

A&E Page 4

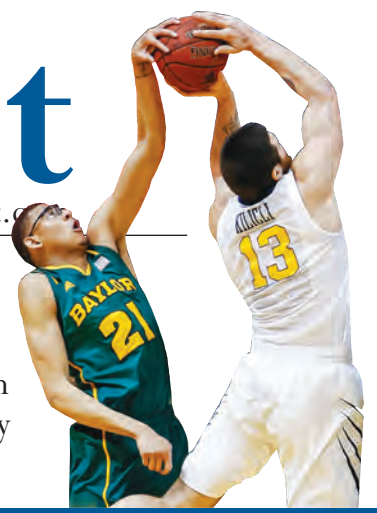
The last stand
Salado's historic Silver Spur theatre will shut its doors after a nine year-run

SPORTS Page 5

Breath of fresh air
Coach Glenn Moore hopes the softball team's freshman class will transition the team to a new style of play

SPORTS Page 5

Win-win-winning
Men's basketball took down West Virginia on Wednesday 65-62



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Vol. 115 No. 22

In Print

>> GOLDEN PIPES

Women take center stage in tonight's Bella Voce performance of "By, For and About Women"

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On the Web



Sing rides again

The Lariat captured the winning moments during Sing 2013. Check them out. Only on baylorlariat.com

Don't Feed the Bears

Baylor hoops, the Big 12 tournament, NBA and recent NFL moves are all topics of talk in this week's podcast. Only on baylorlariat.com

Viewpoints

"The intent here is to protect the copyrights that cell phone companies have worked for, which is a noble cause. Unfortunately, the one suffering is the customer. The unintended consequences of this law are far-reaching and the law needs to be overturned."

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Bear Briefs

The place to go to know the places to go

Walk about it

It's time to walk for a cause. Student Life presents the National Eating Disorder Awareness walk at 6 p.m. today in Fountain Mall.



DOWNLOAD THE LARIAT APP ON YOUR ANDROID DEVICE TODAY!

Juniors ignite million-dollar e-hookah, cigarette site

By LINDA NGUYEN
A&E EDITOR

It's not very often two 20-year-old students own a million-dollar company.

Waco junior Yaseen Waqar and Plano junior Rayyan Islam are the co-founders of www.LuxuryLites.com, an electronic cigarette and hookah site.

In the last seven months, their company has made \$1.7 million in sales with a profit of more than \$320,000.

"My uncle had severe lung problems, and we were trying to look for alternate methods for him to stop smoking because

he needed to quit, but nothing worked," Waqar said. "The nicotine patches, gum, nothing would work. He wasn't just addicted to the nicotine, it was actually the movement of having a cigarette in his hand. We looked into this new thing called electronic cigarettes. He tried it out and he really liked it, but the quality was horrible. It only lasted about two weeks."

The e-products are a safer alternative than the real things because they don't contain tar or toxins, there is no secondhand smoke and the only byproduct is water vapor.

SEE HOOKAH, page 6



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

Starr's got wings

Baylor President Ken Starr makes a confetti angel on Saturday in the Ferrell Center after the Lady Bears defeated the Longhorns 67-47 to win the Big 12 regular season championship.

Study abroad focuses on business overseas

By JOSH DAY
REPORTER

Meeting the operators of IBM in Italy, taking a cablecar up a mountain in Innsbruck, walking through the Euronext stock exchange in Paris and discussing business with Lloyd's of London — all in three weeks for six hours of course credit.

From June to July, two Baylor faculty members are leading Baylor students in the European Business Seminar. It is a study abroad program focusing on the business practices of several international companies in Europe.

"We are not sitting in classrooms in Europe. We are visiting companies," said Richard Easley, the director of the program. "You are getting access to people that you would never have access to, typically, unless you were in that particular industry."

Carolyn Monroe, senior lecturer of information systems and co-leader with Easley in this year's program, said the visits would involve detailed conversations with the executives themselves, especially about their marketing and international business practices. "We travel to the businesses, we'll usually have lunch with them. There will be a question-answer session about the business and how they do international business," Monroe said.

In addition to business meetings, the students will also have a large amount of time dedicated to exploring cities such as Rome, Paris, Munich, and London.

"The beauty of Europe will blow you away," Easley said.

Kady senior Kelsey Goerner was in the European Business Seminar program in 2011. She said she spent most of her time on the trip exploring her surroundings.

In Austria, she said she went canyoning and hiking in the mountains while others par-

sailed.

Goerner said the program allowed her "to have an experience with international businesses and be fully submerged in the European culture."

She added, "The European Business Seminar is great opportunity for those looking for an out of classroom experience."

Easley said, as director, his prime objective was having stu-

SEE BUSINESS, page 6

Global suites harbor cultural diversity

By SANMAI GBANDI
REPORTER

Expanding your world-view can be difficult, but the Global Community Living and Learning Center approaches it in an unconventional way.

The Global LLC program was started in 2008 by Janet Norden, a lecturer in the Spanish department. Along with a group of students, she came up with an idea to expand global education and language-immersion skills.

Students who are a part of the program have a target language that they want to learn, and then they can choose to be placed in a full-immersion suite.

Alejandra Mendoza-Muñoz, the program coordinator for the Global LLC program, explained how the full-immersion suites work.

"The purpose of the full-immersion suites is to encourage all four students living there to practice their target language together," she said "Students will usually be at different levels in the language learning process, but we



A group of students from the Global LLC went to Cameron Park on Feb. 16 to pick up trash in hopes of making the park more beautiful.

try to have at least one native student in the suite to help the rest with their learning."

In the full-immersion suites, located in Brooks Flats, students are required to speak their target language as much as possible with little to no English being filtered in.

McAllen sophomore Cristina Garcia has been a part of the Global Community since she was a freshman. As an international studies major, the community could not be more perfect for her she said. She said she loves the community and would love to live at Brooks Flats for the rest of her college career.

"I read the description for Global, and it was perfect," Garcia said. "It was everything I ever wanted with a living community place because we get to practice our languages and learn about other cultures."

Garcia lived in a full-immersion suite her freshman year.

She was learning French along with two other roommates. Their fourth roommate was from France and spoke French fluently.

She says it was difficult having to speak a language that was not her first, but it was a bit easier having someone who actually spoke French in the suite. With that extra practice, she said the vocabulary that you know begins to stick in your memory.

By the fall of 2010, other programming had been implemented to expand the program.

Along with the full-immersion suites, other suites with different themes were added in order to create a more diverse program. By agreeing to live in a suite, a student agrees to express interest and learn about the assigned theme.

SEE GLOBAL, page 6

Some schools resist link between funds, graduation rates

By MICHAEL BRICK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — The leader of a legislative effort to link higher education funds to graduation rates said Wednesday there seems to be some quiet resistance from major universities that have publicly endorsed the idea.

Republican Dan Branch of Dallas, chairman of the House Higher Education Committee, told a news conference that while the major university systems have endorsed the idea publicly, "they seem to be sending emissaries in to the folks on subcommittees and trying to put the brakes on things."

"We need to identify where the tension seems to be," Branch said.

Under current policy, much of the funding for colleges is based on enrollment figures.

In 2011, Branch helped pass a law allowing the Legislature to base 10 percent of its higher education appropriations on graduation rates. But now he must persuade budget writers to follow that formula.

he state Higher Education Coordinating Board has endorsed the idea in a report to Branch's committee.

University of Texas System spokeswoman Jenny LaCoste-Caputo issued a statement saying Chancellor Francisco Cigarroa and the regents "are and have

Repeal dumb laws about smartphones

Editorial

When you purchase something, it becomes yours. You own it, and you should be able to do with it what you wish.

This sounds pretty simple, but the government is struggling with this concept.

The law of the land in the United States says that unlocking your cell phone is illegal. This means that a phone purchased from, say, Verizon cannot be unlocked and used on AT&T's network.

For the consumer, this is bad news. If you like your shiny new iPhone 5 that you purchased from one service provider, then you'll have to spend another grotesque amount of money to purchase the exact same phone if you want to switch carriers.

You used to be able to download software to let your phone work on different carriers. If technology isn't your thing, then you could just take your phone to a kiosk in the mall and they could do it for you for a fee before the law was passed in October.

Individual violators of the law, if prosecuted, will face a fine of up to \$2,500. For those who provide

unlocking services, the fine increases to up to \$500,000.

The intent here is to protect the copyrights that cell phone companies have worked for, which is a noble cause. Unfortunately, the one suffering is the customer. The unintended consequences of this law are far-reaching and the law needs to be overturned.

Consumers have hope, however.

Our cell phone savior is Sina Khanifar. Formerly a cell phone unlocker by trade, he started a petition on whitehouse.gov urging the government to create legislation to make unlocking cell phones legal after he received a cease-and-desist letter from Motorola. He also has a lawsuit pending in court.

Like any good citizen, Khanifar started his petition to try and make a difference.

His petition has reached the 100,000-signature threshold, and the White House will address the issue.

According to the petition, under the current law "consumers will be forced to pay exorbitant roaming fees to make calls while traveling abroad. It reduces consumer choice, and decreases the resale value of devices that consumers have paid for in full."

Khanifar is right. The current

law needs to be rescinded. If someone purchases a product, then that person should be free to use that product as they see fit (so long as they aren't breaking other laws).

This law is just another boxcar in the train of senseless laws governing technology that the government ultimately just doesn't understand.

It was only a little over a year ago that the Protect IP Act and the Stop Online Piracy Act, more commonly known as PIPA and SOPA, were introduced to the House of Representatives.

Both bills were intended to protect the copyright of people who put their works online. In theory, this sounds noble and right, but in practice, it just shows that the government doesn't understand the technology that it tries to regulate.

If these bills had passed, websites such as Wikipedia and YouTube would have had to shut down because they feature user-generated content that lawmakers argued violated copyright laws.

Americans are changing the way they think about copyright laws, especially as the laws pertain to technology, and the government has not been able to keep up with the changing American view.

Fortunately, the will of the people has prevailed in many cases



ASHER FREEMAN

thus far, but it has only been because of our collective loud voice. Be sure to stay informed. If the

White House doesn't respond the way that the people would like it to, then it's up to us to put pres-

sure on lawmakers to change this policy that prevents us from fully possessing the things we own.

Point/Counterpoint: Lariat columnists square off on independents

Independent voters need to get informed

I recently had the pleasure of seeing "Born Yesterday," an intellectual comedy directed by Jessi Hampton at the Baylor Department of The

atre Arts. The play was written by Garson Kanin and first performed in 1946. Set in Washington, D.C., it follows the story of Billie Dawn, mistress of the rough junkyard tycoon Harry Brock. She is taken advantage of by Brock's bribery and corruption, completely unaware of the consequences of his actions.

The play documents Billie's education in the realms of politics and history as she learns to understand Brock's unethical actions while discovering the beauty of a democratic system. Becoming politically informed allows her to stand up against the injustice in politics.

The plot carries remarkable similarities to our political system today. The danger political ignorance poses to our society can be easily seen by recent statistics. According to George Mason University historian Rick Shenkman, only two of five voters can name the three branches of the government, and 49 percent of Americans think the president has the right to suspend the Constitution.

Ilya Somin, professor of law at George Mason University, agrees that this political ignorance threatens our democratic system.

He says: "Democracy demands an informed electorate. [...] Voters who lack sufficient knowledge may be manipulated by elites. They may also demand policies that contravene their

own interests."

So why not stay "independent" of politics?

Many assume independents are free-thinkers, not tied to a particular partisan agenda, and generally more intellectual than those who identify as either conservative or liberal.

How, then, this theory supposes an idealistic view of independents that starkly contradicts empirical observations.

According to a 2008 American National Election Study by the University of Michigan, independents are much less likely to follow current events, research political information, watch the news, or donate to candidates than those who report an affiliation with one political party. Most

self-declared independents also confess to leaning toward one side or another. Those who do are almost 20 percentage points more likely to vote than pure independents.

Choosing a political side does not indicate a sacrifice of reason, principles or free thinking. Party labels do not imply blind adherence to the agenda. The choice of party instead reflects a coherent set of informed decisions. Those who are not ashamed to stand behind their political convictions have already done much clear, rational analysis to decide which party or candidate best fits their views on most issues. There are still varying degrees

on the left-right continuum, but a middle ground is not the ideal place to be by any means.

According to "Born Yesterday" director Hampton:

"It is harder for people to be taken advantage of, by government or anybody else, if they are well-educated, which is why Devery (a character in the play) exclaims, 'A little education is a dangerous thing.'"

Admittedly, "Born Yesterday" takes on a slightly idealistic nature. It is naive to think that if only American citizens (especially independents) would read a little more, the problems of government would magically be wiped away. Becoming politically informed may not solve all of society's problems, but it is a good place to start.

Danny Huizinga is a sophomore Baylor Business Fellow from Chicago. He manages the political blog Consider Again and writes weekly for The Washington Times Communities.

Independents have clear view of party lines

There seems to be a general dislike of independent voters who vote party lines, based on ideas that those who vote party lines are uninformed, follow the crowd or are lazy. Perhaps that reasoning is based on more than just their party labels, however.

Independent voters are generally not associated with a party of their own, though "independent voters" is slowly growing into its own party.

However, these voters, also known as swing voters, can change the outcome of an election. We see it as opening up the traditional democratic process of either-or elections and affiliations, and putting a new ideological perspective on parties' policies.

According to the Washington Post, since 1992, true independents make up only about 7 to 10 percent of the electorate, but about 40 percent of voters associate themselves with the independent party. In response to this, I say independents are allowed to change and agree with a party if that is their viewpoint at the time of the election.

If so, let them associate themselves with that party at the time, because they will most likely change their opinions in the future.

Every human does, within and outside of politics. I like using stories to explain myself and the way I think.

I grew up in a very conservative household where if I disagreed with the authoritative views, arguments would follow, and the only news source available to watch in the living room at night was Fox News.

Now, while I believe that conservative views helped shape my

moral values and convictions and have contributed positively to my character, I have come to understand that my views are truly different from the conformative conservative because there are some liberal viewpoints support.

Yet I am neither a Democrat nor Republican. I believe independent voters are more than what people label us.

For me, and I believe a good percentage of independents would agree, our world is constantly changing, so nothing is written concretely. People change political

parties all the time. And one of the reasons they continue to do so is because, like me, these people are learning. I say learning anything, from learning patterns of behavior in politics to a philosophy about what is true versus what is just.

If you put yourself in a position to only see one perspective in life, you are not allowing yourself to learn and grow.

Human morals, convictions and values do change. In order for me to uphold any set word I give people, I want to be able to present my views in a way that shows others that I am open to listening and respecting their views rather than proceeding with my own

agenda and projecting disregard for their claims. Experience leads humans to better understand the world around them, and this can be applied to politics, too.

Once I understand how a specific policy affects others, how a certain party's view shapes an idea, or how a leader goes about matters in his or her position, I am better able to understand the politics that surround those situations.

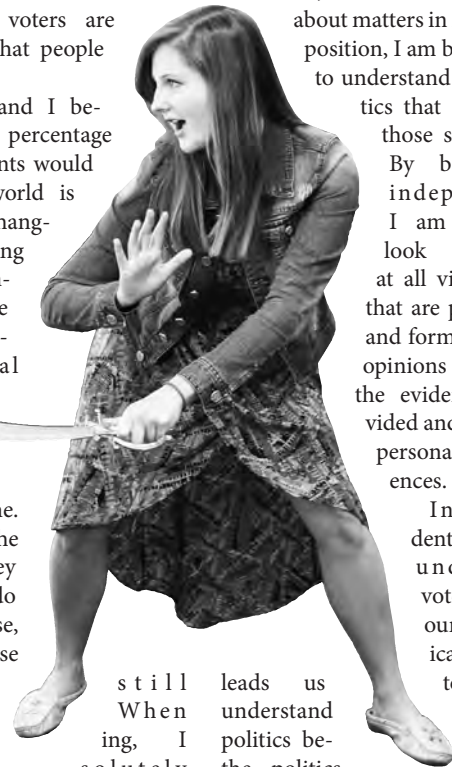
By being an independent, I am able to look critically at all viewpoints that are presented and form my own opinions based on the evidence provided and my own personal experiences.

Independents can be undecided voters, but our ideological views lead us to better understand the politics and decisions based on those findings.

It means taking our view of the world around us and applying those views to what we as independents may potentially believe in politics.

As said by Reason Magazine Editor-in-Chief Matt Welch, "It's not necessarily who you register with, but how do you feel (on those issues)?"

Kate McGuire is a freshman journalism major from Waterloo, Iowa. She is a staff writer for the Lariat.



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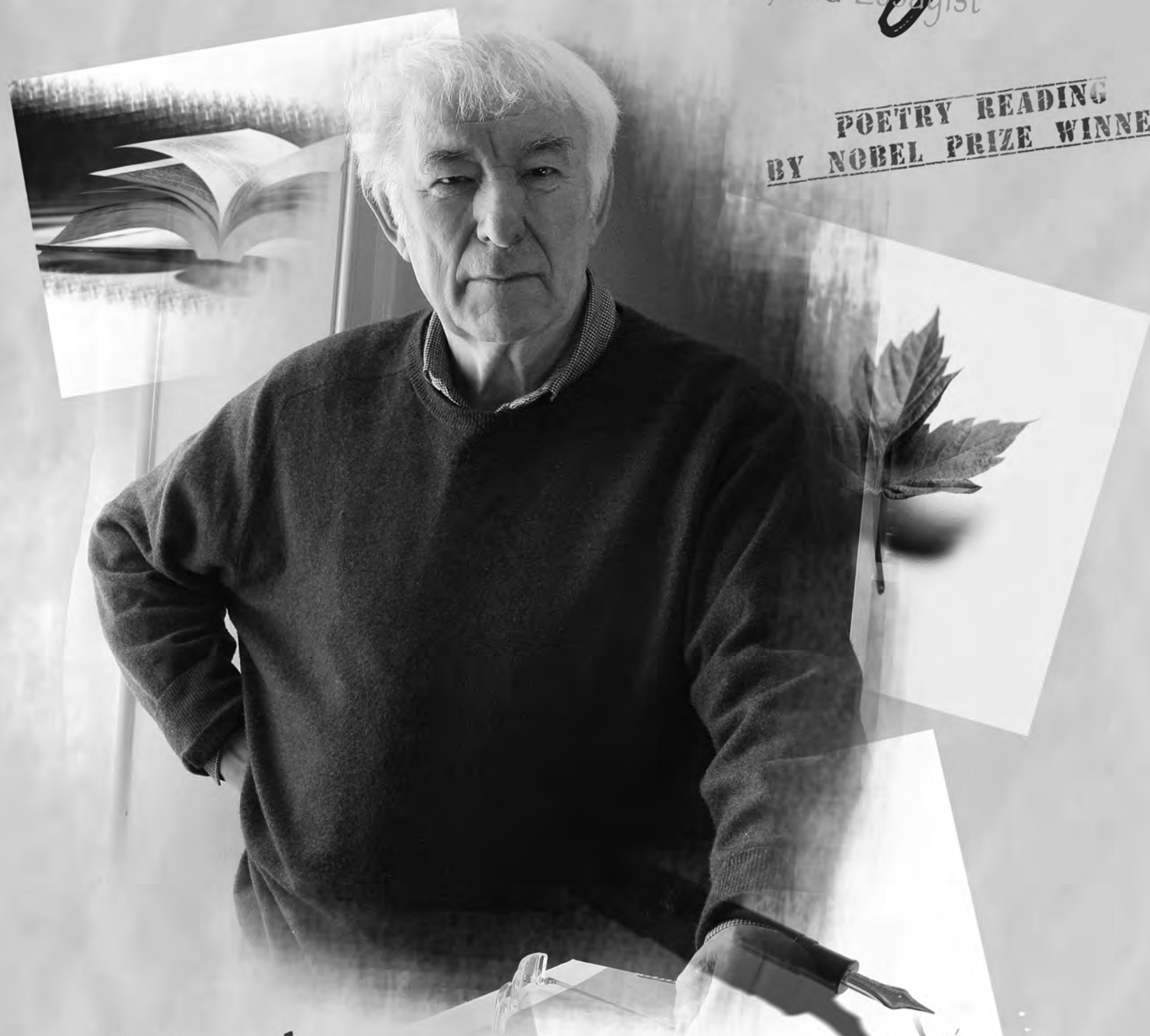




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Seamus Heaney is writing"*

- The New York Times Book Review



Historic theater to shut doors after Saturday night

By PAULA ANN SOLIS
CONTRIBUTOR

Eight years ago, a former clown of the Ringling Bros. Circus opened the doors to a unique theater with live, family-friendly stage comedy in Central Texas.

After Saturday, those doors will close.

Grainger Esch, an alumnus of Duke University and Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Clown College, is the artistic director and co-founder of the Silver Spur Theater in Salado, a town inside Bell County, 50 miles south of Waco.

According to Esch, the decline of tourists in the Salado area is the chief reason for the upcoming closure.

The theater's actors, known as "Spuradical Players," act in most of the theater's productions. This group includes Esch, who plays Slim Chance.

Since the theater's inception in 2004, it has hosted stage comedies, original melodramas and silent movies with live musical accompaniment. Esch said the theater is a cherished part of the Salado community and its closing is disappointing to more than the Spuradical cast.

"The reaction's been overwhelming. I get emails and calls - it will be missed," Esch said. "We have a pretty solid base of customers here in Salado who came regularly to our shows and we'll miss them all."

Tony Blackman, the Silver Spur Theater's technical director and a performer, has been part of the theater since the beginning

and said he too has received condolences from the community regarding the closing.

"I'm constantly hearing, 'Oh, I'm so sad that y'all are closing,' and a lot of times it's from people who have been big supporters," Blackman said. "And then sometimes it's from people I didn't even know knew we existed. Had they made themselves known, who knows, maybe we wouldn't have had to close."

Blackman said it first became apparent the Silver Spur Theater was facing closure toward the end of 2012. "We knew from the get-go we were going to be relying heavily on tourist traffic and people from other communities and that's actually been part of the problem," Esch said. "Tourist traffic in Salado just has not been enough to really keep this going on a year-round basis and then with the overhead expenses, the business is just not sustainable."

Past performers include Kinky Friedman and the Quebe Sisters Band, Esch said.

Former President George W. Bush has also visited the hall. Blackman said the most memorable event for him at the Silver Spur Theater was hosting Jenna Bush's wedding rehearsal dinner in 2008.

A final hint of the fight to stay open remains on the Silver Spur Theater's website in the form of a petition seeking a financial remedy.

"We've been looking for ways that we could continue and so we're just hoping to get the word out there with this petition and if anybody has any magic solutions



Tony Blackman, long-time Silver Spur Technical Director, performs his singing chicken act.

as to how we can move forward, we'd welcome their contact," Esch said.

The last shows the Spuradical Players will perform will be at 7:30 Friday and Saturday. Tickets are \$10, \$15, and \$18 for children, students, and adults, respectively.

The final performance is titled "Schtick Happens" and will include performances by Esch and Blackman as well as the other Spuradical Players.

Esch said all but one act, "Who's On First," will be original productions. And while the songs are licensed numbers, their renditions will all be original. The last show at the Silver Spur Theater will also include the screening of the "The Playhouse," a silent movie by Buster Keaton, with a musical score

arranged and performed live by Nelda Milligan.

Esch said Friday's show is completely sold out and Saturday's show is selling out quickly. He said he encourages people to call in for reservations because the theater only has 150 seats.

"The show is a return to what we started with," Esch said. "When we first started we did all vaudeville shows, variety shows and that's what this is, a lot of slapstick comedy, song and dance. Just good family entertainment. Just all in all it's been a great ride, I wish it could continue but, I'm optimistic that there will be more in the future. I'm proud of everything we've done, it's been great."

For more information or to make a reservation, call the box office at 254-947-3456.

Choir displays foreign songs, beautiful voices

By PHILIP ERICKSEN
REPORTER

Some of Baylor's best singers will display their golden pipes for the community.

The Baylor Bella Voce choir will perform at 7:30 p.m. today in Roxy Grove Hall. The concert is free and open to the public.

The choir of 34 female singers will perform a concert titled "By, For, and About Women."

Dr. Lynne Gackle, professor of ensembles and associate director of choral activities, leads the choir and is excited for the group's upcoming performance.

"This is a women's group," Gackle said. "There are wonderful women composers. Women have been the inspiration behind a lot of music and I wanted to choose texts behind woman composers, as well as woman poets."

Dr. Isabelle Demers, assistant professor of organ, will also contribute to the set for one piece.

She said she received an email from Gackle during Christmas break requesting her organ accompaniment for "Litanies of the Black Madonna" by French composer Francis Poulenc.

"I listened to it and I thought, 'Yeah, absolutely, it's something I'd love to do,'" Demers said. "It's all in French and French is my native language, so I'm so impressed that people who are not native speakers can speak French so well and sing a piece of music that must be so difficult. Personally I find it very impressive and so moving, also."

Other pieces to be performed include Javier Bustos' "Salve Regi-

na," Michelle Roueche's "Lux Aeterna," and Gwyneth Walker's "Love Is a Rain of Diamonds."

These pieces are primarily in languages other than English and diction is vital to their success.

"We have to learn a lot of diction," said Channelview freshman Kandace Wyatt, a member of the choir. "The main thing is staying really prepared and really focused in the music."

The concert will be the result of much hard work and preparation.

"Unfortunately we only meet two and a half hours a week," Gackle said. "But different ladies come very prepared."

In particular, the Bella Voce choir has spent much time practicing the Francis Poulenc piece inside and outside of regular practices.

"Because it's 20th century music, it doesn't always go where you think it's going to go," Gackle said.

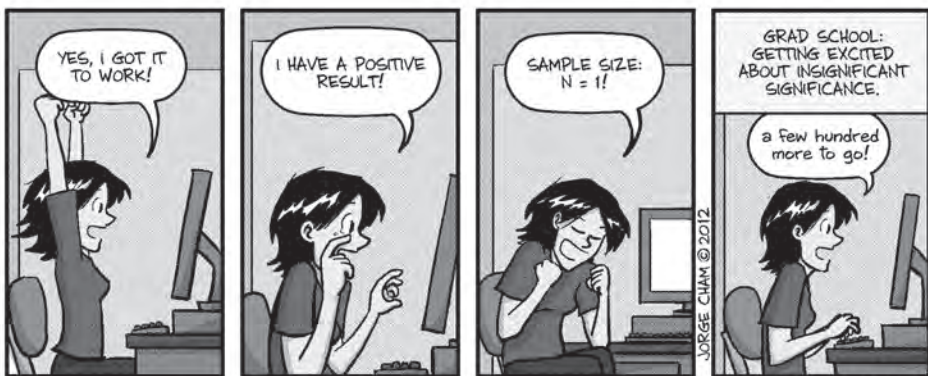
Wyatt, a choral music education major, said she is proud of the choir's development and chemistry.

"It's great," Wyatt said. "We have a lot of great singers. Some music majors, some non-music majors. We all blend very well and we go out with each other and it's kind of like a big family of music students and very great voices."

This blend of camaraderie and talent will lead to a successful performance Gackle said.

"They're very talented," Gackle said. "They're some of the most talented female singers at Baylor School of Music. They are very dedicated to what they do here."

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		3	7	2					4
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DAILY PUZZLES

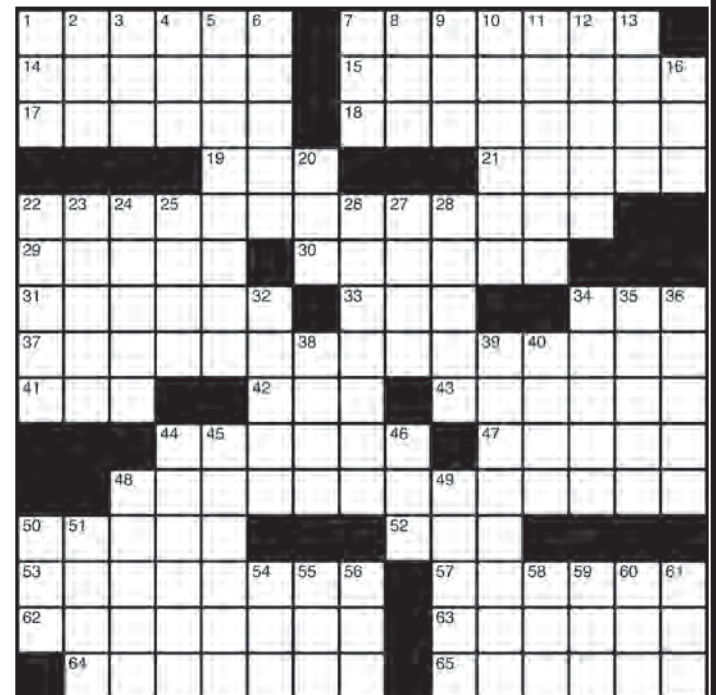
Answers at www.baylorlariat.com

Across

- 1 Send with an email
- 7 With 22-, 37- or 48-Across, familiar line
- 14 It has its charms
- 15 Password accompaniment
- 17 Mail for King Arthur
- 18 "Pull it together"
- 19 Fed. management and support agency
- 21 Fabric
- 22 See 7-Across
- 29 Ken and Lena of Hollywood
- 30 Tell-all account
- 31 Mosquito-borne fever
- 33 Islet
- 34 Preschool downtime
- 37 See 7-Across
- 41 Disapproving sound
- 42 Ballpark fig.
- 43 Two-__
- 44 Shriill laugh
- 47 Bookkeeper's deduction
- 48 See 7-Across
- 50 Literature Nobel__ Bashevis Singer
- 52 __ Lanka
- 53 Words often said with a fist pump
- 57 Easy pill to swallow
- 62 Where a shopping list may be jotted down
- 63 Word of exasperation
- 64 Probable response to 7-/22-, 7-/37- or 7-/48-Across
- 65 Saved

Down

- 1 Gardner of "The Killers"
- 2 NYY opponent, on scoreboards
- 3 Cat on the prowl
- 4 Excitement
- 5 Forks over reluctantly
- 6 __ trade
- 7 An O may symbolize one
- 8 Odessa-to-Austin dir.
- 9 To this point



- 10 Leaflike parts
- 11 "Life of Pi" director
- 12 Unseen "Red" character in "Peanuts"
- 13 Give off
- 16 N.T. book
- 20 "All bets __ off"
- 22 Buffalo Bill and the Wyoming city named for him
- 23 Kitchen spreads
- 24 Frigid forecast word
- 25 Tech sch. grad
- 26 "Bingo!"
- 27 Andy's TV son
- 28 Pics
- 32 To-be, in politics
- 34 Capone associate
- 35 Words after crack or fry
- 36 1996 role for Madonna or Jonathan Pryce
- 38 Sets a price of
- 39 Adjust, as to a new situation
- 40 Prey for a Hauskatze
- 44 Alpine dwelling
- 45 Battery not included, perhaps
- 46 Aurora, to the Greeks
- 48 Refrain from claiming
- 49 Prods
- 50 Like Vivaldi's "Spring"
- 51 Joined the choir
- 54 Scooby-__
- 55 Tape speed unit: Abbr.
- 56 Hanoi holiday
- 58 John of London
- 59 Nasty mutt
- 60 Birthday candle number
- 61 Prof's deg.

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BAYLOR NEW ENTREPRENEUR COMPETITION

Bears escape West Virginia with narrow win, 65-62

By DANIEL HILL
SPORTS WRITER

The Baylor Bears went into Morgantown on Wednesday and earned a 65-62 win over West Virginia. It was Baylor's first-ever trip to Morgantown, and the win snapped its three-game losing streak.

"Road wins are always great," head coach Scott Drew told ESPN Radio after the game. "Any Big 12 win is obviously nice, especially when you are at this time of year. This time of year every game is so big and so critical. We are really proud of how our team responded."

Freshman center Isaiah Austin led the Bears with 21 points, six rebounds and two blocks. Senior guard Pierre Jackson contributed 15 points, six rebounds and five assists. Senior guard A.J. Walton scored some clutch baskets to give the Bears much-needed momentum down the stretch. Walton finished with 10 points and two rebounds.

With the Bears trailing by one point with 10:08 to play, junior guard Gary Franklin hit a 3-point

er to give the Bears a 50-48 lead.

On the next Baylor possession, Austin stepped out and hit a three to give Baylor consecutive treys on back-to-back possessions. Austin's three gave the Bears a 53-50 lead.

Jackson gave the Bears a five-point lead by hitting a jumper, and Austin kept the Mountaineers at bay by hitting another jumper.

With 5:06 left in the game, Baylor only led by three points, 58-55, when Jackson was fouled. After struggling with key free throws against Iowa State two games ago, Jackson stepped to the line and drained both shots from the charity stripe. After three more made free throws from Baylor, one from Franklin and two from Austin, Baylor held a 63-59 lead.

West Virginia started to mount a comeback in front of its home crowd when sophomore forward Kevin Noreen sank a 3-pointer to put the Mountaineers within one of Baylor, 63-62. On Baylor's ensuing possession with 1:17 left, Jackson missed a layup. West Virginia ended up with the ball and a chance to take the lead.

Baylor's defense stepped up to

the challenge and left West Virginia's offense no choice but to heave a low-percentage 3-pointer. The Mountaineers missed and Jackson grabbed the rebound for Baylor.

West Virginia swiftly fouled Jackson. Jackson once again hit both of his free throws to give Baylor a 65-62 lead. Jackson was perfect on the night from the free throw line, making all six of his attempts. On West Virginia's final possession, the Mountaineers missed a 3-point attempt and Jackson snared the rebound to ensure Baylor's 65-62 victory.

"We've been struggling a little bit with back-to-back-to-back losses, but this definitely is a confidence booster for us," Austin told ESPN Radio. "They're probably one of the strongest teams in the Big 12. They are at home, so they have the home environment tonight, but it was definitely a hard-fought game."

The win gives the Bears an 8-7 Big 12 record and a 17-11 overall record. Up next for the Bears is a home showdown against No. 13 Kansas State at 6 p.m. Saturday at the Ferrell Center.



DAVID SMITH | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Freshman forward Rico Gathers throws home a two-handed dunk against West Virginia on Wednesday in Morgantown, W. Va. The Bears won the game 65-62.

Softball gets production from strong freshman class

By PARMIDA SCHAHHOSSEINI
SPORTS WRITER

The No. 22 Baylor Lady Bears softball team has been getting better every tournament, improving upon the little things before competition gets harder. Everyone is expected to perform at a high level, but the freshman class has surprised many people.

The upperclassmen and returning players continue to do their job.

Senior centerfielder Kathy Shelton has a .404 batting average and has 10 runs, 23 hits and nine RBIs this season.

She has also stolen nine out of 10 bases this season as she continues to play more aggressively.

Sophomore outfielder Kaitlyn Thumann has a batting average of .453

"I just think Heather coming in, in a closing situation, [it] was nice to see her do that. We all have to learn how to close a game and seeing her close a game like that was good."

Whitney Canion | Junior Pitcher

and has 14 runs, 24 hits and eight RBIs. However, the freshmen are

making their mark as Baylor continues to play solid on every facet of the game.

"We are playing well as a team right now and getting better," head coach Glenn Moore said.

Despite the great play from their returning classes, the freshmen have been catching the attention of not only the coach but also the fans.

They have brought power to the offense, which was displayed several times in multiple games. The freshmen have accounted for 31 of the 79 runs. Freshman third baseman Sarah Smith has been productive for Baylor, and Moore moved her up in the lineup. Smith is hitting an average of .537 to go along

with nine runs, 22 hits and eight RBIs. Two of her at bats resulted in homeruns.

"We have more confidence up to the plate," Smith said. "I feel like we came together."

Another freshman contributor is outfielder Justine Young, who pinch runs effectively. Her speed is deceptive, which makes it easier for Moore to put her in to steal bases. Young contributed with six runs.

Freshman Linsey Hays has performed as advertised as she uses her power to drive balls deep.

Hays' first hit of the season was a home run, and she has added another one against Pacific with the wind blowing in the opposite direction.

Hays has 12 hits, nine runs and seven RBIs so far this season.

Another strong freshman is right-handed pitcher Heather Stearns. After being pulled out of her redshirt a week before the season began, she has pitched well after her first career start.

Stearns has won four straight, which included a no-hitter after the loss in her first career start. Stearns has also closed a game against Pacific and didn't give up a run in that game. For the season, Stearns has an ERA of .85 and has allowed only five runs. Stearns also contributed offensively with a run and four RBIs.


"I just think Heather coming in, in a closing situation, [it] was

nice to see her do that," junior left-handed pitcher Whitney Canion said. "We all have to learn how to close a game and seeing her close a game like that was good."

Baylor's freshmen have also stepped up defensively. Smith has had to learn the third base position, and second baseman Robin Landrith continues to make her presence known with her effective defense.

Baylor keeps getting better as their offense continues to produce and the defense does its job.

Pitching has been consistent, and with the contributions of the freshman class, Baylor must be thinking that it has something special brewing.



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HOOKAH from Page 1

Waqar said they tried several brands of electronic cigarettes, but were disappointed every time.

"That's when we were like, 'OK, we can do this way better than what a lot of the competition, what the market provides,'" Islam said.

Waqar said his dad has always been involved in business, so they had connections with the distributors.

"We flew over to China where these were being manufactured and spoke to a manufacturer about getting our own design created," Waqar said.

He said quality has always been the most important thing for them in their company.

"From A to Z, we hired several engineers," Waqar said. "We worked with them day and night. We drafted a design where the quality would last compared to what was on the market already."

Islam said after they began their company producing electronic cigarettes, they realized they needed

to differentiate themselves from their competitors such as Starbuzz Shisha & Hookah Tobacco and Imperial Smoke.

"We realized there were a few companies out there that were trying something new called electronic hookah," Islam said. "Hookah, as we know as college students, have become some what of a pop phenomena. College students on campuses all over the world have been going to hookah lounges and smoking it. It's something that's catered to a younger crowd and younger generation."

Islam said experimenting with electronic hookah products was a big risk for them as a smaller business with limited funding.

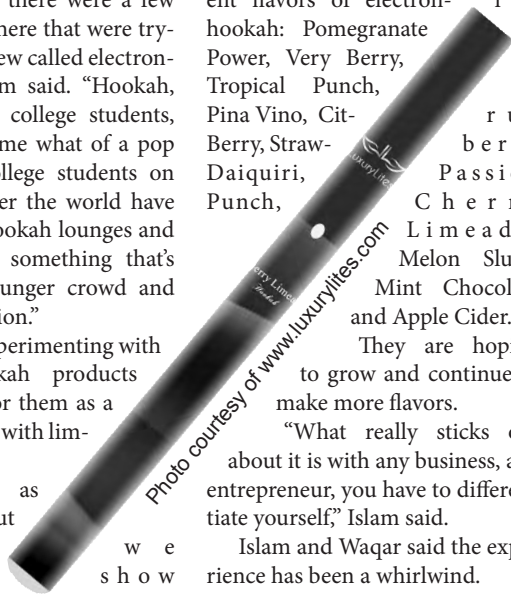
"As soon as we brought out the product, we went to a trade show in Vegas," Islam said. "We introduced it there, and it was a hit. We've never seen anything like

it. Everyone just kept asking questions about this new product. Our flagship product is e-hookah."

Islam said they have 11 different flavors of electronic hookah: Pomegranate Power, Very Berry, Tropical Punch, Pina Vno, Cit-Berry, Strawberry Daiquiri, Punch, r u s b e r r y P a s s i o n C h e r r y L i m e a d e , Melon Slush, Mint Chocolate and Apple Cider.

They are hoping to grow and continue to make more flavors. "What really sticks out about it is with any business, any entrepreneur, you have to differentiate yourself," Islam said.

Islam and Waqar said the experience has been a whirlwind. "The thing about being an entrepreneur, the greatest gratification is this huge gain," Islam said.



BUSINESS from Page 1

students explore Europe as much as possible in the course of their studies.

"That's been my overriding objective as director: maximize students' time on the ground," Easley said.

Easley has been going on the trip as the director since 2011, which ended a three-year hiatus for the program.

He is working to reestablish university recognition for America's oldest business study abroad program.

"It takes a lot of commitment and effort to build up a program like this and Richard's done that," said Dan Brenenstuhl, the founder of the travel agency coordinating this year's trip.

His agency, International Business Seminars, has been working closely with Easley and Baylor's business school, providing the program with

many of the business connections, including the newly incorporated tour of Lamborghini's factory.

According to Easley, part of the success of the program relies on Brenenstuhl's talent for connecting with international businesses.

"Dan Brenenstuhl, the CEO of this company that we work with, has contacts that no one else has in academia," Easley said. "That's why we were able to get the Lamborghini factory. You can't just walk into the Lamborghini factory for a tour."

Easley started going on the trips to Europe with the program in 2003, as a faculty leader. He said every time he returns, he finds something new.

"Here's my favorite part of doing it: seeing student's eyes for the first time

when they experience Europe, and that's what I'll be watching Carolyn for, she hasn't been over there," Easley said.

Monroe said she's looking forward to the trip.

"I can't wait," Monroe said. Students interested in joining the trip can text the word "info" to ebs@baylor.edu.

Other programs can be found through the baylor.edu/study_abroad, with a variety of locations and areas of study.

The closest deadline to enroll in most available summer programs is Mar. 1. Other programs have deadlines to enroll as late as May 23.

GLOBAL from Page 1

This year, Garcia is living in a Current World Affairs Suite.

The suite is dedicated to talking about things going on in other countries and learning about their customs.

The program seeks to prepare its students for a society where the Internet and technology in general have made business and communication with other countries easier, and puts knowing about other cultures at the center of the educational experience.

Garciasaid she thinks her learning will potentially help her in the job market.

"I can't think of any job that you don't need to know about other parts of the world," Garcia said "In Arab culture, showing the bottom of your shoe is considered the most insulting thing in the world. Knowing those little things can be really helpful in the long run."

Students are required to be involved in globally related activities and events such as community

dinners. Some students come together once a month to cook authentic cuisine from another country and share it with the rest of the students in the global community.

Hong Kong, China, senior Evan Choi said he likes being a part of the community as well. "I like that there is a community and that we are learning about the world at large," Choi said.

Choi lives in a half-Japanese, half-missions suite. The Global program also has the students participate in many community service and international events throughout the semester.

The program accepts incoming freshmen, current Baylor students, transfers and international students.

Applications are available on the Global Living and Learning website.



The 2012 Baylor in Europe summer group poses at the Colosseum in Rome. The program aims to connect students with the international business world while studying abroad.

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