

Baylor Lariat

WE'RE THERE WHEN YOU CAN'T BE



DECEMBER 3, 2015

THURSDAY

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WACO POLICE

Dangers in Waco continue to decline

EMMA KING
Staff Writer

It took countless hours over three semesters for Lipscomb, senior Kathleen Tyson to dig up the data that proves that Waco's crime rates have been declining for the last 20 years.

"I was honestly really surprised," Tyson said. "When I first got to Baylor, all I heard was 'Waco is really dangerous.'"

Tyson is a University Scholar major, with a concentration in criminal justice and forensic science. She took on the task of researching Waco's crime rates for her senior thesis, which totaled 71 pages.

"It was a good and important topic because the topic directly concerns the place where Baylor is located, and therefore the finding from her thesis should be an interest to many people," said Dr. Sung Joon Jang, research professor of criminology and co-director of the program on prosocial behavior within Baylor's Institute for Studies of Religion.

Jang served as Tyson's mentor and the chair for Tyson's thesis committee.

Tyson said she was fascinated by all the theories of how crime rates go up and down. She said when she contacted Jang to be her mentor, he told her there was no one else doing research on Waco and he thought it would be a good idea.

Tyson sifted through 84 years of city data, found in the Baylor Police database and the Federal Bureau of Investigation's uniform crime report. She focused on property crimes and violent crimes, discovering that property crimes have been on the decline in Waco since 1988 and violent crimes began following suit in 1991.

"Waco is actually a much safer place to live than Dallas or Houston," Tyson said.

She said that in the 1980s, Waco's crime rate was higher than those three cities, but as of 2013, Waco's rates were lower than those cities and lower than Texas' crime rates.

Her investigation also revealed that Bellmead has higher and increasing crime rates compared to Waco, while Woodway, Robison and Hewitt have lower crime rates, but show no trends.

Though Jang said other social vectors must have contributed to Waco's rates trending downward, he also said that he

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SYRIAN CRISIS



Trey Honeycutt | Lariat Photographer

SAFE HAVEN Damascus, Syria, junior Amjad Dabi is not like most Baylor students. He migrated to the United States in 2013, leaving his family, to be able to escape the war zone and continue his education at Baylor. He is studying piano and pre-med.

Refugee in Waco

Syrian refugees look to find home at Baylor, MCC

HELENA HUNT
Staff Writer

Notes played on a piano stream out of an office in Roxy Grove. A piano pedagogy student bends over the black and white keys, playing what he came here to study, showing the work of years at Baylor.

The student is Damascus, Syria, junior Amjad Dabi. He has been studying the piano here since 2013. Dabi, like so many other students at Baylor, is also pre-med. After he graduates in 2017, he might continue to pursue music in graduate school, or apply to medical programs. As any undergraduate, he is still deciding exactly what to do with the rest of his life.

But unlike most undergraduates at Baylor, Dabi is an immigrant from Syria. His home has been caught in civil war for about the last four years, since protests decrying the regime of President Assad began in March 2011. Dabi's family still lives outside Damascus, which is largely controlled by Assad and pro-government forces but has also been caught in the throes of the conflict between rebel and government forces.

Dabi and his friend Andreh Maqdissi, who attends McLennan Community College, came to Waco in 2013. Dr. Bradley Bolen, who teaches piano at Baylor, was instrumental in bringing them here after meeting the two students at an American Voices workshop in Damascus in the summer of 2010. American Voices brings American music and instructors to young musicians in countries that have recently become independent, seeking to promote cross-cultural understanding and a

more present awareness.

As Bolen details on his blog, he first noticed Dabi's and Maqdissi's dedication and ambition during the workshops that summer. He kept in contact with them over the years and, as he noted the escalating conflict in Syria and the risks that both of them faced by remaining, he had the idea to bring them to the United States.

"The war was heating up, and these guys had done a great job of their educations and were actually close to finishing there. They

decided, well, maybe they wanted to finish their educations and were trying to figure out how they could do it," Bolen said. "In the process during that period I remember Andreh calling me having had a rocket grenade go across the front of his car, [which] blew up the building and the windows out of some of the cars around him."

Although Maqdissi did not suffer any serious harm from the rocket grenade, Dabi suffered lacerations to his face after a car bomb detonated outside his home. Bolen calls these experiences a wake-up call for the students, who soon after left Syria for Thailand, where they stayed in an apartment owned by John Ferguson, the head of American Voices. Once in Thailand, they did not know whether they would be able to come to the United States or return home.

However, both Dabi and Maqdissi were accepted into their respective institutions with nearly full scholarships available. Seventh

"I remember Andreh calling me having had a rocket grenade go across the front of his car..."

Dr. Bradley Bolen | Senior Lecturer

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Spice Village owner Jennifer Haak Wilson tells the story of her store and its impact. **pg. 3**

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

14 dead, more than a dozen wounded in California shooting

AMANDA LEE MYERS
Associated Press

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. — At least two heavily armed attackers opened fire on a banquet at a social services center for the disabled Wednesday, killing 14 people and seriously wounding more than a dozen others in a precision assault that looked "as if they were on a mission," authorities said.

Hours later, police hunting for the killers riddled a black SUV with gunfire in a shootout two miles from the late-morning carnage, and a man and woman with assault rifles, handguns and "assault-style clothing" were killed, San Bernardino Police Chief Jarrod Burguan said.

A third person who was spotted running near the gunbattle was detained, but Burguan said it was unclear if that person had anything to do with the crime.

It was the nation's deadliest mass shooting since the attack at a school in Newtown, Connecticut, three years ago that left 26 children and adults dead.

Police shed no light on the motive for the massacre, but David Bowdich, assistant director of the FBI's Los Angeles office, said the bureau is looking at several possibilities, including workplace violence and terrorism. He did not elaborate.

The attackers invaded the Inland Regional Center and began shooting around 11 a.m. They opened fire in a conference area that the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health had rented out for an employee banquet, said Marybeth Feild, president and CEO of the nonprofit center.

Police spokeswoman Sgt. Vicki Cervantes

CALIFORNIA >> Page 4



Associated Press

RACE TO THE SCENE Police and emergency vehicles line Waterman Avenue in front of the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino, Calif., the scene of a mass shooting on Wednesday. As many as three gunmen believed to be wearing military-style gear opened fire Wednesday at the Southern California social services center. Authorities said the shooting rampage killed multiple people and wounded others.

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

We want to hear it. Send us your thoughts: LariatLetters@baylor.edu

EDITORIAL



When discussion fails, we pray

Over this semester, as an editorial board we've struggled with debating issues both inside and outside of our nation. We've listed them on a whiteboard week after week and weighed the multicultural opinions of several different perspectives in the room. We've made educated arguments with the intention of displaying both sides of every issue that comes into debate. And while we write editorials with the hopes of creating conversation outside the confines of the boardroom, we're sometimes left in silence when something beyond what we can fathom comes into this world.

In light of events throughout the semester far too weighty, heartbreaking or controversial to come to a conclusion about, we wanted to be transparent in how completely inadequate we are to create formative conversation about topics such as the Syrian refugee crisis, the Paris attacks, the continuing Planned Parenthood controversy and Wednesday's San Bernardino shooting. While each of us has an opinion on these matters, we would like to take this editorial space to offer these events

up to the Lord, who has control and sovereignty over them all. We understand His power is limitless and trust in his ability to provide comfort and administer justice.

Father,

Thank you for loving your people. Thank you for extending grace to us when we deserve it the least. Thank you for the gift you've given us in Jesus, to know our worth is found in him and to be saved through the sacrifice he made on the cross.

Father, we ask you to be in the midst of pain and suffering. We ask for you to comfort those in shock, in the trenches of mourning loved ones from several terrorist attacks around the world. We ask for you to bring peace swiftly in the areas broken and destroyed by bombers and militants. For those who are angry, give them peace. For those emotionally stressed, comfort them. For those who are in pain, heal them.

We ask for you to bring refuge to those fleeing their homes in search for safety. Guide their steps and protect their families as they

travel. Aid nations in their efforts to take on refugees, that there would be an idea of how to care for the masses in the middle of terrific uncertainty.

We ask you to become a healing hand in the midst of racial, political and social tension. From the protests on college campuses, teach us what it is to love one another and treat people with respect and honor. For the shootings among police and civilians, bring an understanding of the value of life — that no one is created by accident, that not one person is disposable here.

We beg for your guidance to be disseminated among world leaders. Protect them and give them an understanding of what steps they need to take while in power.

We ask all these things knowing you have the ability to create change, much more so than we have. You alone are good, and we lift these requests to you to acknowledge we have no control. We are desperate for you, every day.

*In your Son's holy name,
Amen*

COLUMN

Not just a stat: Americans should mourn all attacks

MCKENNA MIDDLETON
Contributor

A single westerner's death is a tragedy; a million Middle Easterners' deaths are a statistic. It's disheartening, to say the least, that some of the most influential nations in the world have adopted a mantra similar to that of ruthless dictator Joseph Stalin.

The aftermath of the Paris attacks has resulted in demands for tighter border control in Europe and other western nations, particularly in regards to immigration for Syrian refugees in need of aid and relocation. The UN estimates over 6.5 million people have been forced to flee Syria as a result of these same kinds of attacks pinned to the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

While the news of these refugees received some salience in past months, it was nothing compared to the reaction to the Paris attacks.

Paris is receiving a lot of support, but what about

countries facing similar, and often more frequent, tragedies? Where is the Facebook profile picture filter for those countries?

Many have justified this by citing our unique alliance with France or 9/11. However, I propose that, as Americans, we tend to sympathize with other western countries with much more prominence than with other nations.



This is not to say the supportive reaction of Americans to Parisians should be lessened, but rather that American support should stretch further than western countries we have an alliance with. As the Syrian refugees prove, the problem of terrorism is not a western problem, but a global issue.

At the G-20 Summit, Obama recognized that Syrian refugees are often "the victims of terrorism themselves, that's what they're fleeing." The result of a terrorist attack in a western nation objectively should create an empathetic connection between refugees and the

nations they wish to enter.

Despite this, most European nations and even leaders in the United States have suggested relocation of these refugees be put to a stop for security reasons. In an interview with CNN, presidential candidate Jeb Bush even suggested that "we should focus our efforts as it relates to refugees on the Christians that are being slaughtered." In other words, we should again turn our attention, sympathy and aid to people like us, further perpetrating the idea that terrorism only affects western nations like the United States.

The situation of terrorism has been affecting the global community for years, but it is only after the Paris attacks that the issue has been directly addressed with the quality and quantity of the attack on 9/11.

Terrorism has been brought into the spotlight once again but in a way that has created and perpetuated a situation in which westerners are the victims and Middle Easterners are the terrorists.

McKenna Middleton is a freshman journalism and Spanish major from Glendale, Calif.

WE SAY YOU SAY

WEDNESDAY'S
SURVEY
QUESTION

Do you think the Paris media coverage swept the Mizzou attacks under the rug?

39% said YES
61% said NO

YOUR RESPONSE

"The Black Lives Matter movement is so wrapped up in their propaganda, they have lost sight of basic humanity."

Meet the Staff

*Denotes a member of the editorial board

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Opinion

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

Editorials, Columns & Letters

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

Lariat Letters

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



Jennifer Haak Wilson makes it her duty to be available for her employees and customers at Spice Village during the store's regular operating hours.



During the holidays, Spice has a high demand for its gift wrap. Especially on busy days, Wilson works behind the counter to wrap products to help her employees.



Wilson also works at the register alongside her employees. She aims to create interpersonal relationships with her employees and customers to create a warm environment.

Spice it up

One dream, one vision, one woman to set it all into motion.

Spice Village, formerly known as "Spice Furniture and Design," has been one of the main attractions in downtown Waco for 18 years.

Jennifer Haak Wilson, the owner of Spice Village, started her business at the age of 23. She graduated from the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor with a major in business. Wilson is a single mother and dedicates her free time to her family and friends.

With her heart and mind committed to her passion for retail, Wilson has made numerous sacrifices to maintain a successful business. She strives to create a welcoming and fun environment for her employees and customers.

Spice Village is located on 213 Mary Ave in the River Square Center.

By Sarah Pyo | Photographer



ONLINE EXTRAS

Check out an **audio slideshow** at:

BAYLORLARIAT.COM



Wilson sets an example for her employees by working on the floor in addition to her management duties.



Although the concept of Spice has changed throughout the years, one thing that's stayed since 1997 is Spice's Signature Scent brand.

CALIFORNIA from Page 1

said witnesses reported seeing one to three gunmen.

"They came prepared to do what they did, as if they were on a mission," the police chief said.

Burguan said that someone had left the county employees' event after "there was some type of dispute," but investigators were not sure whether that had anything to do with the subsequent massacre in the Southern California city of 214,000 people about 60 miles east of Los Angeles.

As gunfire echoed through the large three-building complex, several people locked themselves in their offices, desperately waiting to be rescued by police. Some texted their loved ones or telephoned them and whispered to them what was going on.

"People shot. In the office waiting for cops. Pray for us. I am locked in an office," Terry Petit's daughter texted him.

Petit, choking back tears as she read the text for reporters at the scene, said his daughter works at the center, where social workers find jobs, housing and transportation and provide other services

to people with disabilities such as autism, cerebral palsy and epilepsy.

Ten of the wounded were hospitalized in critical condition, and three were in serious condition, Fire Chief Tom Hannemann said.

That the violence happened at a place dedicated to helping people with developmental disabilities — even if they were not targeted — made it even harder for some to comprehend.

"These are all disabled kids, very disabled," said Sherry Esquerro, who was searching for her daughter and son-in-law, both of whom work at the center. "She gets all the services she possibly could for these kids. So I just don't understand why somebody would come in and start shooting."

FBI agents and other law enforcement authorities converged on the center and searched room to room for the attackers. Triage units were set up outside, and people were wheeled away on stretchers. Others were marched from the building with their hands up so that police could search them and make sure the attackers weren't trying to slip out.

They had indeed escaped. One witness, Glenn Willwerth, who runs a business across the street, said he heard 10 to 15 shots and then saw an SUV with blacked-out windows pull out "very calmly, very slowly" and drive off.

As the manhunt dragged on, stores, office buildings and schools were locked down in the city, and roads were blocked off.

About four hours later, with police looking for a dark SUV, officers staking out a home in the nearby city of Redlands saw a vehicle matching that description leave. They tried to pull it over, the SUV crashed, and a gunbattle broke out around 3 p.m., authorities said. One officer suffered a minor injury.

Each of the dead had a rifle and handgun and was wearing tactical clothing, including vests stuffed with ammunition magazines, said Agent Meredith Davis of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. An explosive device was found at the social service center, and during the car chase, the couple hurled a fake bomb — a metal pipe stuffed with cloth — out of the SUV, she said.



Associated Press

RUN AND GUN Law enforcement officials walk with weapons drawn outside a Southern California social services center in San Bernardino, Calif., where authorities said multiple people were shot Wednesday.

CRIME from Page 1

thinks police should get some credit, and it should be an encouragement to them.

"I was actually happy for Waco because I think that means the police force and the different policies they've implemented in the last 20 years are helping," Tyson said.

From 1991 to 2013, residential burglaries have decreased from 2,466 cases to 1,028 and criminal mischief has decreased from 2,220 cases to 1,100, according to Waco Police Departments' 23 Year Crime Report Comparison.

"The findings may come as a surprise to many people who has a misconceived notion of Waco's crime situation," Jang said.

Tyson referenced individual instances, like the Twin Peaks shooting, and said it was just a singular event and not a true representation of where Waco is heading.

Since Tyson examined so many years of data, Jang said it is a remarkable picture of how crime rates are declining.

Tyson said she was happy to see that Waco is following similar trends as the United States, so she was able to look at those too.

"She did a very good job in checking down data sets and she has been very persistent and certainly there were ups and downs but she finished her project and I commend her for that," Jang said of Tyson.

Tyson said the project was more massive than she thought it would be, but that she hopes her findings will help shed light on the reality of crime in Waco.

REFUGEES from Page 1

and James Baptist Church also gave them free housing once they arrived in Waco.

"Being at Baylor, I have met a lot of supportive people, starting with Dr. Bolen. The School of Music and the university have been extremely supportive of my education here and what I'm trying to do. I think it's just been wonderful all along, in terms of having social, financial and educational support," Dabi said.

Of course, Dabi's mind is always with his family in Syria as well. Any phone call could contain news of a relative or friend's injury or death.

"How many times do you expect to call someone in your family and the first thing they say to you is, 'We're all alive?'" Dabi said.

Dabi said that the obstacles to arriving in the U.S. were difficult for him and would be nearly insurmountable for his family. They are trying to bring his brother to the country, but financial and immigration difficulties remain a major impediment to his arrival.

The U.S. has so far accepted about 2,290 of the 4.2 million refugees who are fleeing the civil

war in Syria. About 194 have come to Texas, which is one of the top six states for refugee resettlement. While President Obama pledged to accept 10,000 refugees in the coming year, the vetting and approval process can still take about two years.

That process may become even more demanding in the wake of the attacks in Paris. While no confirmed Syrian refugees were among the known attackers, the governors of 31 U.S. states, including Greg Abbott of Texas, oppose the entry of Syrian refugees. However, the authority to close state borders does not lie with these governors, but with the federal government. Several presidential candidates have also expressed opposition to immigration, or enhanced screening of potential refugees.

"I would encourage people to actually look at the scale and the severity of this catastrophe, and for them to look up what the living conditions of these people that are living in refugee camps, or internally displaced in Syria, or even that are still living in Syria. Aside from the general war zone, there's food shortages, there's

barely any electricity, nobody has any sort of fuel derivatives to warm themselves in the winter, and we're coming on a very harsh winter. Just imagine living a day where you have no electricity, it is 20 degrees outside, and you have no means of warming yourself, and then imagine that happening every single day with no end in sight," Dabi said. "I would also encourage people to look up whether such fears are actually rooted in truth."

Bolen additionally urges politicians to look at the facts of the situation in Syria and the demographics of immigrants before closing our borders. He pointed to the thoroughness of the vetting process, saying that entry of refugees into the U.S. takes longer than for almost any other immigrant group due to the background checks that are in place.

"Being in a war zone, sometimes it is hard not to lose faith in a lot of what humans can and want to do. But also, seeing the side of people who are willing to help, who are willing to take some time to [take] a great leap of faith in you, I think it's the best cure for losing your faith in the world," Dabi said.

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On-The-Go >> Happenings: Follow @BULariatArts and look for #ThisWeekinWaco on Twitter BaylorLariat.com

Cookbook Confessions

Past eras' recipes in today's kitchens: *Baby Porcupines*

SARAH JENNINGS
Reporter

In this week's adventure for Cookbook Confessions, I cooked up some "Baby Porcupines," a recipe which thankfully does not require the actual anatomical parts of a porcupine. That would be sad and, perhaps more importantly, very difficult to acquire.

If I'm being completely honest, I was a little disappointed that Mrs. E. H. James didn't suggest using real porcupines. What a great story that would've been. It leaves me with an important question for Google: Do people eat porcupines?

Well, just wait. Molly Carter writes on Wide Open Spaces, a hunting and fishing website, that porcupines make great survival food for the following five reasons: They're slow, they have really bad eyesight, you can kill them by hand, they've got a lot of meat on them, and you can eat them raw.

Now that we've established that humans do indeed eat porcupines, let's get on with the recipe for those of us lucky enough to be civilized.

This recipe surprised me by requiring relatively common ingredients. I wouldn't have needed any creative substitutions; however, I forgot to buy rice at H-E-B. Apparently I have not yet learned to read all of the instructions ahead of time.

Fortunately, a new CVS Pharmacy opened up where I live, so I took a quick trip there and settled on some minute rice. It's not ideal, but that's all they had.

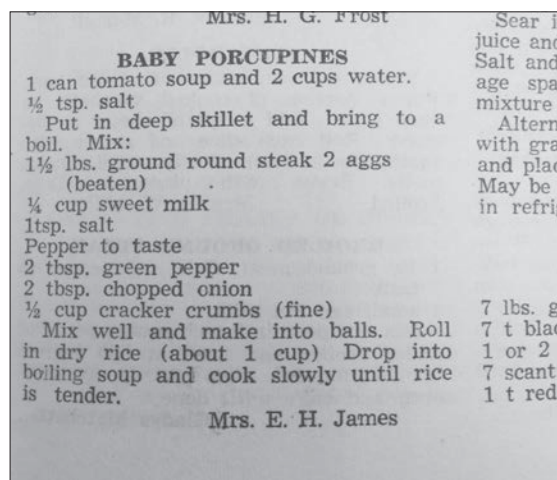
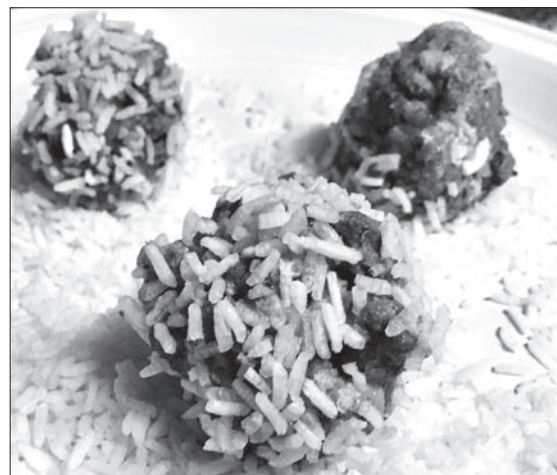
Once home, I simmered 1 pound of ground sirloin and added the onions and green peppers in after the meat was mostly brown. I would recommend using more onions and peppers

than the recipe calls for as those flavors didn't really show up in the final taste. Then, I beat two eggs and poured them in at the same time as the sweet milk—also known as condensed milk. You'll want to make sure the heat is low at this point. You don't want scrambled eggs. Crush the crackers in a plastic bag and mix it up.

Then comes the fun part. I grabbed a handful of the mixture, rolled it into a ball and then covered it with rice. Okay, that part was actually gross and really inconvenient. I had to keep stirring the tomato soup, but my hands were covered in a beefy goo.

After lowering the porcupine balls into the boiling soup, they were done in a minute or two. I tried a bite, and they were delicious. They aren't beautiful or something I'd normally recommend, but they taste like meatloaf essentially. When reading about this recipe on a blog, it seems to be an old comfort food. Many people were asking for this recipe, as it's something they remember from childhood, though it's gone out of fashion in recent decades.

Reading blogs such as the one above is such fun because I'm finding diverse, generous people who have stories and memories related to so many different foods. But it's not really about the food at all. It's about sharing these stories and making connections with people. Food is one of the few things in the world that everyone needs and everyone enjoys. I love the fellowship of the table — a place to share with friends, family and even strangers. I've been able to experience this, with these cooks from years ago, in a small way through the humor and wisdom they inserted into their cookbooks.



Sarah Jennings | Reporter

NO PORCUPINES WERE HARMED IN THE MAKING
Top: The ingredients used to make the old recipe aren't hard to find in today's markets. **Middle:** The finished product. **Bottom:** The recipe from the original cookbook.

This week in Waco:

>> Today

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 p.m. — Jimmy Needham and Art Wellborn concert, Common Grounds

>> Saturday

9 a.m.-1 p.m. — Downtown Waco Farmers Market

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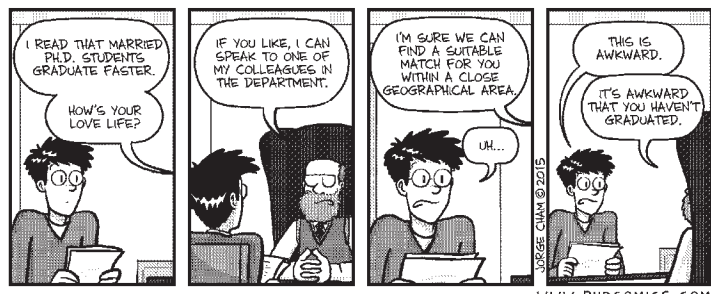
Today's Puzzles

- Across
1 "Mamma Mia!" group
5 Tunes
10 Fundamentals
14 Talking iPhone feature
15 Destroyer destroyer
16 Messy stuff
17 __ smasher
18 "I'm innocent!"
19 Hindu deity
20 High-speed war plane maneuver
22 Hunter's device
23 Gets close to
24 Cheat, in a way
25 Seasonal malady
27 Find work
30 Shakespearean fairy queen
33 Large-leaved tree
35 Batman portrayal Kilmer
36 Skating commentator Lipinski
37 Passionate
38 Dishes for company
40 Eagerly excited
41 Golfer Ballesteros
42 Furrow maker
43 Ruling period
45 Charlemagne's realm: Abbr.
46 Avant-garde
48 Low or no follower
49 Insert for a 6-Down
51 Shoot well under par, in golf lingo
53 Syria's Bashar al-__
55 Focuses even harder ... and a hint to the starts of the answers to starred clues
59 Letters after phis
60 "The Planets" composer
61 Texter's "If you ask me"
62 Adorable
63 Wipe off
64 Dismissed, with "off"
65 "Until next time," in texts
66 Oscar's roommate
67 Tolkien's Treebeard et al.
- Down
1 PDQ
2 __-Honey

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- 3 *Rhode Island school
4 Pop singer Mann
5 *Like Southern California beaches
6 Duck player in "Peter and the Wolf"
7 Punishment with a grounding
8 Risk, e.g.
9 Canonized Mlle.
10 Feel the same way
11 *Title female "trying to make a devil out of me," in a Santana hit
12 "¿__ está?"
13 Fix, as a pet
21 Blow one's top
22 Cotillion honoree
24 *One of two cold atmospheric cyclones
25 Jiffy
26 Iron-rich meat
28 Miller's " __ From the Bridge"

- 29 First calendar pg.
31 Food court attraction
32 Something to pick lox for
34 '50s political monogram
36 Label
39 " __ so?"
44 Fish caught in pots
46 Author Buntline
47 Tennis great Andre
50 Studio piece
52 "Swan Lake" swan
53 Customer holding: Abbr.
54 Closed
55 Produced, as fruit
56 Tel Aviv airline
57 Smidgen
58 Quiet yeses
60 Celeb with a mansion



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No. 4 Lady Bears blow past winless Owls

MEGHAN MITCHELL
Reporter

The No. 4 Lady Bears continued their winning ways Wednesday at the Ferrell Center, beating the Rice Owls 89-38.

The Owls (0-6) looked to capture their first win of the season but were unable to do so against the undefeated Bears (7-0).

"We played a really great team tonight," said Owls head coach Tina Langley. "It was a great opportunity for our young team to come down and experience this environment."

The Lady Bears came off a tough victory last Saturday against No. 20 Michigan State in the Junkanoo Jam in the Bahamas. Baylor's level of play proved to be too high for the Owls Wednesday night.

The Lady Bears started the game pushing the ball down the court, taking the momentum and a commanding 23-5 lead in the first quarter.

Adding to sophomore guard Kristy Wallace's seven points in the first quarter, the Lady Bears had a 58.8 shooting percentage and were two for two on three-pointers.

Going into the second quarter, the Owls tried to find their way back into the game. Missed layups and botched open looks for the Lady Bears allowed the Owls to do just that in the second quarter.

Coming out of halftime, the Lady Bears found their first quarter form, outscoring the Owls 24-6 in the third quarter.

"I thought, both halves, the groups that started were focused," said Baylor head coach Kim Mulkey.

Junior post Khadijah Cave recorded a double-double in just three quarters.

With 10 rebounds and 19 points,



Penelope Shirey | Lariat Photographer

GOING DOWN UNDER Sophomore guard Kristy Wallace drives into the paint during a basketball game between Baylor and Rice at the Ferrell Center Wednesday night. Wallace came from Brisbane, Australia, to play for Baylor.

Cave's performance helped the Bears take a massive 62-26 lead going into the fourth quarter.

The Lady Bears' quick pace and big presence were too much for the Owls.

Baylor was able to run away with the win in the second thanks to the offense taking better care of the ball than it did in the first half. The Bears had six turnovers in the first half but zero in the second half.

"It starts with discipline. It starts at

practice," senior guard Niya Johnson said. "Every time we turned the ball over, we had to run a lap."

Despite the blowout, the Lady Bears would not leave the game unscathed. Freshman post Beatrice Mompremier went out late in the first quarter with what appeared to be a shoulder injury.

"Beatrice has the issue with her shoulder," Mulkey said. "She's always had it. It just popped out and came back in. We just need to get her ready

for Florida in a couple weeks. She can play with it. I've seen her tape it up and play with it her entire career."

In Mompremier's absence, freshman forward Justis Szczepanski played her first minutes in her collegiate career Wednesday night.

"There were definitely butterflies," Szczepanski said. "It was great to be out there with my team and contribute in any way that I could."

"It's good to have her out there, it adds another dimension to our team,"

Mulkey said.

In the end, the Owls had no matchup for the Lady Bears in the paint, allowing the Lady Bears to score 62 in the paint.

The 6-foot-7 freshman post Kalani Brown and 6-foot-5 senior post Kristina Higgins dominated with a combined 19 points and 13 rebounds.

The Bears next test comes at home Friday night where they take on Northwestern State.

No. 25 BEARS WIN AGAIN



Sarah Pyo | Lariat Photographer

The No. 25 Bears showed no mercy to Prairie View A&M Wednesday night. Read the full recap online at baylorlariat.com/sports

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