

Baylor sports win 5 of 5 in basketball, tennis

Women's tennis continues their winning streak against No. 5 Virginia with 6-1 victory.

SEE SPORTS, page 6



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The Baylor Lariat

WE'RE THERE WHEN YOU CAN'T BE



From Lariat Photography: Slideshows of Baylor undefeated weekend.

Tuesday | January 27, 2015

Snowpocalypse storms Northeast



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sofia, 7, from Brazil, enjoys a small snow pile Monday in Times Square. More than 35 million people along the Philadelphia-to-Boston corridor rushed to get home and settle in Monday as a fearsome storm swirled in with the potential for hurricane-force winds.

Storm affects millions tonight, ground thousands of flights

By MEGHAN BARR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — More than 35 million people along the Philadelphia-to-Boston corridor rushed to get home and settle in Monday as a fearsome storm swirled in with the potential for hurricane-force winds and 1 to 3 feet of snow that could paralyze the Northeast for days.

Snow was blowing sideways with ever-increasing intensity in New York City as flurries began in Boston. Forecasters said the storm would build into a blizzard, and the brunt of it would hit late Monday and into today.

As the snow got heavier, much of the region rushed to shut down.

More than 6,500 flights in and out of the Northeast were

canceled, and many of them may not take off again until Wednesday. Schools and businesses let out early. Government offices closed. Shoppers stocking up on food jammed supermarkets and elbowed one another for what was left. Broadway stages went dark.

"It's going to be ridiculous out there, frightening," said postal deliveryman Peter Hovey, standing on a snowy com-

muter train platform in White Plains, New York.

All too aware that big snowstorms can make or break politicians, governors and mayors moved quickly to declare emergencies and order the shutdown of streets and highways to prevent travelers from getting stranded and to enable plows and emergency

SEE JUNO, page 4

Students receive the shockingly cold shoulder

By RACHEL LELAND
STAFF WRITER

New York City and much of the Northeast are bracing for snowstorm Juno, which could potentially affect over 35 million people. Unfortunately, for students with the Baylor Communication in New York City program, the storm could temporarily jeopardize their work.

The program takes students to New York City each semester and focuses on the context of communication in major cities.

"The Baylor Communication in New York City program has been through several weather-related emergencies before, beginning with Hurricane Sandy," said Dr. Joe Kickasola, associate professor in the film and digital media department.

Kickasola is also the director of the Baylor Communication in New York Program.

In 2012, Hurricane Sandy, the second most devastating hurricane in United States history, hit New York City and prevented the students from traveling to their internships.

The National Weather Service issued a citywide blizzard warning, for New York City, which is in effect until Wednesday morning. The current forecast predicts 18-24 inches of snow.

Despite the severity of the storm, some students remain relatively unfazed.

"I am not too concerned about the storm," said Waco senior Annie Carr, who is interning with an international communications and public relations firm. "My only concern would be if we lose power,

how long it would be for."

Some students see the storm as an opportunity.

"For most of us, it's like a snow day really," said Madison, Conn., senior David Li, who is interning with the Wild Child Post, a post-production company.

New York Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo, declared a state of emergency New York City, which is where the Baylor Commu-



COURTESY OF ANNIE CARR

Snow falls Monday on downtown New York City near the Empire State Building.

nication in New York programs are stationed. Many of the students intern in the city during the day, then take part in class instruction in the evening.

The program's resident adviser, Luann

SEE COLD, page 4



COURTESY OF NICK YOUNG

Dr. Colleen Smith, Collin College interim district president, and Baylor President and Chancellor Ken Starr signed an agreement that will help students transfer more easily between the institutions and expand educational opportunities.

Program promotes transfers

By RACHEL LELAND
STAFF WRITER

President and Chancellor Ken Starr signed a transfer agreement with Dr. Colleen Smith, Collin College interim district president, that will allow eligible Collin College students to more easily transfer between the two institutions.

The partnership takes place through the "Baylor Bound" program, an endeavor that seeks to offer community college students a chance to transfer to Baylor and apply for scholarships.

"The Baylor Bound program is focused on helping qualified students transfer to Baylor in a direct and efficient manner, saving time and maximizing financial resources," Starr said in a university press release.

"We are grateful to Collin College for entering into this important partnership,

which will provide greater educational access for dedicated students in the North Texas area."

The signing made Collin College the fourth institution to join the Baylor Bound program. The other institutions are McLennan Community College, Blinn College and Tyler Junior College. According to the press release, Baylor intends to create 10 community college partnerships over the next five years.

"No single factor influences the professional success of an individual more than a college education, and the Baylor Bound agreement was created to simplify the path to a degree," Smith said.

The first group of students from the junior college will transfer to Baylor in the fall of 2017. The students must maintain a 3.0

SEE COLLIN, page 4

Kurds, US drive out Islamic State

By ZEINA KARAM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIRUT — Jubilant Kurdish fighters ousted Islamic State militants from the key Syrian border town of Kobani on Monday after a four-month battle — a significant victory for both the Kurds and the U.S.-led coalition.

The Kurds raised their flag on a hill that once flew the Islamic State group's black banner. On Kobani's war-ravaged streets, gunmen fired in the air in celebration, male and female fighters embraced, and troops danced in their baggy

uniforms.

The failure to capture Kobani was a major blow to the extremists whose hopes for an easy victory dissolved into a costly siege under withering airstrikes by coalition forces and an assault by the Kurdish militia.

For the U.S. and its partners, Kobani became a strategic prize, especially after they increased the number of airstrikes against IS fighters there in October.

"Daesh gambled on Kobani and lost," said senior Kurdish official Idriss Nassan, using the Arabic acronym for the Islamic State group.

"Their defenses have collapsed and its fighters have fled," he told The Associated Press from Turkey, adding that he would return to Kobani on Tuesday.

Kobani-based journalist Farshad Shami said the few civilians who remained had joined in the celebration. Most of the town of about 60,000 people had fled to Turkey to escape the fighting.

Several U.S. officials said they couldn't confirm that Kurdish fighters have gained full control of Kobani, but added that they have no reason to disbe-

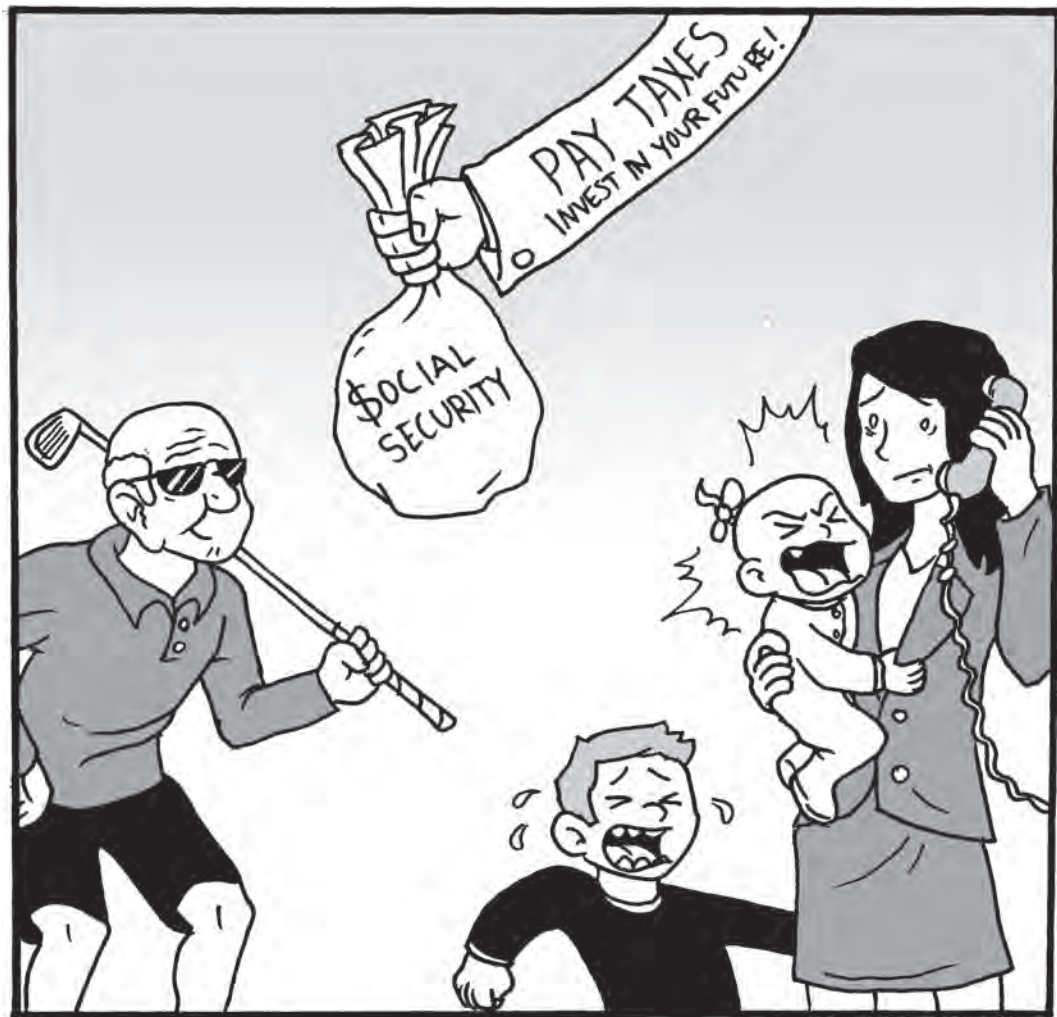
SEE KURDS, page 4



KEVIN FREEMAN | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Baylor Quidditch hosts 'Brooms on the Brazos'

Baylor Quidditch Association hosted the first tournament at Baylor University, Brooms on the Brazos, Saturday at the BSB fields. Among the schools represented were Texas A&M, UTSA and Loyola.



ASHER F. MURPHY

Woman up: Allow paid maternity leave

Editorial

President Barack Obama talked on several important topics last week in his annual State of the Union Address. In the address, he made it clear that issues that affect the middle class would be on the forefront of his agenda.

While many on opposite sides of the aisle in Congress disagree on this agenda, one thing is certain — it's time for the U.S. to catch up and mandate paid maternity leave.

Women are no longer just cooking the bacon, they're also helping to bring it home. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the number of women in the workforce has nearly quadrupled since 1967.

Through laws such as Title IX, many of the educational and social barriers that restricted women from entering the workforce have been knocked down, causing women to enter several markets.

From the retail industry to executive boardrooms, the impact that women have had on both the workforce and the national economy is undisputable. The Economist, a leading economic journal, predicted that by 2020, women could increase the GDP by 5 percent. This forecast is significantly higher for underdeveloped countries.

In addition to the major contributions women have made to the American economy, family dynamics within the home have also shifted dramatically.

According to a 2013 New York Times article, 40 percent of American households had a woman who was either the primary or the only source of income for the family.

U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand of New York, who has championed for pay equality in the workforce, said women are more important now than ever to the middle class.

Because of the financial importance women bring to the domestic and national tables, paid maternity leave is no longer just a moral issue, but also a financial one.

It is important to compensate women while on maternity leave, because they may be the primary breadwinners in their family.

Doing so can help ensure that women are not unfairly penalized for maternity leave, while helping to ensure the economic soundness of the family.

For years, the country has always tried to provide ways to protect economically those who are vulnerable to the markets. Sadly, however, the country lags behind in this category. America remains the only industrialized country that does not mandate paid maternity leave.

For many companies, it's a matter of money, rather than morals. While many of the companies would love to offer their employees paid maternity leaves, they feel as though they simply cannot afford to. It is important to remember, however, that there are several options to consider when discussing paid maternity leave.

Not all countries enforce a 100 percent policy with regards to compensation for paid maternity leave, and America does not have to either.

Some countries require employers to pay only half of what employees would have made during the maternity leave.

The government mandating

paid maternity leave could still leave the option open for certain plans, depending on the size of the business and the line of work.

Some make the argument that if America were to mandate paid maternity leave, they would have to do so for fathers as well. While a man does not go through the biological changes a woman does after childbirth, the father also needs a chance to bond with his new child.

It wouldn't, therefore, hurt for Congress to consider offering paid paternity leave as some countries already do. Sweden, for example, offers 480 shared days between the parents, which they are allowed to use up until the child turns 8.

American economists are worried about the low number of babies being born in the United States as the fertility rate continues to drop every year.

This could be because many are not economically stable enough to take off work because of the financial burdens it could pose on the family.

Families often go into considerable amounts of medical and home improvement debts to cover the costs of having a baby. If the government were to mandate some type of paid maternity leave for employees, financial blows could be lessened, possibly causing an increase in the fertility rate.

America has one of the best economies in the world. In several instances, the country has led the way in many social and economic initiatives that led the way for change for the better.

But America takes a step to mandate paid maternity leave for mothers, it will continue to lag behind peer nations.

Blackboard vs. Canvas

Two students portals at once is confusing

Baylor students have developed a reputation for being somewhat resistant to changes on campus. Even with the addition of the glorious McLane Stadium, we found something to complain about. I know, because I was part of the online ticket resistance.

Don't get me started with the upheaval caused by changing Pawprints in the fall of 2013. One of my friends posted on Facebook, "Hey Baylor, if it's not broke, don't fix it" in response to the situation. She was not alone in this sentiment, as the status earned around 60 likes.

When course evaluations went online, only a select number of students ventured to the Internet to fill them out.

These are only a few instances in which students resisted change. The current change getting under our skin is Baylor's slow-paced shift from Blackboard to Canvas.

In most of the changes listed above, we eventually came around and most of us would admit that the change was for the better (with the exception of online evaluations). I am open to the idea that Canvas may be the better program for handling courses. The problem now is the implementation of the change.

As of right now, I have three courses listed on Blackboard, one on Canvas and two that simply aren't listed at all. I know I am not the only student annoyed by having to check both websites. It's confusing and inconvenient.



Maleesa Johnson
Copy desk chief

Many times, I forget to check Canvas because I only have one class listed.

While there are many more pressing issues at Baylor, and the complaint may seem trivial, it is an inconvenience that could have been easily avoidable. If every course could have switched to Canvas at the same time, students

wouldn't have to manage two sites. I'm sure we would have grumbled at the change, but the adaptation time would be minimal.

There are many benefits with using Canvas and the change is not a bad one. Bugs in the site can be worked out faster than with Blackboard. Canvas is also more user-friendly.

However, none of these benefits matter when over half of a student's classes are on the old site. If we have to switch at all, why not switch over completely at one time? Professors have been making an effort to learn the system and implement it since last semester. This is more than enough time for students and faculty to adjust.

While I see the trivial nature of my irritation, I feel justified when I forget to complete an assignment because of the shuffle between sites. If Baylor wants to be more user-friendly, let's switch to one site at one time rather than leave us balancing between two.

Maleesa Johnson is a junior journalism major from Round Rock. She is the copy desk chief and a regular columnist for the Lariat.

Lariat Letters

Baylor fans need to make noise, fill stands at basketball games

What's wrong Baylor nation?

Why can't we fill the Ferrell Center for our men and women's home games? We have had one of the best overall basketball programs the past five years plus, and here we are once again with both teams ranked in the top 25 and yet we cannot seem to get the support that our programs deserve.

For those of us who live far away and cannot be

there, I want to encourage students and Baylor fans throughout the Waco area to go support our Bears. Future recruits notice a half full arena — not a good impression.

And while you are at the game, make some noise.

— Ron Killough
1969 Alumnus

Lariat Letters

To submit a Lariat Letter, fill out the Letter to the Editor form at baylorlariat.com/contact-information. Letters should be a maximum of 400 words. The letter is not guaranteed to be published.

From the Lariat blog



"They need more women in top leadership positions," I said. "Things like prostitution rings would probably be a lot less likely to happen if there were more women in the Secret Service, especially at the top."

— Trey Gregory, Web & social media editor

Check out the Lariat's weekly blog "Meanwhile at the Lariat..." Each Monday, one of our staff members will discuss the going-ons, shenanigans, special projects and day-to-day workings at the Lariat.



SKYE DUNCAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

"Are you not entertained?"

Congratulations to Murfreesboro, Tenn., junior John Mark Buckner! His is our winner for last week's #CaptionMulkey contest. Check the Lariat's Twitter (@bulariat) each Monday for new contests, and you could win a Lariat T-shirt and mug.

Opinion

The Baylor Lariat welcomes reader viewpoints through letters to the editor and guest columns. Opinions expressed in the Lariat are not necessarily those of the Baylor administration, the Baylor Board of Regents or the Student Publications Board.

Editorials, Columns & Letters

Editorials express the opinions of the Lariat Editorial Board. Lariat letters and columns are the opinions of an individual and not the Baylor Lariat.



A campuswide cooking competition for Baylor students

Sign up by emailing lariat@baylor.edu

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ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gun rights activist Jason Green wears a holster that holds bananas with "Smith" and "Wesson" written on the peels in order to support the Open Carry Texas rally that took place Monday at the Capitol in Austin.

Gun rights activists carry bananas at rally

JIM VERTUNO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — Pushing to keep their issue at the forefront but promising to stay peaceful, gun rights activists rallied Monday at the Texas Capitol to support open carry of handguns without a license.

The most notable sign of protest at the Open Carry Texas rally was the sight of gun holsters stuffed not with weapons but with bananas, rolled-up copies of the Constitution and cans of hairspray to protest restrictive gun laws.

The holster on Jason Green's right hip carried two bananas, with "Smith" written on one of the peels and "Wesson" on the other.

"I want to call attention to the ridiculousness of the laws in Texas," said Green who's from Texarkana. "It's a little silly, bananas, if you will, that I can't carry a handgun at my side."

Texas hasn't allowed open carry of handguns, with or without a license, since right after the Civil War. Lawmakers are considering several open carry bills this year and most of them would require a license similar to current concealed handgun requirements.

Monday's rally was to support the right to carry handguns without a license, also called "constitutional carry."

Rep. Jonathan Stickland, a Bedford Republican who is the House sponsor of a constitutional carry bill, said the right to bear arms "comes from God Almighty."

"Liberty is popular in the state of Texas. It's almost something that's put into our souls," Stickland said. "It certainly applies to the Second Amendment."

About 75 activists attended the event. They also planned to visit all 181 state lawmakers.

An open carry rally by the group Come and Take It Texas on Jan. 13 grabbed headlines when activists got into a heated exchange with Democratic Rep. Poncho Nevarez of Eagle Pass, who asked them to leave his office. C.J. Grisham, founder of Open Carry Texas, urged Monday's group to be direct but respectful.

"It put a bad taste in mouths of lawmakers about open carriers," Grisham said of the previous incident. "I'm very worried about the prospect of getting open carry passed."

Missing from Monday's rally was the open display of heavy weaponry such as assault rifles and shotguns that have been prevalent at so many open carry events in recent years. Texas allows the open carry of rifles.

"The fear of the gun is ignorance," said Felix Cano of San Antonio.

Baylor to offer new study abroad program at Israeli university this summer

SHANNON BARBOUR
REPORTER

For the first time, Baylor students will be given the opportunity to study at Tel Aviv University starting this summer. A public university, Tel Aviv is Israel's largest university, and has over 30,000 students.

Despite the media attention that the area receives on a daily basis, Robert Leis, exchange program and study abroad adviser, said students and parents should not be deterred because of safety concerns.

"Israel is probably one of the safest places in the Middle East you can go," Leis said.

Study abroad programs in regions of concern such as Russia and, most recently, France, due to terrorist attacks, remain active and safe for students and profes-

sors.

"Baylor will generally take the conservative approach. Safety is

issued a safety warning during the riots in Cairo.

The Center for International

tional students to attend a study abroad fair where students can learn more about the study abroad program in Israel and more.

The fair, held from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. during Dr Pepper Hour today in the Barfield Drawing Room of the Bill Daniel Student Center, will allow prospective study abroad students to meet with professors and students who know about the programs and have lived in the regions they are representing.

"The cost is no greater than studying at Baylor. Three-fourths of the time, housing and meal plans are cheaper," Leis said.

Application deadlines for most spring break, summer and fall sessions are at the beginning of March. Students can go to bearsabroad.baylor.edu for more information.



SKYE DUNCAN | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Students pick up information about study abroad programs in the Barfield Drawing Room of the Bill Daniel Student Center on Sept. 23, 2014.

always the number one concern," Leis said, noting Baylor's decision to remove students when America

Education has arranged for approximately 50 study abroad programs, professors and interna-

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The Baylor Lariat
Top 10 National College Newspaper
Associated Collegiate Press, 2013 & 2014

baylorlariat.com
Top 5 National College Newspaper Website
College Media Association, 2014
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Associated Collegiate Press, 2014
Editor & Publisher Magazine, 2013 & 2014

Roundup Yearbook
Top 5 National College Yearbook
Associated Collegiate Press, 2013 & 2014

Baylor Student Media
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BEAR BRIEFS

Books for Bears application open for interested members

Books for Bears is seeking new volunteers for the spring semester. Books for Bears is a group for students dedicated to providing books and play areas for every child in the McLennan County area. Members help arrange book donations and book drives, deliver books to clinics and create play areas in each clinic. Members are also guaranteed volunteer positions at their respective clinics. For additional information or an application, contact Rachael_Helpenstell@baylor.edu.

Penland Crossroads to hold pre-Super Bowl XLIX party

The Penland Crossroads is having a pre-Super Bowl event from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Friday. Football food favorites such as chili fries, corn dogs and ballpark nachos will be available. There will be prizes and giveaways. Come wearing your team colors and bring a friend.

Agape Connection to coordinate interest meeting

Agape Connections is a service organization that helps serve the elderly. An interest meeting will be held at 1 p.m. on Sunday in the Alexander Hall Conference Room for students who want to learn more about the organization. For additional information, contact Sarah_Byers@baylor.edu.

The Phoenix magazine now accepting submissions for issue

Do you love to write or draw? The Phoenix, Baylor's literary and arts magazine for undergraduates, is accepting original student submissions for coming edition. Pieces can include anything from poetry and fiction to drawings and photography. All work must be submitted online at www.baylor.edu/phoenix by Feb. 6.



Be the Match to hold interest meeting for potential donors

Anyone can be a hero. At 5 p.m. Tuesday in Room C123 of the Baylor Sciences Building there will be a Be The Match meeting for students interested in joining the cause. Be The Match is a program that seeks to bring a cure to people with blood cancers. By joining their registry, you could donate bone marrow to a cancer patient and save their life. For additional information, contact Dillon_Gasper@baylor.edu.

Poppers, Lockers, and Breakers looking for new dance members

Do you love to dance or want to learn how? The Baylor hip-hop organization Poppers, Lockers, and Breakers meets from 7 to 9 p.m. every Friday in the Bearobics Room on the third floor of the McLane Student Life Center. Join them and learn all kinds of hip-hop and modern dance. You don't have to have any experience to join. For additional information, contact Lindsey_Moses@baylor.edu.

CPR course now open for students seeking certification

Students interested in becoming certified in CPR can sign up for the CPR certification course being offered at the McLane Student Life Center. In the course, students will learn how to deal with choking situations and how to administer CPR to adults, children and infants. Upon successful completion of the course, students will be given a completion card that is valid for two years. For additional information on dates, times, and cost, visit www.baylor.edu/campusrec/aquatics/index.php?id=73696.



BAYLOR
UNIVERSITY
STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

COLD from Page 1

Jennings, and Kickasola, who is regularly monitoring advisories from the Mayor's office, maintain contact with the students and monitor their needs.

The State of New York is also considering a full travel ban which would include shutting down highways and public transportation.

The ban had not taken effect at the time of printing late Monday

evening, but was scheduled to begin at 11 p.m.

This travel ban will prevent students from commuting to their internships in Manhattan. However, some students will be able to attend class.

"Unfortunately, the storm will not affect my ability to get to class, because we meet in one of the apartments in our building," Carr said.

The storm could bring temperatures as low as 21 degrees. Fortunately, the students prepared for the cold weather that is headed their way beforehand.

"We have lots of blankets to pile on if it gets really cold and plenty of heavy material clothing," Carr said.

Should the storm prevent the students from traveling outside of their residences, the program keeps

food, bottled water and large stand-alone batteries for charging phones and other electronics.

If the power goes out, there are also hand-cranked power lanterns as well as a hearty supply of candles.

"We are confident we are prepared," Kickasola said. "We will make judgements on a day to day issues as we go and will not jeopardize any student's safety."

KURDS from Page 1

lieve the claims.

A senior U.S. official said the Kurds controlled most of the town and have consolidated control particularly in the central and southern areas. The official said Islamic State militants still have a considerable presence in outlying areas around Kobani and are still putting up stiff resistance to the Kurds in those pockets outside it.

U.S. Central Command estimates that 90 percent of Kobani is now controlled by Kurdish forces.

Kurdish officials and activists said Kobani was entirely in Kurdish hands, with only sporadic fighting on the eastern outer edges where the militants retained some footholds.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said fighters of the main Kurdish militia known as the People's Protection Units, or YPG, were searching houses in the eastern suburbs of the town and dismantling and detonating bombs and booby-traps left behind.

Capturing Kobani would have given the IS militants control of a

border crossing with Turkey and open direct lines for their positions along the frontier. Now, it is a grave psychological loss for the extremist group, which has been dealt a series of military setbacks in both Syria and Iraq, particularly at the hands of the Kurds.

Last month, Kurdish fighters in Iraq retook the strategic town of Sinjar that had been home to many of Iraq's minority Yazidis.

The focus is now expected to shift to several hundred villages around Kobani still held by the militants. Kurdish activists said they expected the fight for those to be easier than for the town itself.

In September, Islamic State fighters began capturing about 300 Kurdish villages near Kobani and thrust into the town itself, occupying nearly half of it and sending tens of thousands of residents fleeing into Turkey.

But the once-nondescript town with few resources quickly became a centerpiece of the international campaign against the Islamic State group. TV crews flocked to the Turkish side of the border and

trained their cameras on the besieged town, plumes of smoke rising from explosions. U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry declared it would be "morally very difficult" not to help Kobani.

The U.S.-led air assault began Sept. 23, with Kobani the target of about a half-dozen daily airstrikes on average. More than 80 percent of all coalition airstrikes in Syria have been in or around the town.

At one point in October, the U.S. air dropped bundles of weapons and medical supplies for Kurdish fighters — a first in the Syrian conflict. Dozens of Iraqi Kurdish peshmerga forces joined their brethren in Kobani, bringing in heavy weapons that neutralized the Islamic State group's artillery advantage.

By early January, more than 1,000 Islamic State fighters had been killed and much of its heavy weaponry destroyed. The group continued to invest in resources, bringing in hundreds of reinforcements. Activists said these included many teenagers.

The group made a last stand in the past few weeks, unleashing

more than 35 suicide attacks in recent weeks, activists said.

Nassan said coalition airstrikes intensified in recent days, helping the Kurds in their final push toward IS positions on the southern and eastern edges of Kobani.

The U.S. Central Command said Monday it had carried out 17 airstrikes near Kobani in the last 24 hours that struck IS infrastructure and fighting positions.

Shami, the Kurdish journalist, said the remaining IS militants in eastern Kobani vacated quickly, leaving behind fresh food and heavy weapons.

"Their morale collapsed," he said by telephone as celebratory gunfire echoed in the background.

Gharib Hassou, a representative of Syria's powerful Kurdish Democratic Union Party, or PYD, based in Southern Kurdistan, said most of the militants fled to the IS-controlled town of Tal Abyad to the east.

"There are a lot of dead bodies," he said.

JUNO from Page 1



COURTESY OF ANNIE CARR

Winter storm Juno is expected to bring 1 to 3 feet of snow Monday evening to the Northeast. Baylor students studying in New York City prepared for extreme temperatures with blankets and emergency battery packs. Classes for the students are expected to continue.

vehicles to get through.

"This will most likely be one of the largest blizzards in the history of New York City," New York Mayor Bill de Blasio warned.

He urged New Yorkers to go home and stay there, adding: "People have to make smart decisions from this point on."

Up to now, this has been a largely snow-free winter in the urban Northeast. But this storm threatened to make up the difference in a single blow.

Boston was expected to get 2 to 3 feet of snow, New York 1½ to 2 feet and Philadelphia more than a foot.

The National Weather Service issued a blizzard warning for a 250-mile swath of the region, meaning heavy, blowing snow and potential whiteout conditions. Forecasters warned that the wind could gust to 75 mph or more along the Massachusetts coast and up 50 mph farther inland.

New York City's subways and buses planned to shut down by 11 p.m. In Massachusetts, ferry service to Martha's Vineyard was greatly curtailed and to Nantucket was suspended. Commuter rail-

roads across the Northeast announced plans to stop running overnight, and most flights out of the region's major airports were canceled.

Authorities banned travel on all streets and highways in New York City and on Long Island and warned that violators could be fined \$300. Even food deliveries were off-limits on the streets of takeout-friendly Manhattan. The governors of Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island also slapped restrictions on nonessential travel.

"We learned the lesson the hard way," said New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, referring to instances in which motorists got stranded in the snow for 24 hours or more.

Nicole Coelho, a nanny from Lyndhurst, New Jersey, was preparing to pick up her charges early from school and stocking up on macaroni and cheese, frozen pizzas and milk at a supermarket.

"I'm going to make sure to charge up my cellphone, and I have a good book I haven't gotten around to reading yet," she said.

Shopping cart gridlock descended on Fairway, the gourmet

grocery on Manhattan's Upper West Side. The meat shelves were all but bare, customers shoved past each other and outside on Broadway the checkout line stretched for a block as the wind and snow picked up.

Ben Shickel went grocery shopping in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, and found shelves had been cleaned out.

"We're used to these big snowstorms in New England, but 2 to 3 feet all at once and 50 to 60 mph winds? That's a different story," he said.

In another possible sign that people were hunkering down at home, Fresh Direct, a grocery delivery service in the Northeast, said it had seen a rise in orders for Movie Day snacks such as microwave popcorn and chocolate chip cookies.

On Wall Street, however, the New York Stock Exchange stayed open and said it would operate normally Tuesday as well.

Coastal residents braced for a powerful storm surge and the possibility of damaging flooding and beach erosion, particularly in New Jersey and on Cape Cod in Mas-

sachusetts. Officials in New Jersey shore towns warned people to move their cars off the streets and away from the water.

Utility companies across the region put additional crews on standby to deal with anticipated power outages.

The storm posed one of the biggest tests yet for Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker, who has been in office for less than three weeks. He warned residents to prepare for power outages and roads that are "very hard, if not impossible, to navigate."

The storm interrupted jury selection in the Boston Marathon bombing case and forced a postponement in opening statements in the murder trial of former NFL star Aaron Hernandez.

The Super Bowl-bound New England Patriots got out of town just in time, leaving from Logan Airport around midday for Phoenix, where the temperature will reach the high 60s.

The Washington area was expecting only a couple of inches of snow. But the House postponed votes scheduled for Monday night until after the weekend.

Court review halts Okla. executions

By TIM TALLEY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma is willing to put three executions on hold while the U.S. Supreme Court reviews whether a certain sedative can render death row inmates sufficiently unconscious, the state's attorney general said in a Monday filing with the court.

Rather than stop the executions himself, Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt took the unusual step of asking the justices for a stay. Oklahoma wants the right to resume executions if it finds a different suitable drug.

"It is important that we act in order to best serve the interests of the victims of these horrific crimes and the state's obligation to ensure justice in each and every case," Pruitt said

in a statement. "The families of the victims in these three cases have waited a combined 48 years for the sentences of these heinous crimes to be carried out."

The Oklahoma Constitution allows the governor to grant a 60-day reprieve. But because the case likely won't be resolved in that time frame, Pruitt sought the stays from the U.S. Supreme Court, said his spokesman, Will Gattenby.

"Likewise, the application must be filed with the Supreme Court instead of the Oklahoma Criminal Court of Appeals because there is no pending case in the Oklahoma court," Gattenby said.

Attorneys for three death row inmates awaiting execution urged the Supreme Court to grant stays of execution until the case is resolved.

COLLIN from Page 1

GPA to keep eligibility. Most students fall between a 3.1 and 3.6 range.

Dr. Wesley Null, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs, works with other colleges that participate in the Baylor Bound program.

Dr. Null said in a press release that he recognized that the program is mutually beneficial for Baylor and the colleges it partners with.

"It allows us to recruit a stronger transfer class of students," Null said.

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'American Sniper' reminds us to thank our soldiers

The colors red, white and blue mean a lot to me, especially when someone in camouflage salutes before them.

VIEWPOINT

The patriotism seen in each person who sings along to the national anthem, and watching everyone focus on one object that stands for something more for our country, touches me. Growing up in a military family has me seeing this image often.

Even though I don't have the most pleasant singing voice, I will always sing the words of the national anthem because I know who's keeping us free: the nation's military.

While watching Bradley Cooper portray Chris Kyle in the film "American Sniper" this past week-

end, I couldn't help but go back to my past and think about just how many men and women like my dad have sacrificed to keep us here.

While the military is criticized for being reckless and useless during different parts of the war in Iraq, it takes a mature person to understand the reason why.

The U.S. is known for coming to the aid of struggling countries, and there is nothing wrong with that. There is also nothing wrong with defending our homeland when someone threatens the freedom that we had been rewarded with the Constitution, Bill of Rights and the Declaration of Independence.

Passive-minded Americans disagree on the entire concept of a war, but it angers me when they criticize soldiers about their job. Everyone is called to do something different in life, and not everyone is suited to defend our country.



My dad chose the right career path. His personality type allowed him to thrive in his job field and showed others his ability to lead platoons and hundreds of soldiers in formation.

There have been a number of posts on social media degrading "American Sniper." I've seen online posts calling Kyle a "violent mur-

derous man" and a "rotten dead soul." One tweet on Twitter also described the storyline like this: "an occupier mows down faceless Iraqis but the real victim is his anguished soul."

Enough is enough. Being in the military causes soldiers to make crucial decisions, sometimes making them choose

between killing and being killed. It doesn't make them murderers. Assuming each soldier is in the correct mental state, he or she would not freely kill another human being without the threat of his life on the line or the lives of his brothers at arms.

I am touched that my dad would even consider laying his life on the line for my family and millions of people living in the U.S. Life is so precious yet soldiers are willing to lose theirs if it means keeping people like me safe.

It's inspiring to see young men and women stay committed to their country and the soldiers they go to war with. Some of my family's greatest friends are my dad's friends he met in the Army, and they've seen me grow since I was in diapers. Seeing families come together with this connection gives me an opportunity to have a family

everywhere I am.

That American flag means a lot to me, and anyone who puts their life on the line has my absolute respect, with the biggest respect of them all being for the man who has given me the opportunity to attend Baylor.

My dad is a hero, and not a day will go by where that won't cross my mind.

The next time you stand up for the national anthem, think about who has fought for the flag that we are saluting. Soldiers have also fought for your right to not stand for the pledge, so why shouldn't you express that in a respectful way?

Being an American doesn't limit anyone's opinion of our U.S. military, but it does give you the obligation to respect the men and women who serve overseas to keep it the land of the free.



SKYE DUNCAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

Sunday shenanigans

Baylor's Guerrilla Comedy Troupe, a student improv group, performs a multi-person sketch during its Sunday evening performance. The group will perform at 10:30 p.m. Tuesday and 8:30 p.m. Wednesday in Jones Theater inside the Hooper-Schaefer Fine Arts Center. Tickets are \$3 at the door.

Colombian streets light up with recent Miss Universe crowning

BY LIBARDO CARDONA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOGOTA, Colombia — Carnival has come a few weeks early to the Caribbean city of Barranquilla where residents took to the streets on Monday to show their hometown pride after local beauty queen Paulina Vega was crowned Miss Universe.

Even President Juan Manuel Santos took time out during an official visit to France to congratulate Vega for her "historic" title Sunday night in Miami, where the 22-year-old business administration student beat out finalists from the U.S., Jamaica, the Netherlands and Ukraine.

"This demonstrates that in Colombia we have women who are intelligent, hard-working and perseverant in the face of obstacles," Santos said. "They're also very pretty."

Colombians are obsessed with beauty and pageants are a major draw across social classes. But unlike neighboring Venezuela, which has won seven Miss Universe titles, Colombians are accustomed to falling short of the crown, with four runner-up appearances since



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Miss Colombia Paulina Vega smiles as she is crowned Miss Universe on Sunday during the Miss Universe pageant in Miami.

1992.

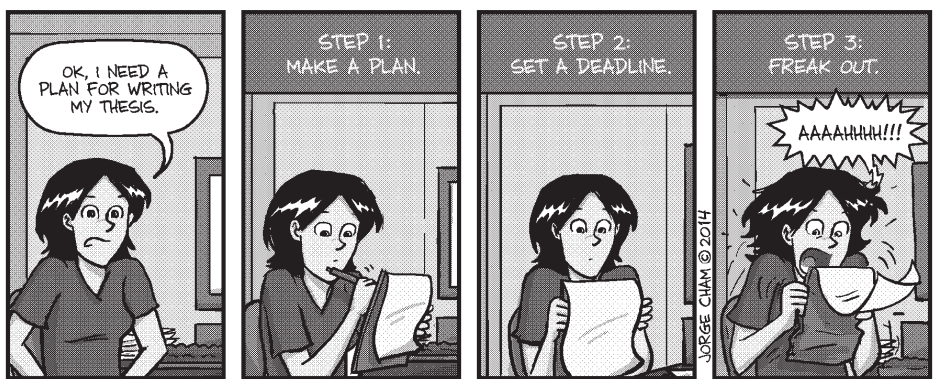
The only other Colombian Miss Universe is 76-year-old Luz Marina Zuluaga, who won the title in 1958. She told The Associated Press that Vega's honor is long overdue.

"Like everyone else I'm very happy that a Colombian has finally won," said Zuluaga, recalling how much the pageant had changed in the five decades since she was crowned. Bikinis weren't yet a feature of the swimsuit competition

and preparation for the gala event was almost nil in contrast to the industry of beauty schools, plastic surgeons and diction coaches that have sprouted up to prepare women for competition.

As Miss Universe, Vega will receive an undisclosed salary, a luxury apartment in New York, a wardrobe and oodles of beauty products, and a one-year scholarship from the New York Film Academy.

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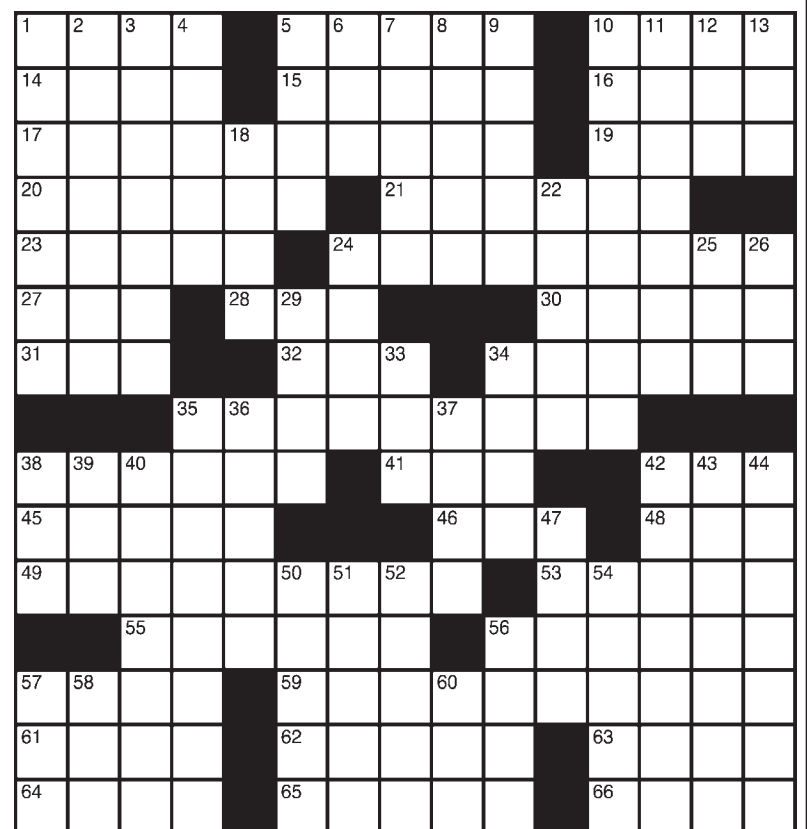
Answers at www.baylorlariat.com

Across

- 1 Parking lot fillers
- 5 "Me too!"
- 10 Cutlass automaker
- 14 Nike competitor
- 15 Valuable violin, for short
- 16 Genesis or Exodus, e.g.
- 17 Like the 1920s-'30s, economically
- 19 Wild revelry
- 20 Audition hopefuls
- 21 Enjoyed a sail, say
- 23 Indian melodies
- 24 Excellent work
- 27 Dean's email suffix
- 28 Japanese sash
- 30 Back of a flipped coin
- 31 2,000 pounds
- 32 Uncooked
- 34 Greek messenger of the gods
- 35 Dramatic weight-loss program
- 38 Geek Squad member
- 41 Fireworks reaction
- 42 EPA-banned pesticide
- 45 Roger who broke Babe Ruth's record
- 46 Refusals
- 48 Prior to, in poems
- 49 Deadeye with a rifle
- 53 "A Doll's House" playwright
- 55 Decorative inlaid work
- 56 Watchful Japanese canines
- 57 Comet Hale-___
- 59 Hectic pre-deadline period
- 61 Thought from la tête
- 62 Hayes or Hunt
- 63 Slaughter in the Baseball Hall of Fame
- 64 Surrender, as territory
- 65 Grab
- 66 Emailed

Down

- 1 Musical set at the Kit Kat Club
- 2 Guacamole fruit
- 3 Tear gas weapon
- 4 Margaret Mead subject
- 5 Georgia and Latvia, once: Abbr.
- 6 Horseplayer's haunt, for short



- 7 Island near Curaçao
- 8 Perry in court
- 9 Convention pin-on
- 10 Section of a woodwind quintet score
- 11 Conrad classic
- 12 Guard that barks
- 13 Big ___ Country: Montana
- 18 Approximately
- 22 One-to-one student
- 24 Prejudice
- 25 Corrida cry
- 26 Undergraduate degrees in biol., e.g.
- 29 Scottish hillside
- 33 Detective's question
- 34 Sunshine cracker
- 35 Massachusetts city crossed by four Interstates
- 36 Insurance covers them
- 37 "Please stop that"
- 38 Film lover's TV choice
- 39 Corn serving
- 40 Hardly roomy, as much airline seating
- 42 Preordain
- 43 "It'll never happen!"
- 44 Most uptight
- 47 Many a Punjabi
- 50 Goldman ___: investment banking giant
- 51 New employee
- 52 Eyelike openings
- 54 Tugs at a fishing line
- 56 Clearasil target
- 57 Clic Stic pen maker
- 58 Poem that extols
- 60 Pince-___ glasses

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Difficulty: Difficult

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2						7	5	8
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		3		5	1			
	7		3		8			

No. 20 Baylor MBB looks to complete Oklahoma gauntlet

By CODY SOTO
SPORTS WRITER

No. 20 Baylor men's basketball had its third-straight Associated Press Top 25 opponent come to Waco on Saturday. The Bears put up a fight in front of a raucous crowd to take a crucial 69-58 win over then-No. 19 Oklahoma.

The Bears (15-4, 3-3) avenged a 73-63 loss against the Sooners in Norman, Okla., and now have wins over two ranked opponents in conference play, the other being against then-No. 9 Iowa State.

"I am really proud of how the guys executed down the stretch," head coach Scott Drew said. "We were 8-for-8 from the free throw line, shot 50 percent. [Oklahoma] is a great team and we had to work hard in order to get a win like this."

Junior guard Lester Medford had a career-high 17 points and dished five assists in the win. Medford was 6-for-10 from the field and provided several big plays for the Bears down the stretch.

One problem Baylor kept having on Saturday was difficulty keeping possession of the ball. The Bears had 15 turnovers in the matchup, including four from freshman forward Johnathan Motley.

The Bears also could not get Motley and junior forward Rico Gathers involved in the middle, forcing Baylor to pass the

ball back out to one of its guards and restart offensive possessions.

The Bears did not give up, though. With 8:03 left in the game, Oklahoma's Jordan Woodard hit a three-point shot to give the Sooners a three-point lead with the momentum heading down the final stretch.

A three-pointer by senior Kenny Chery and a layup by Gathers pushed the Bears in front 51-49 with 5:02 remaining in the second half. A 23-9 run helped boost Baylor to the 11-point victory with the hard-earned transition points and the crowd's energy to walk away with a win.

The win was the fourth straight conference game that Baylor had to perform well in the second half to come away with the victory. After dropping a one-point loss to No. 9 Kansas and a two-point loss to Kansas State, the Bears were able to make a statement and finish strong.

In the midst of an early 16-1 lead over Iowa State, the Bears were able to hold off the Cyclones on Jan. 14 at home for the 74-73 win. The finish was the pinnacle of the game.

"We were ready when [Iowa State] made that run, and we had to keep our composure and stay poised," Chery said. "They really came back and even led by one, but we had to stay focused and keep our faith in God through it all."

The Bears will play Oklahoma State today at Gallagher-Iba Arena in Stillwater, Okla., and look to bring home their second conference road win. Baylor took the 2-0 sweep over the Cowboys in the 2013-14 season after a 76-70 road win on Feb. 1, 2014.

However, both of these teams are anything but the same from last season. The Oklahoma State Cowboys (13-6, 3-4) have the rise in leadership from guard Phil Forte III, who is averaging 17.5 points per contest and boasts a 45.8 shooting percentage in Oklahoma State's previous 19 matchups.

Le'Bryan Nash is right behind Forte with 17.3 points per game and is the current Big 12 leader in 20-point games with 20. The Cowboys lost their two leading scorers, Marcus Smart and Markel Brown, to the NBA Draft, but the Cowboys have been known to play well in spite of losing talent.

Oklahoma State is 9-1 at home, with its only loss being against Maryland on Dec. 21. Oklahoma State dropped a 63-53 decision to Kansas State in Manhattan, Kan., in its most recent Big 12 matchup. Forte had 22 points and shot 52.6 percent from the field in the loss.

The Bears and Cowboys tip off at 8 p.m. on ESPNNEWS and WatchESPN today in Stillwater, Okla.



SKYE DUNCAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

Junior forward Taurean Prince lays in the ball during Baylor's 69-58 win over the Oklahoma Sooners on Saturday. Prince leads the team in scoring with 12.2 points per game. No. 20 Baylor will travel to Stillwater, Okla., today in search of back-to-back Big 12 wins.

No. 6 men's, No. 9 women's tennis pick up key weekend wins

By CODY SOTO
SPORTS WRITER

MEN'S

No. 6 Baylor men's tennis qualified for the National Indoor Championships with two dominating 4-0 wins over No. 61 Tulane and No. 40 Drake at the Hurd Tennis Center on Saturday and Sunday.

The Bears (2-1) bounced back after a tough 4-3 loss to No. 11 Illinois to start the season last Wednesday to sweep their next two opponents. The wins over the weekend were a part of the ITA Kick-Off Weekend that qualified one of four teams for the National Indoor Championships.

With the new Intercollegiate Tennis Association rules on the duration of the match during non-conference play, head coach Matt Knoll is proud of the way his team is adjusting their playing styles.

"With the shorter format, our guys have really embraced the dynamic of coming out and playing a short set to six games," Knoll said. "They've come in really pumped up and the energy is set. They've shown a lot of it."

The Bears have shown promise in doubles play as they continued to take the doubles point on both Saturday and Sunday.

"Overall, I think we have a good doubles team," senior Tony Lupieri said. "We've been able to show that because we won against Illinois, Tulane and Drake. That's a strong area for us."

Senior Mate Zsiga and sophomore Max Tchoutakian swept Tulane's Sebastian Rey and Ian Van Cott 6-0 while senior Diego Galeano and junior Julian Lenz knocked off Dominik Koefer and Chi-Shan Jao 6-2 for the doubles point on Saturday.

No. 26 Lupieri, Tchoutakian and freshman Juan Benitez took singles wins over Tulane to sweep the Green Wave and advance to the championship match of the ITA Kick-Off Weekend.

Lenz had some trouble against No. 9 Koefer on Saturday, dropping his first set 6-2 on court four. The No. 5-ranked player stormed back and won set two 6-3 and forced a third set before the

match was called to an end.

"Once we were able to get some clarity of the patterns that [Julian] needed to play, then we were in good shape," Knoll said. "It was a great match for Julian because he was pushed outside his comfort zone, and he still maintained his concentration and poise."

Baylor once again took the doubles point on Sunday against Drake as Galeano and Lenz took a 6-0 win over Ravi Patel and Matt Frost and junior Vince Schneider and junior Felipe Rios won 6-3 on court three.

It was a windy afternoon as the Bears and No. 40 Bulldogs faced off in singles play, and only Lenz captured a victory in two sets with a win over No. 46 Alen Salibasic 6-1, 6-1. The rest of the matches won by Baylor went into three sets, and Rios shook off a 6-2 loss in the opening set to come back and win 6-2, 6-2 in the last two sets.

All eyes looked to court three as Lupieri took down No. 30 Ben Lott in three sets 6-2, 4-6, 6-1 for the match-winning point. Even though the wind caused for imperfect playing conditions, Knoll said there was no loss of energy.

"No matter what happens, [the guys] don't want to lose the match," Knoll said. "When the chips are down, they're going to dig in and find a way to win, and they did that."

The Bears host Louisiana-Lafayette on Thursday before heading to the USTA \$100,000 RBC Tennis Championships from Jan. 31 to Feb. 7. The match starts at 3 p.m. at the Hawkins Indoor Tennis Center.



SKYE DUNCAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

By CODY SOTO
SPORTS WRITER

WOMEN'S

No. 9 Baylor women's tennis has kicked off the 2015 spring season with a bang. After a close 4-3 upset of then-No. 5 Georgia on Jan. 18, the Lady Bears held their own as they hosted and defeated No. 5 Virginia on Saturday by a score of 6-1.

Unlike the matchup versus Georgia, Baylor (2-0) had an early 2-0 advantage heading into doubles play against the Cavaliers. Two of Virginia's players, including No. 1 Julia Elbaba, did not compete against the Lady Bears with the flu.

"We were up 2-0, and we've been up to 2-0 in a lot of matches. You've just got to play them out," head coach Joey Scrivano said. "The girls did a great job though. They were very focused. The players that Virginia had out there were starters on a national championship caliber team."

Senior Ema Burgic and sophomore Blair Shankle defeated No. 11-ranked duo Cassie Mercer and Skylar Morton 6-4 to clinch the doubles point. Junior Kiah Generette and freshman Theresa Van Zyl fell in a close 7-6 match against Stephanie Nauta and Maci Epstein.

stien. "We started off slow in doubles because in the back of your mind you're thinking, 'We only need to win two more matches,' so it was hard to focus," Burgic said. "But all the girls came out and showed who we are. We're good enough to beat anyone in the country."

With automatic wins at No. 5 and No. 6 singles, the Lady Bears only needed one win to claim the win over their second straight top 5 opponent. UVA's lone point came at the No. 4 spot after freshman Leolia JeanJean got a code violation and dropped the match 6-3, 3-0.

No. 72 Shankle gave the match-winning point to Baylor after taking down Skylar Morton 6-2, 6-2 on court one after serving up an ace for the final point. No. 72 Burgic defeated No. 16 Nauta 6-2, 6-2 at the No. 1 position, and Generette ended the matchup in an exciting fashion with a 6-0, 6-7 (8-10), 1-0 (10-6) win over Maci Epstein.

With the 2-0 start, the Lady Bears are heading in the right direction with two top 5 wins early in the season. Scrivano and his team will plan on building on that success as they look to host six straight home matches in two weeks.

"It's a good thing because our players know they can compete with anyone in the country," Scrivano said. "But it's early, so we've got to keep working and try to get better."

Baylor will host Pittsburgh and Texas-Pan American at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Friday at the Hawkins Indoor Tennis Center in Waco. The Lady Bears will look to win its third-straight match.

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