

# Baylor Lariat

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## Texas senator files five Title IX bills

**RYLEE SEEVERS**  
Staff Writer

Texas State Senator and Baylor alumnus Kirk Watson filed five bills relating to sexual assault and Title IX on Tuesday.

If passed, Senate Bills 966-970 would require changes to Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code and higher education Title IX policies, including an amnesty policy, an online reporting system for sexual assault cases and anonymous reporting.

"There's little question that the scandal at Baylor has focused attention and highlighted issues related to sexual assault on campuses," Watson wrote in an email to the Lariat. "But this isn't just about Baylor. Institutions across our state and our nation are facing challenges related to sexual assault, and it's time our state takes a step forward in protecting survivors/victims' rights."

The bills will require higher education institutions to amend their Title IX policies. SB 968 requires that universities have an electronic reporting system, allow anonymous reports and accept reports regardless of the location of the alleged event. SB 969 would require universities to give amnesty to any student that who reports a case of sexual assault that they witnessed or were victim of, even if that individual was in violation of the university's student conduct policy. SB 970 requires that all higher education institutions adopt a policy on sexual assault that would apply to any student or employee of the institution.

According to SB 970, the sexual assault policies must include standards for affirmative consent and must be available to all students and employees. It also requires that the university

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**The pill-popping generation:** Why millennials should not be proud of this label. **pg. 2**

arts & life

**Sean McConnell** to perform at Waco Hippodrome tonight. **pg. 8**

sports

**Rugby** looks to compete in a conference championship after a strong season. **pg. 9**



Photo Courtesy of WISD Communications Department

**ANOTHER ONE BITES THE CRUST** Cooks at the H-E-B Celebrity Cook-off on Feb. 19, 2016, are being awarded for their contributions. The Waco Independent School District raised \$115,000 fundraiser last year at the Waco Convention Center. This year, 30 chefs will compete in the cook-off.

## Thyme to Cook

Waco schools to host 11th annual H-E-B Celebrity Cook-off fundraiser tonight

**MEGAN RULE**  
Staff Writer

The Waco Independent School District will put an interesting spin on fundraising tonight by throwing food and local celebrities into the mix, along with a few other prizes and games.

"After the first year, we knew

we were on to something when we heard chefs already talking about what they would cook for the next year," said Bruce Gietzen, director of communications for WISD.

At 7 p.m. today at the Waco Convention Center, the 11th annual H-E-B Celebrity Cook-off will take place to raise money for classrooms. The event is put on by

the WISD Education Foundation to fund grants for innovative learning projects in the classroom, Gietzen said.

"The overall goal is we that all come together to have good food and interact with community members," said Tamra Jones,

**COOK-OFF >> Page 6**

## Student Senate votes to improve plaza

**THOMAS MOTT**  
Reporter

Student Senate passed a bill on Thursday evening allowing funds from the Student Government Allocation Fund to be put toward the improvement of the Traditions Plaza located next to the Immortal Ten statue. The vote was 26-6.

Currently, the Traditions Plaza is filled with dirt that becomes very muddy during rain, which makes it difficult to walk on.

"You can't walk any of that area. You have to walk around. It becomes completely muddy and is just a mess," said Fort Worth junior and Student Senator Elizabeth Larson.

Matt Burchett, director of Student Activities, said Baylor received a \$50,000 donation to put toward this project.

The Student Senate's bill originally only allowed for \$5,000 of the Student Government Allocation Fund to go to the Traditions Plaza; however, the bill was amended to allow for \$15,000 to be put toward this project.

The student government website explains that "The Student Government Allocation Fund (SGAF) is a financial resource available

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## Baylor offers veterans smooth transition

**KALYN STORY**  
Staff Writer

Luisa Villafranca said she experienced a culture shock as a new student at Baylor after serving seven years in the U.S. Air Force. She said she would not have been able to succeed in her collegiate career without the resources and support she received from Baylor's Veterans and Education Transitional Services (VETS) program.

It was no surprise to Villafranca that Baylor was ranked sixth in the nation among large private schools for veterans by the Guide to Military Friendly Schools. MilitaryFriendly.com praised Baylor's "outstanding commitment and programs for the nation's veterans and their families."

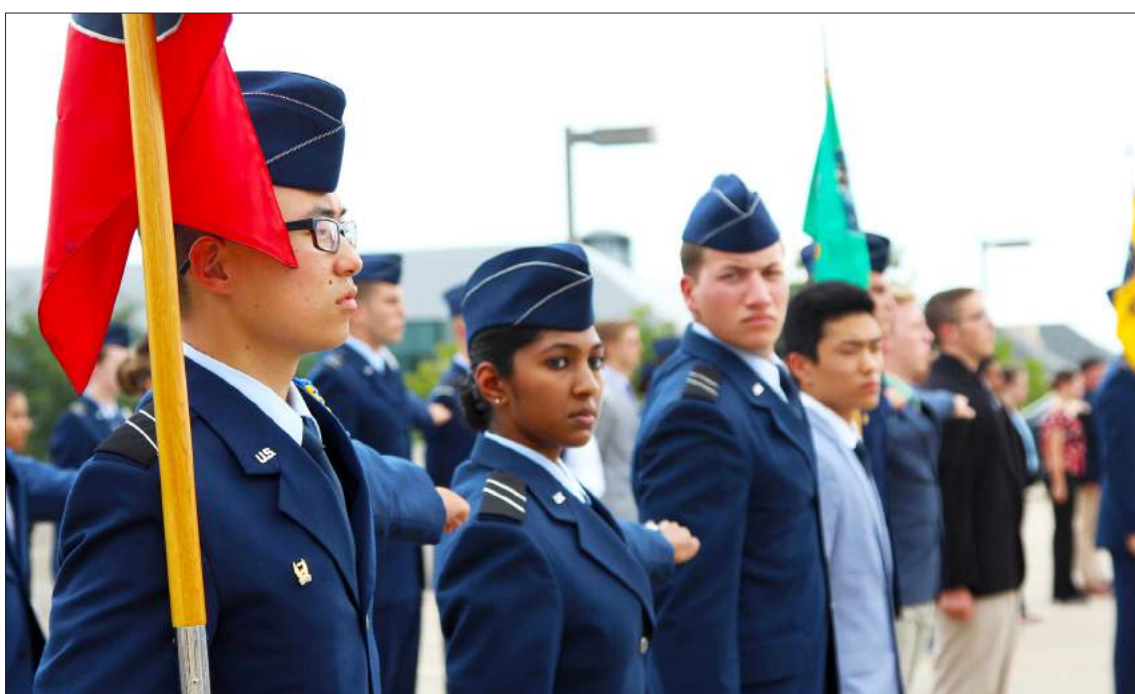
Villafranca said one of the most beneficial resources Baylor offered her was a veterans transition course which helped her move back into a civilian lifestyle and taught her to utilize the resources Baylor offers.

"Everyone I met at Baylor has been incredibly welcoming to me as a veteran," Villafranca said. "I don't think I would have made it without my supportive professors and classmates."

Kevin Davis, VETS program manager, Baylor graduate and U.S. Marine Corps veteran, now teaches the veteran transition class and said he learns more from his students than he thinks they learn from him.

"Baylor's mission is that I am supposed to be helping them prepare for worldwide service and leadership. Many of them have already accomplished that, and my job is to help them move forward and focus on their identity now as Baylor students," Davis said.

Davis said the military friendly



Liesje Powers | Photo Editor

**IN UNIFORM** Baylor AFROTC students complete a dress blues inspection on Sept. 14, 2016. Baylor was recently ranked sixth in the nation among large private schools for veterans.

title is well-deserved for all the people working in the veterans affairs office and that it is a constant reminder to him to always put the students first and show veterans that Baylor is more than military friendly.

"More than military friendly, I want to be military inspiring," Davis said. "It's not just thinking about supporting our veterans in a moment but really inspiring them to transition to new missions and new lives of service."

One thing Davis said sets Baylor above and beyond other universities when it comes to being military friendly is the financial aspect of a college education. Davis said many students may think Baylor is not an option for them economically

because it is a private school.

Davis explained that the post-9/11 GI Bill covers about \$23,000 in tuition for each veteran students a year, which is not enough to fund the cost of a Baylor education. Davis said Baylor opens up 300 Yellow Ribbon slots a year, meaning that whatever cost remains after the GI Bill funding, Baylor will pay half of it and the government will pay the second half, essentially covering the full tuition for veterans at Baylor.

Jessica Alford is the veterans coordinator at Baylor. She provides the benefits counseling for veteran students to help them make sure they are receiving all the education benefits they are eligible for.

"I get to work with the real heroes

every day," Alford said. "I can never repay these students enough who were willing to delay their education to defend my country."

Alford comes from a military family and has always wanted to serve veterans. She said she loves helping veterans at Baylor in any way she can.

Alford said she is always looking for ways to go above and beyond her job description, like helping veterans find child care and look for jobs after they graduate.

"I will do anything to help veterans succeed in and outside of Baylor," Alford said. "I am in awe of each and every one of them."



**GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?**

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**COLUMN**

## Why Hugh Jackman is a total boss

**JACK PARSLEY**  
Reporter

Hugh Jackman has had the most impressive run of any superhero actor to date. Jackman has been the face of the X-Men franchise for 17 years, and next week when “Logan,” his final portrayal of Wolverine, hits theaters, it will be the ninth time Jackman has played the character.



There will be people next week who are old enough to go see the R-rated X-Men movie who were not born when Jackman first began filming the original X-Men movies.

This 17-year run of playing the same character is completely unprecedented in the superhero genre, where rebooting and recasting happen so frequently.

During Jackman’s tenure as Wolverine, we have seen three actors play Spider-Man, three actors play the Hulk, two actors play Batman and two actors play Superman. Chris Evans, Ryan Reynolds and Ben Affleck have all finished their run as one superhero and taken on a second superhero role in the middle of Jackman’s time as Wolverine.

Jackman’s portrayal of Wolverine is noteworthy not only because of the length of time he has been playing the character, but also because of how he has embodied the character. I almost expected Jackman to pop out metal claws and start cutting people up in the middle of “Les Misérables” because he is permanently linked to Wolverine in my mind.

It is weird to watch him play other characters, just like I’m sure it will be weird when, one day, another actor plays Wolverine.

Jackman’s “Logan” co-star, Patrick Stewart, will be playing Professor Charles Xavier for the seventh time, but his tenure, while just as long as Jackman’s, is not quite as impressive. Stewart is not the only actor to have taken on the role of Charles Xavier. James McAvoy took on the role in the 2011 X-Men prequel “X-Men: First Class.”

Stewart’s is definitely the more iconic of the two Xaviers, but McAvoy has added a lot to the role as well. Stewart also lacks his own trilogy of solo movies like Jackman does to help boost his superhero legacy.

The only actor who really has a shot to outdo what Jackman has done with Wolverine is Robert Downey Jr. in his portrayal of Iron Man. Downey Jr. began his superhero journey in 2008 and will continue to play Iron Man until at least 2019, but after that his contract with Marvel is up, and he may not put on his metal mask again.

He has already hinted that he is ready to move on from the role, and it is a real possibility that we could see a new Iron Man in the not so distant future.

If Downey Jr. were to end his run as Iron Man in 2019, it would still be a very impressive 11-year run, and he would forever be Iron Man in the eyes of many fans, but he won’t have outdone Jackman.

It will be sad to see Jackman hang up the unbreakable claws, but 17 years of Jackman’s Wolverine is worth celebrating. Logan is getting a lot of good reviews so far and is looking like it could be the best X-Men movie yet.

I hope that this is the case and that Jackman’s final ride as Wolverine is a memorable one for all of us.

*Jack Parsley is a senior journalism major from Coppell.*

**EDITORIAL**

## “I’m gonna pop some pills”



Joshua Kim | Cartoonist

Young adults today have been dubbed the painkiller generation, as named by Andrew Gregory in his article “Painkiller generation,” a title to add to the millennial collection: generation me, MyPod generation, generation now. However, this label is more serious than most and harder to dismiss.

About 60 percent of Americans are taking a prescription of some kind, with 15 percent of the population taking five prescriptions daily, according to the Huffington Post. The largest categories for these prescriptions are blood pressure, anti-depressants, cholesterol and opioid painkillers.

These numbers are higher than the roughly 50 percent of the United Kingdom population on prescription drugs, according to BBC News, and doesn’t account for the medications being taken over the counter.

Drug abuse can present itself in many forms, including the use

of prescription drugs meant for another person, overdosing on prescription medication, overdose on over-the-counter medication or illegal substances, as explained by the Addiction Community. These medications are commonly painkillers, whether prescribed or not.

Over-the-counter drugs are readily available to anyone old enough to buy them, and often are available at younger ages, as they have become household items. One in three young adults aged 18 to 24 admits to taking an over the counter pill once every day if faced with a small amount of pain or discomfort, according to Gregory. By using painkillers daily, the medicine loses its effect on the body and allows for the cycle of painkiller abuse.

Taking medication without a real need can cause the body to become dependent on it. Many forms of painkillers, if used daily, can cause the user feel withdrawal

headaches if they stop taking medication suddenly, according to the Huffington Post.

This increases the likelihood of the user to continue taking the pill, eventually leading to a higher dose. After a certain point, the drugs no longer serve to fix the small amount of discomfort users were experiencing, but instead fulfill an emotional need, like a mood change or a wave of anxiety.

Those who take aspirin, ibuprofen or paracetamol have the highest risk of suffering liver damage, heart attacks, kidney problems and strokes, as stated by the Huffington Post.

To put overuse of over-the-counter drugs to bed, those using them must first realize that there is an issue. If you or someone you know is taking pills that are not prescribed to them for longer than a period of seven days, it is time to go to a doctor or clinic.

For those who notice that they take pills for more issues than

necessary, there are other ways to deal with pain.

Perhaps a few sessions of yoga or a chiropractic session could relieve the backache from carrying too many books to class. An extra 20 mL of water a day could keep that headache from lingering, or maybe a pass on the third coffee of the day.

A stomachache could be cured with some crackers and ginger-ale or a solid amount of rest. If an issue is painful enough to need medication, it is best to visit a doctor because they fully understand the dosage and long-term effects of the medicine they prescribe.

Pills are meant not to be a continual crutch, but rather a short-term medical solution to a real problem.

Avoid using painkillers to solve small issues, so that when faced with large issues, your body can both receive and recover from other medications.

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### Lariat Letters

To submit a Lariat Letter, email [LariatLetters@baylor.edu](mailto:LariatLetters@baylor.edu). Letters should be a maximum of 400 words. The letter is not guaranteed to be published.



# Campus Kitchen competes for hunger relief

**RACHEL SMITH**  
Reporter

For the first time, the Campus Kitchen at Baylor University competed in "Raise the Dough," an annual online fundraiser for the Campus Kitchens Project, a national nonprofit.

The fundraiser, which lasted from Feb. 17 to today, allowed Campus Kitchen at Baylor University to compete against 25 high schools and universities to raise money for local hunger relief efforts. College Station junior Rebecca Peirce, director of the Baylor organization, said the money would fund seeds and mulch for its community garden, cooking supplies and potentially a garden shed.

"Everything is online this year, so we have a website donors can go to donate if they desire," Peirce said. "It's basically to help us keep our kitchen running as it should and to get things that we need."

The Craig Newmark Philanthropic Fund will match donations under \$100 up to \$7,500, and Campus Kitchens that raise the most money or involve the most individual donors will win cash prizes totaling \$2,500. The national nonprofit will announce prize-winning kitchens Monday.

"Getting people engaged in helping others is a big deal," said Craig Newmark, founder of Craigslist and the Craig Newmark Philanthropic Fund, in a Campus Kitchen press release. "It's how we'll change the world."

The Campus Kitchen Project empowers students nationwide to fight local hunger and food waste. Campus Kitchen at Baylor University delivers meals to local nonprofit partners through recovery and delivery shifts, which utilize food left in dining halls after lunch times.

"We pick it up, and we take it to the Salvation Army," Peirce said. "It's one of my favorite things that I've done while at Baylor."

Peirce started volunteering with the organization her freshman year, following in the footsteps of her older brother and sister, who also attended Baylor.

"I heard about it and thought I'd give it a try," Peirce said. "I did it my freshman year and just really fell in love with the work that we do and the people that we help."

During her sophomore year, Peirce joined the executive team, which she said has about 12 people, while there are about 50 to 60 additional volunteers. Students work cooking shifts in Penland Crossroads Dining Hall three times a week and run a community garden managed by Georgetown junior Madison Stewart.

"I'm really passionate about gardening," Stewart said. "I don't think anyone should go hungry, and I don't think food should be wasted."

The garden, located on the corner of Ninth Street and James Avenue, is just larger than an acre and grows produce to be used in meals for local nonprofit partners such as Mission Waco, the Cove and the Family Abuse Center. Stewart said the garden has been her passion since she began volunteering with Campus Kitchen.

"Gardening is my hobby," Stewart said. "Gardening with a purpose means a lot to me. Being able to see people eat something that is healthy and organic really makes a huge difference."

The garden provides Campus Kitchen at Baylor University with produce and herbs such as kale, potatoes, broccoli, strawberries, cilantro and onions. Students work shifts in the garden Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

"It really means a lot especially because those people are here in this community," Stewart said. "It's just really meaningful."



Jessica Hubble | Lariat Photographer  
**GIVE BACK** The Campus Kitchen at Baylor is competing in a competition to raise money for local hunger relief efforts. Leftover food from dining halls will go to local nonprofits.

## Sing and Learn



**FIRST PRACTICE** Dr. Alexandre Thiltges, professor of French, leads the first rehearsal for the Global BU Vision, a concert of students learning different languages, on Feb. 23 in the Draper Academic Building. The group runs through their first piece, a lively French song.

Liesje Powers | Photo Editor

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**COOK-OFF**  
from Page 1

public affairs manager for H-E-B. "But ultimately, it's our children and our educators that are going to benefit from all the volunteering."

Jones said H-E-B really enjoys being a part of the fundraiser, as it was one of the founding members, along with Coca-Cola Waco and Gietzen of WISD. Jones said it all started when a few business leaders got together and decided they needed to help support the WISD Education Foundation, so they combined what they're good at. Bill Davenport, general manager of the Valley Mills H-E-B, leads the H-E-B team and is also a "forever chef," one who has been cooking since the start of the event.

"Competing and fundraising in the H-E-B Celebrity Cook-off is the most rewarding work I do all year," Davenport said in an email to the Lariat. "While attendance to this event has become highly sought after, the unique thing is that all the funds raised go directly into the classrooms of WISD. This allows our students and educators to do things they otherwise would not have the funds to do."

The event is really interactive, Jones said, and the fun is for a good cause as it all supports children and local classrooms. Waco Motorsports sales representative Anson Massey said Waco Motorsports has been involved in the event for a while, and this year it is giving away a few different units. Massey said he is proud that this event is beneficial to the community since Waco Motorsports is a community-oriented business.

"I'm excited about the food, but honestly I'm most excited about getting to meet other people that have the same idea we do about supporting the schools and supporting the communities," Massey said. "Most importantly, I'm excited to interact with people that want to support the schools just like we do."

Gietzen said this year 24 grants will be funded through the \$100,000 that has been raised. The grants supply money for what is not covered in the school budget such as supplies or a guest speaker. Gietzen said the community responded in a phenomenal way after the first event with sponsorships, so they decided to keep it going.

The event will consist of not only the food that is being judged, but games and live auctions as well. Some of the games are Tops or Tails, Shopper Showdown and Bucket List. Tops or Tails is a game where a coin is flipped and the game players grab either their head or their tail, and after a few rounds, a winner is narrowed down. Bucket List is where participants enter for a raffle ticket to win prizes throughout the night. Shopper Showdown is where participants guess how much items cost at H-E-B.

"Really, it's just a fun night to for a great cause of helping the WISD continue on their great path to have innovative projects and thinking that helps kids get the best education possible," Gietzen said.

The event sold out two months ago, Gietzen said. This year's cook-off will feature approximately 30 chefs for whom Gietzen expressed extreme gratitude for, as he said the event would not be possible without them. The entire event and the people that are a part of it are unique and help provide the best education possible for Waco students, Gietzen said. Gietzen said that Prize Patrol, the day the grant checks get presented to educators, is an emotional day that ties the whole event together.

To see the excitement in the students and teachers is an emotional moment," Gietzen said. "It makes you appreciate when you see where donations are going and the difference it makes for kids and classrooms. It's a rewarding day."

**PLAZA** from Page 1



**CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS** Dallas sophomore Troy Dixon speaks at a Student Senate meeting on Thursday at the Paul L. Foster Campus for Business and Innovation. Liesje Powers | Photo Editor

to those seeking to create a universitywide impact through campus improvement projects, social events, educational causes and charitable endeavors."

Burchett said there is a five-step process to the improvements. The first step is to improve drainage and irrigation in the space so it does not get muddy. The second step is to create more hardscaping, or man-made features. The third step is to protect the historic trees by placing barriers and walls around them. The fourth step is to place lighting around the space so it is usable at night. Finally, the plan is to put climbing ivy on and around all of the walls.

While the additional \$15,000

put into the fund by the Student Senate is not enough to begin construction on the square, it is a step toward getting the area improved. Burchett said this will be a six-figure project and will need additional funding on top of the \$50,000 donation and the \$15,000 from the Student Government Allocation Fund to be able to fully complete this project.

Larson, the bill's author, said she hopes additional funding can be secured so the Traditions Plaza can look better and be more functional for students.

"They are just really going to beautify the space, and they are also going to make it more accessible for students," Larson said.

# YEARBOOK PORTRAIT TIME

## All Classifications

Tuesday, March 21  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday, March 24  
9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Wednesday, March 22  
9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Tuesday, March 28  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Thursday, March 23  
9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Friday, March 31  
9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

in Moody Library

## SENIORS ONLY

Wednesday, March 29  
Noon to 6 p.m.

Thursday, March 30  
Noon to 6 p.m.

### Where?

Bear Faire in the Stone Room of the Ferrell Center

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# ROUNDUP

Yearbook



News

# Boogie with Buffalo

Students, Mayborn Museum staff to record video for fourth annual dance-off contest

**RACHEL SMITH**  
Reporter

Mayborn Museum Complex staff and graduate museum studies students met Wednesday to begin planning their video for “When You Work at a Museum” blog’s fourth annual international Museum Dance-Off competition.

Their core project team consists of graduate students in the museum studies program, but participation in the video is open to Mayborn staff as well as all Baylor students. Dr. Kim McCray, lecturer of museum studies and part of the core project team, said they will film the video sometime in March to submit by the contest deadline on March 31.

“For me, it’s a great opportunity to get the chance to work with everyone in this kind of collaborative format where we have the opportunity to create something together and to get to know each other during that process as well,” McCray said.

After online voting, which begins April 17, winners from nine global regions will compete in the final Thunderdome Round. Prizes include a trophy and bragging rights, and the blog will announce categories for Judges’ Choice Awards at a later date.

“Our first goal, first and foremost, is just to

have fun,” McCray said, “to create something that allows us to use our different creative energies to highlight the magic of the Mayborn and the strength that the museum offers people as an asset to the university, the community and the museum studies program.”

Videos from past years have gone viral, including Monticello’s rendition of Flo Rida’s “My House” and the National Museum of American History’s performance to MC Hammer’s “U Can’t Touch This.”

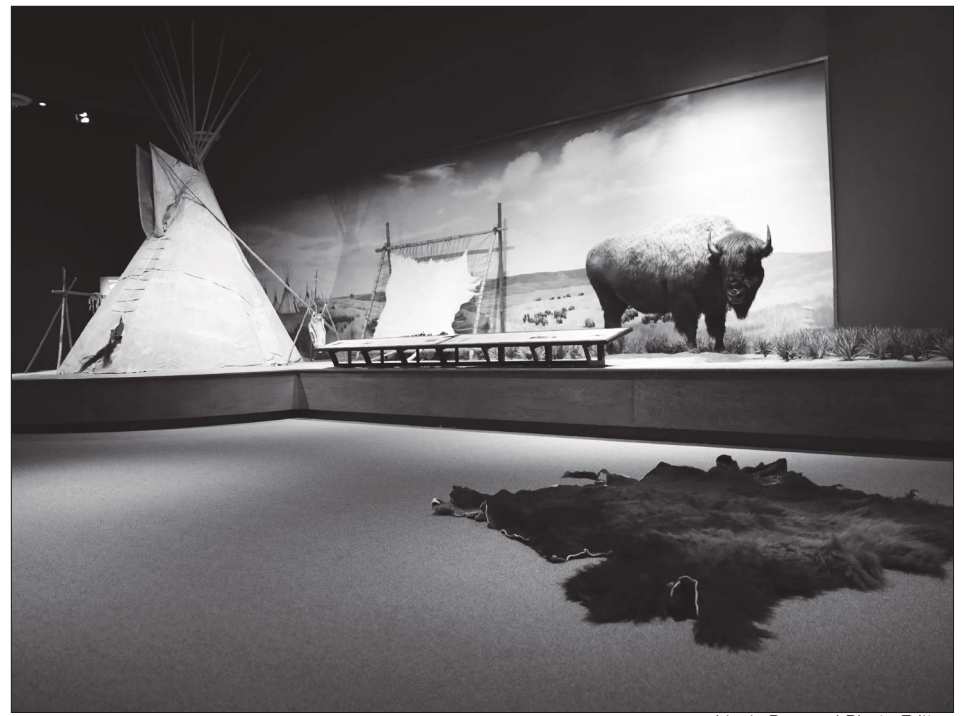
“I think this is another way to illustrate what everyone’s trying to work on here at the Mayborn,” McCray said.

Design den coordinator Emily Clark said she likes showing people that the Mayborn Museum staff enjoys the work they do because visitors then have more fun interacting with the museum.

“I’m always trying to tell people it’s just fun to work at a museum,” Clark said. “I think this is a good way to showcase that we have really fun jobs. I think that makes us a more fun place to visit.”

During its first planning meeting, the team discussed potential songs and themes for the video, which must last between two and five minutes.

“It’s going to be fun to make it and promote it,” Clark said. “I’m kind of excited for pushing



Liesje Powers | Photo Editor

**DANCE, DANCE** Graduate museum studies students are set to join Mayborn Museum staff to record an entry at the Mayborn Museum for the “When You Work at a Museum” blog.

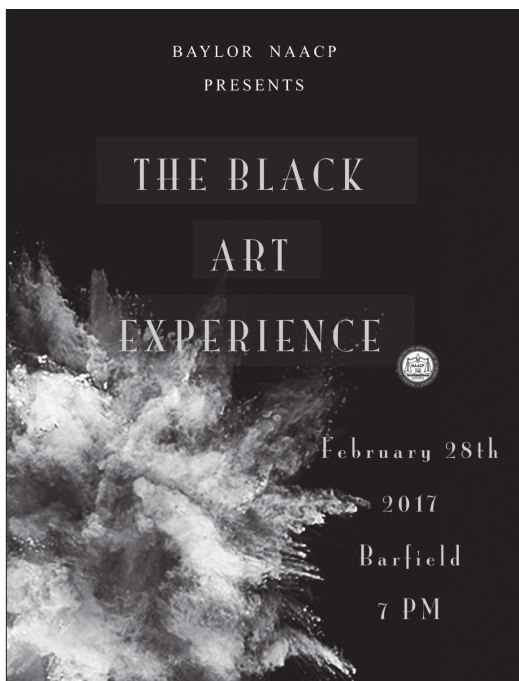
for votes. I think that’s going to be kind of fun.”

Graduate museum studies student Madeleine Calcote will contribute to the project with choreography.

“I think it’s a really fun activity, and it draws a lot on my dance background,” Calcote said. “I really am excited to be back and thinking about that kind of stuff. It just shows that literally any job that you do, you can always use those skills from it because I never thought I would use my choreography skills in graduate school.”

Students who are interested in participating in or creating the video can contact Clark at [Emily\\_R\\_Clark@baylor.edu](mailto:Emily_R_Clark@baylor.edu) or McCray at [Kimberly\\_McCray@baylor.edu](mailto:Kimberly_McCray@baylor.edu).

“I’m excited to see everybody’s energy level in it,” Calcote said. “I think that’s going to be fun to see everybody let loose a little bit because you don’t normally dance around the museum, in most cases. It’ll be fun to watch everybody have their own experience with it.”



Courtesy Art

## NAACP hosts The Black Art Experience

**CHRISTINA SOTO**  
Broadcast Reporter

The Baylor NAACP will host The Black Art Experience at 7 p.m. on Feb. 28 in Barfield Drawing Room. The event includes a variety of art from poets, singers, rappers, musicians, painters, and vendors. There will be a total of 15 performing artists and six non-performing artists.

Washington D.C. junior and NAACP vice president Tori Hasty planned this event with NAACP’s entertainment committee. “There will also be vendors of small, black-owned businesses. You’ll get a little of everything at the Black Art

Experience,” Hasty said.

Hasty says it has been a long process to make sure the event runs smoothly from rehearsing with the artist to running things behind the scenes.

“My number one goal is that the artists featured feel empowered to continue pursuing their artistic passions. This event is all about the artists. It’s their showcase; I’m just here to create a space in which they feel comfortable to do so,” Hasty said.

St. Martinville, La., junior Kristen Mouton is showcasing three spoken word pieces about identity and social justice, as well as a canvas painting. Mouton

said the canvas painting depicts black women as a force of nature.

“My main inspiration for creating art is my passion for social justice. As Nina Simone once said, ‘How can you be an artist and not reflect the times?’” Mouton said.

Spring junior and NAACP president Reggie Singletary said he is looking forward to seeing people be themselves in the way that expresses themselves the most. Singletary said he wants people to see the talent the community has.

“Black art needs to be uplifted on the same level as any form of success or achievement instead of just cast away into a different

category for different kind of people. We are capable of creating,” Singletary said.

Mouton said she decided to showcase her art because she wanted a chance to share her unique perspective on the ways that art and activism can intersect.

“I want to inspire more individuals to tell their stories and use art to make a change,” Mouton said.

Hasty said she hopes people recognize the talent on this campus and in the Waco community.

“I’d love for everyone to leave the Black Art Experience appreciating art so much more,” Hasty said.

## BILLS from Page 1

### Proposed Bills:

**SB 966** - Would amend the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code to include provisions for minors in possession of alcohol not to be criminally charged if they report a case of sexual assault to a health care provider, law enforcement officer or Title IX coordinator.

**SB 967** - Would amend the current penal code regarding assaultive offenses.

**SB 968** - Would require higher institutions to give students and employees an option to electronically report sexual assault offenses.

**SB 969** - Would require higher institutions to extend amnesty to a student that reports a case of sexual assault, even if the student is in violation of the institutions conduct code.

**SB 970** - Would require public and private higher institutions to implement a sexual assault policy.

must implement a public awareness campaign of the affirmative consent standards, students entering the university must attend an orientation regarding the sexual assault policies and the institution must review its policy every two years.

Baylor’s Title IX policy is already in compliance with many of the requirements in the new bills.

“Baylor University took unprecedented corrective actions that led to leadership changes within the university administration and athletic department and 105 recommendations that have been well-documented to strengthen the safety and security of our students,” Lori Fogleman, assistant vice president for media communications at Baylor, wrote in an email to the Lariat.

SB 967 would amend the current code regarding sexual assault to include alcohol as a substance that could be used to impair a person’s ability to consent to sex or resist an act.

The current code states that a person commits an offense if the offender “administers or provides flunitrazepam, otherwise known as rohypnol, gamma hydroxybutyrate, or ketamine to the victim of the offense with the intent of facilitating the commission of the offense.”

Rohypnol, gamma hydroxybutyrate and ketamine are the most common “date rape” drugs, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office on Women’s Health.

The new bill omits the names of specific substances and says that a person commits an offense if they administer “any substance capable of impairing the victim’s ability to appraise the nature of the act or to resist the act.”

Another statement is made in SB 970 regarding alcohol, stating that all higher education institutions must include a policy to reflect that a person cannot consent to sex if they are incapacitated due to alcohol or any other substance, condition or state.

“This provision could include alcohol. Currently, the provision only allows for what some people call ‘date rape’ drugs. Under my

bill, administering alcohol to the point of incapacitation is taken just as seriously as giving someone [gamma hydroxybutyrate],” Watson wrote in an email to the Lariat.

Watson explained that these bills can affect change by starting a conversation among students. He wrote that some universities many have sexual assault policies, but students are unaware of them. SB 970 would require a public awareness campaign regarding the institution’s affirmative consent standard, he wrote.

“As with all bills, there will always be some pushback, especially with such a sensitive topic as sexual assault. With that being said, I do expect bipartisan support,” Watson wrote.

Watson wrote that students have the right to feel safe on their campuses and that people have a right to their bodies and privacy. He also wrote that he wants victims and survivors to know that they are heard and cared about.

“We hope that these bills encourage reporting if a victim or witnesses feels compelled to do so. These bills are about changing our culture. We want to make sure the law reflects our priorities as a state, including protecting a person’s right to protect their own body,” Watson wrote.

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## Soulful singer comes to Waco

**KASSIDY WOYTEK**  
Reporter

Sean McConnell performs at 7 p.m. at the historic Hippodrome Theatre, showcasing a musical style that he describes as “singer-songwriter Americana soul.” Fans of the singer can expect to hear new music that McConnell has written in the past few weeks. He said he’s especially excited for those attending the show to hear “From the Wrong Side of Town” and “Greetings from Niagara Falls,” which have not yet been released on any album.

McConnell said his love for music started when he was a child growing up with parents who were also folk singers. He described a childhood home where musicians were constantly coming in and out, and his parents were always writing songs or performing.

“I saw that from a young age and got bit by the bug very early on,” McConnell said. “My parents are definitely the biggest influence on me musically.”

Backed by a supportive family, McConnell released his first album when he was only 15 years old. According to his website, he has released eight albums since then and gained a loyal following.

McConnell said he makes a habit of visiting the merchandise table at the end of his shows because it gives him a chance to interact with his fans.

“Most everyone I meet is super kind,” McConnell said. “It’s a singer-songwriter-based show, so I feel like it makes for good conversations, and people have a lot of questions about the music.”

One of those fans is Vernon senior Sarah Borchardt, who first discovered McConnell’s music when his song “Novocaine” popped up on a playlist she was listening to freshman year.

“I like his music because it’s folksy, and he sings with a lot of soul,” Borchardt said. “I went to his page and listened to the rest of his songs, and now I love him.”

Borchardt said she was disappointed that she won’t be able to attend tonight’s concert because she’s participating in All-University Sing. However, she might get another chance soon.

According to McConnell, Waco is a regular stop for him when he’s touring. He’s performed at Common Grounds and the Backyard Bar and Grill before, and said he plans on returning.



Courtesy Art

**AMERICANA SOUL** Sean McConnell performs at 7 p.m. today at the Waco Hippodrome Theatre, 724 Austin Ave. Tickets are available at <http://bit.ly/SeanMcConnellBalcony> for \$12. Orchestra seats are sold out, but stadium-style seating is still available on the balcony level.

Tonight will be McConnell’s first performance at the Hippodrome, but the theater’s general manager, Mark Gillham, said they would love to have him back again.

“We’ve been trying to get Sean in here for a while,” Gillham said. “He’s one of the

guys we’ve had on our radar.” Gillham said he first heard about McConnell’s popularity with Baylor students when a friend of his raved about his concert last year at Common Grounds.

According to Gillham, the Hippodrome is not only a great spot to see movies, but also includes a

restaurant, wedding venue and location for concerts like McConnell’s.

“We’re just trying to expand our horizons a little,” Gillham said. “We want to pull some students in here and show them what we can do.”

### This weekend in Waco:

#### >> Today

**6:30 p.m.**— All-University Sing. Sold Out. Waco Hall.

**7-9:30 p.m.**— Sean McConnell performs. Waco Hippodrome, 724 Austin Ave.

**7:30-9 p.m.**— “How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying.” Ball Performing Arts Center-MCC, 1400 College Drive.

**8-11 p.m.**— Strahan performs. \$12-\$15. Common Grounds.

#### >> Saturday

**9 a.m.-1 p.m.**— Waco Downtown Farmers Market. 400 S. University Parks Drive.

**6:30 p.m.**— All-University Sing. Sold Out. Waco Hall.

**8-11 p.m.**— The Collection performs. \$8-\$10. Common Grounds.

## Baylor couple head over heels after 60 years

**JESSICA BABB**

Broadcast Managing Editor

It all began on Baylor’s campus in February of 1957 when Carolyn and Stan Wilkes met in front of Alexander Hall on a blind date. Reminiscing on that day, the couple came back to visit the dorm to celebrate their 60-year anniversary.

Stan said it was love at first sight. “Just walking across the foyer of Alexander, it was an instant attraction,” he said.

After meeting at the dorm, the two walked over to Waco Hall to enjoy both a ballet and each other’s company. After getting to know each other, they realized he was from Houston and she was from a small town named Claw.

“We’ve had a good time, but it was an example of a city boy with a

country girl,” Carolyn Wilkes said.

Stan said one of his classmates helped set the two up because he was a shy guy.

Carolyn said the real reason he wanted to find a date was because she was part of a Baylor choir that was planning to take a trip to perform in Memphis, Tennessee — and Stan wanted to tag along.

“They needed someone in the choir,” Carolyn said.

“She met the specifications,” Stan jokingly added.

They only shared one semester together at Baylor before Stan graduated and went to attend law school at the University of Texas. About a year later, the two were married and began their lives together.

“When he graduated and I knew that college time was up, it was hard for me to think that I could go on

### ONLINE EXTRAS

See the broadcast video at: <http://baylorlariat.com/category/broadcast-news/>

BAYLORLARIAT.COM

without wanting to be around him,” Carolyn said.

Throughout the past 60 years, Stan and Carolyn’s relationship has flourished as they have gone on adventures, raised a family and shared timeless memories with one another. Both agree they are each other’s best friends.

Stan even offered some advice for current Baylor students who are hoping to meet “the one.”

“If you get to be a last semester senior and you haven’t found that person yet, don’t give up. It’ll happen,”

Stan said.

Stan and Carolyn have recently moved back to Waco to be closer to both family members who attend Baylor and the community that brought them together.

“[Baylor] has just been so much a part of our lives. What it really meant was for us to pass it on, our appreciation of Baylor and what it is to our kids and our grandkids. We trust they will do the same thing if they can hang in for 60 years,” Carolyn said.

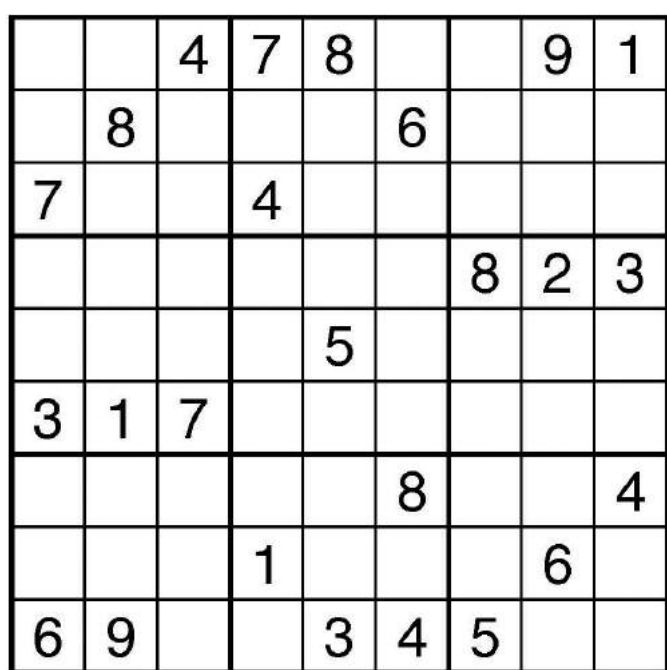
Reflecting on their marriage in the lobby of Alexander Hall during their visit, they were appreciative of the memories they have shared, and they plan on sharing many more memories with one another in the years to come.

“We are much happier now than way back then. It just gets better,” Stan said.



Courtesy Art

**THROUGH THE AGES** Stan and Carolyn Wilkes met at Baylor and have been married for 60 years.



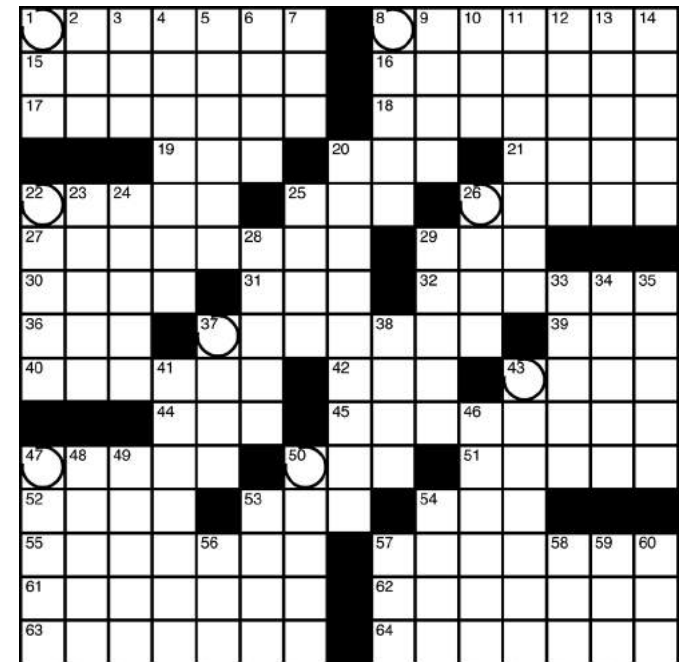
### Today’s Puzzles

#### Across

- 1 Oldest U.S. capital
- 8 Spade creator
- 15 Melodic movements
- 16 Ancient region now part of France
- 17 Is serious
- 18 Impulse conductors
- 19 Much toothpaste
- 20 U.S. neighbor
- 21 “Picnic” dramatist
- 22 Letter between November and Papa
- 25 Singer’s warm-up syllables
- 26 Indy-winning family name
- 27 Swears by
- 29 66, e.g.: Abbr.
- 30 Metaphor for jobs
- 31 Lav, in London
- 32 Singer Kitt
- 36 “... quit!”
- 37 Kind of bath
- 39 “Just like that!”
- 40 Sign-off words
- 42 Director Lupino
- 43 Corny state?
- 44 MSN, for one
- 45 “I’m good”
- 47 Jazzy Jones
- 50 Miracle Mets manager Hodges
- 51 Frozen fruit-flavored drinks
- 52 Slanted piece
- 53 Sounds at spas
- 54 2017 Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee
- 55 Enchant
- 57 Blog comment format usually interpreted as the word spelled by eight aptly circled puzzle letters
- 61 Norse explorer
- 62 Daughter of Agamemnon
- 63 End of a baseball game, usually
- 64 Like siblings

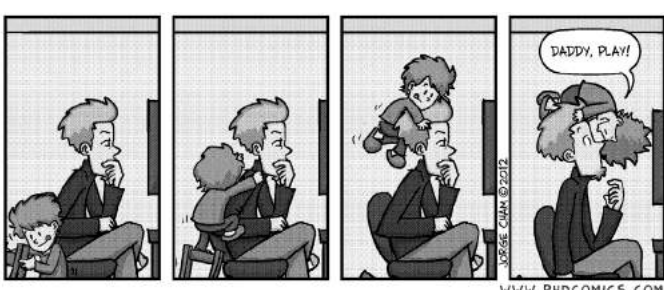
#### Down

- 1 \_\_ Adams
- 2 “Who \_\_ you kidding?”
- 3 Actress Vardalos



- 4 Polynesian archipelago natives
- 5 State as fact
- 6 Impede, as a plot
- 7 Guinness suffix
- 8 \_\_ Her Way
- 9 “A Clockwork Orange” narrator
- 10 2015 Big Ten champs: Abbr.
- 11 Siren’s victim
- 12 Waist-length jackets
- 13 Faint trace
- 14 Trademarked weapon
- 20 One-piece beachwear
- 22 Former #1 golfer Lorena who hosts an annual Guadalajara LPGA event
- 23 Heads up
- 24 Adorable one
- 25 Screen \_\_
- 26 Four Corners state
- 28 Openly enjoy, as soup
- 29 Convened again

- 33 Rib eye alternative
- 34 Ethan of “Boyshood”
- 35 Gather up
- 37 John who composed the “NBA on NBC” theme song
- 38 Much-followed star
- 41 Gorge crosser
- 43 Former Chrysler head
- 46 Early Jewish scholar
- 47 116-year-old prize
- 48 Philip Glass’ “Einstein on the Beach,” e.g.
- 49 Kelly’s ex-partner
- 50 Belgian treaty city
- 53 Jesus of baseball
- 54 She, in Cherbourg
- 56 Bar opening?
- 57 \_\_ Lingus
- 58 DIRECTV parent
- 59 Ante- kin
- 60 Bummed out



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



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## Rugby pounds the competition



Liesje Powers | Lariat Photo Editor

**THE OTHER HEISMAN** Students on the Baylor rugby team participate in practice on Feb. 22 for their upcoming game this Saturday against Texas Tech in Waco.

**DARRELL HARRIS**  
Reporter

The Baylor rugby team is having its best season in over a decade. The squad is poised to compete for a conference championship and perhaps even make a run for a national championship. The team's immediate goal may be to win championships, but this year's club has a bigger goal it is aiming for as well.

The use of the term "club" was not simply a synonym for team. It was completely intentional. Baylor's rugby program is not an official sport on campus – it is just a club run primarily by the players themselves.

Senior eight-man Pete Hamm, who currently serves as the team's captain, says they are more than just a club sport.

"We do our best to facilitate the team as if it's an NCAA sport," Hamm said, "because we have high aspirations and want to be the best team we could be."

This includes a rigorous practice schedule where they typically have only one day off during the school week in preparation for matches on the weekends. The club played its first game on Oct.

1 of last year meaning they have an in-season mindset throughout the entire school year which requires great mental endurance.

The club's discipline has paid off in the form of a 6-1 record, already surpassing their 5-3 final record from last year. The Bears are currently first in the Red River Rugby conference of Division 1A rugby, the highest level of collegiate rugby in the country. Following an impressive win this past weekend against Oklahoma (4-3), the club is on the cusp of being nationally ranked. The club's victory over Oklahoma also avenged their sole loss on the season, which came against the Sooners last November.

This Saturday, the Bears play Texas Tech (1-4) and a victory there would place them in the conference championship game. This is a remarkable turnaround for Baylor's rugby team considering just four seasons ago the club finished with a 0-10 record.

The team's members hope that they earn the attention of the university in the process of this season.

"One of our goals this

year is to show the university [that] Baylor has a savage rugby team," Hamm said. "... One who is here to make their mark on campus and represent Baylor in a positive light in the athletic community."

Hamm also discussed what sponsorship from Baylor would do for their program.

"An official sponsoring of the organization from Baylor's athletic department would help further legitimize the rugby team as well as benefit the university by having another championship-caliber athletic program," Hamm said.

The rugby team's diligence and commitment to excellence could also be attributed to their head coach Mason Hering.

"He dedicates a lot of his time to us," Sophomore center Stewart Morris said. "He's helped us grow as men, as Christians and as rugby players. He's been the driving force for us."

Hering played and coached professional rugby for over 10 years for the Austin Blacks, so he brings a lot of experience to Baylor's rugby program. Hering and the rest of the squad are hoping to win Baylor's first Rugby National Championship since 2001.

**TODAY ONLINE >>** **Lady Bears Basketball:** Preview of the Lady Bears vs. Lady Raiders [BaylorLariat.com](http://BaylorLariat.com)  
**Baylor Bears Baseball:** Weekend series vs. South Alabama preview [@BULariatSports](https://twitter.com/BULariatSports)

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**Upcoming on Baylor Lariat Radio**

**>> Tonight 6:15 p.m.**  
Baylor Bears Baseball vs. South Alabama Jaguars (Game 1 of 3)— live from Baylor Ballpark

**>> Sat. 11:45 a.m.**  
No. 4 Lady Bears Basketball vs. Texas Tech Lady Raiders— live from the Ferrell Center

**2:45 p.m.**  
Baylor Bears Baseball vs. South Alabama Jaguars (Game 2 of 3)— live from Baylor Ballpark

**>> Sunday 12:45 p.m.**  
Baylor Bears Baseball vs. South Alabama (Series Finale)— live from Baylor Ballpark

**\*All times in CT**  
\*Times are beginning of coverage by Baylor Lariat Radio



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