

Baylor Lariat

WE'RE THERE WHEN YOU CAN'T BE



DRAWING INSPIRATION pg. 5

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WEDNESDAY

BAYLORLARIAT.COM

Gun-free campus

After much deliberation, regents approve campus carry ban

LIESJE POWERS
Staff Writer

President and Chancellor Ken Starr announced Baylor's official opposition to the Texas Senate Bill 11, or campus carry, at the Baylor's Board of Regents February meeting Friday.

The campus will remain gun-free for students, faculty, staff and visitors. As a private college in Texas, Baylor is able to take action against the bill, unlike state colleges such as the University of Texas or Texas A&M University.

"I feel like it makes us a target because people know we can't defend ourselves. If someone went to UT and tried to do something there, they'd know students have guns, but here we don't," Abilene freshman Robert Girdner said. "The campus police are pretty good, they still have to get to wherever it's happening."

Faculty Senate and Staff Council as well as student government made individual decisions about campus carry and gave those deliberations to the board of regents for consideration. The Senate and council debated on the subject for a great length of time before any input was given.

The student government went through a series of public and private discussions over the past few weeks and received student input before any conclusions were made. Included in those were a public speaking event and an online voting poll that all students were invited to join via email.

"Regardless of where our faculty, staff and students stand on the issue, we do know that they care deeply about the safety of our campus," Starr said in a news release. "We applaud and appreciate the deliberate process undertaken by our campus community and their invaluable



contributions to the university's response on campus carry."

Last week, Student Senate's original bill to oppose open carry was invalidated by the Baylor Student Court on the bill's failure to follow constitutional procedure.

Students were only very recently made aware of this decision, but were pleased to have an official statement.

"I applaud Ken Starr for coming out with an action; his comment on it," said Houston freshman Kate Hamby. "If people started to do it and then he said no, it would be much harder to do an act, whereas now he just cut to the chase."

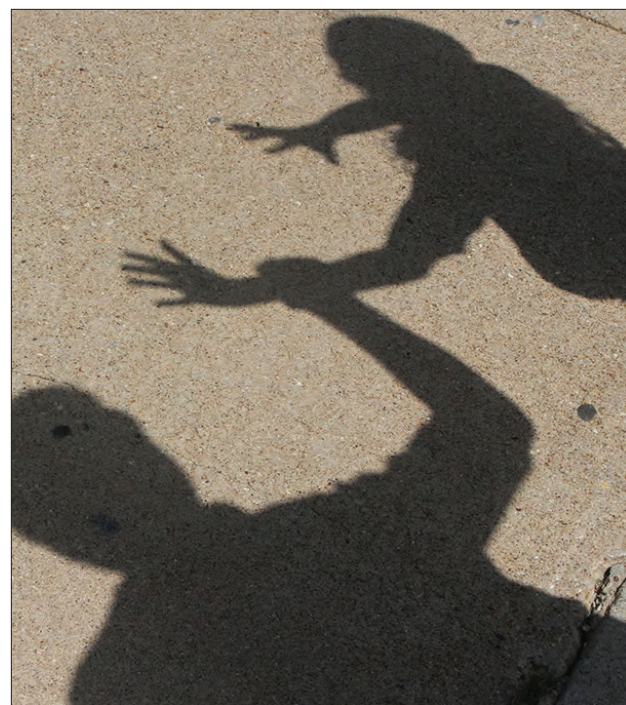
Boston, Massachusetts freshman Drew Robinson also agrees with the decision. Robinson said he is used to much stronger gun control and feels safer without students having guns on campus.

"I honestly think we can look at the past and see that people have called bomb threats because they have a final they didn't study for or ... [other student stresses]," Robinson said. "There are veterans who are trained day in and day out to deal with combat scenarios and they can still make errors. I don't think that a student who took a couple classes is on the same level as a Marine [in a difficult situation]."

In other business, the regents approved two new degree plans: a doctoral degree in computer science and a joint graduate degree in athletic training.

On the residential front, the regents also approved \$13 million to go toward renovating Martin Residence Hall as well as \$1 million for maintenance and capital projects on upper-division and transfer-student residential facilities such as University Parks Apartments, Brooks Flats and Arbors Apartments.

Richard Hirst | Photo Editor



File Photo

SEEKING CHANGE In light of the controversy surrounding Baylor's handling of sexual assault cases, the BU Students Against Sexual Violence group was formed. The group aims to start discussions about sexuality and rape on campus.

Sexual assault group created to promote campus awareness

RACHEL LELAND
Staff Writer

Sentiments of the university's mishandling of multiple sexual assault cases involving students inspired one woman to action.

The Friday following a vigil held for sexual assault survivors, Waterloo, Iowa, senior Kate McGuire created a Facebook page called BU Students Against Sexual Violence.

McGuire said she has not been assaulted at Baylor, but wanted to advocate on behalf of assault survivors that she knows.

"Once more cases became public, I thought the group could help us talk about it," McGuire said.

McGuire hopes that as more students and faculty demonstrate interest in the organization, the group can begin engaging in dialogue with the administration to advocate for change.

Thursday evening, the group held a small meeting in the Bill Daniel Student Center for those interested in working toward improving the university's response to sexual assault survivors and creating a campus culture that allows discussion of the sensitive topics of sexuality and rape.

Abilene junior Rebecca Farrar, another member of the group, said she felt the Baptist values of the university were part of the problem because they stifled conversation that could help sexual assault survivors.

"I understand that there are values

and traditions that Baylor, as a Christian university, adheres to in order to be an exclusive private university, but at the same time certain practices perpetuate a culture of unacceptability," Farrar said. "The result is a culture that ignores those who suffer one of the most degrading acts a human can do to another."

Both McGuire and Farrar said they were pleased with the policy changes mentioned in the letter released Friday by Baylor's administration.

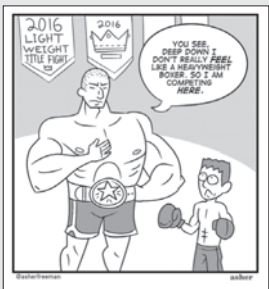
The letter promised that the university would increase funding and space for the counseling center and mandate Title IX training for upperclassmen, faculty and staff.

"It's a sign that the administration

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>>WHAT'S INSIDE

opinion



Editorial: In some Olympic events transgender athletes may have an unfair advantage. **pg. 6**

sports

Playing Iowa: Read the highlights of last night's men's basketball game. **pg. 2**

Gooden asks abuse survivors to speak

JESSICA HUBBLE
Staff Writer

In conjunction with the Title IX Office, Baylor Chapel and Baylor Department of Wellness, the Baylor Academy for Leader Development hosted Beverly Gooden on Tuesday evening to come speak in Jones Concert Hall of the Glennis McCrary Music Building. Gooden is a domestic violence survivor and advocate, as well as the creator of the #WhyIStayed movement. Gooden will speak in all three chapels today.

Gooden spoke to a room of students, faculty and staff about how she left her abusive relationship and why she stayed for two years.

Gooden got engaged to her boyfriend after dating for nine

month, but the abuse started months before then. She initially questioned what she did to make her boyfriend abuse her.

"I stayed because I was afraid," Gooden said. "I stayed because I didn't think anyone would believe me. I thought that if I told anyone they would judge me. I never called the police because I didn't know what would happen. I didn't know if he would go to jail or if I would be alone and never see him again. I stayed because I wanted to believe him when he said it would be the last time."

Gooden said she also stayed because he was the breadwinner. She didn't have a job and they were

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Richard Hirst | Photo Editor

SPEAKING OUT Domestic violence and creator of the #WhyIStayed movement Beverly Gooden spoke about preventing domestic violence to audience members on Tuesday at Jones Concert Hall.

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

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

EDITORIAL

Transgender athletes have unfair advantages in some Olympic events

With the Olympics right around the corner, there is a new rule instilled by the International Olympic Committee that states that transgender people are now able to compete in the Olympic Games and other international sporting events without gender reassignment surgery.

In November 2015, there was a consensus meeting that set guidelines for men who identify as women to compete. In this process, the transgender women must undergo testosterone testing where the total testosterone level in serum must remain below 10 nmol/L for at least a year.

For women to compete as men, there are no such regulations. This insinuates the physical advantage that men have over women.

It seems as though many agree with this rule and believe hormone testing should be the only thing to separate transgender women from competing. However, those who agree with the ruling overlooked one major detail: anatomical differences between genders.

The Games require a lot of physical strength and endurance from both sexes. However, there are different requirements instituted for each.

Muscle make-up in men and women's bodies is the primary issue. According to the National Center for Biotechnology Information's website, "Fiber areas and type were determined from needle biopsies and muscle areas by computerized topographical scanning. The women were approximately 52 percent and 66 percent as strong as the men in the upper and lower body, respectively."

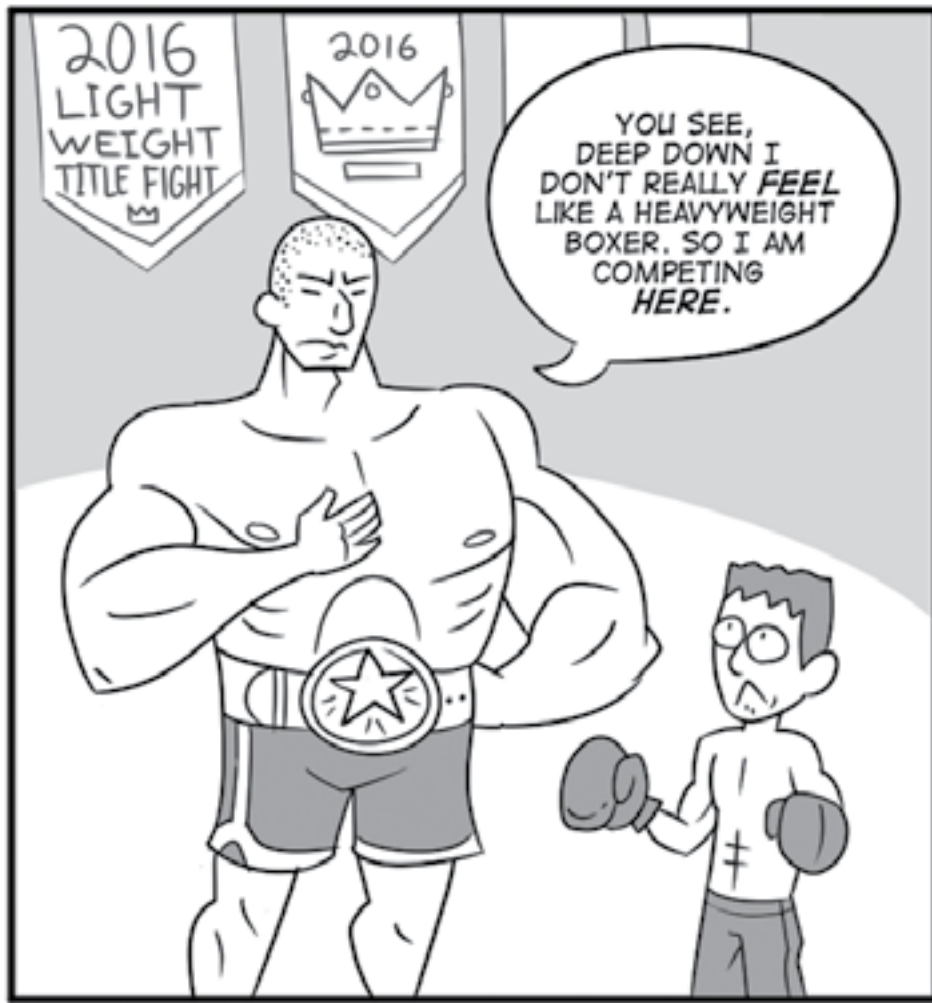
In July 2015, Women's Ultimate Fighting

Championship bantamweight champion Rhonda Rousey and UFC president Dana White both disagreed with Fallon Fox being able to compete as a transgender woman in the league for this very reason. White said, "I'll leave it up to the athletic commissions and the doctors and scientists" to determine whether or not this is an unfair advantage. However, White also said, "I don't think that somebody who used to be a man and became a woman should be able to fight another woman."

Women and men's center of gravity is partly what makes this issue so serious. The average woman holds weight and maintains the majority of strength in her hips and lower body. However, the average man's strength and most of his weight is in the shoulders and upper body.

Tumbling, for instance, is a specific place one can find this contrast. Because of the weight and muscle distribution, men are typically more capable of doing a rotation or a flip more easily than most women. This is not to say men are more powerful or stronger than women, but the distribution of weight plays a key role in how transgender women could find an unfair advantage in competing against women in tumbling.

A study in the journal Gait and Posture done by Valentina Graci and colleagues, working at the University of Maryland, Washington University, and St. Louis University studied the differences in the ways men and women disperse their weight. The study showed that women flexed their trunks less than men. Women also rotated their trunks and pelvises toward the



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weight-bearing limbs more than men.

Figure skating is another Olympic event where this could be an issue. Men and women are structurally different. Far more men in the history of the Olympics have completed quadruple jumps, a move accomplished by completing four rotations in the air before landing, partly because the average man has smaller hip bones. Therefore it causes them to perform turns quicker, allowing them to get more turns in the same amount of air time. This

is also enhanced by the same shoulder muscles that give men an advantage in tumbling. A large portion of the momentum needed to achieve four rotations comes from upper body strength.

Even though allowing transgenders to compete is believed to show equality for both sexes, there are numerous anatomical discrepancies between cisgender and transgender athletes. Although the rule was created to promote inclusion, it creates an unfair advantage because of anatomical differences.

COLUMN

Economic issues deserve greater focus

ERIC VINING
Reporter

The 2016 presidential election is an especially important time in America. Not only is it a time for Americans to choose their next commander-in-chief, but it is also a time where the greatest number of Americans are engaged in debate on the country's most critical issues.

Polls during election years tend to act as reliable litmus tests for determining which issues are truly most important to America's citizenry, compared to off-election years, when overall participation in the democratic process is far lower.

In a recent poll from early January



2016, polling organization Gallup asked respondents what they thought was the most important problem facing Americans at that particular time. According to the poll's results, 76 percent of respondents chose a variety of social issues over economic problems. More than ever, people appear to be more concerned about social issues than economic ones, a stark reversal of popular opinion just a few years earlier.

In recent history, economic issues have typically been of utmost importance to voters. In 2009, for example, more

than 86 percent of respondents to the same Gallup poll above cited economic issues as most important to them. The recently polled 28 percent is the lowest seen in more than eight years.

Generally speaking, the American people have a tendency to choose which issues are most important to them based on their most immediate concerns or fears. For example, more than three-quarters of Americans found the country's economic situation concerning immediately following the 2008 recession. Today in 2016, America's economy is even stronger than it was prior to the recession, and people's concerns have shifted back to social issues such as domestic and international terrorism, immigration, gun control, and general dissatisfaction with the government.

While such a correlation makes sense, it fails to account for some of our country's most pressing issues. Social issues such as race relations, immigration and gun control are all important debates that are an integral part of our democratic process. However, in the midst of these issues we often forget about the greatest issues that affect all Americans.

One prominent example of this is our country's national deficit, which at the time of writing has exceeded \$19 trillion. The total U.S. deficit rises by an excess of \$20,000 per second, yet it garners little discussion time in debates compared to more hotly contested social issues.

Another critical economic issue, and perhaps the most problematic in

recent history, is Social Security. The United States is currently liable for more than \$26.7 trillion in Social Security payouts and benefits, and as more and more Americans reach gain eligibility, few people seem to have an adequate solution to promise that members of the workforce will be guaranteed payouts upon retirement. Despite the fact that politicians from both parties recognize this issue, few are willing to discuss it on the national stage, perhaps in the hope that the problem will be solved in the future.

Unlike gun control, immigration and other social issues, economic issues such as the national deficit and Social Security undisputedly affect all Americans. Issues like these are ones nearly all can agree are problematic, and thus are problems we should be using to unite the American people behind a common enemy of sorts. The greatest issues – the ones everyone chooses to ignore because everyone knows they exist – are ironically the ones we should be focusing on the most, especially in our highly-divisive political landscape.

Economic and social issues are both important in America, and must be discussed and debated in order to find and enact the best solutions to the greatest problems of our day and age. However, we must also remember that often the greatest threats to our country are the issues that affect everyone – and the ones we often leave by the wayside until it is too late.

Eric Vining is a junior political science and journalism major from Houston. He is a reporter for the Lariat.

LARIAT LETTER: Attendance policy

Upon arrival to Baylor University, I was quite surprised by its attendance policy. As all students know here, you must attend 75 percent of classes, and if you fail to do so you will automatically be given an F in the class. I believe this policy is an inadequate way of teaching students to do well on their work and should be abolished from Baylor.

My first reason for this is simple: We are paying to go here and therefore should have the right to not attend class.

Secondly, though I believe the class coursework should be the sole factor in determining a grade, if a professor wants students to not skip, then they should give out daily assignments. This way, if a student chooses to skip over 25 percent of their classes then they would either fail or be near failing due to their missing class work. At the same time this would take away the over-controlling feeling of having an attendance policy.

So let the work speak for itself. If a student wants to fail a class because of missing classwork, professors should allow them to fail. But having an attendance policy dictate this just feels plain childish.

Sam Breitigam
Freshman

LARIAT LETTER: Belonging at BU

Compared to other Universities and institutions across Texas, Baylor has a unique atmosphere. I transferred to Baylor from my community college after my Granddad said I was definitely a "Baylor girl," and that I needed to visit. Since my Granddad came to Baylor, I knew he had valid reasons for wanting me to come here. During my visit, I didn't know what to expect, but the second we drove onto campus I knew I had found my home. My Granddad was right. I knew that this was where I was meant to be. As cheesy as it sounds I knew why we received our "I Know Where I'm Going" T-shirt because I finally understood what it meant to know for sure. It's wonderful to be at a university where everyone is connected by God and faith. As part of the Baylor community, we strive to better ourselves and help those around us. We may all come from various backgrounds, but we all ended up at the same place. God has a plan for each of us and it's completely up to us to just listen to Him and let things just be.

Catherine Kimball
Sophomore

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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.



Associated Press

REACHING OUT A colorful crowd of youth greets Pope Francis as he arrives Tuesday at the stadium in Morelia, Mexico. Francis offered encouragement to the young people, asking them to value themselves and resist the lure of selling drugs, even amid the crime and tragedy of their country. The Pope also appealed to church leaders earlier that day to continue to fight Mexico's prevalent injustice and violence.

Pope encourages Mexican youth

**JACOBO GARCIA
AND NICOLE WINFIELD**
Associated Press

MORELIA, Mexico — Pope Francis urged Mexico's young people to resist the lure of easy money from dealing drugs and instead value themselves during a visit Tuesday to the heartland of the nation's narcotics trade. "Jesus, who gives us hope, would never ask us to be hit men," he said.

Francis brought a message of hope to Mexico's next generation during a youth pep rally in Morelia, capital of Michoacan state, a major methamphetamine production hub and drug-trafficking route.

It was by far the most colorful event of his visit, featuring butterfly-winged dancers and mariachi bands — and a crowd so enthusiastic that Francis nearly got pulled over by people grabbing at him.

Improvising at times from his text, Francis told the crowd that he understood that for young Mexicans it was difficult to feel their worth "when you are continually exposed to the loss of friends or relatives at the hands of the drug trade, of drugs themselves, of criminal organizations that sow terror."

But, he insisted, by following Christ they would find the strength to say "it is a lie to believe that the only way to live, or to be young, is to entrust yourselves to drug dealers or others who do nothing but sow destruction and death."

Francis offered a similar appeal to Mexican priests and nuns during a Mass earlier in the day in a Morelia stadium. There, he told the country's clerics that they must fight injustice and not resign themselves to the drug-fueled violence and corruption around them.

"What temptation can come to us from places often dominated by violence, corruption, drug trafficking, disregard for human dignity and indifference in the face of suffering and vulnerability? What temptation might we suffer over and over again when faced with this reality, which seems to have become a permanent system?" Francis asked.

"I think we can sum it up in one word: resignation."

It was a clear reference to the situation in Michoacan as well as the nation at large, where gangs and drug lords have thrived thanks in part to the complicity of police and other public authorities. That corruption came to light most recently in the case of drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, who escaped for a second time from a maximum security prison in July, and was recaptured after an October meeting with actor Sean Penn.

While Francis gave a message of hope to residents of Morelia, his visit was also a symbolic vote of confidence for the city's archbishop, Alberto Suarez Inda.

Like Francis, Suarez Inda has called for Mexican bishops to be closer to their people and not act like bureaucrats or princes. Last year Francis made him a cardinal — an unambiguous sign that Francis wants "peripheral" pastors like Suarez Inda at the helm of the church hierarchy.

Since beginning his Mexico trip Friday night, Francis has repeatedly taken to task the Mexican church leadership, many of whom are closely linked to Mexico's political and financial elite and are loath to speak out on behalf of the poor and victims of social injustice.

"Sometimes the violence has made us give up, either out of discouragement, habit or fear," said Fausto Mendez, a 23-year-old seminarian

who attended Tuesday's Mass. "That's why the pope comes to tell us not to be afraid to do the right thing."

"Although he spoke strongly to the bishops, it was also directed at us," said Uriel Perez, 20-year-old seminarian at Tuesday's Mass. "Because the pope is demanding and he wants us to be prepared and on the streets shoulder to shoulder with our flock."

As Francis entered the final stretch of his five-day trip to Mexico, his motivations for coming became clear. For starters, it's likely the trip might not have taken place at all, at least now, had Francis not needed to be in the region for his historic encounter Friday with the head of the Russian Orthodox Church, a meeting months' in the making.

It's also clear that Francis has some serious issues with the Mexican church hierarchy, which, for its part, also has some issues with him. In coming to Mexico, the pope did it on his own terms: Praying at the shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe and visiting the most impoverished and crime-ridden areas, rewarding "his" bishops with his presence and sending a message to others with carefully chosen words and deeds.

He scolded church leaders for being too tied to their own privilege and power while staying quiet as their people suffer. He urged seminarians to be pastors of God and not "clerics of the state." He prayed at the tomb of Samuel Ruiz, a bishop who was a thorn in the side of the Mexican hierarchy for his defense of the indigenous.

Francis wraps up his five-day visit on Wednesday by traveling to Ciudad Juarez, across from El Paso, Texas, for a cross-border Mass expected to focus heavily on the plight of migrants.

Americans abducted in Iraq released

QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — The three Americans who were abducted in Baghdad last month have been freed, the State Department said Tuesday, and Iraqi officials said they have been handed over to the U.S. Embassy in good health.

The three Americans were abducted in Dora, a mixed neighborhood that is home to both Shiites and Sunnis. It was the latest in a series of brazen, high-profile kidnappings undermining confidence in the Iraqi government's ability to control state-sanctioned Shiite militias, which have grown in strength as Iraqi security forces battle the Islamic State group. Iraqi and Western officials said they suspected one of two powerful Shiite militias was behind the kidnapping.

In January, the U.S. embassy in Baghdad confirmed that several Americans had gone missing. Iraqi authorities added that the three were kidnapped from a "suspicious apartment."

Deputy State Department spokesman Mark Toner said the United States sincerely appreciates the "assistance provided by the Government of Iraq, and its whole-of-government effort to bring about the safe release of these individuals."

Iraqi officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not authorized to brief the press, said the three were freed by Iraqi security forces.

Separately the U.N. announced Tuesday that it has identified the body of a staff member who was abducted in April 2015.

The body of Amer al-Kaissy, an Iraqi national who was the U.N. mission's representative in the Diyala province northeast of Baghdad, was found in November "bearing signs of execution by gunshot" and was buried, unidentified, by local officials, the statement said.

While kidnappings for ransom are common across Iraq, large-scale abductions of foreigners are a relatively recent phenomenon.

The scale and sophistication of the recent kidnappings of foreigners suggests those responsible are operating with some degree of impunity.



Associated Press

SUBPOENAS This Oct. 22, 2015, photo shows a Planned Parenthood office in Houston. A special House panel issued three subpoenas to groups believed to be withholding vital information on both the people and processes involved with procuring tissue.

House issues subpoenas to Planned Parenthood

ALAN FRAM
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A special House panel investigating Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers has issued its first three subpoenas, the Republican chairman of the committee said Tuesday.

Rep. Marsha Blackburn, R-Tenn., said she'd subpoenaed documents from three groups she said are withholding information.

They are StemExpress, a company that supplies fetal tissue from abortion clinics to researchers, and the University of New Mexico and Southwestern Women's Options, which perform abortions.

In a statement, Blackburn said information from the organizations "is critical to providing us with answers to questions the American people are asking."

Illinois Rep. Jan Schakowsky, top Democrat on the investigative panel, called the subpoenas unjustifiable and abusive. Schakowsky said Republicans want to build a database of patients,

doctors and researchers that would risk their privacy and safety.

The subpoenas are "a new low in the Republicans' attack on women's health care," Schakowsky said.

The subpoenas seek information on people involved in procuring tissue, where it came from and where it went.

House Republicans created the special panel last October as an outgrowth of the conservative furor over secretly recorded videos showing Planned Parenthood officials discussing how they sometimes supply fetal tissue to scientists. Republicans and conservatives have denounced the practice and some have accused the organization of illegally selling the organs for profit.

Planned Parenthood has denied wrongdoing. Investigations by several congressional panels and states have yet to produce evidence that it acted illegally.

Blackburn says her panel may hold an initial hearing next month and aims to produce a report by late this year.

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Scalia's death leaves empty seat, political battle in D.C.

DARLENE SUPERVILLE AND KATHLEEN HENNESSEY
Associated Press

RANCHO MIRAGE, Calif. — President Barack Obama declared Tuesday that Republicans have no constitutional grounds to refuse to vote on a Supreme Court nominee, and he challenged his political foes in the Senate to rise above the “venom and rancor” that has paralyzed judicial nominations.

As Obama cast the dispute over filling the seat of the late Justice Antonin Scalia as a test of whether the Senate could function, there were early signs that Republican resistance could be eroding. Senate Judiciary Chairman Charles Grassley suggested he might be open to considering Obama's yet-to-be named nominee, an indication his party may be sensitive to Democrats' escalating charges of unchecked obstructionism. “I intend to do my job between now and January 20 of 2017,” Obama told reporters at a news conference. He said of the nation's senators, “I expect them to do their job as well.”

Obama was in California for a meeting of Southeast Asian leaders gathered for two days of diplomacy. But his attention was divided at that conference.

Since Scalia's unexpected death at a Texas ranch on Saturday, White House lawyers and advisers have been scrambling to refine and vet a list of potential replacements, while also devising a strategy to push a candidate through the Republican-led Senate.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has said he doesn't think Obama should be putting a candidate forward. The Kentucky senator, as well as several Republicans up for re-election this year, say Obama should leave the choice up to the next president. The November election, they argue, will give voters a chance to weigh in on the direction of the court.

Obama dismissed that

notion, insisting he will put forward a replacement and believes the Senate will have “plenty of time” to give the nominee a fair hearing and a vote. Democrats say Obama has every right and a constitutional duty to fill vacancies on the court until he leaves office next January.

Obama conceded the dispute reflects years of escalating partisan hostilities over judicial nominations and said Democrats' hands are not bloodless. Years of bickering have left the public accustomed to a situation where “everything is blocked” — even when there's no ideological or substantive disagreement, he said.

“This would be a good moment for us to rise above it,” he said.

The pace of judicial confirmation always slows in a presidential election year, as the party that does not control the White House holds out hope that its candidate will fill vacant judgeships rather than give lifetime tenure to the other party's choices. In the past, lawmakers have sometimes informally agreed to stop holding hearings on lower court nominations during campaign season.

Obama argued Tuesday that “the Supreme Court's different.”

“There's no unwritten law that says that it can only be done in off years. That's not in the constitutional text,” he said. “I'm amused when I hear people who claim to be strict interpreters of the Constitution suddenly reading into it a whole series of propositions that aren't there. There's more than enough time for the Senate to consider in a thoughtful way the record of a nominee that I present and to make a decision.”

McConnell has shown no signs of shifting his opposition, and several lawmakers facing heated elections have backed him up. But the Republican party may still be searching for a strategy.

In an interview with home state reporters, Iowa Republican Grassley said he



Associated Press

LOSS OF A JUSTICE U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia speaks to an audience gathered at the University of Colorado on Oct. 1, 2014 in Boulder, Colo. Scalia, 79, was found dead the morning of Saturday at a private residence in the Big Bend area of West Texas.

“would wait until the nominee is made before I would make any decision.”

The White House has been looking for cracks in the Republicans opposition as it deliberates on a nominee. If Republicans indicate they may hold hearings, Obama would have greater reason to name a “consensus candidate,” a moderate nominee who would be at least somewhat difficult for Republicans to reject. If there's virtually no chance of Republicans bending, Obama might go another route — picking a nominee who galvanizes support among the Democrats' liberal base and fires up interest groups in the election year.

Obama on Tuesday would not tip his hand — much.

“I'm going to present somebody who indisputably is qualified for the seat and any fair-minded person, even somebody who disagrees with my politics, would say would serve with honor and integrity on the court,” he said.

Asked if that meant he was leaning toward a moderate, Obama said, bluntly, “No.”

He would not comment on whether he would consider appointing a candidate during a congressional recess, a last-ditch maneuver likely to further inflame partisanship in Congress.

Obama's dilemma arises, in part, because of the unusual timing. Supreme Court vacancies in presidential years are rare, largely because the justices avoid retiring when prospects for confirming successors are uncertain.

If Senate Republicans hold fast to their vow not to confirm anyone Obama nominates, the Supreme Court will operate with eight justices not just for the rest of this court term, but for most of the next one as well. High court terms begin in October, and the 80 or so cases argued in the course of a term typically are decided by early summer.

ABUSE from Page 1

both just out of college. They shared a car, a bank account and an apartment.

She stayed in the relationship for two years until one morning he shoved her out of bed and threw a phone at her when she ran away he threw a phone at her. She ran to the bathroom and he came after her. When he caught her, he punched her. She then realized that he could kill her, that she could die. This thought was why she decided to leave.

In 2014, Gooden was at work and heard about Baltimore Ravens running back Ray Rice punching and knocking out his then-fiancee Janay Rice. Gooden heard people asking why she stayed and decided to tweet her own reason for staying using #WhyIStayed. Her tweets went viral within a matter of hours.

Gooden has been on numerous media outlets, including The New York Times, The Today Show, Good Morning America and many more. She now travels and speaks out against domestic violence. She educates people on the signs

of domestic violence, why not to victim blame and how to prevent domestic violence.

Gooden said some signs of domestic violence are isolation, the person is always being checked up on by their significant other and cryptic social media.

She said to prevent domestic violence, people must observe, feel and speak. Gooden said to watch people and how they interact, and to have empathy for the victims. She also encouraged everyone to speak out in any way they are comfortable, whether it be over social media or in person.

“I just hope that the conversation starts,” said Oklahoma City junior and member of the Title IX student advisory board Maddy Saldivar. “That the language is more normalized and that it makes people feel more comfortable to come to the Title IX office and get the help that is available there. Just make it more normal conversation, not something that is harder than it already is to talk about.”

GROUP from Page 1

is actually trying to help and they are not going to continue to dismiss what we've been saying,” McGuire, who said she has been turned away from counseling services before.

McGuire added that although she was pleased with the letter, it was only the beginning of a long list of changes she hopes come to fruition.

“We want them to stay on top of what we are demanding,” McGuire said.

In addition to weekly meetings, the group plans

to host demonstrations that raise awareness about the malignant problem of sexual assault at Baylor.

“My major goal is providing some awareness and education for prospective students who are coming in to this part of their lives so they are not blindsighted, especially women,” Farrar said.

While university cooperation with students is important, Farrar believes that independent student action is also necessary.

Texas A&M leaders visit school, apologize for race incident

DIANA HEIDGERD
Associated Press

DALLAS — Texas A&M University System Chancellor John Sharp apologized Tuesday to high school students for racial insults that some minority students say they heard while visiting the College Station campus last week.

Sharp and Texas A&M President Michael Young met privately with the junior class at Uplift Hampton Preparatory, according to a statement from Uplift Education CEO Yasmin Bhatia. State Sen. Royce West joined the A&M leaders at the public charter school in South Dallas.

University officials are investigating allegations that some white A&M students made racial comments or flaunted Confederate flag jewelry on Feb. 9 to taunt the visiting high school students, some of whom were black and Latino. Two black high school students say they were confronted.

“The leadership team extended an apology to the class, praised them for the manner in which they handled a difficult and offensive situation, and offered them the opportunity to ask questions,” Bhatia said. The A&M officials and West had expressed outrage last week over treatment of the teens.

Texas A&M Student Body President Joseph Benigno, who also made the trip, presented letters from thousands of



Richard Hirst | Photo Editor

APOLOGIES On Monday Texas A&M student Hope Beitchman, a member of Texas A&M Hillel, takes letters from students passing by her station in Rudder Plaza in College Station. Texas A&M University System Chancellor John Sharp apologized Tuesday to high school students for racial insults that some minority students say they heard while visiting the College Station campus last week.

students at the college who disavowed racism and supported the high school students. Organizers had hoped to send 10,000 handwritten notes. Letter-writing stations were set up Monday across campus.

Uplift Education spokeswoman Sara Ortega did not have an estimate on how many letters the students received but said there were thousands.

“I encouraged our scholars to keep the letters as a symbol of time when they overcame an obstacle on their journey to a college degree,” Bhatia said. Uplift Education is largest charter

school network in North Texas, with 16 campuses in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, according to its website.

University officials did not immediately comment on Tuesday morning's private meeting or provide an update of the status of the investigation. West earlier called for possible expulsion of any A&M students involved in the incident.

The Texas A&M University System, with 11 universities and other operations including a health science center, has more than 140,000 students.

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On-the-Go >> Happenings: Visit @BULariatArts to see what's going on #ThisWeekinWaco BaylorLariat.com

Week in Waco:

>> Today

6 p.m.— Hornist Jeffrey Powers at Roxy Grove Hall. Free.

8 p.m.— Open Mic Night at Common Grounds.

>> Thursday

6:30 p.m. — Sing at Waco Hall. Sold out.

7 p.m. — Third Thursday Open Mic at Tea2Go. Free.

7:30 p.m. — Baylor Concert Jazz Ensemble at Jones Concert Hall. Free.

7:30 p.m. — “A Song for Coretta” at the Jubilee Theatre. \$16 for students, \$18 for the public.

8 p.m. — House of Heroes at Common Grounds. \$7 in advance, \$10 day of concert.

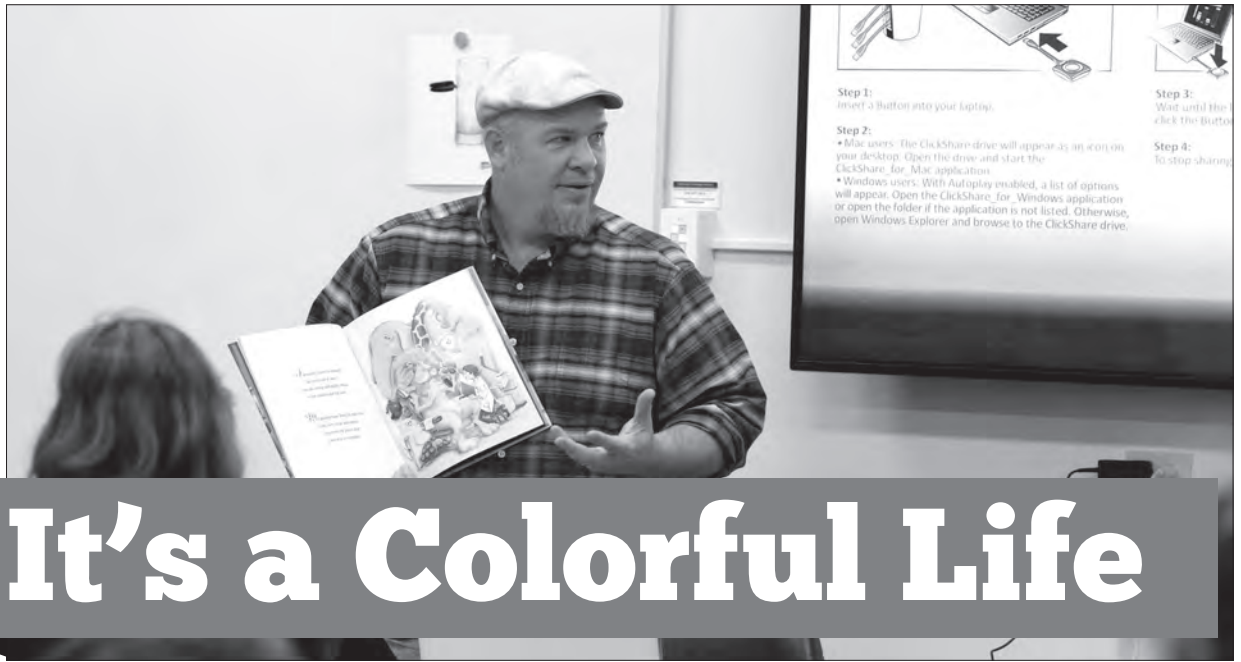
>> Friday

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

6:30 p.m. — Sing at Waco Hall. Sold out.

7:30 p.m. — “A Song for Coretta” at the Jubilee Theatre. \$16 for students, \$18 for the public.

10:30 p.m. — Guerrilla Troupe at Mabee Theatre. \$3.



It's a Colorful Life

Richard Hirst | Photo Editor

THE STORYTELLER Mark Ludy tells Baylor illustration students about his techniques in class Monday. Ludy often speaks publicly to encourage audiences to develop their creativity and be themselves.

Local picture book illustrator shares message of creativity

REBECCA FEDORKO
Reporter

Mark Ludy is an author and illustrator of children's books who made Waco home last year. His vibrant—but often wordless—stories, with titles like “Grump” and “The Farmer,” are meant to appeal to children as well as adults with their expressive characters and detailed scenes of paper monsters, busy city streets and Noah's ark.

Ludy created his first picture book, “The Farmer,” when he was 25. It is a work of colorful detail with vivid illustrations about a farmer who is dedicated to his work but must learn to overcome disaster. The central theme in that story, and in many of his ensuing books, is being a good neighbor, Ludy said.

Ludy's love of color and detail is perhaps illustrated best in his story “The Flower Man,” which shows, without words, how one man brings color to the streets of a gray and dismal city. Each of the more than 60 windows above the city streets holds its own personal story, which readers can explore for themselves.

Ludy said the stories and lessons that are told through his art and books are applicable to everyone. He said some of the recurring themes in his books are perseverance, trust, faith and forgiveness, all told through vibrant, detailed pictures.

Ludy doesn't limit his life lessons to his books, however. He also shares his counsel on art and life as a public speaker with Baylor classes and other groups. Baylor art lecturer Greg Lewallen has asked Ludy to share his technique and life lessons with his senior-level illustration class in the past.

“He's extremely creative,” Lewallen said. “I've seen some of his sketchbook stuff. He takes just a concept, just a flash of an idea, and sketches it out. Then [he] begins to develop it and flesh it out so that these crazy creatures that he invents, dragons or fairies or whatever, they can actually come to life. He's very creative that way.”

Lewallen thought inviting Ludy would be

an excellent chance for some of his students to learn tips about illustrating from a professional in the field.

“He is local and he does beautiful work, so I'm really excited that he's able to come,” Lewallen said.

Ludy also came to campus to speak at a children's literature class in the fall, showing students how he tells stories through pictures.

“He was friendly and entertaining,” said San Antonio sophomore Deborah Young, who took the class. “He came and shook everyone's hand in the class. He has a loud and fun type of personality, and he made the class interesting and funny.”

Ludy's books are always centered on his pictures, although he has written stories to go with some of them.

“I call them picture books, not children's books,” Ludy said. “I sell most to children, but they are for all ages.”

He said the messages he wants to convey, both through books and public speaking, are not just relevant to children. His talks, as well as books like “The Flower Man,” often include the message that not fitting into a mold is all right.

“My heart is to encourage people that they are not to be normal, but to be the person they were intended to be and to be that person to the fullest,” Ludy said.

Ludy's message comes from the journey he himself took to become an illustrator. He was born in Seattle but spent the majority of his childhood in Colorado. Ludy said he became interested in art at a very young age under the influence of his older siblings.

“When I was younger, my brother and sister drew all the time,” Ludy said. “They had fun drawing, and I was inspired to draw as well from seeing them draw.”

He said once he started to draw, it was hard to stop.

“I had the itch, and I found it fascinating to doodle and draw things, capture images on paper,” Ludy said. “I just keep on drawing and kept on having fun with what I was able

to create.”

His illustrations today show the same love of doodling. Books like “23 Lost at Sea” are filled with intricate details that come from a lifetime of absentminded drawing. Ludy said his desire to think of things from an abstract, artistic angle made school something of a challenge for him.

“I did terrible in school,” Ludy said. “My homework assignments were works of art, but we're not going to talk about the letter grades slapped upon it.”

Because of his poor grades, Ludy did not try to go to college. Instead, at the urging of his mother, he went to a printer to ask how much it would cost for him to start creating and printing his own greeting cards. After seeing his designs, the printing company offered to hire him on the spot, he said. From then on, his life was centered on art.

“I see life uniquely, which I see as a very good thing now,” Ludy said. “I'm very grateful that I didn't get broken over that. I didn't let grades define me in school.”

A year ago, he brought his illustration business to Waco.

“I had some speaking gigs in Texas,” Ludy said. “Next thing you know, we're driving through Waco and my wife asks, ‘You ever thought about living in Waco?’”

Soon after, he and his family found a house and settled into the Waco community, and he began to introduce his artwork to the city. His work can be found at Anthem Studios Artisan Market, and he can be found in elementary schools and Baylor classrooms sharing his art and his message.

Ludy said he hopes readers will come to his picture books and find their own meanings in his work.

“Every book has different nuances, different messages, but I'm one that doesn't like necessarily giving you a moral of the story,” Ludy said. “I like people discovering that for themselves. What someone is going to take from a good story is going to be unique person to person.”

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Today's Puzzles

- Across**
- 1 Way back when
 - 8 _ top
 - 14 Winnipeg's province
 - 16 Doubleheader half
 - 17 1986 movie set partly in the Australian Outback
 - 19 Shoe parts
 - 20 Loch with a legend
 - 21 One-named singer
 - 24 Biol. or ecol.
 - 25 Under attack
 - 26 Co-star of the 2015 film “Joy”
 - 28 Boot attachment
 - 30 “Bridge of Spies” actor Alan
 - 31 Onion rings are fried in it
 - 34 Worldwide economic org.
 - 37 1988 movie set in a Southern California high school
 - 40 Tam or trilby
 - 41 Pencil tip
 - 42 Time in ads
 - 43 FBI agent
 - 44 _ of influence
 - 46 Start of el año
 - 49 Record players, briefly
 - 52 Improve a lawn
 - 53 Roman baker's dozen?
 - 54 More sudsy
 - 56 1996 movie set in Nevada's Area 51
 - 61 Nicks on many albums
 - 62 1967 Temptations hit
 - 63 Like some movies ... literally including
 - 17-, 37- and 56-Across
 - 64 Wine competition attendees

- Down**
- 1 “Better Call Saul” network
 - 2 Long-nosed fish
 - 3 “Microsoft sound” composer
 - 4 Like cannoli
 - 5 One making amends

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- 6 Mars and Venus
- 7 Bios are often part of them
- 8 Vanilla containers
- 9 “The Simpsons” shopkeeper
- 10 Star of E! network's “I Am Cait”
- 11 Machu Picchu's range
- 12 Attorney general under Reagan
- 13 “Give it _”
- 15 Novelist Waugh
- 18 Single show
- 21 Cookbook measuring words
- 22 Fourth of 24
- 23 Run until
- 25 Calf father
- 27 Tara family name
- 29 Harborside strolling spots
- 32 Without end
- 33 NFL scores
- 34 Green climbers
- 35 D.C. underground
- 36 Set loose
- 38 Sample in a product pitch
- 39 Hard-wired
- 43 Mourn
- 45 Summary
- 46 Have a place in the world
- 47 Critical inning
- 48 Down for a pillow
- 50 Actress _ Pinkett Smith
- 51 Competed in a British bee
- 54 Flower starter
- 55 At Hollywood and Vine, for short
- 57 Crusty dessert
- 58 Fourth of 26
- 59 _ Linguist
- 60 Cloth meas.



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

SCOREBOARD >> @BaylorMBB 100, Iowa State 91 | Motley: 27 points, 10 rebounds BaylorLariat.com

Rise to the occasion

No. 25 Bears outlast No. 13 Cyclones, complete sweep

MEGHAN MITCHELL
Sports Writer

After struggling in conference play at home this season, the Bears turned things around, beating No. 13 Iowa State in overtime 100-91 on Tuesday at the Ferrell Center.

The No. 25 Bears (19-7, 8-5) bounced back after a losing their last matchup at home (Texas Tech). Now back on track, the Bears keep their hopes alive to make into the NCAA tournament.

The Cyclones (18-8, 7-6) were seeking revenge after losing the previous matchup to the Bears in Ames, Iowa, 94-89, earlier in the season.

Sophomore forward Jonathan Motley started in place of senior forward Rico Gathers. Gathers has been out for two games with an illness.

In Gathers' absence, Motley came up big for the Bears. He scored the first basket of the night to set the momentum in the Bears' favor. Motley ended the night with 27 points and 10 rebounds.

With both teams trading baskets early on, it appeared that it was going to come down to the better defensive team.

Sophomore forward Terry Maston came off the bench to make it 18-13 after a layup. The Bears followed Maston's score with a block. This continued the Bears' energy and lead in the first half.

Freshman guard King McClure, another play that came off the bench, scored six points within just minutes of entering the game.

Struggling to stop the Cyclones from shooting the perimeter shots, the Cyclones capitalized on each open look to stay in the game.

The Bears were mostly unable to stop senior forward Georges Niang who has averaged 19.2 points and 6.4 rebounds per game. With this game being no different, Niang made his mark, scoring 24 points and eight rebounds.

However, a three-pointer by senior guard Lester Medford restored the Bears' momentum going into halftime, 41-35.

Coming back from the half, the Bears lacked the intensity they ended the first half with, but a three by junior guard Ishmail Wainright put the Bears back where they needed to be.

However that short burst of intensity was halted by the Cyclones attacking in the paint and making stops on the defensive end.

With the Cyclones going up 51-49, head coach Scott Drew was forced to call a timeout.

The timeout seemed to do the Bears good. A layup by Maston and three by Wainright put the Bears back up, 54-51.

Although the points did not show for it, senior forward Taurean Prince made plays to put the crowd on their feet and, in return, push the Bears to keep driving down the court.

With Maston scoring 15 points in the game, he was a difference maker for the Bears.

Trailing by one with just over five minutes of regulation remaining, Drew called his final timeout to allow his team to regroup.

Two hit free throws by Prince put the Bears up, 74-73. Drawing another foul on the next possession down the court allowed the Bears to extend their lead to three with four minutes remaining.

With the Bears down two with just under two minutes remaining in regulation, Motley came up big to drain two free throws, tying the game 81.

A steal by Medford with 37 seconds gave the Bears a look to score, but the shot by Motley was swatted away.

A last second shot by the Cyclones was overruled by the officials as time expired in regulation with the score tied.

Going into extra time mixed free throws allowed the Bears to take the lead as Motley scored first for the Bears.

The Bears regained the momentum when Medford drained a three and Motley came down to throw one in the rim.

With the Bears up 89-84 the Cyclones continued to battle, coming down the court and drawing the foul to put the game back within three.

Wainright nailed a corner three to put the Bears up 94-89 with 45.6 seconds remaining in extra time.

Two free throws by Prince sealed the deal for the Bears at 100-91.

Although continuing to struggle on the defensive end, the difference maker was the Bears bench who outscored the Cyclones, 21-0.

The Bears next test comes at 1 p.m. Saturday against Texas in Austin.



Penelope Shirey | Lariat Photographer

DUNK CAM Senior forward Taurean Prince ascends to the hoop during the Bears' game against the No. 14 Iowa State Cyclones on Tuesday at the Ferrell Center. The Bears overcame the Cyclones in overtime with a final score of 100-91.

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Penelope Shirey | Lariat Photographer

Senior Julian Lenz earned his 100th-career singles win over the weekend. Lenz is the 10th player in program history to win 100 singles matches.