

The Baylor Lariat

WE'RE THERE WHEN YOU CAN'T BE

Friday | October 31, 2014

Looking beyond the endzone

BU football to raise money for rare diseases through Touchdown Pledge Drive

By Cody Soto
SPORTS WRITER

When No. 12 Baylor football goes onto the field at McLane Stadium on Saturday, they will play for several reasons: to win another Big 12 conference game, to stay in the College Playoff race and for Midway High School junior Jacoby Burks.

Burks has cerebral palsy, a rare disorder that affects body movements and muscle coordination. Cerebral palsy is caused by abnormalities in parts of the brain that control muscle movement, and there is no cure.

In an effort to raise awareness and funds for cerebral palsy research, the Baylor chapter of Uplifting Athletes will hold its inaugural Touchdown Pledge Drive on Saturday in McLane Stadium.

Fans can donate to the cause by pledging an amount of money per touchdown made by the Bears or give a one-time donation.

“The ability to raise awareness and money for people like Jacoby Burks and his family who are affected by cerebral palsy puts some-

thing on top of all the motivation to score in the game,” senior defensive back Collin Brence said. “We are excited for this game for that specific reason. It’s going to be a fun experience and opportunity.”

Chapter president and senior receiver Levi Norwood said he is excited the Burks family will be a part of this big event. Norwood has been building a relationship with Jacoby Burks for about three years prior to the start of Baylor’s Uplifting Athletes chapter.

“It’s a blessing knowing that Jacoby and his family are supporting us and going to our games, and in return, we want to do the same for them,” Norwood said. “We definitely play a lot harder knowing that.”

Uplifting Athletes is a national non-profit organization that brings college football teams together to combat the rare diseases. With many research efforts being directed toward more common illnesses, Uplifting Athletes sheds light on many often overlooked diseases. The Baylor chapter introduced to campus last year is giving football players the opportunity to make a



COURTESY OF MARK MIHALIK

Midway High School student Jacoby Burks (center) and his family join Baylor football players July 17 during their inaugural Uplifting Athletes Lift for Life event. The chapter raised over \$3,155 dollars to fund cerebral palsy research and will hold their first touchdown drive on Saturday at McLane Stadium.

difference both at a local and national level. Norwood brought the chapter to Waco after watching his father and brother start the first Uplifting Athletes chapter at Penn

State.

Baylor is the only college in the Big 12 conference and in Texas with a chapter of Uplifting Athletes.

“If you look at other schools,

they’ve been able to raise a lot of money and awareness for these rare diseases, and it’s the same thing for us,” Norwood said. “We are trying to raise awareness about people

who have these diseases and would love to play and watch sports, but their body won’t let them.”

SEE **BEARS**, page 15



Typical game day parking arrangements undergo changes for homecoming. The hours for people to clear their cars from the Ferrell center has been extended to 2 a.m. Saturday.

Extensive planning underway to help homecoming parking

By RYAN FINN
REPORTER

Baylor Department of Student Activities and Baylor Athletics have plans set to handle parking for the oldest homecoming in the country.

Matt Burchett, director of Student Activities, said his department got an early start on attempting to help ease up parking for the game at 3 p.m. tomorrow.

“Our strategy right now is to park everyone at the Ferrell Center,” Burchett said. “We’ll have a shuttle that runs every five to 10 minutes that will be picking up and dropping off people behind the business school, which gives individuals the quickest access to the bonfire, pigskin and other activities.”

Burchett said students are

among the priorities for parking spots available the day of and before the game.

“One of the things most important to us is protecting spaces for students,” he said. “Our hope is that we’ll be able to accommodate students first, and then open up parking to our outside constituents. We will put personnel in the Eighth Street and East Village garages so that only students have access to them until Friday night.”

Burchett said parking will be allowed in the Ferrell center for alumni and families of students unable to find a place to park on campus for the homecoming events tonight. Vehicles will need to be cleared out by 2 a.m. There will be shuttles transporting fans from the Ferrell and Speight parking areas and delivering fans to the front of the “I Believe Walkway” on

University Parks Drive. The City of Waco will also be running shuttles from Fifth Street and Austin Ave. downtown to a drop-off location on Martin Luther King Drive near the stadium. These will begin running at 10:30 a.m. and will run as long as needed until after the game.

Nick Joos, executive associate athletics director for external affairs, said problems that may arise regarding parking during the game can be easily resolved.

“There have been numerous people involved who have attacked homecoming parking as a separate issue,” Joos said. “We have a special parking plan for homecoming weekend that we plan to roll out.”

Burchett said outside help was hired to assist with parking details.

“Four months ago, we engaged

SEE **PARKING**, page 15

3 US siblings shot in Mexico

By CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MATAMOROS, Mexico — Three U.S. citizens missing for more than two weeks have been found shot to death in Mexico near the border city of Matamoros, and authorities are questioning a local police unit about possible involvement, the attorney general in northern Tamaulipas state said Thursday.

The father of the three, Pedro Alvarado, identified his children from photographs of the bodies showing tattoos, Attorney General Ismael Quintanilla Acosta told Radio Formula. Clothing found with the bodies also matched that of Erica Alvarado Rivera, 26, and brothers, Alex, 22, and Jose Angel, 21, who had been

SEE **MEXICO**, page 4



COURTESY ART

This year marks 100 years Student Government has been in action. The organization was first named the Student Self-Governing Association.

Student Government dates back a century

By JILLIAN ANDERSON
REPORTER

The ayes had it.

On Oct. 8, 1914, Baylor students made it known that they were interested in governing themselves with a clear majority by a straw poll. In the same year Baylor became the Bears, students began to represent themselves as a body.

The first name for what is now Student Government, The Student Self-Governing Association, was officially recognized by the administration in January 1915.

Although the organization has undergone many changes over the years, its presence on campus has been undeniable.

On Sept. 21, 1955, the Lariat published an editorial that dealt with an issue that suggested the times certainly were changing at the university.

The editorial called for the integration of Baylor’s campus, saying if Baylor were to echo the true sentiments of Christianity, it could no longer deny entrance based solely on race. Furthermore, the editorial em-

SEE **GOVERNMENT**, page 15

Voting on party lines isn't ideal

Editorial

One of the most powerful ways the average American can make change in our government is by voting in our country's various elections.

With Election Day less than a week away, Democrats and Republicans alike are advocating their viewers and listeners vote "straight-Republican" or "straight-Democrat" when they go to the polls.

Though this may help political parties achieve their objectives by garnering control over local, state and national offices and legislatures, it does little to promote the free democratic process Americans have come to cherish.

Currently, there are 14 states, including Texas, that allow a straight-ticket ballot during elections. This means that the ballot will have an option during general elections to automatically vote for all candidates from a particular party.

Straight ticket voting is a pro-

cess that has been in place for more than a century in the U.S. It wasn't until the 1970s where politics began the process of becoming based less on party lines and more on the individual candidate.

Within the past couple years, however, as politics become more polarized, this trend is beginning to decline.

On one hand, allowing straight ticket voting appears to encourage voter turnout. Many choose not to come out to the polls and vote on Election Day because they don't feel as if they know enough about the candidates to make an informed decision in the election.

Thus, when people take the time to learn the platforms of anyone from presidential candidates to county sheriffs, they should be more confident in their participation in the American political process.

The downside of this, however, is that politics is being narrowed down into three separate "camps." By voting on party lines alone, voters simply identify as "Democrat" or "Republican" without much

forethought as to what candidates believe.

The use of a straight ticket policy also discourages voters from learning about their local candidates, who are usually placed at the bottom of the ballot. On off-years (such as this coming Election Day) the general election ballot will include selections for a variety of statewide and local offices.

Though big-money statewide candidates such as Greg Abbott and Wendy Davis are able to have time on all modes of media, the same will most likely not hold true for a local candidate for county office. Thus, voters tend to be the least educated on these "small-money" local candidates.

It's ironic that the local representatives, the ones who are idolized as "the voices of the people" in a bureaucratic democratic system and the biggest influences of our day-to-day lives, are the ones who get noticed the least during elections. Getting rid of the straight ticket policy, however, may change this.

North Carolina is currently



ASHER FREEMAN

the only state that has abolished straight ticket elections, but other states may soon follow suit. North Carolina has made an important step in making policy that they believe will help voters become more

educated on the stances of their local representatives, who shape so much of their own state's policy.

Doing away with the straight ticket voting system may be the key to solving America's voter turnout

problem.

The more educated and engaged constituents are in politics, the more they will feel inclined to participate in our country's vital democratic system.

Celebrate good times during Homecoming

Each summer, groups of matriculating students journey to the place where Baylor University humbly began in 1845. As the sun sets upon the Earth and proverbially upon a season in their lives, the students walk through Old Baylor Park's historic columns in Independence, Texas, to signify their induction into the Baylor Line.



Then each spring, graduating seniors return to Old Baylor Park, just days before commencement. The students, again, walk through the columns; this time, to symbolize their transition from student members of the Baylor Line to alumni members.

Throughout the four-year span between first walking through the columns of Independence and returning to those same relics, Baylor Bears take part in a host of memorable traditions. Regardless of generation, we have all experienced chapel, Dr Pepper Hour and our live mascots to name a few.

The commonalities in our experiences tie each of us together. That unique bond among the Baylor family continues to draw alumni together each year as they return home to the Waco campus.

Homecoming is not just a time to watch Pigskin Revue performances, bask in the light of the bonfire and cheer on our football team. Instead, Homecoming is a time where commitment is met with celebration.

As we light the ways of time, we celebrate the dedication of the entire Baylor family. Our family is made up of over 165,000 living alumni, over 16,000 students and millions of

others who call our institution a friend. This all-encompassing commitment allows for the distinct opportunities we are afforded to be seen across the very world we live in.

Throughout our Baylor family, we see dozens of examples

of this devotion. We recognize the alumni who have given their time, talent, and treasure. On behalf of the student body, I say thank you to each person who has made the Baylor experience what it is today. It is because of your labor, your love and your generosity that our institution's name is harkened in every corner of the nation.

As we onward go, there is an ever-present need to continue our culture of faithfulness: faithfulness to the Lord, faithfulness to the Baylor Line and faithfulness to the university. Students are charged with continuing this rich tradition for the sake of those who will follow in their footsteps. Today, we are blessed with these opportunities. Tomorrow, we are entrusted with the responsibility to provide these opportunities to others.

What a great time it is to be a part of the Baylor Line! With the festivities and reunions already happening, I am filled with so much joy and pride. This university has truly become my home during my undergraduate career. My hope and prayer is that others will find this same sense of belonging on our campus. Happy Homecoming!

Dominic Edwards is a senior marketing major from Arlington. He is the student body president for the 2014-2015 academic year.



ASHER FREEMAN

Students need finance classes

We should be required to take a personal finance class in order to learn how to manage our money wisely.

Colleges are not great help for money management by leaving students with heaping loads of debt before they even begin their career. The average student loan debt in Texas is \$24,030 according to CNN Money.

Many students have to have jobs while in college just to make it through, but some can get by with what their parents are generous enough to give them. Both types of students still need to take a class for their own benefit.

I cannot stand math classes and a personal finance class is low on my list of priorities, but it should not be. I am realizing now, as a senior, that I am going to be on my own in just a few short months and I am not going to have my parents calling me everyday reminding me to pay my credit card bills or making sure that I have enough money in my bank account to pay my rent.

By taking a personal finance class, students would be offered real world examples of how to manage their money and the opportunity to gain knowledge about budgets, mortgages, interest rates, taxes and how all of those and other things fit together in the big puzzle that is finances.

This class would not be a pass or fail like Chapel, but rather, it would be a class that you have to work to earn the



grade and learn finances in the process. While Baylor does offer a personal finance class BUS 3302, it is not mandatory.

Many students do not even know what a credit score is or how to create one. To me, this is huge. If students plan to rent an apartment, buy a new car or make any major purchase after college, they have to have a good credit score which is between 700 and 800. The only way to have a good credit score is to use credit cards and pay your bills on time according to myfico.com.

But, how do you pay those bills without knowing how much money you have? This is where learning to budget comes in. Most students will probably tell you that they do not make themselves a monthly budget. They just hope there is money in their account when they get to the grocery store.

I receive a certain amount of money from my parents each month. I also work and have an income. I put certain amounts of money into savings from each paycheck so I am able to pay bills

later on and I draw interest from that savings account. If it were not for my mom teaching me all these things, my bank account would be full of money that I have no idea what to do with and not drawing interest in the way that it should. But, since I have a mom that realized soon enough that I did not know how to manage my own money, she took the initiative and started teaching me when I came to college.

Most researchers believe that students should learn financial literacy over a period of time longer than just a semester. I agree with them, but this may not be feasible due to graduation schedules and other things that factor into graduating on time.

My mom still pushes me to take a personal finance class and I think she is right. Although I manage my money well, I still know very little in comparison to what I would know if I took this class.

This is why it should be mandatory to take such a class. Students do not realize how little they know about finances until they get out in the real world and have to deal with it on their own.

By taking a personal finance class, it would better prepare them for what is coming and start their money managing skills before they put their degree to use.

Madi Miller is a senior double major in journalism and film and digital media from Prosper. She is the assistant broadcast producer for the Lariat.

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Fed signals Yellen era

WASHINGTON (AP) — When the Federal Reserve announced the end of its landmark bond buying program Wednesday, it also signaled the start of something else:

The Janet Yellen era. Officially, Yellen has been Fed chair since February. But the phase-out of the bond-buying stimulus program Yellen inherited from her predecessor, Ben Bernanke, truly marks her inauguration. She can now begin to fully stamp her influence on the central bank.

With the job market showing steady gains, Yellen must now grapple with the fateful decision of when to raise short-term interest rates, which the Fed has kept at record lows since 2008 to help the economy.

"Janet Yellen's ability to place her mark on the nation's monetary policy is only now opening up," said Scott Anderson, chief economist at Bank of the West. "It will largely be Yellen" who guides rates back to their historic averages from near-zero levels.

Yellen will also preside over the unwinding of the Fed's vast portfolio of bonds, which its purchases have magnified to more than \$4 trillion, a record high. The bond buying had been designed to keep long-term loan rates low.

Bernanke's tenure at the Fed was focused on bolstering the financial system and rescuing the economy. Yellen's will require a delicate balancing act to bring the Fed back to normal: She must withdraw the Fed's stimulus without destabilizing the economy.

"If we're moving to an era where things will become less accommodative, then we're in the Yellen era," said Jay Bryson, a global economist at Wells Fargo.

For Yellen and other Fed officials, the decision of when to begin raising rates toward their historic averages hinges on two major economic forces: Jobs and inflation.

The Fed did reiterate its plan to maintain its benchmark short-term rate near zero “for a considerable time.” Most economists predict the Fed won’t raise that rate, which affects many consumer and business loans, before June.

On balance, economists saw the Fed's statement as showing less concern about unusually low inflation, which has helped delay a rate increase.

Michael Hanson, senior economist at Bank of America Merrill Lynch, said the Fed still appears likely to put off any rate increase until at least mid-2015.

“This isn’t the Fed rushing to the exits,” he said.

Hanson noted that while the Fed kept its “considerable time” phrasing, it added language stressing that any rate increase would hinge on the economy’s health. Previously, many analysts had interpreted the “considerable time” phrase to mean the Fed wouldn’t raise rates for a specific period after it ended its bond purchases.

The Fed's statement was approved 9-1. The one dissent came from Narayana Kocherlakota, president of the Fed's regional bank in Minneapolis. He contended that the Fed should have signaled its intention to maintain a record-low benchmark rate until the inflation outlook has reached the central bank's 2 percent target.

Yellen has stressed that while the unemployment rate is close to a historically normal level, other gauges of the job market remain a concern. These include stagnant pay; many part-time workers who can't find full-time jobs; and a historically high number of people who have given up looking for a job and are no longer counted as unemployed.

Homecoming Events Preview

Singspiration:
7 p.m.
tonight at
Seventh and
James Baptist
Church.

Pep Rally
and Bonfire:
9-10:30 p.m.
tonight at
Fountain Mall.

Homecoming
game vs. Kansas:
3 p.m.
tomorrow at
McLane Stadium.

Pigskin Revue:
10:30-11:45 p.m.
tonight, and 8-10
p.m. tomorrow at
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A burial team in protective gear buries a person suspected to have died of Ebola in Liberia. Even as Liberians get sick and die of Ebola, many beds in treatment centers are empty because of government orders that the bodies of all suspected Ebola victims be cremated. This violates Liberian values and cultural practices and has so disturbed people that the sick are often being kept at home and, if they die, are being secretly buried, increasing infection risk.

Texas won't quarantine returning travelers

By REBECCA FLANNERY
STAFF WRITER

Texas won't be joining the handful of states announced to have controversial 21-day quarantines for citizens traveling back from West Africa.

Maine, New York, Florida, Maryland, Virginia, New Jersey, Illinois and most recently, California, have set quarantine procedures in place, varying in the severity of quarantine practices.

Other states like Pennsylvania and Georgia have also implemented procedures for people returning from West Africa. Altogether, the 10 states are responsible for receiving 70 percent of incoming travelers, according to a press release from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Christine Mann, spokesperson for the Texas Department of State Health Services said Texas doesn't have a mandatory policy for quarantines.

"Patients will be evaluated on a case to case basis," Mann said. "If they are at a high risk, they're asked to stay at home where health officials will visit to monitor them."

Mann said public health officials would check on the suspected case twice daily for symptoms within the 21-day incubation period. Otherwise, patients would be asked to monitor themselves during that time for fever or other Ebola-related symptoms.

"If someone has come in contact with Ebola, symptoms would appear within the 2 to 21 day span," Mann said. Ebola-related deaths reached 13,676 cases in West Africa on Oct. 29, according to the CDC. In the United

States, four people have died since the outbreak.

Dr. Jerold Waltman, professor of political science, said while some may think quarantines are unconstitutional, states have the right to implement them.

"The states have what's called a 'police power,'" Waltman said. "This power could include the power to quarantine people to protect public safety and regulate health safety and welfare."

Kelly Craine, public information officer for the Health Department of McLennan County said so far, people quarantined in Texas have been asked to do so voluntarily.

"In McLennan County, we would work with Department of State Health Services to determine the risk level of someone who may have come in contact with those affected," Craine said.

In California, the quarantine is set on a case-by-case basis, unlike Maine, New York and New Jersey where there is a broad effort to quarantine all travelers from affected countries. Carlos Villatoro, media correspondent for the California Department of Public Health said he hasn't heard any backlash over the state's decision on quarantines. Other procedures in place by the CDC include providing self-monitoring kits to passengers coming off planes from West Africa, as well as active post-arrival monitoring.

"Active post-arrival monitoring is an approach in which state and local health officials maintain daily contact with all travelers from the three affected countries for the entire 21 days following their last possible date of exposure to Ebola virus," according to a press release from the CDC.

Homecoming 2014

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Waco program celebrates 50 years

By Abby Loop
Staff Writer

Tonya Williams, a Dallas native who has lived in Waco for the past 18 years, attributes her success and well-being today to one of Waco's oldest non-profit organizations.

When Williams first came to Waco, she had three kids, and her husband was always on the road. She was a homemaker and as her kids got older, she decided to find a job.

However, her job hunt was difficult and daycare for her youngest child was very expensive. She had no idea how she was going to find care for her child and look for a job to support her family.

Williams then heard about the Economic Opportunities Advancement Corporation.

Williams said the organization and the programs it contained changed her life for the better. "Someone told me about EOAC and that I should check into it," Williams said. "I researched and ended up applying for a head start program they have.

I got my son in it and I don't know where I would've been without it."

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the organization's community action programs that have helped people like Williams receive financial, family or employment assistance.

Williams said since her son was able to go to Head Start, an early learning education program for kids, she was able to have time to find a job and earn money for her family.

"It was a huge impact. There's no way I could've afforded daycare," she said. "My son got ahead of the grade there, what they taught him was above pre-school.



COURTESY ART

Members of the Economic Opportunities Advancement Corporation volunteer at the Long-Term Recovery Center in West, to assist the families affected by the West explosion last year. The organization was created in 1964 to help families in need with financial, family or employment assistance.

When he did go to kindergarten, his teacher was impressed."

According to its website, the organization was created in 1964 to implement and carry out the provisions of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964.

Poverty, education and transitions to gainful employment are and have always been the primary goals of the organization. The non-profit organization caters to seven counties in Central Texas.

John Key, executive director of

the program, said the program's main mission is to help those in need achieve economic independence with seven different programs that range from childcare services to tenant-based rental assistance.

"We help with rental payments, utilities, give kids an opportunity to learn at an early age and help the elderly and veterans with weatherizing homes," Key said.

"It can be difficult for some people to ask for help, but we want

them to come to us. The best thing we do is help people."

Deborah Jones, director for the Head Start/Early Head Start program at EOAC, said she believes the organization and its programs has been one of Waco's best kept secrets so far, as many people haven't heard of them over the years.

"We're one of those organizations that doesn't always get recognized," Jones said.

"But we've been the forerunner for providing services to low in-

come families, the elderly and the disabled for many years."

Jones said in their Head Start program, she's seen a lot of success with clients, including Williams.

Tina Gonzales, director of community programming, said the organization receives so many clients, that it's almost hard to believe.

"We bring some decency and dignity to customers," Gonzales said. "They can feel proud of assistance and be treated with respect.

They receive the service they deserve."

Waco resident Kim Talton said this is what EOAC did for her when helping her pay for a class at Hill College so she could graduate.

"I just called and asked about their services and they've been helping me ever since," Talton said. "I would still be struggling to graduate if it wasn't for them."

EOAC is continuing to play a part in the lives of Waco citizens today and members of the organization have more things planned in the upcoming months.

Key said the organization is currently planning a dentist day at Waco Charter School, a school founded by EOAC in 1996.

On November 13, the school will be visited by a local clinic and have dental exams free of charge.

"Kids will be able to get their teeth cleaned and checked and they won't be charged anything," Key said.

"About 94 percent of kids at this school are economically disadvantaged. We want to do this a second time as well but for the parents of these kids."

Sabrina Gray, a Baylor alumna, is principal of the charter school. Gray said EOAC is providing a great service to students and parents of the school and encouraged Baylor students to get involved with EOAC's offered programs.

"EOAC helps provide financial support for the school and for families, it's an extra service that's greatly needed," Gray said.

"If students want to help out they have to have a willing heart and an interest to provide service. Our school always needs tutors and it's a great opportunity to give.

The main thing is getting EOAC's information out there and letting people know there is a need."

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Baylor covers homecoming hype via social media

By HANNAH NEUMANN
STAFF WRITER

With over 165,000 alumni worldwide, Baylor is amping up their social media performance for homecoming events, to ensure that those who cannot attend will be able to indulge in the experience.

“It’s an incredible opportunity to communicate with our people, the Baylor family, all over the world,” said Jeff Brown, director of social media communications.

Brown said with an increase of social media following and the Baylor homecoming hype, they are working to bring even more coverage than normal for the weekend.

With social media platforms on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Pinterest, the university has increased its social following to over 240,000 collectively.

Brown said they’ve already began coverage of homecoming by sharing photo galleries of homecoming from past decades. He said as the weekend progresses however, they expect to start live posting the primary events, as well as retweeting others’ posts and pulling their photos into galleries.

“We’ll be sharing photos and updates from the various events

primarily because we know we’ll have thousands of alumni here on campus, but the majority of alumni still won’t be here, and this is a chance to take homecoming to them.”

“We’re really just trying to share the experience with those who can’t get back to campus, and to also maybe boost the experience of those who are here,” he said.

San Antonio freshman Jenevie Guerrero said she is going home for the weekend and is sad to be missing her first Baylor homecoming.

“I’m beyond sad that I won’t be attending, but I know at least I’ll be kept up to date both by Baylor’s social media and my friends’ accounts,” she said. “Everyone loves to tweet and post pictures of my bears so I’ll be looking for all of their posts while I’m home.”

In the 2013 Student Advisor ranking of the top Social Media Colleges, Baylor ranked no. 16 in the nation and first among the Big 12.

Baylor alumni Joe Holloway said he attributed the rise of Baylor’s brand to its expansive social media coverage and larger following.

“The rise of Baylor in academ-

ics and athletics coincides with the rise of social media in general, so those two things happening at the same time create a robust social media environment around Baylor University,” Holloway said.

He said he follows every Baylor account, and looks forward to homecoming whether he can make it back or just follow through the accounts.

“I haven’t made it back every year since I graduated in 2009, but there are very few opportunities for me to see a good chunk of the people I hung out with at Baylor all in one spot and all for one reason,” Holloway said. “And that is homecoming.”

Holloway said with as ubiquitous as social media is right now, he has been able to follow most of the happenings at Baylor not just on homecoming, but year round, something Brown said he’d hoped for.

“We hope this gives people a reason to come follow us and see what we’ve got going on and that they’ll stick with us,” Brown said. “That they’re not here just to see what’s going on at homecoming but that they’ll continue to follow us and engage year round.”

Brown said the suggested

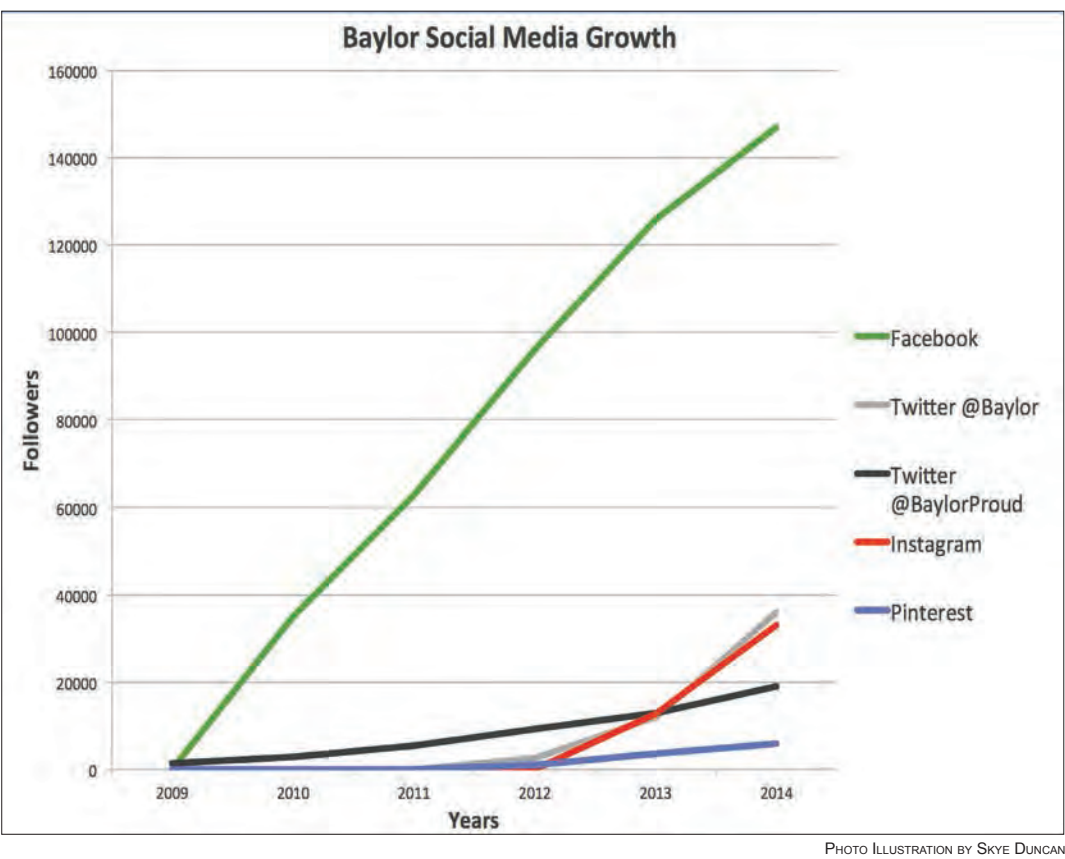


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SKYE DUNCAN

hashtag for the weekend is #Baylorhomecoming, and that Baylor can be followed on several social media sites. Tweets with the

hashtag will be posted at the game on the big screen.

“The students and staff who are in charge of the accounts do a great

job of putting important information on there,” Brown said.

US strategy against Islamic State militants hits major hurdles

By DAVID CLOUD, W.J. HENNIGAN
AND RAJA ABDULRAHIM
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON - The Obama administration’s plan to raise a 15,000-strong rebel army in Syria has run into steep political and military obstacles, raising doubts about a key element of the White House strategy for defeating Islamic State militants in the midst of a civil war.

Pentagon concerns have grown so sharp that Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel sent a two-page memo to the White House last week warning that the overall plan could collapse because U.S. intentions toward Syrian President Bashar Assad are unclear, accord-

ing to a senior defense official who read the memo but was not authorized to speak publicly.

President Barack Obama has called on Assad to step down, but he has not authorized using military force, including the proposed proxy army, to remove the Syrian leader.

At a news conference Thursday, Hagel declined to discuss his memo to national security adviser Susan Rice, but he acknowledged that Assad has inadvertently benefited from more than five weeks of U.S.-led airstrikes against the Islamic State, one of the most powerful antigovernment forces in Syria’s bitter conflict.

Secretary of State John F. Kerry sought to paper over the

problem Thursday, telling a forum in Washington that the proposed proxy army “can have an impact on Assad’s decision-making so we can get back to a table where we could negotiate a political outcome, because we all know there is no military resolution of Syria.”

Rebel leaders in Syria say they would reject joining a U.S.-backed force that is not aimed at defeating Assad, their main enemy.

Senior U.S. military officers also privately warn that the so-called Syrian moderates that U.S. planners hope to recruit — opposition fighters without ties to the Islamic radicals — have been degraded by other factions and forces, including Assad’s army, during the war.

It will take years to train and field a new force capable of launching an offensive against the heavily armed and well-funded Islamic State fighters, who appear well-entrenched in northern Syria, the officers say.

“We’re not going to be able to build that kind of credible force in enough time to make a difference,” said a senior U.S. officer who is involved in military operations against the militants and who asked for anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly. “We’ve watched the moderate opposition dwindle and dwindle and now there’s very little left.”

The Pentagon plan calls for putting 5,000 rebel fighters into

Syria in a year, and 15,000 over the next three years.

It is the least developed and most controversial part of the multi-pronged U.S. strategy, which also includes near-daily airstrikes in Iraq and Syria, deployment of U.S. military advisers and other support to assist Iraqi government and Kurdish forces, along with attempts to choke off the militants’ financing from oil sales and foreign donors.

When officers involved in high-level Pentagon deliberations in the summer raised concerns about building a rebel army from scratch, they were overruled by senior commanders, who warned that airstrikes alone would not defeat the militants, one of the offi-

cers said.

Washington and its allies are chiefly split over whether the proposed force should focus on reclaiming Syrian territory now held by the Islamic State militants, which is the U.S. priority, or should also battle troops loyal to Assad, the allies’ main concern.

Turkey said this month that it would train a portion of the Syrian force, joining Saudi Arabia in training on its territory. U.S. officials don’t expect to assemble the first group of “moderate” rebels, drawing them from inside Syria or from crowded refugee camps in nearby countries, until early next year at the earliest.

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Baylor sophomore helps found nonprofit

By Sara Katherine Johnson
Reporter

In Toloha, Tanzania women walk about five miles to get water for their families. Baylor sophomore Joshua Spear helped found the nonprofit Toloha Partnership to help the village.

Joshua and Diane Spear, his mom and co-founder, were inspired by a man named Daniel Makoko. After applying, Makoko was given a Diversity Immigrant Visa from Toloha to Kinston, N.C. The program makes available permanent resident visas to countries that have low immigration rates to the U.S.

Once in Kinston, Makoko attended the Spear family's Bible study. As he got to know the Spears, he told them about his family left behind in Toloha and his village where people died of water borne disease.

"He shared his heart and became a part of our family," Diane Spear said.

The Toloha Partnership's founding goal was to work on bringing water from the mountains to the village of about 10,000 people.

"It's been a real tangible experience of partnership," Joshua Spear said.

Diane Spear is the administrative director of Toloha Partnership. She said her role is to carry the torch and not let the passion for the village die out.

For almost 10 years, from the time Makoko arrived, the idea of how to help Toloha never left Kinston. They prayed for direction while they looked for how to act. In May 2012, with a group of seven people, the nonprofit came together with a plan for action.

The government of Tanzania sponsored the group's travel the first summer in the form of a vehicle and living accommodations.

The team was trained by a Kinston engineering firm to be able to use survey equipment. They used their training to map the whole village.

"We [the organization] exist to better the lives of Toloha," Diane Spear said. "We plan on it being a long term relationship of knowing each other and helping them thrive."

Joshua Spear said they made a deal with the village community that they would get the pipe if the people would dig the trenches. In all there was six miles of piping to be installed. The pipe would deliver water based on a gravity-fed system originating in The Pare Mountains.

"We want to empower them to take ownership," he said. "It's really meant to enhance the abilities they already have."

The first summer Toloha Partnership went to Tanzania was about building relationships, Joshua said. The second time they went in summer 2014 they began preparing for the pipe to be laid by digging.

"We predicted it would take six months for them to dig six miles by hand," Joshua Spear said.

With that in mind, the organization only ordered a third of the pipe to be delivered for the beginning of summer.

"In order to show us they were willing to partner with us they dug for a day for free," Joshua said. "They dug over halfway to the intake in three weeks."

Joshua Spear said more people than they could have expected

joined to help. After the initial day of digging, Toloha Partnership paid workers in corn.

Another way the organization worked to empower the people of Toloha is by establishing a local water board. The board is made of 15 people elected by the villagers.

Toloha Partnership is sponsoring the board's costs of attending an educational opportunity put on by Water Service Facility Trust. The board will learn about managing their new water system. This will include materials on health education and specifically water sanitation.

For two weeks in the second summer nine members from Toloha Partnership lived in mud huts along with the villagers working. Once the rest of the members returned to the U.S., Joshua Spear stayed for an additional five weeks with MaKoko.

"The most rewarding part of it all has been being accepted by the people," he said. "It took a full summer to cultivate. It wasn't until this last summer that I really felt it."

In the future, he plans on continuing to help Toloha in a hands-on way.

"I want to spend a year over there as a gap year between undergrad and grad school for sure," Joshua Spear said. "It's definitely where my heart is."

Right now the village is in a basic level of development with the closest city two hours away on foot, Joshua Spear said.


He would like to get Toloha out of a cycle of poverty by using his education in finance and philosophy.

Specifically, he wants to get into micro-financing for women to take on entrepreneurship ideas.



The villagers of Toloha, Tanzania dig a trench that will run a pipe up the Pare Mountains. The nonprofit organization Toloha Partnership provided the pipes that will deliver water based on a gravity-fed system.

Toloha Partnership's goal is to empower the village as it develops. The goal is to continue evolving in how they past the completion of the new water system. They want to remain partners even



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CONSTANCE ATTON | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Members of Kappa Kappa Gamma rehearse "Running Wild" before going onstage on Thursday evening. Other acts observed their rehearsal and encouraged them before their performance at Waco Hall.



CONSTANCE ATTON | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Kappa Omega Tau get hyped before their performance at Pigskin on Thursday. Its show was centered around the popular story of Jekyll and Hyde.



SKYE DUNCAN | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Members of Kappa Sigma prepare for the finale of their act entitled "How We Roll."



SKYE DUNCAN | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Members of Pi Beta Phi and Phi Kappa Chi swing dance during their performance of "Romeo and Juliet."



SKYE DUNCAN | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Delta Delta Delta performs "Take Me to the Pyramids," an Egyptian themed show, at Pigskin's opening night.



CORY EWING | ROUNDUP PHOTOGRAPHER

Katy senior Kaitlyn Thumann was crowned Homecoming Queen yesterday at Pigskin's opening night. The nominees were judged on scholarship, philanthropy, spiritual commitment and poise.



SKYE DUNCAN | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Alpha Tau Omega performs "Scotland the Brave" at Pigskin's opening night.

Alumni receive award for efforts in film

By ERIK SCHELZIG
ASSOCIATED PRESS

For making waves in Hollywood, two Baylor graduates received the prestigious Alumni of the Year award Thursday evening.

At the Meritorious Achievement Awards dinner the Board of Regents and administration honored many alumni for their accomplishments, including Michael Brandt and Derek Haas, who received the Alumni of the Year award.

This annual award is given to a graduate who demonstrates remarkable achievement in the previous year, according to the event's program. This year, Baylor presented it to both Brandt and Haas because of their continual screenwriting partnerships for movies and TV.

The duo has co-wrote five movies in the past 11 years, including "Wanted," "3:10 to Yuma" and "2 Fast 2 Furious."

While back on campus, Haas, an English major, and Brandt, a business school graduate, reflected on what they would do if they could be students again.

"I would make more films," Brandt said. "We made a film in grad school, but it was nothing like what you can do today. I couldn't

use tape because the quality was so low, so I had to use film that had been in the refrigerator for 12 years and then pray it came out right. Technology is now your friend. You should use it to your advantage."

As a student of English, Haas said he was assigned to read material that he would never have had in his hands otherwise.

And those readings made him a better writer.

"If you want to be a writer, read," Haas said. "If I were a student right now, I'd read everything I could get my hands on. It's so easy to access stuff. Every screenplay that's ever been written is online, but all we had were the books in the library we could find."

For students who are interested in pursuing a career in film, Haas said he would suggest the same thing: read.

Read and then read some more, he said.

"If you can imagine it, you can do it," Haas said. "There's a Robert Browning quote that says, 'A man's reach should always exceed his grasp.' This is what Michael and I have always done in our career. Everybody can do that."

Brandt said he would suggest that students who think they are interested in a film career should

take a good look at the decision before they make it.

"If you can imagine smiling and doing something else, go do that," Brandt said. "The path can be so difficult. It's too easy to quit if you have a fall back in mind. Nothing else I did made me happy, so I'm doing this."

The friends-turned-co-writers team met at Baylor over 20 years ago. They worked together in undergraduate studies.

They both said they recalled their partnership in the screenwriting class of Robert Darden, associate professor of journalism.

"All I know is story," Darden said. "That's all that I teach is story and that resonated with them both. They both arrived with the ability to tell stories and a drive to make art."

Darden said shaping students like Haas and Brandt makes teaching worth it for him.

"At Baylor, we fling our green and gold far," said Dr. David Garland, interim Provost. "Then you see alum making a difference in the world and you know the students you're teaching now will one day do the same. When you realize that, you see your current students differently and it effects you as an educator."

After graduating from Baylor



JON PLATT | REPORTER

From left, Michael Korpi, professor of film and digital media, Michael Brandt, award recipient, and Corey Carbonara, professor in film and digital media, talk at the Meritorious Achievement Awards dinner

in 1991, they both received M.A. degrees from Baylor in communication studies.

Brandt graduated from master's work in 1994 and Haas in 1995, according to the events program.

Also mentioned at the award

ceremony was a long-time, running gag for the two.

In all of Haas and Brandt's previous projects, they have killed off a character named Darden.

"They wrote a film during their graduate work and couldn't get a

professor to die for them," Darden said. "So I did. I died for them. I take it as a great tribute and compliment. I'm honored and humbled. I laugh every time my name comes up."



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Firefighters try to put out a fire at Mid-Continent Airport in Wichita, Kan., Thursday shortly after a small plane crashed into the building killing several people including the pilot. ASSOCIATED PRESS

Plane crash kills four

By ROXANA HEGEMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WICHITA, Kan. — A small plane lost power after takeoff and crashed into a flight-training building while trying to return to a Kansas airport Thursday, killing four people, injuring five others and igniting a fire that sent up towering plumes of black smoke that could be seen for miles around Wichita.

Three of the dead were inside a flight simulator in the building when the plane crashed into it at the city's Mid-Continent Airport, and the fourth was found on the roof and is believed to be the pilot, Wichita Fire Chief Ronald Blackwell said.

Five others were injured in the crash, and one of those was in serious condition at a hospital, Blackwell said. Officials said only one person was on board the plane and that everyone who was in the building had been accounted for. Identities of the victims were not immediately released.

"We understand that this is a

very difficult time, especially for folks who have family members who are working out here and they don't know," Wichita Fire Marshal Brad Crisp said.

The plane, identified as a twin-engine Beechcraft King Air, crashed into a building that FlightSafety International uses to train pilots to fly Cessna planes, company spokesman Steve Phillips said. The FAA said it crashed after losing engine power and trying to return to the airport.

It appeared to strike the top of the building and ignite what Blackwell described as a "horrific" fire. The crash was "not an intentional act," Wichita Police Deputy Chief John Speer said. "We are comfortable in saying this is an aviation accident."

The crash caused so much structural damage to the building that rescuers were unable pull victims' remains from the wreckage. It wasn't clear Thursday when that would happen, and heavy equipment was being brought to the scene to assist the effort.

Jeff Papacek, 39, of Wichita,

said he saw a "giant fireball" as he was heading to his engineering job at Learjet, which has a testing facility at the airport. He said he didn't see the crash because there were too many buildings in the way, but he said the plane caught his attention beforehand.

"We are used to planes flying straight with the runway, and this plane just didn't look like it was lined up and was way too low for the direction it was going," Papacek said, adding that he drove to the crash site to see what was happening and saw the building fire raging.

The aircraft, which was manufactured in 2000, was headed to Mena, Arkansas, for painting and interior refurbishing work with Rose Aircraft Services Inc., according to that company's CEO, Keith Rose.

"Our prayers go out to the families of the victims and those owning and operating the aircraft and facilities," Rose said. "No further information is available at this time out of respect for those involved in this tragic loss."

Convicted man freed in landmark Illinois case

By DON BABWIN
JASON KEYSER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO — A prisoner whose confession helped free a death row inmate in a case that was instrumental to ending capital punishment in Illinois was released Thursday after he recanted, and a prosecutor said there was powerful evidence that the other man was responsible.

Alstory Simon's confession gained international attention in 1999, largely because of an investigation by a journalism professor and a team of students from Northwestern University that helped secure Anthony Porter's release just days before he was to be executed.

He had spent 16 years on death row for slayings he and his supporters maintained he did not commit.

Because of constitutional protections against double jeopardy, there is no legal way to retry Porter.

Simon, wearing a grey hoodie and jeans, told reporters outside Jacksonville Correctional Center that he was angry.

"I'm not angry at the system. I'm angry at the people who did what they did to me," he said, crying as he told reporters that his mother had died while he was behind bars.

Simon was convicted and sentenced to 37 years in prison. But the Cook County State's Attorney's Office began re-examining his conviction last year after his

attorney presented evidence that he had been threatened with the death penalty and coerced into confessing with promises that he would get an early release and share in the profits from book and movie deals.

And, said Cook County State's Attorney Anita Alvarez, he was tricked by a private investigator who stormed into his home and showed him a videotape of a man who said he had seen Simon pull the trigger. The man turned out to be an actor.

"In the best interest of justice, we could reach no other conclusion but that the investigation of this case has been so deeply corroded and corrupted that we can no longer maintain the legitimacy of this conviction," Alvarez said.

The Porter case helped lead former Gov. George Ryan to declare a moratorium on executions in 2003, and he cleared death row by commuting the death sentences of more than 150 inmates to life in prison. Gov. Pat Quinn abolished the death penalty in 2011.

Alvarez did not say whether she believed Simon is, in fact, innocent, but she said there were so many problems with the case — including what she called a coerced confession and the deaths of a number of key figures — that it is impossible to determine exactly what happened on the morning of Aug. 15, 1982, when two people were shot to death as they sat in a park on Chicago's South Side.

She also said there remains powerful evidence that Porter was the gunman, including sev-

eral witnesses who still maintain their original statements.

"As I stand here today, I can't definitely tell you it was Porter who did this or Simon who did this," she said.

Alvarez said the "tactics and antics" of the investigator, Paul Ciolino, and former Northwestern journalism professor David Protesch could have added up to criminal charges of obstruction of justice and intimidation of a witness at the time, but that it is now impossible to file charges because the statute of limitations has run out.

Ciolino, who like Protesch has denied acting improperly, released a statement that emphasized that Simon confessed multiple times, including to a TV reporter and his own lawyer.

"You explain that," Ciolino said. Nonetheless, he added, no one should be in prison if the state did not meet its burden of proof. Thursday's release was just the latest chapter in Porter's long history with the justice system.

According to the Chicago Sun-Times, before he was charged in the 1982 slayings, he was charged in a 1976 shooting that left one man dead and another injured, but charges were ultimately dismissed.

After his release from prison, he had a number of run-ins with the law, including an arrest in 2011 on a felony theft charge and a one-year prison sentence the next year after he pleaded guilty, according to the state's attorney's office.

Turkeypalooza to collect donations for Waco's less fortunate

By ABIGAIL LOOP
STAFF WRITER

Baylor's Campus Kitchens is giving Waco's less fortunate a chance to participate in the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday.

The organization is set to hold its 5th annual Turkeypalooza, an event that gives the Baylor community an opportunity to improve the hunger and nutritional needs of people in the Waco community.

Rosemary Townsend, staff coordinator of Campus Kitchen, said the event happens on a national scale.

Baylor's Campus Kitchen adopted it when the organization started five years ago.

"It's been such a good idea, our focus is in helping those who are

food insecure in the community," Townsend said. "The Baylor community is very generous and it's such a caring and compassionate campus."

Townsend said the Baylor community is encouraged to donate canned goods or make monetary donations at the Martin House on campus.

Canned goods can also be dropped off at donation boxes that are being placed around campus at the Hankamer School of Business and the Baylor Sciences Building.

Donations such as corn, green beans, cranberry sauce and stuffing are among foods that are being accepted.

"The canned goods will be given to the Shepard's Heart food pantry," Townsend said. "Monetary

donations will be put towards gift cards for restaurants that will be going to Waco's school district. These will then be given to families who are homeless."

According to Shepard Heart's website, one in four children in Texas under the age of 5 does not have access to a sufficient quality of nutritious food.

Texas also has the second-highest food insecurity rate in the United States for all age groups.

Plano junior Abby Miller, a student coordinator of Turkeypalooza, said the event gives the Baylor community a chance to give back and fight against the high food insecurity in the local Waco community.

"It's a great way to reach out because you're giving and provid-

ing in a really tangible way," Miller said. "You're giving someone food and that's really cool."

Miller said this year the organization is hoping for a bigger response and have more partnering this year with a variety of student organizations than they've had in previous years.

"We're doing things with student government and PanHellenic is getting involved as well," she said. "We're hoping it goes really well."

Miller said donations for Turkeypalooza are being accepted now until November 21.

To find out more about donations or how to be involved with Baylor's Campus Kitchen, contact Rosemary Townsend at 254-710-4988.

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Maine goes to court to quarantine nurse

By ROBERT F. BUKATY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FORT KENT, Maine — Insisting she is perfectly healthy, nurse Kaci Hickox again defied the state's Ebola quarantine Thursday by taking a bike ride with her boyfriend, and Maine health authorities struggled to reach a compromise that would limit her contact with others.

Hickox, 33, stepped out of her home on the remote northern edge of Maine for the second day in a row, practically daring authorities to make good on their threat to go to court to have her confined against her will. On Wednesday evening, she went outside for an impromptu news conference and shook a reporter's outstretched hand.

By evening, it was unclear whether the state had gone to court or whether there had been any progress toward ending the stand-off that has become the nation's most closely watched clash between personal freedom and fear of Ebola. The governor's office and Hickox's lawyers would not comment.

Hickox, who returned to the U.S. last week from treating Ebola

victims in West Africa as a volunteer with Doctors Without Borders, has been under what Maine is calling a voluntary quarantine at her home in this town of 4,300 people.

She has rebelled against the restrictions, saying that her rights are being violated and that she is no threat to others because she has no symptoms. She tested negative last weekend for Ebola, though it can take days for the virus to reach detectable levels.

Her 21-day quarantine — the incubation period for the Ebola virus — is scheduled to end on Nov. 10.

Gov. Paul LePage said state attorneys and Hickox's lawyers had discussed a scaled-down quarantine that would have allowed her to go for walks, runs and bicycle rides while preventing her from venturing into populated public places or coming within 3 feet of others.

Around midday, however, LePage said that the hours of negotiations had gone nowhere, and that he was prepared to use the full extent of his authority to protect the public.

"I was ready and willing — and remain ready and willing — to rea-

sonably address the needs of health care workers meeting guidelines to assure the public health is protected," he said.

Hickox stepped into the media glare when she returned from Sierra Leone to become subject to a mandatory quarantine in New Jersey. After an uproar, she was released and traveled more than 600 miles to the small town on the Canadian border where she lives with her boyfriend.

She said she is following the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendation of daily monitoring for fever and other signs of the disease.

An unmarked state police cruiser followed Hickox on her hour-long morning bike ride on trails near her home, but police could not take action to detain her without a court order signed by a judge.

"I really hope that we can work things out amicably and continue to negotiate," she said.

Her boyfriend, Ted Wilbur, met with reporters Thursday evening to tell them she was staying inside.

Addressing the bicycle ride, Wilbur said they purposefully rode away from town to avoid coming into contact with people. "We're not trying to push any limits here. We're members of this community, too, and we want to make people comfortable," he said.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nurse Kaci Hickox, right, and her boyfriend, Ted Wilbur are followed by a Maine State Trooper as they ride bikes on a trail near their home in Fort Kent, Maine, Thursday. State officials are going to court to keep Hickox in quarantine for the remainder of the 21-day incubation period for Ebola that ends Nov. 10. Police are monitoring her, but can't detain her without a court order.

Maine law allows a judge to confine someone if health officials demonstrate "a clear and immediate public health threat."

States have broad authority under long-established law to quarantine people to prevent the spread of disease. But legal experts said there are differences here that could work in Hickox's favor in court: People infected with Ebola are not contagious until they have symptoms, and the virus is not spread through casual contact.

Word made its way quickly

around the town about Hickox.

Priscilla Staples said that some are fearful of Hickox's presence, but Hickox "has done nothing wrong, and she has every right in the world to go for a bike ride."

Some states like Maine, New York and New Jersey are going above and beyond the CDC guidelines to require automatic quarantines. So is the U.S. military.

President Barack Obama, the nation's top infectious-disease expert and humanitarian groups have warned that such measures

could cripple the fight against the disease at its source by discouraging volunteers like Hickox from going to West Africa, where the outbreak has sickened more than 13,000 people and killed nearly 5,000 of them.

"The volunteers are heroes to the people they help, and they are heroes to our own countries. They should be treated like heroes when they return," Samantha Power, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, said in Brussels.

In other Ebola news:

— Liberia is making some progress in containing the outbreak, while Sierra Leone is "in a crisis situation which is going to get worse," the top anti-Ebola officials in the two countries said.

— The World Bank announced it will give an additional \$100 million to help bring in more foreign health workers to Ebola stricken countries. That raises the money it has given to the fight to \$500 million.

— Ebola fears infected a tropical diseases medical conference in Louisiana. State health officials told thousands of doctors who planned to attend the conference in New Orleans this weekend to stay away if they have been to certain African countries or had contact with an Ebola patient in the past 21 days.

From the Associated Press



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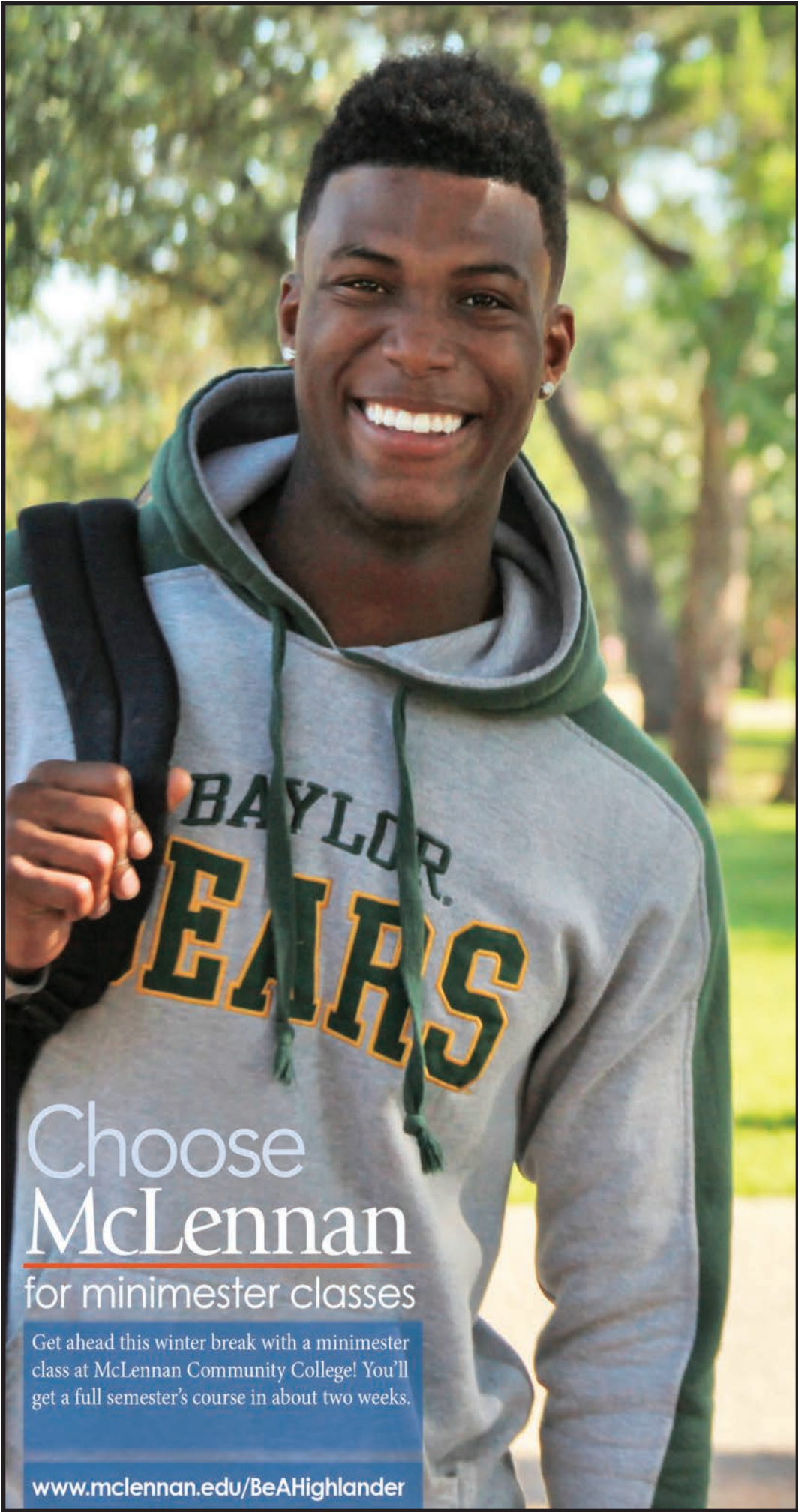
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U.S. voting on conservation

By Jason Dearen
Associated Press

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Voters across the nation are deciding whether to set aside billions of dollars for parks and preservation in what some environmentalists are calling one of the most significant elections for land conservation in American history.

Pollsters say it's one of the few places on Tuesday's ballots where voters of all kinds can find common ground.

The most money at stake is in Florida, California and New Jersey. "These are highly developed and dense states, and they are watching the good natural places disappear," said Will Rogers, president and CEO of the Trust for Public Land, which tracks and raises money for the ballot measures. "People know if they don't step up and protect it, it will be gone."

Nationwide, it adds up to more than \$15.7 billion overall in taxes and bonds for land and water conservation, the most in a quarter-century of elections, according to the trust's data, which was independently verified by The Associated Press.

"One of the things we see in this hyper-partisan age is that support for these measures can extend across party lines," said Lori Weigel, a pollster in Denver, Colorado, who has been tracking voter preferences on this year's measures. "There's something appealing about conserving these natural areas, whether that's for sportsmen like hunters or environmentalists."

The dynamic has shown up even in tax-averse Alabama, where 75 percent of voters amended the constitution in 2012 to fund open spaces with oil revenues after a campaign targeting hunters and environmentalists.

In Missouri, 71 percent voted in 2006 to renew a sales tax for parks and erosion control that originally passed by just 50.1 percent in 1984. "It has worked really well. We have over 80 state parks and not only are they nice places but they bring in a lot of tourist revenue," said William Lowry, a political science professor who focuses on environmental issues at Washington University in St. Louis.

Florida voters are considering a constitutional amendment that would dedicate \$18 billion in existing real estate taxes to environmental protection over the next two decades. About half the revenue would go to buy nearly 2 million acres — pockets of wilderness including swamplands, beaches and other places that link key corridors of open space where wildlife can migrate naturally.

New Jersey's voters could renew part of a tax on corporations to pay

for \$2.1 billion for open spaces and farmland.

And drought-suffering Californians are being asked to pass Proposition 1, a \$7.5 billion voter initiative to fund more dams on the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers to improve water supplies in the central part of the state, where most of the nation's fruits and vegetables are grown. The same bond measure would set aside much less money — about \$1.5 billion — for land and watershed conservation.

In Florida and New Jersey, business groups and Gov. Chris Christie are against locking in environmental funding, saying that the Legislature needs power to move money where it's most needed in tough times.

The measures' backers feel good about Tuesday, optimistic that the strengthening economy has made voters willing to pay to preserve resources for future generations.



Associated Press

In this photo taken Monday, a raccoon rests on a tree at Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park in Key Biscayne, Fla. Voters this Election Day will decide whether billions of dollars should be set aside for parks and preservation.

"Wherever you look, in the interior West, in the Rust Belt, the Sun Belt, people care about places, they care about nature and are willing to vote with their wallets to do something about it," Rogers said.

Terminally ill woman may postpone taking own life

By Steven Dubois
Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — A terminally ill woman who expects to take her own life under Oregon's assisted-suicide law says she is feeling well enough to possibly postpone the day she had planned to die.

Brittany Maynard said in early October she expected to kill herself Nov. 1, less than three weeks before her 30th birthday.

She emphasized that she wasn't suicidal, but wanted to die on her own terms and reserved the right to move the date forward or push it back.

While she hasn't completely ruled Saturday out, Maynard says

in a new video she feels she has some more of her life to live.

"I still feel good enough, and I still have enough joy — and I still laugh and smile with my friends and my family enough — that it doesn't seem like the right time right now," she says in the video.

"But it will come because I feel myself getting sicker. It's happening each week."

Maynard said she was diagnosed with incurable brain cancer earlier this year.

Because her home state of California does not have an aid-in-dying law, she moved to Portland and has become an advocate for getting such laws passed in other states.

Maynard's story, accompanied by photos from her pre-illness



Associated Press

In this Oct. 21 photo provided by TheBrittanyFund.org, Brittany Maynard and her husband Dan Diaz pose at the Grand Canyon National Park.

wedding day, broke hearts across the globe while igniting a national

debate on the issue of physician-assisted suicide.

One opponent is Philip Johnson, a 30-year-old Catholic seminarian from the Diocese of Raleigh, North Carolina.

He, like Maynard, has inoperable brain cancer and is plagued by headaches and seizures.

After learning of learning of Maynard's choice, he wrote an article explaining his view that "suffering is not worthless," and it's up to God to take life.

"There is a card on Brittany's website asking for signatures 'to support her bravery in this very tough time,'" Johnson wrote on the diocese website.

"I agree that her time is tough, but her decision is anything but brave. I do feel for her and understand her difficult situation, but no

diagnosis warrants suicide."

Oregon was the first U.S. state to make it legal for a doctor to prescribe a life-ending drug to a terminally ill patient of sound mind who makes the request.

The patient must swallow the drug without help; it is illegal for a doctor to administer it.

Oregon voters approved the Death with Dignity Act in 1994, then reaffirmed it — 60 percent to 40 percent — in 1997.

It took more than a decade for another state to join Oregon, but four other states now have such laws.

More than 750 people in Oregon used the law to die as of Dec. 31, 2013, most of them elderly.

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Bears

from Page 1

The Touchdown Pledge Drive is the second fund raising event by the Bears' Uplifting Athletes chapter. The first event was held on July 17 when the Bears participated in its first Lift for Life fund raiser.

The players had fans pledge donations per pound that the team lifted and accumulated more than \$3,100 towards cerebral palsy research.

With the previous success, senior offensive tackle Spencer Drango said Saturday's touchdown drive will be even better than their first event with a goal of \$10,000.

"Being a first year chapter is always tough, but I think that our Lift for Life fund raiser was outstanding in our fund raising efforts," Drango said. "The Touchdown Pledge Drive is another way to get out there and help the community using our platform as student-athletes."

Baylor looks to use its national prominence to make a difference not only in Jacoby

Burks's life, but the lives of all kids diagnosed with cerebral palsy.

"It will be tremendously beneficial for their chapter to be able to use this national spotlight for awareness," chapter manager Becky Mayes said. "This means something to them, and being a Top 20 team helps them spread awareness and raise money for the cause. A lot of work is involved, but it will let them shine off the field."

Jacoby's mother Latricia Burks said she loves the relationship between her son and the team, and Jacoby's interaction with the Bears gives him even more excitement in his life.

"As the years have passed, Levi [Norwood] made sure Jacoby came to games and practices on the field," Latricia Burks said. "Jacoby loves Levi. Every time I tell him we're going to see him and the rest of the team, he gets so excited. It's amazing to see that."

The touchdown drive on Sat-

urday might bring a few tears to Latricia Burks's eyes as she sees the football team playing for kids like Jacoby who are living with cerebral palsy.

"It gives me chills knowing Levi and the Bears care so much about kids who suffer from cerebral palsy," she said. "This experience has reminded me that someone is there to help care for people who have this disability. I am thankful for Levi and the Baylor Bears football team for doing an outstanding job and putting toward every effort. I pray that it's a great success."

With this event underway, Baylor football players will take a step into another spotlight that touches each of the players, and Jacoby Burks is the reason for that, Brence said.

"Jacoby is a kid who you can see the happiness, joy and constant attitude of never giving up in his eyes," Brence said. "Just to see how excited he gets when he was around all of us really makes all of the players excited

to see him there with our team."

No. 12 Baylor football will play at home for the first time in two weeks, and the Touchdown Pledge Drive is the team's motivation to make a huge impact.

"We think we're fighting every day in practice and things are tough, but when you look at kids with cerebral palsy who are fighting every single day, it really puts things into perspective and makes you realize how blessed you are to be here," Brence said. "There's a lot more responsibility in being a student-athlete than just going out there and playing. To have this chance to give back to kids like Jacoby makes us extremely fortunate. They are the true inspiration."

Donations will be accepted until 11:59 p.m. Saturday. Fans can donate to the Touchdown Pledge Drive at www.pldgit.com.

Government

from Page 1

phasized that if the university was to keep up with society, they would need to move quick, referencing the University of Texas' decision to admit African-American students, beginning in the fall of 1956.

The next day, student congress unanimously passed legislation to desegregate campus under the leadership of student government's president Charles Wise.

According to the resolution, the student government felt as though segregation did not fall within the mandates of democracy, or the ideals the university claimed to uphold.

The policy wasn't put into place until 1963 when the admissions policy regarding race was change, but Cypress junior Omar Fierros said he believes student government was still a catalyst for change.

"Student government serves as a voice for students, and as a result, can directly influence the school's administration," Fierros said. Fierros serves in the cabinet of student body president Dominic Edwards as the student relations coordinator.

In addition to addressing national, social issues, student representatives have tried throughout the years to address campus issues.

In 1923, the student association had a huge disagreement with the university's president Samuel P. Brooks.

The association wanted to let student athletes caught cheating, continue to play on their respective teams.

When a compromise could not be reached, all members of the Association turned in their resignation letters to Brooks. A decade later, the student congress was reinstated without disciplinary control over the student body.

In 1962, student government met with trustees to discuss the hazing. They voted to apply heavy penalties to those who participated in hazing and physical abuse of pledges or new members of any organization.

Dr. Harriet B. Harral, former student body secretary said student government has always been progressive

in regards to the administration.

"Baylor was a place that allowed students a great deal of freedom to do things," she said. Harral, currently serves as the principal and senior consultant of the Harral Group in Fort Worth.

Student government in its present form was instituted in 1985. A new system of government was put in place that split representative bodies into four sections--university council, staff council, faculty senate and student government.

Student Government no longer has its disciplinary function, but retains it's representative one.

On Sept. 25, Edwards in a Student Senate meeting, reminded senators they were recipients of a long tradition of student representation.

"We are a part of a 100 year tradition," he said to members.

His goals as student body president are to leave a lasting mark on campus through working with administrators, regents and faculty members to represent students. Edwards recalled a moment were he sat at a meeting with Judge Ken Starr and other representatives of Baylor's community. It was the moment were it hit him that he was making a difference, that he was reaching his goals.

"It's about enriching the quality of student life," he said.

Katy junior Lawren Kinghorn, internal vice-president, said student government will celebrate its centennial in December, recognizing the drafting of the charter for the Student Self Governing Association in 1914. She said they will extend the celebration into January when the organization was first recognized.

The organization plans to invite former members of student government to participate in the celebration.

Harral was excited to hear about the anniversary. She said that everyone at Baylor has something to contribute to its history and are a part of it.

"So many of us are. It lives on," she said.

Parking

from Page 1

our consulting firm that's been dealing with the stadium parking," Burchett said. "We asked them what would be the best approach for this event, as we're expecting 8,000 to 10,000 people coming back to campus."

Burchett said the plan is to try and manage what is normal for game day, such as the closures of the Law School, the Dutton Garage, and the Speight Garage today in preparation for game day, while balancing an influx of patrons to campus. Fifth Street through campus will be closed at 2 a.m. early tomorrow morning, south and northbound exits on I-35 for Fourth and Fifth streets will be closed at 6 a.m., as will southbound exit on I-35 for Martin Luther King Blvd., and University Parks will be closed at 11 a.m.

Burchett said he hopes people will use their identified game day parking to go on campus for the parade, and feels confident that people will be able to go to the parade, tailgate or eat on campus, and then go to the game.

"This will be our first Homecoming game on campus," he said. "I think this has the potential to be really fun and exciting for everyone, with everything that game day will have to offer. It gets me really excited about the whole experience."

If there is a possibility that your vehicle might have been towed, you can call Tow King at 254-666-5484. If it has been relocated, your vehicle will likely be held at a site just north of campus at 1601 Taylor Ave. Owners will be able to claim their vehicles with a valid picture ID.

Mexico

from Page 1


visiting their father in Mexico and disappeared Oct. 13 along with Jose Guadalupe Castaneda Benitez, Erica Alvarado's 32-year-old boyfriend.

Each was shot in the head and the bodies were burned, Quintanilla said, most likely from lying in the hot sun for so long.

Parents of the siblings have said witnesses reported they were seized by men dressed in police gear identifying themselves as "Hercules," a tactical security unit in the violent border city heavily racked by cartel infighting. Quintanilla said at a news conference Thursday that nine of the unit's 40 officers are being questioned.

"We will apply the full force of the law and zero tolerance," Gov. Egidio Torre Cantu said, lamenting the death of the four, even though their identities had yet to be confirmed by DNA.

It would the third recent case of abuse and killing by Mexican authorities if police are involved. The country already is engulfed in the case of 43 teachers college students missing in southern Guerrero state at the hands of a mayor and police working with a drug cartel. Fifty-six people are under arrest, including dozens of police officers.



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