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February 4, 2016 **Thursday**

BAYLORLARIAT.COM

Trey Honeycutt | Lariat Photographer

RECALLING WHAT HAPPENED Former Ranger, 2nd Battalion, 75th Regiment, Kris Paronto spoke Wednesday at an event at the Grand Avenue Theater in Belton. He is portrayed in the movie "13 Hours," which tells the story of what happened in Benghazi on Sept. 11, 2012.

Talking Benghazi

With '13 Hours' movie release, former Army Ranger discusses realities of war

JESSICA BABB

Broadcast Managing Editor

Former Army Ranger Kris "Tanto" Paranto detailed his experiences in Benghazi and shed light on many of the realities he faced during the attack of 2012 on Wednesday evening at the Grand Avenue Theater in Belton. The event at which he spoke was hosted by the Central Texas Republican Women's PAC and comes in light of the recent movie "13 Hours," which tells the true story of the veterans who fought in the attack.

At the event, whose proceeds will go toward supporting the Fort Hood Memorial honoring those who died in the 2009 shooting, Paronto said he was thrilled when the movie was released because he felt it was an accurate account of how the attacks played out.

"They got the spirit of what really happened that night and that was the sacrifice for each other," Paronto said. "They showed combat in its true form. There are a lot of times

where you are scared, a bit overwhelmed, but also having fun and cracking jokes, just like I was doing."

Amid all the political controversies surrounding the attack, Paronto said he was relieved that the truth of his experience could finally be told.

"It's nice that the truth has there after almost three years," Paronto added. "We have been fighting the political agenda that has really slammed what actually happened there that

On Sept. 11, 2012, which was the 11th anniversary of the 911 attacks, the United States consulate and CIA annex in Benghazi, Libya, were attacked by Ansar I- Sharia armed militants. Four Americans, including former United States ambassador Chris Stevens, were

The night of the attack, after receiving word the ambassador and the consulate were in danger, the team of six military contractors was ready to be called to action only to be told

LTVN EXTRA

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to stand down by the former CIA chief in Benghazi known

Eventually, after receiving numerous commands to stand down, the soldiers decided to disregard the command in order to fulfill their duty of protecting in the line of fire.

"During that time frame when he told us to stand down," Paronto said. "I know there has been a lot of discussion about stand down, but I can care less what anyone else says, people died because he told us to stand

Patrono said by the time they got to the consulate, they were unable to find Stevens in the villa filled with black

BENGHAZI >> Page 4

Starr reveals reason for silence on sexual assault information

"The information is

protected by federal student-

privacy laws which prevent

universities, including Baylor,

from speaking publicly about

particular incidents."

Ken Starr | President and Chancellor

JESSICA HUBBLE & **KAYLN STORY**

Staff Writers

President and Chancellor Ken Starr addressed Title IX and allegations of mishandling of sexual assault cases at Baylor in an email Wednesday night to students.

Sunday night ESPN released its "Outside the Lines" report, which talked about the Tevin Elliott case. Elliott is a forme Baylor football player who was convicted of two counts of sexual assault in 2014. In the video, three additional women talked about how the university handled their sexual assault cases.

The email discussed the independent review, a response to the ESPN report, why the university could not say more in the report and Title IX education and training.

Starr wrote that the university could not provide more information on specific cases because of federal student privacy laws. He also said that any comment would

tarnish the integrity of the ongoing investigation into the sexual assault cases by Pepper Hamilton law firm.

T h i s information protected by federal studentprivacy laws which prevent universities, including Baylor, from speaking publicly about particular incidents," Starr wrote. "In

addition out of deference to the integrity of the ongoing review by Pepper, any observations about policies and practices would be premature"

Starr wrote that the ongoing review allows Baylor to be self-aware and know where its strengths and weaknesses are when it comes to responding to acts of sexual violence. Starr wrote that his heart went out to the survivors of the crimes and such crimes have no place at Baylor and are not consistent with Baylor's Christian values.

"We acknowledge and appreciate the tremendous courage these women demonstrated by coming forward to share their experiences," Starr said, "and to continue to raise consciousness and awareness about these critical issues. Their voices are important, and their perspectives help to inform positive steps to enhance campus responses."

Starr wrote that every member of

Baylor's campus was provided with the opportunity to attend Title IX training. In the fall, student leaders, incoming freshmen, transfer students, all varsity athletes and student organizations were given extensive training. He wrote that faculty and staff also received training in how to identify and report misconduct and how to help students.

"Title IX was shoved down our throats," said San Diego, Calif., freshman Maddie

Murray is a former track team member whose new student experience class last semester was all athletes and discussed Title IX extensively. She said the class encouraged them to take advantage of Title IX but she never knew of anyone using it.

"I keep getting emails saying we care, we care," 2015 Baylor graduate Stefanie Mundhenk said. "Their actions do not follow their words. He is not spending time to actually address the issue. He is not writing an email to me actually trying to address the issue."

Ioel Polvado, Old-River-Winfree sophomore, said he feels he has received the same email several times this year. After watching the ESPN report and reading Starr's email, Polvado is still left with questions, such as why were the students in the ESPN video were ignored and why

they felt unsafe. "Baylor knows

we have messed up," Polvado said. "I think they are trying to remedy that, but there are still questions that need to be answered."

Starr's e-mail included information about the Title IX office and where students should go if they need help. The Title IX office is located in Clifton Robinson Tower in suite 285 and makes sure students have access to academic accommodations, counseling, residence modifications, no contact orders and other protective measures. Starr wrote that students can contact Patty Crawford, Title IX coordinator, by email at patty_ crawford@baylor.edu or by phone at (254)

"This is not what Baylor stands for," said Lakewood, Calif., freshman Nathan O'Toole. "I hope in the future Baylor proves that as a Christian university they do care about and love their students and will do the right thing."

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Baylor experienced one of the best signing days in the Big XII this season. pg. 6

Vietnam veteran to speak at Black **History event**

LIESJE POWERS Staff Writer

Lt. Col. Allen Smith will speak at "A Town Hall Meeting" in celebration of Black History Month at 6:30 p.m. today at the Bledsoe Miller Recreation Center located on 300 N M.L.K. Jr Blvd.

Smith enlisted in the Air Force in 1950, when integration in the armed forces was still looked down upon by many.

During his many years of service, Smith went through basics,

taught cadets to read in Wyoming, attended officer's candidate school at Lackland Air Force Base, served as an intelligence officer in Korea, learned to fly cargo planes, was promoted to captain and was chief of tactical operations for an air command at Phan Rang Air Base in Vietnam. He later worked in data development in the U.S. and held a position in Waco as a Veterans Affair adjudicator until his retirement in 1985. Smith is

VETERAN >> Page 4



MEDALS OF HONOR Lieutenant Colonel Allen Smith served in both Korea and Vietnam and later, held a postion in Waco as a Veterans Affair adjudicator until 1985. Here he stands next to the medals he earned.

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Starr updates students on BU Title IX efforts

Dear Students,

With a new semester underway and a year of promise and opportunity before us as a caring and dynamic Baylor community, I write to provide you with an update about Title IX, Baylor's efforts to prevent and respond to sexual violence and the ongoing external review we commissioned in the fall. Many of you have participated in our Title IX training activities and "It's on Us" awareness campaign, and I am deeply grateful for your willingness to help ensure that Baylor is a safe campus, free from harassment, discrimination and interpersonal violence. Together we are developing a campus culture that is educated about interpersonal

violence responsive those who have experienced sexual violence.

Last fall, Baylor University's Board of Regents initiated comprehensive external and completely independent



review of the university's response to previous reports of sexual violence. Pepper Hamilton, a nationally recognized law firm with expertise in the institutional response to all aspects of sexual misconduct, has been on campus throughout the fall semester, meeting with administrators and former students and conducting an extensive review of university documents. Baylor has freely provided Pepper Hamilton experts with access to any information they have requested and will continue to cooperate fully with their review, which we understand will continue this semester. Pepper's review provides a unique opportunity for Baylor to be self-aware, and their guidance will help pinpoint where our processes for responding to acts of interpersonal violence are strong and, most importantly, where we may need to improve. We have asked for, and we expect, a frank and candid assessment that addresses past practices and offers forward-looking recommendations.

In addition to the media coverage about this review, you may have seen or heard recent news reports that focused on Baylor's response to incidents of sexual assault on our campus involving two former student-athletes, both of whom were subsequently convicted and incarcerated for their crimes. I want to take this opportunity to say a few things about the media coverage of these matters. First, our hearts go out to the survivors of these crimes. Sexual violence has no place at Baylor. Such acts are not consistent with Baylor's Christian values, and no one should have to endure the trauma and impacts described by these young women. We acknowledge and appreciate the tremendous courage these women demonstrated by coming forward to share their experiences and to continue to raise consciousness and awareness about these critical issues. Their voices are important, and their perspectives help to inform positive steps to enhance campus responses.

Second, while Baylor's Title IX coordinator spoke at length to ESPN about Baylor's ongoing efforts to improve our Title IX work, Baylor could not provide commentary on the university's handling of response to specific reports of sexual assault. This information is protected by federal student-privacy laws which prevent universities, including Baylor, from speaking publicly about particular incidents. In addition, out of deference to the integrity of the ongoing review by Pepper, any observations about policies and practices would be premature.

In recent years, Baylor has made broad and significant improvements in our Title IX responses. In November 2014, these improvements grew stronger when we hired a full-time, dedicated Title IX coordinator, Patty Crawford. Patty's mission is to make certain every person who comes to the Title

IX Office is treated with dignity and respect. Patty also ensures that students have access to support and resources, including academic accommodations, access to counseling, residence modifications, no contact orders and other interim remedial and protective measures. Patty is supported by a full-time Title IX case manager and two trained Title IX investigators. The university's Title IX Policy, which was adopted in August 2015, governs the University's response to reports of sexual harassment, sexual violence and interpersonal violence. Under the policy, a trained and experienced external professional reviews the investigative report, meets with the parties and witnesses and renders an objective and impartial determination as to responsibility. When a student is found to have committed an act of sexual violence, strong disciplinary consequences ensue according to the university's Title IX policy.

We have been equally engaged in prevention and education efforts. Nearly every member of Baylor's campus has been provided the opportunity to attend Title IX training. For some community members, those trainings have been mandatory. During the fall semester, we provided extensive training for student leaders, incoming freshmen and transfers, all varsity athletics teams, student organizations and a number of upper-division student groups. Faculty and staff also received important Title IX training about how to identify and report misconduct and how to connect students with important resources. We are currently conducting additional training and awareness activities all across campus as well as continuing to work with our student advisory group.

Above all, we are most concerned about the safety of our students and are doing all we can to ensure we respond effectively and with great compassion to those impacted by interpersonal violence. Our Title IX Office is committed to responding quickly, compassionately and appropriately to reports of interpersonal violence by students or third-party reporters. In addition, there are campus resources available to all students to seek help and access confidential medical or counseling assistance. We actively encourage students to use all available resources and to contact the Title IX Office so they can provide information about support and resources, options under university policy and options to report to law enforcement. A student who reports sexual violence but does not wish to pursue disciplinary action can still receive help and information to inform decision-making. The Title IX Office is committed to balancing a student's request to remain anonymous with the university's commitment to provide a safe and non-discriminatory environment to other members of its campus community.

We encourage any member of the Baylor community with concerns related to interpersonal violence to step forward and share his or her experiences with our Title IX Office. You may contact the Title IX Office by phone at 254-710-8454, by email at patty_crawford@ baylor.edu or in person at their office in Clifton Robinson Tower, Suite 285. We also invite students who would like to get involved in the "It's on Us BU" awareness campaign to contact the Title IX Office for further information.

The topic of interpersonal violence on college campuses is of great concern to me and to all of us who serve on Baylor's faculty and staff. The well-being and success of our students are the university's first priority, and on that foundation are built all of the academic and student life services on our campus. Acts of sexual violence contradict every value Baylor University upholds as a caring Christian community. I look forward to continuing our work together to ensure a safe and supportive campus for all students.

It's on Us BU,

Ken Starr President and Chancellor **EDITORIAL**





@asherfreeman

Real prep

Baylor should implement class to ready students for real world

College is a place for students to learn, to grow up and to transition into the 'real world.' However, so many college students today graduate and don't know how to take care of their basic financial needs or how to pay back student loans.

Several of the editorial board members are seniors and can share in this experience of not knowing how to do many of these things.

It would be in the best interest of students, especially at Baylor, to learn how to deal with finances in a class here on campus. This class would stress the basic financial skills used in everyday life after graduation. These money managing tips would help alleviate much of the worry or doubt many may experience after leaving college.

This seminar would be mandatory in students' degree audit, but he or she would be welcome to take it at any point in their college career. The course would be worth one credit hour for one semester. This life skills class could be taken in a onehour-15 minute class once a week. Much like a U1000 class, this course would meet and discuss the different ways money management and budgeting could be used for students with stress about post-graduate

The finance seminar could be used to replace a mathematics class, like the Ideas In Mathematics course provided. In the class that would be provided, students could learn about numerous things.

Each class could be centered on something different: how to budget, how to pay taxes, how to become a homeowner, selective health care, how to pay back student loans, life insurance and even how to save up for a retirement plan.

Budgeting in college is something probably every college student wishes he or she would have done from the get-go. It would help them prepare more for the future financial predicaments that might face after graduation. Hand-in-hand with budgeting would be the cumbersome task of paying back student loans, which no one in college is probably even preparing for

On the other hand, students at this time are more than likely working in order to pay for college or are working to have extra spending money. Filing taxes is a rather daunting task it seems and many students may not know how to handle the proc So, an inclusion of how to tackle taxes would really help those in need.

Also, mortgage and retirement plans seem to be forever away since most of us are nowhere near being married, owning a house or retiring anytime soon. However, being prepared about how these things function would be a large stress reliever for when that day may come to start worrying about those things.

This would be a great idea, to force students to better understand finances in the future. Not only is the point of college to help students hone their skills and talents to help them in a future position or job, but to educate them on normal and everyday occurrences during and after college.



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PHOTOGRAPHERS

Trey Honeycutt Penelope Shirey CARTOONIST

AD REPRESENTATIVES Jacob Hogan Alex Newman Annah Smith

DELIVERY Mohit Parme Jenny Troilo

Contact Us

General Questions: Lariat@baylor.edu 254-710-1712

Sports and Arts: LariatArts@baylor.edu

LariatSports@baylor.edu Advertising inquiries:

Lariat_Ads@baylor.edu

254-710-3407

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.

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US Zika case sparks increased study

MIKE STOBBE

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A sexually transmitted case of Zika in Texas has scientists scrambling to understand how much of a risk infection through sex is for the usually mosquito-spread illness

Experts still stress that mosquitoes are the main culprit in the Zika epidemic facing Latin America and looming over the United States.

"Mosquitoes would be the great river of transmission, while sexual transmission is going to be akin to a mountain stream," said Dr. William Schaffner, an infectious disease expert at Vanderbilt University.

But the Texas case has spurred more discussion about additional ways in which Zika and other illnesses, commonly thought to be carried only by mosquitoes, might be spread.

Other types of transmission can be hard to spot in the midst of outbreaks, noted Dr. Ali Khan, a former disease investigator for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"It's very hard to parse this out in the middle of an epidemic," said Khan, now dean of the University of Nebraska's college of public health. Discerning something like sexual

transmission would have to occur in a place where an outbreak was not raging, he said.

That's what happened in Dallas.

The current Zika epidemic is on track to

cause millions of infections in Latin America and the Caribbean, but no transmission was reported in the United States until the Dallas case this week.

Health officials said a person there — who had not traveled to an outbreak area — was infected. An investigation concluded the person caught the virus through sex with a person who had recently returned from Venezuela, where Zika infections have been growing.

Officials released few details about the case, except to say both patients have recovered. But it wasn't the first to raise the possibility of sexual transmission of the virus.

A Colorado State University researcher, Brian Foy, picked up the virus in Africa and apparently spread it to his wife back home in 2008. More recently, it was found in one man's semen in Tahiti.

Now, in the wake of the Dallas case, "we're all kind of scrambling in the scientific community how best to tackle this and how best to research it," said Foy.

Most people infected with Zika experience, at the most, only mild symptoms. But mounting evidence in Brazil has suggested a connection between the virus and babies born with brain defects and abnormally small heads.

The Zika epidemic and possible link to microcephaly cases in Brazil prompted the World Health Organization to declare a global emergency on Monday.



Associated Press

OUTBREAK Cassiana Severino holds her daughter Melisa Vitoria, born with microcephaly at the IMIP hospital in Brazil, Wednesday. The recent Texas case has spurred discussion concerning potential modes of transmission of the Zika virus, which has reached epidemic proportions.

Birth control rates fall post-Planned Parenthood

PAUL J. WEBER

Associated Press

AUSTIN — A study found that Texas saw a drop in women obtaining long-acting birth control after Republican leaders booted Planned Parenthood from a state women's health program in 2013, which researchers said may explain an increase in births among poor families

The research examined the effects of Texas severing taxpayer ties with the largest abortion provider in the U.S. The same year Texas barred Planned Parenthood from state family planning services, then-Gov. Rick Perry signed abortion restrictions

that shuttered clinics under a sweeping law that the U.S. Supreme Court will review next month.

No explicit connection is made in the study between the exclusion of Planned Parenthood clinics and fewer women obtaining long-lasting forms of contraception. More women could have chosen to get pregnant or obtained birth control outside publicly funded programs. But researchers said their finding suggest a likely policy link.

A top Texas Republican lawmaker, state Sen. Jane Nelson, called the study misleading and said it didn't take into account all state programs for women. The state health commission said the number of clinics providing

women's health services had doubled.

Researchers, though, said Texas hasn't filled the void left by Planned Parenthood. "Whatever good efforts are being

whatever good efforts are being made, they weren't enough to offset the impact of suddenly removing Planned Parenthood," said Joseph Potter, a researcher at the University of Texas at Austin and one of the study authors.

The study, released Wednesday by the New England Journal of Medicine, was funded in part by the Susan T. Buffett Foundation, a major supporter of Planned Parenthood and other abortion-rights groups. Potter said the foundation had no hand in the research and had not seen the study

Researchers looked at the number of women who obtained birth control through state-funded family planning services in the two years before and after Planned Parenthood was removed from the Texas program. They found that claims for longacting methods of birth control

— which included contraceptive implants, intrauterine devices and contraceptive shots — dropped by roughly one-third.

No significant change was noted in women obtaining short-acting methods, such as birth control pills and contraceptive rings, which were the vast majority of claims.

Childbirths covered by Medicaid

also increased among women who used contraceptive shots and lived in counties with Planned Parenthood affiliates, according to the study.

Texas lost all federal funding for its women's health program following the exclusion of Planned Parenthood, which is a qualified provider under federal law. The new Texas Women's Health Program is entirely statefunded and bars clinics affiliated with abortion providers.

Bryan Black, a spokesman for the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, said the number of clinics offering women's health programs had doubled since 2014. Two of the five named authors on the report work at the state health agency.









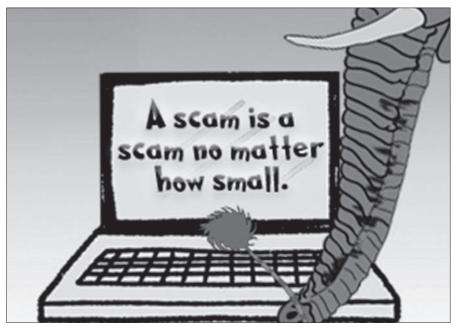
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KEEPING AN EYE OUT The Baylor ITS department has been pushing the implementation of BearAware, a service that promotes internet safety. The illustration above is just one of many promotional posters used to spread the word about the service.

ITS pushes Web safety campaign

LIESJE POWERS

Staff Writer

A recent technology hoax at local Midway High School led to a discussion of social ethics with Jon Allen, Assistant Vice President and Chief Information Security Officer of Baylor ITS.

A few weeks ago, two school students copied a message sent from administration and edited it to warn students and parents to avoid going to school because of a possible threat. The false information was spread via Twitter and caused Midway great confusion, including numerous parent calls and cases of student stress.

"Pranks have changed," Allen said. "It's a joke, but when it goes from kind of playing around in a dorm room to you're doing something online, it goes from, 'Oh everybody kind of laughs it off' to really, criminal action."

Baylor holds policies that are general to technology, more like an operational guide for students instead of creating specific policies for

"When that next piece of technology comes along and it has time and time again — we're not rewriting our policies," Allen said.

These were created so that

there are fewer loopholes available to network users. Any rules that apply are for all aspects of technology and link directly into policies regarding academic matters, where more specifics are found.

"The example that happened out at Midway, certainly that is an issue, but it is not so much a technology issue as it is a behavioral issue," Allen said. "They could have done something very similar by printing out

As a generation that has moved from baby pictures stored in boxes to most pictures being documented online, the protection of individuals is a changing game. Many students are unaware of how developments in technology have changed the way that social media accounts and profiles need to be privatized, as students are held accountable for their own technological presence.

that online "Taking responsibility then helps you understand going forward, 'OK this is the piece I need to be aware of. This is why this is important." Allen said.

has implementing BearAware, a service that encourages internet safety. One of the aspects of this service is understanding that anything posted is available online in

some format, no matter how anonymously it was posted or if the post was deleted.

"Don't do anything that you wouldn't be happy having on the front page of the Lariat," Allen said.

Many organizations are capable of monitoring the use of their brand and the people who hope to work for them. Businesses now hire interns to look at social media pages in order to protect their marketing and gather information on possible employees.

"I don't think people realize how prevalent that has become," Allen said. "They're going to look and they're going to search because they don't want embarrassment."

As Baylor moves farther from on-site systems due to the needs of a growing school, the safety of information is held in high regard by the ITS. One sign of secure access is the Baylor login requirement on systems as simple as the directory, as well as more important sites like Canvas and Outlook Email.

"We are not going to sacrifice our security or privacy requirements just because a service is lower cost or better. That is something we are very particular about." Allen said.

VETERAN from Page 1 —

also a graduate of Prairie View A&M University and holds a master's degree in business.

Smith left Vietnam in 1968 and spoke little of what had happened in his time in the armed forces. This past year, Smith's son, Michael, and his son's wife, Janie, discovered medals and photos in a closet from his 20 years of service. After the discovery about six months ago, the Lieutenant Colonel began to tell his stories.

"In a sense, I don't think

that he thought what he achieved in the military was of any significance," Michael Smith said. "I think it has been extremely therapeutic [to share his stories]."

Smith received attention from the James A. Edmond American Legion Post 121 after a few of their officers viewed a framed collage of Smith's photos and awards. The post invited him to the Legion's ball this past fall but the family was unable to attend.

The Legion is a sponsor of

the town meeting as well as the city of Waco, Community Race Relations Coalition, Cultural Arts of Waco, and Waco NAACP.

The Central Texas African American Heritage Foundation, a local group that supports and presents African American culture through varied art forms, will present the event.

"I am so humbled and taken aback by the response," Michael Smith said. "I am so moved."

BENGHAZI from Page 1 —

smoke, which made it difficult to breathe. He said they went as far back as they could go to look for the ambassador, almost falling victim themselves. However, not knowing for sure if the ambassador was still in the consulate building, the team made the decision to go back to the CIA annex to prevent it from also being overrun.

"As a Ranger, and any other branch of military service, you never leave a fallen comrade fall into the hands of the enemy," Patrono said. "We made the decision to leave, and that's hard for me to deal with because he was there, but we left. It's hard to deal with, but it happened and I'll deal with it for the rest

As the team returned to the annex building, there were two more series of attacks led by the armed militants.

"As the night went on there were a lot more altercations and chances for us to quit, lie down and just give up, and say, 'To hell with it, but we did not."

Toward the end of the attacks, mortars hit the rooftops where some of the soldiers were, leaving two of them dead.

"It was hard to watch my buddies basically vaporize in front of my eyes, which is what it really looked like to me, but I knew it was for the right reasons," Paronto said. "And I know it is for the right reasons because it was to save 30 others."

While Paronto said he felt the movie conveyed a true sense of what really happened in Benghazi, but he wished it portrayed more of a sense of God being there with him through his faith.

"Sometimes you just have to let go of control," Paranto said. "That night in particular, I was supposed to be in Benghazi, I was supposed to be up on that rooftop, and I was supposed to be fighting with those guys, fighting for my life because that is where God wanted me to be. You just have to let it go. If I had happened to die that night then that's His decision. I'm not going to stop fighting and give up.

There were many veterans, active duty service men and women along with family members of those who have served in the audience, who could relate to Paronto's experience.

"I feel it's important to Veterans to unite with each other." said Meredith Granholm, a former Air Force staff sergeant. "As a veteran



Trey Honeycutt | Lariat Photographer

HONORING LOSS At the event was a tribute made by Troy Kelley to honor the thirteen men and women that lost their lives in the Fort Hood shooting of November 5, 2009.

I support him for what he did and what he continues to do with speaking the truth of what happened in Benghazi."

Paronto said he was grateful for the support he received from service members and civilians during the political aftermath surrounding the attacks.

"I want to thank you guys, because, to be honest with you, after Benghazi and after things turned on us and people started to call us liars, I hated this place. I hated the US and I hated the government. As I have continued to speak, come around and continue to see the support I'm getting now, you guys have really brought my patriotism back to where it was when I first joined the service."

However, despite his bravery and courage the night of the attacks, Paronto said he prefers not to be called a hero.

"I don't like the title, I'm not. I was just doing my job that night," Paranto said. "I did things I think anybody would have done as long as they were willing to sacrifice themselves for others, so hero isn't a title I am comfortable with. We just look at it as our job.

Paranto left one piece of advice to collegeaged students regarding the importance and duty of helping others.

"You just describe it as being a selfsacrifice, a selfless service," Paronto said. "You have to start getting out of your bubble a little bit and realizing there are just times you have to think of others before yourself."

Cosby sexual assault case to proceed

MARYCLAIRE DALE & MICHAEL R. SISAK

Associated Press

NORRISTOWN, Pa. — A judge refused to throw out the sexual-assault case against Bill Cosby on Wednesday, sweeping aside a former district attorney's claim that he granted the comedian immunity from prosecution a decade ago.

Common Pleas Judge Steven O'Neill issued the ruling after a hard-fought two-day hearing, saying witness credibility was a factor. He did not elaborate.

In another setback for the defense, the judge also denied a request to disqualify newly elected District Attorney Kevin Steele from the case. Cosby's lawyers had accused Steele of making a "political football" out of Cosby during the campaign.

Cosby, 78, was arrested in December and charged with drugging and violating former Temple University athletic department employee Andrea Constand at his suburban Philadelphia home in 2004. The TV star could get up to 10 years in prison if convicted.

Cosby held his head in his hands after the ruling, then left the courtroom, using a cane to descend the ornate marble staircase. He waved and smiled at supporters but had no comment. His lawyers put their arms on him to comfort him.

The next step is a preliminary hearing March 8 to determine whether prosecutors have enough evidence to put him on trial.

In 2005, then-District Attorney Bruce Castor decided the case was too flawed to prosecute. But Castor's successors reopened the investigation last year after Cosby's lurid, decade-old testimony from Constand's civil suit was unsealed at the request of The Associated Press and after dozens of other women came forward with similar accusations that destroyed Cosby's nice-guy image as America's Dad.

Cosby's lawyers tried to get the case thrown out with help from Castor, who testified at this week's hearing that he intended to forever close the door on prosecuting the comedian. He said he considered his decision binding on his successors.

Similarly, Cosby's lawyers said they never would have let the TV star testify in the civil case if they didn't believe criminal charges were off the

"In this case, prosecution should be stopped in its tracks," Cosby lawyer Chris Tayback argued. "Really what we're talking about here is honoring a commitment."

Steele challenged Castor's credibility and questioned whether the former DA ever made such an agreement, since it was never put in writing on a legal document and the Cosby attorney with whom Castor dealt is now dead. Steele argued that in any case, Castor had no legal authority to make such a deal.

"A secret agreement that allows a wealthy defendant to buy his way out of a criminal case isn't right," Steele told the judge.

At one point late in the afternoon, the judge signaled which way he intended to

"There's no other witness to the promise," O'Neill said. "The rabbit is in the hat and you want me at this point to assume, 'Hey, the promise was made, judge. Accept that."

On the stand, Castor defended his decision not to bring charges, citing among other things Constand's yearlong delay in going to police, her continued contact with Cosby, and suggestions that she and her mother might have tried to extort the comic.

The former DA said he made the no-prosecution commitment in hopes of prodding Cosby to testify Constand's lawsuit without invoking his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination. In the end, Cosby testified, denying he assaulted Constand but admitting among other things that he obtained quaaludes to give to women he wanted to seduce. Constand eventually settled for an undisclosed

While more than 50 women have accused Cosby of drugging and sexually them since assaulting the 1960s, the statute of limitations for prosecuting the comic has run out in nearly every instance. This is the only case in which he has been charged.

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Week in Waco:

>> Today

Noon and 6:30 p.m.—

"Amistad" at the Waco Hippodrome. Free. Accepting clothing donations for Esther's Closet.

7 p.m. — Tiffany Roberts at Dichotomy. Free.

7 p.m. — Stars over Texas Jamboree at Lee Lockwood Library and Museum. \$14.

7:30 p.m. — St. Olaf College Choir at Jones Concert Hall. \$10 for students, \$30 for public.

>> Friday

Starting 10 a.m. — First Friday in downtown Waco.

11 a.m.- 4 p.m. — Print-a-Valentine event at Martin Museum of Art. Free.

6 p.m. − Rising Sons at the Waco Hippodrome. Free.

6:45 p.m. — Baylor Ballroom Dance Society event at the SUB Den. Free.

8 p.m. — Jukebox the **Ghost with The Family** Crest at Common Grounds. \$18 online, \$20 at the door.

Having a ball

Ballroom Dance Society hosts semester's first events



Penelope Shirey | Lariat Photographer

SAVE THE LAST DANCE Guests at the first Ballroom Dance Society event learn to waltz in the Bill Daniel Student Center. The organization will host ballroom lessons and dances at 6:45 p.m. on Fridays at various locations. Check their Facebook page for

HELENA HUNT

Arts and Life Editor

Though Cinderella only went to the ball once (and had to leave early, at that), the new Ballroom Dance Society will give students the chance to dance every Friday this semester.

At 6:45 p.m. this Friday, the group will host its second ball in the Bill Daniel Student Center's SUB Den. Faculty sponsors and social dance instructors Craig Waldrop and Jane Abbott-Kirk will teach the foxtrot, a ballroom style characterized by its smooth and rhythmic elegance.

Throughout the semester, the Ballroom Dance Society will meet in multiple venues to teach the tango, swing dance and the waltz, in addition to the foxtrot. Updates on each week's location can be found on the organization's Facebook page.

The Ballroom Dance Society's events will expose guests to different genres of music, from Journey to classical standards, a

range of different dance styles. For its first event last week, the organization welcomed about 50 beginning and intermediate dancers with introductory lessons in the waltz. Partners dressed in their finest ballroom attire (or in T-shirts and jeans) swirled beneath the vaulted ceilings of the Barfield Drawing Room, taking their first steps under Waldrop and Abbott-Kirk's direction.

"We learned everything from how to follow

the beat of the music, to the different steps, to how to move around the room without running into people, because apparently it can be a little like Nascar," said Katy freshman Jamie Wheeler.

Austin senior Joshua Turpin, the organization's president, formed the society to promote the culture of ballroom dance at Baylor and to educate students in what he sees as an

"Very few people know how to ballroom dance, and it's disgraceful, really. We feel that ballroom dance is a wonderful gift and also a social grace," Turpin said. "There's a lot to be said for having balls and dances. It's a good social event, it's good for the health and, personally, I feel it releases a lot of stress."

Turpin started the society after taking a social dance course last year and realizing there was nowhere he could hone his skills beyond the classroom. He soon found other students who were interested in ballroom dance and, with the help of his faculty sponsors, chartered the Ballroom Dance Society.

It was only after joining an entirely separate group of ballroom dancers, however, that the Ballroom Dance Society really got off the

Like Turpin, a group of honors students saw a need for ballroom dance at Baylor. At the Honors College's Fall Ball last semester, Fergus Falls, Minn., freshman David Grotberg expected to dance the stately waltz or the lively Texas two-step. When he learned that the event wouldn't feature any ballroom dancing at all, he

and about 50 other honors students signed a petition to have it at the Fall Ball. Their petition was successful, and they were given the floor to waltz, foxtrot or do the quickstep—but only for five minutes.

"We saw [ballroom dance] was something that was really missing at Baylor," Grotberg said. "We've got swing dance and we've got Latin dance, so ballroom dance seemed like the next

Grotberg and the other petitioners, including Wheeler, held a Christmas ball last semester in the Honors Residential College, but it wasn't until meeting Turpin at the beginning of this semester that they were able to join forces with the Ballroom Dance Society and host events every week.

Turpin hopes that guests will visit any one of the group's balls to gain a deeper appreciation of ballroom dance. Anyone can come and go throughout the night, choosing to take a lesson at the beginning or stay until the end.

Wheeler said the ballroom dances are a valuable opportunity to learn and to socialize.

"People may have an idea of ballroom dancing as being old-fashioned or something only people in corsets do, and it's just really not the case," Wheeler said. "We had a really great variety of types of music, and we're going to do a variety of types of dancing. What it all has in common is that it values order and beauty. It's both a social event and an art form. It's like theater, it's like music, it's like poetry. But it's also a social event, and I find that really interesting."

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For today's puzzle results, please go to BaylorLariat.com

Today's puzzles

- 1 *Where deliveries may be left
- 9 Adorn in relief
- 15 First three of ten digits
- 16 Bad guy 17 *Airport pickup
- 19 "It's __ cause"
- 20 *Modest garment
- 33 Have yet to pay
- 34 NFC South team
- 35 Part of rpm
- 38 Musical sequence found at the starts of the answers to the starred clues
- 40 Authoritarian figure
- 44 Chair part

- 48 Volunteer's offer

- 57 Afternoon social
- 58 *Breaking point
- 62 Giant
- 67 *History book chart
- 69 Had to have
- 71 Prone to avarice
- 72 *Words of admonishment
- Down 1 Swimmer Torres with 12 Olympic medals
- 2 Pitcher Hershiser 3 Wine lover's prefix

- 18 State with conviction
- 22 Extra-play qtrs.
- 24 Influenced by, in recipes
- 25 July baby, maybe 26 *Hiker's pouch
- 31 Storm winds
- 36 Whipped cream amount

- 46 Balderdash
- 47 Poetic tribute
- 51 *Infant's dietary prohibition
- 55 Sun Devils of the Pac-12

- 66 Where it originally was
- 70 Cordial with a licorice-like flavor

4 Exposes to the cops

5 Absent-minded, to a Brit

- 6 Front-of-bk. list 7 Red-coated cheese
- 8 Prefix with scope
- 9 Text alternative
- 10 Many a text 11 Get some rays
- 12 "The Hairy Ape" playwright 13 Yes or no follower
- 14 Brief arguments
- 21 Divided terr.
- 23 Cramp, say 26 Weather condition in the final
- scene of "Casablanca" 27 Belt maker's tool
- 28 Opposite of paleo-29 Flight coordinators: Abbr.
- 30 Light cigar wrapper 32 Part of a ring

35 __ point: embroidery stitch

- 37 Groceries quantity
- 39 "u r a riot!"

70

- 41 Menagerie 42 Excitement
- 43 Like the bull in the Chicago Bulls' logo
- 45 __ peanuts
- 48 In neutral
- 49 Temporary wheels
- 50 Tenant
- 51 California's Big ___ 52 Can't stand
- 53 Didn't hit the books? 56 Hit the books
- 59 It has its highs and lows 60 Minimally
- 61 Skid row regular
- 63 Jackson 5 brother 64 Voting no
- 65 Discontinued depilatory
- 68 Part of rpm: Abbr.



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Signed 'em, now Sic 'em

Baylor posts historic signing day, one of best classes in Big 12

HUNTER HEWELL

Reporter

Baylor football finishes National Signing Day 2016 with a nationally ranked top-20 signing class. This top-20 finish is the highest in school history during the Big 12 era.

Overall, 22 players signed with the Bears, including 19 high school players and three junior college transfers.

Baylor signed seven All-Americans and two USA Football national team members.

The All-Americans all played for Texas high schools.

Of the offensive all-American signees, the Bears signed Navasota wide-receiver Tren'Davian Dickson, Silsbee offensive lineman Patrick Hudson, Sachse wide receiver Devin Duvernay, Copperas Cove offensive lineman J.P. Urquidez and Grandview quarterback Zach Smith.

The Bears also signed two defensive all-Americans: Lancaster defensive back Keenan Ivy and La Vega defensive back Parrish Cobb.

Baylor head coach Art Briles is excited for the new signees and the opportunities that await them.

"The Baylor brand is hot," Briles said. "Our facilities and the direction of our university are on the dynamic edge, and it's going to be a continuing

trend to see Baylor at the top of the recruiting classes, year-in and yearout."

The Baylor class consisted of nine offensive players and 12 defensive players. Included in those 12 defensive players are six players who will contribute to Baylor's defensive secondary.

Also in the 2016 class is one athlete who could fill in as a utility player in several positions.

Although Baylor's 2016 signing class is full of standout players, it is the wide receivers that have garnered much of the attention.

"Our four receivers we signed this year: TD (Dickson), Jared Atkinson, Denzel Mims and Devin Duvernay, that's the top receiving class in America," Briles said, "and it's not even close."

Twenty of the 22 signees hail from the Lone Star State, while the other two come from Alabama and Florida.

"I'm just humbled by the loyalty and trust of our student athletes that signed letters of intent with us today, because they all had numerous choices," Briles said. "They all chose Baylor because of their belief in our University, in our coaching staff, and in our direction as a football program."



Courtesy of Lancaster High School

ON THE DOTTED LINE Defensive back Keenan Ivy signs his letter of intent to play football for the Baylor Bears on Wednesday at Lancaster High School. Ivy played safety for Lancaster High School.



Penelope Shirey | Lariat Photographer

FOCUS ON THE BALL Freshman Jimmy Bendeck returns a ball during the Bears' match against No. 3 Texas A&M at the Hawkins Indoor Tennis Center on Wednesday.

Bears fall to rival Texas A&M

MEGHAN MITCHELL

Sports Writer

No. 4 Baylor men's tennis team was dealt its first loss yesterday against in-state and former Big 12 rival No. 3 ranked Texas A&M team, 4-2 on Wendnesday at the Hawkins Indoor Center.

The Bears (5-1) hoped to keep the momentum going but fell short to a seasoned A&M team.

"Just wasn't assertive enough, wasn't aggressive enough, they kind of took the racket out of our hands," said head coach Matt Knoll.

The Aggies (5-0) were being led by Arthur Rinderknech and Shane Visant, who are both ranked individually at No. 5 and No. 29, respectively.

The Bears' night started off on the wrong foot, losing the doubles matches 2-1.

The Bears looked poised to take the doubles point, but fell short in the last match at 6-4 when the Aggies broke the Bears, then served it out to take the match and get the point for their team.

Going into singles already down for the first time this season, the Bears looked to stay focused and bring the intensity up.

Senior Julian Lenz, the Bears' No. 1 player on the roster, led the way for Baylor. Lenz was able to knock off the fifth-ranked Rinderknech, 6-4, 6-1.

"I've been playing really well these last couple days and in practice and also in the last couple matches," Lenz said. "I knew exactly how to play this guy. I was a little unsure about it in the beginning, but after a few games I knew how to play him. It was a holding serve contest."

Senior Felipe Rios, although not playing at his peak, also came out victorious to cut the deficit to 3-2 as he took the match 7-5, 6-4 to move to 4-0 in singles dual-match play.

Unfortunately, those would be the only two victories that the Bears would take.

Although redshirt freshman Will Little played solid tennis and put up a good fight to win his first set, he was unable to keep the momentum going.

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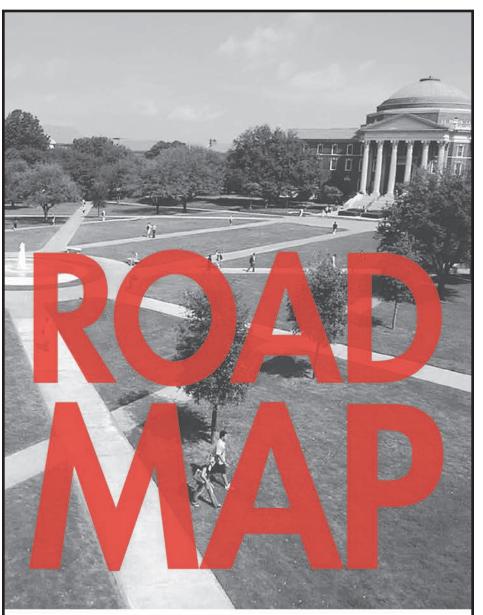
The Aggies took a 4-2 lead and the win.

The lack of opportunities playing in college match settings hurt the Bears tonight, Knoll said, but he was proud of the way the veterans played.

"I think you just saw that those guys are a little more experience, a little bit more seasoned," Knoll said. "Those guys play a lot more tennis in these match settings."

Going forward, the Bears look to regroup and take on No. 19 Ole Miss at 6 p.m. Saturday at Hawkins Indoor Tennis Center.

"We scheduled these kinds of teams because you want to be pushed and exposed and shown where we need to be better. This match did that," Knoll said.



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