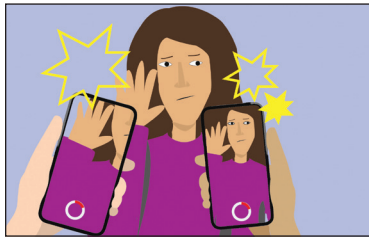


# Baylor Lariat

WE'RE THERE WHEN YOU CAN'T BE

Tuesday, February 3, 2020

baylorlariat.com



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**Don't be a video-addict**  
Leave the camera behind, enjoy moments



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**Stafford to go Pro**  
Puerto Rico to be destination for her talent



Associated Press

**BLOCKED** Police tape cordons off the area outside of Pride Rock residence hall following a shooting, Monday, Feb. 3, 2020, at Texas A&M University-Commerce in Commerce, Texas.

## Two dead in residence hall shooting at A&M-Commerce

**SARAH PINKERTON**  
Staff Writer

Two women were killed and one child was injured during a shooting in a Texas A&M University-Commerce residence hall on Monday morning.

The child has been taken to the hospital and is currently in stable condition. Identities of the victims have not yet been disclosed as police continue to investigate the situation.

The incident occurred in Pride Rock residence hall, a three-story, co-ed dorm for first-year students. The motive of the shooter is currently unknown.

Police say a student called in the situation around 10:17 a.m. and the victims were found inside one of the rooms.

Pride Rock remains blocked off as this investigation continues, and police have been placed around busy spots on campus.

“UPD has stationed officers throughout campus, including all key gathering points, for the safety of the campus

community,” the university posted on Twitter.

A shelter-in-place alert was issued in the morning but was lifted a little less than two hours later. Classes were canceled for the remainder of the day and continue to be canceled through Wednesday, including in remote locations, such as those in McKinney, Corsicana and Mesquite, as well as online courses.

Faculty and staff are still asked to report to work.

“All services on the Commerce campus will be provided for students,” the university said in a statement. “Faculty and staff should report to work as usual. Classes and campus operations will resume on Thursday, Feb. 6.”

Drew Ivery, senior co-editor and sports editor of the East Texan newspaper at Texas A&M-Commerce, said the university also went through an off-campus party shooting incident in recent months.

“There’s no extra information or extra little



Associated Press

**SOMBER** Texas A&M-Commerce University President Mark J. Rudin, provides details of a deadly shooting at the college Monday morning.

**A&M >> Page 4**

## Baylor’s bears celebrate 18th, 19th birthdays

**MATTHEW MUIR**  
Staff Writer

Baylor celebrated the birthday of Lady and Joy, its two live mascots, Saturday at the Bill and Eva Williams Bear Habitat. The bears turned 18 and 19 years old, respectively.

The sister bears were born at the West Cost Game Park in Bandon, Ore. Each came to Baylor as a 4-month-old cub and have spent nearly all their lives at the university.

The bears are cared for by students from the Baylor Chamber of Commerce through the Bear Program. With the bears now being the same age as many of Baylor’s freshmen, including Katy senior Audrey Chisum, a lead trainer with the Bear Program, said she likes to imagine how the bears would celebrate if they were human.

“I have some narrative in my head of what they would be like at 18 and 19 and how they would be celebrating that,” Chisum said. “Lady would definitely be the bear who goes and buys like

\$100 worth of scratch-off tickets and wins nothing, and I feel like Joy would be the one who definitely fills out their voter registration the day they turn 18. I think they would celebrate a little bit differently but still surrounded by love.”

In reality, the late teens are considered old for bears. However, Dakota Farquhar-Caddell, the Bear Program’s faculty sponsor, said Baylor’s bears can look forward to more years ahead of them.

“It’s hard to tell the exact equivalent, but we like to say the bears are in their mid-to late 60s,” Farquhar-Caddell said. “If they’re in the field they live to their late teens, if they’re in long-term human care they can live to their early 20s, mid 20s.”

Lady and Joy are the current torch-bearers in a long line of on-campus mascots, with the first bears being welcomed to campus in 1917. The Chamber of Commerce took over caretaking responsibilities in

**BIRTHDAY >> Page 4**

**Follow LTVN’s coverage BU’s live mascots**



## Dr Pepper honors roots with championship bottles

**VIVIAN ROACH**  
Staff Writer

Dr Pepper has commemorated the Baylor women’s basketball team on their last three national championship wins in 2019, 2012 and 2005 with limited-edition bottles.

The 12-ounce real sugar bottle features the interlocking BU Logo side by side with the 2019 National Champions logo.

Pepsi has also dedicated a Mountain Dew can to the title the Lady Bears earned after winning against Notre Dame, 82-80 in the 2019 NCAA national championship.

Baylor women’s basketball player Lauren Cox said the commemoration reminded her of how special the championship means.

“It means a lot to me and everyone on the team because it’s one of those things that reminds you of how special that year was. We worked so hard for it, and it’s a great feeling to get support from the Baylor and Waco community,” Cox said.

Gracie Beard, communications coordinator at the Dr Pepper Museum, said she is proud to have the Lady Bears

chosen for the limited-edition bottle.

“It’s a big deal and I had tons of people from all over come trying to get their hands on the bottles,” Beard said.

Fans and collectors from afar sprang into action once the bottles were released. The museum is sold out of the bottles, but Beard said they hope to get more soon.

“They’re not just getting one, they’re getting four at a time. So we ran out quite quickly because it’s a commemorative and collector’s item,” Beard said. “They are a couple places around town that I’ve heard had had them, but I’m not sure if they’re all sold out. We’re trying to get our hands on more, but I can’t make any promises.”

Dr Pepper was first manufactured in Waco and the museum is dedicated to preserving its history here. The Dr Pepper museum houses original memorabilia and soda bottles of the decades. The bottles are popular collector’s items and Beard said she expects to see this latest edition pop up

in auctions online and around town too.

“That’s why this is so different, because it’s not just Dr Pepper fans, it’s sports fans too,” Beard said.



Photo courtesy of Baylor.edu

**CHEERS FOR THE CHAMPIONS** Dr Pepper’s origins lie in Waco, as the drink was first manufactured in the building that is now the Dr Pepper Museum. The museum is run separately from the brand of Dr Pepper and is maintained by a board of directors.



GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

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

EDITORIAL

# Live in the moment, don't record it

The ability to be an Internet influencer lies at every smartphone owner's fingertips. With a camera and a multitude of social media sites stored in a handheld device, content can be generated in a matter of seconds.

Whenever we see oddities in our everyday life — a unicycle-rider on campus, ridiculously cute dogs, an exceptionally exotic outfit — our immediate inclination is to take out our phones to post for friends to see, too.

It is a beautiful thing that technology allows us to share a moment with those who weren't present, but sometimes we can abuse that power.

There are two main issues with over-posting: losing the genuineness of moments and dehumanizing entertaining subjects.

Intimate moments — such as surprising a loved one with a sentimental present or an unexpected reunion — are often taped, posted and shared until they go viral.

This wholesome content is refreshing to find on social media feeds, which can usually be cluttered with bad news or offensive political takes. It is heart-warming to see grand gestures unfold: the buildup, reaction and the sweet moments following.

However enjoyable these videos are for their audiences, they come at a cost for the people featured in them. While these are sweet moments to have documented, something sacred is lost when it is shared beyond the people in the relationship. Some moments should stay between two people.

Sometimes recorded gestures can feel as though they are performed more for the approval and reactions of the Internet community than the individual person they have a relationship with.

Certain moments even feel manufactured for the footage.

The most common occurrence is seen during birthdays when the person of honor is



Hannah Holliday | Cartoonist

sitting in front of their cake, being serenaded by their friends and family. What used to be a sweet moment, the birthday girl or boy's face glowing by candlelight, is now footage with cameras on flash pointed at every angle. The people singing "Happy Birthday" aren't even looking at the person they're singing to; they're staring at their phones. And the moment that follows as the candles are blown out is saturated with guests

occupied with the editing, caption and stickers for their post.

Having a room full of people each transfixed on their own device is isolating. People seeing the posts see a happy gathering, and surely it is, but the quality of the moment is plagued by a preoccupation with people working to ensure their followers know that it was indeed a happy gathering.

In addition to being isolating and distracting, recording moments can also induce superficiality.

If people are aware of a phone camera pointed toward them, they tend to become more conscious of the recording than the moment itself. Reactions and behavior becomes tailored to the audience suspected to be on the other side of the screen. It is less organic and genuine.

Some moments caught on camera are organic and genuine — when the subjects are unsuspecting and unaware.

When we come across people in public doing something we deem notable, our knee-jerk reaction is to take a picture or video. There is a large range of subjects the Internet community finds deserving of documentation: from attractive men reading in public (an Instagram that has a following of 1.1 million) to a couple showing cringey displays of affection.

The issue with taking photos or videos of these people is that they never consented to being photographed.

As commonplace as it is, there is something that feels undeniably wrong with taking pictures of someone you don't know. It is why you use subversive means to get the picture — whether that means moving your camera slowly, holding it at an angle, hiding it behind some other item. These sneaky practices go to show that we know we should not be photographing or recording strangers, yet we do it anyway.

It is unlikely that people record strangers to be malicious. The practice has developed out of an Internet culture that seeks to entertain and be entertained in the midst of our mundane lives.

Having moments documented is valuable as a record of itself. It keeps memories alive.

But when our focus shifts more to the prospect of social media engagement than the moment itself, we lose the existence of anything worth documenting at all.

COLUMN

## Stop exploiting tragedy for profit

JORDAN DAVIDSON  
Reporter

The Australia wildfires have been raging for over six months. With over 11 million hectares (or over 27 million acres), over 2,000 houses lost, and 33 dead, the fires have become much more than just front page news. People around the world began donating to the cause using fundraising campaigns on Facebook or other platforms.



Despite the fact that there are many people around the world who have donated funds and resources to those helping contain, evaluate, and eventually rebuild from the fires, that hasn't stopped some businesses from exploiting the calamity as an opportunity for personal gain.

One American business, Lisa Frank, which sells colorful designs of animals printed on products, recently offered financial donations to the Australian wildfires — but under one condition. Lisa Frank announced via social media that it would donate \$1 towards Australian relief for every new follower that it gained. They also launched a clothing line decorated with koalas that will donate an unspecified amount to aid.

The same fundraising tactic occurred after the news of a fatal helicopter crash that killed Kobe Bryant, his daughter, and seven others broke.

Nosebleed, a company that created an app for consumers to buy "courtside seats at nosebleed prices," offered on social media to donate "\$8 for every repost in the next 24 hours to honor #8 and #24" towards mambaonthree.org, which supports the other victims of the helicopter crash. The graphic they used showed a picture of Bryant and his daughter with the dates of their lives. Emblazoned across the top of the black-and-white photo is the Nosebleed logo in bright green.

Whether it's asking for likes, followers or shares in exchange for donations toward the people affected by tragedy, it is extremely unethical and thoughtless to take advantage of the communities of people who are currently suffering. Although people in need are still being helped by these kinds of donations, businesses should not exploit tragedies and the goodness of other people for their own profit.

Donations towards the Australian wildfires and the MambaOnThree fund should be made because people care about other people and our world, not because it is an opportunity to build a social media presence or increase profits. If companies are willing to donate a certain amount of money based on the social media traction that they gain, why can't they just donate that anyway? When it comes to giving to charitable causes, businesses should do it simply because they believe in it and because it is the right thing to do.

*Jordan is a senior political science major from Lubbock.*

COLUMN

## Sing ticket sales system needs improvement

CAMILLE RASOR  
Reporter

In the past week, Sing tickets went on sale, and with that came stress, server crashes and a sold-out Waco Hall for six nights of performances.



Unfortunately, this is the case for Sing ticket sales every year. Though Student Activities has tried to make the purchasing process better, it's still not an effective way to sell seats at one of the biggest events on campus each year apart from sporting events.

People looking to buy Sing tickets online enter into a virtual waiting room through a system called "Queue-it" at a specified time before tickets go on sale. Once tickets are released, users are chosen at random to purchase their tickets so as to not crash the server.

There are two main problems with this system. First, people should be given the opportunity to buy tickets in the order that they log into the waiting room instead of being chosen at random once tickets are available. It isn't fair that a person who was in the waiting room an hour before tickets went on sale should have the same chance to buy tickets as someone who logged on three minutes before tickets become available.

Second, although the Queue-it system is supposed to prevent the server from crashing, it doesn't work well enough. For example, when I was purchasing tickets this year, as soon as the system redirected me to the ticket-purchasing website, my browser told me that the server couldn't be found. This happened to several of my friends as well.

Another problem with Sing tickets is that there are simply not enough seats available for the number of people who want to come each year.

According to Baylor's website, there are 14,108 undergraduate students enrolled in classes this year. Waco Hall has a seating capacity of 2,200, which comes out to 13,200 seats available over six nights of performances. That's not even enough to hold the undergraduate population, not to mention the family, friends and alumni who want to come see the show.

Waco Hall opened to the public in 1930. It's fair to say that the size of the Baylor community has grown exponentially since then.

It may be time for Baylor to consider expanding Waco Hall or even to look at building a new, bigger auditorium that could be used for shows like Sing and Pigskin. At the very least, it doesn't seem like too much to ask for Student Activities to figure out a better way for tickets to be sold.

*Camille is a junior University Scholar major from Burleson.*

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Lariat File Photo

**SELF-IMPROVEMENT** Students work on building mental and physical strength by taking a yoga class at the McLane Student Life Center.

# Yoga classes offer mental health benefits

**PHOEBE ALWINE**  
Reporter

Baylor offers yoga to students, staff and faculty. It can be practiced during lifetime fitness courses and classes in the McLane Student Life Center with the FitWell program's certified yoga instructors.

There are many different types of yoga, each one focusing on a different aspect of the body. Some major forms include hatha yoga, which focuses on breathing and poses, restorative yoga, which uses blankets and bolsters to help one dive deeper into relaxation and vinyasa yoga, which combines breath-work with poses.

Kelsey Stevens, a FitWell yoga instructor at Baylor University, prefers to teach the style of vinyasa. She said the practice is both physically and mentally challenging.

Stevens said yoga is the practice of physical, mental and spiritual elements that originated around 5,000 years ago. The practice of yoga offers physical and mental health benefits for the body and soul.

Stevens has been practicing yoga for nine years. Beginning in high school, she said she used yoga as an enjoyable activity to do with friends. However, over time she realized the health benefits that coupled with the physical and mental growth she was getting out of it.

"At first it was just something to do with my friends in high school... I kept trying and all of a sudden your mind and your body adapt and I fell in love with it," Stevens said.

Stevens describes yoga as benefiting strength, endurance and flexibility. During yoga, every movement is combined with one breath, allowing the heart rate to increase and create a physically difficult workout.

Boston University Medical Center's research concluded that individuals who practiced yoga at least two times a week saw significant decrease in their depressive symptoms. The 2017 study found that yoga increases self-awareness and present-movement, which can help individuals find their worries, stressors and depressive thoughts, and positively shed them through breathing, meditation and relaxation.

"For the next 60 moments with me, whatever is outside those doors is outside.

Your phone is off, people can't come in here. So for the next 60 moments focus on you," Stevens said.

She begins each of her yoga classes telling her students these words. Stevens said that letting the power of yoga take over while in the class is the beginning of the mental healing process.

"Yoga teaches your body to instinctively start calming itself down... You're training your lungs to not only hold space but hold a deeper breath, so I think people who have anxiety or struggle with something everyday can benefit from yoga," Stevens said. "[Yoga] can psychologically settle everything down. It's a very powerful tool, but you have to be open to it."

Meditation is often used in most yoga classes. It is a practice that increases mindfulness and focus, providing a clear and calm mind.

"Meditation is a powerful tool. It's hard at first but it can help the mind tremendously," Kimberly Johnson, lifetime fitness yoga instructor and author of "Beginners Relax Exercise" said. "Putting meditation together with the poses and breathing can calm down the mind."

Mindful meditation can decrease stress, anxiety and panic by canceling out the distracting thoughts by clearing the mind.

"When I had my brain aneurysm last year, yoga helped me to deal with the physical pain as well as the mental," Johnson said. "It helped my muscles stay fit, but also the breathing helped with my pain too."

These practices of mindful breathing, meditation and poses are beneficial to mental health. Stevens said that Baylor students can greatly benefit mentally from practicing yoga because it is all about getting back up.

"Fall out of a pose, get back to it. Same thing in the classroom. Fail a test, study more for the second one," Stevens said.

Stevens said that because of yoga's relaxing yet energizing qualities, students can increase their focus in class. Signing up for yoga classes that Baylor has to offer can help to increase a healthy mindset in and out of the classroom.

## DAILY CRIME LOG

Jan. 30-Feb. 3

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](http://www.baylor.edu/dps). Information may be limited because of federal guidelines.

Date reported: 1/30/2020 Location: Baylor Sciences Building <b>Offense(s): Stalking</b> Date Occurred: 1/30/2020 Disposition: Exceptionally cleared	Date reported: 1/30/2020 Location: 1600 block of S. 5th St. <b>Offense(s): Stalking (reported to Title IX office)</b> Date Occurred: unspecified Disposition: Being handled by Title IX office
Date reported: 1/30/2020 Location: Arbors Apartments <b>Offense(s): Theft of Property</b> Date Occurred: 1/29/2020 Disposition: Active	Date reported: 1/31/2020 Location: Hurd Tennis Center <b>Offense(s): Theft of Property</b> Date Occurred: 1/31/2020 Disposition: Suspended
Date reported: 1/31/2020 Location: Jamestown Apartments <b>Offense(s): Public Intoxication</b> Date Occurred: 1/31/2020 Disposition: Cleared by arrest	Date reported: 2/1/2020 Location: Penland Hall <b>Offense(s): Minor Consuming Alcohol</b> Date Occurred: 2/1/2020 Disposition: Cleared by citation
Date reported: 2/1/2020 Location: Stacy Riddle Forum <b>Offense(s): Failure to stop and identify</b> Date Occurred: 2/1/2020 Disposition: Closed	Date reported: 2/1/2020 Location: Martin Residence Hall <b>Offense(s): Theft of Property</b> Date Occurred: 1/31/2020 Disposition: Suspended
Date reported: 2/1/2020 Location: Penland Hall <b>Offense(s): Criminal Mischief</b> Date Occurred: 2/1/2020 Disposition: Suspended	Date reported: 2/3/2020 Location: 8th St. Parking Facility <b>Offense(s): Minor Consuming Alcohol</b> Date Occurred: 2/3/2020 Disposition: Cleared by citation
	Date reported: 2/2/2020 Location: 1100 block of S. 7th St. <b>Offense(s): Evading arrest/detention using motor vehicle</b> Date Occurred: 2/2/2020 Disposition: Active

## ARREST LOG

Jan. 30-Feb. 3

Provided by the Baylor Police Department

**Charge: PUBLIC INTOXICATION**  
Arrest Date: 1/31/2020  
Name: Cherry, Rachel  
Disposition: Released to jail  
Stat Code: Booked



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Lariat File Photo

**FIT AND WELL** This weekend’s FitWell Expo, the fifth organized by the FitWell department, will feature different classes, including yoga, boxing and conditioning training.

# Expo to prep students against health rumors

**TYLER BUI**  
Assistant News Editor

The fifth FitWell Expo will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday in room 250 of the Paul L. Foster Campus for Business and Innovation.

The event, organized by FitWell, the wellness department and counseling center at Baylor, will feature five speakers centered around the theme “Eat Well, Be Well, Move Well.”

Van Davis, assistant director of the wellness and FitWell programs, will speak on behalf of the “Move Well” portion of the expo.

“There is so much misinformation out there. We want our students especially to come in and learn how they can be healthy and be well on campus,” Davis said. “There are some great people here who can educate and provide great information that is correct and motivation, and hopefully when people leave, they can learn how to better move well, eat well and be well. Being healthy is not a destination; it’s a journey.”

The event will open with a short Zumba session, and at the beginning and end of each session there will be a “fit break,” where different FitWell classes will be exhibited, such as yoga, boxing and conditioning.

Regina Mastin, a certified eating disorders registered dietitian and clinical dietitian at the Baylor University Counseling Center, will talk about the human body and its intuition.

“My talk is entitled, ‘Every Body Knows.’ I am going to talk about how we are born knowing what to eat and how

to move and when to rest, and how diet culture sometimes get in the way of that,” Mastin said. “Hopefully, people will leave with the idea of how to

“There is so much misinformation out there. We want our students especially to come in and learn how they can be healthy and be well on campus

**VAN DAVIS | ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF WELLNESS AND FITWELL PROGRAMS**

better take care of themselves.”

Following her talk, Stan Wilfong, registered dietitian at Baylor and senior lecturer in family and consumer sciences, will talk about fad diets and their effects.

Alyssa Petty, wellness outreach coordinator at Baylor, will speak about how to holistically be well in regard to eating, being active, sleep and stress management. She said that students, faculty and staff should attend the event to learn how to take care of your body in different ways.

“Wellness is everything. When you’re not well, your academics fall,” Petty said. “It doesn’t matter how old you are, how young you are, taking care of your body whether that is mentally, physically, spiritually or socially, you’re going to need that for the rest of your life. If we can equip our students, faculty and staff with tidbits of information to help

them be well this semester, why not come and grow in the information.”

Dominique Hill, director of wellness at Baylor, will be the keynote speaker at the expo. He will talk to participants about stay motivated to live a healthy lifestyle and how to stay motivated to goals and future plans.

“Wellness is a lifestyle; it’s not necessarily an activity or an event. When you come to an event like the FitWell Expo, you’re learning strategies to help you live a healthier lifestyle today, tomorrow and in the future,” Hill said. “It’s not about something that is a quick fix, but it’s to learn how to make healthier life decisions that will help you in the future. It’s an opportunity for students, faculty

and staff to come together to learn more about how they can integrate a healthy lifestyle into their current lifestyle. We want to help you be the best version of you.”

Davis said the main purpose of the event is for participants to come gain information on fitness, wellness and nutrition to live a healthier life in the new year. Davis’ favorite part about the expo is to see the Baylor community unite.

“I look forward to seeing the community come together—students, faculty and staff all mixed together because the information about fitness is the same,” Davis said. “It’s not age-specific. It’s for everyone. To see people leaving feeling better, not only from the information that they received but from the ‘fit breaks,’ and to know that what they have learned is going to help them to live healthier and be happier.”

# Oldest business fraternity hosts Valentines fundraiser

**LUCY RUSCITTO**  
Staff Writer

Baylor’s business fraternity Alpha Kappa Psi will be putting on its first Valentine’s Day Rose Delivery Fundraiser from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday in the atrium of the Foster Campus for Business and Innovation, and on Wednesday and Thursday in front of the Rosenbalm Fountain.

Baylor Alpha Kappa Psi also plans to donate at least 10- 20% of the total proceeds from the Valentine’s Day Rose Delivery Fundraiser to the Waco Humane Society. Bloomington, Ill. sophomore Melissa Reiss is this year’s Fundraising Chair for Alpha Kappa Psi. She said a huge reason the fundraiser is not being hosted only in the business school is because the fraternity is trying to promote itself in hopes of gaining new members from all corners of campus.

“We’re trying to hit different target groups with this fundraiser,” Reiss said.

Alpha Kappa Psi will be taking orders this week, a week before Valentine’s

Day, and deliver roses to the address listed when the order is taken with a short note. Individual roses cost \$5, and those who buy three roses will get one for free.

“If the receiver isn’t home, we will tie [the rose] to the doorknob,” Reiss said.

After a lot of investigation, Reiss decided that based on price and quality, she will be attaining the roses from H.E.B.’s floral department. They will be picked up the day before Valentine’s Day for freshness.

Andrew Cornes is the vice president of membership and president elect of Alpha Kappa Psi, and graduated from Baylor last December.

“Our vision statement is to be the premier developer of business leaders,” Cornes said. “We recruit all majors, but we try and teach personal skills to our members to help bridge the gap between what we learned in class and what you need to know for the workforce.”

Cornes said that he agrees he would like for this fundraiser to attract new awareness to Alpha Kappa

Psi. He also said that if the fundraiser is successful this year, he would love to see it become Baylor Alpha Kappa Psi’s annual “flagship” fundraiser.

Part of the Alpha Kappa Psi brotherhood is the service aspect, and both Cornes and Reiss said that donating part of the total amount raised is important to them and core values of the organization.

The organization’s main fundraiser had been planned to take place during second semester, which led her to the idea of basing the fundraiser around a holiday.

“I was trying to think of something that first of all, didn’t really have a chance of loss. Something where we can take orders beforehand without spending a lot of upfront money,” Reiss said. “And I stumbled across some kind of like flower fundraiser idea [when I was researching],” Reiss said. “I landed upon like a rose delivery fundraiser where students will place an order for sending a rose to either their friends or their boyfriend or girlfriend.”

## A&M from Page 1

tidbit that people should really know,” Ivory said. “Just be safe when you’re in the town.”

While Pride Rock remains blocked off, the Rayburn Student Center is open for displaced students throughout the investigation.

In addition, counselors have also been made available inside the Rayburn Student Center for students who have been shaken up by the situation or may need assistance.

Updates are being released to TAMUC staff and students through emails and

warning alerts.

The A&M-Commerce Twitter page has also remained active throughout the investigation and is continuing to release updates to the public as they are made known.

Texas A&M-Commerce is located in Commerce, Texas and is about two and a half hours away from Baylor University. The campus currently has around 12,000 students.

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ROUNDUP  
YEARBOOK  
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

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

Follow the Lariat to find out when your session is or go to [WWW.BAYLOR.EDU/ROUNDUP](http://WWW.BAYLOR.EDU/ROUNDUP) to find your date and order your book.

## BIRTHDAY from Page 1

1940, leading to the emergence of the Bear Program. Chisum said being part of this tradition is special to her.

“Baylor gives us a really unique tradition of having students from all different backgrounds, all different ages, all different majors taking care of the two best bears in the world,” Chisum said. “It’s definitely something special to me and I think it’s a special calling home symbol for all of our alumni.”

Hideaway junior Corban Sorrells, another lead trainer, said having bears on campus makes Baylor unique among universities.

“It’s really special to have live bear mascots on campus because they are

exotic animals. If you look at every other major institution and university, they’ll have livestock as their animals, they’ll have birds or they’ll have domestic animals like dogs and cats,” Sorrells said. “For over 103 years we’ve had bears on campus every single day and so I think that’s pretty special. You can’t really experience that anywhere else.”

The bears proved to be a huge draw Saturday. The area around the enclosure was packed with people at Saturday’s celebration. Orange County, Calif, freshman Jack Threshie said he was surprised by the turnout.

“I didn’t expect it to be this big,” Threshie said. “I haven’t seen [the bears] do the sic

‘em... that’s why I came.”

In addition to caring for the bears, Baylor’s Bear Program promotes conservation efforts aimed at protecting black bears like Joy and Lady. Both Sorells and Chisum said the bears are “ambassadors for their species,” and Sorells said Baylor is uniquely positioned to make a difference in conservation efforts.

“We are uniquely positioned at a private institution to get to have these animals and teach about God’s creation and the way that we’re supposed to steward that,” Sorells said. “And I think that’s something that we try to do every day.”



WHAT TO DO IN WACO

TUESDAY

**Cedric Dent Pruitt Symposium**  
| 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. | Toliver Chapel Baptist Church, 1402 Elm St | Free

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

**Lyceum Series: Vicky Chow (piano)**  
| 7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Roxy Grove Hall, Waco Hall | Free

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

WEDNESDAY

**Kathryn Steely (viola) Concert** | 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. | Roxy Grove Hall, Waco Hall | Free

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

THURSDAY

**Waco Family & Faith International Film Festival** | All day | Waco Hippodrome, 724 Austin Ave. | Free

**Stars Over Texas Jamboree** | 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. | Lee Lockwood Library and Museum, 2801 W. Waco Dr | Tickets range between \$10 and \$14

**We Have Come This Far: An Inspirational Evening** | 7:30 p.m. | Ball Performing Arts Center, McLennan Community College, 1400 College Drive | \$5 to \$8

**Jazz Ensemble Concert** | 7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Jones Concert Hall, Glennis McCrary Music Building | Free

VINYL DESTINATION Owner Alicia Wojciechowski created Spin Connection alongside her husband and co-owner, Stan Wojciechowski. They opened the store six years ago in its current location, 3703 Franklin Ave.

Mireya Sol Ruiz | Multimedia Editor

# Vinyl records live on in Waco

**CLAIRE VAN ZEE**  
Reporter

Across the world, hipsters and collectors alike continue to support the decades-old industry of vinyl records. Despite being one of the oldest forms of recorded music, vinyls continue to make a way for themselves in the age of streaming.

In recent years, vinyl sales have been on a continuous rise in the United States, according to Statista’s data recording LP album sales between 1993 and 2019 in the United States. During a time when you can stream any song imaginable within seconds, this continual growth is somewhat of a phenomenon.

Vinyl album sales in the United States have shown consistent growth since 2006. By 2019, the industry was up by 14.5% from the previous year, having sold 18.84 million vinyl records, Statista reported.

However, the United States isn’t the only country experiencing the resurgence of vinyl popularity. In 2017, the Japanese arm of Sony Music announced in a press release it would open its own vinyl record manufacturing factory in order to keep up with the demand of the Japanese vinyl market.

But what is it about vinyl records that keeps people interested?

Robert Darden, professor of journalism, public relations and new media, believes there is a warmth that comes through vinyl of which other formats, like CDs and streaming, can’t compare.

“Because it’s a thing. A physical thing we can see and touch and appreciate,” Darden said.

For the same reason people go to Israel — to feel closer to Jesus, to walk where he walked — is the same reason people love records, Darden said.

“A record makes you closer, not just with other lovers of this [vinyl], but with the original creator. When you’re downloading and streaming, you don’t have that same kind of visceral connection,” Darden said.

Stan Wojciechowski, owner of Waco’s own independent record store Spin Connection, also said he believes there is

no comparison to listening to a record.

“What’s unique about vinyl is that putting on a record isn’t as convenient as pushing a button. You have to physically turn it on,” Wojciechowski said.

With pride, Wojciechowski tells the story of a time when a Baylor tennis player came into the store by recommendation of a friend, trying to figure out what all of the hype of vinyl was about.

Instead of explaining it, Wojciechowski said he decided to share the hype by turning on an old ACDC album.

Longtime collectors themselves, the couple and their son decided to take their hobby of selling records online and at vintage markets in Austin into a legitimate business in a brick-and-mortar space.

Spin Connection houses a diverse collection of vinyl records, from jazz and spoken word to pop and rock. While most of their inventory is vintage, they also carry newer albums by artists ranging from Halsey to Mumford and Sons.

While the owners saw an increase in business throughout the years, they

REAL GROOVY Record stores, like Spin Connection, are not only home to vintage vinyl, but they also carry records of newer artists such as Rex Orange County.

Mireya Sol Ruiz | Multimedia Editor

“I turned it on and he was just standing there taking it in. When it got done, he said ‘I’m never going to listen to another MP3. This is great!’” Wojciechowski said.

“There is just something really authentic about recording music on vinyl.”

Wojciechowski said oftentimes with digital music, when musicians electronically enhance things, while perhaps arbitrarily, they often lose the message of the song.

“With vinyl, that just isn’t the case,” Wojciechowski said.

Wojciechowski and his wife opened up the record store, Spin Connection, six years ago, in 2014.

claim it’s not due to the increase in vinyl popularity, but simply through word of mouth.

Some nights, the space also doubles as a concert venue. Previous gigs include rock, punk and Skaw music performed by groups from all over Texas.

“A lot of them want to come back because it’s just a different environment. It’s not a club where people just come to drink, or whatever. They like coming in because they are appreciated,” said.

With the help of vinyl connoisseurs and businesses like Spin Connection, records will continue to thrive in their own little corner of the music industry.

GOT THAT VINYL STYLE Spin Connection sells vinyl records from a myriad of different genres and artists, ranging from classic rock to jazz and classical to modern pop. Some of the vinyl records include spoken word or comedy.

Mireya Sol Ruiz | Multimedia Editor





Photo courtesy of IMDb

**A DEFINITE END** The series finale of NBC’s “The Good Place” completes the show’s storyline, according to creator Michael Schur. The series creators felt it was the correct way and time to allow the story of Eleanor, Chidi, Tahani, Jason, Michael and Janet to come to a close.

REVIEW

Forking great: ‘Good Place’ finale tugs heartstrings

MATTHEW MUIR  
Staff Writer

I’d venture a guess that many fans of truly great television series wish their favorite shows could continue forever. But like a vacation, great television is special because it has to end, and Michael Schur’s masterpiece “The Good Place,” with its setting of literal eternity, is no exception.

When Schur announced “The Good Place” would end. After its fourth season, it wasn’t because NBC had canceled it — it was because Schur himself said he felt he had told a complete story. This level of care and planning is undoubtedly why the end of each character’s story feels earned, not just for the character itself, but for the narrative as a whole. It’s a moving end to a wonderful show.

To achieve this moving end, the finale runs light on humor. Those hoping to laugh their way through “The Good Place” finale will be sorely disappointed, as will those yearning for the series’ signature absurdism. Beyond a handful of largely inconsequential gags, you’d be hard-pressed to call the double-length bookend “funny,” but it’s not trying to be. The show’s writers have had four seasons to master lowering the audience’s guard to land an emotional right hook, and those skills are on full display. I’m not ashamed to admit real tears were shed before the credits rolled.

The Final Chapter isn’t without fault. There are a couple of story beats which are given little explanation and the smattering of side-character cameos can be distracting, as if the showrunners couldn’t decide which loose ends to tie up and which to leave dangling. However, in a series where the entire premise is



Photo courtesy of IMDb

**OH SHIRT!** The series finale of Michael Schur’s afterlife sitcom “The Good Place” aired on NBC on Jan. 30.

rewriting the rules of the universe, I’m willing to let go of plot contrivances.

No discussion of the show would be complete without touching on its philosophical themes. “The Good Place” dabbles in what I would call middle-market intellectualism, falling in a sweet-spot between academia and fast-talking internet commentators whose vocabulary exceeds their logical grasp. The show frequently manages to apply the concepts of moral philosophy in an educational way, and more impressively, remains engaging and entertaining while doing so.

“The Good Place” doesn’t expect its audience to know the material it draws from, but trusts it enough to apply the concepts when needed. In a way, the audience assumes the role of Eleanor, whose philosophical prowess has been continually expanding since the first season.

For most of its run, the show has been content to focus its philosophical lens on what it means to be a good person as the gang tried to save themselves and humanity from eternal damnation. Now, with each character at the completion of their arc, there’s nowhere left to go but into discussions of eternity versus mortality. In the process, “The Good Place” argues that while a definite end is mysterious, terrifying even, it is also relieving. Perhaps Schur, who wrote and directed the last episode, is talking about the show itself, ending gracefully and bittersweetly now that its run its course rather than trailing off.

So, to “The Good Place,” to Eleanor, Chidi, Tahani, Jason, Janet, Michael and everyone who had a hand in bringing one of my favorite shows ever to life: “I hate to see you walk through the final door at the edge of existence, but I love to watch you leave.”

ACROSS

1 Georgia or Cal

5 Satchel

8 Story

12 Lotion additive

14 Unsigned (Abbr.)

15 Forrest Gump portrayer

16 — -European

17 Secreted

18 Conical homes

20 Skiers’ mecca

23 Ale variety

24 Humdrum

25 Noise from a pigpen

28 Enervate

29 Shipboard beds

30 Chit

32 Moves out

34 Inky stain

35 Melodies

36 Concert venue

37 Nap

40 Language suffix

41 Help a hood

42 Polite refusal

47 Occupy

48 Seriously embroiled

49 Being, to Brutus

50 “Mayday!”

51 Electron-ics giant

DOWN

1 Body art, for short

2 “Evil Woman” band

3 URL suffix

4 Sneaky laugh

5 Flex

6 Noah’s craft

7 Fuel con-tainers

8 Asian capital

9 Diarist

10 Mine find

11 Seth’s son

13 Futile

19 BPOE members

20 Sit-up targets

21 Pole, e.g.

22 Dad

23 Fragrant trees

25 Rates higher than

26 Egyptian river

27 Thug

29 Lure

31 Tony-winner

33 Rook

34 Bakery loaves

36 Tennis legend

37 Ump’s call

38 Heron’s cousin

39 Congers in Paris

43 Yoko from Tokyo

44 Prefix with natal

45 Docu-mentarian

46 CIA operative

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			

Dennis the Menace

“BUT I DON’T WANT TO BRUSH NOW, MOM... I CAN STILL TASTE MY DESSERT!”

The Family Circus

“Stop, Dolly! I’m holding the door for Mommy, not for you.”

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

“I’m sure glad Noah remembered to bring his kittycats on the ark.”









Associated Press

**BUILT TO BE A CHAMPION** Kansas City Chiefs' Patrick Mahomes holds the Lamar Hunt Trophy on Jan. 19, in Kansas City, MO. The Chiefs defeated Tennessee 35-24 to advance to Super Bowl LIV.

# Patrick Mahomes will be the best QB of all time

**PRANAY MALEMPATI**  
Sports Writer

While it takes a team full of special players and coaches to win a Super Bowl, the Chiefs' driving force this season has been superstar quarterback Patrick Mahomes.

After being drafted in the first round in 2017 and sitting out an entire season, Mahomes did something unbelievable. In 2018, his first season as a starting NFL quarterback, Mahomes won the league's Most Valuable Player award. That year, Mahomes became just the seventh player to throw for 5,000 yards and the just the third player to pass for 50 touchdowns in a season.

He then led the Chiefs to their first AFC Championship game appearance since 1993 and came one overtime coin-flip away from leading the Chiefs to a Super Bowl.

This year, he proved that his first season was not just a fluke. While eventual MVP Lamar Jackson was busy lighting it up on the field and impressing fans, Mahomes was as steady as ever. In just 14 games, he threw for 4,000 yards and 26 touchdowns, with

only five interceptions.

He then led an incredible comeback against the Houston Texans in the playoffs. After starting out down 24-0, Mahomes threw five touchdowns. He followed that up with another comeback against the Titans in the AFC Championship, taking Kansas City to their first Super Bowl appearance in 50 years.

And on Sunday night, after looking slow and inaccurate for three quarters of the game, Mahomes showed his inner Tom Brady. He turned his game on in the brightest of moments, and led a 10-point, fourth-quarter comeback to help head coach Andy Reid and the Chiefs capture a Super Bowl championship.

But it would do Mahomes injustice to simply describe his play with stats. The way Mahomes throws the ball, the way he controls it and puts in anywhere he wants on the field, is something we have never seen before. The closest to come to his talent is Aaron Rodgers, but Mahomes is even more athletic and more dynamic than Rodgers.

On top of that, Mahomes is a winner. In his first two seasons


as a starter, Mahomes has a 23-7 record in the regular season to go along with a 4-1 record in the postseason. He has won regular season and Super Bowl MVP awards on top of his Super Bowl championship. The man is only 24-years-old.

Patrick Mahomes could be the best quarterback to ever play the game of football. He is the best quarterback to ever step on an NFL field. He combines the ridiculous arm talent of Aaron Rodgers with the never-dying clutch gene of Tom Brady. He is unstoppable and he is unshakeable.

Yes, Mahomes has a long way to go to be the greatest quarterback to every play the game. He has to win a lot more games and rings and MVP trophies. But based on what he has already done in such little time, there is no doubt that he can pull off everything necessary to pass Peyton Manning and Joe Montana and yes, even Tom Brady.

Brady better enjoy the throne while he sits on it because Patrick Mahomes is coming. When his career is all said and done, Patrick Mahomes will be the greatest football player of all time.

## BEARS UNDEFEATED



Brittney Matthews | Multimedia Journalist

**COMEBACK WINS** Junior Kris Sorokolet and senior Angie Shakhraichuk face Georgia State in the season opener on Jan. 17 at the Hawkins Center. The Bears rallied back for comeback wins against Ole Miss and Mississippi State this weekend in Oxford, Miss. to extend their early season win streak to 5-0.

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