

Baylor Lariat

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Tuesday, January 28, 2020

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Bear squad 1st in Big 12



Brooke Giacin | Multimedia Journalist

HAZY HORSE San Antonio junior Ashley Ricciardell, a member of the Trail Riding Club, rides thunder around campus Monday morning.

Baylor Riding brings club to Fountain Mall

CAMILLE RASOR
Reporter

The Baylor Riding Association brought two of their horses, Dapp and Thunder, to campus on Monday to give students an opportunity to meet the animals and learn more about the organization. The group, a non-competitive horse riding club founded in 1949, comes to campus with their horses once a semester as a way to spread the word about their club and let the Baylor community know

about what is going on in their organization. “We just like to bring them out and have people pet them, get to know us a little bit, and it's really good for bringing new members every semester,” Danielle Sanchez, the president of the riding association, said. The horses are boarded at C-Bar Ranch in Valley Mills, where the association's members ride them on trails around five times per week on a 1,600-acre plot of land. Unlike the equestrian team, the riding association does not

compete in any events. It exists purely as a recreational outlet for those interested in riding and horse care. Ashley Ricciardell, the fundraising chair for the organization, said she had no previous experience riding horses but learned through the riding club. “What makes this club a lot different from the equestrian team is you don't have to have any experience before joining,” Ricciardell said.

RIDING >> Page 4

A&M and Baylor's possible cases of coronavirus cleared

VIVIAN ROACH
Staff Writer

The suspected coronavirus cases in Brazos County and Waco-McLennan County have been reported negative by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Both cases, involving a student at Baylor and a student at Texas A&M, alerted doctors of their symptoms more out of concern for their recent travel to endemic areas where the disease has spread, than for the seriousness of the symptoms. Waco-McLennan County Public Health District official Kelly Craine said the patient at Baylor had mild symptoms of the flu-like virus, and was put in self-isolation as a precaution while awaiting the results of the tests taken last week. Craine said the situation is rapidly evolving. “We are monitoring the situation closely still and following CDC guidelines as they come out,” Craine said. “We are happy we don't have a positive, but continue to be vigilant,” Craine said. “We are maintaining close contact with health care providers, hospitals, urgent

cares and private physicians. Letting them know what they should be looking for when patients come into their office, making sure they're evaluated and whether or not they should be tested and their information sent to the CDC.” Dr. Sharon Stern, medical director at Baylor University Health Services, said the Baylor Health Center will continue to monitor those who traveled and patient travel history. It is believed that after 14 days have passed since an individual's travel date, they are no longer at risk of catching the virus, according to the CDC. Baylor students should now be outside of the 14-day window with the spring semester going on its third week. The coronavirus has begun to infect different parts of the U.S. with cases present in California, Arizona, Washington and Chicago. “There's a smattering of isolated cases in different states, but no transmission while people are in the United States. As we learn more, I think we will have fewer fears,” Stern said. “There is still so much unknown about this virus and that is what makes it so scary.”

“We are happy we don't have a positive, but continue to be vigilant.”

KELLY CRAINE | WACO-MCLENNAN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT OFFICIAL

President Livingstone to be inducted into OSU Hall of Fame

MEREDITH PRATT
Staff Writer

Before serving in her current position as president of Baylor University, Dr. Linda Livingstone spent several memorable years as a student athlete at Oklahoma State University. On Feb. 7, Livingstone will be inducted into the OSU Hall of Fame along with three other alumni. Hosted by the OSU Alumni Association, this induction ceremony recognizes alumni for their significant professional successes and societal contributions. Livingstone was also recognized in 2013 when she was inducted into OSU's Spears School of Business Hall of Fame. Graduating from the school of business in 1982 with a bachelor's degree in economics and management, she went on to complete a master's degree in business administration in 1983, and later, a doctorate in Management and Organizational Behavior in 1992. Despite OSU and Baylor being competitors in the Big 12 Conference, Livingstone said that she has maintained a “great relationship” with her alma mater. “They've been unbelievably

Watch our LTVN coverage of Igor Stepczynski, as he interviews Dr. Linda Livingstone!



supportive of me,” Livingstone said. An Oklahoma native, she said she has always been a “cowboy through and through.” Livingstone said she remembers growing up attending OSU basketball games with her dad, Doyle Parrack, an alumni basketball player from their 1945 championship team. “I applied to one place for college,” Livingstone said. “I never even thought about going anywhere else.” Following in his footsteps, Livingstone played basketball for the OSU women's team and still holds the record for the highest field goal percentage by an Oklahoma State freshman. “It was special being a part of that common legacy,” Livingstone said.

She said that the relationships she built on the court were the most important takeaway from her athletic career. Another relationship that began on the OSU courts was with her husband Brad Livingstone, a member of the men's basketball team. The two met freshman year during basketball practice. Livingstone said she recalls playing the shooting game H-O-R-S-E with him between practices. “I beat him every single time,” Livingstone said. Livingstone said that she and Brad got closer as they regularly attended Fellowship of Christian Athlete meetings. The fast friends married shortly after graduation. In a Baylor Magazine article, Brad Livingstone said that he feels he truly married his best friend. He explained the flexibility that came with his career of teaching allowed the couple to move wherever President Livingstone was needed. “I know I'm biased, but Linda is the smartest, wisest, most humble, most godly person that I've ever known,” Brad Livingstone said. These qualities, along with her accomplishments in athletics, business and administration are all part of the legacy President Livingstone has created for herself — one that spans several states and campuses.



Photo courtesy of The Heart of Texas Homeless Coalition

HAIRCUT HOSPITALITY The Heart of Texas Homeless Coalition will provide many different services to benefit the homeless community of Waco.

Homeless Connect to provide services for Waco community

LUCY RUSCITTO
Staff Writer

The Heart of Texas Homeless Coalition will host the biannual “Project Homeless Connect,” from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday at the First Baptist Church of Waco. Project Homeless Connect is a community resource for the homeless in Waco and McLennan County, and provides services they may need. The Heart of Texas Homeless Coalition said that at this event, stations will be set up with services for vision and dental screenings, HIV testing and haircuts. Additionally, hygiene items and housing information will be available. The local animal hospital will attend the event to provide vaccinations and to spay or neuter pets if needed. Stacey Steger is a Board Member

of both the Heart of Texas Homeless Coalition and the Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness Program Supervisor for the Mental Health Mental Retardation Center. “We go out in the community, under the bridges, in the shelters, at the park, and try to encounter individuals experiencing homelessness,” Steger said. “They may need mental health care, substance abuse treatment, an ID, access to employment services, disability claims...We really just try to get the resources they need to live a healthy and whole life.” Steger said she believes a goal of Project Homeless Connect is to create a “one-stop shop” while working with other community organizations to create local unity.

HOMELESSNESS >> Page 4

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

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

EDITORIAL

React rationally to alarming news

In a time when news travels fast and technology travels even faster, it often seems like life can change in an instant. It takes just one post for information to go viral within minutes. Events happening thousands of miles away from you can feel very salient and personal.

Headlines such as the suspected case of coronavirus on Baylor's campus, for example, may have hit you hard and left you feeling uneasy. A push notification shifts your perception of reality instantaneously.

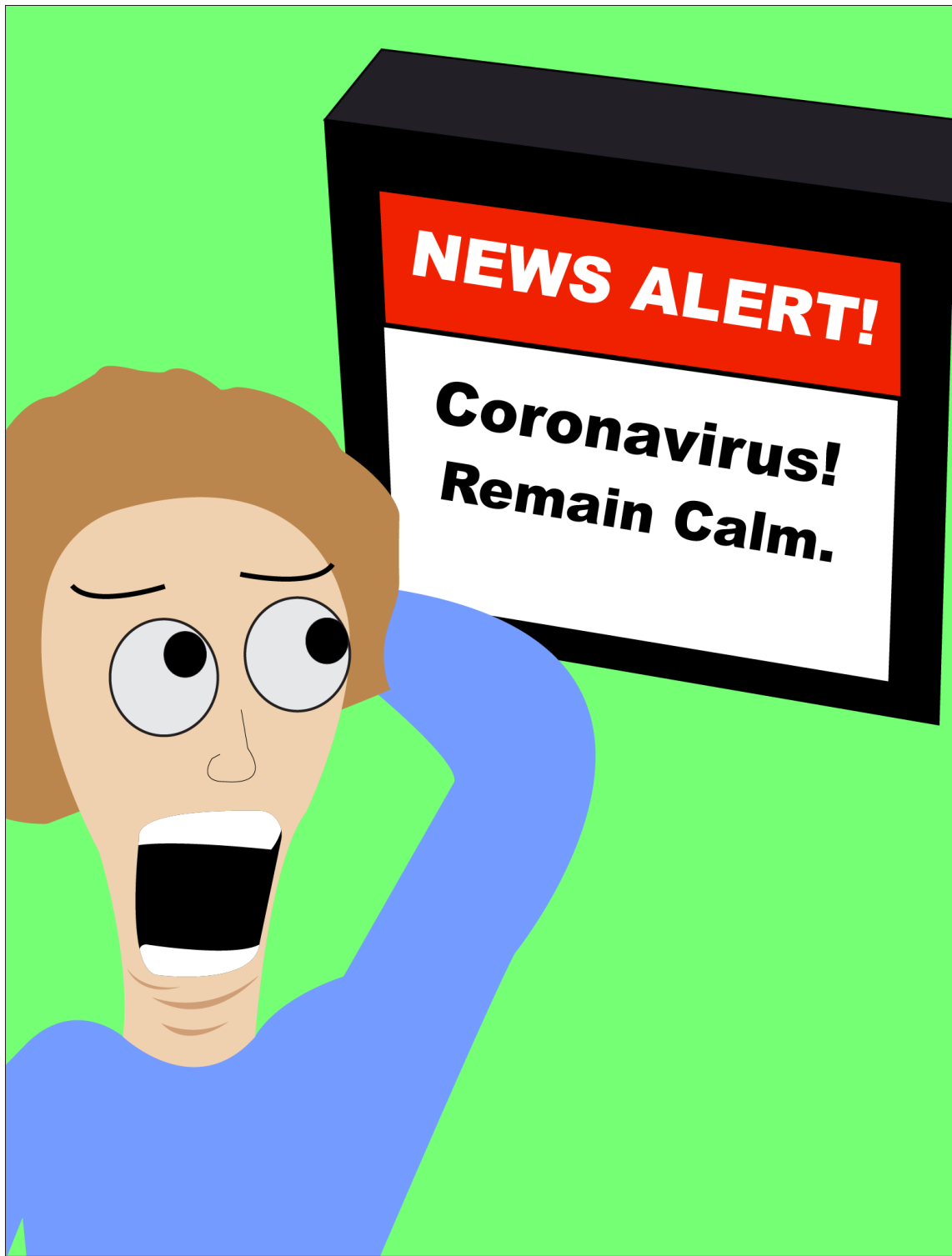
This sudden shift can easily lead to panic and mental chaos. When something scary or dangerous happens to one person, we begin to subconsciously picture ourselves and how we would react if put in a similar horrible circumstance. In a way, it can feel like one terrible event is collectively happening to all of us when we hear about it.

Hearing about phenomena like coronavirus can feel incredibly scary at first due to its seemingly rapid spread. Instead of resorting to panicking or jumping to conclusions, we should assess situations as they come and become informed on a topic before we let it take over our thoughts.

For days, it was unknown whether the Baylor student who had recently traveled to China had actually contracted coronavirus. Despite the panic that resulted from the initial news of a potential coronavirus case on the Baylor campus, the case was reported negative on Monday. News should be taken seriously but assessed and considered in a rational matter. In this specific situation, for example, there ended up being no urgent threat.

Although coronavirus is dangerous and contagious, almost all affected cases are in China or through people who have recently traveled to the region.

The Guardian reported that the mortality rate of coronavirus is 3%, a little more than 2% above the rate for influenza. Additionally, the rate is probably below 3% as there are likely cases that have gone unreported.



Hannah Holliday | Cartoonist

Although many have been affected by the virus, a large majority are not dying because of it. Most of those

that have sadly died from coronavirus had weak immune systems or were in poor health prior to contracting it.

Coronavirus has not been declared a public health emergency yet, and the only thing making it

more concerning than some other illnesses is the fact that it is a newly discovered track of coronavirus, and no cure has been discovered.

Although coronavirus is a real threat many are facing, before mental panic ensues, realize that there is no reasonable cause for you to be concerned if you are living in the United States and are relatively in good health.

With easily sensationalized news, such as a suspected case of a foreign disease, headlines can easily be taken at face value. Instead of reacting from a short headline or news report tweet, do more reading to gauge your response.

Reading more about coronavirus reveals the limits of the virus and unlikelihood of contracting it. Initial panic can be quelled by the details of the case.

Another way to react to the news would be to simply stay healthy. Getting sleep and exercise, eating a well-balanced diet, and living a life with minimal stress and worry can only lead to our benefit. Taking steps like washing hands, avoiding touching areas like our eyes and mouths and showering regularly is also important in our staying healthy moving forward.

Although hearing about troubling events in the news can lead to quick panic and assumptions, it's important to learn the facts and use the event to become educated regardless of the situation. It can be tough, but sometimes learning to trust the health professionals in charge and stay informed is our best course of action.

The immediacy of news through the Internet and social media is helpful for getting instant updates on what's going on in the world. Instead of panicking at the first sign of breaking news, take the time to get a grasp of the full situation. Allow time for more detailed news analysis and updates to come.

Care for your community, but don't rush to entangle your own sense of safety and stability into everything you see on the news.

COLUMN

Don't let coronavirus memes fuel xenophobia

CARSON LEWIS
Page One Editor

The outbreak of coronavirus has people frightened, reasonably or not. Despite the fact that the virus is likely only to kill those who are already frail, such as the elderly or the sick, many Americans are reaching levels of fear resembling the terror seen during the past decade's Ebola outbreak.

This fear has been amplified by the confirmation of several cases in the United States. Some have taken this concern and used it for lighthearted means: creating memes and jokes about the spreading virus.

Some of these memes have taken a more "racial" focus, showing people avoiding Chinese people in a reference to the disease's origin in Wuhan province, China. Some of these posts

have popped up on Baylor-specific meme accounts, giving a local twist on a phenomenon happening across the states.

However harmless these jokes may seem, they have the potential to be used in a discriminatory or racist manner. This concern has a historical basis, as the West Africa Ebola virus' spread led to discriminatory actions in the United States against those who visited or originated from Africa.

Dr. Allison Aiello, professor and social epidemiology program leader in the department of epidemiology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, wrote a blog post titled "Ebola as an instrument of discrimination."

"Indeed, children of Senegalese descent in New York City were recently beaten and called 'Ebola' by their peers, yet school authorities refused to call the incident more than a schoolyard fight. A teacher in Kentucky was recently forced to resign after frightened parents claimed she could transmit Ebola to their children after a mission trip to Kenya, a country that has reported no Ebola cases and is

“However harmless these jokes may seem, they have the potential to be used in a discriminatory or racist manner.”

CARSON LEWIS |
PAGE ONE EDITOR

thousands of miles away from West Africa.”

Physical assault is not on the same level as what is being propagated today, but the basis is there. The jokes may ingrain a discriminatory attitude toward people of Asian descent — whether they be international students whose families still reside within China, or students from the States who may have never set foot on a continent outside of North America.

I worry specifically for the international student population who may already be in many ways separated from the Baylor community, by language barrier or cultural roadblocks. They may begin to face harassment, in varying forms of intensity, if the media fear over coronavirus heightens.

The best thing for now, in my opinion, is to be aware of how such humor may affect those around us at Baylor, and think carefully about how such content may be used maliciously, or in a way that may intensify racial tensions.

Carson is a sophomore journalism news-editorial major from Phoenix.

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Bear Pit unites Baylor students, fans

TYLER BUI
Assistant News Editor

Baylor’s Bear Pit, the student section for both men and women’s basketball games, is a place for students to show their support with costumes, face paint and spirit. Headed by the Bear Pit Leadership Team, the Bear Pit leads basketball fans in chants, cheers and is in charge of creating the overall atmosphere and experience for fans at basketball games. Santa Maria, Calif., sophomore Lauren Engel, social media chair for the Bear Pit Leadership Team, said the Bear Pit is a great way to unite the student body through the love of basketball. “I think it’s a really great way for students to be a part of something — to come and cheer at the basketball games and not just sit in random seats. [For them] to be part of the Bear Pit, it’s just a big group of students who have the same want for the team to win,” Engel said. Engel said the Bear Pit brings a sense of student leadership to campus that unites Baylor through spirit and tradition. “We deliver a good atmosphere where students can show their Baylor spirit in a good, healthy way,” Engel said. “Baylor is such a spirited school in general, and I feel like that’s why a lot of people choose to come to Baylor, because you are part of something bigger. I think it’s important to have different organizations on campus that can carry out that sense of Baylor tradition.” Currently, there are 18 members on the Bear Pit Leadership Team. San Angelo senior Cheyenne Elliott is the team’s president. Looking back on the Bear Pit’s history, Elliott said that the organization has grown significantly in past years. “About ten years ago, it used to be that you bought a \$50 jersey and that made you a part of the Bear Pit,” Elliott said. “You got snacks, you got courtside seats, but it was only for men’s games. It was about six years ago that we transitioned to both men’s and women’s games. We are there for both of the games, we travel sometimes to games like UT and TCU, the closer ones that are our bigger rivals. Today, the leadership team works to expand their outreach to students and find



Brooke Giacin | Multimedia Journalist

ATHLETIC TRADITION Baylor students gather in the Ferrell Center in preparation of an evening of cheering on the Bears. new ways to connect the Baylor community together even outside of basketball games. “Outside of game day, we do a lot of event planning. We’re a part of homecoming,” Elliott said. “We’re trying to set up for the future and expand the Bear Pit. We have gotten a lot of feedback from faculty members saying, ‘Hey, we want you guys to be more integrated into student life.’ We would love to hear from students about what they want to see at basketball games or what they expect to see from us on social media or on campus.”

Frisco junior Mark Liles is the marketing coordinator for the Bear Pit Leadership Team. When asked about his experience with the organization, Liles said he has looked up to the Bear Pit since he was a kid and couldn’t wait to join once he was at Baylor. “My dad went to Baylor and I grew up in North Dallas, so I’ve been going to Baylor games my whole life,” Liles said. “I remember going to games at age 5 or 6 and I remember seeing the students wearing the black and yellow shirts, cool hats and sitting in the front row in these costumes and I remember being like, ‘This is awesome.’ Being a huge basketball fan growing up and knowing I have always wanted to come to Baylor, I thought what better way to transition from me being a fan to getting to do what I idolized.” Westport, Conn., junior Griffin Drum, game day chair and vice president of the Bear Pit Leadership Team, said that the Bear Pit and the Bear Pit Leadership Team not only represents students but Baylor fans as a whole. “I can’t really imagine the games without the Bear Pit because I think it would be less fun for students to go to games,” Drum said. “We have people who reach out to us on social media who aren’t students and talk about the stuff we do and recommend chants for us to do. If the Bear Pit wasn’t there and we weren’t leading the chants and setting up the student section, it would be harder for the fans even outside of the students to get into [the games.]” Elliott said Baylor’s sense of community is unique, and the Bear Pit helps to unite the community through the shared love of Baylor sports. “There’s a sense of tradition and spirit that someone has to maintain to make people get chills during that Good Old Baylor Line and it’s going to happen some point in your Baylor career,” Elliott said. “Even Kim Mulkey will say stuff about how the Bear Pit brings to life all the energy that the adults really want to put forward. When we say the Bear Pit is for everyone and 2,000 students show up to support the basketball team, it’s not just for the sake of sports—it’s because we are Baylor. There’s something different about our community.”

Allen Hall hosts Chinese New Year feast

SARAH PINKERTON
Staff Writer

To celebrate the Year of the Rat, residents of Allen Hall gathered together on Sunday evening for a Chinese New Year Feast. Hunan, China, freshman Yuncheng Yao was provided with a budget for food and prepared a meal consisting of tofu, eggs and peppers for other residents. Yao said it took him around four hours to cook the meal. Allen Hall residents gathered in the lobby, decorated the room with red and yellow streamers and ate the meal together. Chinese New Year has always been a holiday Yao celebrates alongside his family. He said his favorite part has always been “receiving the red package from your parents,” which is typically filled with money. Parker, Colo., freshman Trenton Meier said some of his friends had traveled to Dallas to celebrate Chinese New Year. “It would be cool to experience something like they did, and my suitemate is Chinese, so maybe I’d learn a little bit more about his culture,” Meier said. Tomball freshman Black Brockway said one of his favorite parts about Allen Hall is the overall unity. “It’s really nice to meet all those unique

people,” Brockway said. “That’s really what I love about this place. It’s so unique and so tight-knit.” While Allen residents Brockway and Meier did not grow up in Chinese culture, they both saw the event as an opportunity to learn more about it and what it means to other students. Allen Hall, the all-boys leadership Living and Learning Center, often holds events for residents to connect with each other. This event provided opportunity for community and relationship building between United States born residents and international residents. Amid the Chinese music playing, colorful decorations strewn throughout the room and loud conversation, residents were able to learn more about Chinese culture and Chinese New Year. Attendees were able to experience the tradition alongside students that celebrate it each year. Yao said he did not know what to expect from the evening but that he was excited about the event. “My whole life, we haven’t really celebrated it a whole lot, but I really examined it through a lot of Chinese exchange students I’ve seen here at Baylor and back where I’m from in Tomball,” Brockway said. “I’ve seen what it’s meant to them and it’s very impactful and I understand that it has a very big impact on some people.”



Brooke Giacin | Multimedia Journalist

CULTURAL CELEBRATION Allen Hall residents work together to put up decorations for their Chinese New Year Feast.

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Associated Press
A TENSE RACE Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., speaks at a campaign rally Sunday, in Sioux City Iowa.

Volatility defines Democratic race as candidates flood Iowa

BILL BARROW
Associated Press

Democratic presidential candidates roared back into Iowa on Saturday touting fresh endorsements, critiquing their rivals and predicting victories in the caucuses that will soon launch the process of deciding who will challenge President Donald Trump.

Sen. Elizabeth Warren said she was “delighted” to pick up a coveted endorsement from The Des Moines Register. The state’s largest newspaper called the Massachusetts Democrat “the best leader for these times” and said she “is not the radical some perceive her to be.” But Warren’s progressive rival, Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont, predicted victory in Iowa and campaigned alongside Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., one of the most prominent leaders on the left.

Joe Biden, meanwhile, appeared for the first time alongside Rep. Cindy Axne, D-Iowa, who is the latest in a growing list of local politicians backing the former vice president’s candidacy. And Pete Buttigieg, the former mayor of South Bend, Indiana, sought to position himself a Washington outsider above the partisan fray.

But as the candidates set out to make their best case to voters, the volatility of the race was evident. Several candidates began their day in Washington,

sitting as jurors in Trump’s impeachment trial. They will have to return to Capitol Hill early next week as the trial continues, sidelining them from campaigning during a critical period.

More fundamentally, there’s no clear front-runner despite the fact that many candidates have now spent more than a year courting Iowans. A New York Times/Siena College poll released Saturday showed Sanders with a slight — but not commanding — edge in Iowa. But several polls show Biden, Buttigieg and Warren remain among the front-runners.

“There’s still plenty of time for movement,” said Kurt Meyer, chairman of the Tri-County Democrats in northern Iowa. “Every part of the ground game counts.”

Still, Sanders returned to Iowa exuding a sense of confidence. Hundreds of supporters filled the municipal auditorium in Ames and additional voters crowded an overflow room. Earlier in the night, he told voters in Marshalltown that he had an “excellent chance to win here in Iowa” and argued that his is the only campaign that can weave broad support from voters.

“I believe that our campaign, our energy, our grassroots movement, our agenda is the approach that will speak to working people who, in many cases, have given up on politics,” he said. “I think we will resonate with them. I think we have in the past, I think

we will in the future.”

Polls suggest Biden also has a substantial appeal among Democratic voters, especially African Americans. While he has been critical of Sanders in the past, he kept his focus instead on the threat of four more years of Trump in the White House.

“I don’t believe we are the dark, angry nation that Donald Trump tweets about at night,” he told a large crowd in Ankeny. “We are so much better than Donald Trump.”

Biden scored the endorsement of the Sioux City Journal, which called him “the candidate best positioned to give Americans a competitive head-to-head matchup with President Trump” and said he would be best at attracting support from “independents and disgruntled Republicans.”

Compared to Biden, Buttigieg was more dire in his reaction to the prospect of Sanders gaining strength in the Democratic contest. Hours after The New York Times/Siena College poll was released, his campaign sent an email to supporters with the subject line: “Bernie Sanders could be the nominee.”

“We need a nominee who can galvanize our country,” the email said. “The Trump presidency will end one way or another, and when it does we need a president who can rally this country around a vision for the next generation. We know that candidate is Pete.”

Supreme Court allows green card rule to be enforced

MARK SHERMAN
Associated Press

A divided Supreme Court on Monday allowed the Trump administration to put in place new rules that could jeopardize permanent resident status for immigrants who use food stamps, Medicaid and housing vouchers.

Under the new policy, immigration officials can deny green cards to legal immigrants over their use of public benefits.

The justices’ order came by a 5-4 vote and reversed a ruling from the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York that had kept in place a nationwide hold on the policy following lawsuits against it.

The court’s four liberal justices, Stephen Breyer, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Elena Kagan and Sonia Sotomayor, voted to prevent the policy from taking effect.

Federal appeals courts in San Francisco and Richmond, Virginia, had previously overturned trial court rulings against the rules. An injunction in Illinois remains in effect but applies only to that state.

The lawsuits will continue, but immigrants applying for permanent residency must now show they wouldn’t be public charges, or burdens to the country.

The new policy significantly expands what factors would be considered to make that determination, and if it is decided that immigrants could potentially become public charges later, that legal residency could be denied. Under the old rules, people who used non-cash benefits, including food stamps and



Associated Press

RULE The Supreme Court is allowing the Trump administration to enact a policy connecting the use of public benefits with whether immigrants can become permanent residents.

Medicaid, were not considered public charges.

“The public charge rule is the latest attack in the Trump administration’s war on immigrants,” said Stephen Yale-Loehr, an immigration expert at Cornell University’s law school. “It makes it harder for working class people to immigrate to or stay in the United States. This rule is another brick in the invisible wall this administration is building to curb legal immigration.”

Roughly 544,000 people apply for green cards annually. According to the government, 382,000 are in categories that would make them subject to the new review.

Immigrants make up a small portion of those getting public benefits, since many are ineligible to receive them because of their immigration status.

In a separate opinion, Justice Neil Gorsuch urged his colleagues to confront the “real problem” of so-called nationwide injunctions,

orders issued by a single judge that apply everywhere. In this case, even though the administration won rulings in two appellate courts covering 14 states, its policy could not take effect.

“What in this gamesmanship and chaos can we be proud of?” Gorsuch wrote in an opinion joined by Justice Clarence Thomas.

Ken Cuccinelli, the acting deputy secretary of Homeland Security, praised the high court’s order. “It is very clear that the U.S. Supreme Court is fed up with these national injunctions by judges who are trying to impose their policy preferences instead of enforcing the law,” Cuccinelli said.

Susan Welber, a Legal Aid Society lawyer who is among the attorneys for the plaintiffs, said she believes courts ultimately will invalidate the policy. “What’s sad is that the harm that’s done while the rule is in effect can’t be undone,” Welber said.

RIDING from Page 1

The riding association is currently fundraising for two new horses to add to the club. Sanchez said because the trails they ride the horses on are difficult, once a horse gets into their late teen years, they try to phase them out by placing them on other ranches where they can socialize with other horses as pasture mates.

“We’ve had a lot of problems happen with our horses in the past few years,” Sanchez said. “We’ve had two pass away from unforeseen

things and illnesses, and we’ve had to retire quite a few because they were really old and it’s just not fair to them to have them go on the trails.”

Since they opened their GoFundMe page in May, \$2,015 has been donated to help reach their goal of \$5,000. The last donation was made three months ago.

“It’s slow,” Sanchez said. “We had a lot over the summer, but I don’t think we’ve had any donations in a while.”

HOMELESSNESS from Page 1

Thanks to the local organization Keep Waco Loud, a group that gives local artists a chance of exposure, live music will also be performed by artist Stephany A-Chivera at the event.

This event was introduced in 2005 by Veteran Affairs (VA) for McLennan County and was originally called ‘Stand Down.’

“As we started bringing in other community partnerships, it evolved into the project. Not just the VA, but the entire community, including the VA,” Steger said.

Shaun Lee is Chairman for the Texas Homeless Coalition. Lee said that in his role, his main goal is to motivate about 50 other organizations to get involved in the coalition.

Lee said he loves how the event unifies Waco as a whole, when oftentimes the entirety of the community can never be in one place at one time.

“This event is so well-known in the community that everybody comes out for that,” Lee said. “Sometimes the people we work with are pretty difficult to engage in a project like this, so bringing all of the resources together really makes it something that they want to come to.”

Steger said that although the numbers of the

homeless have steadily decreased as the years go by, Waco will always continue to house those in need.


“Our location, being an I-35 corridor between Dallas and Austin, we’re always going to see a lot of individuals coming through town who are in need of services right now just based on our location,” Steger said.

She also said that those affected by homelessness are often discouraged by those they interact with on a daily basis.

“What I’ve heard over and over again is people that say, ‘I feel like a ghost. I feel invisible because people walk right by me’, as opposed to being acknowledged,” Steger said.


Steger and Lee’s said their ultimate takeaway for Project Homeless Connect is for those who experience it, either from the outside or inside, to realize that its purpose is to “restore dignity and hope in the community.”

“Meeting individuals, speaking with them, learning their stories and giving a name to a face [is the best way to help],” Steger said. “I think when we’re able to call somebody by their name, I think that’s the greatest thing we can do to instill dignity and self-worth in a person.”



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YEARBOOK**
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

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

TUESDAY

Gallery Talk: New Year, New Mayborn
| 2 p.m. | Mayborn Museum Complex,
1300 S University Parks Drive | Price
included in admission to the museum,
\$7 to \$9 | Mayborn Museum's Exhibit
Development Manager, Trey Crumpton,
will lead visitors through the museum's
natural history exhibits pointing out the
new items and upcoming changes for
the new decade.

Karaoke Tuesday | 6:30 p.m. - 9:30
p.m. | Buzzard Billy's Swamp Shack,
100 N Interstate 35 Frontage Road |
Free

Jani Parsons (piano) Recital |
7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Roxy Grove Hall,
Waco Hall | Free | Canadian pianist
and teacher Jani Parsons serves as
Lecturer in Piano at Baylor University.
Parsons explores diverse interests in
performance, pedagogy, and theory,
with a particular affinity for new music.

Open Mic Night | 8 p.m. - 9 p.m. |
Backyard Bar Stage & Grill, 511 S. Eighth
St. | Free

WEDNESDAY

Kumilan Ensemble | 7:30 p.m. |
Roxy Grove Hall | Free | The Kumilan
Ensemble is composed of artist faculty
of the Giuseppe Verdi Conservatory of
Music in Milan, Italy, and the University
of Kansas School of Music. Performers
are clarinetist Robert Walzel (Dean of
the KU School of Music), cellist Hannah
Collins (Professor of Cello at KU), and
pianist Massimiliano Baggio (Associate
Dean of the Conservatorio of Milan).

Open Mic Night | 8 p.m. - 10 p.m. |
Common Grounds, 1123 S. Eighth St. |
Free

THURSDAY

Kumilan Ensemble | 7:30 p.m. |
Roxy Grove Hall | Free | The Kumilan
Ensemble is composed of artist faculty
of the Giuseppe Verdi Conservatory of
Music in Milan, Italy and the University
of Kansas School of Music. Performers
are clarinetist Robert Walzel (Dean of
the KU School of Music), cellist Hannah
Collins (Professor of Cello at KU), and
pianist Massimiliano Baggio (Associate
Dean of the Conservatorio of Milan).

Open Mic Night | 8 p.m. - 10 p.m. |
Common Grounds, 1123 S. Eighth St. |
Free



Photo Courtesy of De'Oryen Thornton

I'M GONNA POP SOME TAGS Clasé Thrift and Goods opened on Jan. 11 next door to Harvest on 25th in Waco. The thrift store, located at 108 N. 25th St., provides a selection of vintage and trendy clothes for Wacoans.

Thrift store supports sustainability

ANDIE CHILSON
Reporter

Clasé Thrift and Goods opened in Waco on Jan. 11, and locals and Baylor students alike flocked to the store to check out the selection.

Customers of the new store at 108 N. 25th St., already show their support for the Waco native and owner De'Oryen ('Dee') Thornton.

Thornton said he was looking to bring affordable vintage style with a trendy flair to Waco with the opening of Clasé, but believes second-hand shopping is more than just trendy shopping — it's also helping the environment.

"[Vintage clothing] is saving the world too. It's recycled clothes and it's fashionable," Thornton said.

Stores like Clasé are part of the solution to a major issue currently plaguing the fashion industry: the environmental impact of textile production. The fashion industry is responsible for roughly 10% of global greenhouse gas emissions.

Sustainability has become a hot topic in the fashion industry, and a number of labels like Patagonia, Reformation, and Everlane, just to name a few, have set the standard for sustainable shopping with their production transparency and zero-waste goals. But the best way to cut

down on your closet's carbon footprint? Second-hand shopping.

If sustainable shopping isn't enough to lure the community to Clasé, its bright colors and Instagram-worthy décor will. The walls of the store are lined with shelves of unique finds like VHS tapes and retro magazines, and a floor-length mirror situated in the middle of the racks of clothes makes for a perfect selfie spot.

Hanna Tucker, Waco local and friend of Thornton, agreed.

"Not only are the clothes amazing, but the atmosphere is super welcoming and overall a great aesthetic to take pictures at," Tucker said.

"I've been into vintage for about two years now. I was at a point where I couldn't afford the high-end streetwear fashion ... so after two years of collecting and opening a store that we had just closed in December, I decided to open an all vintage store," Thornton said.

Thornton previously owned a high-end streetwear store in Waco called Way Limited [formerly 'Culture Threads,'] but he wants Clasé to incorporate more vintage pieces and offer them at a more affordable price than Way Limited.

Clasé's bright colors and retro theme carries outside of the store, with a neon graffitied mural of a television and cacti on the outside of the building — Thornton

has carefully curated the selection of pieces at Clasé himself. The pieces reflect Thornton's individual style while still appealing to the masses and staying on-trend.

Thornton hopes to offer clothes that are both trendy and vintage with Clasé's wide selection, and has found inspiration in Hollywood style icons like Shia LaBeouf and Kanye West.

"I just thrift everywhere I go, I go state to state, city to city and just try to find anything that I think is fashionable or that I think somebody else would love," Thornton said.

Staying true to his mission of affordable vintage fashion hasn't gone unnoticed by the Waco community.

"People love it," Thornoton said. "I'm getting a lot of locals and Baylor students."

Thornton hopes to offer even more affordable vintage fashion in the coming weeks with the debut of 'Clasé merchandise' that will offer shirts for \$20 to \$30 and sweatshirts for \$40 to \$60.

Between the wide selection of vintage finds and its Instagram-worthy setup, Clasé offers a unique shopping experience to and locals Baylor students alike.

You can follow Clasé on Instagram @clasethriftsandgoods and on Facebook.

Thrifting saves, sustains environment

CLAIRE VAN ZEE
Reporter

With the topic of climate change being at the forefront of today's concerns, it's no surprise that people are beginning to take a step back to rethink the way they consume.

One of these ways being how they participate in the fashion industry, which is often criticized for its incredibly large carbon footprint.

While there are many sectors in the field of fashion, there is one sector that remains considerably wholesome in terms of its effect on the environment: thrift and vintage shopping.

Thrift or vintage shopping actually falls under the category of sustainable fashion. The term, while not new, continues to be something that is hard to define, even by those who know it best, such as Baylor's own apparel studies professor, Andie Day.

Day, who owns her own apparel company Mary Claret, explains it's difficult to understand because everyone has a different idea of what sustainability means, especially those working in the fashion industry.

"Sustainability is dependent on the individual's idea of what matters when it comes to the ethics of a business," Day said. Does the use of animals matter to them? Are they concerned about fossil fuel usage, in terms of how materials are transported?

"We tend to think of a sustainable business as a business that can last and have longevity but tied to ethics, that there is a sort of 'do-no-harm' approach to

producing fashion," Day said.

But when a company says they produce "sustainable fashion," they are not being totally transparent. There is no one way to produce new products that are 100% sustainable.

Ultimately, companies are always producing and consuming, meaning they are always using valuable resources. To make a business, the process is partially not sustainable, but it's also important to note that they are producing something that people need, Day said.

"There are a million different ways that one can look at sustainability, and different businesses are approaching it different ways in order to produce products that they believe are in some way sustainable," Day said.

Jordan Wilkins, a sophomore apparel design student from McAllen, created a product that just happens to be both sustainable and functional, with her design of a sweatshirt with an interchangeable hood and sleeves.

Because of the way the sweatshirt is made, it has a higher number of wears than the average hoodie.

"I think sustainability is also about how well a garment is made, because if you can't wear it more than maybe 10 to 15 times, then how useful is that garment to you?" Wilkins said.

Oftentimes, by the time someone is done with a piece of clothing, the item itself still has a number of wearable years left. The unique quality of vintage and thrift shopping is that together, they just happen to be one of the purest sectors of the fashion industry. Instead of throwing

an item away and it living out the rest of its years in a landfill, people donate or sell the clothing to a retailer.

While vintage and thrift shopping are similar in their environmental benefits, there is a particular difference between them.

"Every year that goes by, vintage goes up in its date. For example, whereas at one point we would have considered clothing from the '40s, '50s and '60s to be vintage, we are now considering the '80s to be vintage," Day said.

Vintage shopping is associated with a particular time period, whereas thrifting would just be the reselling of used products.

"What's interesting with the vintage, thrifting or used clothing movement is that it has been really hard to make a vintage business big enough that it's not just a single store or website," Day said.

Companies such as The Real Real and Reformation are the exception, and are hopefully on their way to setting the rule. The Real Real is a luxury consignment company that has ambassadors around the world consigning products to sell online.

According to its website, "Consignment softens luxury's impact on the environment, and we can prove it."

In effort to solidify its standing as an environmentally concerned company, it developed a first-of-its kind sustainability calculator to quantify its positive environmental impact. Their results conclude that since the company's

REVIEW

Sabrina the teenage witch rules over hell

DARBY GOOD
News Editor

Season three of Netflix’s original show “Chilling Adventures of Sabrina” premiered on Jan. 24 and proved that the show only gets better. A fourth season was confirmed back in 2018, and season three’s ending leaves room for the show to continue to grow.

After season two I wasn’t sure what else the show’s writers could come up with to continue the theme of high stakes and inventive solutions without getting old. Two episodes into the newest season I had already been proven wrong.

The show’s creators have done a fantastic job on expanding the world Sabrina lives in and creating room for the ceiling to only get higher. This show has no limits and yet it still gets bigger.

“This show has no limits and yet it still gets bigger.”

DARBY GOOD | NEWS EDITOR

This season offers viewers a closer look into hell. In the last two seasons, hell is somewhere the characters talk about and is essential to the witch’s coven. Until this point, hell is all talk and season three instantly jumps off the deep end into the fiery pit.

With each season, Sabrina is battling the same question but is staring into different evils: “Do I choose power or Greendale?” The evils she faces this season are fascinating to watch,



Photo Courtesy of IMDb

A WICKED GOOD TIME Netflix’s original series “Chilling Adventures of Sabrina” released part three on Jan. 24. The fourth season of the supernatural drama series was also confirmed in 2018.

and they force Sabrina to realize those darker power-driven parts of her personality.

One of my favorite things in the show is that the protagonist is flawed. While she cares about her family, friends and coven, Sabrina is also on a search for power. Sometimes she puts this search for power above everything and creates some of her own problems.

During Sabrina’s chase for power, her family attempts to put the Church of Night back together. Following the events of season two, the coven’s numbers have seriously dwindled, and Zelda is determined to replenish her coven’s former strength.

The Fright Club at Baxter High is a more central point to the story in season three. While in previous seasons Sabrina’s mortal friends tended to fall into the background, this season did a great job of keeping them close to all the action throughout all eight episodes. When different threats come to Greendale, and when approaching hell, Sabrina is able to rely on her friends from Baxter High.

Each season has a different set of episode types. While other shows have classic Christmas or Thanksgiving episodes, “Chilling Adventures of Sabrina” always has at least one episode about a random witch holiday that is cinematically gorgeous to watch.

Last year it was the witch equivalent to Valentine’s Day: Lupercalia, and this year it was the equivalent to Easter: The Hare Moon. Both with their own dark twists.

This season, similar to Part 1, ties in classic horror movies to this modern version of “Sabrina the Teenage Witch.” For example, the series incorporates almost exact quotes from Steven King’s “Pet Semetary” and references to classic horror films.

By the end of the season my mind was honestly blown. I’m still trying to comprehend what I watched, but what I do know is that I can’t wait to see what happens next.

SUSTAINABILITY from Page 9

inception, the company has saved 553 million liters of water and offset 12,200 metric tons of carbon. Their custom calculator also measures the greenhouse gasses, energy output and water usage offset by the consignment process.

In 2015 alone, the fashion industry

consumed 79 billion cubic meters of water, enough to fill nearly 32 million Olympic-size swimming pools, according to a 2017 report by the Global Fashion Agenda and The Boston Consulting Group.

By 2030, the statistic is expected to increase

by 50%. While not every student can afford to shop for consigned luxury items, there are different ways in which students can be more environmentally conscious while shopping.

Day recommends students simply become more knowledgeable and interested in the

companies they do choose to shop from.

“In this way, when people want to learn more about the companies, the more important transparency becomes in the way companies share their sustainable practices and ethics,” Day said.

ACROSS

1 Schnozz

5 NBC weekend show

8 “Toodle-oo!”

12 Mideast gulf

13 Green prefix

14 Utah city

15 Peruse

16 Tragedy

18 Flockhart of “Ally McBeal”

20 Walks in water

21 Refusals

22 Soup cooker

23 Banners

26 Heat unit

30 Animation frame

31 Opposing vote

32 Altar affirmative

33 Actor Rory

36 Shiny lip application

38 Actor McKellen

39 Avril follower

40 Pesky crawler

43 Folded food on a pizzeria menu

47 Math course

49 Eager

50 Aleutian island

51 Olympic skater

52 Nevada city

53 Boutique

54 Sawbuck

55 Apothecary measure

DOWN

1 DEA agent

2 Classic theaters

3 Barking critter

4 Conclusion

5 Factions

6 March Madness gp.

7 Texter’s chuckle

8 Heckler’s weapon

9 Bone-dry

10 Head, to Henri

11 Adams and Poehler

17 MP’s quarry

19 “Mayday!”

22 Salary

23 TV watchdog org.

24 Meadow

25 The whole enchilada

26 Beer container

27 2016 Olympics city

28 Check-cashing needs

29 Dawn goddess

31 Convent head

34 Minor setback

35 Pearl Harbor site

36 Cowboy’s sweetie

37 Iguana, for one

39 Brick worker

40 Some HDTVs

41 Swear word

42 Choir voice

43 Just adorable

44 Done with

45 1492 vessel

46 Ancient Dead Sea land

48 Set afire

Today’s Crossword Puzzle

Crossword solutions found at baylorlariat.com

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16			17				
18				19				20				
			21				22					
23	24	25				26			27	28	29	
30					31				32			
33			34	35				36	37			
			38				39					
40	41	42				43			44	45	46	
47					48				49			
50					51				52			
53					54				55			

Dennis the Menace

1-27

“IF ONIONS MAKE YOU CRY, WHY AREN'T THEY CALLED BULLIES?”

1-28

“HOW ABOUT CLEARIN' THE SIDEWALK ALL THE WAY TO JOEY'S HOUSE, DAD?”

Family Circus

1-27

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“Walk smaller, Daddy! I'm tryin' to walk in your footsteps.”

1-28

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“See! Your fishy does know me, Grandma! He's waggin' his tail!”

STILL AT THE TOP >> Don't miss our online coverage of the nation's top-ranked teams at BaylorLariat.com

Bears changing the game



Brittney Matthews | Multimedia Journalist

ON THE BALL Redshirt sophomore Davion Mitchell drives down the court against Oklahoma during the Bears' 61-57 victory on Jan. 20.

Baylor basketball embraces transfer culture

MATTHEW SODERBERG
Sports Writer

Baylor men's basketball has transformed into a transfer-centric institution. Redshirt-senior forward Freddie Gillespie has shown that over the past year, and redshirt guards MaCio Teague and Davion Mitchell are exemplifying it now.

Teague made his way to Waco from North Carolina-Asheville, where he spent two years as an All-Big South honoree. However, the program was limited on the national stage in such a small conference.

Mitchell comes from Auburn, where he backed up starting point guard Jared Harper. In 2019, the season after he left, the Tigers made it to the Final Four as he watched from Waco, while the Bears lost in the Round of 32.

The sophomore even helped recruit Teague to Baylor. As soon as Mitchell knew he was going to be a Bear, he started contacting him and making sure he'd come along. Mitchell said contacting him early had a strong effect on their relationship.

"He was real cool," Mitchell said. "I mean, we both love basketball. We both love getting into the gym. During our redshirt season, we played one-on-one so much."

After the recruiting, the two shared a redshirt season. They played on the scout team together and stayed in Waco when the team traveled, which Teague said helped form the bond between the two transfers.

"It's a big trust thing," Teague said. "[He] trusts me. I trust him. If

he tells me I'm not doing something on the floor, I know he means it from a good place. So we have a good trust factor there and just looking out for each other. I feel like that really plays a lot."

The two are now dominating Big 12 play as "the best guards in the nation," according to Mitchell. Teague is averaging 13.8 points and 4.8 rebounds per game while Mitchell has 9.8 points and three assists. Mitchell also shares the toughest defensive responsibilities with junior forward Mark Vital. The redshirt sophomore said the drive comes from having competitive play earlier in his college career.

"I sat out the whole year and Auburn had an OK season," Mitchell said. "And [Baylor] won, but we lost in the second round of the NCAA. For me, personally, [my motivation] was that I got to play again."

Now the Bears are winning in part because of the contributions of the transfers that have become the identity of this squad, either through getting the opportunity to play or to bring life to a new team. Teague said this team is in the middle of something special.

"It just turned out that we're No. 1 in the country right now," Teague said. "[I'm] happy that the guys are playing together and just happy for each other playing with joy."

Going forward, the team has seven weeks until Selection Sunday, but both Mitchell and Teague said the team is working toward one goal this season.

"Win a national championship."



Kobe Bryant leaves legacy of inspiration

"A lot of us don't want to believe it. A lot of us have looked up to him growing up. . . It just didn't seem real."

Lauren Cox |
WBB Senior Forward

"It definitely came as a shock. Those things, you just don't believe can happen to people like that. . . from thereon, the mood was just hard. It was hard."

Moon Ursin | WBB
Junior Guard

"His work ethic and his talent inspired so many, including many of our Lady Bears ... It is a sad day for basketball and he will be missed."

Kim Mulkey | WBB
Head Coach

Finding balance between faith, athletics, success

STASYA HOPP
Reporter

With incredibly busy schedules full of practices, games, workouts, classes, tutoring, volunteering and the need to sleep and socialize, balancing faith and athletics is no easy task.

But keeping that balance is one of the elements that defines Baylor's volleyball program.

Senior setter/defensive specialist Braya Hunt said the Baylor volleyball team made it easy to make faith a priority because of the love they have shown her, and the faith of the players is something that sets them apart from other programs.

"The team chemistry that we have far exceeds us being friends," Hunt said. "We are sisters. Not just sisters on this side of eternity, but for all of eternity."

Hunt recalled older players taking her under their wing and spending intentional time with her when she arrived at Baylor. In the same way, the upperclassmen this year have tried to guide the younger players. Freshman middle back Kara McGhee said that Hunt, among some of her other teammates, helped her get plugged into a church and gave her the chance to grow relationally and spiritually.

McGhee said that playing for "an audience of one" is one of the reasons the team performs with a sense of ease on the court, because they aren't playing for themselves.

"It's why I play," McGhee said. "It helps us be successful because there's not a lot of pressure when you're serving God."

Junior opposite hitter Marieke van der Mark said she wasn't a Christian when she came to Baylor, but thanks to her teammates and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and committed her life to Christ during her freshman year. Van der Mark said her teammates poured into her, and care about each other on and



Caleb Boren | Roundup Photographer

BUILDING FAITH TOGETHER Baylor volleyball gathers together in prayer after its regional semifinal win over Washington in the Ferrell Center on Dec. 14, 2019.

off the court. The sophomore from the Netherlands writes the number one on her wrist before every game as a little reminder that she is playing for an audience of one.

Like Van der Mark, other members of the team find little things throughout their days to keep in touch with their faith. This is something they do together and individually. Hunt, McGhee and Van der Mark all said they have reminders for daily Bible verses on their phones, and all make it a goal to spend time with their Bibles after morning practices or lifts. McGhee said she

moment when she knew how amazing her team was and realized how different Baylor was from any other school.

Van der Mark said that it's not difficult to balance faith with what they do everyday because they use what they do to grow in their faith.

"It doesn't matter if you want to skateboard for the rest of your life or if you want to be a doctor," Van der Mark said. "God wants to use you to the full regardless of where you are."

tries to set out time for reading Scripture in the morning to make the "first thing the most important thing" she does every day. According to the freshman middle blocker, "faith is everything" in the team's culture and dynamic.

The team prays before every practice and every game, trying to spend time with God while they are doing what they love.

"We're not forced into anything," Van der Mark said. "It's one hundred percent a choice that we make ourselves."

Baylor volleyball had the opportunity to serve others and grow closer as a team through a mission trip to Kenya prior to last year's season, as well as a team retreat they took outside College Station. Hunt said this retreat was when she knew their team would not be shaken and that they would have an impact that season. During this trip, the seniors prayed for their teammates and each other.

"[It was] super special to have people that I knew wanted Christ to be at the center just as much as I did," Hunt said.

Senior middle back Nicole Thomas baptized three of the players during this retreat and Van der Mark recalls this as the

Baseball opens spring practice

DJ RAMIREZ
Sports Editor

Under clear blue skies and a little afternoon sunshine, Baylor baseball took to the field for the first official spring practice Friday as the Bears prepare for their season opener on Valentine's Day.

After losing two power bats to the major league draft in Shea Langeliers and Davis Wendzel, Baylor's biggest strength coming into the 2020 season is a deep and experienced pitching staff.

According to head coach Steve Rodriguez, the Bears won't have to wonder about who they put on the mound.

"We have two weekend starters coming back. Possibly three," Rodriguez said. "The big loss is obviously Kyle Hill as our closer, but knowing that you have Luke Boyd who is hopefully going to be able to fill in that role. [Boyd] did a dynamic job being a setup guy last year so as long as he can stay healthy, and he's got pretty dynamic stuff, so pretty excited to watch him at the end of the game too."

In 24 appearances as a junior reliever, senior righty Luke Boyd pitched 33.2 innings delivering 41 strikeouts and finished the year with a 2.14 ERA. The Ojai, Calif. native was drafted by the Los Angeles Angels last June but decided to remain at Baylor for his final collegiate season.

As for the Bears' starting rotation, senior left-hander Paul Dickens and redshirt junior righty Jimmy Winston are the most likely candidates for the first two spots after stellar campaigns in 2019. Winston, who led the Big 12 in ERA for the majority of his sophomore season, said the team is looking to continue a standard of excellence and maybe go even further this year.

"We've made a regional ever since I've been here and the standards shouldn't change," Winston said. "You know, we're trying to make a regional this year, we're trying to get further on this year... and we want to do something big this year, and obviously for the younger guys it would be a great opportunity for them to grow this year and then continue to take on this program where it needs to go."

The final spot in that rotation is yet to be determined but after a solid fall performance, freshman righty Will Rigney could be the guy to watch for. Rodriguez said the local product from Midway High looked great during the team's fall practices.

"He was throwing in the mid 90s, so that was fun to watch," Rodriguez said. "Just based on his stuff and how good his fall was, I would say he's definitely fighting for a weekend spot."

Baylor will have big shoes to fill in the lineup with the losses of not only Langeliers and Wendzel, but also outfielders Richard Cunningham and Cole Haring, as well as second baseman Josh Bissonette.

But the Bears aren't worried about offensive production with the return of several key pieces from last season, including sophomore first baseman Chase Wehsener, junior right fielder Davion Downey, Preseason All-American shortstop Nick Loftin and senior catcher Andy Thomas.

With experience as a first baseman and designated hitter,



DJ Ramirez | Sports Editor

SWINGING FOR THE FENCES Senior catcher Andy Thomas hits the ball during batting practice Friday at Baylor Ballpark.

Thomas will be stepping in at backstop after serving as the backup to Gold Glove-winning Langeliers in previous seasons. With no love lost, the Murrieta, Calif. native joked that he'd be better than his former teammate.

"Love him to death, but I got to be better than him," Thomas said. "That's my role."

While Thomas isn't known for the power that Langeliers and former third baseman Wendzel had, the senior can make consistent contact and led the league in line-drive doubles as a junior. While it's to be decided to who will fill the position spots left open, Thomas said the team won't lack in terms of offensive production.

"I think we have a bunch of hitting that just hadn't been seen yet," Thomas said. "We had guys that were in roles for three, four years, and now these guys get to show what they can do. So, I don't think that we're going to be struggling with hitting. I think it's just going to be fine with these guys getting to show what they can do. I don't think we're going to miss a beat at all. We're going to hit over 300 and I think we're going to be a really good offensive team."

With a deep roster that includes 20 returning players, 12 freshmen and two JUCO transfers, Rodriguez will have an abundance of options.

The Bears hit the field against Nebraska in their season opening series at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 14 at Baylor Ballpark.

Baylor Football Coaching Update

Dave Aranda
Head Coach

Joey McGuire
Associate Head Coach
(Outside Linebackers)

Larry Fedora
Offensive Coordinator
(Quarterbacks)

Ron Roberts
Defensive Coordinator
(Inside Linebackers)

Jorge Munoz
Passing Game
Coordinator
(Wide Receivers)

Shawn Bell
Assistant Coach
(Tight Ends)

Dennis Johnson
Assistant Coach
(Defensive Line)

Brian Stewart
Assistant Coach
(Cornerbacks)

Joe Wickline
Assistant Coach
(Offensive Line)



Associated Press

LEADER OF CHAMPIONS Orange Coast College head coach John Altobelli was described by his assistant coach Nate Johnson as "the Kobe of JUCO baseball."

Coach with Texas ties dies in Bryant crash

DJ RAMIREZ
Sports Editor

As the news that NBA superstar Kobe Bryant and his 13-year-old daughter Gianna had perished in a helicopter crash shocked the world, the baseball community also suffered from the heartbreaking events that unfolded in Calabasas, Calif., Sunday afternoon.

Among those that lost their lives in the crash were Orange Coast College head baseball coach John Altobelli, his wife Keri and youngest daughter Alyssa, who was a basketball teammate of Gianna Bryant.

Baylor baseball's volunteer assistant coach Mitch Karraker, who coached with Altobelli on the national collegiate team in 2016 and was a former teammate of his son J.J. at the University of Oregon, said the news was devastating.

"I think, you know, first you hear about Kobe and that's of course tragic," Karraker said. "And then you hear somebody that you know, and that you're close to. I was shell-shocked, for sure. Found out in the middle of our scrimmage and I felt like my mind just went blank for a couple innings. Just to let it sit in and so it was hard. It was really hard."

An alum of the University of Houston, Altobelli was a close friend and former roommate of David Pierce, head baseball coach at the University of Texas. In his 27 years at OCC, Altobelli led the Pirates to four state titles and was honored as the national coach of the year at the annual American Baseball Coaches Association. From 2012 to 2014, "Coach Alto" served as

the head coach for the Brewster Whitecaps in the Cape Cod League, the nation's premier collegiate summer league, where he got to coach Aaron Judge among other well-known players.

In 2016, he led Team USA to its first series win in Cuba, the same summer that Karraker worked with him as an assistant coach.

"You know, he was the kind of guy that baseball is important, but the way you treat people and the way you go about your business was above anything else," Karraker said. "When I saw that in the USA team, you know, you get to be with some of the best players in the country, and he was himself. You know, a lot of coaches you see can be a little bit different around those kind of guys and he was just himself — fun-loving, cared about the player as a person more than anything. And that's that's my biggest takeaway from Coach Alto."

Baylor assistant coach Mike Taylor was also familiar with Altobelli after being introduced to him by Pierce during his time coaching at Rice University. Taylor said the impact that Altobelli left on the baseball community was widespread.

"Players that played for him loved him," Taylor said. "I had three guys that played for him, when I was at Houston, that came over from Orange Coast and those guys absolutely adored him. Infectious smile. I never saw the guy in a bad mood. I mean, he rubbed off on his players. They loved him, they loved playing hard for him."

Altobelli is survived by his oldest son J.J., now a scout for the Boston Redsox, and his 17-year-old daughter Lexi.

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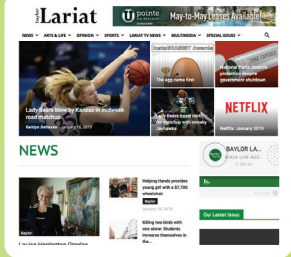
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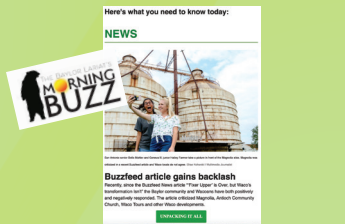
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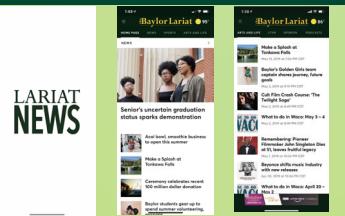
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