

# Baylor Lariat

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FEBRUARY 3, 2017

FRIDAY

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Student-athletes achieve success: pg. 6



Jessica Hubble | Lariat Photographer

**BLACKOUT** Sarah Hepola, New York Times best-selling author, spoke about her journey to sobriety and the success of her novel on Thursday in Bennett Auditorium.

## Beating alcoholism

Author shares about novel on overcoming addiction

**RACHEL SMITH**  
Reporter

Journalist Sarah Hepola, author of The New York Times best-seller "Blackout: Remembering Things I Drank to Forget," told students who filled Bennett Auditorium on Thursday night about her journey from a drinking problem to sobriety. "I'm really not here tonight to tell you whether or not to drink," Hepola said. "What I'm here to tell you is alcohol can't fix you. Alcohol doesn't change those feelings. It just makes you forget them for the night."

Hepola's subject was "Drinking, Blackouts and Seeking Power Beyond the Bottle." After her lecture, Hepola answered questions from mediator Macarena Hernandez, Fred Hartman distinguished professor of journalism, and audience members. "I really am an open book," Hepola said. "You can really ask me anything." Hepola said that during her college years, she did not want to hear about someone else's drinking problem. "Drinking was not a problem for me," Hepola said. "Drinking was a

solution. I believed alcohol solved the biggest problem of my life—namely, that I was me." Hepola said she grew up as a middle class child in the Highland Park area of Dallas, which is known for affluence. "I used to make my mom drop me off two blocks from school so no one would see our car," Hepola said. "Some of my earliest memories are about not belonging and about a fundamental sense that I was not good enough."

**AUTHOR >> Page 4**

## Court document alleges Briles had knowledge of criminal acts

**GAVIN PUGH**  
Editor-in-Chief

A court document detailing several texts exchanged between former head football coach Art Briles and members of the athletic department alleges Briles knew more about criminal acts committed by football players than he previously claimed.

The document was filed by regents Cary Gray, Ron Murff and David Harper as an answer to a lawsuit filed by former assistant athletics director of football operations Colin Shillinglaw.

Shillinglaw claimed Baylor leaders and others were defamatory in describing him as being a part of the ongoing sexual assault scandal. Other defendants named in the lawsuit are Dr. David Garland, interim president, Reagan Ramsower, senior vice president for operations, and regent Dr. Dennis Wiles and Pepper Hamilton Law Firm.

Several texts quoted in the document allege Briles did not take proper measures in responding to the criminal acts committed by football players.

The document says in one instance that "an assistant coach notified Coach Briles of a claim by a female student-athlete that a football player brandished a gun at her. Coach Briles responded:



Lariat File Art

**NEW EVIDENCE** Art Briles, who has dropped his lawsuit against the Board of Regents, is shown after Baylor beat TCU 61-58 on Oct. 11, 2014.

'what a fool – she reporting to authorities.' The assistant coach texted back: 'She's acting traumatized ... Trying to talk her calm now... Doesn't seem to want to report though.' Coach Briles texted: 'U gonna talk to [the player].' The assistant coach concluded: 'Yes sir, just did. Caught him on the way to class... Squeezed him pretty good.' The matter was never reported to Judicial Affairs."

The document quotes another series of exchanged texts, which regarded a football player who

**BRILES >> Page 4**

## BU professors study passion-driven sports media



Lariat File Art

**CHEERS** Baylor fans raised their right hands in a "sic 'em" cheer at a home game against OSU on Sept. 24, 2016.

**MEGAN RULE**  
Staff Writer

Social media use during sporting events is completely driven by passion, which is different than excitement over the sporting event, according to a study done by Baylor professors.

"When we say passionate, we mean you devote your heart, mind, body and soul," said Dr. Kirk Wakefield, executive director of the Center for Sports, Sponsorship and Sales at the Hankamer School of Business. "The question is: to what extent can you live without it? You can say you love something, but you aren't really passionate about it

unless you allot time to spend with that person or that thing, so we measured how much time is prioritized to measure NASCAR in this case."

Wakefield said he was interested in how sports fans interact and what the various levels of excitement are among sports fans. The study was done at a NASCAR event in 2012 and was published in 2016. Surveys were handed out after the event asking about Facebook and Twitter usage, in particular, in order to draw a conclusion between passion and posting frequency.

The study was co-authored by Kirk Wakefield his wife,

Dr. Robin Wakefield, associate professor of information systems at the Hankamer School of Business. The study's conclusion said that the growth of social media suggests that the question of whether individuals will use technology is changing into a question of how individuals will use different types of technologies.

"Passion is a much better predictor of all those behaviors than anything else previously used, so fan identification or involvement," Kirk Wakefield said. "Just being involved is a good predictor but is not nearly

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## Grotberg family creates scholarship fund

**JOY MOTON**  
Staff Writer

Nearly four months after receiving the most horrifying news of their lives, Clark and Diane Grotberg continue to revel in the love they have been shown after the death of their son who was killed in a hit-and-run accident on Oct. 6, 2016.

The Baylor community responded to the death of Fergus Falls, Minn. sophomore David Grotberg with memorial services, prayer vigils and group bicycle rides.

"They just became such a good family to him," Diane Grotberg said. "It was hard for us in being so far away, but we're so grateful to the Lord that he just found these people."

David's mother does not want people to think the family does not

*"It was hard for us to be so far away, but we're so grateful to the Lord that he just found these people."*

Diane Grotberg |  
Mother of David Grotberg

feel the pain of missing their son every day but she wants them to know that they keep life in perspective to keep pushing forward.

"If God was good on October 5, then God is still good on October 6, 7 and 8," Clark Grotberg said. "If God isn't good because David was killed, then why are we saying God is good at all? Because people are being killed every day."

From the age of 14 until his death, David went on an annual mission trip to work in the House of Hope Orphanage in Zacapa, Guatemala. This December, the family was conflicted about going on the trip, considering David had died just three months before. After much prayer, the Grotbergs were compelled to go and see about the children David loved.

"They found out right away about his death, and they were pretty sad about it, but they were happy to see us," Clark Grotberg said.

The Grotberg family has also made the decision to give back to the community that David loved so dearly. As David filled out applications for college, his mother helped him apply for scholarships. In her search, she noticed that there were not very many scholarships for homeschooled students.

The Grotberg family decided to contribute the remaining money from David's funeral contributions to start a scholarship fund for homeschooled students in the Baylor Honors College.

"It was too much money for just

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GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

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COLUMN

## Sabbath is still holy

RACHEL SMITH  
Reporter

As many children did, I learned the Ten Commandments in Sunday school. When we talked about keeping the Sabbath holy, I pictured bearded old men



lying on dirt floors in hut-like houses, staring at their thatched ceilings and doing nothing all day.

I don't think those mental images were at all historically accurate, but it wasn't until college that I realized my perception of the Sabbath in general was also flawed.

Last year, I found myself controlled by a calendar of filled squares. I also found myself avoiding God's continual tug on my heart to give up a whole day to honor him. I thought the Sabbath did not apply to me: I was a full-time college student, involved at my church and sorority, volunteered regularly, and Sing season was fast approaching — I had no time to waste.

I was above it.

God was quick to correct me. I finally paid attention to my convictions and decided to practice the Sabbath for the duration of Lent.

The first Sunday was rough. I did not feel rested at all. I sat and stared at the wall as reminders of responsibilities for the upcoming week crept into my thoughts. However, with each week, I found a rhythm. I would wake up, go to church, eat lunch with a friend, and spend the afternoon on the rooftop of Dichotomy, reading a Jane Austen book or my Bible. Later, I would watch a movie or get coffee with someone I hadn't made time for that week.

I had always thought my schedule too packed and precious to be tampered with by an outdated practice. However, as gave up my Sundays to God, I learned my excuses were foolish.

"I'm too busy." If you identify with this, likely the most common excuse, consider you are not wrong. The problem with this excuse is not that it is false, but it indicates an unwillingness to sacrifice the right things. Your schedule on any given day is probably full; however, we cannot ignore the fact that we get to choose what fills it.

The Sabbath is not for us to do nothing. It is for us to slow down and acknowledge God. We don't know what we're missing until we seek it.

Just like the other commandments God gives us, the Sabbath is not intended to be a punishment, but rather, a gift. When we give up a day to honor God, we have to let go of things. We might actually not finish an assignment, but we rid ourselves of the anxiety that comes with the belief we are in control. As we let go of that control, we gain responsibility. We take leadership of our lives and responsibility for the way we spend our time.

Sabbath days force us to prioritize God. If I told a friend she was the most important part of my life but continually failed to make time for her, I would be lying. It's no different with God. Practicing the Sabbath forces us to prioritize God with our time and actions.

Even as college students, we are still human, and we need rest. God rested on the seventh day of creation — If he is not above rest, we surely are not.

Give up a day of your week to gain peace of mind and reorder your priorities. Pray and play. Watch a football game instead of doing your laundry. Bask in God's goodness, and remember there is more to life than what is due next week.

Rachel Smith is a senior entrepreneurship and corporate innovation major from Canyon.

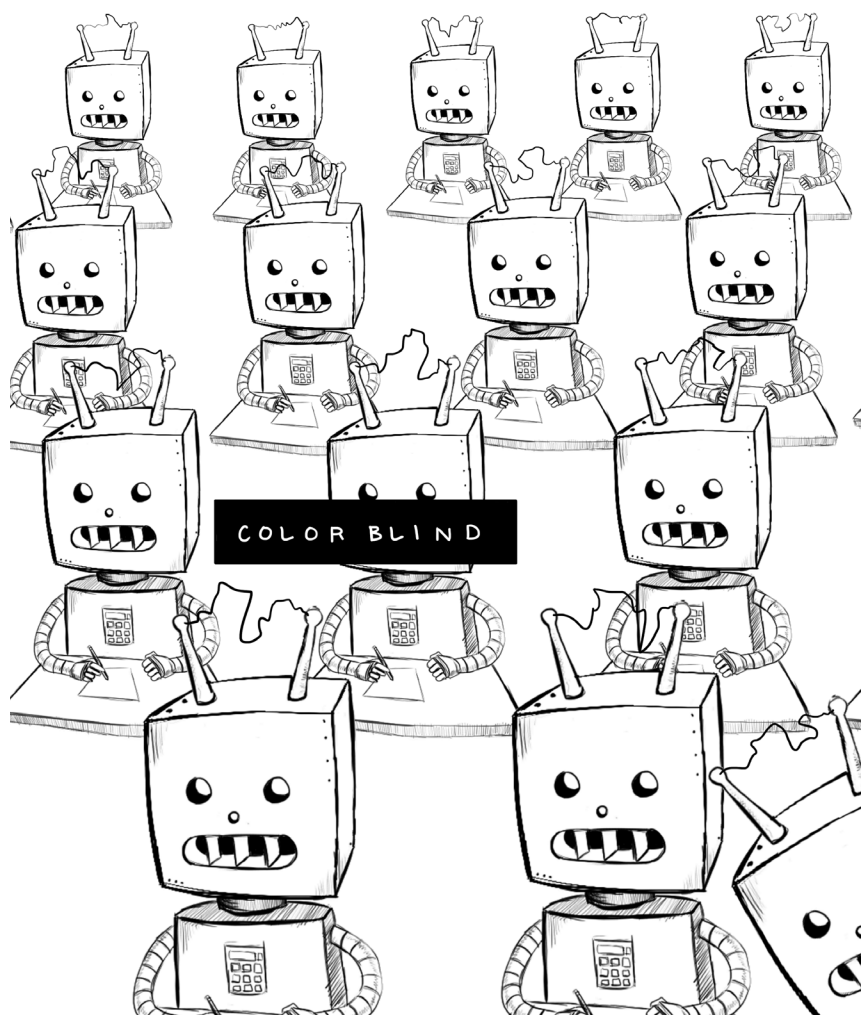
EDITORIAL

## Celebrate diversity in the classroom

When we think back to some of our earliest and most influential role models, thoughts of kind-hearted teachers often come to mind. After all, as students, we saw our teachers almost every day while building connections with them based on mutual trust and respect. It's no question whether teachers play an integral role in the lives of their students. Because of the formative role teachers play in the lives of their students, it's clear that the job of an educator is multifaceted. Teachers are often the first people students go to about problems they may be having.

In the current sociopolitical climate, with deep partisanship leading to many subcultures of American society feeling misrepresented, it's important to remember adults aren't the only ones affected by this divide. As early as elementary school, students can begin to see differences between themselves and their classmates, some based on race, gender and faith. The key then, is not to ignore diversity and pretend to be colorblind in the classroom with hopes of eliminating potential factions and prejudices from arising. Rather, teachers should foster a safe environment that celebrates difference and diversity.

Dr. Lakia M. Scott, assistant professor in the department of curriculum and instruction, teaches a course at Baylor called "Social Issues in Education" in which undergraduate education students study issues in diversity and relate them back to the classroom in order to better



Joshua Kim | Cartoonist

understand conflict. The class gives students a holistic view of diversity and difference and provides resources for addressing these potential conflicts among students.

"In my class, we talk a lot about this idea of promoting a safe environment by recognizing and embracing difference," Scott said. "We want [teachers] to be able to be ok with understanding that students are coming from different backgrounds."

Although it may seem like a good idea, Scott explains, trying to have a colorblind classroom can prevent the teacher from recognizing and acknowledging

some impediments students may have because of their background or social identity.

By acknowledging and recognizing differences, a teacher can show that everyone is different and can promote a classroom that encourages and celebrates diversity rather than ignores it.

"It's our job as teachers to empathize with students first and foremost," Scott said. "It's our responsibility to make sure our students feel comfortable coming to us."

While the job description of a teacher may not seem to encompass counselor, educators often take on

that imperative role in the lives of their students.

In Hong Kong, for example, teachers and counselors work together to be able to create a caring environment in which students can "grow and realize their potentials for whole-person development," according to a study done by Susanna Wai Ching Lai-Yeung. Public schools like those in Hong Kong that adopt these whole-school guidance policies recognize that students feel more comfortable bringing up concerns to teachers they see every day rather than counselors, who generally take on more of an advising role in secondary schools.

In light of race and gender tensions, particularly at a time in U.S. politics where partisanship has created a deep divide, it can be tricky for teachers to empathize with students while simultaneously being objective. The best way to balance the two, Scott said, is to prioritize creating a safe space for learning and not allowing personal opinions to influence students to feel a certain way, but empowering them to cultivate their own awareness.

It's important for teachers to recognize the integral role they play in not only providing a student with resources for succeeding on tests and in the classroom, but also encouraging them to explore their differences and embrace diversity in themselves and others.

In the words of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, "A good teacher is like a candle — it consumes itself to light the way for others."

COLUMN

## Calexit goes against the American dream

MCKENNA MIDDLETON  
News Editor

Following President Donald Trump's election, many Americans were looking for a restart button, or at the very least, an escape key. After desires to move to Canada had all but died, one state remained resilient in its efforts to distance itself from United States. The term "Calexit" pervaded Twitter with a hashtag expressing support for California to separate from the Union and become its own country.

And while many who were unsatisfied with the election results, especially those living in a blue state like California, may see this as an opportunity to break free from the turmoil of American politics, Calexit will only add to our nation's political problems.

The official Calexit campaign is primarily sponsored by the Yes California independence organization, which has begun the long process of attempted succession. The first step is to put an initiative on the 2018 ballot for California voters to then vote in 2019 whether or not to secede from the Union. To get that first initiative set, the organization must collect 585,407 valid signatures from registered voters by July 2017. According to Politifact, the popular vote to

secede would then require a two-thirds vote in congress and support from 38 state legislatures.

"As the sixth largest economy in the world, California is more economically powerful than France and has a population larger than Poland," Yes California claims on its website. "Point by point, California compares and competes with countries, not just the 49 other states."

*"Calexit will only add to our nation's political problems."*

The campaign is flawed in a variety of ways, particularly its appeal to liberal values and neglect to mention economic and political ramifications for secession.

"In our view, the United States of America represents so many things that conflict with Californian values, and our continued statehood means California will continue subsidizing the other states to our own detriment, and to the detriment of our children," the organization states on its website.

The organization claims California's economic problems can all be traced back to the Federal government. Yes California asserts that "California exerts a positive influence on the rest of the world, and California could do more good as an independent country than it is able to do as just a U.S. state."

Even if all the claims Yes California makes about the advantages Calexit would produce for the state itself were true, there is a larger issue at hand. LA Times contributor Conor Friedersdorf described the nation of California as one that values ideological purity. Calexit and Yes California appeal to liberal ideals, but ignore the devastating reality Calexit secession would have for Democrats.

With the largest population of any state, California also has the most electoral votes, which have been definitively blue since 1992, and the most seats in the House of Representatives, 38 of which belong to Democrats. Furthermore, California, as a blue state, progressively leads the country on issues such as climate change and immigration.

To secede from the Union is to give up on the American Experiment. It is to say that multiple ideologies cannot live harmoniously through compromise and conversation. Calexit emphasizes ideological purity over actual ideology. It proposes a state of progressives living progressive lives, isolated from the world in a utopia of liberal agenda. In reality, Calexit would eliminate hope of a more progressive United States where liberals can play an integral role in United States politics and fulfill their role as watchdogs during this season of Republican majority in Congress.

McKenna Middleton is a sophomore journalism and Spanish double major from La Crescenta, Calif.

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# Peer Leader application deadline approaches

**JACK PARSLEY**  
Reporter

Peer Leaders have been making a difference on Baylor's campus since the program was created in 2011. The application to be a Peer Leader is live now and closes Friday at 5 p.m.

"[Peer leaders are] really making a difference on our campus," said Lizzy Davis, Baylor coordinator for leadership development. "They are going to establish deep relationships with the students that they work with as well as faculty and staff."

There are six different types of Peer Leaders students can apply to be: community engagement and service, cross-cultural engagement, first in line, health and wellness, mental health and new student experience, according to the Peer Leaders website.

Community engagement and service Peer Leaders and cross-cultural engagement Peer Leaders focus on making a difference in the community, according to the website. Community engagement and service Peer Leaders focus on serving people in a way

*"I got to make relationships with faculty that I never would have had if I wasn't a Peer Leader."*

Mary-Catherine Crutchfield |  
Coppell sophomore and Peer Leader

that creates a lasting impact. Cross-cultural engagement Peer Leaders create dialogues about important social issues.

Health and wellness Peer Leaders and mental health Peer Leaders partner with faculty and staff at Baylor to help educate students about how they can live healthier lives mentally and physically, according to the website. They do this by planning events and giving presentations that provide students with valuable information about health issues.

First in line Peer Leaders and new student experience Peer Leaders focus on building one-on-one relationships with students on campus,

the website states. First in line Peer Leaders also work with first-generation college students to prepare them for success at Baylor. New student experience Peer Leaders co-facilitate a U/BU 1000 course with a faculty member to help prepare new students for life at Baylor.

Coppell sophomore Mary-Catherine Crutchfield served as a new student experience Peer Leader in fall 2016. She said she wanted to serve as a Peer Leader after her Peer Leader invested so much in her as a freshman.

"I got to make relationships with faculty that I never would have had if I wasn't a Peer Leader," Crutchfield said. "I got to make

relationships with my students that went beyond just a Peer Leader-student relationship; they became my friends. I just wanted to make their Baylor experience as great as mine has been."

No matter which Peer Leader position students serve in, they will get to be mentored by faculty and staff in that area. In addition to being mentored by faculty and staff, Peer Leaders will also get to mentor their fellow students in that same area, according to the website.

Spartanburt, S.C., junior Clara Ruth West said she is applying to be a Peer Leader so she can impact a specific group of new students in the fall.

"I know how awesome freshman year can be, but from my own experience, I also know how hard freshman year can be," West said. "I want to be a new student experience Leader to be a source of encouragement and to be someone that freshmen can go to when they have a question and don't know where to find the answer."

# Student Court settles disputes, answers problems

**THOMAS MOTT**  
Reporter

When someone is wronged, there is supposed to be a way to make it right. However, many Baylor students do not know where to go when they feel wronged by an organization or a fellow student. The Baylor Student Court is a group of students whose job is to help the Baylor community in this way.

The Student Court meets around a small table in Brooks Residential College every Tuesday night where they are tasked with settling student court cases.

Student Court is the judicial branch of Student Government and is made up of seven justices and two court clerks according to the student court website

"[Student Court is] a diverse group that represents the student body," said Castle Pines, Colo., junior Andrew Wixson, Student Court justice.

The court's main task is to interpret the official documents of Student Government and settle disputes between organizations and Baylor students said New Braunfels senior and Chief Justice of the court Charlotte Weston.

While parking tickets tend to make up the majority of the court's cases, the court also hears cases in which students feel like they have been treated unfairly by another Baylor organization, Weston said. However, many students either do not know the court exists or they simply do not know how to bring a case to the court.

"There is always an answer to their problems. The Student Court has a lot more



**COURT IS IN SESSION** The Baylor Student Court is made up of seven justices and two clerks, and they meet at 9 p.m. every Tuesday in 170 Brooks.

power than people would expect," Wixson said.

The court has the power to "overturn an unfair decision that was made by any student organization. Some disputes and complaints do not warrant a court hearing, but even if the court cannot do what you are asking, they may be able to direct you to someone who can," Deputy Chief Justice and Flowery Branch, Ga., senior Connor Sheets wrote in an email to the Lariat.

Recently, the court has simplified and reorganized its rules, creating templates and making documents more user-friendly for

students to access, Weston said.

"My goal was to really bring the court more to the students and the general student body," Weston said.

The justices are committed to helping all Baylor students.

"I would want students to know how much we care about them and labor over every single decision to make sure it is in their best interest," Houston junior and Student Court Justice Hannah Vecseri said.

Even one of the court's new clerks, a freshman member of the court who is not old enough to be a justice due to her classification but still helps with cases, said she was blown away by the commitment of the seven justices.

"I joined recently this fall as a clerk, and I've been blown away by the commitment that the members of the court have to serving the students of Baylor," said Waco freshman Margaret Thonnard, Student Court clerk.

Even though the court is made up of fellow students, its job is to interpret the law to resolve cases. This can be especially hard for justices who said there are many times where they feel sympathetic towards a student's case, but in the end have to side with the law.

"Sometimes we have to make decisions that are difficult. and we have to put aside our sympathy and really look at the code and law and what it states and not let our emotions get involved too much," Marble Falls sophomore justice Tyler Rutherford said.

To bring a case in front of the court, a student can visit the student government website and contact the court through the provided phone or email. Even if a student does not feel like they possess the legal knowledge to bring a case to the court, the court can help lead students to someone who can.

"We have a couple of members of the mock trial team who are also willing to help students who might not feel legally equipped to bring a case," Weston said.

The Student Court meets at 9 p.m. every Tuesday in 170 Brooks.

## AUTHOR from Page 1

After Hepola spent her early years dealing with feelings of inadequacy and searching for escape, she found drinking, which she pursued heavily in college.

"Once I found drinking, all that other stuff faded into the background because drinking felt like home," Hepola said. "Insecurities are really easy to mask with a red solo cup in your hand. Booze gave me permission to do and be whatever I wanted."

Hepola explained the distinguishing factors of a blackout, which occurs when someone continues to walk, talk and interact with others but cannot recall it later.

"I would wake up with that stab of shame," Hepola said. "I depended on alcohol to reveal me, but none of that felt like me. It felt like an evil twin."

After graduating college and working at an alternative newspaper in

Austin, Hepola moved to New York and continued to struggle with alcohol.

"Too often, we think that drinking problem means that someone has to lose their house or their home or their job," Hepola said. "What happens to many of us is that we lose ourselves."

As she recovered, Hepola said she thought her life was over, but she realized it was changing, and change is anything but instant.

"Sometimes you have to quit 50 times before you make the 51st time stick," Hepola said. "Change is hard, and it is slow, and it is painful, and growth comes not in leaps and bounds, but in tiny little millimeters."

During the question and answer portion, Hepola answered questions about friendship, consent, the media and writing, among other topics.

"I think good writing comes from

honesty and it comes from paying attention," Hepola said. "I think readers know when you're lying to them."

Austin senior Jade Moffett works for Bundle Magazine, which hosted a lunch for Hepola earlier in the day.

"I was really inspired by her words," Moffett said. "I like how she took responsibility for what happened, and I like how she was very open about the process of getting clean. I also like how she didn't victimize herself."

Austin sophomore Arion Crenshaw read "Blackout" and attended the presentation to hear Hepola read book selections and get more information.

"What stood out to me the most were the hardships she faced on her path to recovery," Crenshaw said. "She was able to find herself again and overcome those obstacles."

## BRILES from Page 1

exposed himself to a masseuse during a session at a salon and spa and asked for "favors."

"What kind of discipline... She a stripper," Briles wrote in a text, the document states.

When Briles was notified that the masseuse was not a stripper, but that the player made the request at a spa, Briles wrote "not quite as bad," the document states.

The document also details a conversation exchanged between Briles and the coach of a female athlete who was allegedly gang raped by five football players.

"Those are some bad dudes. Why was

she around those guys," Briles said, the document states.

The document also names Shillinglaw as being a part of a larger plan to conceal the criminal acts from the public.

"As a part of the broader institutional failures, the [Pepper Hamilton] investigation uncovered evidence that Coach Briles, Shillinglaw, and others in the football program had developed, enabled, and encouraged a culture within the football program that deliberately insulated players from the normal University disciplinary process," the document said. "The result was a system in which football players accused of misconduct were treated differently than

students outside the program."

The information released in the 54-page document is one of the most revealing records of the findings of the Pepper Hamilton information and the details of sexual assaults within the athletic department that the regents have disclosed to the public.

The document was made public just over 24 hours after Briles dropped his libel and slander lawsuit.

Similar to Shillinglaw's suit, Briles dropped suit named Baylor regents Murff, Gray, Harper and Ramsower.

Briles suit also claimed that regents conspired to conspire to keep him from getting another coaching job.

## GROTBERG from Page 1

a funeral, and we felt like it wasn't ours to spend," Diane Grotberg said. "So we said we're going to start a scholarship at Baylor, and we're going to do our part."

The scholarship fund is still growing, and David's mother has a goal for it to reach \$100,000.

According to an email from Petra Carey, coordinator of communications,

recruitment and external relations for the Honors College, people can donate by texting DAVIDG to 41444 or visiting the Baylor website.

"As we watch these things happen, it really helps in our grief because one of my first thoughts was, 'He's going to be forgotten,'" Diane Grotberg said.

David's legacy continues to spread,

even outside of Baylor. A triathlon and a space in the Fergus Falls Public Library will also be dedicated in David's memory.

"Even though David's gone, he mattered when he lived, and he still matters as a child of God," Diane Grotberg said.

## FANS from Page 1

as good as passion, and that's fairly new in sports."

The study showed that social media use is driven by something that is particularly important to the user – in this case, passion. Something can be exciting, but if there is no connection or care, then there will be no post, Kirk Wakefield said. Fans are consistently driven by passion and accelerated by excitement. Kirk Wakefield said this study explains the posting behaviors of fans of pretty much anything, but it primarily focuses on sports.

"Past research had said if you get really excited about something, you'll post about it, but not so fast," Kirk Wakefield said. "I have, on occasion, watched golf finals, and it is pretty exciting at the end. But did I post about it? No, because I'm not passionate. So it's not just that something's exciting or distressing."

As Kirk Wakefield said, the most frequent users of social media in a sporting scenario are those who are passionate, digitally engaged and the ones that are re-posting and telling "friends" where they are. Passionate fans are not the ones posting about commercials or external factors, they're the ones posting commentary about the game or event and the activity taking place, Kirk Wakefield said.

"Social media has really changed the way fans of the same teams and competing teams interact," said Mansfield junior Jackson Bollinger. "It's a fun way to not only show your love for your teams. However, it also serves as a platform for engaging in kind-hearted banter."

With the Super Bowl taking place this weekend, there is no doubt the results of this study will prove to be true, Kirk Wakefield said. Last year, Super Bowl 50 was the most watched broadcast in television history, according to CNN. On a national scale, the Super Bowl is a sporting event that reaches incredibly large audiences, but not everyone who watches is totally passionate, Kirk Wakefield said. Following the theory of the study, people who watch but aren't completely passionate won't post about it.

"I like to watch the Super Bowl for the meme potential," said McKinney junior Marques Jones. "Hopefully, a moment occurs during the game that I can turn into the next big meme on Twitter and get Twitter famous."

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**On-The-Go >> Happenings:** Visit @BULariatArts to see what's going on in #ThisWeekinWaco [BaylorLariat.com](http://BaylorLariat.com)



Penelope Shirley | Lariat Photographer

**MOUTH-WATERING** Moroso pizza offers an uptown, authentic pizza experience to its customers by cooking their pizzas in a wood-fired oven. The restaurant serves Italian dishes such as caprese salad, arancini and handmade meatballs, as well as succulent desserts such as cannolis and affogato. The restaurant is located at 4700 Bosque Blvd., and hours vary depending on the day.

## This week in Waco:

### >> Today

**5-7 p.m.** — Horton Duo performs. Papillon Antiques.

**5-9 p.m.** — First Friday. Downtown Waco.

**7-10 p.m.** — Greg Bashara and Even Klaras perform jazz music. Free admission. Hilton Waco, 113 S. University Parks Drive.

**7:30 p.m.** — Baylor Symphonic Band. Jones Concert Hall.

**7:30 p.m.** — "Dancing at Lughnasa." \$20 admission. Mabee Theatre.

**7:30 p.m.** — "Almost, Maine." \$16-\$20 admission. Waco Civic Theatre.

**7:30 p.m.** — Joseph Neville, Singer/Songwriter, performs. Dichotomy Coffee & Spirits.

**8:30-9:30 p.m.** — Improv Comedy Show by the Brazos Theatre Group. 7524 Bosque Blvd. Suite Q.

### >> Saturday

**9:45 a.m.-3 p.m.** — Sacred Harp Sing. Free admission. Truett Seminary.

**10 a.m.** — Lions & Tigers & Bears: Through the Lens with National Geographic opens. Mayborn Museum Complex.

**6-9 p.m.** — Valentine's painting night. \$40 per person and \$75 per couple. Art Center, 1300 College Drive.

**7:30 p.m.** — "Dancing at Lughnasa." \$20 admission. Mabee Theatre.

# Moroso offers uptown feel

**CAROLINE BENTLEY**  
Reporter

## REVIEW

What happens when you elevate the restaurant game in Waco? Moroso Wood Fired Pizzeria, located at 4700 Bosque Blvd., offers a unique experience, taking inspiration from cities such as New York and Chicago.

The handmade brick oven is the first thing I noticed when my friend and I arrived at Moroso. Sitting at the bar surrounding the brick oven and preparation station, we were never without entertainment.

A serious menu includes traditional Italian appetizers such as caprese salad, handmade meatballs and arancini, followed by a lengthy pizza menu with dough flour imported from Italy and simplistic, artisan-style creations that shift the dining scene in Waco.

On a Saturday night, there was a small wait, so we decided to eat at the bar. This was one of the best decisions we made because we were able to watch the chefs prepare each pizza

and bake them in the huge brick oven. I had chosen a classic pizza to try for the first time, just to be on the safe side, but as I was watching each new pizza be prepared, I quickly questioned my decision.

The wait for the food was not long at all. It may have been that I was in a trance watching the chefs, but either way, it felt like no time at all.

Since Moroso is an artisan-style pizzeria, the crust is thin, and you traditionally use a knife to eat it. The crust is chewier than one you would find at Papa Rollo's or Shorty's.

The flavor was incredible—definitely a taste not usually found in the Waco dining scene. It was sweet with caramelized onions, but savory with fresh mozzarella and homemade sauce.

Even though my friend and my pizzas were similar, her pizza tasted nothing like mine. A strong flavor cored by crispy pancetta and

pepperoni paired well with the savory sauce and mozzarella. With each pizza, you are able to add and take off any ingredients you want — no meat, add meat, no veggies, add veggies.

The 12-inch pizzas were enough for two people to share or for one person to have and take home some leftovers for a good lunch the next day.

*A strong flavor cored by a crispy pancetta ...*

We followed dinner with some dessert. Even though we were stuffed, it looked too delicious to pass up. We

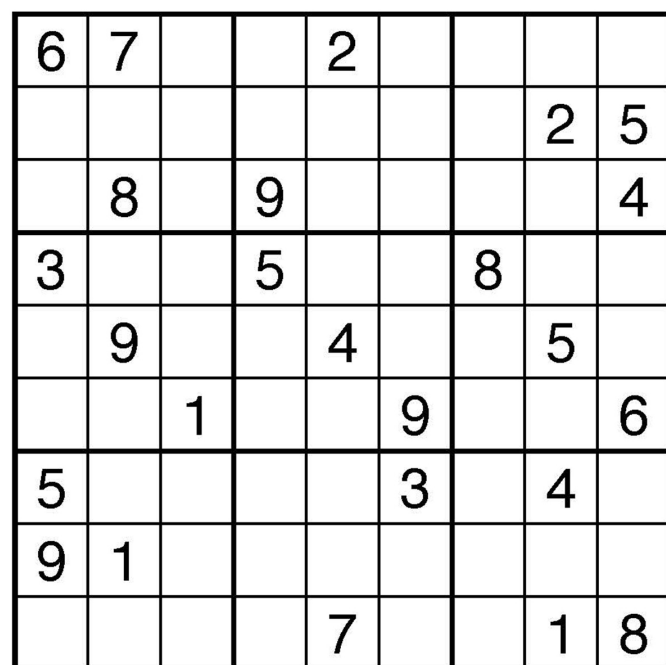
split a cannoli and some affogato. Both were incredible but a little too sweet for my taste. My friend, on the other hand, finished the plates with satisfaction. Each dessert was like something you would find in Chicago or New York.

The only regret I had during dinner was not having a bigger stomach so that I could try more. Getting to watch the chefs prepare each pizza, I got to see different things on the menu that I wanted to try. The pesto mozzarella pizza, the Greek salad with homemade dressing and the chocolate torte are definitely on my list of things to try when I go back next.

All in all, Moroso surprised me in the best way. It felt like it was a step outside of Waco, with a vibe from Dallas or Houston. It was a nice change of pace, and I will definitely be back.

For more information regarding the menu or location, visit the website below:

<http://www.morosopizzeria.com/>



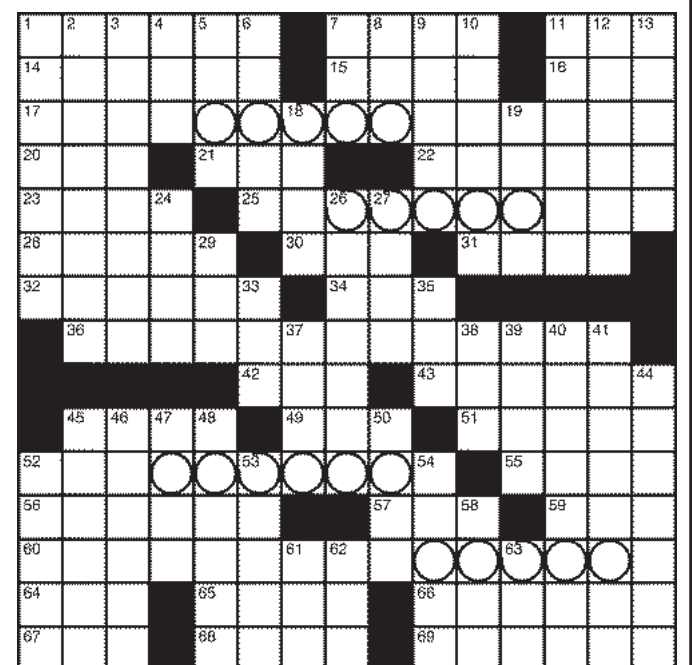
### Today's Puzzles

#### Across

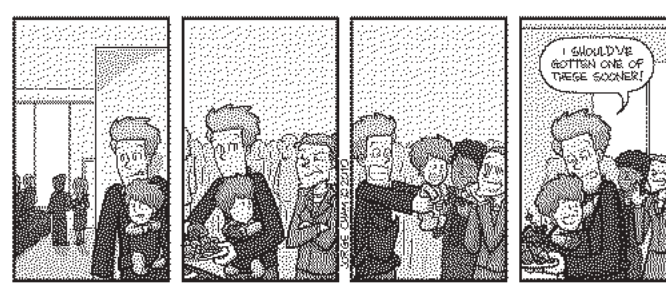
- 1 Suggests, with "of"
- 7 Cashbox feature
- 11 Wagner's "\_\_\_ Rheingold"
- 14 Uses Blue Apron, say
- 15 Baseball family name
- 16 Space bar neighbor
- 17 "Epic fail!"
- 20 Lady Gaga's "\_\_\_ It Happens to You"
- 21 Presidential nickname
- 22 Makeup remover
- 23 Put out
- 25 Like some cheddar
- 28 "Ghostbusters" actor
- 30 Shanghai-born ex-NBA center
- 31 German : Kopf :: French : \_\_\_
- 32 Does really well
- 34 U.S. intelligence org.
- 36 "I don't believe a word!" ... or, the truth about this puzzle's circles
- 42 Deborah's "The King and I" co-star
- 43 Clearly presented
- 45 Removed
- 49 Nation SE of Cyprus
- 51 Item on a chain, perhaps
- 52 Electrical backup supplies
- 55 One may be broken
- 56 Afghanistan's national airline
- 57 Northwest Passage explorer
- 59 Word with hole or holder
- 60 Two of the three founders of the Distilleria Nazionale di Spirito di Vino
- 64 Bridge action
- 65 Brown family shade
- 66 "I'm on board"
- 67 Década division
- 68 Food buyers' concerns
- 69 Scary flier

#### Down

- 1 English hunters
- 2 Polynesian catch
- 3 Unable to increase
- 4 Mo. hours



- 5 Christchurch native
- 6 Common animal kingdom tattoo subject
- 7 Bowler, e.g.
- 8 Cakes go-with
- 9 In a way, in a way
- 10 One unlikely to experiment
- 11 Uses a 22-Across on, as tears
- 12 Come-hither quality
- 13 Dear
- 18 Hot
- 19 "\_\_\_ serious?"
- 24 Pantry stack
- 26 Picks a fight (with)
- 27 Civil rights icon Parks
- 29 Red \_\_\_
- 33 Calculating path
- 35 Chip shot path
- 37 Ripsnorter
- 38 Bit of Christmas morning detritus
- 39 Thickening agent
- 40 Flip
- 41 Goes around
- 44 SEC powerhouse, familiarly
- 45 Runner's woe
- 46 Shag, e.g.
- 47 Part of Q.E.D.
- 48 Like some court motions
- 50 "Feel the \_\_\_": 2016 campaign slogan
- 52 Iconic Rio carnival activity
- 53 Like
- 54 Nasser's successor
- 58 Physics units
- 61 Fight cause
- 62 Mozart's birthplace, now: Abbr.
- 63 Natural resource



For today's puzzle results, please go to [BaylorLariat.com](http://BaylorLariat.com)



**Baylor Lariat Radio @BaylorMBB vs. @KStateMBB** Tomorrow starting at 7 p.m. [LINK ->](#) [bit.ly/lariatradio](http://bit.ly/lariatradio)

## Junior forward Omot steps up on the hardwood

**JAKOB BRANDENBURG**  
Reporter

When Baylor students returned from winter break, there was a new face on the floor for the men's basketball team. A long-armed, 6-foot-9 forward capable of handling the ball and shooting three-pointers. His name is Nuni Omot.

Omot's road to Baylor was a winding one. Born in Nairobi, Kenya, Anunwa "Nuni" Omot's family moved to the U.S. when he was just a few months old. Omot played high school basketball at Mahtomedi High School in St. Paul, Minn. A late bloomer, Omot has grown 8 inches since his junior year, rising from 6 foot 1 inch to his current 6 foot 9 inches.

Omot admits that growing so fast so quickly was a challenge.

"I couldn't run down the court without tripping over my feet," Omot said. "I was clumsy. I had to work really hard to keep up with my body."

Omot enrolled to play basketball at Division II Concordia University in St. Paul while he grew accustomed to his new frame. After two years there, he transferred to Indian Hills Community College in Ottumwa, Iowa.

At Indian Hills Community College, Omot's combination of guard skills and a big man's body developed into a unique set of abilities.

"(I) can stretch the floor out," Omot said. "Play inside-out. Finish above the rim. Can take you off the bounce. I'm versatile."

In his final year at IHCC, Omot averaged 12.2 points and 5.4 rebounds per game and was ranked by 24/7Sports.com as the 14th-best junior college player in the country. Omot received scholarship offers from several Division I basketball programs and ultimately signed with Baylor.

Omot credits his three years of college prior to coming to Baylor for developing his work ethic.

"It taught me how to stay humble and continue to work hard," Omot said. "Obviously I've never had anything handed to me. I've always had to work hard."

Omot had to work hard once again when he arrived at Baylor. He was ruled academically ineligible to play during the fall semester following his transfer from Indiana Hills Community College.

Although sitting out games was hard for Omot, he found a way to use the time off.

"Listen and learn as much as possible," Omot said. "Obviously, it was tough on me because I felt like I could be out there helping the team, although they were doing really well. I wanted to play, and I love playing."

Omot made his Baylor debut on Dec. 14 against

Southern University and scored eight points. In the 11 games he has played, Omot has emerged as a key player off of No. 2 Baylor's bench, as demonstrated by a 14-point game in a win over Texas and three made three-pointers against Ole Miss on Saturday.

Baylor head coach Scott Drew noted the advantage Omot gives the Bears over their opponents.

"With Nuni, it's somebody that gives you great length and athleticism," Drew said. "Someone that can stretch the defense. It's similar to Taurean Prince-gives other teams a matchup issue. He's done a great job and really given us a great lift."

Prince was a star forward for the Bears last season. He entered Baylor as a fairly unheralded recruit and, in his four years in Waco, developed into a versatile All-Big 12 performer. The Atlanta Hawks drafted Prince with the 12th overall pick in the 2016 NBA Draft.

Prince's path to success is one Omot hopes to follow.

"I want to be able to play in the NBA and help provide for my family and help back home in Africa," Omot said.

For now, Omot will continue to aid the Baylor team in the midst of its best start in program history.

"My goal is to help the team as much as possible to win the whole thing," Omot said.



Courtesy of Baylor Athletics

**RIISING UP IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY** Baylor junior forward Nuni Omot goes up for a tough shot against a Jackson State defender on Dec. 17, 2016, in Fort Hood. Baylor won the game 82-57.

## Student-athletes excel in other places besides the playing fields

**BEN EVERETT**  
Sports Writer

Baylor student-athletes continue to excel in the classroom, posting a composite 3.27 GPA in the fall 2016 semester and continuing a streak of 17 straight semesters with a cumulative 3.0 GPA or higher.

Baylor Director of Athletics Mack Rhoades expressed his satisfaction in the academic accomplishments of Baylor's student-athletes.

"We are proud that our student-athletes have achieved a 3.0 GPA or higher for the 17th consecutive semester," Baylor Director of Athletics said in a press release. "It is a testament to the commitment and collaboration of our student-athletes, coaches and support staff with professors and advisers on campus. We look forward to building upon our academic success in the future as we prepare champions for life."

Thirty seven student-athletes earned 4.0 GPAs, including senior offensive lineman Blake Blackmar, Lady Bears senior guard Alexis Jones, Jimmy Bendeck and Julian Lenz of the men's tennis team and eight members of the Baylor soccer team.

Baylor athletics placed 137 on the Dean's List, which comprises Baylor students who earn a 3.7 GPA, are enrolled in a minimum of 12 hours and make no grade lower than a "C". Those who made

the Dean's List include 14 members of the acrobatics and tumbling team, 21 members of the equestrian team and 22 members of women's track and field.

The Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll is awarded to Big 12 student-athletes who post a GPA of 3.0 or better in a given semester.

*"Academic success at Baylor has grown to be a tradition."*

Bart Byrd |  
Associate Athletic  
Director for  
Student-Athlete  
Services

Three hundred and seven student-athletes from Baylor were placed on the Commissioner's Honor Roll, most notably 21 from the baseball team, 40 from the football team and 47 from women's track and field. In total, 8,724 Baylor student-athletes have been named to the Commissioner's Honor Roll.

Baylor football placed six players on the Big 12 All-

Academic team for the season, with 10 more being named to the second team. Additionally, 11 Baylor soccer players made it onto the Big 12 All-Academic team with another two being added on the second team.

Bart Byrd, associate athletic director for student-athlete services, said academic success in the athletic department is a team effort.

"Academic success at Baylor has grown to be a tradition. Our goal in the athletic department is to prepare champions for life, and our student-athletes have proven once again this fall that academics is the first stepping stone in that goal," Byrd said in an email to the lariat. "I am extremely proud of how hard our student-athlete services staff works to make sure that we are preparing our student-athletes for life by making certain that our student-athletes are successful in the classroom. The success we have each semester is truly a team effort by the student-athletes, professors, coaches and our support staff. I look forward to seeing how successful we will be in future semesters at Baylor."

Baseball, football, acrobatics and tumbling, equestrian, soccer, men's tennis and women's tennis all tied or set new records for fall term GPA. Baylor women's golf led all programs with a cumulative GPA of 3.75 in the fall semester.

### LARIAT RADIO DOUBLE HEADER Monday, Feb. 6

**5:45 p.m.-- Don't Feed the Bears** with Thomas Mott and Jakob Brandenburg **LIVE** from the Ferrell Center.

**6:45 p.m. -- No. 2 Lady Bears Basketball vs. No. 12 UT Longhorns;** Jordan Smith and Hunter Hewell with play-by-play commentary

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