



By John Harris Jr.
VILLAGER Sports Columnist

THE CURIOUS CASE OF Bijan Robinson



(VILLAGER) - Being hurt is not the same as being injured.

In fact, being hurt is more hazardous to your health than being injured - not the other way around.

Just ask University of Texas sophomore running back Bijan Robinson.

Crazy as it sounds, it would have been better if Robinson was injured outright against Iowa State, and he simply waited and came back when he was as near as he could be to the original Bijan.

Healthy, Robinson is one of the best running backs in college football. A less than full-strength Bijan? Not as good.

Robinson, who took a pounding and fumbled twice against Iowa State, suffered a neck strain in the Longhorns' 30-7 loss against the Cyclones. X-rays were negative. Standing on the sideline in street clothes, Robinson becomes virtually invisible. His value to the team comes from his on-field production, and you can't produce if you can't play.

Against his and the Longhorns' better judgment, Robinson played against Kansas, even though he didn't practice the week leading up to the game. He came

back, prematurely, even though, in hindsight, considering he was dealing with a neck issue, he shouldn't have taken the risk. Against lowly Kansas, no less.

Question: If Kansas is lowly, what does that make Texas?

Answer: What's less than lowly?

Robinson rushed a team-high 14 times for 70 yards and caught a touchdown pass in Texas' 57-56 upset special home loss as Kansas snapped a 56-game road losing streak, the longest in college football history (Let that sink in for a minute). Unfortunately, Robinson was banged up for the second consecutive week, suffering what was officially diagnosed as a dislocated elbow and will miss the rest of the season.

Ironically, even before Robinson dislocated his elbow, I planned to

write about the benefits of him sitting out the rest of the season to protect his promising NFL future.

In 19 career games at Texas, Robinson has rushed 281 times for 1,830 yards, 15 touchdowns and a 5.8-yard per carry average. He has 41 career receptions for just under 500 yards, four touchdowns and a 12.0-yard average. Mentioned as a potential Heisman Trophy candidate at the start of the season, Robinson has already proven to pro scouts he can dominate at the major-college level.

Everybody in the NFL already knows what Robinson is capable of. They don't need to see him carry the ball anymore. There's nothing more he can show them.

Truth be told, NFL teams are more worried about how many years do they invest in a player

at a high-injury position like running back who's going to have diminishing returns the more punishment his body absorbs.

That's where the sitting out part comes in. You can't get hurt if you don't play.

Does Robinson return to UT next year? Does he transfer to another school with a better football team and a better offensive line because the Longhorns' OL has been historically bad this year which could lessen his chances of winning the Heisman in 2022? Does he implement the gameplan utilized by LSU wide receiver Ja'Marr Chase, who opted out his junior season and was the fifth overall pick in the draft one year later?

I'm sure Bijan has considered every option. If he hasn't, he should. His future may depend on it.

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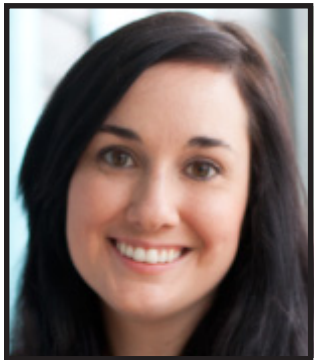
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"This life, therefore, is not righteousness, but growth in righteousness; not health, but healing; not being, but becoming; not rest, but exercise. We are not yet what we shall be, but we are growing toward it. The process is not yet finished, but it is going on. This is not the end, but it is the road. All does not yet gleam in glory, but all is being purified." --- Martin Luther
Romans 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ

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Secure your chance for \$10 tickets to Hamilton's upcoming Austin shows



By Arden Ward | CULTUREMAP AUSTIN

(CULTUREMAP) - Broadway fans, here's your shot at discounted tickets to Hamilton at Bass Concert Hall.

On November 15, producer Jeffrey Seller and Texas Performing Arts announced the return of the coveted Hamilton lottery, in which lucky theatergoers can enter to win \$10 tickets to each performance during the smash hit's upcoming Austin run.

Single ticket sales launched earlier this fall, with prices ranging from 49-\$179, and premium seating going for \$249 and up. But those feeling lucky can try their hand at winning \$10 tickets, beginning next Friday, November 26 at



10 am.

The initial digital lottery runs through Thursday, December 2 at noon for the Austin performances taking place December 7-12. Another lottery will then open Friday, December 3 at 10 am and run through Thursday, December 9 for performances December 14-

19.

To enter, use the Hamilton App or visit hamiltonmusical.com/lottery. Only one entry per person per performance is allowed.

Winner and non-winner notifications will be sent between noon and 4 pm on Thursdays for the upcoming week's performances via email

and mobile push notification. Winners have only one hour to claim and pay for their tickets (you can purchase up to two) after the notification is sent.

Hamilton returns to the Bass Concert Hall stage December 7-19 to officially kick off Broadway in Austin's 2021-2022 season.