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Shine your boots up
Get ready to break out your boots and cowboy hats, because the annual Melody Ranch is up and running once again.

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Winning at going green
2012 was a great year for sustainability at Baylor. Find out what went into breaking Baylor’s recycling record.

**SPORTS Page 5**
The ball is in your court
Read all you need to know to be prepared for Saturday men’s basketball game vs. TCU.

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**BBC honors library for its beauty**

*Baylor Media Communications*

**The Baylor Lariat**

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**In the Know**

Don’t miss the details of this week’s student government meeting.

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**On the Web**

The Baylor Beat
Catch up on all of this week’s news by watching the Lariat’s own Taylor Peck’s broadcast. Only on baylorlariat.com

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**Viewpoints**

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*The place to go to know the places to go*

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White House calls plans ‘provocative’

*By Marlenesnow Fogleman*

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Lance Armstrong was a particular hero of mine. I never found his sport or his image fully captivating, or even convincing as Oprah said in an interview.

However, he made me think more about his dirty laundry has been aired and in continuing to be aired is one of the most interesting examples of an all over network television coverage. Though I am uninterested in the sport of cycling, I do respect it, and respect the man. In a matter of days, Lance Armstrong started his personal downfall.

For those of you who don’t know, Lance Armstrong has been stripped of his seven Tour De France titles and is under continued investigation for participating in a complex web of doping. Armstrong lied to the public, saying that he had not used the drug EPO or maybe just physics. Our planet moves at a speed of millions of miles per hour and the process of human evolution has ground to a halt. In his case.

So what! That doesn’t mean he should be forgiven and forgotten. In a given period, regardless of the punishments like these only reinforce the sad fact that the more famous you are, the easier it is to get out of trouble. Armstrong may be productive of competitive society, but he’s still wrong.
Volunteers win Baylor record in sustainability efforts

Dr. Kara Beaumont Receives

The Student Senate got into a bit of a disagreement Monday evening over a bill that would ban 3D movies. Senate Academic Affairs Chair Chad Goodwin introduced the bill, which was later discussed by the Senate's Academic Affairs Committee as well.

The bill was suggested by Cody Orr, an assistant in the Office of Sustainability, who said one area Baylor sustainability means more than just recycling and reducing waste. Orr said the bill was meant to encourage people to be more aware of the sustainability around them, rather than just doing their part.

"I think we should do something like this," Orr said. "It's not just the people who are involved in sustainability who should be doing this, but everyone who lives on campus should be doing this.

The bill would allow students to bring their recycling material to the on-campus sustainability office, where they would be rewarded with a special card that could be used for discounts at participating on-campus businesses.

The bill passed in a 29-14 vote, with one freshman senator and two junior senators, including a chief justice, three associates and a student body president voting against it.

Baylor student passes bill to charge grading scale

This bill would not affect students who entered Baylor under the old grading system, since the new grading policy would be implemented after the current academic year.

Currently, there are seven grading systems at Baylor: A through F, A through C, no grade, pass/fail, pass/no pass, pass with distinction, and pass with a grade.

The new grading system will include eight grades, which will be based on the current grading scale. It will also include a new grading system for online and distance education courses.

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Melody Ranch Reopens After Hiatus

BY TAYLOR KROEMER

Watch out, Wild West — Melody Ranch is back in action as Waco’s largest country dance hall.

The Melody Ranch, located off the traffic circle on Robinson Drive, reopened this month after nearly 13 years.

The Ranch first opened in 1997 and brought in large crowds for big-name artists, including George Strait, Willie Nelson and Tim McGraw, who played at the Ranch early in their careers.

Once the club’s attendance dwindled after country music declined in popularity and club owners started turning other clubs to dance halls.

After a three-year struggle to keep crowds in, the Melody Ranch closed its doors in June 2000.

Victor Puente, who owned a smaller club near the Melody Ranch, purchased the dance hall and reopened the building as El Rancho, a big hall by day and a “Texas” theme dance club by night.

General manager Shane Christian and Roger Scott, a 2002 Baylor civil engineering graduate who co-founded El Rancho, have decided to turn the club back into the Melody Ranch after experimenting with country acts at El Rancho.

Christian, who is the lead singer for the country dance band 35 South, and Scott play on the weekends where he uses increasingly large crowds to sell the dance floor.

“We saw there was a need for a place where people could go for a good, safe atmosphere with a big stage and a big dance floor,” Christian said. “It allows us to entertain people, and that’s what we really focus on. Scott and Christian plan to use the stage and dance hall nine to ten times a week.

According to an article in the Waco Tribune-Herald, the Melody Ranch is larger than Whiskey River, Gay Grafix Houston and is nearly two times larger than Waco West, which brings in national and Texas country acts on a regular basis.

“We have the ability to host a thousand where our competition can’t,” Scott said. “Other places get shut down when they bring a Texas act in.”

A former size eludes the club in the longtime pull Christin and Scott feel from the Melody Ranch.

Scott, in particular, remembers watching the Melody Ranch on its first night in Waco as a Baylor student.

“We came out to Melody and had a good time,” Scott said. “I’m from San Antonio and I’ve seen similar places, but here, it was like you were back in the 70’s in the set of an old movie.”

Scott and Christian hope to attract the Melody Ranch has come from those who remember the dance hall during its glory days.

“This place has such a history,” Christian said. “I’m already getting calls from Houston, Fort Worth, the Austin area — these musicians who know the history of this place and know the Melody Ranch is about entertainment, and we already have regulars after three weeks. We see the same people coming up Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights. They will get to see this place transform as we build it. No, we want the younger generation."

Though the Melody Ranch had its soft opening earlier this month, the dance hall will host its first big country headliner Country John Conlee on Jan. 25 in its grand opening.

Christian and Scott hope to bring in Texas and Nashville country artists as you go up and down I-35, there’s nowhere to find Ducks and Pen- dents in the Austin area — those matches and actuals tends to be 22 and 22 of those artists over from Dallas-Fort Worth to Austin.

“It seems as soon as you go up and down I-35, Texas always that little lag where they don’t buy Waco,” Scott said. “Now we’re trying to change that and have that little step where big acts can play on a Friday night."

A limited number of tickets for the John Conlee concert are available at the door for purchase. Standing tickets are $20, a reserved seat are $18 and the concert during the day costs an additional $5.

Marathon encourages donations

BY BRENDAN FELDNER

Running through Waco will soon become a reality for the first time.

The玛什mallow Donor Marathon, organizers said ahead of a Friday night, Waco at 100,000. 18,000 miles, the mara-

The Mauch Chunk Relay for Life is scheduled for Mar-

The Maraton, which usually fills three weeks, serves food and might host live music acts on weekends.

The Melody Ranch will host free music acts on weekends, serve food and might host live music acts on weekends.

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Men's basketball to TCU for next tip-off

By Travis Taylor

Senior Writer

The Lady Bears head into Fort Worth to take on the Texas Christian Horned Frogs on Saturday. Baylor and TCU are two basketball teams heading in two separate directions. TCU is winning conference play and Baylor is in 4-1 and coming off a victory against Oklahoma State on ESPN, Big Monday Showcase.

“I think the great thing about crowds and the Big 12 is every game you are excited,” junior Lauren Bucz said. “Also I think our school was excited and the fans are always ready. The fans are excited and it’s a great atmosphere to play in.”

But the Bears are currently struggling and have a lot of new girls, “Burgic said. “This is a new team, we have a lot of new girls.”

Along with having to overcome a lack of collegiate experience, the new girls trust and believe in what one on the same page and make the effort to go through. “It’s going to take a little bit of time for them to get used to it,” Scrivano said. “They’re a team where a lot of teams try to do that and at the end of the day they normally go back to where they started and the early in the game we had a chance to get some margin and we didn’t finish on our fast break opportunities.”

“Quite honestly, we aren’t where we expected to be,” Alex Lea, a senior manager of operations and physical defense, the Lady Bears is stout, Baylor is third in the Big 12 record in career points. Senior center Brittney Griner leads the nation with 1,390 points away from the Big 12 record in career points. Baylor will try to bounce back from its lowest offensive outing, which was Wednesday against Iowa State. Baylor only managed 53 points in the contest.

The No. 1 Lady Bears will play No. 20 Oklahoma at 6 p.m. on Saturday at the Ferrell Center. Senior center Brittney Griner is only seven blocks away from a NCAA record for career blocks. She is 10 away from 1,000 points away from the Big 12 record in career points. Baylor will try to bounce back from its lowest offensive outing, which was Wednesday against Iowa State. Baylor only managed 53 points in the contest.

The Bears have already defeated the Horned Frogs earlier in the season 51-47. This will be the last time these two teams meet for the season, so their paths should cross in the Big 12 tournament. In that first meeting, TCU upset Baylor’s! By Travis Taylor

Senior Writer

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and its continued focus on its nuclear and missile programs is doing nothing to help the North Korean people. Carney said the council decided to tighten sanctions to force North Korea to return to six-party talks and stop its nuclear and missile development.

North Korea has resisted international pressure to abandon its nuclear and missile programs, and it has conducted several nuclear tests and missile launches in recent months. The United States and other countries are concerned about the possibility of a North Korean nuclear strike or other provocative actions.

The U.N. Security Council has imposed several rounds of sanctions on North Korea in an effort to prevent the country from developing a nuclear weapon. However, North Korea has continued to conduct nuclear and missile tests despite the sanctions.

The U.S. government has been working with allies and partners to increase pressure on North Korea and to prevent it from developing a nuclear weapon. The U.S. and its allies have been working to prevent North Korea from acquiring a nuclear weapon and to ensure that the international community is ready to respond if North Korea were to conduct a nuclear test or other provocative action.

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