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WE'RE THERE WHEN YOU CAN'T BE



On ARTS, page 5: See what's coming up at the Grammy Awards on Sunday.

Friday | February 6, 2015

Senate recommends new syllabus policy

By MADISON MILLER
REPORTER

Student Senate unanimously passed a bill Thursday that recommending departments upload to Canvas or the department's website a syllabus for each course prior to registration.

According to the bill, which was authored by Las Vegas junior Gilbert Ruiz and Coppell junior Dustan Dendy II, the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Florida provide open syllabuses for students for the purpose of examining the class's workload prior

to registering.

There is already an established precedent of what implementing the bill would look like in the mathematics department that includes sample syllabuses for many courses.

The bill proposed that each department decides whether it wants to provide a syllabus for each class specific to the professor or a generalized syllabus for each specific course.

"It's not going to give you any definitive information," Ruiz said. "It's there to give you a broad sense of what the class is going to offer."

The syllabuses will provide information regarding books, what all the course is going to offer and the tentative course schedule.

Ruiz said he does not plan on it being a really complicated bill, but the implementation of the bill could be trickier due to possible technicalities such as website problems or willingness to provide the generalized syllabuses.

From here, Ruiz said the bill goes to Student Body President Dominic Edwards for approval.

If the bill gains Edwards' approval, it will be forwarded to Matt Burchett, director of student activ-

ities, and Dr. Kevin Jackson, vice president for student life.

There is no set time for this bill to be implemented and for the departments to have the syllabuses uploaded.

"I didn't want to make a timetable," Ruiz said. "That makes it an extra task for professors and department heads."

According to the bill, a better understanding of course expectations would lower overall class drop rates which would help with the freshman retention rate, and

SEE SENATE, page 4



Student senators discuss a bill that recommends a university-wide policy that professors or departments upload syllabi before each semester.



JESS SCHURZ | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

'Schindler's List' flutist brings out fellow musicians

Baylor School of Music hosted the renowned flutist Marianna Gedigian on Thursday night at Roxy Grove Hall. Gedigian was a regular performer with the Boston Symphony Orchestra for over a decade. She is also featured in many of John Williams' most recognizable movie scores, including "Saving Private Ryan" and "Schindler's List."

GOP sees Bush as 'rising star'

By WILL WEISSERT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — George P. Bush's new job as Texas land commissioner has nothing to do with abortion, and it lacks any authority to funnel public dollars to private schools. But after barely 30 days in office, he's already headlined high-profile rallies on both issues.

The 38-year-old has a political surname far better known than his obscure office, which administers Texas' vast public lands and mineral rights.

Though he insists he's not yet eyeing any moves up Texas' political ladder, the newest Bush in politics has wasted no time becoming a leading voice for top conservative causes and seizing the spotlight in a state already full of powerful Republicans.

"He's a rising star in our state and nationally," said Matt Mackowiak, a Republican strategist based in Austin. "He's going to be in very high demand this year. They're going to have to get good at saying

no." His grandfather and an uncle are former presidents.

In the past, the land commissioner's post has led to loftier political heights in Texas. David Dewhurst served in it before his 12 years as lieutenant governor, which ended last month. Bush's more immediate goal might be to buoy his father, former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, if he seeks the White House in 2016.

The son could help the father build a political beachhead in Texas, where Jeb Bush's brother and George P. Bush's uncle, George W. Bush, served as governor from 1995 until becoming president in 2000. It's also a state where Jeb Bush may have to battle two Texans with probable presidential designs: former Gov. Rick Perry and tea party-backed Sen. Ted Cruz. Another likely GOP candidate, Sen. Rand Paul, represents Kentucky but grew up in Texas.

George P. Bush has "always been viewed as inevitable for a national position, and I think he's acted deliberately and very astutely in everything he's done," said Daniel Garza, executive director of the Libre Initiative, which has collected millions of dollars from the billionaire industrialist Koch brothers and seeks to promote conservative val-

SEE BUSH, page 4



Bush

Firm brings Olympians to campus

By RACHEL LELAND
STAFF WRITER

Thursday night Two Olympic athletes inspired students with stories of endurance and teamwork.

Deloitte, one of the world's largest professional service firms that assists both companies and individuals with tax audits, brought the two Olympians to Baylor as part of a recruiting event.

The Olympians, paratriathlon runner Melissa Stockwell and nordic combined gold medal win-

ner Billy Demong, spoke of the leadership at the event which is part of Deloitte's recruiting strategy to hire 20,000 people by the end of the 2015 fiscal year.

Deloitte, one of the largest recruiters in the country, approached the Olympians, both of whom have been pioneers in making Olympic firsts, because leadership and endurance are skills the company wants to attract in its hiring.

Demong was the first American Olympian to win a gold medal in a nordic event. Stockwell, whose leg was blown off by

a roadside bomb during her 2004 deployment in Iraq, became the first Iraq War Veteran chosen to compete in the Paralympic Games.

"I had gone all my life with two legs," Stockwell said. "Suddenly I was missing one. The first thing was learning to walk and then to be independent again, and after I was able to do that then athletics came to mind."

After the bomb went off, Stockwell was sent to a medical center in central Baghdad before being transferred to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Wash-

ington DC.

"Their mission is to get you out of your hospital bed and get you to do things that you didn't think you could do with two legs, much less with one," Stockwell said.

Stockwell completed the New York City marathon on a hand-powered bike six months after she lost her leg.

"I thought if I can do these, I can do anything," Stockwell said.

Stockwell, along with her service dog, Jake, took the stage at

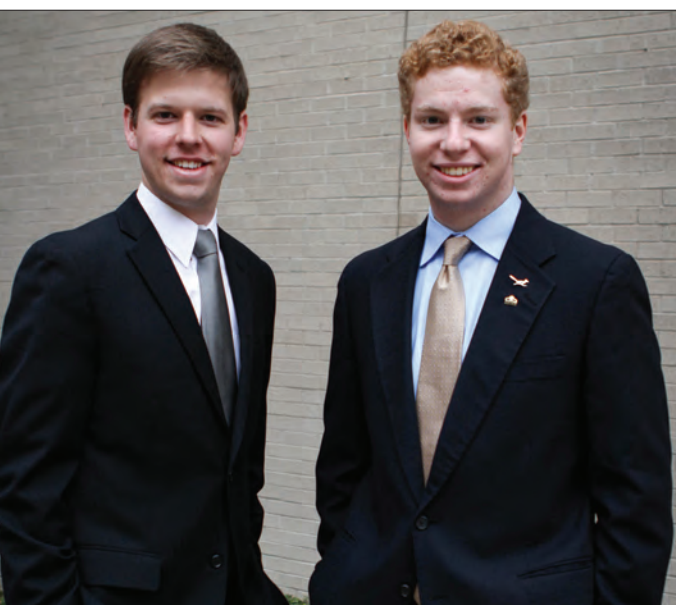
SEE OLYMPICS, page 4



SKYE DUNCAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

Par for the course: A hole-in-NoZe

A NoZe Brother plays campus golf in Fountain Mall on Thursday afternoon. The NoZe Brotherhood is a secretive group that usually up to shenanigans and commonly thought to be behind the spray painted noses around campus. The brothers publish "The Rope," a satirical publication.



JESS SCHURZ | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Texarkana, Ar. junior Daniel Pellegrin is Baylor's acting Deputy Chief Justice and Roswell, N.M. junior Cody Coll is Baylor's acting Chief Justice.

Justices hope to rule in favor of BU future

By SHANON BARBOUR
REPORTER

Student Court will hear proceedings on the first case of the semester on Feb. 16.

Roswell, N.M. junior Cody Coll, chief justice, and Texarkana, Ark. junior Daniel Pellegrin, deputy chief justice, will attend the hearings along with the other seven justices and the three individuals involved in the case.

Student Court is the judicial branch of student government. The court consists of a chief jus-

stice, eight associate justices, one court clerk and one assistant court clerk.

"We do have the power to issue written and oral reprimands, as well as some other forms of sanction," Coll said. "We can suspend an organization, suspend a member from participation in co-curricular activities and we can recommend that further action be taken by Judicial Affairs."

In the first case of the semes-

SEE COLL, page 4

#WarmUpWaco

Give your neighbors your coats, your socks, your love

Editorial

As one of the leading Christian universities internationally, serving others is constantly at the forefront of our agenda. From installing water wells on the eastern coasts of Africa to teaching languages in the uttermost parts of South America, mission work is a constant goal we strive for.

Sometimes, however, we often forget that helping our neighbors here in Waco is just as beneficial as reaching out internationally. Many times, it's easier to see the needs of the people who live down the street. In the midst of winter, a need at the forefront is clear — winter coats and accessories for the those who can't afford them.

It seems throughout the hustle and bustle of our busy lives, it's easy for concept of being neighborly gets lost. With daily struggles of trying to balance classes, extracurricular activities, work and friends, the lives of students can get hectic. But students need to remember that in spite of how busy our lives can become, there's something more important.

One of the greatest commandments, according to Mark 12:31, is to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. This is, Jesus said, the second greatest commandment of all, the first being to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and

strength. The second commandment can be taxing. It can take a lot of time and energy to serve others around us. It's not always easy for us to give up money we make in college or schedule volunteer activities around our crazy schedules. However, is it because

Bring new or gently used coats, gloves, hats and socks to the room 232 in Castellaw Communications Center. For more information on donating socks, hats, gloves or a coat, go to the Lariat's Twitter (@bulariat) and search the hashtag #WarmUpWaco.

we're too busy that we tend to avoid volunteering or is it just more convenient to ignore the fact we actually can?

In accordance with the mission of the university, we are challenging the Baylor community to reflect and respond to the need to help our neighbors. We would like to extend an invitation to assist the homeless community by donating winter coats, gloves, socks and hats to those who need them.

The definition of homeless, ac-

ording to the city of Waco's website, is "an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence." Even people who sleep in shelters can be homeless. However, some homeless people end up sleeping outside. Even shelters could get cold at night.

Imagine the gloves you no longer use. Imagine earmuffs you haven't used in years. Imagine the scarf that you don't necessarily need. Giving these items would help achieve Baylor's mission to serve others.

When it comes to helping others, especially those within the homeless population, it seems many have several reservations to do so. Many of these reservations unfortunately, are bound solely by myths and half-truths.

And while many make comments such as "It's their fault they're in that situation," and "they need to just get a job," it's important to remember that many of them suffer from mental illnesses and other handicaps that can restrict them from having steady jobs. It is difficult to get a job without a permanent residence or telephone.

Before judging the homeless population, consider the fact they're people too. They are our neighbors, and they can use our help — giving clothes for warmth is a simple and practical way to extend to them the servant's hand.



ASHER FREEMAN

How I See It

A weekly column by Jonathon S. Platt

Gag me, we got served.

The Lariat got served a gag order Thursday. Upon seeing it, I was at a complete loss for words.

Section two of our new-found gift says, "No member of the press shall make intentional contact with any member of the Court regarding the case aforementioned..."

This court-ordered suspension bars the Lariat from contacting members of Baylor's student court, except in "procedural" and "substantive" matters, while McCahill, Hardy v. Kinghorn is being heard



Jonathon S. Platt | News editor

tionally come back to the conversation of religious freedom, which is constitutionally each American's First Amendment right.

People claim that their Christianity is attacked by having Muslim literature in public school. And other people claim that their lack of religion is infringed upon by the words "under God" in our national pledge.

But we are each guaranteed a legitimate right to worship, or not worship, whatever religion we want. Religious views cannot be trampled.

That same amendment says Americans can peacefully speak their mind.

Some say President Barack Obama is a socialist, Islamic extremist from Kenya. Some said during President George W. Bush's terms that he was the devil in the White House. Both statements are in each camp's unalienable rights.

Over the past six months, the nation watched as protesters assembled peacefully against the killings of unarmed minorities by police officers. Student activists even marched through the middle of our own campus.

That's fully in their First Amendment rights.

And remember two years ago

when thousands signed a petition for Texas to secede from the Union?

Each signature was perfectly protected.

At Baylor we're required to take an American Constitutionalism class, so we all already know this. Each of these rights is drilled into our heads from the beginning of our education.

Yet it seems that the fifth piece of our First Amendment has been forgotten. While journalists are being subpoenaed, imprisoned and targeted, few cries are going out about these infringements.

I've written about this issue before, but from national and international perspectives. But now it's in my backyard. And I'm putting my foot down.

The Lariat and all other newspapers publish freely based on the same document that lets activists march, speakers express, the religious worship, the accused speak and gun activists tote.

But it seems that my industry's segment of our Constitution has been forgotten. I'm not going to stand for it.

So here's my "intentional contact" to all who attempt to silence journalists, at Baylor and abroad: My pursuit to report is constitutionally protected and intimidation will not stop me. Try, but I'll be dead before I stop this work.

And that's firmly how I see it.

Jonathon S. Platt is a junior journalism major from Kilgore. He is the news editor and a weekly columnist for the Lariat. He also authors the Lariat blog "From the Wire."

Lariat Letters

Baylor needs more trash receptacles

Although Baylor has dipped its toe into many wonderful outlets that promote environmental sustainability, such as recycling bins for plastic and paper, there has become a lack of trash receptacles on campus.

This has become a problem not just for myself, but for many others primarily because many are not educated on items that qualify as recyclable. Food waste is one of the main issues in regards to this problem.

Many recycling companies refuse to treat products that still have remnants of food left on them. My point of concern is this: students all over campus with food they need to throw away are finding it extremely

frustrating to find a place to put it.

Recycling has a beneficial and positive impact on the environment, but when there are only a few scattered receptacles to put waste in, there is a problem. Adding one or two to high-traffic areas (like Fountain Mall) would be great.

I want to be able to walk around campus hands free, not wasting time going from building to building trying to find a place for my trash.

— Hannah Lemieux
Denver freshman
Journalism major

The Lariat Challenge

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Sign up for the Lariat's Daily Headlines and you may win a Lariat T-shirt and mug! Enter this contest by clicking on the red button on the right side of baylorlariat.com.

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.

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.

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ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jordanians chant slogans to show their support for the government against terror during a rally Thursday in Amman, Jordan. Jordan warplanes bombed Islamic State targets Thursday, state TV said, after Jordan's King Abdullah II vowed to wage a "harsh" war against the militants who control large areas of Syria and Iraq.

Jordan launches series of new airstrikes in war on IS

KARIN LAUB AND
MOHAMMED DARAGHMEH
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AMMAN, Jordan — Dozens of Jordanian fighter jets bombed Islamic State training centers and weapons storage sites Thursday, intensifying attacks after the militants burned to death a captured Jordanian pilot.

As part of the new campaign, Jordan is also attacking targets in Iraq, said Foreign Minister Nasser Judeh. Up to now, Jordan had struck IS targets in Syria, but not Iraq, as part of a U.S.-led military coalition.

"We said we are going to take this all the way, we are going to go after them wherever they are and we're doing that," Judeh told Fox News.

Asked if Jordan was now carrying out attacks in both countries, he said: "That's right. Today more Syria than Iraq, but like I said it's an ongoing effort."

"They're in Iraq and they are in Syria and therefore you have to target them wherever they are," he added.

The militant group controls about one-third of each Syria and Iraq, both neighbors of Jordan. In

September, Jordan joined the U.S.-led military alliance that has been carrying out air strikes against the militants.

The Jordanian military said dozens of fighter jets were involved in Thursday's strikes on training centers and weapons storage sites.

State TV showed footage of the attacks, including fighter jets taking off from an air base and bombs setting off large balls of fire and smoke after impact. It showed Jordanian troops scribble messages in chalk on the missiles. "For you, the enemies of Islam," read one message.

The military's statement, read on state TV, was titled "This is the beginning and you will get to know the Jordanians" — an apparent warning to IS. It said the strikes will continue "until we eliminate them."

Jordan's King Abdullah II was paying a condolence visit to the family of the pilot, Lt. Muath al-Kaseasbeh, in southern Jordan when the fighter jets roared overhead.

The king pointed upward, toward the planes, as he sat next to the pilot's father, Safi al-Kaseasbeh.

Al-Kaseasbeh told the assembled mourners that the planes had returned from strikes over Raqqa, the de facto capital of the militants' self-declared caliphate. His son had been captured near Raqqa when his F-16 fighter plane went down in December.

Earlier this week, Islamic State displayed the video of the killing of the pilot on outdoor screens in Raqqa, to chants of "God is Great" from some in the audience, according to another video posted by the militants.

Also Thursday, Jordan released an influential jihadi cleric, Abu Mohammed al-Maqdesi, who was detained in October after speaking out against Jordan's participation in the anti-IS coalition, according to his lawyer, Moussa al-Abdallat.

Jordan's Islamic militants are split between supporters of Islamic State and Jabhat al-Nusra, the branch of al-Qaida in Syria.

Last year, al-Maqdesi had criticized Islamic State militants for attacking fellow Muslims. However, after Jordan joined the military coalition, he called on his website for Muslim unity against a "crusader war," a reference to coalition airstrikes.

2 dead in murder-suicide at University of South Carolina

JEFFREY COLLINS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBIA, S.C.— Two people died Thursday in an apparent murder-suicide inside a building on the University of South Carolina's campus in busy downtown Columbia.

The shooting happened about 1 p.m. Thursday as students were changing classes. Even as police cars with sirens blaring rushed to the new School of Public Health and the university sent out an alert that everyone should stay inside, people were walking around the sprawling campus.

State Law Enforcement Division spokesman Thom Berry said the shooting was "very isolated" but he wouldn't say who was involved, whether it was a student, professor or someone else.

One of Columbia's main streets was closed, causing massive traffic problems. Security was increased at the Statehouse about two blocks away.

By the time the sun set, the increased security was gone and roads were reopened. A number of officers remained at the public health building, many of them crime-scene technicians.

Berry refused to release the names of the dead or their relationship. He also wouldn't specify where the shooting took place beyond a room in the building, not saying if it was an office or a



ASSOCIATED PRESS

People react following a shooting Thursday at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, S.C. Police officers determined the shooting was a murder-suicide, which took place in the School of Public Health building.

classroom.

University President Harris Pastides sent a letter that was texted to students and others, calling the day a great tragedy, thanking the police for their fast response and sending his prayers to everyone affected.

School officials told professors not to penalize students who failed to show up for afternoon classes.

Student Hayden Dunn, a senior from Myrtle Beach, said he was in the building about 1 p.m., getting in an elevator to change classes, when a police officer also got inside. Dunn said the officer asked whether anyone had heard gunshots, but they hadn't. Dunn said he went to class, then an

alarm sounded minutes later, and people rushed outside. Another officer told him shots had been fired, he said.

"Otherwise, you wouldn't have known anything happened," Dunn said.

Workers and others fled the building after police told them to evacuate and they went inside other buildings wherever they could, said Barbara Reager, an administrative assistant who works nearby.

"They had no time to get their keys, to pick up their purses," Reager said by phone.

The university texted alerts and also interrupted programming on its cable system to warn students and others to stay inside.

Co-chairman of Sony Pictures steps down in aftermath of hack

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — Amy Pascal will step down as co-chairman of Sony Pictures Entertainment and head of the film studio, nearly three months after a massive hack hit the company and revealed embarrassing emails.

Pascal, one of the most powerful women in Hollywood and the force behind such critical and commercial hits as "The Social Network" and "American Hustle," will launch a major new production venture at the studio focused on movies, television and theater, Sony Pictures said Thursday. Her career with Sony has spanned nearly 20 years.

During the hack, Pascal came under fire for racist remarks about President Obama's presumed choice in movies that surfaced in

leaked emails. She apologized for "insensitive and inappropriate" comments in her emails that she called "not an accurate reflection of who I am." Pascal also faced criticism for green-lighting the film that may have inspired the hacking to begin with: "The Interview," which starred Seth Rogen and James Franco as bumbling journalists tasked with killing North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

Pascal will transition to the new venture in May. Sony Pictures will finance Pascal under a four-year contract and retain all distribution rights worldwide to funded films. The venture will be located at the Sony Pictures lot in Culver

City, California. "The studio's legacy is due in large part to Amy's passion for storytelling and love of this industry. I am delighted that Amy will be continuing her association with SPE through this new venture, which capitalizes on her extraordinary talents," said Sony Entertainment CEO Michael Lynton in a statement. "In recent months, SPE faced some unprecedented challenges, and I am grateful for Amy's resilience and grace during this period."



Pascal

Since Pascal has led the studio, Sony Pictures has amassed over \$46 billion in global theatrical box office revenue and 315 academy award nominations.

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JESS SCHURZ | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Bear cub in training

Peter Grandjean, son of professor & director of Baylor laboratories for exercise and science technology, Pete Grandjean, lets out a Sic 'em on top of the balcony at the Bill Daniels Student Union Building. Peter stood on the balcony for a couple of hours, yelling out, "Sic 'em" to students as they passed by.

BUSH from Page 1

statement emailed by spokesman J.R. Hernandez. "And just as I did during my campaign, I will continue to advocate on behalf of these deeply held values."

Still, he's been a part of national Republican campaigns since before he hit puberty. At age 12, Bush opened the party's 1988 convention by leading the Pledge of Allegiance. That was where grandfather George H.W. Bush accepted the party's presidential nomination. He addressed subsequent GOP conventions in 1992, 2000 and 2004.

In addition to campaigning around the country, Bush went

to Mexico in 2004 to promote his uncle's presidential re-election among expatriate Americans. Indeed, wooing Hispanic voters is where Bush could pack the biggest political punch: His mother, Columba, was born in Mexico, and he speaks fluent Spanish.

Hispanics make up about 35 percent of residents in Texas, where a Democrat has not won statewide office since 1994. Bush carried virtually every demographic against only token opposition in the land commissioner's race. New Gov. Greg Abbott captured only about a third of the Hispanic vote.

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ter, the court must reach a resolution to the lawsuit brought against Katy junior Lawren Kinghorn.

The suit was filed by Woodinville, Wash., junior Gannon McCahill and San Antonio junior Chase Hardy.

A decision must be reached within five class days after the end of the hearings against Kinghorn.

Student Court deals with cases involving students and organizations that do not involve the Baylor Honor Code, such as the Interfraternity and Pan-Hellenic councils.

"There's usually a concentration of cases, typically two or three right in a row together

during the week of Dia due to the Student Government general elections taking place at that time," Coll said. "There are usually disputes and appeals coming from the Electoral Commission."

The Electoral Commission manages and supervises all elections and nominations for the student body.

The court doesn't have the authority to deal with cases involving professors, staff or other administrative members.

Pellegrin said the court has the authority to make recommendations to Judicial Affairs. These recommendations can include conducting investigations and

SENATE from Page 1

allow students to more accurately balance out their total course workload.

"I actually really like the idea," said Austin junior Megan Lawyer. "It will help you get organized for the semester ahead of time as well as know what materials you will need for the course."

While this was the only bill voted on during the meeting, the senate discussed briefly other initiatives within Student Government such as alumni and student career engagement, which include networking opportunities for students.

carrying out expulsions.

"I would have to say that the majority of the student body doesn't realize the role that student government plays on campus and in their day to day lives as students of the university," Coll said.

On Wednesday the court's nine members voted to bar the press, including the Lariat, from contacting all members of Student Court with the exception of contacting Coll.

"This was a decision that Dan and I came to that the court voted upon last night," Coll said. "Primarily just to protect the court and the justices."

OLYMPICS from Page 1

the recruiting event to inspire students with her resolve to endure and win despite circumstances.

Choosing to push through the loss of her leg above the knee was no small feat, Stockwell said.

"I had two paths. One path was poor me. The other path was being thankful for what I did have and not letting it stop me from doing what I wanted," Stockwell said.

Demong entertained the audience by demonstrating the preparation for the ski jump part of the nordic combined.

The Nordic combined is a winter sport that combines cross-country skiing with ski jumping.

Demong, who did not come from a family of skiers, recalled the beginning of his career when he and some other guys from his hometown in upstate New York formed a cross-country team.

The importance of teamwork

was a major theme in Demong's speech, especially since the nordic combined is not a sport in which American athletes have done well.

"We are a small sport in a big country, and in order to get better we had to be together and that really evolved into becoming a team that was so well bonded together that the egos came out of it," Demong said.

"It really became about pushing each other to be the best that you can be to make the other guys better."

Demong, a soon to be father of two who has competed at the world cup level since 1997, does not plan to compete in the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeong Chang, South Korea.

Stockwell said she hopes to take gold at the first ever Olympic paratriathlon in the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Famed TV news anchor fighting for reputation

By DAVID BAUDER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — NBC News anchor Brian Williams found himself the story Thursday, his credibility seriously threatened because he claimed — falsely — that he had been in a helicopter hit by a grenade during the Iraq war.

NBC News officials would not say whether their top on-air personality would face disciplinary action. The "Nightly News" anchor for just over a decade, Williams had become an online punching bag overnight.

Tweets with the hashtag #BrianWilliamsMemories joked that he blew up the Death Star, saved someone from a polar bear and flew with Wonder Woman in her invisible helicopter. Photoshopped pictures showed Williams reporting from the moon, and riding shotgun with O.J. Simpson in his Ford Bronco.



ASSOCIATED PRESS
Brian Williams at the 2012 Cantor Fitzgerald Charity Day event in New York. NBC "Nightly News" anchor Williams has admitted he spread a false story about being on a helicopter that came under enemy fire.

"How could you expect anyone who served in the military to ever see this guy onscreen again and not feel contempt? How could you expect anyone to believe he or the broadcast he leads has any credibility?" wrote critic David Zurawik of the Baltimore Sun.

Williams apologized Wednesday for telling the story a week earlier during a "Nightly News" tribute to a veteran he had befriended during a 2003 reporting trip to Iraq. Before expressing his regrets on the air, Williams did so online and in an interview with the newspaper Stars & Stripes.

He speculated online that constant viewing of video showing him inspecting the damaged helicopter "and the fog of memory over 12 years, made me conflate the two, and I apologize."

But in a 2008 blog post, Williams said that his helicopter had come under fire from what appeared to be Iraqi farmers with RPGs. He said a helicopter in front of his had been hit.

Then, in a 2013 appearance on David Letterman's "Late Show," Williams said that two of the four helicopters he was traveling with had been hit by ground fire, "including the one I was in."

"No kidding?" Letterman interjected.

Williams described making a quick, hard landing in the middle of the desert.

hit by the grenade, Krell said that all three aircraft were hit by small arms fire.

He seemed to take Williams' account in stride. "After a while, with combat stories, you just go 'whatever,'" Krell said.

Many people have embellished war stories, in the local tavern or on a national stage. During the 2008 campaign, Hillary Clinton was derided for saying she came under sniper fire when, as first lady, she arrived at a military base in Bosnia. Her representatives said she had misspoken.

Williams' immediate issue is whether or not people believe his apology, a particular problem in an industry where credibility is crucial.

"How could you expect anyone to believe he or the broadcast he leads has any credibility?"

David Zurawik | Baltimore Sun

"I have to treat you now with renewed respect," Letterman said. "That's a tremendous story."

Williams' story was first questioned in posts to the "Nightly News" Facebook page.

It's a touchy topic: Members of the military who are wounded or who come under enemy fire consider themselves members of a special kind of brotherhood and don't like people who try to intrude, said retired U.S. Army Col. Pete Mansoor, a professor of military history at Ohio State University.

"It smacks of stolen valor," Mansoor said — an offense that Williams specifically denied in his online apology.

Rich Krell, who piloted the helicopter Williams was flying in that day, told CNN Thursday that there were three helicopters in formation, not four. Although the helicopter in front of Williams was

"It's pretty difficult to believe," Mansoor said. "I remember every time I was under fire in Iraq, especially if your vehicle is an aircraft that's been hit. That's something that gets seared into your memory for all time."

The New York Daily News labeled his apology a fake. "So what if it was 12 years ago," wrote TV editor Don Kaplan. "I remember getting hit in the head with a rock by a kid in the third grade."

Williams has an out-sized image at NBC News: the blue-collar Jersey guy and witty celebrity who "slow jams" the news with The Roots on Jimmy Fallon's "Tonight" show. He hasn't had credibility problems before and he consistently leads in the ratings, making him an outlier at a network where the "Today" show and "Meet the Press" have slipped from their lofty perch as rating champions.

It's up to NBC News President Deborah Turness to decide whether Williams will be punished in any way. She has the reputations

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Arts & Entertainment

Friday | February 6, 2015

5

The Baylor Lariat



For the record (and the win) Competition heats up for Grammys season once again

By Rae Jefferson | A&E Editor

The biggest names in music will gather for the 57th annual Grammy Awards Show Sunday. The program, hosted by rapper LL Cool J, will award Grammys to musicians for achievements in more than 80 musical categories. Here are a few:

ALBUM OF THE YEAR

1. "Morning Phase" by Beck
2. "Beyoncé" by Beyoncé
3. "X" by Ed Sheeran
4. "In the Lonely Hour" by Sam Smith
5. "Girl" by Pharrell Williams

BEST NEW ARTIST

1. Iggy Azalea
2. Bastille
3. Brandy Clark
4. Haim
5. Sam Smith

RECORD OF THE YEAR

1. "Fancy" by Iggy Azalea, featuring Charli XCX
2. "Chandelier" by Sia
3. "Stay With Me (Darkchild Version)" by Sam Smith
4. "Shake It Off" by Taylor Swift
5. "All About That Bass" by Meghan Trainor

BEST ROCK ALBUM

1. "Ryan Adams" by Ryan Adams
2. "Morning Phase" by Beck
3. "Turn Blue" by The Black Keys
4. "Hypnotic Eye" by Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers
5. "Songs of Innocence" by U2

BEST RAP PERFORMANCE

1. "3005" by Childish Gambino
2. "0 To 100/ The Catch Up" by Drake
3. "Rap God" by Eminem
4. "I" by Kendrick Lamar
5. "All I Need Is You" by Lecrae

RECORD OF THE YEAR

1. "Riser" by Dierks Bentley
2. "The Outsiders" by Eric Church
3. "12 Stories" by Brandy Clark
4. "Platinum" by Miranda Lambert
5. "The Way I'm Livin'" by Lee Ann Womack



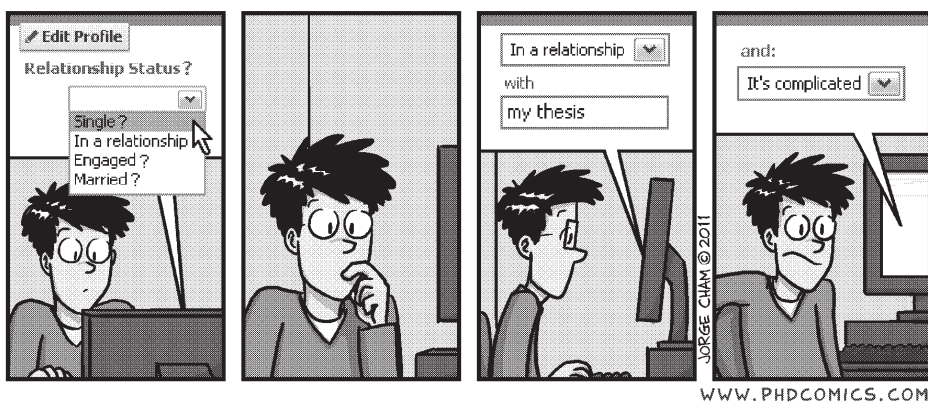
2015 Grammy Performances

- AC/DC
- Beck
- Tony Bennett
- Mary J. Blige
- Eric Church
- Brandy Clark
- Common
- Ariana Grande
- Herbie Hancock
- Hozier
- Jessie J
- Tom Jones
- Juanes
- Lady Gaga
- Miranda Lambert
- Lang Lang
- John Legend
- Annie Lennox
- Adam Levine
- Jeff Lynne's ELO
- Madonna
- Paul McCartney
- Chris Martin
- John Mayer
- Katy Perry
- Questlove
- Rihanna
- Ed Sheeran
- Sia
- Sam Smith
- Gwen Stefani
- Usher
- Kanye West
- Pharrell Williams
- Dwight Yoakam

Tune in to the Grammys on CBS at 7 p.m. Sunday.

Dozens of artists, including Sam Smith (from top), Sia and Beyoncé will perform live at the 57th annual Grammy Awards. The program, to be hosted by LL Cool J, is airing on CBS at 7 p.m. on Sunday.

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DAILY PUZZLES

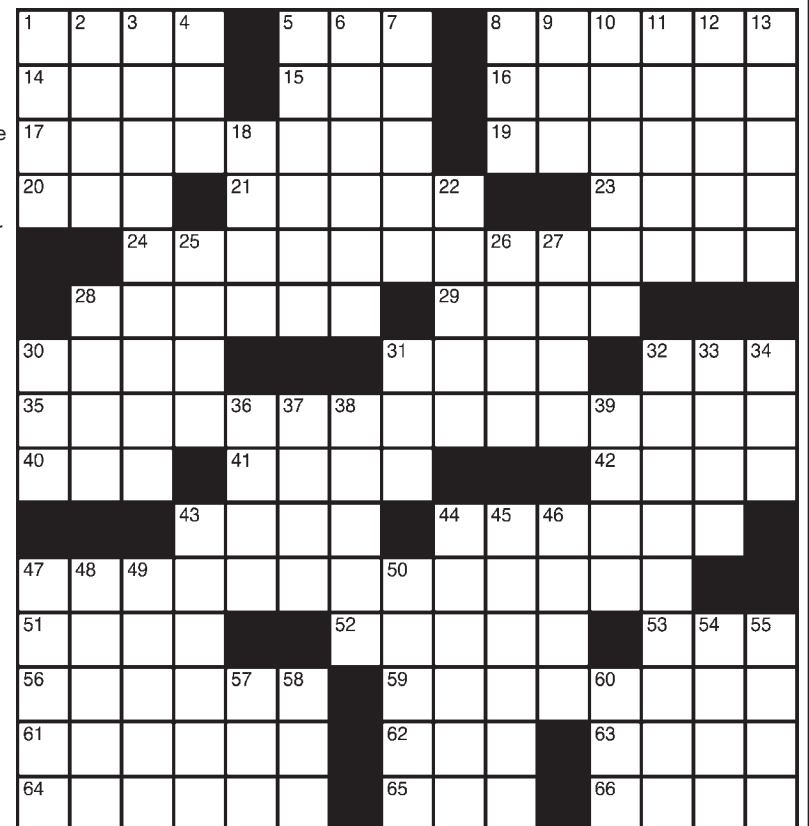
Answers at www.baylorlariat.com

Across

- 1 Parlor action
- 5 Dorm peer leaders: Abbr.
- 8 Lidless container
- 14 Palm that produces purple berries
- 15 CPR giver
- 16 Missouri River city
- 17 "You don't look a day over 29," probably
- 19 One may use a teleprompter
- 20 IM guffaw
- 21 Hustled
- 23 Points in math class
- 24 Didn't come to pass
- 28 Chorus for the villain
- 29 "Dang!"
- 30 Fellow
- 31 Drink with sushi
- 32 Cow or sow
- 35 Flooring phrase
- 40 Promos
- 41 General organization?
- 42 Tetra holder
- 43 Reining word
- 44 "Given the circumstances ..."
- 47 So as not to be noticed
- 51 Stories of the ages
- 52 Invalidate
- 53 Vacation destination
- 56 Wanted badly
- 59 Device for exposing the end of 17-, 24-, 35- or 47-Across
- 61 ___ Pie
- 62 Great Basin native
- 63 Orkin victim
- 64 Pull out of the water
- 65 TD's half-dozen
- 66 Gorillas, e.g.

Down

- 1 Go through a lot of tissues
- 2 Tunnel effect
- 3 Help from behind
- 4 Gather dust
- 5 "I can ___"
- 6 ___ curiae: friend of the court
- 7 Tough to climb



- 8 Nav. noncom
- 9 Word before base or ball
- 10 Kingdoms
- 11 Skywalker associate, familiarly
- 12 Monastic garment
- 13 Inducing the willies
- 18 Sea eagles
- 22 Kitchen dweller of song
- 25 Spanish 101 verb
- 26 Cook quickly, in a way
- 27 Half-note feature
- 28 Obey
- 30 Campus no.
- 31 Farm home
- 32 Unit between levels
- 33 Prince in "Frozen"
- 34 Large grazer
- 36 Cowardly Lion player
- 37 Bouncy pace
- 38 Missouri River city
- 39 Sundance Kid's girlfriend
- 43 Boll eater
- 44 Actor Will of "The Lego Movie"
- 45 Many diner dishes
- 46 Not working
- 47 Stress-related ailment, possibly
- 48 Language on a longship
- 49 16th-century circumnavigator
- 50 Turn out
- 54 Prepare for a shot
- 55 Song and dance
- 57 Former Abbey Road Studios owner
- 58 "GoodFellas" boss
- 60 IRA suggester

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3				5		8	
		9			3		
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			5			9	
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8	5	4					

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Softball ready to build forward

By CODY SOTO
SPORTS WRITER

With a whirlwind of several sports happening at the same time, another joins the mix with the debut of a new year at Gettman Stadium. No. 10 Baylor softball kicks off its 2015 season today at 3 p.m. against Wichita State with a mix of old and new players on the roster.

Head coach Glenn Moore looks to shake off doubt of his team after losing All-American pitcher Whitney Reichenstein, formerly Whitney Canion. The senior pitcher was the leader for last year's team in the diamond, pitching her way into Baylor school history in her six years on the roster. But now, it's time for the Bears to prove they're not a one-woman show.

Baylor has posted unprecedented success with Moore at the helm in 14 years as head coach. He has led the Bears to three Women's College World Series appearances, most recently in 2014.

"We're a young team, but we had young experience in the World Series last year that was very successful. That's going to be valuable to us this year," Moore said.

After graduating major contributors at pitcher, first base and catcher, the Bears will have to prove they can maintain the same level of success as during the Canion era. The 2015 roster is primarily underclassmen, but for Moore and his staff, the key is utilizing the senior leadership on this young team.

"We're going to be one to compete with this season," junior pitcher Heather Stearns said. "We have some great young girls coming in that are going to immediately have a huge impact, and the senior leadership has been awesome. We're returning eight or nine girls that played in the World Series, so that'll help the younger girls come along."

Senior outfielder Kaitlyn Thumann and senior shortstop Jordan Strickland will be crucial parts of the puzzle. Thumann led the team last season in hitting (.373) while setting a single-season record of 60 runs, including the winning run against Kentucky in the World Series on May 31.

Although Thumann said it's a significant memory, she's not going to let the strong finish get in the way of focusing on this season.

"Right now, we're just focusing on that first game," she said. "You have to get off that high and start focusing on this season. It's definitely a different year with different girls. The experience, will help propel our team with a lot of our starters coming back, but we're focusing on this year and chan-



KEVIN FREEMAN | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Baylor gathers at home plate to celebrate a home run against Oklahoma on April 11, 2014. The Bears will look to qualify for their second-straight WCWS appearance in 2015 and third in five seasons.

neling our energy we all had into this season and program."

Strickland joins Thumann in terms of experience, leadership and grit. The shortstop from Princeton led the Bears with 14 home runs in 2014 and was named to the WCWS All-Tournament Team for her strong performance. Strickland is also the all-time leader in postseason wins heading into her fourth year on the roster. While being a senior has its perks, it brings a new level of responsibility.

"It does put a little bit of pressure, but it's a good pressure," Strickland said. "My coach has confidence in me, and I know that I have free reins to just do what I do."

Other standouts returning to plate this season are junior outfielder Linsey Hays and the Bears' new primary pitcher, Heather Stearns. Hays has experienced several instances of bad luck while on the team, including earning a medical hardship waiver her freshman year due to a thyroid issue and a recurring back problem last season.

Stearns replaces Canion on the pitching mound with key experience in the World Series, including two wins. The Plano right-hander posted a 15-4 record last season, includ-

ing wins over Florida State and Kentucky.

"I'm a big fan of Heather; she's a really good pitcher," Moore said. "She's very mature in her understanding of the game and she's a great competitor. She's really got it together out there, not too high or too low, and has the mentality you really want out of a pitcher."

As the Bears take the field this afternoon, expect a lot of new faces. The softball team will feature 10 players making their debut in a Baylor uniform. Six of the players are from Central Texas and three are teammates from Crawford.

After finishing in the top four in the WCWS, Baylor has been picked to finish second in the conference. However, the goal is the same.

"We are going to worry about Baylor," Strickland said. "We're really shooting for that Big 12 championship, and I think that it's a possible goal. We just need to keep building from where we are, use the momentum in our favor, and roll with it."

The Bears host the 2015 Fairfield Inn & Suites North Gettman Classic this weekend at Gettman Stadium.

At a Glance

Softball underway

Baylor softball opens its season with games 3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. today against Wichita State and Stephen F. Austin; 12:30 p.m. on Saturday against Texas A&M-Corpus Christi and TBA on Saturday/Sunday, all at Gettman Stadium.

A&T hosts opener

Baylor acrobatics and tumbling will host a tri-meet with Quinnipiac and Concordia University at 6 p.m. on Saturday at the Ferrell Center.

Tennis perfect

Women's tennis will look to continue its blistering 6-0 start at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturday against Maryland and Prairie View A&M. All matches will be played at the Hawkins Indoor Tennis Center.

ROAD GAMES

M Tennis at Tulsa
6 p.m. Friday

MBB at West Virginia
11 a.m. Saturday (ESPNU)

WBB at Texas
1 p.m. Sunday (ESPN2)

Track and Field
Texas A&M Invitational
Friday/Saturday

Big 12 women's basketball increasing the bar in 2015

By JEFFREY SWINDOLL
SPORTS WRITER

Big 12 has long been a league that sees the majority of its women's basketball teams consistently selected for the NCAA Tournament. History shows the Big 12 as one of the nation's best, but this season may be one of its best to date.

The Big 12 is the No. 1 Conference in the country according to Conference RPI, done by Collegiate Basketball News. Six of the 10 teams are listed in the top 62 teams of NCAA RPI.

"This league is just so good," Texas Tech head coach Candi Whittaker. "When you're on an 18-game [season] with no bye week, it is ruthless. It is constant. We have to game plan to a T. It's kind of fun though that you can just look across the board and see great games and great teams battling it out every night."

The No. 3 Lady Bears are 10-0 in their conference schedule so far this season. Winning nine straight games is one thing, but doing so in the Big 12 Conference adds to the value of the record.

Looking at each of the facets that make up a conference, the Big 12 has every ingredient to being the best in the country. This season especially, Big 12 schools have

made a strong case for being the top women's college basketball league.

Starting with the non-conference schedule, the Big 12 is right up there with the best. Unlike Baylor football's alleged issue of weak out-of-conference scheduling, the Lady Bears, along with seven other Big 12 schools, are ranked in the top 46 of the NCAA's strength of schedule.

It's not exclusive to just a few of the schools in the Big 12. Every team had a strong pre-conference season. The Big 12 was the only conference in the country to have had every team finish with a winning record before conference play. 2014-15 marks the eighth-straight season for the Big 12 to achieve the previous statistic.

The Big 12 leads all leagues with its 81.7 non-conference win percentage, going 94-21 overall and finishing pre-conference games on a cumulative 12-0 streak.

The Longhorns were involved in one of the country's marquee pre-conference matchups. Texas upset Stanford on its home floor in that game. In addition, Texas played such teams as Washington, UCLA and Texas A&M.

Baylor also played in one of the pre-conference's top matchups against Kentucky, ranked No. 13 at the time. The Big 12 earned four wins over non-conference



SKYE DUNCAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

Sophomore post Khadijah Cave boxes out Kansas defenders during Baylor's 66-58 win over Kansas on Sunday. The Bears sit at 10-0 in the brutal Big 12 conference and No. 3 in women's basketball's RPI rankings while playing in the highest-rated conference.

foes that were ranked in the Top 10 at game-time.

Parity abounds in the Big 12 this season. Teams ranking third through 10th in the conference standings have just two games between them. Moreover, there is a tie for third, between Iowa State and TCU,

and a five-way tie for sixth, with Kansas State, Oklahoma State, Texas Tech, WVU and Kansas.

The Big 12 is the only conference in the country this year in which every team has at least three wins, a winning record and double-digit wins on the season.

"You've got to be efficient, you've got to be solid, and you've got to compete for 40 minutes to escape with wins in this league," Oklahoma State coach Jim Littell said. "I think the Big 12 has taken an unfair hit on some things. From top-to-bottom I still think it's an excellent league."

The format of the league allows for thrilling storylines and matchups. The Big 12 plays a double round-robin format, meaning every team plays each other twice (one home and one away) with no bye weeks. There is no hiding and no downtime. This makes recovery and consistency vital to any type of success in the Big 12.

Half of this season is over. The final stretch is under way. It will be one of the closest battles for the title in Big 12 history, foreshadowing a magnificent conference tournament in March. The Lady Bears took home the conference tournament title in an overtime victory over West Virginia last year, but there is no guarantee of history repeating itself in such a balanced league like the Big 12. The conference tournament trophy is there for the taking.

"When we get to the conference tournament, it might be one of the best conference tournaments we've ever had," Iowa State Bill Fennelly said. "That's exciting for the fans and exciting for the league."

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