



Opinion | 2
Vote Smart
Research before
you cast the
ballot



A&L | 5
Union Hall
Whizbang's,
Press Waffle
Co, and others
come to Waco!



Sports | 7
Starting Point
Guard Te'a
Cooper
On how she
adjusted to BU

Texas A&M student reports symptoms of coronavirus

VIVIAN ROACH and SARAH PINKERTON
Staff Writers

A student at Texas A&M admitted himself to a Brazos County E.R. on Wednesday, concerned about his risk of contracting the coronavirus that is spreading across China. He had recently been in an endemic area, where the disease was present, but in low frequency, and was experiencing the potential symptoms within the 14-day window, said Dr. Eric Wilke, emergency medicine physician in College Station, in a live stream on the Brazos County Health District Facebook page this afternoon.

It is still not confirmed the patient is infected with the coronavirus. The hospital sent a specimen to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta Thursday morning for testing. Wilke is expecting the test results to be back by Monday, or Saturday at the earliest.

"The patient we are tracking had very mild symptoms fortunately. If it's confirmed then contact tracing and additionally monitoring will be in place - this time there doesn't seem to be anything of concern," Wilke said. "Nothing

that seems out of the ordinary."

The patient is currently in self-isolation.

Dr. Sharon Stern, medical director at Baylor Health Services, said the university is taking precautions to avoid any outbreaks of the coronavirus on campus.

"On an individual basis, we do ask about travel to anyone who is filled with any kind of symptoms," Stern said. "If you went on a mission trip and came back with stomach pains we will ask where you were, what you ate. Travel history is very important."

Texas A&M was alerted Wednesday evening and has been monitoring the situation.

"Once the virus was made known, we were already taking steps to monitor, that was part of detecting this early, those steps were already in place. We have been in contact with all three main hospitals," Wilke said.

If the results come back positive, detail contact tracking will be involved. Pathways and people the patient may have been in contact with will be watched for the virus.

Making Sense of the Census

JORDAN DAVIDSON
Reporter

Representatives from the U.S. Census Bureau tabled and handed out flyers to students in the Bill Daniel Student Center Thursday to spread awareness and showcase potential job opportunities for the upcoming census.

Conducted every 10 years as mandated by the U.S. Constitution, the census is designed to count the population and provide statistical data to the federal government about the people residing in America.

Waco City Secretary Esmeralda Hudson is the staff liaison between the Waco community and the appointed members of the Census Complete Count Committee (CCCC). Together, their job is to promote the census and provide accessibility to the groups of individuals who were undercounted in 2010.

"You complete the census for wherever you are living on April 1, 2020," Hudson said. "The dorms are taken care of, but if you live off-campus, it is your responsibility to complete it for everyone living in that apartment."

In addition to low-income communities, the homeless, undocumented immigrants, minorities, young children, renters and people who distrust the government, college students were also considered an undercounted population in Waco in the 2010 census. According to Hudson, this was because of a lack of awareness.

"I think college students don't realize how important it is to fill out the census," Hudson said. "For every 1% of our community who doesn't complete the census, we stand to lose \$10 million a year for the next 10 years in funding that can go to the homeless, education, Pell grants, early childhood development, roads and transportation and affordable housing ... all things that affect students."

Minneapolis freshman Sam Alexon said she is excited to be recorded in this year's census even though she lives on campus.

"Now that I'm transitioning into being an adult, I am a contributing factor to American society. It's important to me that I am counted because I will be out in the real world before the next census rolls around," Alexon said.

Since federal funding is so important to the growth and maintenance of Waco, Secretary Hudson and the CCCC are implementing some major improvements to occur on the federal, state and local levels to ensure that more people in the community are counted.

"For the first time, you can actually complete the census by just going online," Hudson said. "They will send out postcards and letters that tell you the number you can use to complete the census, but on the census

'Cedar Fever' allergy epidemic hits Texas

LUCY RUSCITTO
Staff Writer

Each year from the months of December to February, Central Texans prepare themselves for "cedar fever" season, the annual seasonal allergy anomaly — and Waco is no exception.

Dr. Sharon Stern is the medical director of the Baylor University Health Services. Stern is a medical practitioner and has experience with allergies, as she has been at Baylor for 27 years.

Stern said with more intense winter weather, temperature drops and wind, the pollen takes flight more easily and is able to permeate the air better.

The term "cedar fever" came from the mountain cedar that creates the pollen that causes the allergy symptoms. This is one of the few trees that triggers allergic symptoms in the cold winter months. During the winter, the pollen from mountain cedar trees searches for female trees to plant their seeds, so that in the spring and summer months the plant is ready to duplicate itself during, according to Molekule.

"These types of trees are wind-pollinated, which means they produce a huge amount of

pollen," Stern said. "It's just like what they used to call hay fever, which is just allergies. Sometimes it affects people's noses more or their eyes more. It can even affect your scan your lungs, so it can be very impactful."

Sunnyvale freshman Katie Threet said she suffers from severe

allergies and has seen herself show symptoms this time of year.

Threet said that she has always has allergies, but since coming to Waco, has noticed they have gotten significantly worse during the more recent colder months.

"In high school, I would have to go home

sometimes. My eyes would start watering. It would look like I was crying really bad," Threet said. "I sneezed a lot, and wouldn't really want to do anything, just go to sleep."

Stern says sometimes with the allergy symptoms of cedar fever, it can be difficult to discern the difference between a cold and an allergy attack.

"An allergy attack makes you feel

FEVER >> Page 4

Local Pizza place Shorty's to expand in March

MEREDITH PRATT
Staff Writer

Waco is experiencing a period of significant growth. Following the trend of expansion in 2020 is local restaurant Shorty's Pizza Shack, better known to students simply as "Shorty's."

Surrounded by apartment complexes and student housing, the restaurant had few options for expansion. However, after leasing surrounding storefronts and removing a house next door, their plans to expand can now proceed.

General manager Chris Salazar said that construction is expected to begin around mid-March, and the added space will "alleviate busy nights" and help "business run smoother" overall.

While no visible changes will be made to the dining area

of the restaurant, customers can expect faster service and delivery as the extra space will be used to create room for catering services and another kitchen.

McKinney senior Channing Mead said that the times he has gone to Shorty's with his roommates the pizza was "pretty decent," but the service they experienced was slow.

The restaurant is hoping to try to mitigate experiences like Mead's with the upcoming renovations that are targeted to solve this very issue.

The shack, located only a few streets from campus, is home of the popular Pizza Pillow and offers hungry Waco natives and visitors numerous kinds of deep dish pizza and wings.

Created with Baylor students in mind, the restaurant was opened by

Baylor Alum Ted "Shorty" Browning and his wife Randle in 2011. They were later joined in business by fellow alum and friend Kyle Ferguson and his wife Jaime in 2015.

Shorty's layout consists of indoor high-top seating and a patio decked with outdoor tables. The walls are covered in Baylor memorabilia and TVs.

Shorty's website says that the restaurant's design is "inspired by his favorite dive bars on Maui and the sprawling patios in his hometown of Austin."

"Shorty's has a chill atmosphere with a local vibe," Mead said. "It really is the atmosphere that keeps us wanting to go back."

As the restaurant expands in size and in its delivery services, their motto remains the same: "Pitchers, Pies, and Good Vibes."



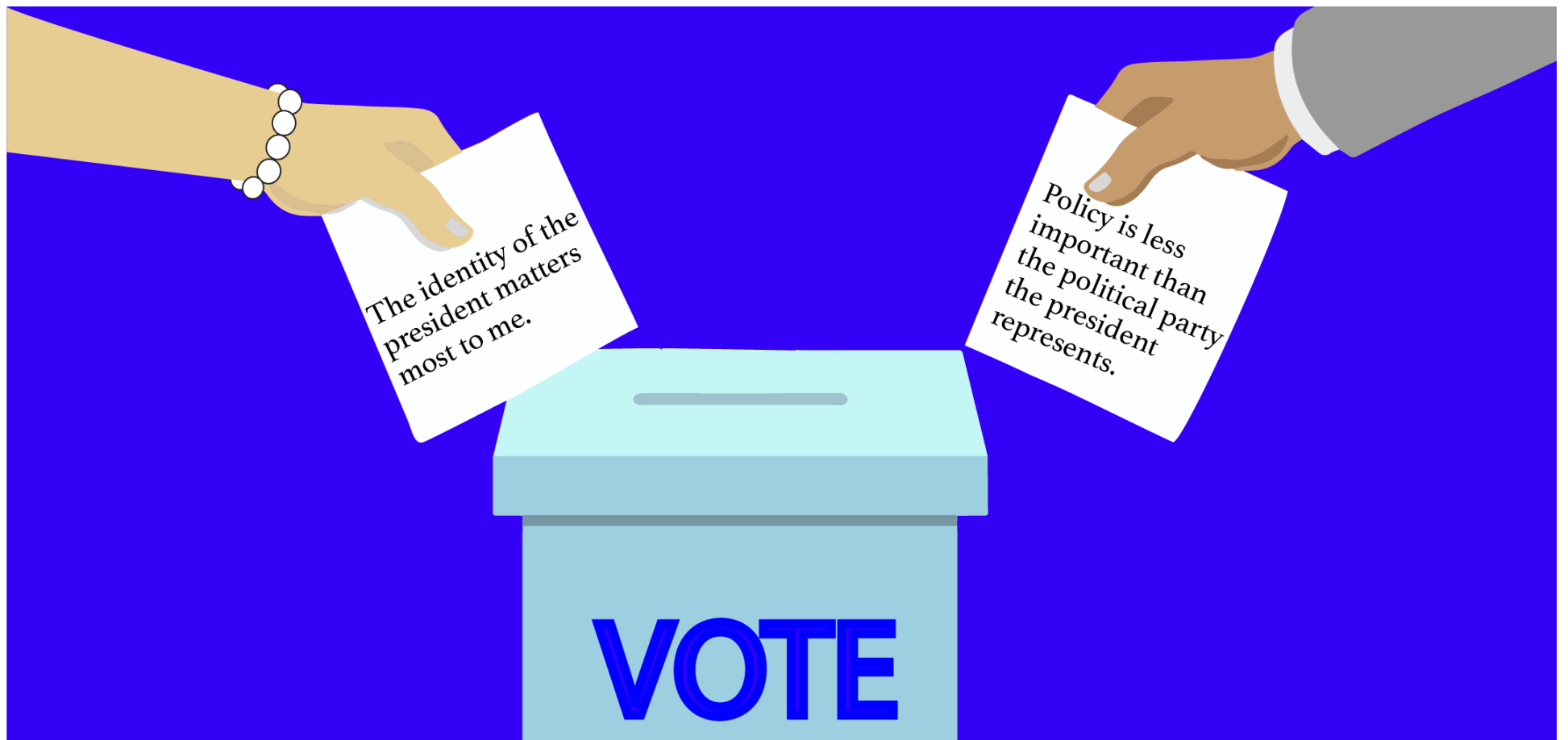
Brooke Giacin | Multimedia Journalist

LOCAL PATRONAGE Willy Navyjas, a Shorty's regular, eats a slice of pizza in his very own labeled chair.

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

We want to hear it. Send us your thoughts: Lariat-Letters@baylor.edu

EDITORIAL



Hannah Holliday | Cartoonist

Vote for the policy, not the person

What do people believe? Do they believe in a gender? A sexual orientation? An ethnicity? None of the above. People believe in ideas and values, and that's what they should base their vote on.

Bernie Sanders was recently accused of telling Elizabeth Warren that a woman couldn't win the presidency. The only way that could be true is due to America's obsession with identity politics, the practice of voting for a candidate that looks like or has the same traits as oneself.

The phenomenon was formed in reaction to the "colorblindness" policies argued by the Reagan administration. This included deregulating key points in a structure like affirmative action and measures to equalize voting opportunities, meant to help people of color onto their feet after centuries of degradation.

Identity politics is now a common trope focused on by both political parties. In the midterms, the Democrats nominated 41% women to the House, including 48% for non-incumbent seats according to Dr. Dave Hopkins, a political scientist at Boston College. While the left adds more women to its side of the aisle, Republicans

seem to become older, whiter and more male.

There are only 14 non-white Republicans of the 276 serving in the Senate, House or as a

Candidates' intentions matter more than their skin color.

governor, according to the Washington Post. The analysis also found that "the density of whites in the GOP is heavier now than the density of whites was in the Democratic Party in 1997." Additionally, Republicans account for only 18% of the women and 13% of the people of color in Congress according to the Congressional Research Service.

Each combination of ethnicity, sexual

orientation and gender brings a different set of perspectives and experiences that voters should value in ultimately making their decision.

It's just not the first thing, and definitely not the only thing, however, a voter should look to. In the end, policy has to win out. A candidate's intentions matter more than their skin color.

Take Pete Buttigieg for example. He is gay, but he's not the only one that cares about rights for the LGBTQ community. All of the candidates on the left are arguing for advances for the community.

People should also be voting for the policy they believe in, not the one they think (or the one someone else is telling them) can win. Voters may be swayed to latch onto ideas that are more toward the middle of the aisle because they could be more likely to pass. Even if it's not everything they want, they would like to see at least something get done. But is it not better to aim for all the change that's possible?

If you believe in Medicare For All, vote for the candidate that agrees. If you believe in forgiving student debt, vote for the candidate that agrees.

If you believe in certain immigration policies, vote for the candidate that will do their best to fight for what you want out of their office.

People also shouldn't be voting to get someone else out of office. Democrats are eager to vote out President Donald Trump, and Republicans have been eager to get their foes to the left ousted before as well, but neither is right. Citizens should be drawn to vote because they've been inspired by a candidate and their policies.

There's no point in voting out of hate or annoyance. Voting to reject an incumbent just sows division, harps on dissatisfaction rather than hope. Hope is the driving force of democracy, as voters can cast their ballots with an idea that can lead to change.

Don't compromise beliefs simply because they seem impossible to enact. If we support people we believe can enact the most positive change, maybe they can even influence others to follow their hearts and minds as well.

COLUMN

Voting smart matters

MEREDITH HOWARD
Copy Desk Chief

Voting matters. But unfortunately, many college-aged citizens fall victim to one of two cardinal sins in election years.

Some simply select the candidate their parents have chosen without researching platforms for themselves. There's nothing wrong with agreeing with your relatives' political views, but you need to figure out for yourself if someone's policies align with your values.

Others feign political indifference and forgo showing up to the polls altogether. This is also problematic because politics affect everyone, even those who don't consider themselves to be activists.

Politics start and end wars,

dictate racial and gender equity laws and regulate the economy. Everyone is impacted by those decisions. Even people who claim to "stay out of politics" are making a political decision by allowing current politicians to achieve their policy goals unopposed.

The solution to both of these issues is education. It may seem intimidating to examine dozens of candidates' policy goals to choose who you think is best for the country, but it's truly necessary to be a contributor to American democracy.

To tackle this issue, you should first identify what your own political values are. Figure out how you feel about immigration, foreign policy, climate change solutions and federal taxes.

Then, update yourself on who's in the presidential race at the moment (as the Democratic field often changes) and browsing the candidates' campaign websites to see what they stand for and against. Another resource is voters' guides. Politico, USA Today and CNN all have helpful resources available online.

Watching debates, studying voting records and engaging in meaningful conversation with your friends and family are all helpful ways to develop your political views as well.

Don't be discouraged if you're not head over heels for anyone in the running. Pick the candidate who's closest to your heart, and consider campaigning for them. Making a donation, canvassing or even just talking to your peers about why you like them can make a difference. And it's OK if you decide later on that you want to vote for someone else. Spend some time in the news and keep yourself updated so you will know if you want to change your mind.

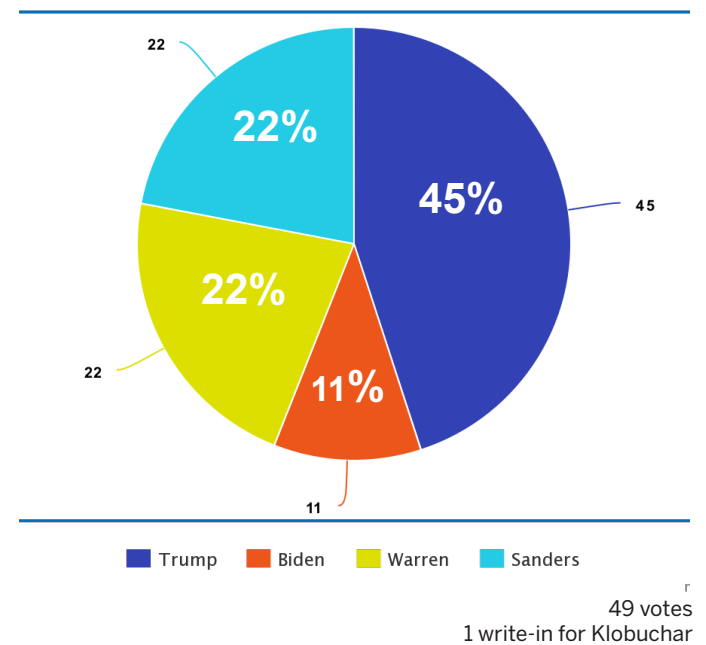
The result of making a well-educated vote is knowing that you've done your part to work toward the America you want to see. It's disappointing to see your candidate lose, but at least you can know you've done everything you can.

Meredith is a freshman journalism news-editorial major from Springfield, Ill.

SOCIAL MEDIA SURVEY

TWITTER POLL:

Who is currently your favorite 2020 presidential candidate?



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Opinion

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Lariat Letters

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

Feb. 1 admissions deadline nears

SARAH PINKERTON
Staff Writer

The regular admissions application deadline is approaching for incoming freshman students. Feb. 1 is a non-binding application. However, there are many different application deadlines with separate admissions options.

Mary Herridge, senior director of admissions counseling at Baylor, said that there are three different admissions options. Within the Nov. 1 deadline are two options: early decision, which binds the student to the university if admitted, and early action, which guarantees an admittance response by Jan. 15. The approaching Feb. 1 deadline informs students of their admittance no later than April 10.

“There’s not necessarily a difference, per se, in regular decision or early action,” Herridge said. “It’s more about the timing of things and that students who apply early in their senior year have already heard back from us and these students who are left to apply could be students who just learned about Baylor during their senior year.”

Regardless of the application students choose to complete, admissions officers still weigh the applications holistically. However, with the Feb. 1 deadline, there are typically less spots to fill, making the application process a little more competitive.

“The student motivation for applying early versus later is sometimes different,” Herridge said. “But the requirements are still the same.”

However, the incoming class of Fall 2019 was the first class with the option to



Brittney Matthews | Multimedia Journalist

LOCATION The Undergraduate Admissions office, where prospective students can go to ask questions related to enrollment, is located at Robinson Tower in Suite 480.

do the early decision, binding application. The incoming class of Fall 2020 will be the second class with this opportunity and while the deadlines differ between the two applications, the requirements remain the same.

“The quality, academically, of the students that we usually get from early action to regular decision generally is still very high,” Herridge said. “It’s still a high-quality student who’s done well in high school, because those are the types of

students that Baylor is just attracting regardless.”

For the fall 2019 freshman class, 75% of students were in the top quartile of their graduating high school class, the average ACT score was a 26 to 32 and the average SAT score was a 1210 to 1370.

In addition, beginning this year, a required essay has been added to all applications. While there has always been an optional short-answer response for students, the

required essay from the banks of both the Common Application and ApplyTexas has now added a new dynamic to the application.

“We’re really excited about that,” Herridge said. “People have submitted amazing essays. It’s just been another piece of information for us to read through and help us with our decisions as we holistically review files.”

Roswell, N.M. freshman Caye Lant, utilized the February deadline when she applied. She says that she didn’t fully know where she wanted to go in November and while Baylor was in her top two schools, she didn’t want to feel obligated to choose a school based on her application time.

Lant said most of the people she knew that applied to Baylor applied in November because it was their top school.

“They either had family that went here or they toured it while they were a junior in high school and so when they came, they knew exactly where they wanted to be,” Lant said. “I know others who submitted the application to all the schools early, to be prepared I guess.”

Herridge recommends that prospective students get to know their admissions counselor well. Organized by geographic location, admissions counselors can act as a second set of eyes on a student’s application and can act as an advocate for their application file.

“It really can be advantageous to get to know your admissions counselor and, especially in this latter round, I think the more contact you have with our office, the more beneficial it’s going to be for you because students can overlook some things in their file,” Herridge said.

Local nonprofits funded by Baylor philanthropy and public good course

MATTHEW MUIR
Staff Writer

Six local nonprofits received an injection of funding from Baylor’s philanthropy and public good course. Baylor presented \$75,000 in grants to the nonprofits during a ceremony on Jan. 14 at McLane Stadium.

Christian Women’s Job Corps, Family Abuse Center, the Talitha Koum Institute, Greater Waco Legal Services, Inspiracion and The Cove were selected from more than 60 candidates. The recipients were selected by the philanthropy and public good course, a class which entrusts grant money to Baylor students and tasks them with deciding which nonprofits should receive it.

The Talitha Koum Institute, which received \$20,000, is a “mental health therapeutic nurture center” aimed at rehabilitating trauma-affected children. Susan Cowley, the institute’s executive director, described the process potential grant recipients go through.

“It’s quite a large group that [the students] begin with and they narrow it down a couple of times... the students now actually take even more responsibility than the organizations they’re studying,” Cowley said. “They do the bulk of the studying on their own. I’m allowed, if I want to, to have one phone interview, but it’s not required of me.”

Students went through a rigorous process that cut the list of candidates from 60 plus organizations to 27, then 10. Then site visits and internal deliberations were conducted to decide who received funding.

Every semester since the course’s inception has counted the Talitha Koum Institute among its top candidates, and the group is a perennial grant recipient.

Cowley said this experience has shown her

the course is a “significant program of learning” which teaches students to understand both sides of philanthropic contributions.

“Students are taking a real deep and wide look at a total cross-section of what it’s like in the philanthropy world,” Cowley said. “There are times they feel like the funder or a foundation and at times they act on our behalf as if they are an organization seeking something, which gives them a tremendously broad view of what all this is about, and we see some excellent student participation across the board.”

The class grants are funded jointly by the Baylor/Waco foundation and Philanthropy Lab, a Fort Worth-based organization. Dr. Jeremy Vickers, Baylor’s vice president of external affairs and one of the class’s instructors, said the course this year focused on groups affecting change in McLennan County.

“Our [external affairs] office manages an initiative called Solid Gold Neighbor and we focus our work on making economic and social progress in Waco in five areas: Economic Development, Health, Education, Cultural Wealth and City Growth,” Vickers said. “We challenged the students to consider only organizations in McLennan County that did work in one or more of these five areas.”

Vickers said the course does more than just distribute grant money; it also generates publicity.

“Over the past few years, hundreds of thousands of dollars have gone into local nonprofits to strengthen their finances as well as to promote their good work,” Vickers said. “At the end of each semester, students invite the nonprofit recipients to campus for an awards ceremony and we publicize the awards as well. This creates some positive news and press that further helps the organizations.”



Brittney Matthews | Multimedia Journalist

CELEBRATION Baylor faculty and students spend time together celebrating PRSSA’s 50th anniversary.

Baylor celebrates 50 years of PRSSA

MATTHEW MUIR
Staff Writer

Baylor Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) members reflected on the program’s success Thursday and looked to the future at the group’s 50th anniversary celebration.

Founded on Jan. 9, 1970, Baylor PRSSA has provided public relations students with training and experience for half a century. The professional association, which has chapters all over the nation, helps students develop the necessary skills they need to build a career in public relations.

Dr. Marlene Neill, an associate professor in the department of journalism, public relations and new media, serves as the group’s faculty adviser. Neill said Baylor’s PRSSA chapter is one of the oldest in the country.

“PRSSA nationally was actually founded a couple years earlier [in 1968] so we were one of the first chapters nationally to be established,” Neill said. “We’re just a couple years behind.”

Including Neill, Baylor PRSSA has only had four faculty advisers throughout its history, two of whom are still active at Baylor. Maxey Parrish, a senior lecturer in the department of journalism, public relations and new media, served as PRSSA’s faculty adviser from 2001 until 2012. Parrish said he expects the chapter to continue to grow in the years to come.

“It won’t be with me, because I’m not going to be here in 50 years,” Parrish said. “I think with the foundation that it’s got and the growth of the PR profession... I see continued growth. I see a really vibrant group that continues to make a contribution to students in their professional preparation.”

Grand Rapids, Mich., sophomore Olivia Mohney, a PRSSA member, said the anniversary is one special moment in her time at an already-historic university.

“It means a lot actually... Baylor’s so old so you hear about Baylor celebrating their 175th anniversary this year, seeing all these anniversaries come along just really makes you understand how much of a part of a community and culture you are,” Mohney said. “Especially being something that’s in my major.”

While part of PRSSA, Mohney has had the chance to travel and meet PRSSA members from chapters around the country. Mohney said these interactions inspired her to grow the chapter into its next 50 years.

“It kind of opened my eyes to what PRSSA is across the nation,” Mohney said. “All I had known about was our little chapter and then I got to meet everyone from all across the country... It really gave me inspiration to further our chapter and help our chapter grow.”

Throughout its existence, Baylor PRSSA has strived to prepare students for careers in the field of public relations. Parrish said he considers the group’s ability to bring experts with real-world experience to students to be its greatest strengths.

“I think the thing that stands out to me is some of the guest speakers that we’ve brought in over the years. We’ve had some really good professionals that have tremendous insight into the PR profession,” Parrish said. “When they come and talk about real life things that they’ve handled in their careers it has such an impact on the students, and I can’t emphasize enough the importance of professional preparation... that’s really what this whole program is about.”

DAILY CRIME LOG

Jan. 21-23

This list is mandated by the Clery Act and is a compilation of all criminal incidents, alleged criminal incidents and fires reported to the Baylor Police Department or received by BUPD from an outside source. Crimes on this list are reported, but not all confirmed and may be pending an investigation. For definitions of listed dispositions and Clery Act information, go to www.baylor.edu/dps. Information may be limited because of federal guidelines.

Date reported: 1/22/2020
Location: Clifton Robinson Tower
Offense(s): **Accident Failure to stop and identify**
Date Occurred: 1/22/2020
Disposition: Closed

Date reported: 1/21/2020
Location: Brooks College
Offense(s): **Minor Consuming Alcohol**
Date Occurred: 1/21/2020
Disposition: Cleared by citation

Date reported: 1/21/2020
Location: 1900 block of S 5th St.
Offense(s): **Criminal Mischief**
Date Occurred: unspecified
Disposition: Handled by Waco Police Department



Associated Press

STRESS RELIEF Sen. Richard Burr R-NC., displays a stress ball as he walks to the Senate Chamber prior to the start of the impeachment trial of President Donald Trump at the U.S. Capitol, Thursday, in Washington.

Trial highlights: Conspiracy theories and fidget spinners

MATTHEW DALY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Democrats argued that President Donald Trump sought a phony investigation of a political rival and pursued a discredited conspiracy theory about Ukraine, while restless senators played with a new toy Thursday during Trump's impeachment trial.

Highlights of Thursday's session and what's ahead as senators conduct just the third impeachment trial of a president:

'POLITICAL' INVESTIGATION

Pressing their case for a second day, Democrats said there was no evidence that former Vice President Joe Biden did anything improper in dealings with Ukraine. Rebutting a central Trump claim, Democrats said the president sought a political investigation of Biden by Ukraine to sway the 2020 election in his favor.

"There was no basis for the investigation the president was pursuing and pushing. None. He was doing it only for his own political benefit," said Rep. Sylvia Garcia of Texas, a Democratic prosecutor.

Similarly, Democrats said Trump and his allies, including his personal attorney Rudy Giuliani, pushed a bogus, Kremlin-pushed conspiracy theory that Ukraine, not Russia, meddled in the 2016 U.S. election.

"Trump put himself first," ahead of U.S. policy and the national interest, said Rep. Adam Schiff, the chairman of the House Intelligence Committee and lead Democratic prosecutor.

PUTIN GETS RELIGION?

Democratic senators laughed as Schiff joked that Trump had "made a religious man out of Vladimir Putin," a reference to a comment by Putin last November: "Thank God," he told an economic forum in Moscow, "no one is accusing us of interfering in the U.S. elections anymore; now they're accusing Ukraine."

The discredited theory that blames Ukraine for interfering in the 2016 elections is no laughing matter, Schiff said, calling it central to the impeachment charges. Trump is accused of seeking the Ukraine investigation — and a probe of Joe Biden and his son, Hunter — for his own political benefit while holding back congressionally approved military aid as leverage.

FIDGET SPINNERS TO THE RESCUE

As senators sat through endless hours of arguments on impeachment, they found a new outlet to focus their attention: fidget spinners.

Sen. Richard Burr, R-N.C., handed out the toys to his colleagues before Thursday's trial

proceedings began. A fidget spinner is a small toy designed to be spun between the fingers, relieving stress or boredom.

Burr was seen playing with a blue spinner while listening to arguments by Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., an impeachment manager. Other senators, including Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., and Pat Toomey, R-Pa., were also seen with spinners on their desks.

SPEAKING UP OUTSIDE THE SENATE

While senators are pledged to silence during the trial proceedings — and deprived of their phones and other electronics — they are speaking out during breaks in the action.

Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., a top Trump defender, challenged the Democratic argument about the Bidens' dealings in Ukraine. The White House and some congressional Republicans have raised questions about Hunter Biden's lucrative job on the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company, and Joe Biden's successful efforts to force the firing of a corrupt Ukrainian prosecutor. There's been no evidence of wrongdoing by either Biden.

"I know a lot about the Trump family and their dealings in Russia," Graham said. "I don't know anything about the Biden connection. You're going to hear more about that."

Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer, meanwhile, rebutted Republican senators who lamented they heard nothing new from House prosecutors. Republicans voted nine times this week to block Democratic amendments for new witnesses and documents.

"If they want new stuff, there is plenty of it," Schumer said at a news conference before Thursday's session. "As the [Democratic] managers made clear, a lot of the documents are sitting there, all compiled, all ready to go, with simply a vote of four Republicans to subpoena them."

WHAT'S AHEAD

Democrats are expected to wrap up their arguments Friday, with Trump's legal team set to make its case for up to three days beginning Saturday. Jay Sekulow, a lawyer for Trump, deflected rumors that the defense may wrap up in a single day.

"We're going to use a sufficient amount of time to defend our case and point out the inconsistencies of their case. We're not going to run out the clock," he said. "I am confident that whether it is [completed] Saturday or Monday or Tuesday that the case will be made defending the president. I have no doubt."

Impeachment trial not ready for broadcast prime time

DAVID BAUDER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The first night of arguments in favor of President Donald Trump's impeachment before the U.S. Senate was judged not ready for prime time by many of the nation's television executives.

ABC, CBS and NBC all stuck with regularly scheduled programs like "Chicago Med," "Criminal Minds" and "Modern Family" Wednesday evening instead of showing the House managers' evening session at the impeachment trial. That lasted about two hours, 15 minutes.

CNN and MSNBC carried the trial in full. Fox News Channel, after showing Rep. Adam Schiff speak for about a half hour, interrupted for a story about a child support case involving former Vice President Joe Biden's son Hunter, and never returned.

Even two PBS stations in the New York area showed science programming

and "Antiques Roadshow" instead of the trial Wednesday evening. PBS said it gave its local stations the option to show the trial or not.

The calls Wednesday night are significant because if the top networks decided not to pre-empt programming on the first full night the case against Trump was laid out, chances are they won't reverse course later unless the unexpected happens.

Daytime was an intriguing contrast, since the top three broadcasters and cable news outlets all carried Schiff's initial stand at the podium, which lasted more than two hours.

It was rare for anyone in today's media world to command full television attention to that extent. The Senate's rules for the trial, which required using a single camera on the speaker and didn't allow reaction shots of senators, only served to accentuate Schiff's message.

Meanwhile, Trump was setting a record for sending out the most tweets in a single day since he's been president.

For the television networks, however, prime time is a different animal altogether, with more viewers and advertising revenue available.

After pulling away from House managers Wednesday evening, Fox News personalities spent much of their time ridiculing the proceedings. Fox mostly kept a postage stamp-size picture of the speaker soundlessly mouthing words in a corner of the screen, with an invitation for viewers to go online if they wanted to hear the arguments.

Fox's Tucker Carlson ran clips of TV commentators on other network personalities who praised Schiff's afternoon speech, calling the comments "pornographic." He said Trump wasn't the only victim of the impeachment trial — suggesting viewers were, too. He brought on a former Republican congressman to talk about alleged crimes in the Obama administration and Texas Republican Rep. John Ratcliffe to assess the trial.

“Today was really boring and the president’s defense team is very happy.”
JOHN RATCLIFFE | TEXAS REP. (R)

"Today was really boring and the president's defense team is very happy," Ratcliffe said.

Carlson also interviewed Republican Sen. Josh Hawley of Missouri, with the host saying Hawley had "stepped out of the trial" to talk on television and criticize House managers. The interview was taped during the trial's dinner break, a Hawley aide said.

Similarly, Fox's Sean Hannity labeled the impeachment trial the "Schumer Schiff Sham Show" and attacked Schiff for his afternoon speech.

"He is a lunatic," Hannity said. "If you watched him talk he was totally unhinged. He looked like a lunatic who has lost his mind."

Wrapping up his evening argument a half-hour later, Schiff also used the word "sham," but in a much different context, as a description for Trump's attempts to get the Ukraine to investigate the activities of Hunter Biden.

It wasn't heard on Fox, however. At the time Hannity was interviewing lawyer Alan Dershowitz, a member of Trump's impeachment defense team.

CEDAR from Page 1

like you have a fever," Stern said. "You may be sneezing and your eyes are watering and itching, it makes you feel physically ill."

The Baylor Health Center provides allergy shots for those students afflicted by severe reactions. Stern recommends students take charge of their allergies both head-on and preventatively.

"Once a student has been diagnosed with allergies and we know what their allergies are, they can get their serum from their allergist," Stern said. "It can be sent here and we'll give them allergy shots as often as they are supposed to take them."

Additionally, Stern said all students who know they have relenting allergy symptoms

should take precautionary steps to ensure they stay under control. She said that nasal steroids are the best method for at-home allergy help, and them preemptively will reduce symptoms.

Stern said additional measures students can take are physical measures within their homes, such as making sure all windows stay shut, washing bed sheets often, using mattress and pillow covers and showering frequently.

Threet says she also uses over-the-counter allergy medicines every day in order to slow down and take control of her symptoms. Stern agreed with Threet and said the over-the-counter antihistamines are "great to use when worried about allergic reactions."

CENSUS from Page 1

website, all you need is your address."

Another way the CCCC is promoting the census is by hosting "census days" and providing extra resources and access to people who may not take the census otherwise.

"What we are hoping to do is focus the digital campaign to those specific undercounted areas and then set up census help centers," Hudson said. "We might host a mobile library van that provides wifi or internet so that people can go and fill the census out."

In addition to taking the census, Hudson

urges students to find other ways to participate.

"Tell everyone that you know at Bible study or a study group," Hudson said. "Sharing it on social media is great too."

Whether it's through word-of-mouth or getting a part-time job walking blocks for the census bureau, Hudson claims that there are ways for everyone to get involved and make a difference.

"It's a great way to not only serve your community, but also get paid to do it," Hudson said.

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The Baylor Roundup yearbook will host photo sessions once in the Fall and once in the spring.

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The Baylor Lariat

BaylorLariat.com

WHAT TO DO IN WACO

FRIDAY

The Wandering Artists Excursions in Monochrome | 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Kieran-Sistrunk Fine Art Gallery, 2120 Washington Ave. | Free | An artistic black and white photographic exposition highlighting the travels of artists Mark Kieran and Susan L. Sistrunk

The Brook and the Bluff Concert | 7:30 p.m. | Common Grounds, 1123 S. Eighth St. | \$12 | Featuring special guest Stephen Day. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Waco Civic Theatre presents “Always, Patsy Cline” | 7:30 p.m. | Waco Civic Theatre, 1517 Lake Air Drive | Tickets range between \$16 to \$20

SATURDAY

Downtown Farmers Market | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. | 510 Washington Ave. across the street from McLennan County Courthouse | Free

Union Hall Grand Opening | 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Union Hall, 720 Franklin Ave. | Patrons will be able to order food from new vendors and the first 50 guests will receive a free Union Hall T-Shirt

The Wandering Artists Excursions in Monochrome | 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Kieran-Sistrunk Fine Art Gallery, 2120 Washington Ave. | Free | An artistic black and white photographic exposition highlighting the travels of artists Mark Kieran and Susan L. Sistrunk

JD Hicks and the H.O.T. Road Gang | 2 p.m. - 6 p.m. | Rocky’s Roadhouse, 926 Lacy Drive | Free

Hank Williams: Lost Highway | 2:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. | Waco Civic Theatre, 1517 Lake Air Drive | Ranging between \$16 and \$20

Will Reagan & Andrea Marie Concert | 8 p.m. | Common Grounds, 1123 S. Eighth St. | \$25 | This performance is a part of the Vacancy & Low Tour.

SUNDAY

Hank Williams: Lost Highway | 2:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. | Waco Civic Theatre, 1517 Lake Air Drive | Ranging between \$16 and \$20



Brittney Matthews | Multimedia Journalist

LET’S GO TO THE FOOD HALL, Y’ALL Union Hall includes nine Waco native restaurants such as Wacool Tacos, Sam’s Watering Hole, Unshakeable and WhizzBang’s Hamburgers. The food hall also features an upstairs dining area including local graffiti art.

Community-based food hall to host grand opening Saturday

VIVIAN ROACH
Staff Writer

Union Hall will host its grand opening at 11 a.m. Saturday. The food hall, a brand new restaurant concept to the Waco restaurant scene, is located on 720 Franklin Ave. and dedicated to keeping its vendors rooted in the local community.

Jonathan Garza, sales and leasing agent for Turner Behringer Real Estate, walked through the space during an informational walkthrough and explained how the concept is meant to close the gap for food vendors, from food truck to brick and mortar.

Stalls in Union Hall are reserved for food vendors with ties to Waco as opposed to popular chain establishments.

With nine food vendors open now, and four more to join, Union Hall is hoping to bring locals together in a community setting.

Currently, Union Hall hosts Whizzbang’s Hamburgers, Unshakeable Milkshakes, koKo Ramen, Sam’s Bar, Wacool Tacos & Tamales, Kurbside Coffee, Press Waffle Co. and Wing’s of Waco. Additionally, Union Hall will soon

be home to Huaco Eatery, Around the World, Blasian Asian and Ceviche Del Mar.

Ismael Olvera, owner of Kurbside Coffee, is completely new to the coffee shop business. He lived in Mexia but returned to Waco to start his coffee shop, as he said his heart was born and raised here.

“Me and my wife are from a Hispanic culture and decided to put a little twist to coffee. So you know, we put in horchata, or conchas, a little bit of sweet bread,” Olvera said.

Kemar Ballentine, a former food service manager at Penland Dining Hall, now owns Wing’s over Waco at Union Hall. After familiarizing himself with the food service world, Ballentine said he realized his “niche” was wings. He cooks them uniquely by marinating and smoking the wings and then pairing them with a familiar sauce.

“I wanted to tie everything in, because it’s Wing’s of Waco... what is indigenous to Waco is Dr. Pepper. So I teamed up with the Dr. Pepper Museum, and I got their signature Dr. Pepper barbecue sauce,” Ballantine said.

Keeping consistent with “new

concepts” in Waco, another vendor, Sam’s Bar, is owned by the Waco Mexican restaurant La Fiesta. Sam’s Bar, however, focuses strictly on craft drinks.

Sam Castillo, owner of La Fiesta, comes from a family that has been in the restaurant business since 1920. He returned to Waco after working in Dallas, and opened La Fiesta about 10 years ago with his sister.

The two have also opened Wacool, a taco bar also in Union Hall. Castillo said the food hall concept, though new to Waco, isn’t unique to this area.

“They started in Europe, these food hall concepts... the closest one to here is Legacy Food Hall in Dallas. [Union Hall] is kind of formed after Legacy Hall in Dallas,” Castillo said.

Garza said Union Hall is solely for locals, and that the spot isn’t as concerned with attracting tourists.

“The tourism market is great. But it’s hard to get those individuals to know about Union Hall. Our goal is to build something for Waco — people who live and work downtown, Baylor students on the other side of the highway and those who live on the outskirts of town,” Garza said.



Brittney Matthews | Multimedia Journalist

FOOD FUSION UNION Union Hall is located on the corner of 8th Street and Franklin and will have its grand opening Saturday, Jan. 25. The grand opening event will be held between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. After the grand opening, four more vendors will join.

‘Ring by spring’ culture fails to exceed southern borders

ANDIE CHILSON
Reporter

Most Baylor students are familiar with “ring by spring,” but the phenomenon doesn’t seem to go far beyond the Waco city limits.

Hebron, Maine, senior Katey Bourget and recent Baylor grad Isaac Lambert from El Segundo, Calif., are a recently engaged couple.

Bourget and Lambert met during move-in day of their freshman year in Brooks Flats and they became engaged in August 2019. Bourget said that she came into college planning to get engaged, though she did not know to whom.

“I’ve always wanted to get married young,” Bourget said. “My parents met very young, so this is just something I’ve always had in mind.”

Although Bourget grew up in a small town and Lambert grew up near Los Angeles, the two agreed that before coming to Baylor, the concept of “ring by spring” wasn’t even on their radar.

“I’m from the Northeast,” Bourget said. “It’s a very different culture.”

Bourget said she has found the culture in the South to be more encouraging of marrying young.

“I think it’s definitely a southern thing,” Lambert agreed. “You could even correlate it to Christianity.”

Although the average age of marriage in the United States is increasing according to a survey conducted by the US Census Bureau, the average age is much younger on religious college campuses.

A 2013 Facebook study found that over half of the colleges where a student is most likely to find a mate are religious institutions.

Many religiously affiliated universities foster a culture that encourages marrying young. Liberty University, for example, provides workshops for engaged couples and offers a course titled “Marriage and Family.”

“I see a bunch of people on my Instagram feed getting engaged,” Hoover, Ala., senior Caitlin Bullard said. “I see it a lot in the southern culture.”

The facts support Bullard’s impression. According to a 2018 survey by the U.S. Census Bureau, the average age that men and women marry in Texas is 28.5 and 26.6, respectively, whereas the average age of marriage in the state of New York is 30.9 for men and 29.5 for women.

One common concern for college students contemplating engagement is financial responsibility. Many recent graduates have student loans to pay off, which can be a considerable deterrent for some college sweethearts. According to a 2018 report by the Institute for College Access and Success, the average student loan debt for recent college graduates in the United States is \$29,200.

Bourget and Lambert are not phased by these daunting statistics, though.

“We may have to get out of debt together, but I’d rather do it together than apart,” Lambert said.

Christie Fatica, a senior at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, has a different perspective on college engagements. For Fatica, financial stability is a prerequisite for marriage. Fatica said the

pressure to get engaged is far less prevalent on northeastern campuses.

“This is a campus where you date to date – not to get married,” Fatica said.

Perhaps the most common reason for “ring by spring” cited by engaged college students is that they already know that they want to be with their significant other forever, so why not start forever now? This was the reasoning Bourget and Lambert gave for their pre-graduation engagement.

“She’s the one for me,” Lambert said. “And I just thought, what’s the point in waiting?”

Bullard said while she can see the merits to getting engaged before graduation, she is looking forward to experiencing “distinct times in [your] life when you go to college, graduate from college and hopefully go to grad school.”

The consistent increase in the average age of marriage for both men and women in the U.S. suggests that the majority of young Americans feel similarly to Bullard, and are more inclined to pursue a career over marriage in their post-grad years.

Whether your post-grad plans include a big white dress or a corporate job, young people have continued to prove that the



Hannah Holliday | Cartoonist



Photo courtesy of Michelle Bourget

DOWN ON ONE KNEE Baylor senior Katey Bourget met her fiancée Isaac Lambert during move-in day her freshman year at Baylor.



Photo courtesy of Kate and Keith Photography

WEDDING DAY BLING Baylor senior Katey Bourget and recent grad Isaac Lambert pose for their engagement photos.

ACROSS

- 1 Wee dollop
- 4 Campus mil. group
- 8 Castle defense
- 12 Frozen water
- 13 Culture medium
- 14 Against
- 15 Take everything from
- 17 Cajole
- 18 Ice cream parlor order
- 19 Resort
- 21 Directional ending
- 22 Garish
- 26 Unlocks
- 29 Festive
- 30 Sundial numeral
- 31 Guns the engine
- 32 Lass
- 33 Freebie
- 34 Historic period
- 35 Identify
- 36 Tiresome types
- 37 Miscella-neous

39 Pouch

- 40 “For — a jolly good ...”
- 41 Wore down
- 45 Galileo’s birthplace
- 48 Martini specifica-tion
- 50 Basra resident
- 51 Memory method
- 52 Pub order
- 53 Polite query
- 54 Any time now
- 55 Thumbs-up

DOWN

- 1 Firsties

2 Rights org.

- 3 Existed
- 4 Speed checkers
- 5 Poet Nash
- 6 Sailor
- 7 Waterford
- 8 Showy parrot
- 9 Yoko from Tokyo
- 10 — standstill
- 11 Box office
- 16 Idyllic places
- 20 Salary

23 Couturier Christian

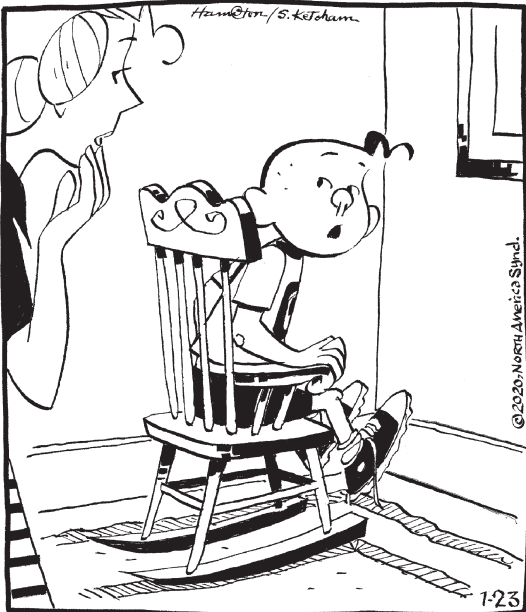
- 24 Frost
- 25 Shrill barks
- 26 Raw materials
- 27 Andean land
- 28 Novelist Hunter
- 29 Joke
- 32 Yellow-stone attrac-tions
- 33 Winter quaff
- 35 Opposite of “post-”
- 36 Lacking vegeta-tion
- 38 Abu —
- 39 Brawl
- 42 Crucial time
- 43 Perry’s creator
- 44 Salon jobs
- 45 Nonstick spray
- 46 401(k) alterna-tive
- 47 Utter
- 49 Tic-tac-toe loser

Today’s
Crossword Puzzle

Crossword
solutions found at
baylorlariat.com

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
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45	46	47			48	49						
50					51				52			
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Dennis the Menace



“DENNIS HAD TO GO TO THE BATHROOM... SO I’M PINCH-SITTIN’ FOR HIM.”

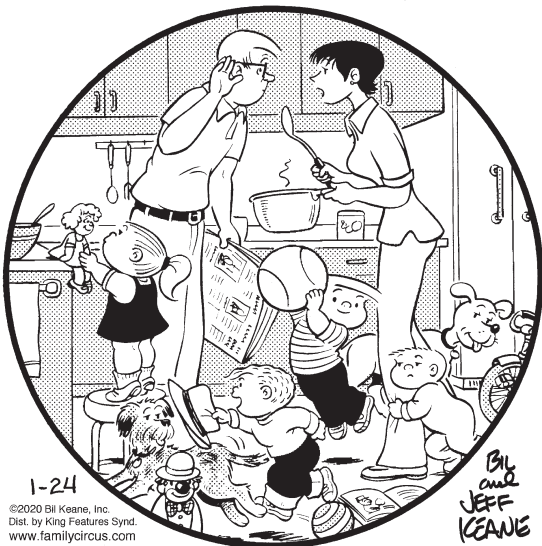


“DOES RUFF KNOW ANY TRICKS?” “HE CAN MAKE FOOD DISAPPEAR!”

Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

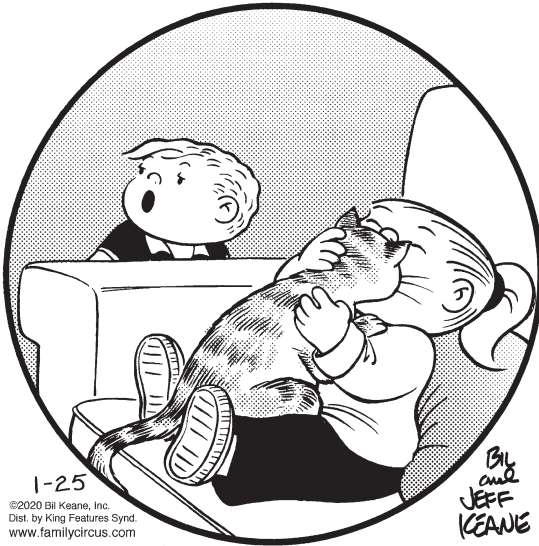
By Bil Keane



“Tell me again how many rooms we have in this house.”

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



“Dolly’s kissin’ Kittycat on the mouth! Is that good or bad for Kittycat?”

SHOW THE LOVE >> Don't miss out on our coverage of No. 5 men's tennis this weekend at

BaylorLariat.com



Lariat File Photo

GUARD POWER Graduate guard Te'a Cooper cheers on senior guard Juicy Landrum during Baylor's 120-46 landslide victory over Grambling State on Nov. 8, 2019, at the Ferrell Center.

Cooper: Living a point guard's dream

PRANAY MALEMPATI
Sports Writer

Lady Bears starting point guard Te'a Cooper came to Waco because of the opportunities she would gain on the court. But what the South Carolina transfer didn't know was how much the environment at Baylor would impact her.

"Everything here is so easygoing," Cooper said. "It's almost too good to be true."

The defending national champion Lady Bears are currently ranked No. 2 in the country with a 16-1 record. After losing both first-round WNBA draft pick Kalani Brown and NCAA Tournament Most Outstanding Player Chloe Jackson, adding Cooper has been beneficial to their continued success as she's currently averaging 14.6 points and 5.1 assists per game.

Cooper said a large factor in her decision to come to Baylor was the opportunity to play the point guard position. At South Carolina, Cooper made the second All-SEC team in 2019 as a guard but didn't play the point position.

"I wanted to play point guard," Cooper said. "I didn't play point guard at South Carolina."

According to Cooper, playing point guard at Baylor has allowed her to have a special relationship with head coach Kim Mulkey, who won two national championships while playing the same position at Louisiana Tech.

While Mulkey was not originally sold on bringing in graduate transfers, she started to come around after Jackson joined the team in 2018. Jackson was instrumental in bringing Cooper to Baylor.

"I think part of the deal is who is [Cooper] going to send me," Mulkey said. "Chloe talked me into taking Coop."

Mulkey said that the question about Cooper transferring wasn't her talent — it was about whether Cooper would be able to blend in with other extremely talented players around her.

But Cooper has been successful at Baylor because she has been able to fit in with the team's chemistry so well and done exactly what the team needs her to.

"You can't have good team chemistry if you bring people in

from the outside that don't understand what's expected of them here," Mulkey said. "If you're going to take a transfer, they better understand the culture, the atmosphere, and how we do things. I think that speaks volumes not only to Coop, but also to Chloe. It didn't take them long to adjust."

The appreciation Cooper has for her teammates, staff and environment at Baylor show why she has fit in so well here and helped the team stay on top of the rankings. Cooper said she would have liked being on the team as an undergrad "but just having this one year is pretty awesome."

"Everyone here, I'm glad I got to meet," Cooper said, "and I'm glad I get to spend this year with them."

The graduate point guard has one piece of advice for girls wanting to play college basketball in the future.

"If you want to be challenged, and you want to win and you want to make great relationships, then you should be a Baylor Bear," Cooper said.

Cooper and the Lady Bears host Texas Tech at 2 p.m. Saturday in the Ferrell Center.

Perfect situation: Brooksby adds to talented roster



DJ Ramirez | Sports Editor

CHAMPIONSHIP MINDSET Sacramento, Calif., freshman Jenson Brooksby looks forward to improving his skills and helping BU to a national championship as part of an already talented team.

DJ RAMIREZ
Sports Editor

No. 5 Baylor men's tennis already had a full arsenal of talent and competitive edge. Add to that the most sought-after recruit in the nation and the Bears could be on their way to their best season yet.

Sacramento, Calif., freshman Jenson Brooksby has already faced one of the biggest challenges in tennis on one of the biggest stages: the U.S. Open.

The then-18-year-old made headlines when he defeated former Wimbledon finalist Tomas Berdych 6-1, 2-6, 6-4, 6-4 in the opening round of the main draw at Flushing Meadow in New York City. And even though he suffered a loss in the next round, Brooksby said the experience only served to improve the confidence he had in game.

"It was an amazing experience," Brooksby said. "It was great to be able to deal with the pressure, you know, big crowds, stuff like that. This bigger atmosphere helped me get more confidence in myself. Doing well there and just showing, anyone I play or wherever I'm at, I can just stay focused. Get my game better."

Brooksby had committed to play for Baylor under head coach Brian Boland in Dec. 2018, but the opportunities he gained from his performance in the Open had everyone wondering if he would decide to go pro instead.

"It was a choice between college or pro," Brooksby said. "This scenario here at Baylor is amazing with Coach Boland and all the surrounding guys. I mean, I did multiple visits, but this is by far the best situation for me to grow as a tennis player and elsewhere."

Now, almost five months later, the 19-year-old Brooksby is adapting to college life in Waco and enjoying spending time with his teammates as they begin the season with big goals in mind. According to Boland, Brooksby has embraced everything about being a Baylor Bear.

"I couldn't ask for a more humble, hard-

working, focused and mature young man, considering all the success he has had," Boland said. "He came in here and really got to know his teammates, staff and everyone around the program and has been nothing but respectful, enjoyable to be around and someone that loves being part of the team."

It may a while before Brooksby hits the court to compete for the Green and Gold as he's currently sidelined with a turf toe injury, but the freshman said he's dealing with it day-by-day until he's back 100 percent.

"It's tough with the injuries — the timelines — you never really know," Brooksby said. "I'm just doing what I can every day. Like to give you a rough timeline, just day by day you do what you can to get better. So, once you're back, it's a shorter transition on the court, and I just control what I can control."

In the meantime, his team is off to a solid start with wins over Boise State, UTSA and Nebraska during opening weekend. The Bears will host ITA Kick-Off weekend beginning Saturday. Boland said the team has a long road ahead but that he was happy with the way his players competed in the season's first three matches.

"I thought we competed hard," Boland said. "That's really what you can ask in the first weekend of play, controlling what you can. We have a long ways to go in terms of each individual's game and development throughout the course of the season. But I like where we're at. And we've really come together well as a team and now it's just taking every day as an opportunity and, you know, trying to get better from a competitive standpoint. I couldn't be more happy, more pleased."

Baylor will face Gonzaga at 3 p.m. Saturday in the Hawkins Indoor Tennis Center. A win would place them in the championship match at 3 p.m. Sunday against the winner of the match between Louisville and New Mexico. A consolation match is scheduled between the two losing teams of Saturday's matches at 11 a.m. Sunday.

Athletic success aids funding to Give Light campaign, pavilion

MATTHEW SODERBERG
Sports Writer

Since Baylor's Give Light funding campaign was announced in November 2019, the athletic programs have taken off with a vast amount of success and have received several major donations.

Give Light was exclusively introduced to a select portion of the Baylor community in May 2014 and was originally connected to the Pro Futuris strategic plan. Now, the campaign is public and lives alongside the new strategic plan, Illuminate. The plan, ushered in by university president Dr. Linda Livingstone after her first year in office, focuses on five academic areas and leans heavily on Give Light.

Tour guides have a unique opportunity to talk to future students, alumni and donors alike. According to the Woodlands, Texas junior Maris Ybarra, Baylor tour guide, the best way to reach more donors is to have successful athletics.

"I think one of the best recruiting tools

for prospective students is a successful sports season," Ybarra said. "[Donors] get excited about the advancing athletics programs as a whole and like to know that their donations are going towards things that will continue to attract more students."

According to statistics from the Baylor website, the funding for the project has reached \$783.1 million out of a goal of \$1.1 billion, including funding for 463 endowed scholarships and 23 faculty positions from a total of 63,126 individual donors. The project also includes funding for the renovation of Tidwell Bible Building and the construction of the Baylor Basketball Pavilion, as well as the Mark & Paula Hurd Welcome Center.

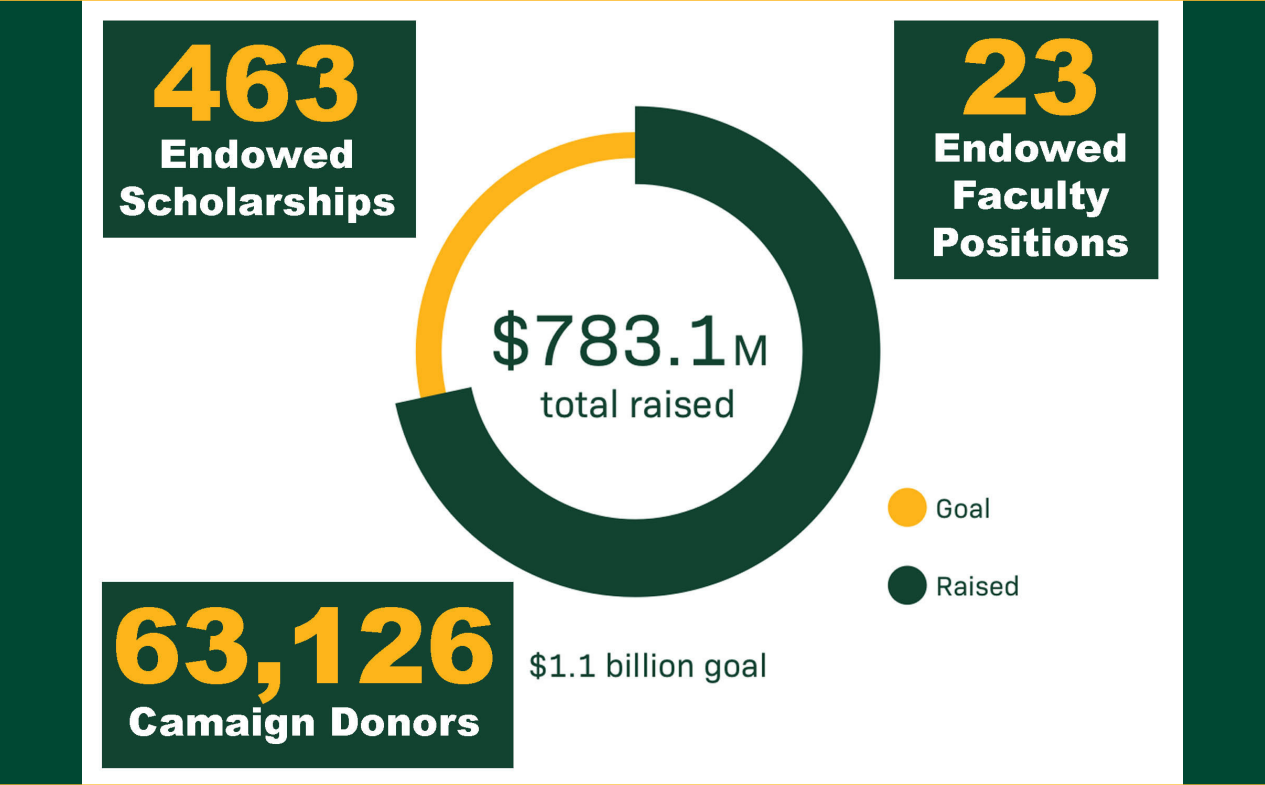
The Give Light program came around at just the right time for the athletic department. The Ferrell Center is oversized for the crowds normally drawn by the two basketball squads, and the lack of locker room space leaves visiting volleyball teams without a proper place to

stay. Baylor associate athletic director for capital projects and championships Henry Howard said they are now in the planning phase for the new building.

"[The regents] have approved a little over \$8 million to start working on the design," Howard said. "We'll make sure that the athletic director, the coaching staffs, the equipment staffs, all provide input to make sure that the new pavilion has all the features that are needed."

The success of the sports squads helps encourage alumni to remember the "good old days" and donate to help athletics stay at their level of production. Ybarra said that alumni are often nostalgic when they walk through McLane Stadium or pass the Ferrell Center, and having the No. 1 men's basketball team certainly doesn't hurt.

"Having our football team succeeding like they did last season and both of our basketball teams so highly ranked this year is really exciting to our fans and donors alike," Ybarra said.



Weekend Schedule

Saturday:

WBB vs Texas Tech
Big 12 matchup
2 p.m.
@ the Ferrell Center

Men's Tennis vs Gonzaga
ITA Kick-Off Weekend
3 p.m.
@ the Hawkins Indoor Tennis Center

MBB @ Florida
SEC/Big 12 Challenge
in Gainesville, Fla.
7 p.m. on ESPN

Sunday:

Men's Tennis
ITA Kick-Off Weekend

Consolation Match
11 a.m.
@ the Hawkins Indoor Tennis Center

Championship Match
3 p.m.
@ the Hawkins Indoor Tennis Center

SPORTS TAKE

Sporterberg on MBB: Blue bloods blackout

MATTHEW SODERBERG
Sports Writer

Sporterberg is back! Maybe this will be better than ever! College basketball is in full swing, and with Baylor ranked No. 1, it's time to look where the other teams are across the nation.



The Big 12

What a week for the second best 10-team conference in the country! Baylor is ranked No. 1, Kansas is No. 3 and Kansas player Silvio De Sousa almost hit a Kansas State player over the head with a stool.

At the end of the game between the two bitter rivals in Lawrence, Kans., with five seconds left on the clock, a Wildcat stole the ball as the Jayhawks attempted to run out the clock at the end of a 20-point win. The Wildcat rushed down the court to attempt a layup, but De Sousa emphatically blocked the shot as it went up.

De Sousa then stood over the Kansas State player as the crowd roared, and the situation escalated quickly. A brawl ensued and concluded with a Kansas assistant ripping a sideline stool out of De Sousa's hands before he could take a swing.

The Kansas player is now suspended indefinitely by the Jayhawks, pending suspensions handed down by the Big 12 and the NCAA. That punishment should be considered lenient compared with Seth Greenberg's suggestion of criminal charges for De Sousa during the postgame show.

But other than that minor spat, the conference is doing incredibly well.

The Big 10

Another "what a conference" feeling with this one. Michigan State, Michigan and Ohio State are a tire fire of unexpected outcomes.

Michigan State was the preseason No. 1. They lost on the first night, then went on a run, then lost to Virginia Tech and No. 8 Duke at home within four games, then won eight straight, then lost by 29 at Purdue. The Spartans have slipped to No. 7 in KenPom, but they still field one of the best offenses in the country and the preseason favorite for National Player of the Year, Cassius Winston.

The other two powerhouses have had opposite seasons from the Green and White. Ohio State debuted at No. 1 in the NCAA's NET rankings in December, but have since slipped to No. 18 after starting conference play 2-5. The Buckeyes do have quality wins over No. 9 Villanova and No. 15 Kentucky, so that will continue to buoy them in the national discussion, but they will need to pick up the pace in a Big 10 that is generally considered "fine" this season.

Michigan has had a similar season to their interstate rivals. Big Blue started with seven straight wins, including a neutral-site victory over No. 2 Gonzaga, but have since lost seven of their last 11 games. Three of those losses did come to top-12 teams, yet two of the games on their current three-game losing streak have come to unranked squads. Same deal as Ohio State: if the Wolverines pick it up and beat the teams they should over the next two months, there's no reason they shouldn't be dancing.

The ACC

What is going on with North Carolina? And Virginia? And Duke? The powerhouses of the Atlantic have fallen off a cliff this season, clearing the way for Florida State and Louisville to take hold of the once prestigious conference.

The Tarheels have fielded possibly the worst team in the past 30 years of the program, and without lottery-bound NBA prospect Cole Anthony to prop up the ailing supporting cast, UNC lost their unbeaten streak against Clemson, got routed by Pittsburgh and lost to Virginia Tech in double overtime in the past two weeks.

Virginia is a massively interesting case. According to KenPom, the Cavaliers rank second in defense, which is pretty on-brand for the ACC power. However, they rank 253rd in offensive efficiency, right behind Alcorn State. Virginia is also the slowest team in the country, averaging 1.8 fewer possessions than the next slowest team. They are also 12-6, falling rapidly behind the newcomers to the top of the conference.

At the top, Florida State, Louisville and Duke fight for the reigns and a possible No. 1 seed. Duke has some embarrassing losses, including at Clemson and at home to Stephen F. Austin, while the Seminoles and Cardinals have been rocketing up the standings throughout the season.

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