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Check your BINGO card, whoever had a lineup of 8 figure Series A's, a couple acquisitions from our recently minted public companies, and a sizable new fund from **Trust Ventures**, wins! You earned bragging rights for a week, and can start by tweeting all of your followers now, congrats! What a good week for the Austin tech ecosystem, and with this beautiful Super Bowl Sunday, my goodness. It makes you almost forget that we were on the verge of our next snowpocalypse and boiling water just a week ago...

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What do startups, investors, Mason Rathe and Baker Tilly have in common? We're all passionate about the startup and venture capital ecosystem in Texas. At **Baker Tilly**, we have the resources to support the ecosystem throughout each phase of the business lifecycle. From startup to IPO, from portfolio company to fund, we have a team dedicated to enhancing and protecting your value. [Connect with us](#) or [visit our website](#) to learn more

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Austin Weekly Deal Activity

- [Trust Ventures](#), a venture fund focused on public policy and societal issues, closed on their [\\$200M third fund](#).
- [Enboarder](#), an HR software company, has [raised \\$32M](#) led by **NewSpring Capital** and including **Next Coast Ventures**, **Greycroft**, and **Escalate Capital Partners**, among others. Enboarder has raised \$49M to date and plans to use this capital for US and European expansion, focusing on Austin and London.
- [Fetch Package](#), an Austin-based last-mile delivery service for apartment communities, raised [\\$26.8M](#) of venture funding from undisclosed investors. The company last raised a [\\$50M Series C](#) round in July 2021 led by **Ocelot Capital** with participation from **Greenpoint Partners**, **Alpaca VC**, **Rose Park Advisors**, **Iron Gate Capital**, **Signal Peak Ventures**, **Venn Ventures**, **Pando Ventures**, and **Seamless**.

- [Wander.com](#), a smart vacation home and workcation rental platform, announced a [\\$20 million Series A](#) round, led by **QED Investors**. Wander has raised \$27.3M to date from investors including **Redpoint Ventures**, **Vibe Capital**, and NBA star **Kevin Durant**.
- [QbDVision](#), a product life cycle management platform for pharma and biotech, raised [\\$15M Series A](#) led by **Northpond Ventures** and **S3 Ventures**
- [Expressable](#), an online speech therapy provider, raised [\\$15M Series A](#) led by **F-Prime Capital**. **Lerer Hippeau Ventures**, **NextView Ventures** and **Amplifyher Ventures** also participated in the round. The company has raised approx. \$19.5M to date.
- [Adthena](#), a market intelligence software company, announced a [\\$13.5M non-dilutive junior credit facility](#) from **Espresso Capital**. Adthena has raised \$36.6M to date from investors including **CIBC** and **Udata Partners** and will use this new capital for further US expansion.

Austin M&A Activity

- [Bumble](#), a dating and friends networking platform, [announced](#) the acquisition of **Fruitz**, a French dating app. This is Bumble's (NASDAQ: BUMBL) first acquisition and highlights its renewed focus on the European market. Bumble has a market cap of \$5.19B and went public in Feb 2021.
- [BigCommerce](#), the Austin-based retail SaaS provider, [acquired B2B Ninja](#), a Houston-based software company that facilitates the use of B2B e-commerce technology for vendors, for an undisclosed amount. BigCommerce went public in August of 2020 and has a market cap of \$2.2B.

Austin People

- [SparkCognition](#), an AI technology company, [announced](#) **Lord John Browne** as their board chairman. SparkCognition has raised \$286.6M to date from investors including **March Capital**, **Verizon Ventures**, and **CME Ventures**, while Browne was previously CEO of oil giant **BP**.
- [Literati](#), a book subscription company, [announced](#) the hiring of **Scott Di Valerio** as their first CFO and COO. Literati has raised \$52M from investors including **Shasta Ventures**, **Silverton Partners**, and **Felicis Ventures**, while Di Valerio has previously worked in the C-Suite of companies such as **FabFitFun**, **Spiceworks**, and **RetailMeNot**.
- **Amber Gunst** [to Step Down](#) as CEO of the **Austin Technology Council** in September

Other Texas Deal Activity

- [Highline](#), a Dallas-based payroll bill-payment platform, announced a [\\$4.5M seed round](#) led by **Foundation Capital** and **Costanoa Ventures**. Highline is focused on customers with good careers but are saddled with subprime credit scores.
- [Koda Health](#), a Houston-based patient empowerment platform, announced a [\\$3.5M raise](#) led by **Ecliptic Capital**. Koda has raised \$4.5M to date from investors including **Headwater Ventures**, **Sigmas Capital**, and **CRCM Ventures**.
- [PlantSwitch](#), a Dallas-based plant-based products manufacturer, announced a [\\$3.25M seed raise](#) from undisclosed investors.
- [GameStop](#), a Grapevine-based video game retailer, [announced](#) a partnership with **Immutable X**, an NFT marketplace, for \$100M worth of their tokens to be used on GameStop's planned NFT platform.
- [Qentelli](#), a Dallas-based software engineering services provider, [announced](#) the acquisition of **NCS Technologies**, an enterprise-level robotic automation services company.

- **QisstPay**, a Buy Now, Pay Later platform from Pakistan, [announced](#) an expansion into the US with a 1-click checkout option and offices to be headquartered in Dallas.
- **Dealer Safeguard Solutions**, a McKinney-based platform designed to manage the automotive dealership business, was acquired by Credit Bureau Connection, via its financial sponsor The CapStreet Group, for an undisclosed amount.
- **PELITAS**, a Plano-based provider of healthcare patient access, digital patient intake, and front-end revenue cycle management software solutions, [was acquired](#) by **nThrive**, a healthcare revenue cycle management platform backed by **Clearlake Capital Group**, for an undisclosed amount.

Austin News

- **Austin Water** [released](#) the details of the boil water notice cause, explaining that increased processed solids, mostly comprised of lime, caused the turbidity which sparked the boil water warnings.
- Austin-based **Oracle** will [launch a startup incubator](#) with a focus on helping Black entrepreneurs jumpstart their businesses
- VC Firm **Antler** is [Accepting Applications](#) for its First Austin Cohort to Kick off in March
- **University of Texas** Institutions [Receive \\$5 Million](#) to Expand **Blackstone LaunchPad** student entrepreneurship programming to Additional Campuses
- **Infarm**, the billion-dollar European urban farming company to [eat up industrial space south of Austin](#)
- Austin-based **Siete Family Foods**, with retail sales topping \$200M, [jumps onto Freebird's menu](#)
- Almost 40% of Austin metro workers are at [high risk of their jobs being automated](#)
- **TikTok** [leases office space](#) at 300 Colorado

Thank you!

[Mason Rathe](#)

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