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Austin Weekly Deal Highlights

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Now that Elon Musk has taken over Twitter, it won't be long before he takes over his next major source of news circulation, and I think I know what he has his eyes on. So, Mr. Musk, I look forward to receiving your takeover offer.

On that note, considering Tesla is an Austin-based company, what are the odds Twitter relocates their headquarters here as well? A better chance of that than Elon buying this newsletter?

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Venture Dallas is a nonprofit, volunteer-led organization committed to supporting and advancing the innovation ecosystem in North Texas. This year marks the return of Venture Dallas' flagship conference, which will be held on Thursday, November 3rd. To find out more, visit VentureDallas.org and join the Venture Dallas mailing list for events and announcements.

Austin Financing Activity

- [Spyderbat](#), an Austin-based cyber security software provider, raised a [\\$10M Series A](#) led by **NTTVC**. **LiveOak Venture Partners** and **Benhamou Global Ventures** also participated in the round. The company has raised approx. \$14M to date.
- [GOLF+](#), a golf VR application, raised a [\\$5.85M seed round](#) led by **Breyer Capital** which included some of the biggest names on the **PGA Tour**, **NFL**, **NBA**, and **MLB**.
- [Major League Pickleball](#), the Austin-based premier provider of professional pickleball, raised \$3.96 million of venture funding from **SC.Holdings** and other undisclosed investors. The company has raised approx. \$5M to date.

Other Texas Deal Activity

- [BioVeritas](#), a Bryan, TX-based bio-based ingredients company, raised [\\$65 million of development capital](#) from Ara Partners.
- [GoCo](#), a Houston-based employee management platform, raised \$15 million of venture funding in a deal led by **ATX Venture Partners**. The co has raised approx. \$28M to date.
- [Gallus](#), a Dallas-based platform for mortgage market competitive insights, raised \$1 million of seed funding from **Brady Yeager** and other undisclosed investors.
- [Acqueon Technologies](#), a Dallas-based conversational engagement platform for customers across different channels, [was acquired](#) by **Long Ridge Equity Partners** for an undisclosed amount. The

company previously raised an undisclosed amount of venture funding from **Cisco Investments**, **Solmark** and **Everstone Capital** in March 2020.

- [Gyrodatta](#), a Houston-based co. which specializes in gyroscopic wellbore positioning and survey technology, reached a definitive agreement [to be acquired](#) by **Schlumberger (NYS: SLB)** for an undisclosed amount
- [Tao Bitcoin](#), a Dallas-based cryptocurrency company, [was acquired](#) by **RockitCoin**, one of the nations largest Bitcoin ATM's, for an undisclosed amount.
- [The Devhouse Agency](#), a Dallas-based provider of gaming design studio, [was acquired](#) web3 design firm **Journey** for an undisclosed amount.

Austin People

- [SaveDay](#), a 401(k) provider for small and medium-sized businesses, [announced](#) that **Holly Tachovsky** has been appointed the company's Chief Executive Officer. Ms. Tachovsky steps into the role following **Barry Mione**, SaveDay's co-founder, who has been appointed SaveDay's Chief Product Officer. The company previously raised seed funding from **Quansight Initiate**. -
- Austin-based **Sean Nathaniel** has been [promoted](#) to CEO of **DryvIQ** (formerly SkySync), the leading unstructured data protection platform company. Prior to joining DryvIQ, Nathaniel most recently served as the Chief Operating Officer for CS DISCO (NYSE: LAW), and prior to that as Chief Technology Officer for Upland Software, Inc. (Nasdaq: UPLD).
- [New leadership installed at SXSW](#). **Hugh Forrest**, **Jann Baskett** named co-presidents of organization; **Roland Swenson** moves to executive chairman

Austin News

- **Nomi Health** [Opens Regional Office](#) in Austin
- Speaking of Elon, Tesla keeps getting bigger in Texas
 - [Tesla expands Texas footprint](#) with 440K-square-foot warehouse in San Antonio
 - [Tesla confirmed plans for a battery plant](#). Plans to open a lithium refinery near Texas' Gulf Coast were confirmed last week by Tesla CEO Elon Musk. The refinery will be useful to speed up the production of batteries for the company's electric vehicles.
- Three years, hundreds of meetings, billions of incentives offered and no deal: [How Lockhart lost Micron and what's next](#)
- U.S. News & World Report's Best Global Universities Rankings [Place UT at No. 43](#) in the World
- Austin-based, Amazon-owned **Whole Foods** [looks ahead to '23](#) with new technology in stores, new CEO and taste for kelp noodles
- After 10 years of F1 racing in Austin, **Tavo Hellmund** reflects on how he [brought world's top motorsport to Texas](#)
- [\\$669M solar farm plan rejected for Chapter 313 incentives](#) in Bastrop County after neighbors express environmental concern

Thank you!

Mason Rathe

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Wondering what all these venture terms mean? Check out VelaWood's [Venture Glossary](#)! Vela Wood is a boutique corporate law firm with a local feel and a global impact. Vela Wood focuses its practice in the areas of M&A, Sports & Gaming, Venture Capital, and Corporate Transactions.

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