

# Baylor Lariat

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FEBRUARY 20, 2018

TUESDAY

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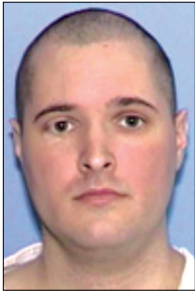
## Former Baylor student to be executed soon

DIDI MARTINEZ

Digital Managing Editor

A former Baylor student is set to be executed on Thursday after being convicted in a murder-for-hire scheme against his own family.

The 38-year-old suspect, Thomas “Bart” Whitaker, was sentenced to death after it was revealed that he had planned a staged burglary that would leave his family dead and enable him to receive a \$1.5 million inheritance, according to court documents.



Thomas “Bart” Whitaker

The December 2003 murder took place after the family was returning to their Sugar Land home from a dinner celebrating Bart Whitaker’s graduation from Sam Houston State University — the school he had transferred to after attending Baylor University in 2001. Later it was revealed he had never actually graduated. It was at the house that two of Bart Whitaker’s friends, Chris Brashear and Steve Champagne, staged the robbery and Brashear opened fire, killing Bart Whitaker’s 53-year-old mother, Patricia Whitaker, and 19-year-old brother, Kevin Whitaker. Bart Whitaker was wounded

as was his father, Kent Whitaker, who had survived the attack.

Recently, Kent Whitaker made a last-minute plea for his son’s life before the state through a clemency petition citing the lighter sentences given to Brashear, who was the gunman in the attack and sentenced to life in prison, and Champagne, who was the getaway driver and sentenced to 15 years in prison.

“Somewhere in the calculus of whether to recommend clemency in this case, this Board should consider the circumstances of the death sentence,” Bart Whitaker’s attorney Keith Hampton argued in the petition. “Every member of Kent Whitaker’s family and every member of Patricia Whitaker’s family have been forced to undergo the long and gut-wrenching odyssey of a capital murder case through state and federal courts since March 2007. They all supported or accepted a life sentence.”

However, last week the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals turned down the father’s plea.

“I have seen enough death — I don’t want to see any more,” Kent Whitaker told the Houston Chronicle. “I’m going to have the last living member of my direct family taken from me by the State of Texas in the name of justice, and I just don’t want that.”

As the date approaches, Bart Whitaker’s representatives are making yet another last-ditch effort to halt the execution through a cert petition, which would force the court

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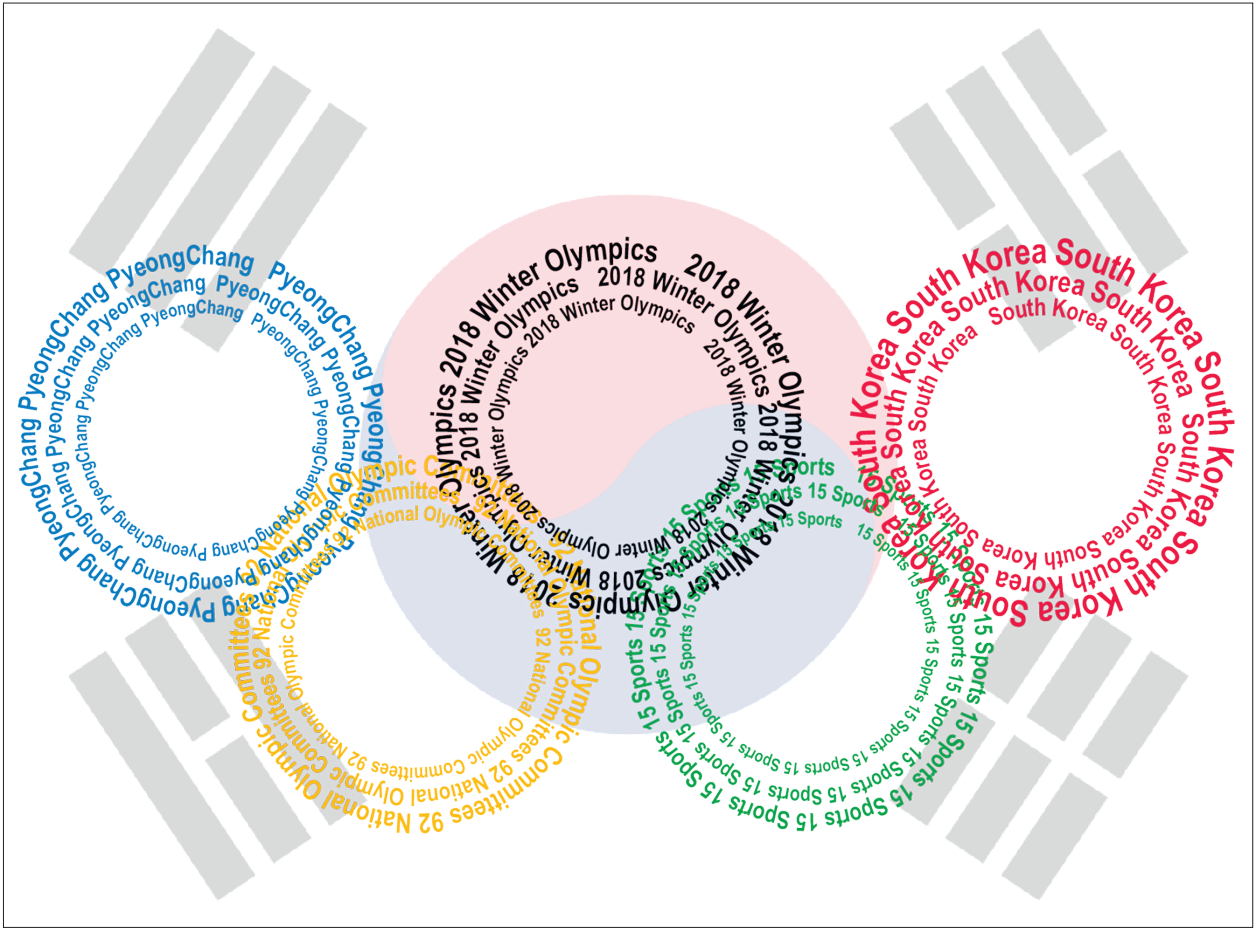


Illustration by Penelope Shirey | Design Editor

## Koreans at Baylor emphasize importance of 2018 Olympics

CORRIE COLEMAN

Reporter

At the opening ceremony of the 2018 PyeongChang Winter Olympics, North and South Korea marched under one flag. This symbol of unity comes at a pivotal moment for the two nations’ political relations, which have been especially strained in recent months. The 2018 Winter Olympics is taking place in PyeongChang, a South Korean city located roughly 40 miles from the North Korean border. Many are left wondering what the future will hold for the Korean Peninsula.

In addition to marching together in the opening ceremony, the two nations also share a women’s hockey team. These expressions of reconciliation stand in stark contrast to past Olympic games, when the North and South competed against each other.

Many see these acts of peace as signs of hope for a unified Korea, including the South Korean government. In an article by the New York Times, the South

Korean president Moon Jae-in said these Olympic games could catalyze peace between the North and South.

“It is not an impossible dream,” he said. “[That the 2018 Olympics] will

become a candle that sheds light on peace.”

Others see the nations’ temporary cooperation as unwise and harmful. Opposition to North Korea’s government and human rights issues have led to outcry and even protests from South Koreans.

North and South Korea have been separated since 1945, following World War II. Korea, then a Japanese colony, was left without a government when Japan surrendered to the Allied Forces. The responsibility to organize elections fell to the Allied Forces, specifically the United States and the Soviet Union. While the Soviets hoped for a communist Korea, the United States wanted a democratic and capitalist nation. When the two powers began to quarrel, the peninsula was divided. The Soviet Union was entrusted with the reorganization of the North and the United States, the South. Since then, the two nations have become increasingly divided, resulting in a

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### Long-Awaited Return

The 2018 Winter Olympics are the first Olympics to be held in Korea since the Seoul Olympic Games in 1988.

## Board of Regents discusses Academic Strategic Plan

MICAELA FREEMAN  
Staff Writer

The Baylor University Board of Regents discussed the implementation of Phase II of Baylor’s Pro Futuris vision at their first meeting of 2018 on Friday morning. The Board of Regents, Baylor’s official governing body, met at 9:30 a.m. at the Paul L. Foster Campus for Business and Innovation, to discuss the Academic Strategic Plan called Illuminate, as well as Baylor President Dr. Linda Livingstone’s future goals for the university.

The Illuminate Academic Strategic Plan contains four pillars for success: Academics, Facilities, Finances and Fundraising

The name for the Academic Strategic Plan is relevant to Baylor’s “Where Lights Shine

Bright” campaign. The title is cited eight times in the vision plan, which was released in 2012. The campaign’s mission is to let students know Baylor is a university that creates opportunity for them to rise to their full potential.

Livingstone said the second phase of the Academic Strategic Plan will spread throughout Baylor not only academically but also strategically for the university’s success.

“Pro Futuris signifies a growing academic enterprise dedicated to the search for new knowledge. Not simply for the sake of knowledge, but for the love all truth illuminated by our Christian faith,” Livingstone said in a statement.

Livingstone and Interim Provost Michael K. McLendon are leading

Illuminate Academic Strategic Plan.

Livingstone said that it’s been a several month process.

It includes a university-wide process including deans, department chairs and Baylor’s 12 colleges and schools. Since its last meeting in September, the Board of Regents has solidified the next phase of the Academic Strategic Plan as well as search for a new Provost.

Joel Allison, Baptist General Convention of Texas regent and chair of the Board of Regents, said he was excited for Baylor’s future as it begins to implement Illuminate.

“We are very uniquely positioned to make a difference as a Christ centered university committed to academic



Ryan Barrett | Multimedia Journalist

**DISCUSSION** Baylor President Dr. Linda Livingstone spoke at the meeting Friday to address the Illuminate Academic Strategic Plan among other topics.

BOARD >> Page 8



GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

We want to hear it. Send us your thoughts: [LariatLetters@baylor.edu](mailto:LariatLetters@baylor.edu)

EDITORIAL

# Prioritize road safety in Waco

Why did the student cross (in the middle of) the road? Maybe they're trying to get free tuition, or maybe there aren't enough safety measures taken on streets surrounding college campuses.

A 2016 study by the Governor's Highway Safety Association showed an increase in pedestrian deaths nationwide, and Waco is no exception. Data from the state crash-records database shows a 133 percent increase in pedestrian deaths in McLennan County between 2016 and 2017. However, statewide 715 pedestrians died in 2016 and 629 died in 2017. The previous six years saw an average of 494 deaths.

According to the City Plan, Waco Comprehensive Plan 2040, which was adopted by Waco City Council in September 2016, the city has a Metropolitan Area Master Thoroughfare Plan with the goal of helping local, regional and state transportation agencies accommodate anticipated growth in McLennan County. According to the document, one of the city's main goals is to ensure public safety for all roadway users.

One way roads could be safer near Baylor is by having a center turn lane on S. University Parks Drive. It is not uncommon to see students swerve around other cars waiting to turn left, which could be dangerous to bikes, pedestrians and other cars. You will also often see cars stacked up in traffic as a vehicle waits to turn left, causing delays and dangerous situations for drivers.

Many students also don't have a car, so the excess of students crossing the streets around Baylor is an increased danger drivers need to be aware of. Look at UParks or La Salle long enough, and eventually you'll see a student sprint across traffic – sometimes a little too close for comfort.

Studies have shown that when college students go back to school, car accidents in college towns increase. Let's face it: College students are not the most responsible people in the world. We are easily distracted – whether



Rewon Shimray | Cartoonist

talking to friends in the car, singing and dancing to Bruno Mars or The Jonas Brothers or trying to cram for a test while driving, sometimes the road is not our main focus. Not to mention, a 2013 study found that 80 percent of college students text while driving (That is ridiculous, y'all. Don't text and drive. But that is another editorial for another time). Not to mention drinking and driving is increased in areas surrounding campuses (Come on, guys, we know better. It's one thing to drink the punch; it's another to get behind the wheel. But again,

another editorial for another time).

We aren't the only ones that want Waco to be more pedestrian friendly; Waco Walks is a pedestrian advocacy group with more than 900 followers on Facebook. The group meets at least monthly and works with the city to make Waco safer for pedestrians. According to its Facebook page, the group has helped with the historic Elm Avenue connectivity improvements project and the Eleventh and Twelfth Streets and Gurney Lane safety enhancement project. The group has also advocated improving the I-35 underpass at

Fourth and Fifth Streets by adding lights under the underpass. The group hosts community walks in hopes that the more people are out walking around town, the more the city will keep pedestrians in mind when building and renovating.

For the safety of Baylor students, all Waco residents and drivers, measures to increase pedestrian safety need to be a priority, and a great place to start would be adding a center turn lane on South University Parks Drive.

COLUMN

# Reopen Third Street to cars

RIDER FARRIS  
Reporter

Third Street from Baylor Avenue to Speight Avenue has been closed to vehicular traffic since August 2017 to increase safety for students and other pedestrians in that area. Since its closing, traffic and travel



inconveniences on campus have increased, leading to opposition to the closure. Third Street should reopen to vehicular traffic, as its closing has caused more

harm than good for the general Baylor population.

With the closing of Third Street, the last road that traveled through the middle of campus is gone. Now, if drivers want to travel from one side of campus to the other, they must travel all the way to University Parks Drive or Eighth Street and circle around campus. This is a major inconvenience, especially for students who wish to relocate their vehicle or cross campus quickly.

The closure has also led to confusion for those who live in South Russell Residence Hall and for those who want to park in Moody's

20-minute parking or faculty and staff parking. If traveling to Third Street from Baylor Avenue, drivers have to adapt to the closure of Third Street and the redirection of traffic on Baylor Avenue. It's all confusing, it's all a mess and it's all unnecessary.

The closure of Third Street also made the Baylor Blue bus route change, making an already sub-par bus route even worse for students. The Blue bus route now only provides access to half of campus and is frankly a waste of students' tuition dollars. Out of six stops, only two would particularly qualify as "on-campus." Before the closure of Third Street, there was at least one bus that did a campus loop. Now there is none that circles the entire campus.

Third Street was initially closed for the safety of pedestrians in the area, but on almost a daily basis, I see a Baylor maintenance car or truck, a Baylor police car or a Baylor golf cart travel the road. If the road is no longer open to the public and was closed for safety, not a single vehicle should be allowed to use the street. Closing the street to students and staff but allowing maintenance and police to use the road for convenience seems unfair.

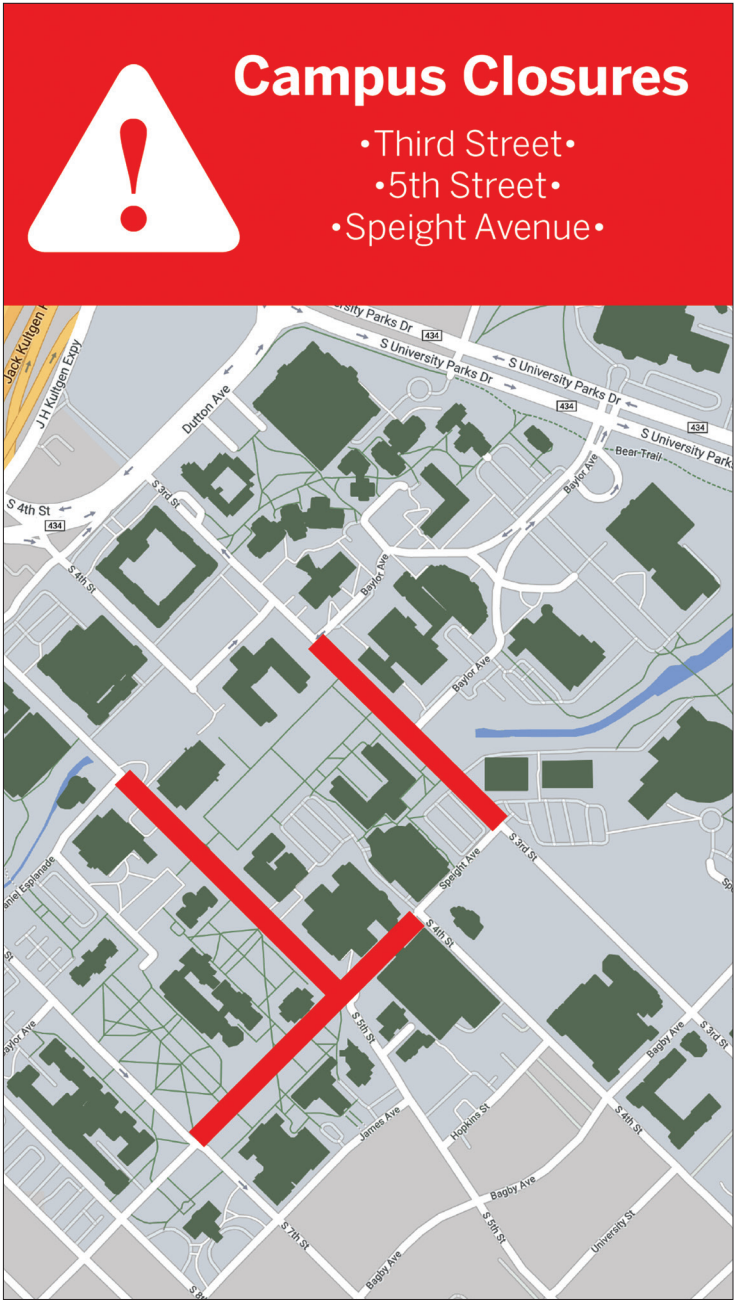
The closure of Third Street also adds to the inconvenience of the closures on Fifth Street and Speight Avenue. The roads have been closed

to vehicular traffic for several years now, bringing their own nuisances. But while Third Street still provided access from one side of campus to the other, the effect was minor. With Third Street gone, the overall inconvenience of campus in general is outrageous.

The most recent closure also creates confusion and traffic on campus. To be able to map out and plan a route from point A to point B on campus has become a chore. For prospective students and their parents, campus must be confusing. If they are attempting to tour the campus from their vehicle before setting out on foot, they are in for a surprise – it is virtually impossible to see any of the heart of campus by car anymore, with the last central access road now closed.

Although I understand the reasoning behind why the road was closed, the closure is a mistake. Students rarely cross Third Street outside of the crosswalks that existed there when the road was open, and rarely do I see students walking down the middle of Third Street between their classes. The road should resume its intended use and allow vehicular traffic to once again use it. The closure has done far more harm than good; Baylor needs its old Third Street back.

*Rider Farris is a journalism and economics major from San Marcos.*



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## Contact Us

**General Questions:**  
[Lariat@baylor.edu](mailto:Lariat@baylor.edu)  
254-710-1712

**Sports and Arts:**  
[LariatArts@baylor.edu](mailto:LariatArts@baylor.edu)  
[LariatSports@baylor.edu](mailto:LariatSports@baylor.edu)

**Advertising inquiries:**  
[Lariat\\_Ads@baylor.edu](mailto: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 [Lariat\\_Letters@baylor.edu](mailto:Lariat_Letters@baylor.edu). Letters should be a maximum of 400 words. The letter is not guaranteed to be published.



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- Bring a comb or brush
- Check your nails; your hands will show in several images
- Cap & Gown will be provided by our photographer

## BAYLOR | The Round Up Yearbook

Baylor > The Baylor Round Up Yearbook

### The Baylor Round Up Yearbook

This is the official Web site of the Baylor University yearbook-recreated at cashiers.office@baylor.edu. Include your Baylor ID number. Yearbooks cost \$80 and will be shipped to your permanent address.

#### You will find the answers to most of your yearbook-related questions on our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) Page.

#### How do I buy a yearbook?

To purchase a 2017-2018 yearbook, e-mail the cashier's office at cashiers.office@baylor.edu. Include your Baylor ID number. Yearbooks cost \$80 and will be shipped to your permanent address.

\*\*Books will NOT be shipped to Baylor post office boxes, Waco area apartments, or addresses outside the continental United States unless you make arrangements with our office in advance.\*\*

Call (254) 710-4562 or e-mail RoundUp@baylor.edu to order yearbooks for 2016-2017 and older books. Please include your Baylor ID number in your e-mail. Supplies are limited.

All yearbooks, regardless of the year, cost \$80 (includes shipping). Checks payable to "Baylor Roundup," may be mailed to Baylor Roundup, Baylor University, One Bear Place #97330, Waco, TX 76798-7330. Visa, MasterCard, and Discover payments may be made to our phone at (254) 710-4562.

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## BAYLOR | The Round Up Yearbook

Baylor > The Baylor Round Up Yearbook

### The Baylor Round Up Yearbook

Calendar

Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

Yearbook employment

How to buy a yearbook page

Yearbook Portrait Info

### Yearbook Portraits

Seniors are encouraged to schedule their appointments online. Seniors are encouraged to dress in their Sunday best. Sign up at thornstudio.com using school code 03545. The March 14 and March 15 sessions are for seniors only. The remaining portrait sessions are for all classes, including seniors.

Tuesday, March 13, through Friday, March 16

Tuesday, March 13: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Den of the Bill Daniel Student Center

Tuesday, March 13: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Bear Faire in the Blume Conference Center

Wednesday, March 14: SENIORS ONLY. Noon to 6 p.m., Bear Faire in the Blume Conference Center

(502 Cashion Academic Center)

Thursday, March 15: SENIORS ONLY. Noon to 6 p.m., Bear Faire in the Blume Conference Center

(502 Cashion Academic Center)

Friday, March 16: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Den of the Bill Daniel Student Center

Tuesday, March 20, through Friday, March 23

Tuesday, March 20: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Den of the Bill Daniel Student Center

Wednesday, March 21: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Den of the Bill Daniel Student Center

Thursday, March 22: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Den of the Bill Daniel Student Center

Friday, March 23: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Den of the Bill Daniel Student Center

## ROUNDUP

Baylor University

Yearbook





Associated Press

**PURE HEARTBREAK** Parents wait for news after a reports of a shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., on Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2018.

# Florida school shooting hits home for Baylor student

**CHRISTINA SOTO**  
Broadcast Managing Editor

Coppell sophomore Summer Maccubbin attended Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., her freshman year and said she could not believe what she was seeing online Wednesday night when 17 people were killed by a 19-year-old gunman with a semiautomatic AR-15 rifle.

Authorities said the suspect, Nikolas Cruz looked like any other high school student. Cruz arrived at the school in an Uber at 2:19 p.m. carrying a black duffel bag and a backpack where he hid loaded magazines, according to authorities. Cruz shot five people inside classrooms on the first and second floor of the school building. He then left the rifle and ammunition in a stairwell and got away by blending in with the students fleeing the scene.

"I got a text message from my parents Wednesday afternoon about the shooting and seeing everything lay out on social media, Facebook and Instagram," Maccubbin said. "It was

just horrifying to see the halls we used to walk down filled with tactical teams dressed in full gear and seeing kids running away screaming. It was just horrible."

Maccubbin said all her friends had graduated, but her friends' younger siblings still attended the school. She said she is thankful none of them were hurt.

Maccubbin said she actually knew the gunman and was surprised to hear it was him who was the suspect behind the attack.

"There was a lot of confusion," Maccubbin said. "Just me trying to wrap my head around it. He was in my band class my freshman year and it was just hard to look back on the memories and try to remember what had happened — to try to think that's the same person who could have done this."

Maccubbin said he did not really talk to anyone in band class and was not a very outgoing person. She said there wasn't a lot of feedback from him in class, but was still at what had happened.

"I was surprised that I knew him and that someone you know, could do this," Maccubbin said. "But everyone went through that phase of quiet, listening to loud music and apparently, it continued on for him. He had gotten really deep into that scene."

Two coaches, numerous freshmen and seniors were among the victims who lost their lives. Various reports have revealed that the coaches died while shielding their students.

Thousands of people gathered in Parkland, where they hosted a prayer vigil. Attendees held candles to remember those who died and were injured during the incident.

On Friday, President Donald Trump went to Broward Health North Hospital in Deerfield Beach, Fla., to meet with hospitalized victims of the shooting.

The semiautomatic weapon was bought legally at Sunrise Tactical Supply in Florida. Cruz is now facing 17 counts of premeditated murder. It has been reported that Cruz is willing to plead guilty in order to avoid the death penalty.



Associated Press



Associated Press



Associated Press



**BANDING TOGETHER** Students console each other as they weep during a candlelight vigil for the victims of the Wednesday shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, in Parkland, Fla., Thursday, Feb. 15, 2018. Nikolas Cruz, a former student, was charged with 17 counts of premeditated murder on Thursday.

Lariat TV News  
Online:

Check out Christina Soto's broadcast story about the Florida shooting at:

baylorlariat.com



Josh Aguirre | Multimedia Journalist

**POWER OF PRAYER** Carlos Colón, assistant director for worship and chapel, gathered with students Monday on Founders Mall to pray for the Floridians affected by the school shooting at Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla. last Wednesday.

# Chaplain holds prayer vigil for those affected by shooting

**THOMAS MORAN**  
Staff Writer

The Baylor Chaplain's Office held a prayer service Monday on Founders Mall for those affected by the Parkland, Fla., shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.

The shooting last Wednesday was labeled one of the deadliest in modern American history by the New York Times and resulted in the loss of 17 student and faculty lives.

A group of Baylor students and faculty gathered on Founders Mall for the intimate service. Carlos Colón, assistant director for worship and chapel, led the congregation in a series of prayers, readings and songs.

"That meant the world to them to have that human touch of the Baylor community standing and hurting with them," Colón said.

Dr. Kevin Jackson, Vice President for Student Life, was among those who attended the prayer service.

Unlike gatherings in the past, this prayer service was requested by students who wanted to show support for those affected by the event — a profound demonstration of leadership in Colón's view.

"There seems to be a leadership of the students that is very earnest, very moving," Colón said. "There are words coming from young people that maybe we the adults and the leaders of our country need to hear."

According to The

Washington Post, the tragedy marks the eighth intentional school shooting in 2018. With school shootings occurring more frequently, Colón has noticed an increase in student concern about events like the Florida shooting. While students should be wary of their surroundings and follow university procedures should an incident ever occur, members of the Baylor community need to focus on being supportive of one another, Colón said.

"Take heart. We are looking out for each other ..." Colón said. "We will continue to walk in love and not in fear."

Copperas Cove junior Kayla Kemp led the song portions of the prayer service. Though Kemp had no connection to the shooting, she felt it was important to show support to those who were impacted by the tragedy.

"I'm not from the area and I don't know anyone personally but for me, this is heartbreaking whenever a community experiences a tragedy like this," Kemp said. "To be able to have people come together and to pray and to seek God in the midst of tragedy is a really powerful thing"

With the service occurring in the middle of the academic day, many students were unable attend the event. However, students and faculty can show support for victims and raise awareness for the growing issue by speaking out when appropriate and praying for those affected, Colón said.

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# Human trafficking exhibit highlights isolation

**JULIA VERGARA**  
Staff Writer

Baylor’s Diana R. Garland School of Social Work has brought the “Artifacts of Human Trafficking” exhibit to campus.

The exhibit, put together by Austin artist Amie Stone King, had its soft opening Monday, Feb. 12 and will be open to the public starting Thursday afternoon through March 16 at the School of Social Work, located at 811 Washington Ave.

“Artifacts of Human Trafficking” features a 3-D art installation, an “isolation room” designed by King, along with 2-D works from artists around the world.

King said the word “isolation” stuck out as one of the main themes of human trafficking. Two years ago, when she became aware of the prevalence of human sex trafficking, she felt called to create a piece that would allow the viewer to have an experience, focusing on the feeling of isolation.

“Not everyone has had a trafficking experience,” King said. “But we can all share in the emotions that being removed from others bring. After much research about human trafficking, I discovered that most victims have been so well conditioned that they are isolated wherever they go.”

King said her exhibition began with a short narrative she wrote titled Sold, which led her to work with a photographer to further explore emotions of isolation at a rock house.

“From there, I designed the isolation room and built it with the help of an engineer

friend,” King said.

In order to get artwork for the walls, King said she issued an artist-call based on the words isolation, desperation and deceit.

Dr. Jon Singletary, dean of the School of Social Work, said the exhibit is powerful and overwhelming.

“People are both inspired by it, but also challenged to realize that we live in a society where women and children are treated this way,” Singletary said. “They are abused and assaulted and even, in some cases, bought and sold. And so it’s very overwhelming to see that in an art exhibit.”

Singletary said he hopes this exhibit will inspire the audience to be more comfortable talking about these kinds of issues in society, as well as inspire them to work for change.

“There is always a level of discomfort with any taboo subject,” King said. “And although we are willing to talk about slavery, sex is not something most people are comfortable conversing about in a public setting.”

Through this exhibition, King said she wants the viewers to understand the emotional, physical and spiritual effects of being a sex slave, while inviting them to explore the topic in a safe, non-threatening environment of artworks. She also hopes to challenge them to use the information they have learned to continue the conversation.

Singletary said the public is invited to the Artist’s Reception 4 p.m. Thursday at the School of Social Work to enjoy refreshments, view the artwork and engage in conversation with King.



MJ Routh | Multimedia Journalist

**EMOTIONAL CONNECTION** “Free Falling” by Rhea Pettit is one of the pieces of the “Artifacts of Human Trafficking” exhibit.

# Nursing school graduate publishes first children’s book about hypospadias

**VIVIAN KWOK**  
Reporter

The Louise Herrington School of Nursing is one of the top nursing programs in Texas, and a recent graduate illustrates this excellence. Deb Smith, R.N., published the first children’s book about the common but rarely discussed birth defect called hypospadias. The book is titled “How Down There Bear Got Repaired.”

Hypospadias is a condition where males are born with a “penis that not only doesn’t work well but also doesn’t look normal,” according to the Urology Care Foundation.

Although it is a common birth defect, Smith said she initially felt she was keeping a secret to protect her son’s privacy.

“That cut me off from a lot of support. I felt very alone and that put me in a very bad place for quite some time,” Smith said. “More importantly, it cut me off from information that I wish I would have had prior to his first surgery.”

After her son’s surgery was successful, however, Smith said she decided she could be angry about her son’s experiences or she could help and support others in a similar situation.

“I felt that if I could just help one family, what we went through would be worth it,” Smith said.

With the help of her son, Smith created “How Down There Bear Got Repaired.” Smith said she would actually ask her son questions like “What is a catheter? What is an IV?” and “What would you tell others who were about to have surgery?” She said this was his normal.

“I used a lot of the words that he used to describe his medicine, surgery and feelings,” Smith said. “It was



so hard for me to put myself in his situation so his input helped me tremendously with the creation of the book.”

Smith said her son could relate to every page and illustration, and he loves reading it to others.

“He has writer’s workshop in his Kindergarten class, so he was so proud to tell his teacher that he and I are ‘real’ writers,” Smith said.

Delaware, Ohio, R.N. Kimberly Swagler said the book does a great job of explaining the procedures and emotional experiences associated with hypospadias.

“This book helps communicate with toddlers and children directly on a level they can understand, while also helping to introduce some of the people and equipment they will experience during their surgical journey,” Swagler said.

Swagler said her son, who also has hypospadias, loved reading the book as well. She said he had five surgeries before reading it.

“He was able to relate to the experiences DT Bear went through. He frequently pointed out, ‘That’s just like what I did!’” Swagler said.

Swagler said it is important for kids to not feel ashamed, embarrassed or isolated because of birth defects they

cannot control.

“It’s so important for kids to be able to talk about their experiences, as well as be able to communicate effectively about their body if something hurts or doesn’t feel right,” Swagler said. “Books like this teach kids how to use the appropriate terms and understand that hospitals and doctors don’t have to be a scary experience.”

Over 100 copies of Smith’s book have been sold in the U.S. and abroad.

“Seeing these copies going to families experiencing this surgery is so incredibly emotional because I know it takes stress off the parents in explaining the surgery to their son,” Smith said. “I think it also helps the kids feel like they aren’t alone and since it outlines every aspect of the surgery and aftercare, it takes a small piece of fear away.”

Smith continues to raise awareness and advocate for transparency about hypospadias. She said she is writing a second book about Down There Bear healing with complications and undergoing hyperbaric oxygen therapy. Smith also hopes to make the opportunity available for kids to have a real Down There Bear to bring into surgery with them.



Photo courtesy of Deb Smith

**HER INSPIRATION** Deb Smith poses with her son, who inspired her book, “How Down There Bear Got Repaired.”

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“There’s a lot of stuff other than cheese bread that we could start making popular. There’s so much more to offer from Brazil.” Rick Decarvalho | LUA Vendor **pg. 7**

## FARMERS MARKET BOOTH OF THE WEEK

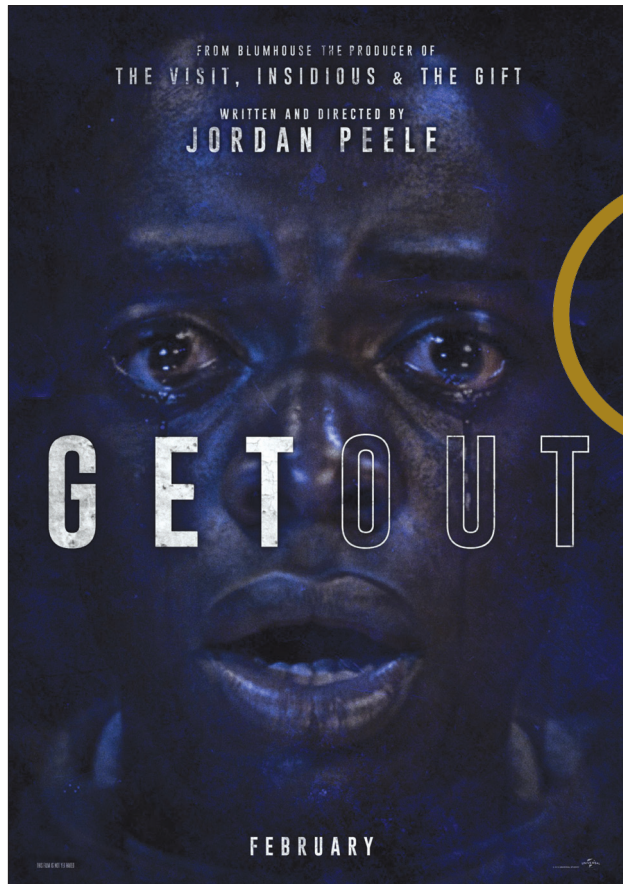
Meet the vendors at LUA, an Austin-based Brazilian cheese bread company. **pg. 7**



## DAILY CROSSWORD

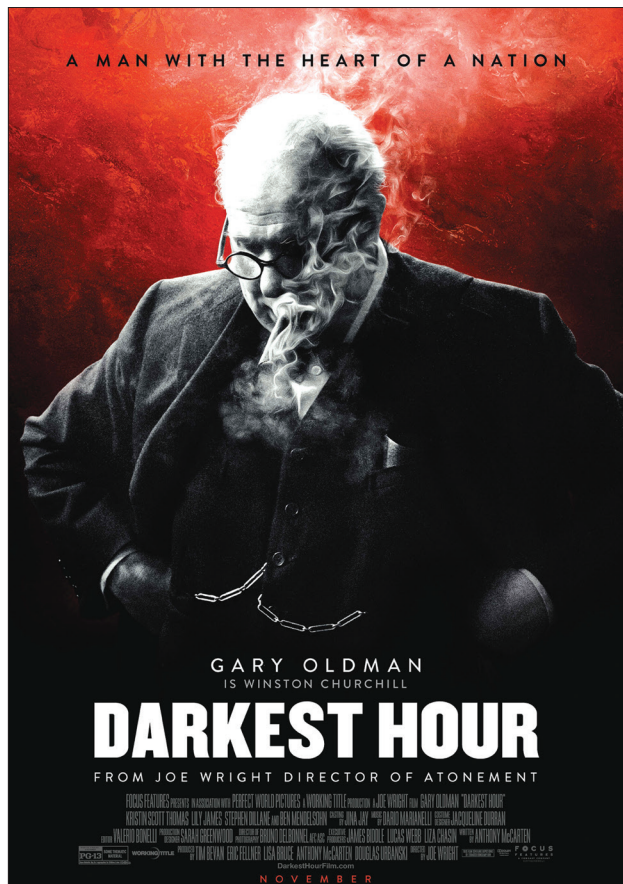
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Flickr reel

**IMAGE 1** Lead role Daniel Kaluuya and Director Jordan Peele were each nominated for individual awards for “Get Out” in addition to Best Picture.



IMP Awards

**IMAGE 2** Joe Wright’s film “Darkest Hour” is a nominee for best picture at the 90th Academy Awards on March 4. The film has also been nominated for several other awards.



IMDb

**IMAGE 3** In addition to receiving a nomination for Best Picture, the three above actors have each been nominated for awards related to their performances in “Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri.”

# The LOOK OUT OSCARS are back

## Four must-see Oscar nominations before the 90th Academy Awards

**JP GRAHAM**  
Reporter

The 90th Academy Awards is less than two weeks away, and predictions of the winners are swirling through the media. The most prestigious of the 24 categories is Best Picture, for which nine nominees are anxiously awaiting results. It might be hard to see each of the nine nominated movies before the ceremony on March 4, but it is certainly possible if you get a head start. After all, it is important for any Oscars viewer to be familiar with the nominees. Many of the films nominated for Best Picture have additionally been nominated for other awards, making the motion pictures a must-see before awards season kicks off.

Before any films are considered eligible for Oscar nominations, the motion pictures must meet specific requirements and standards already in place. According to the 90th Oscar Rules, which is featured on their website at [www.oscars.org](http://www.oscars.org), there are four major components that films need to include to be considered for a nomination.

First and foremost, the movie must be longer than 40 minutes. With three categories dedicated specifically to short films, this criteria helps level the playing field.

Next, an Official Screen Credits form (OSC) must be submitted to the Academy and signed by the director of the movie. An OSC form certifies that the list of screen credits correctly identifies those who helped produce the movie, and the director's signature verifies that the credits are accurate.

The final two rules apply to the release and distribution of the motion picture. The movie must have been displayed in a Los Angeles County movie theater for at least seven days, featuring at least three showings per day. Finally, the movie must debut in movie premiere form, meaning the movie cannot release online, on television or on DVD before it hits theaters.

Once a movie meets these criteria, it is compiled with other eligible movies onto a 34-page ballot that is sent out to approximately 6,000 voting members. Voters are encouraged to choose up to five nominees per category and rank them in order of preference. No more than 10 and no fewer than five candidates are chosen for each category.

Familiarizing oneself with the nominated motion pictures helps viewers form educated opinions and predictions of the outcomes. Below are movies nominated for Best Picture to watch before the big day on March 4.

### Get Out

In Jordan Peele’s film “Get Out,” Daniel Kaluuya plays Chris Washington, an African-American photographer nervous about meeting his girlfriend’s parents who have yet to find out that he is black. Once in the family’s company, bizarre events occur that

worry Washington; that is, until Washington is exposed to the family’s disturbing lifestyle.

Kaluuya is a nominee for Best Actor in a Leading Role. Additionally, Peele has been nominated for Directing and Original Screenplay.

### Darkest Hour

Though he was not the popular choice at the time, Winston Churchill, played by Garry Oldman, takes over as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom toward the beginning of World War II. He is faced with the decision of either negotiating peace with Hitler or continuing to fight against the Nazi regime.

Oldman is a nominee for Best Actor in a Leading Role. In addition to being nominated for Best Picture, the film has also been nominated for Cinematography, Costume Design, Makeup and Hairstyling and Production Design.

### Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri

Frustrated with law enforcement for failing to solve the case of her raped and murdered daughter, Mildred Hayes, played by Frances McDormand, takes matters into her own hands and commissions three billboards outside of Ebbing, Mo. calling out the sheriff for his lack of effort.

McDormand, who has been nominated for Best Actress in a Lead Role, is accompanied by nominees for Best Actor in a Supporting Role, Woody Harrelson and Sam Rockwell.

### The Post

In Steven Spielberg’s film “The Post,” Meryl Streep plays Kay Graham, owner of the Washington Post in 1971 and the first female publisher of a major newspaper. Based on a true story, Graham must decide whether or not to publish a set of articles relating to the Pentagon Papers, a collection of leaked documents in the ‘70s initially released by the New York Times that gave the public an inside look at the government’s handling of the war in Vietnam.

Streep is a 21-time Oscar nominee and three-time winner. Spielberg is receiving his 17th Oscar nomination.

The Academy Awards will take place in Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles and will be hosted by returning-host Jimmy Kimmel. Red Carpet coverage starts at 5:30 p.m. CT, while the award show begins at 7 p.m. CT on ABC.



IMP Awards

**IMAGE 4** Meryl Streep, who plays Kay Graham in Steven Spielberg’s movie “The Post,” has been nominated for 21 Oscars in the past. Spielberg’s nomination for The Post is his 17th Oscar nomination overall.







# Bear Briefs

## Baylor history tours begin Friday

Starting Friday, Office of Student Learning and Engagement will offer tours around campus to feature Baylor’s history. The tour will offer a summary of nearly two centuries’ worth of Baylor history.

According to the Student Learning and Engagement website, the primary goals of the tours are: to engage guests in Baylor’s rich history, foster appreciation for those who have made Baylor University great and cultivate a greater affinity for the university. Old Main, Burleson Hall, Carroll Science and Patt Neff Hall are among the historical sites to be featured in the tours. The tours will be offered at 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. most Fridays.

## Entrepreneur series hosts second event

Baylor Hankamer School of Business will be hosting its second speaker event of its series “Confessions of an Entrepreneur” at 12:30 p.m. Thursday in 143 Foster.

The event will feature entrepreneur Brent Bankston of Bankston’s Sport Memorabilia, Comics & Collectibles in Waco. The event will offer students the idea of what the path to a successful business in their local community looks like.

The event will offer pizza and a Q & A with Bankston. The first 50 to register will receive a Butter my Biscuit from King’s Landing.

## OLYMPICS

from Page 1

three-year-long war and most recently, tensions over North Korea’s nuclear program.

Baylor Korean lecturer Sonia Kim Uber grew up in Gyeongju City in South Korea. She explained that the nation is divided around the issue of unification.

“A few people are OK with it, but a lot of people are upset because they have worked so hard to make South Korea an independent country,” Uber said. “They feel hurt.”

Irving sophomore Steve Yi was born in the United States, but his family is originally from Korea. Yi said he believes this gesture of unity, while possibly beneficial, could cause disagreement.

“I feel like it might light some conflict but overall I think it’s OK,” Yi said. “There’s still a lot of conflicts between the two in my opinion.”

Nonetheless, Yi believes the Olympics could spark some cooperation between the two nations in the future.

“I do believe that it will help in the future. Hopefully they will intermingle in other events as well,” Yi said. “This is a major step towards reconciliation.”

Bentonville, Ark., freshman David Jung echoed Yi, saying that marching under one flag could be a step in the right direction for North and South Korea. Jung was born in South Korea and moved to the United States when he was four.

“I feel like it’s a great,” Jung said. “For the North and South to have peace, kind of cooperate ... I think we’re all just Koreans.”

However, Jung believes the two nations should remain cautious. He believes South Korea should not overlook the conflicts they have with the North.

Allen junior Heather Yen is president of the Korean Student Association. Yen, whose mother is from Seoul, hopes North and South Korea can one day be united. She thinks the Olympics provide an important opportunity for the nations to interact with each other.

“This is one of the rare opportunities that they get to be unified,” Yen said. “We started out as one. We share the Korean culture and the traditions and I think it would be nice someday to find that common bond again.”

Yen said she hopes the Olympics can bring the North and South together by showing them what they can accomplish when working together.

“It could better their relationship because it shows ... what we could do if we were unified instead of divided,” Yen said. “It’s just a really good opportunity to see them as one again, even for a brief moment.”

# LTVN

## ON THE WEB >>

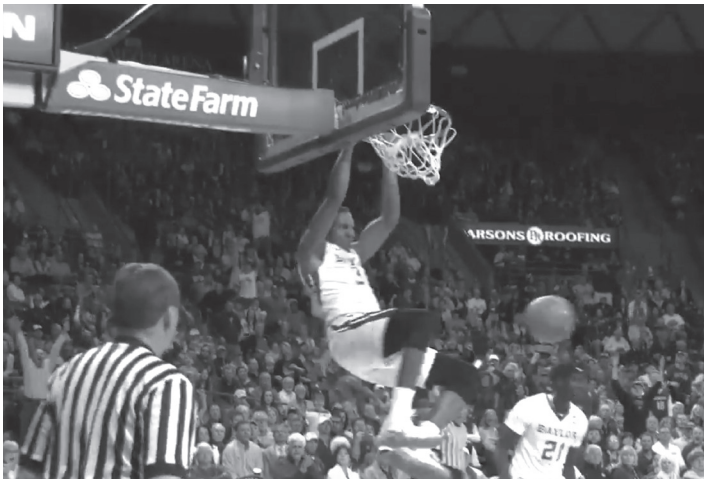
[baylorlariat.com/category/broadcast-news/](http://baylorlariat.com/category/broadcast-news/)

## Lariat TV News Today: Florida school shooting, 40 Days for Life and All-University Sing



## Bears hold off Texas Tech for fifth straight win

By Elisabeth Tharp | Broadcast Reporter



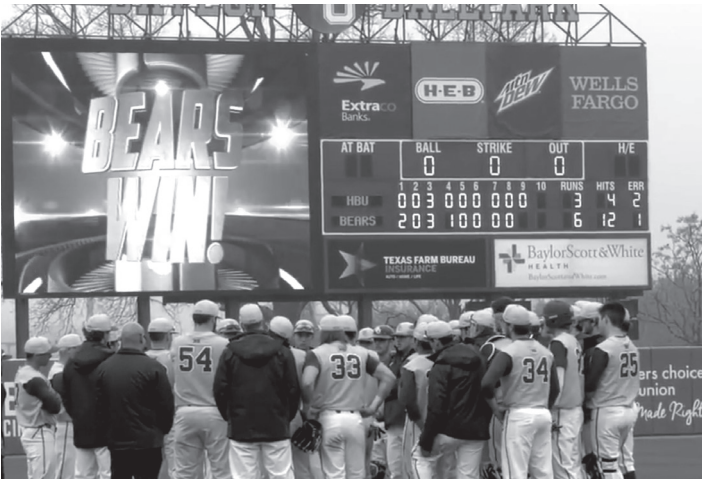
## Sing chairs provide behind-the-scenes look

By Meredith Aldis | Broadcast Reporter



## Bears take down Houston Baptist in opening series

By Elisabeth Tharp | Broadcast Reporter



## CRIME from Page 1

to issue another death warrant 90 days from the day it was filed, Hampton told the Lariat.

“I think they stood a pretty good chance of having the Supreme Court saying, ‘Yeah, we’ll give you another day,’” Hampton said. He expected to know by today if Bart Whitaker is going to be executed on the 22nd.

Although Hampton said the likelihood that the petition will be granted is “very high,” he is less confident that Bart Whitaker will ultimately

be able to avoid capital punishment.

“They are going to file a motion in the district court and it’s a long shot,” Hampton said. “So yeah, the odds are very low that he is going to avoid execution.”

Bart Whitaker would be the fourth person executed by Texas this year. The Supreme Court is set to look at the state’s lethal injection practices on Friday — a litigation process that Bart Whitaker is also a part of.

## BOARD from Page 1

excellence and Christian commitment within a caring community,” Allison said. “I am excited about it.”

Allison said he was pleased with the past several months and is eager to watch Illuminate grow.

“I couldn’t be more pleased with where we are now,” Allison said. “I think the strategic plan will enhance the mission. I think it will enlighten

the mission and it will reaffirm why we are a Christ-centered university and we really had that opportunity, I think, to become a shining light in a world.”

Along with the implementation of the Academic Strategic Plan, Livingstone said she is thrilled to be given the opportunity to enhance Baylor’s campus academically and personally.

“We’re excited about it; there’s tremendous energy around it,” Livingstone said. “We’ve got a lot of work to do, but it was a good meeting with great feedback and a really important step in moving the university forward to where we wanted it to move as a preeminent Christian university.”

# the Lariat

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Associated Press

**WINNER WINNER CHICKEN DINNER** Texas guard Joyner Holmes and Baylor guard Juicy Landrum chase a loose ball during the first half of Monday night's matchup in Austin. The Lady Bears won 93-87, which is their 23rd straight win this season.

## Lady Bears basketball takes down Texas, earns 8th straight Big 12 title

**NATHAN KEIL**  
Sports Editor

No. 3 Baylor entered its I-35 road trip game with No. 6 Texas separated by just three spots in the most recent AP Poll. But on the court, the Lady Bears once again proved why they are still the team to beat in the Big 12 conference.

Baylor showed its balance and inside-out attack with a career-high 24 points from senior forward Dekeiya Cohen and 23 points from senior guard Kristy Wallace. Junior center Kalani Brown added 17 points

and 12 rebounds and sophomore forward Lauren Cox added 15 as the Lady Bears knocked off the Longhorns 93-87 Monday night.

Wallace was also a key facilitator for the Lady Bears, dishing out seven assists, collecting two steals and grabbing six rebounds.

Baylor was efficient on the offensive end, shooting 52 percent from the floor and knocking down 18 of 22 of their free throws, good for 81 percent.

Baylor also out-rebounded Texas 42-27, making this 26 of 27 games where the Lady Bears have

outrebounded their opponent this season.

Brown got it going early for Baylor. The 6'7" junior could not be kept out of the paint as she showcased a variety of drives and layups against the Longhorns. Brown finished with 11 points in the first quarter as the Lady Bears jumped out to a 23-19 lead after 10 minutes of action.

Baylor continued to attack and show its balance as Cohen and Wallace both got involved in the second quarter as Baylor doubled its lead to eight points at 43-35 at the half.

But Texas was not going leave without a fight.

Brown picked up her third foul of the game at the 8:55 mark of the third quarter. The Longhorns took advantage temporarily, using a 10-2 spurt to tie the game at 45.

After a Wallace jumper put the Lady Bears in front by three, back-to-back baskets by senior guard Ariel Atkins, including a steal and coast-to-coast layup put Texas up 51-50.

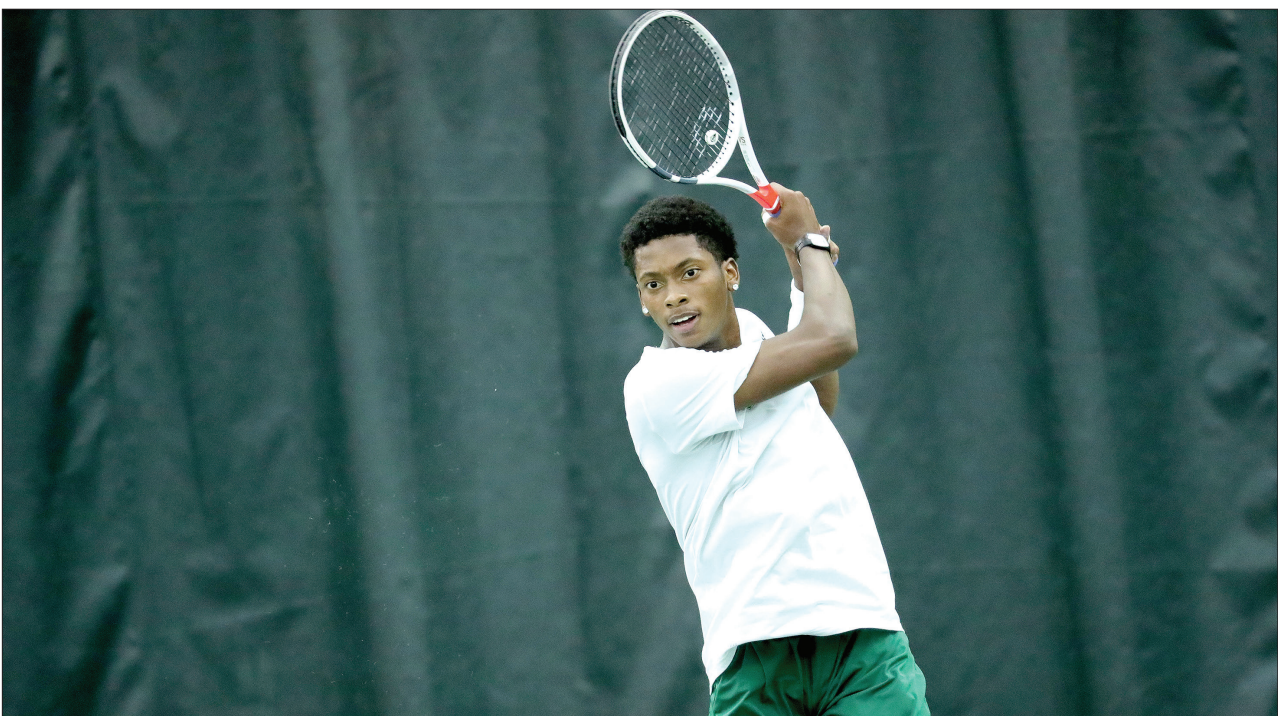
Trailing by one and with Brown on the bench, Wallace took over the game, scoring eight of Baylor's next points to put Baylor back in control.

Up nine heading to the fourth, Baylor continued its hot second half shooting, connecting on 12 of 13 field goals since trailing by one.

The Lady Bears pushed their lead to as many as 15 at 79-64 midway through the fourth, but Texas, led by senior guard Brooke McCarty's career-high 32 points would not go away.

Every time Baylor would score down the floor, McCarty had the answer, scoring 16 points in the fourth, including four of her seven

**BASKETBALL >> Page 10**



Ryan Barrett | Multimedia Journalist

**SO CLOSE BUT STILL SO FAR** Freshman Roy Smith practices hitting the ball after a serve. Baylor men's tennis went 1-2 in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association National Team Indoor Championships, falling to No. 5 Stanford and No. 13 Columbia.

## Men's tennis falters to 1-2 finish at ITA Indoor Championships

**BEN EVERETT**  
Sports Writer

Baylor men's tennis went 1-2 in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) National Team Indoor Championships this weekend at the Seattle Tennis Club in Seattle.

Seeded at No. 12, the Bears lost their opening match to No. 5 seed Stanford 4-2 on Friday afternoon.

Sophomore Bjoern Petersen and junior Jimmy Bendeck fell to Tom Fawcett and Axel Gellar 6-3 and freshman duo Roy Smith and Matias Soto dropped a 7-6(6) match to Timothy Sah and David Wilczynski as Stanford took a 1-0 lead after doubles.

To start singles play, Petersen was defeated by Fawcett, 6-2, 6-1 to give the

Cardinals a 2-0 lead.

Smith put Baylor on the board with a 6-2, 6-4 victory over Wilczynski at the No. 5 spot to make it 2-1.

At the No. 2 spot, junior Johannes Schretter lost 6-4, 6-3 to Gellar as Stanford took a commanding 3-1 lead in the match.

Soto fought back to defeat Sameer Kumar at the No. 3 spot, 6-1, 2-6, 6-3 to pull Baylor within a point, but junior Will Little fell to Eric Fomba 2-6, 6-2, 6-2 to give Stanford the win.

On Saturday, the Bears went up against No. 13 seed Columbia, but once again faltered in a 4-2 decision.

Schretter and Little combined to take down Columbia's Victor Pham and Jackie Tang, 6-1, on court one, and freshman Sven Lah teamed up with Soto to down Jack Mingjie Lin and William Matheson,

6-3, to give Baylor the doubles point.

Columbia took the lead with back-to-back singles wins as Petersen fell to Pham, 6-2, 6-1, and Smith lost 6-1, 6-2 to Tim Wang.

Soto tied the match with a 6-4, 6-2 win over Adam Ambroz, but Lah lost a 6-4, 6-1 decision to Lin as Columbia took a 3-2 lead.

The Lions clinched the match when Austen Huang took down Little, 6-3, 6-4 at the No. 4 spot.

Having dropped two straight, the Bears rebounded on Sunday with a 4-1 win over host Washington.

Bendeck and Soto dropped the first doubles match, 6-3, to Piers Foley and Mitch Stewart, but the Bears took the next

**TENNIS >> Page 10**

## Team USA falls behind in Olympics

**MAX CALDERONE**  
Sports Writer

With just six days left of competition, Team USA has fallen into a tie for fifth place in the latest 2018 Winter Olympics medal count. The Americans have tallied a total of 12 medals, including five gold, three silver and four bronze.

Freestyle skier Nick Goepper won the United States' only medal in the men's slopestyle, an event the Americans swept in 2014. Goepper snatched the silver after posting a score of a 93.60, which was just shy of Norwegian gold medal winner Oystein Braaten's score of 95.00, one of 11 gold medalists from Norway in this year's games.

San Marcos junior Truett Newton has been impressed by Norway's performance as a country throughout the 2018 Winter Games.

"I've been watching a lot of the events and Norway has been killing it," Newton said. "It's funny to me to see how the Americans run the table in the freestyle events like snowboarding, but all the other countries focus so much more on other events."

Newton attributes that to the United States hosting the X Games each year, which emphasizes events showcasing freestyle tricks in snowboarding and skiing.

One of the favorites in the men's slopestyle was American Gus Kenworthy, the silver medalist at the 2014 Olympics in Sochi, Russia. However, Kenworthy didn't land a clean run in the finals, finishing last in 12th place. He will return home empty-handed, having only competed in one event.

Kenworthy posted a message on Twitter thanking his fans for all the support and said he felt like he was walking away more fulfilled even after not medaling.

"At every contest there are three winners and a field of non-winners," the tweet read. "This is the Olympics though and nobody here loses. Everybody gave it their best effort, fought hard, endured and made their country, their family, their friends and their fans proud. I'm holding my head high knowing that I gave it my all."

On the ice, John-Henry Krueger brought home another silver medal for Team USA, taking second place in the men's 1000-meter race in short track speed skating. He finished just two tenths of a second behind Canada's

**MEDAL COUNT >> Page 10**



