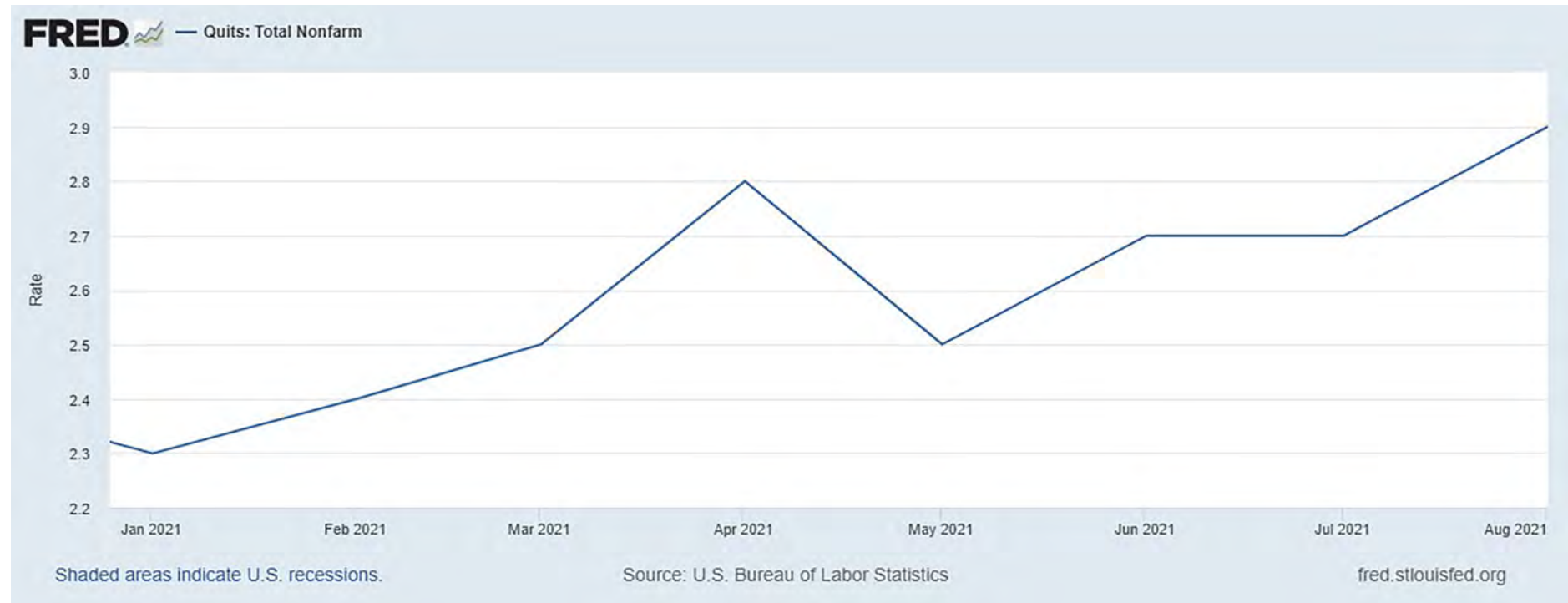
The word “idealist” no longer feels like a bad word and as a college senior, -this revolutionary movement provides an optimistic lens to the future.

“I’ve made a commitment to die empty,” Khaliah Guillory shared at the symposium. “When I take my last breath, all of the dreams and goals and intentions that I have in my heart will be out in the world.”

It is important to acknowledge the practicality of what is happening as well. Panelist Kumonta Jackson brought up how people are approaching this movement now that it has gained a lot of popularity. He pointed out the importance of “knowing your ‘why’” when making the decision to quit a job. This movement can be glorified as something trendy and fun when, really, it is a decision that requires planning

and serious thought. Having the option of quitting one job to pursue something fulfilling is a privilege that many people do not have. There are countless employees stuck in dead-end jobs because they do not have financial wiggle room to choose themselves. This Great Resignation is exciting, but it is also a burden on the ones left behind. It is important to acknowledge this.

The thought that millions of people within a small window of time decided that they all wanted something different for themselves is inspiring. The Great Resignation will have a lasting effect on social expectations, especially in the workplace.



The graph above visualizes the rate of quits from this year. Courtesy: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

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Astros must present Correa and Verlander with qualifying offers

BY SAM KROH

During his final at-bat of the World Series, Carlos Correa had one thing going through his head – this could be my final at-bat with the Houston Astros.

“It was the only thing going through my mind to be honest,” Correa said during the post-game conference. “A lot of feelings, mixed emotions... I spent seven years with this club.”

The Houston Astros extended a qualifying offer to shortstop Carlos Correa and pitcher Justin Verlander. Correa is the No. 1 player to hit free agency for the 2022 MLB season. Much speculation has been brought up about who or where Correa will land, but for right now the future of the star shortstop is unknown.

Both Verlander and Correa were given the qualifying offer of \$18.4 million for a one-year contract. Correa will, without a doubt, reject the offer but Ver-

lander may be keen to accepting it.

However, Verlander comes with an injury ridden arm. During the 2020 season, Verlander had to undergo Tommy Johns surgery. This is bad news for a pitcher. The surgery consists of replacing a torn tendon in the elbow with another one from the body or one from a dead donor. It usually means your career is over.

However, Verlander was seen throwing 96 mph at a Florida training camp just a week after the conclusion of the World Series. Usually with Tommy Johns surgery, a pitcher’s velocity drops, allowing hitters to hit more easily.

Verlander seems to not have lost his velocity for his fastball though. This could be Verlander’s last year in baseball, as he is 38 years old. The Astros seem like a perfect fit for him if he wants to have another shot at one last World Series title before retiring.

For Correa, the qualifying offer will go unnoticed. Correa will certainly decline the one-year deal of \$18.4 million and elect to become a free agent. If a player rejects a qualifying offer, they immediately become a free agent. Any team can try to pick them up, including the Astros. However, each player only gets one qualifying offer. The amount of money that they are given in that offer is a fixed amount that is set for all players hitting free agency.

During the post-game press conference of Game 6 of the World Series in which the Astros lost, Correa commented on how the Astros had handled his contract dealings professionally and with respect. He said that if offered the right amount of money, he has no problem re-signing with the club.

The Astros will do anything they can to try to keep Correa, but the Yankees have

reportedly been looking at Correa. When healthy, Correa is a dual threat of offense and defense. Just this year he won his first Gold Glove award for defense at shortstop. He was finally healthy for an entire season in 2021 and slashed .279 with 92 runs batted in and 26 home runs. The Yankees are in need of a shortstop and may be willing to do anything to sign him.

Correa is looking for a block buster deal. Bryce Harper just signed a 13-year \$330 million contract with the Phillies. Francisco Lindor, another shortstop who is just as good as Correa, signed a 10-year deal for \$341 million with the Mets. These pave the way for Correa to enter arbitration.

With Correa hitting free agency, it seems as though an era has ended for the Astros. This is quite the contrary as the core four of Jose Altuve, Yuli Gurriel, Alex Bregman, and

Carlos Correa will only lose Correa if he signs with another team. Gurriel decided to stay with the Astros and will be back for the 2022 season, while Altuve and Bregman are still under contract. Not to mention Dusty Baker has signed his new contract for a one-year deal for the 2022 season in hopes of getting to another World Series.

It will be a difficult task to fill the shoes of Correa, but so many players are hitting

free agency this year that play the shortstop position, so the Astros won’t be completely lost.

Corey Seager, Trevor Story, and Marcus Semien are all well-known shortstops who can hit for power like Correa and field like him as well. Replacing Correa will be a difficult task. For now, we can only wait to see what Correa will decide.



Wheels in Motion: Police officers



BY MICHAEL KOWIS

CNN reported on Oct. 12, on the acquired bodycam footage of a paraplegic Black man being dragged from his car during a pretextual stop, sparking outrage from civil rights activists. According to PEW Charitable Trusts: “in a pretext stop, an officer pulls over a mo-

torist for a minor traffic or equipment violation and then uses the stop to investigate a more serious crime.”

In this case, the officer pulled the victim, Clifford D. Owensby, over for a noted traffic violation. However, the detaining officers noted that his vehicle had come from a known drug house and had other drug related offenses. They detained his vehicle and called for a K-9 unit. Dayton Police policy requires that suspects remove themselves from vehicles before a search can commence.

To that end, officers asked Owensby to

leave his vehicle upon which he informed the officers that he can’t on account of him being paraplegic. After a minor discussion, the restraining officer and his partner decided to drag Owensby from his vehicle by his hair.

What I found most disturbing was the callousness and disdain the officers had towards Owensby.

According to my partner Ashley, who has cerebral palsy and uses a wheelchair, she requires either a trusted, strong family member or a trained medical person to effectuate a vehicle to manual wheelchair transfer.

Assumedly, the same goes for Owensby. This is a poor execution of policy when said policy conflicts with motor disabilities.

Additionally, the Houston Police Department does not have a policy that would give officers the leeway to call for an EMS to effectuate the transfer of persons with a known and medically documented disability from a vehicle to a wheelchair.

Officer Honeyfield described what policies and procedures could have de-escalated the situation.

“Most agencies, especially in Texas, have

policies that help officers de-escalate situations,” Honeyfield said. “The officers made a poor judgement.”

“Sometimes the arrest of non-compliant citizens is not pretty,” the Dayton Fraternal Order of Police told CNN. “But, it is a necessary part of law enforcement to maintain public safety and is one of the fundamental ideologies of our society.”

However, civil rights activists aren’t asking for non-compliant arrests to look good for the camera. They’re asking officers to show civilians dignity and respect.

Either way, this was not a case of non-compliance. It was a case of disability. Officers should show patience when arresting those who are disabled and should call an EMS for assistance if necessary. Not having this level of patience is at least part of why there is mistrust between police and the communities they serve.

Police officers need to be held accountable for such acts of misconduct so that these instances do not occur in the first place.

Disaster at Astroworld Festival could have been avoided

BY SHAHERYAR KHAN

Houston rapper Travis Scott has become somewhat of a household name recently. For the past few years, many fans of Scott anticipate the famous music festival hosted by the Houston rapper, Astroworld Festival, which was inaugurated in 2018 after the release of his third studio album by the same name “Astroworld.”

Every year, fans of Scott get together at NRG Park in Houston to “rage” with Scott and his list of talented associated acts. In the past, there have been performances by popular artists such as Post Malone, Migos, Lil Wayne, and Marilyn Manson to name a few.

Astroworld Festival ended in chaos and tragedy on Nov. 5, as ten people have been

confirmed dead and more than 300 people injured due to a crowd surge.

Officials have tallied the number of attendees at 50,000 at the venue. Several people have mentioned that the venue was not big enough for the attendees. However, Houston Fire Chief Samuel Peña told the Associated Press that the venue was able to withstand up to 200,000 people.

This begs the question of who was at fault for this tragic incident. Was it the fault of the concertgoers? Was it the festival staff’s fault? Or is Houston’s very own “LaFlames” to be blamed?

For starters, Scott has a history of inciting the crowd of his concerts to act rowdy and violent, or what Scott fans refer to as “raging.”

Due to the aftermath of the tragedy, Scott is being sued by many people who were in attendance, accusing him of “inciting” the crowd before the surge.

“There’s a criminal investigation underway at this point in time,” Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner said. He also mentioned that a “detailed review of everything that has taken place,” was underway.

“It will take probably weeks if not longer, and I’m sure that what took place will be looked at from many different angles as well as it should.”

Additionally, the fans that Scott has garnered over the years have been known to be “clout chasers” and will do anything to get their ten seconds of fame.

Peña mentioned that NRG Park is able to withstand up to 200,000

people, yet there was a stampede. As paramedics were arriving to the people injured, a viral video on Twitter showed a person getting on top of an ambulance truck and “raging” as the crowd cheered him on.

It just shows that no matter what the severity is, some fans will do anything to get their ten seconds of “clout.”

The people in attendance cared more about trying to get in front of the stage to get a closer view of Scott, not realizing that they were injuring and killing people.

For 50,000 people in attendance, NRG Park staff was definitely not prepared to handle the festival.

Some have come forward and expressed that many staff members were unexperienced.

Security guard at Astroworld, Darrius Williams, told Rolling Stone that he has never worked in security before.

“It felt like they just needed bodies, like they were hiring anyone who passed a background test,” Williams said.

The negligence in planning the event definitely has to be accounted for in trying to see why things went wrong in this year’s Astroworld Festival.

Scott had to pause the show on three different occasions during his set because of emergencies in the crowd. However, amidst the chaos that erupted during the concert, Scott did not cancel the show and continued until the end.

Scott apologized via social media for not “understanding the severity” of the situation.

The apology was not well received by fans as there have been, now deleted, tweets of Scott encouraging fans to sneak in to the venue.

Some fans took to Twitter and said: “If these aren’t PR apologies, I don’t know what is.”

“As things got chaotic, I stuck with my group and we managed to get out with a couple of bruises,” one concertgoer told The Date-line. “We did walk over dead bodies though.”

The tragic injuries and deaths could have been easily avoided if such extreme negligence had not occurred by NRG staff, Scott’s “raging” fans, and Scott himself.



Memorial along the fence of NRG Park for the ten people who died on Nov. 5 at the Astroworld Festival. Credit: Shaheryar Khan



Credit: Shaheryar Khan