HELENA HUNT

Students dress up to bring slavery down
DRESSEMBER

This month, despite dropping temperatures and bringing winds, several students will be dressing up every day. This month isn’t just December. For some, it’s Dressember. Dressember is a call, not only to wear a dress for 31 days in a row, but to give attention and funds to the International Justice Mission, which advocates against human trafficking.

Members at Baylor’s chapter of IJM are realizing their closets now for the monthlong pledge.

“I was having dress-up Fridays to figure this out. Sometimes all the girls will get together and it’s like, ‘OK, we’ve got long sleeves and trousers, how do we put this under and wear things, how many pairs of tights do we need?’” said Porto, Cali, junior Annie Penclo. “It’s actually really fun, because you get to look at your clothes in a different way.”

Of course, the month isn’t only about fashion. Participants in December are looking for sponsors who will donate funds to the national branch of IJM, funds which will go to running the organization’s efforts in supporting human rights outreach programs.

The global coalition, which uses university chapters to raise awareness for its cause, works to stop human trafficking and other injustices to individuals from sexual and personal violence. The nonprofit group’s effectiveness in working alongside local leaders and governments to effect change has been recognized by the State Department, The New York Times and other outlets.

Wearing dresses is a tribute to the dignity of women, especially the women that IJM advocates for. Because we would choose to wear a dress every day during one of the coldest months of the year, the effort draws attention to the work that IJM is doing on campus around the world.

IJM’s work doesn’t end with Dressember. In the spring, the Baylor chapter will hold a Human Week highlighting fair trade practices and the injustices of human trafficking. There will also be a 24-hour Stand for Freedom at Fountain Square on Monday, April 27.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Nonprofit to build Habitat House on Third Street
EMMA KING

Today, a house frame will be built in the middle of campus in just a matter of hours. Third Street will be turned into a temporary construction zone as Baylor’s Habitat for Humanity seeks to raise awareness for poverty and affordable housing in Waco.

“We kind of want to bridge the gap between the Baylor Bubble and the Waco community, and get students involved in something that’s bigger than them,” said Allison Carrington, executive director of Baylor’s Habitat chapter.

Throughout the semester, Habitat for Humanity has been raising money for the house through fundraising events and by asking other organizations to sponsor a stud. The actual house frame built from these efforts will not stay on campus long. About a week after Christmas on Fifth, the house will be deconstructed and taken to the plot where it will be rebuilt and developed for a family in Texas.

“We get to frame a house twice, but we think it’s well worth it,” said Brenda Shuttlesworth, executive director of Waco Habitat.

She said its main purpose on campus is to bridge the gap between Baylor students and the surrounding community who will be on campus for the Christmas holiday.

“I was a Baylor student many years ago and it didn’t really have post-Waco was,” Shuttlesworth said. The median household income in Waco is $32,305 and Waco’s poverty rate is 29.4 percent, according to data from the National Resource Network. Texas’ poverty rate is about half that, at 17.2 percent, according to Spotlight on Poverty and Opportunity’s website.

“I think that is something that we should be concerned about,” Carrington said. “By giving someone a home, we’re not just trying to eliminate poverty, we’re trying to help them up.”

Shuttlesworth said Habitat serves low-income families in their construction program, but that it is a philanthropy of their choice. Any student led organization has the chance to compete with other organizations on campus to win the Christmas tree decorating contest. The cost to enter is $80. The winner chooses an organization for a partnership consisting of freshman students in their Christmas trees, the tree farm will be on campus for the Christmas holiday in order bring awareness to poverty and put an emphasis on the help volunteering brings.

LIFTING UP HOPE

Habitat for Humanity workers construct and lift a frame for a Habitat House in spring 2014. The frame is a part of the building project.

FRESHMAN CLASS COUNCIL

Annual Christmas Tree Farm to go up on Fifth Street
ROLANDO RODRIGUEZ SOTO

The giving spirit that comes with the holidays is quickly approaching. Freshman Class Council is hosting its annual Christmas tree farm to raise money for philanthropies and donate Christmas trees to families in need. The fundraising event will be open to the public at 6 p.m. on Thursday during Baylor University’s Christmas on Fifth Street tradition.

Any student led organization has the chance to compete with other organizations on campus to win a Christmas tree decorating contest. The cost to enter is $80. The winner receives the proceeds to donate to a philanthropy of their choice.

“This is not only a wonderful chance for the Christmas tree farm on Fifth, but also to be able to use all of the creativity, but the main thing is that I also raise money for a philanthropy and we get to donate the tree to Renteria Haven, which is a group that are able to provide these families with an actual Christmas tree,” said Baton Rouge, LA senior Patrick Van Burkleo, co-director of Freshman Class Council.

Each year, the Freshman Class Council donates an organization for a partnership to decorate the donated trees. The trees this year will be donated to families in need courtesy of Renteria Haven.

After student organizations decorate their Christmas trees, the farm will be open to the public. A group of judges consisting of Freshman students in Freshman Class Council will announce the winning tree.
Can’t get no satisfaction

Mizzou protests should not trump Paris attacks in media

Following the ISIS attacks in Paris on Nov. 13, the world turned its attention to a constant stream of news coverage, trying to make sense of such a brilliant act of terrorism. There were 129 people killed during the attack, and people across the world worried concerned that their cities could be next. However, in Missouri, many took to social media to show criticism rather than condolences.

In the wake of this international tragedy, Black Lives Matter and Mizzou activists complained on social media that Paris had stolen the media spotlight from the racial oppression here in the States. Many claimed the mainstream media was focusing its energy on the images of the Parisian attacks, overshadowing the immense news coverage of the deaths of innocent people at the march of Islamic extremism.

One individual, Tweet, "Every white person kill me, you want everyone to have our cause, even in the media. /There were 129 people killed during the Paris attack. and even leaders of our relationships in a spiritual aspect. Are we truly doing that?

When I use the word ‘Tweet’, I’m not trying to put women behind or to even think that you empower them. I’m saying lead in a sense of being the equal servant that a leader is actually designed to be.

Women are our equal counterparts. Men, we are not better than women. We all have different skills and talents as individuals, but no one gender is superior to the other.

Now that we have that clear, we, biblically, women are designed to be a partner of our own. We are called to love women and not devalue them, objectify and my fellow men.

We are called to love women as our equal counterparts. Men, we are not better than women. We all have different skills and talents as individuals, but no one gender is superior to the other.

Now that we have that clear, we, biblically, women are designed to be a partner of our own. We are called to love women and not devalue them, objectify them or, most especially, think we are better than them.

Even in Genesis 2:22, the creation of woman is from the rib of man. Therefore, man and woman are created “side by side”. There is no born taken from man from his head, and therefore I think that this creation story is meant to be a depiction of what equality looks like in a literal sense. She, woman, is part of you and you of her. We are one in the same.

We are, as mankind, both created in God’s image and likeness. Never are we meant to hurt, humiliate or hate women.

Dane Chronister is a senior journalism major from League City. He is the news editor for the Lariat.

Meet the Staff

EDITOR IN CHIEF

ARTS & LIFESTYLE EDITOR

WEB & SOCIAL MEDIA

SPORTS EDITOR

COPY EDITOR

STAFF WRITERS

ASSOCIATE ARTS & LIFESTYLE EDITOR

SPORTS REPORTER

ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

ARTS & LIFE WRITER

NEWS REPORTER

EXECUTIVE PUBLISHER

ASSOCIATE BUSINESS MANAGER

PUBLISHER

CONTACT US

Opinion

TUESDAY’S SURVEY QUESTION

Do you think the fear of being politically correct is inhibiting quality discussion over controversial issues?

20% said YES

80% said NO

OUR RESPONSE

“Some people are afraid to voice their opinions for fear of being labeled as a bigot.”

“People who complain about having to be politically correct are those who want to say offensive things. About minorities and I don’t have reservations. I don’t get the joke. If pirates are going to say something, then that’s your job.”

“There is a way to have a controversial discussion without being insensitive or disrespectful. I think we should handle it (Mark: This way because X): — saying technical facts — is not disrespectful. It is just important to remember that both sides of the story are valid.”

READ THE EDITORIAL

Check on Facebook and Twitter each day to cast your vote.
Omar says parts of climate change legislation must be legally binding

KARL BITTER  Associated Press

LE ROY, France — President Barack Obama said Tuesday that parts of the global warming legislation being negotiated in Paris should be legally binding on the countries that sign up, setting a potent light with Republicans at home.

Obama said much praise at the U.N. climate conference in Cuba where he was a strong agreement to reduce greenhouse gases from the burning of coal and oil. But he could resist in Washington, especially if he tries to do this deal without without congressional approval.

The Obama administration had pledged during the international talks to reduce U.S. emissions by up to 28 percent by 2020. But insisting the emissions target in the Paris deal would probably require the president to submit the pact to the U.S. Congress, where it would be unlikely to win ratification, many Republicans doubt global warming is real or that stringent policies are needed.

So the administration is keeping to the talks to look for the countries on when and how countries should periodically report their progress.

"Although the target luminous may have

TREES FROM Farm to Page

DRESSES from page 1

International students reminisce on American Thanksgiving traditions

RACHEL LELAND

This Thanksgiving, Baylor University international students give thanks for their fill of turkey over the five day break.

A Finnish international student who is often romanticized.

The traditional meal was a modest and only consisted of turkey, potatoes, gravy, and there is emotional connection," Tolonen said. "It was very American." Tolonen said of the food. "The meal was huge enough to feed the crowd. Tolonen said his favorite part of the meal was to choose from, including, chocolate, pecan pies, and apples. "It reminded me of Christmas," Tolonen said. "You have your family together and you like that sort of food." Tolonen, who was familiar with the holiday's origin prior to coming to the United States, said the access to American culture in his native Finland exposed him to the history surrounding the holiday. "I know it is about the Pilgrims and how they welcomed the Native Americans. Tolonen said before adding that this version of America "first Thanksgiving" is often romanticized.

In 1621, Wampanoag Indians attended a three-day food hosted by European settlers in Plymouth colony that is now considered to be the first Thanksgiving.

Tolonen admitted that he celebrated the American holiday once before when he was a child in his native Finland. "I remember the meal was modest and only consisted of turkey, potatoes, gravy, and there is emotional connection," Tolonen said. "You have your family together and you like that sort of food." Tolonen, who was familiar with the holiday's origin prior to coming to the United States, said the access to American culture in his native Finland exposed him to the history surrounding the holiday. "I know it is about the Pilgrims and how they welcomed the Native Americans. Tolonen said before adding that this version of America "first Thanksgiving" is often romanticized.

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Third-annual winter festival starts this weekend downtown with attractions

SARAH JENNINGS
Reporte

It’s Christmas time in the city. For students and Wacoans who love Baylor’s Christmas on Fifth Street, the holiday festivities don’t have to stop there. The third annual Waco Wonderland kicks off at 6 p.m. Saturday in downtown Heritage Square.

This event, which ends Dec. 12, features holiday lights, a skating rink, carousel rides, a Ferris wheel, food trucks and this year’s newest addition—a carousel. Each day, these colorful staples of the event will be complemented with a unique theme, such as “Cowboy Christmas” on Monday or “ GNOME On The Ice” on Dec. 10. A schedule of special events and stage performances can be found at the City of Waco website.

The most popular attraction is the synthetic ice skating rink. Susan Morton, a member of the Waco Wonderland committee since its beginning, said people should bring their skating tickets on the City of Waco website ahead of time. The 40-minute sessions sell out quickly, especially prime evening sessions. After all, outdoor skating rinks usually shining lights of the ALICO building and Heritage Square are just the novelty for warm Waco.

“That’s part of the fun of it,” Morton said. “It’s not something you’d expect to be here. And there’s some great food trucks. I’m a grandmother, and I absolutely love that my grandkids can wander around and have a good time, yet it’s not going to cost a million dollars. Then they can go get their own pictures taken with Santa for free. “We love the fact that it’s expanding first of all,” said Virginia Beach senior Julie Waldo. “I think it shows the growth of Waco and downtown, and also the vitality of the city that they’re having these fun festivals for students and citizens of Waco.”

“The Laser Light Tree, presented by Op-Tio, is another new addition to this year’s event. The show will be on the last day of Waco Wonderland, at 7 p.m. Dec. 12.

“It’s really been something to watch grow,” Morton said. “For everybody who has worked on it, everything we do comes from the heart. We all love the city and love showing it off this way.”

This week in Waco:

>> Today
8-10 p.m. — Open Mic Night, Common Grounds

>> Thursday
NOON-10 p.m. — Multicultural Greek Council Christmas on Fifth Marketplace, Third floor of the SUB
6-10 p.m. — Christmas on Fifth, Fifth Street

>> Friday
7:11 p.m. — Baylor Swing Dance Society Yule Ball, Barfield Drawing Room in SUB ($5 for non-members)
8-11 p.m. — Common Grounds
8 p.m. — Jimmy Neudamm and Art Wellborn concert, Common Grounds

>> Saturday
9-11 a.m. — Downtown Waco Farmers Market
9-11 a.m. — Farmers Market
9-11 a.m. — North Pole via the Santa Mail Station.
10-11 p.m. — Drawing Room in Yule Ball, Barfield Swing Dance Society Noon-10 p.m. — Multicultural Greek Council Christmas on Fifth Marketplace, Third floor of the SUB
7-11 p.m. — Today’s Puzzles
12-10 p.m. — Christmas on Fifth, Fifth Street
1-11 p.m. — Farmers Market
4-11 p.m. — Christmas on Fifth, Fifth Street

>> Today’s Puzzles
Across
1. Wilt-ES Acrostic, filmmaker born 12/7/1927 who directed and wrote five films in this puzzle 6. Apparel
10. Sacramento’s state, briefly, briefly the third annual Waco Wonderland kicks off at 6 p.m. Saturday in downtown Heritage Square on Fifth Street, the holiday festivities don’t have to stop there. The event will be complemented with a unique theme, such as “Cowboy Christmas” on Monday or “ GNOME On The Ice” on Dec. 10. A schedule of special events and stage performances can be found at the City of Waco website.

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Third-string quarterback Chris Johnson finds unexpected spotlight

JOHNSON ON THE SPOT

That's what makes Johnson special, " head coach Art Briles said of Johnson’s humility and sacrifice for the betterment of the team. "It's a new week and we still have another game left to play," Johnson said. "We're playing to get into the Sugar Bowl, so I like to look at it as this game being even bigger than last game. That mindset helps me to keep my mind clear and be ready to go out there again and get the win."
Baylor Student Publications

Defends in the

2015

National Crown
Award Winners
Columbia Scholastic
Press Association

Baylor University Student Publications

TRIPLE CROWN WINNER

was awarded as many crowns as the rest of the Big 12 - COMBINED

and was the ONLY University in the Nation to bring home a total of 3 Crowns!

Baylor Focus Magazine - Gold
Top 10 in the Nation

Baylor Lariat Newspaper/Website
Hybrid - Silver
Top 15 in the Nation

Roundup Yearbook - Silver
Top 5 in the Nation

Big 12 Rival Total - 3 Crowns