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The place to go to know the places to go

Take initiative

Career Services will hold a workshop at 4 p.m. Thursday in C105 Baylor Science Building to help students learn what to expect, how to prepare and how to make the most of the upcoming career fair. A student ID is required for admission.

Jazz it up

Concert Jazz Ensemble will perform at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in Jones Concert Hall of the Glennis McCrary Music Building. This event is free and open to the public.



baylorlariat.com

Chet Edwards mingles with students

By DANIEL C. HOUSTON
STAFF WRITER

Former U.S. House Rep. Chet Edwards stopped by Dr Pepper Hour Tuesday to introduce himself to students during his first week as a part-time lecturer and distinguished chair of public service at Baylor.

Edwards, who represented the Waco area in Congress as a Democrat for 20 years, made his first appearance as a lecturer in several classes this week. He will continue to give lectures this semester on constitutional development, American national government, international relations and public service internship courses.

"If I can be a positive influence in the life of one student here at Baylor, then that would be very meaningful to me," Edwards said at a Tuesday morning press event. "I'll always revere this great university. It has a legacy of developing leaders in business

and government, in our churches and houses of worship, and now to be officially part of that family is a wonderful new chapter in my life."

As part of his chairmanship, Edwards will assist the Poage Legislative Library staff with moving his congressional papers to the Baylor archives.

"It is my hope that perhaps through the study of these 20 years in Congress, young people might learn that public service really still should be a noble calling," Edwards said. "Our democracy is imperfect, the people who serve in it are imperfect, but it's still the greatest democracy in the history of the world."

Ben Rogers, director of the Poage library, said Edwards' papers will be a valuable future resource for students and researchers who want to view historical events that occurred during Edwards' career through the window of his con-

SEE EDWARDS, page 6



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

Former Texas congressman and Poage Distinguished Chair of Public Service Chet Edwards meets with students Tuesday during Dr Pepper Hour in the Bill Daniel Student Center.



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

Impromptu performance on Valentine's Day

Plano freshman Blake Olvera and Fayetteville, Ariz., freshman Nicklas Keller play songs for students passing by the Bill Daniel Student Center on Tuesday.

Faculty Senate makes reforms

Monthly meeting endorses changes to athletic policies

By DANIEL C. HOUSTON
STAFF WRITER

The Faculty Senate joined a national organization's efforts to reform intercollegiate athletics policies, prioritizing four-year scholarships for some student-athletes, Tuesday at its monthly meeting.

The Senate voted to join the Coalition on Intercollegiate Ath-

letics, an association of faculty senates from various universities, although it stopped short of fully endorsing some of the coalition's objectives, said religion professor Dr. Rosalie Beck, chair of the Senate.

Beck said the Senate was able to come to a consensus on offering student-athletes with full scholarships a guarantee that scholarship will last four years, even if they suffer injury.

The body, however, was split over other reforms the coalition has promoted.

"We couldn't come to a conclusion about paying a stipend

to athletes," Beck said, "because one of the realities is, if you do something for one kind of athlete, you have to do it for all scholarship athletes. And, in reality, men's basketball and football are the driving forces in most athletic programs that have those two sports. ... So we heard a lot of good arguments, a lot of good discussion on whether to pay a stipend, [but came to] no conclusion."

The Senate also set aside for the time being consideration of whether the university should

SEE FACULTY, page 6

Clubs give back to community

BU groups use competitive eating, running fundraiser for Mission Waco

By BRE NICHOLS
REPORTER

Ready. Set. Eat a Gut-Pak!

The Freshman Class Council and the Triathlon Club will hold a new fundraiser in March to benefit Mission Waco — the Gut-Pak Run.

The event is open to the Waco community and is co-sponsored by Vitek's BBQ, which will provide its signature Gut-Paks.

Profits will go to support Mission Waco, a local organization that serves the Waco community by providing "Christian-based holistic, relationship-based programs that empower the poor and marginalized."

"We would like to create an annual race that is out of the ordinary but definitely fun," Edmond, Okla., senior Esther Kim, director of the Freshman Class Council, said.

The event will begin at 10 a.m. March 3. Participants will start at Fountain Mall, run to Vitek's BBQ on the corner of Speight Avenue and South 16th Street — where they will eat a small Gut-Pak — and then race back to Fountain Mall.

The run covers about 2.13 miles. But racers don't have to

race, necessarily.

"The fun thing is that the racers can go at their own pace," Kim said. "If they want to run to Vitek's and eat a Gut-Pak and don't feel like running, they can leisurely walk back. It's all up to the racer."

A Vitek's Gut-Pak includes layers of fritos, chopped beef, sausage, beans, pickles, jalapenos, onions and cheese topped with white bread.

The \$20 entry fee includes the Gut-Pak, and the remainder will be donated to Mission Waco's job training program and the Waco Arts Initiative.

"We love that the race has a deeper meaning by partnering [with] Mission Waco, and we are hoping to help them help the community," Kim said.

Tyler junior Josh Jones, president of the Baylor Triathlon Club, said the team came up for the idea when its members were looking for a fundraising event to host.

"The Gut-Pak Run was the product of brainstorming during a long 12-hour drive back to Waco after a weekend racing in the Collegiate National Championships in Tuscaloosa, Ala.," Jones said. "Our club founder, Matt Ison, had

SEE GUT-PAK, page 6

Baylor VP for development called back to Florida

By LINDA WILKINS
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Jerry T. Haag, vice president for development at Baylor, announced on Monday that he is resigning from the position he acquired in April.

He will be returning to his position as president of the Florida Baptist Children's Homes, according to a university press release that came out Monday.

"After prayerful consideration and searching, we are certain this is God's will for us to return to the Florida Baptist Children's Home," Haag said in an interview Monday.

President Ken Starr expressed his appreciation for Haag's service to Baylor in the press release.

"We know his decision to re-

turn to Florida was guided by prayer and a powerful sense of mission and vocation," Starr said.

Starr also said Baylor has a strong leadership team that will help move Baylor forward during the transition to a new vice president for development and wished the Haags well in their future work.

"We wish the entire Haag family much happiness, and abundant blessings, as they return to their first love," Starr said regarding the Haags' passion for helping children.

"Our prayer will be for great success in their vitally important work caring for children and further building the Kingdom."

Haag said he came from the Florida Baptist Children's Home



Haag

to work with Baylor and the Home reached out to him recently and offered for him to come back to his position as president.

He said he and his wife, Christi, prayed and searched for God's will after they were asked to return.

Haag pinpointed the event that helped lead him to make his decision to resign from Baylor.

He said his wife was teaching Sunday School and she put a picture of him with a Guatemalan child on the board.

Haag said seeing that picture brought tears to his eyes and he realized that he was called to work with children.

"We are passionate and we are sure it is God's call for us to help children," Haag said.

Haag also said Baylor showed him many things as a student and while he was working here.

"I found outstanding academics, a good Christian community, and wonderful leaders," Haag said. "President Starr has been an inspiration for us to be better

leaders in the future."

While the Haags were making the decision about moving back to Florida, they remembered a quote from Frederick Buechner: "The place God calls you is the place where your deep gladness meets the world's deep hunger."

Haag said his wish for all Baylor students is that they will find their deep gladness.

"Whether through science, whether through a medical profession, whether through community service, I hope that everyone finds their deep gladness," Haag said.

Haag said he and his wife will always be Baylor Bears. His last day at Baylor as the vice president for development is March 9.

Churches wrongly kicked out of schools

Editorial

Sunday was a somber occasion for many churches in New York City this week. Due to a federal appeals court decision, Feb. 12 marked the last Sunday religious services could be held in public schools in New York City.

"To argue that a group meeting held on Sunday somehow changes the character of the building for the rest of the week seems paranoid."

The congregations forced out of their rented space worry about finding an affordable alternative. Many have vowed to fight what they see as an unconstitutional attack on religion.

The city and the New York Civil Liberties Union argue that allowing churches to meet in public schools violates the separation of church and state. Though congregations meet when school is not in session, supporters of the city's policy say a church's constant presence in a school building changes the brick and mortar structure from a school to a church.

They cite the propensity of churches to advertise their location and reach out to local neighborhoods as evidence of the invasive nature of the school-church relationship.

Members of the affected congregations cite that same relationship as a reason why they should be allowed to stay. Park Slope Presbyterian invested both time and resources in John Jay High School—the school received a new scoreboard, free tutors and help painting hallways and reorganizing the library.

Victory Outreach Church, which held services in Public School 57 in East Harlem for 18 years, had developed relationships with area gang members, drug addicts and mothers who lost children to gun violence, according to the New York Times. The church, which could not afford rent in the neighborhood, will be forced to leave the area entirely.

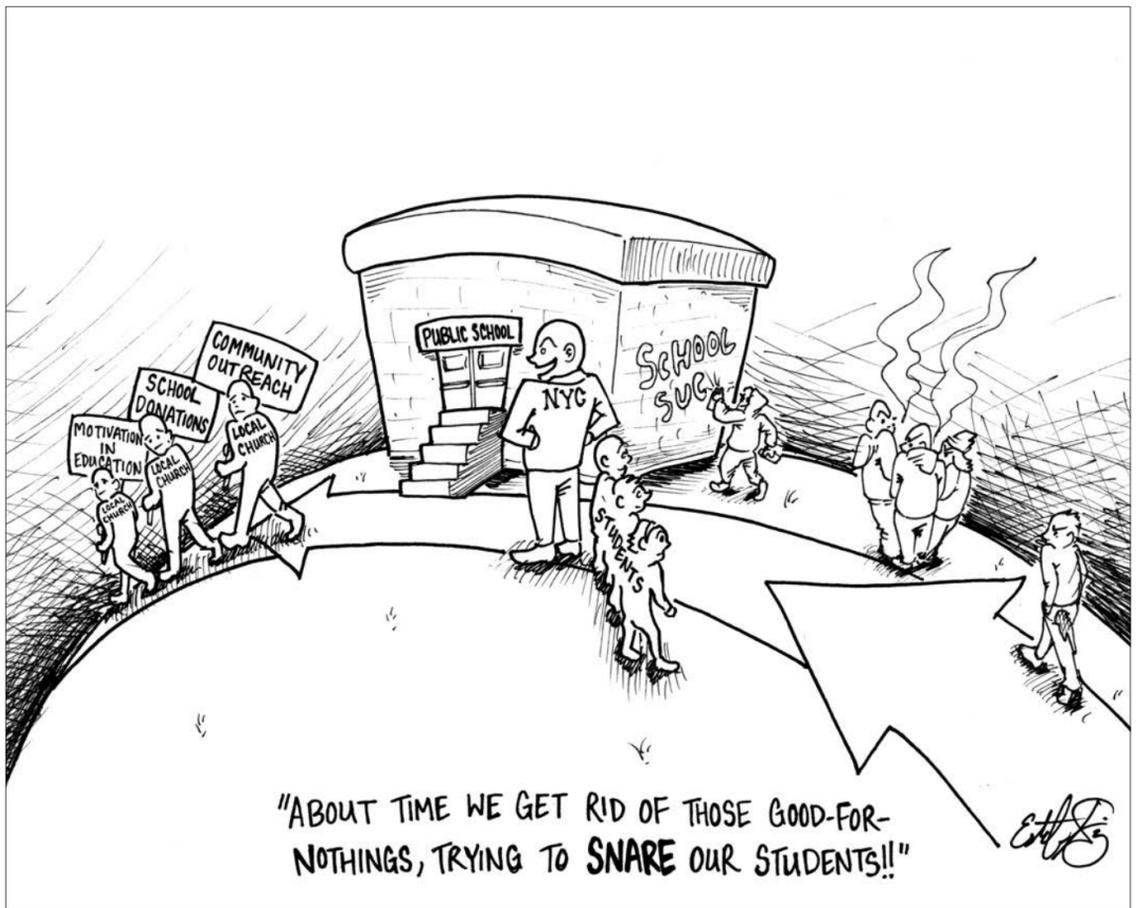
Grace Fellowship Church, which has met at Public School 150 for eight years, participated in graffiti removal and worked with the school's drama program, one of few remaining in the city.

Forcing these churches out of their rented homes will sever a community-school relationship that has become increasingly rare in today's society. As education loses funding from every side, a city policy that forbids schools to accept rent while alienating an important volunteer force seems obtuse.

To argue that a group meeting held on Sunday somehow changes the character of the building the rest of the week seems a little paranoid.

Apparently the Boy Scout, and other secular organizations that pay the same rent and follow the same rules have no such power.

If the character of the public schools has been changed, it is be-



cause a community of citizens has taken an interest in the school's well being.

Last time we checked, the First Amendment does not prohibit believers from becoming involved in the beautification of a school, or the rehabilitation of a commu-

nity's members.

Actually, the last time we checked, the First Amendment says Congress shall make no law prohibiting the free exercise of religion. Contemporary discussion of separation of church and state comes from a letter written by

Thomas Jefferson and a Supreme Court decision (*Engel v. Vitale*) concerning prayer in schools. The phrase does not appear anywhere in the Constitution.

New York's policy regarding church meetings in school buildings is dangerous because it has

the potential to set a precedent. The New York Senate passed a bill Monday that would overturn the ban, but it must be approved by the Assembly to take effect. We call on the lawmakers of New York to rectify an error made in ignorance.

Fans betray team when leaving Ferrell Center early



Savannah Pullin | Reporter

I have been patient long enough with Baylor fans. I have even gone so far as to defend them.

I have made excuses for them such as, "Well, they're college students, so they have homework," and "Getting in and out of the parking lot is difficult sometimes." But sometimes there are just no excuses.

Why is it so difficult to sit through an entire Baylor sporting event? Many fans don't even stand.

At the men's basketball game last week, I sat in the Bear Pit, filled with despair as Kansas dominated our Bears for the sec-

ond time this season.

With about 10 minutes left in the second half, I looked up to see half the crowd gone. The night did not stand out like this. The Ferrell Center was packed and full of life during tip-off.

Baylor fans have gotten so much ridicule since I have been a student here.

People complain that we never support our teams, that we never stand during games and when we do drag our uninterested butts out to Floyd Casey Stadium or the Ferrell Center, we never stay to cheer our team through to the end.

Perhaps it was more under-

standable when our teams were not performing up to our expectations. But come on, people. The Bears were ranked No. 6 playing the No. 7 ranked Kansas. The game was even covered by ESPN.

The Bears are performing. They are giving it their all. They are bringing home wins and making us proud. And it is still difficult for people to sit through a two-hour game.

When your team is down on that floor, getting destroyed by Kansas, the least you could do is stay and support them. After all, it's not like the fans are the ones who have to endure the ridicule of the loss.

Our players are not dumb. I'd like to believe they know they let us down, because I'm pretty sure they let themselves down that day. But when you walk out of those stands, you are literally turning your back on your team as you hustle to your car.

The influence of a crowd on a team's ability has been debated at length for quite some time. Some say players should not let the crowd affect them; they should be focused on the game and nothing else.

I disagree. Why else would the MLB play the All-Star game for home-field advantage in the World Series? Why else have the

Jayhawks only lost 13 regular season games at home since 1994? Because the crowd matters.

I'm not saying every Baylor student should go to every Baylor sporting event all the time. But if you are going to a game, at least have the decency to stay and support your team even when they are down.

No one likes being kicked when they are down. And when you walk out on a losing team, that's exactly what you are doing.

Savannah Pullin is a senior business journalism major from The Woodlands and is a reporter for the Lariat.

Personality? Check. Qualifications? Check. Ring? Um...

Finding a soulmate is hard.

I am young, decently attractive with an impressive list of qualifications, and yet I'm staring tragedy in the face. I am a generic unmarried girl, age 18-48, and yet another Valentine's Day has just passed me by.

I'm running out of time.

Don't let common sense fool you. It's not about waiting for the right time or person; it's about acquiring a checklist of things that make you most attractive to guys in order to make one of them fall in love with you and decide to seal the deal.

It's tiring, though: a full-time job. I am just waiting for the day, when, ring on my finger, I can go

back to being myself instead.

Think of it like retirement. Once you're married, your relationship career is over. You've earned your place. It's safe to pursue your own hobbies again (i.e., stop pretending to like football). You don't have to dress up every day to go to the "office" (i.e. any public place you might meet that future spouse). For us girls, that means back to wearing sweatpants in the house, the gym, the grocery store...

Wow. Let me stop and think about this for a minute. I might as well just marry the sweatpants. We already have a comfortable bond based on low expectations.

All joking aside, I, the stereo-

typical single, desperate girl, view my unmarriedness as a personal failure. Instead of looking at it like I haven't met the right person, I think that I'm doing everything right, so why hasn't the closest friend/platonic acquaintance/nearby warm-blooded male fallen madly in love with me yet?

Let me stress, I cook really well, and it's only my carefully acquired and appropriately feminine modesty that keeps me from telling you that I'm all but gourmet. So what's going on here? Am I getting the wrong message?

Romantic comedies, *Cosmopolitan* magazine and "chick lit" all tell me that I should be sexy but also have a cute personality,

never share anything deeply personal until I'm committed and pursue my man like there's no tomorrow even if he shows no immediate interest in me, because men are all commitment-phobic, small-minded and physical.

I guess my problem is that I'm trying to look at this academically. I mean, isn't a proposal supposed to be romantic? Exciting? Unexpected? And here I am, treating it like an essay that's due before junior year.

Better, in fact, since I often procrastinate on daunting assignments, whereas I radically and quickly change my clothes and my personality almost daily in search of the perfect mate.

Is there something I'm missing? Am I wasting my time developing these artificial traits? Should I take a chance and share something personal? Go outside my comfort zone? Develop genuine interests and cultivate my relationships based on mutual respect and understanding? Wait for the ring until I've grown as a person?

No. That's crazy talk. My plan is clearly working. The men should be ... lining up ... any minute now...

Caroline Brewton is a sophomore journalism major from Beaumont and is a copy editor for the Lariat.



Caroline Brewton | Copy editor

the Baylor Lariat | STAFF LIST

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Stay off the pavement

New research shows sealed asphalt may cause cancer

By KAYLA REEVES
REPORTER

Is pavement the new bogeyman?

Research completed by Dr. Spencer Williams, assistant research scientist, and Barbara Mahler, a research hydrologist at the U.S. Geological Survey, suggests it might be so; sealed pavement might be dangerous to children.

Williams and Mahler have been researching the levels of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in pavement.

Carcinogenic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons are complex organic chemicals that are known to cause cancer, and yet they are located almost everywhere in the environment. Because they are unavoidable, humans take in some of the chemicals every day, mostly through what they eat, Williams said.

The typical human diet contains less than two parts of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons per billion parts of food, which is not enough to cause harm, said the Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry.

A study done by Mahler's survey group researched the levels of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons present in pavement sealant and the effects they have once when the sealant wears out.

Sealants are used to make parking lots and other asphalt surfaces look new and last longer, but they contain very high levels of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons because they are made from

coal tar, a waste product from the steel industry. Coal tar can contain up to 50 percent of carcinogenic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, Mahler said.

The U.S. Geological Survey attempted to discover the source of these chemicals in the environment by taking samples in different areas. Higher levels of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons were found near sealed parking lots. This discovery sparked Williams' interest and subsequent research on the subject of children's exposure to the chemicals.

Williams concluded children who live near coal tar-sealed pavement receive a significantly higher dose of the chemicals than those who do not, because they receive them from the asphalt and not just from their diet.

As the friction of car tires and other things begins to wear the surface of the pavement, the sealant is ground to dust.

"The dust gets into the air, rain carries it into lakes, and it can stick to your shoes and get in your house," Mahler said. And since young children tend to put their hands in their mouths more than adults, they tend to consume more of that dust, including ground sealant from pavement. This is where Williams' study comes in, said Mahler.

Both researchers said they are unable to comment on exactly how dangerous the sealant is until further research is completed.

"My goal is to do the best science I can," Williams said. "In the future, we may be interested in looking at health issues for humans."

Mahler said her team at the U.S. Geological Survey will soon start studying at how much of the chemicals escape into the air and comparing coal-tar sealants to an oil-based sealant that has much lower polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon levels.

Abducted woman defends torturer

By ANGELA K. BROWN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WEATHERFORD — A Texas woman who prosecutors say was tortured for 12 days seemed to be in shock as she spoke to authorities following her rescue, initially defending the man accused of hanging her from a deer-skinning device and chaining her to a bed, according to a recording of the interview played at his trial Tuesday.

The woman is heard telling an investigator that Jeffrey Allan Maxwell, her former neighbor, told her he had been hired to kill her. During the rambling interview after she was found last March, she also said some of her relatives wanted to harm her over a property dispute and urged the investigator to arrest them.

Maxwell, 59, is accused of abducting the woman from her rural home, driving to his house in Corsicana and holding her captive for nearly two weeks. Maxwell is charged with aggravated kidnapping and two counts of aggravated sexual assault. If convicted, he would face up to life in prison.

Testimony is expected to resume Wednesday. The Associated Press does not identify alleged victims of sexual assault.

In the audio recording, an investigator repeatedly yet gently questions the 62-year-old woman before she said Maxwell hit her with a rolling pin and tied her up March 1 inside her Parker County home.

She said Maxwell was mad when they arrived at his home, and he hit her with a whip and put her wrists in some type of device that hoisted her off the ground. Authorities have said it was Maxwell's homemade device for skinning deer, and photographs shown to the jury depict a long, thin wooden board with hooks attached. A cable was attached to the garage ceiling.

"I don't know what it is but he pulled me up in the air," the woman is heard saying on the audiotape.

"It scared me to death."

She also said Maxwell told her his fingerprints were all over her house so he would have to torch it — which authorities say he did two days later.

Sgt. Ricky Montgomery, a Parker County sheriff's investigator, told jurors that authorities conducted a massive ground search after fire officials didn't find the woman's body in the rubble of her burned home near Weatherford, which is about 60 miles west of Dallas.

He said authorities had few leads until a neighbor reported seeing an unfamiliar blue car drive by twice on the day of the fire. Investigators later found out that Maxwell had a blue car and once lived in that area.

When authorities went to Corsicana on March 12, Maxwell answered the door and said he was alone — but then the woman ran out and said, "I'm here! I'm here!" Montgomery testified. She had a broken arm, head injury and multiple bruises, an emergency room doctor testified.

Earlier Tuesday during opening statements, prosecutor Kathleen Catania said the woman had been friendly with Maxwell several years ago but told him to stay off her property when he said he wanted to be romantically involved.

Defense attorneys declined to make an opening statement Tuesday, though they questioned Montgomery about whether authorities took photographs and collected evidence at Maxwell's house before proper search warrants were obtained.

Authorities had a search warrant only for Maxwell's blue car when they first arrived at his house, but Montgomery said law enforcement officers went inside after the woman ran out to make sure nobody else was being harmed or was a threat. Evidence was seized after another search warrant was obtained for the house the next day, Montgomery testified.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Meet the press

Rick Santorum fields questions from local and national media after speaking at a campaign rally Tuesday in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

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Dating scene comes to life in Austin

By JAMIE LIM
REPORTER

They say everything is bigger in Texas, but the dating scene seems biggest in the capitol — Austin.

Yahoo has reported Austin to be one of America's top cities for dating. The list included 10 other cities: Boston, Chicago, Miami, New Orleans, New York City, Phoenix, Scottsdale, San Diego, San Francisco and Seattle.

The article, written by Ellissa Richard, states that half of Austin's population consists of singles. This statement may not be a surprise to many since Austin is home to the University of Texas at Austin.

"I think just being young in general is a good reason for dating because everyone is looking for love in one way or another," University of Texas at Austin junior Kristi Kacal said.

"And having a school in the middle of this awesome city makes it a lot easier to meet people your age and with the same lifestyle as you."

The city is also home to many students that do not go to school in Austin, but in other nearby cities, like those who attend Texas State University in nearby San Marcos. The college even offers the Bobcat Tram, to students who commute from Austin to San Marcos. Another service being offered in San Marcos is Blackhorn Buses, which is an affordable and safe way for college students to travel to downtown Austin at night. Baylor, which is less than two hours away from Austin, also brings students to the city on weekends.

"Everybody goes to Austin — definitely," said Texas State University junior Genis Reyes. "You meet new people and hang out with your UT friends [or] San Marcos people who take the bus up there."

Austin is known for being weird, and that's possibly why the dating scene is so big there.

The people that live there are known to be not only diverse, but



DANIEL MAYER | WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Just a few days before Valentine's Day, Austin was declared by an article on Yahoo! to be one of the best cities for dating in the United States, in addition to other major cities like Boston, Chicago, New Orleans and New York City. Austin, which was the only city in Texas to make the list, is home to the University of Texas at Austin and is also notable for its close proximity to other colleges like Texas State University in San Marcos. The heavy college influence on the population has helped to make singles more comfortable in the city's dating scene.

also friendly.

"Everyone is not so uptight and really laidback. The dating scene is just really different because people are really approachable," Baylor sophomore and Austin native Lindsey Braun said.

When the weather is nice, many people in Austin find themselves kayaking on Lake Travis, hiking up Mount Bonnell or exploring the Greenbelt. The city also has many parks which citizens take full ad-

vantage of.

"During the day we definitely go paddle boarding and canoeing on the lake," Reyes said, "We also like to walk around the city at night just because it's so pretty."

Austin may be beautiful aesthetically, but the city is known for its nightlife, primarily Sixth Street.

However, Sixth Street is also home to many cafes, art galleries, upscale restaurants and entertainment venues.

"Sixth Street is definitely a great place to have a good time and meet tons of single people," Kacal said, "However, I'm not sure if that's exactly the place you want to meet your future husband, but other than that, it's a great place to hang out and get to know a bunch of people."

Austin is also a music haven. There are more than 200 live music venues in the city. One example is Austin City Limits, a three-day

music festival filled with more than 100 bands. Many Baylor students made the drive to Austin to attend the festival.

Being in Texas, people can't forget country music. Many honky-tonks combine dancing and live music.

"I love country music, so Texas Country concerts at Midnight Rodeo or Nutty Brown Café are always fun," Kacal said.

Whether it's dancing the Texas

Two-Step or swimming in Barton Springs, people won't have to go far to meet someone new. Austin may be filled with big things, but the city is still developing.

"It's a young and small city. It's growing and a lot of people are moving in here from different places," Austin Community College junior Kevin Reyes said. "By getting to know the city, you're bound to meet someone, people are always interacting."

Opinion: Bieber deserves credit for charity work

By JOSHUA MADDEN
A&E EDITOR

Justin Bieber is someone I will rarely take the opportunity to praise — mainly because I have an extremely large crush on Selena Gomez and so I'm more than a bit jealous of him — but his consistent charity work is something that shows a maturity beyond his actual age.

For those of you who haven't heard, Bieber flew 6-year-old Avalanna Routh, who has a rare type of incurable cancer, out to New York City along with her family to spend the day with him.

"That was one of the best things I have ever done," Bieber tweeted.

"She was AWESOME. Feeling really inspired right now."

It was almost like something off of "The Voice" or a Steven Spielberg movie in terms of how much it pulls at the heartstrings, but it's not the only charity work Bieber has done.

Bieber has previously brought attention to organ donation through his Twitter account, posting about the issue after a fan who needed a lung transplant sent him a message. According to an article on mtv.com, "in the days since the online correspondence, the Ontario-based Trillium Gift of Life Network has seen donations skyrocket to more than 1,200 people, four times the amount the network usu-

ally receives."

He has worked with countless charity organizations. According to looktothestars.org, Bieber has worked with Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, Cure Duchenne, Give Back Hollywood Foundation, Grammy Foundation, It Gets Better Project, Jumpstart, New Look Foundation, Pencils of Promise and the Red Cross.

Unlike Tyler, the Creator of Odd Future, I still wouldn't say that I particularly like his music, but I can respect the depth of his charity work.

Bieber, I will probably always be jealous of you because of Selena, but I can say that I respect you. Keep up the good work.

Gordon-Levitt begins directing

By DAILY TROJAN STAFF
UWIRE

Joseph Gordon-Levitt is planning on climbing into the director's chair this year.

The young actor has written, will star and also direct a feature film that will star Scarlett Johansson.

There's little information on the film itself but it's said to be a "sexy comedy" about a ladies man.

The former child star has been on the public's radar in recent

years.

In 2010, he was seen in Christopher Nolan's existential summer blockbuster "Inception," but he has also concerned himself with a number of independent films, such as "(500) Days of Summer" and "50/50," for which he received Golden Globe nominations.

The decision to step behind the camera isn't a stretch for the soon-to-be 31-year-old, who founded hitRECORD, an "open-collaborative production company" that brings together creative artists. The actor has always been interested in

telling stories, and so directing a feature film seems like an obvious choice for him.

The film has already secured financing and Ram Bergman Productions as well as hitRECORD Films will produce. The film is scheduled to begin principal photography on April 16.

In addition to directing his own feature film this year, he will also be seen in "The Dark Knight Rises," "Premium Rush," "Looper," "Lincoln" and is still trying to squeeze in a supporting role in Quentin Tarantino's "Django Unchained."

FUN TIMES

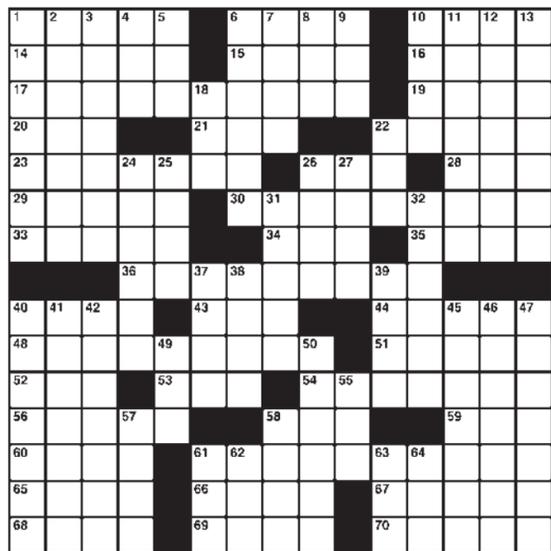
Answers at www.baylorlariat.com — McClatchy-Tribune

Across

- 1 Superfluous thing
- 6 Copy room unit
- 10 Good-sized building site
- 14 __, meenie ...
- 15 Best way to make a mistake
- 16 Like a fly ball that hits the foul pole, ironically
- 17 *Classic little red wagon
- 19 Thomas __ Edison
- 20 Old AT&T rival
- 21 Dockworker's gp.
- 22 Sign of the Ram
- 23 Tchotchke stand
- 26 O'er and o'er
- 28 VW forerunners?
- 29 Fifth canonical hour
- 30 *Memorable, as a day
- 33 Part of DOT: Abbr.
- 34 Marvin or Majors
- 35 Bern's river
- 36 They're not in the in-crowd ... and read differently, what each starred answer has two of
- 40 Humorist Bombeck
- 43 Snitch
- 44 Video game pioneer
- 48 *One seeding clouds
- 51 Animal toxin
- 52 Berlin conjunction
- 53 Tarzan raiser
- 54 Comes out of hiding
- 56 Wooden peg
- 58 Yoko from Tokyo
- 59 Tokyo, before 1868
- 60 Currier's partner
- 61 *Knee-slapper
- 65 Experiment
- 66 Soothing additive
- 67 Doting aunt, perhaps
- 68 Art Deco master
- 69 Heckle
- 70 More than reasonable interest

Down

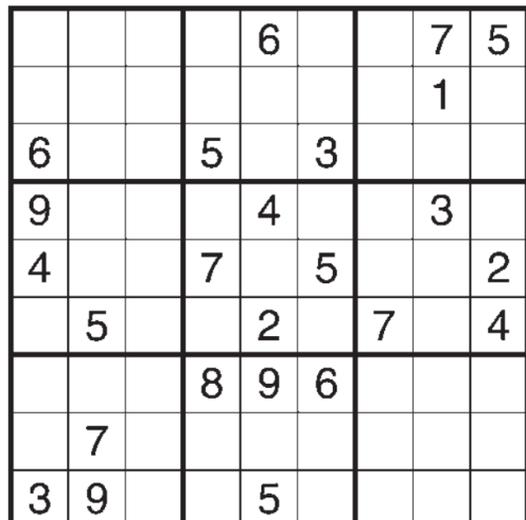
- 1 Turn to wine, as grape juice



- 2 *Nuclear plant sight
- 3 Home to Purdue
- 4 Full deck at Caesar's palace?
- 5 "Seinfeld" uncle
- 6 *Suitcase lugger's aid
- 7 "Shepherd Moons" Grammy winner
- 8 Unreturnable serve
- 9 Sea, in Paris
- 10 Out yonder
- 11 Actress Flockhart
- 12 *Rosie's role
- 13 Puzzle solver's smudge
- 18 Commonly decorated tree
- 22 Consumed
- 24 Columbus, by birth
- 25 "Mi casa __ casa"
- 26 Scarfed down too much, with "on"
- 27 Run for the hills
- 31 In-crowd
- 32 Busy employee of a paranoid king
- 37 Snare
- 38 "Oh, for pity's __!"
- 39 "Must-see" review
- 40 Scholarly
- 41 "Broke up late, as a meeting
- 42 3-Down's region
- 45 "And Still I Rise" poet
- 46 "Short-antlered animal
- 47 "Forgive me"
- 49 Practice opening?
- 50 "One paying a flat fee?"
- 55 Pierre, to Pierre
- 57 Tequila sunrise direction
- 58 Bassoon kin
- 61 Indian rule from 1858 to 1947
- 62 __ de la Cité
- 63 Hosp. heart ward
- 64 Ring victories, briefly

SUDOKU

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$$\text{Net Effect on Research Productivity} = \frac{\text{readily available information}}{\text{ways to procrastinate}} = \text{None.}$$

Stillwater calls No. 1 Lady Bears

By KRISTA PIRTLE
SPORTS WRITER

Every Big 12 South women's basketball team that has ventured into Gallagher-Iba Arena this season has lost.

The Lady Bears aim to be the first to walk away victorious come tip-off at 7 p.m. Wednesday.

No. 1 Baylor defeated Oklahoma State 71-44 on Jan. 11, but that wasn't the score that drew the focus of head coach Kim Mulkey and her team.

"Halftime score," Mulkey said. "Two-point ball game. That's what you talk about. Now, why was it a two-point ball game? Let's go to the film room and let's correct it."

With the defense getting stronger as the season rolls along, the Lady Bears are an improved team from their last meeting with the Cowgirls.

The same can be said for Oklahoma State.

"They improved like we did," junior Destiny Williams said. "They aren't the same team we played earlier this season. Just because we won a lot of games this season doesn't mean people are just going to give us a win. We buy into what coach says and we try our best to come out with a win."

So far, Baylor is the only Division I team, men's or women's, without a loss.

Being undefeated, however, is not a goal for the Lady Bears.

Their first goal stands three wins away: Big 12 conference champions.

"We have a four-game lead," Mulkey said. "If you win the next three you can clinch it outright. That's our focus right now is to try

to get three more wins to clinch it outright. It's not 25-0. It's not that we're going into our game going, 'We're afraid to lose because we're undefeated.' If we go undefeated great; if we don't, no big deal."

Junior Brittney Griner said when she is asked what the team's record is, she responds, "undefeated."

"I feel like we're really staying focused," Griner said. "We aren't letting that, you know, play a factor in anything. We're just taking it game after game."

Oklahoma State is coming off a loss on the road to Texas 69-53.

The game against Baylor will be OSU's Play for Kay game, which raises breast cancer awareness and funds for research.

Baylor owns a four-game winning streak in the series and holds a 26-10 advantage overall against OSU. The offensive threats for OSU are freshman forward Liz Donohoe and sophomore guard Tiffany Bias.

Oklahoma State averages six 3-pointers an outing, led by Donohoe, who made three in the previous match-up against Baylor.

However, this game will be won on the defensive end for both teams, as they are No. 1 and 2 in the conference for field goal percentage defense.

Bias is second in the conference behind sophomore Odyssey Sims with a pair of steals per game.

"What separates [us] is the athleticism and quickness we have on the perimeter, and the depth we have when someone gets in foul trouble," Mulkey said. "We have the ability to continue to put tremendous pressure on the ball in our half court man to man defense."



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

No. 32 forward Brooklyn Pope shoots the ball for 2 points during the game against Texas A&M in the Ferrell Center on Saturday. The top ranked Lady Bears celebrated a 71-48 victory over the Aggies.

Track brings home four winners

By SAVANNAH PULLIN
REPORTER

Head coach Todd Harbour said he gave his athletes an A- for their performances over the weekend.

The Baylor track and field team traveled to College Station for the second time this semester, returning from the Texas A&M Invitational with four wins.

"I think that was our best performance of the year," said Harbour. "We had more personal bests; we had more notable marks than we've had at any other meets so far, on both sides (men's and women's)."

For the fourth straight meet, sophomore Erin Atkinson won the weight throw and her field teammate, junior Skylar White, took the win in the shot put for the third time this season. The duo has now combined for seven wins so far.

On the track, sophomore Tiffani McReynolds took the win in the 60-meter hurdles while senior Brittany OgunMokun took the 800 meters with a career-best of 2 minutes, 7.74 seconds.

"We had solid performances again from our great throwers and Tiffani (McReynolds) in the hurdles," said Harbour. "I thought Brittany was on a mission in the 800, and it was great to see her go after it like that."

OgunMokun, who recorded her first win of the season, said everything fell into place on Saturday.

"It kind of seemed like everything just came together in terms of my workouts," said OgunMokun. "I'm starting to see everything pay off."

OgunMokun said she does not take all the credit for her success on Saturday.

"We actually had our first women's Bible study of the year Thursday, so that kind of got everybody pumped up spiritually and got everybody ready emotionally for the meet," she said.

On the men's side of the 800, freshman Patrick Schoenball also recorded a personal best. He now ranks No. 3 in the Big 12 and No. 4 individually in Baylor history after recording a time of 1:48.47.

In the quarter-mile race, senior Zwede Hewitt led the Bears with a career best of 47.18, charging him to a third-place finish.

"I'm really satisfied with my progression," Hewitt said. "Throughout the season I've been improving. Each race I got faster."

Even after recording a career best, Hewitt still says he has work to do before the Big 12 Indoor Championship.

"I still made a couple tactical errors which I could improve on. I was coming through my 200 in the correct time, but I wasn't doing it the correct way."

According to Harbour, a score of A+ just doesn't happen. There is never a complete victory. By his standards, the team did a phenomenal job.

"A lot of ladies and men are starting to step up at the right time. That's the main thing we got out of the meet," he said.

The team will return to College Station on Feb. 24 and 25 to compete in the Big 12 Indoor Championships.

Golf teams start spring with top-five finishes

No. 22 women's golf comes up short with No. 3 team in nation

By SAVANNAH PULLIN
REPORTER

The 22nd-ranked Baylor women's golf team is at it again.

Following one of the most successful fall seasons in program history, the ladies began their spring season with a second-place finish over the weekend in Sorrento, Fla., at the UCF Challenge hosted by University of Central Florida.

The Lady Bears finished the first round on Sunday at 4-under-par to take a one-stroke lead over Auburn. Baylor finished as one of four teams under par through 18 holes.

"We had a really good day Sunday," said first-year head coach Jay Goble. "The course set up a little easier because of the windier conditions, but our team played solid overall."

As second-round play continued on Monday, Auburn played well enough to tie the Lady Bears for first place at seven-under. Both teams were two of only three to shoot under-par for that day.

Freshman Hayley Davis finished the day in first place with a one-stroke lead. Baylor's best individual round came from senior Chelsey Cothran.

"Chelsey played really great," Goble said. "She had a hand injury and was unable to practice and

play like she wanted to before the tournament. She was uncomfortable Sunday, but for her to come back the way she did was fantastic. She leads by example."

Cothran shot a career-low-tying 68, leaving her tied for 13th with Sternebeck.

"The biggest thing Monday was that we played with the No. 3 team in the nation (Auburn) and hung with them all day," Goble said. "It shows that we can compete with anyone. We have a good chance to win Tuesday if we remain patient."

With a three-day total of 1-over-par, the Lady Bears let Auburn take the lead and finished second on the final day of play at the UCF Challenge. This is the fourth straight tournament in which Baylor has finished either first or second.

"It was really windy throughout the day and we got off to a really bad start," said Goble. "We put ourselves in a hole right from the start. Looking at all three days, instead of just looking at the final round, I like the way we've started the spring."

Cothran and Davis finished tied for fourth overall at 1-under-par. For Cothran, it was her fourth consecutive top-five finish.

Davis continued her stellar freshman season, finishing in the top 10 in all five collegiate tournaments - her fourth top-five showing.

"We'll take the positives from Florida and move forward to the next tournament," Goble said. "We're going to be ready."

Senior wins individual title as men's golf finishes in third place

By TYLER ALLEY
SPORTS EDITOR

Baylor men's golf may not have had the perfect ending to its first spring tournament, but one member may have.

Senior Joakim Mikkelsen took the individual title of the UTSA Oak Hills Invitational Tuesday.

"I got off to a good start Tuesday and got it to 3-under through 10 holes," Mikkelsen said. "Even after my two bogeys on the back nine, I kept going. I thought I had played my way [out] of it until I birdied 16 and 18."

The team shot a 13-over-par 865 overall to finish third in the tournament.

Texas Tech won the tournament with a score of 7-over-par 859, followed by Oklahoma who finished with a 10-over-par 862.

"Overall, I thought we played okay. We definitely wanted to win and we put ourselves in good position after Monday," head coach Greg Priest said. "It's a good way to start the spring semester. There are some things to build on, but we played a pretty strong field and managed to pick up some wins."

Mikkelsen shot a 68 in the final day, including the birdie on the 18th hole which forced a play-off between him and Texas Tech's

Clement Sordet.

The pair played the 18th three more times, tying each other twice before Mikkelsen shot par and Sordet scored a bogey to give Mikkelsen his second career individual tournament title.

"In the playoff, I kept hitting good shots and hit the middle of the green the first two times," Mikkelsen said. "On the third try, I hit in the bunker, but was able to go up-and-down for par."

Baylor played two rounds Monday and ended the day in second place at 8-over-par.

"We were off to a little bit of a rough start Monday," head coach Greg Priest said. "Conditions were rough during the morning round with the wind and the rain. We struggled a bit, but it was good to get that first round back under our belts."

Mikkelsen, a Drammen, Norway native, shot even-par on the first day, earning him fifth place at the time.

Baylor shot a 5-over-par 289 in the final round on Tuesday to fall back to third.

Senior Lorenzo Scotto tied for 12th overall at 3-over-par 216, followed by freshman Kyle Jones in 16th at 5-over-par 218.

Competing as an individual, redshirt freshman Niclas Mansson shot a final-round 72 to tie for 37th at 9-over-par 222.

Juniors Jerry Ruiz (10-over-par 223) and Ryan O'Rear (14-over-par 227) tied for 42nd and 57th, respectively.



2012 Football Schedule

| | |
|----------|---|
| Sept. 1 | SMU |
| Sept. 15 | Sam Houston State |
| Sept. 22 | @ Louisiana -Monroe Monroe, La. |
| Sept. 29 | @ West Virginia Morgantown, W. Va. |
| Oct. 13 | TCU |
| Oct. 20 | @ Texas Austin |
| Oct. 27 | @ Iowa State Ames, Iowa |
| Nov. 3 | Kansas* *Homecoming |
| Nov. 10 | @ Oklahoma Norman, Okla. |
| Nov. 17 | Kansas State |
| Nov. 24 | Texas Tech** Dallas **Cowboys Stadium |
| Dec. 1 | Oklahoma State |

Home game unless denoted otherwise.

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Judge grants Sandusky local jurors for sex abuse trial

By MARK SCOLFORO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HARRISBURG, Pa. — A judge rejected requests by prosecutors that jurors be brought in from outside the State College area to hear the child sex-abuse case against former Penn State assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky.

Judge John Cleland on Monday also denied prosecutors' requests that Sandusky remain indoors while on home confinement before his trial and ruled that Sandusky can have supervised contact with most of his grandchildren, saying there was no evidence that the children's parents wouldn't be able to keep them safe.

Sandusky faces 52 criminal counts for what prosecutors say was the sexual abuse of 10 boys over a 15-year period. He has denied the allegations.

Cleland has tentatively scheduled the trial to start in mid-May. He said jury selection will be a challenge, given the pretrial publicity and the special role that Penn State plays in the Centre

County community.

"If, after a reasonable attempt it is apparent that a jury cannot be selected within a reasonable time, then I will reconsider this ruling," Cleland wrote.

A spokesman for the attorney general's office said the judge's orders were being reviewed.

Sandusky's lawyer issued a statement saying Sandusky, his wife and their family were "relieved by and pleased with" the visitation ruling, which pertains to all but three of his 11 grandchildren, ages 2 to 14. These three children are involved in a custody case, and Cleland deferred decisions about any visits from them to the judge handling that matter.

Prosecutors made the bail modification request asking that Sandusky remain indoor, after hearing concerns by neighbors about the safety of children, particularly at an elementary school behind Sandusky's house.

"The commonwealth failed to present any evidence whatsoever that the defendant presents a clearly defined threat to any student at



Jerry Sandusky is a former Penn State assistant football coach charged with sexually abusing boys. The judge overseeing the case says Sandusky can see most of his grandchildren while he awaits trial.

the adjoining elementary school simply by being on his deck," Cleland wrote. "No evidence was presented that at any time the defendant made any effort to contact any of the children by signaling or calling to them, or that he made any gestures directed toward them, or that he acted in any inappropriate way whatsoever."

Cleland encouraged state prosecutors to work with the judge who supervised a grand jury that investigated Sandusky to figure out how to release grand jury transcripts to Sandusky's lawyers "on a schedule which balances the appropriate interests of maintaining the secrecy of the grand jury while still assuring the trial can proceed without

unnecessary disruption."

Cleland also ordered prosecutors to tell defense lawyers where and when the purported crimes occurred and how old the children were at the time. He addressed disputes between the sides over material that should be turned over to the defense by directing prosecutors to put their objections in writing by Feb. 20. Sandusky's lawyers will be allowed to reply by Feb. 27.

Sandusky lost a request to force prosecutors to disclose the names, addresses and birth dates of witnesses.

"While we are happy with the outcome of Friday's hearings, we realize, nevertheless, a number of difficult legal battles lie ahead of us," said his lawyer, Joe Amendola, in a statement. "We will continue to work very hard in preparing Jerry's defense with the ultimate goal of obtaining Jerry's acquittal."

The 68-year-old Sandusky was also granted the right to see adult visitors. Under the court's latest order, he will list up to 12 adults he would like to be able to see, subject to approval by the county officials

overseeing his home confinement. His visits will be limited to a total of two hours, three times a week.

Also Monday, a Penn State administrator asked a judge to throw out charges that he lied to the grand jury investigating Sandusky and that he failed to properly report suspected child abuse.

Tim Curley filed motions in Dauphin County Court that argued the death of football coach Joe Paterno last month left prosecutors without a required second witness to support the perjury charge.

He said allegations that he didn't report suspected abuse in 2002 were filed under a revision of the law that was passed five years later and that the statute of limitations has expired. The attorney general's office said it, too, was under review.

The 57-year-old Curley is on leave as athletic director as he awaits trial. Former Penn State Vice President Gary Schultz, who faces the same charges as Curley, has not filed similar motions. Both have denied the allegations.

GUT-PAK from Page 1

experience in competitive eating/running events through the Krispy Kreme Run in North Carolina."

Jones said because Vitek's Gut-Paks are staples in the Waco community, "one of our club advisers, Dr. Paul Martens, brought the idea of incorporating the Vitek's Gut-Pak into the mix."

During the following weeks, members of the Triathlon club gave the race a test run.

"With all of them completing it and having fun in the process, Baylor Triathlon immediately knew that we needed to bring this challenge to the public," Jones said.

It was during that time the Freshman Class Council had been thinking of a similar idea

after their adviser, Craig Willie, had also competed in the Krispy Kreme Run. The two organizations decided to team up and make the event happen.

As of Tuesday afternoon, 121 participants were "attending," according to the event's Facebook page.

"Many have commented on [Facebook] of the sheer craziness of the race," Kim said. "Hopefully the racers will be up for the challenge." Kim said the organizations are hoping for 200 to 300 participants.

"Anyone in the Waco area is able to participate," Kim said. "It will be a one-of-a-kind experience."

EDWARDS from Page 1

gressional office.

"Thirty or 40 years from now," Rogers said, "things about the Clinton impeachment, 9/11 [or] any historical event that happened during those 20 years are going to be reflected in these papers, which is true of all of the congressional papers. It's not just papers; it's about people."

12 congressmen have now stored their records in the Poage Library, including Edwards and the library's namesake, former Rep. William Poage, Rogers said. Edwards said Poage is one of his personal heroes.

One of the students with whom Edwards spoke at Dr Pepper Hour was Houston sophomore David Hornbeak.

Hornbeak, who is a member of the Baylor Chamber of Commerce, said Edwards was very friendly and

their conversation flipped between humorous anecdotes and a discussion on the importance of servant-leadership.

"What he said was, you have to be able to take direction and also give direction in a way that doesn't feel like it's pushed on someone," Hornbeak said. "[Edwards said you have to] be able to find the nice balance of being a follower and a leader at the same time and serving others in the process."

Edwards, whose congressional career came to an end after losing his bid for re-election to Republican Bill Flores in November, said he will likely be on campus about two or three weeks per semester.

Although he will not be the sole lecturer for any courses, he will appear at the invitation of professors teaching courses within his field of expertise.

FACULTY from Page 1

grant transfer credit to students who have taken online courses from other schools.

After exploring the possibility of allowing students to transfer online credit hours, a Faculty Senate task force determined the data about the effectiveness of online courses were inconclusive.

"Some studies say you learn as much [in online courses] as you do in a regular classroom," Beck said. "Other studies say 'no, it's a waste of time; you don't learn anything online.' So, basically, the task force decided to wait for more scientific evidence before they make a decision."

In other business, the Senate voted to eliminate the Facilities Use and Campus Solicitations Committee, a standing committee

whose main purpose is to field requests from outside organizations hoping to solicit funds from members of the Baylor community on university property.

The number of requests in recent years has been low enough that this responsibility has been handled by an office in the administration for some time, Beck said. Beck was unable to recall the name of the office.

Dr. Frieda Blackwell, professor of Spanish and associate dean for humanities, accompanied Beck to a coalition conference and delivered a report at the Senate meeting, but could not be reached for comment by Tuesday's deadline.

The Senate meeting was closed to the public.

Browning love letter collection digitized

By MALLORY HISLER
REPORTER

Love went digital this Valentine's Day.

Baylor and Wellesley College of Massachusetts have joined together in an effort to preserve the massive correspondence between popular historical poets Robert and Elizabeth Barrett Browning, while also making them available to all.

On Tuesday, Baylor's digital collections released a search engine that provides digital images of the Browning's 573 handwritten love letters that are located in Wellesley's Margaret Clapp Library.

"The collaborative task provides unprecedented free online access to these celebrated letters for scholars and romantics alike — and may inspire readers to opt for pen and paper over text messages and emails this Valentine's Day," according to a Baylor press release. College Archivist Ian Graham of Wellesley said working with Baylor for the project was an easy decision. "Baylor already had resources for people looking for information... and it is a large repository for information about the Brownings," Graham said.

Both Wellesley and Baylor are known for their extensive collections regarding the poetic couple, and both expressed a desire to let others see the original correspondence while still keeping those documents safe from decomposition that comes from age and handling. "Scholars from this day forward

are able to access them and do research with them, and they don't have to travel to Wellesley," Graham said.

Darryl Stuhr, manager of digitization projects of the electronic library at Baylor, echoed Graham.

"The goal is to get all of the Browning correspondence online, that way we can give people access and reduce handling," Stuhr said. "People can do their research and scholarly work without actually handling the documents."

Mariana Oller, associate curator of special collections at Wellesley, expressed joy at the idea of others being able to see the letters she has handled personally.

"We truly believe that these letters belong to the world. They must be available for everyone to read in the text and handwriting of the authors," Oller said.

"Not only scholars, but everyone interested in accessing them can look at the letters."

The online letters have been transcribed and are full-text searchable. The transcribed versions can be viewed alongside the images of the actual letters, Stuhr said.

To search for something in a letter, the user can go to the electronic library's digital collection, select the Browning letters and type in a key word.

Pattie Orr, Baylor's vice president for Information Technology and dean of libraries, has already tried out the search engine.

"Surprisingly, the Brownings never used the word 'Valentine,' but

they did use 'heart' and 'love' many times," she laughed.

Though nearly 600 of the Browning's love letters were published, much other correspondence has been preserved and will be digitized with the project.

"Our main goal is to be able to digitize all of the Browning correspondence over in the Armstrong Browning Library to give greater access to the collection," Stuhr said.

The Armstrong Browning Library owns around 3,000 letters to and from the Brownings. "Our goal is to get them all out by the end of the summer," Stuhr said. "This is a nice big chunk and a good test of what we've got."

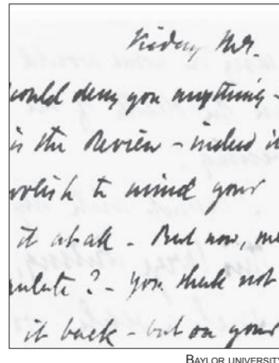
Orr, who came to Baylor from Wellesley, said she is excited about Tuesday's release.

"It's been a long partnership through many years," she said. "Because Wellesley has these courtship letters and some other items as well, we began to think, 'Wouldn't it be great if we could work on this together and have them all together for everyone?'"

Orr said the university is inviting anyone with Browning letters to have them digitized and added to Baylor's online collection.

The goal for both colleges is to preserve the magic of the handwritten letters for many years to come, which is something that Oller is excited about.

"Even though you are online, you can see each stroke and see the texture of the paper," she said. "I hope that people do get inspired by looking at the originals, and that



This is a sample of a letter from Robert Browning to Elizabeth Browning shown in the digital collection.

they seek those materials from our history and learn from them directly. Nothing is more precious."

The partnership between the schools has produced something that they both hope will impact the Browning research field for a long time.

"This has opened the door that doesn't have to be closed. It's international scholarship that is open to the public and at no charge," Graham said. "This is a wonderful partnership that we've struck here between two colleges with the biggest repositories on the Brownings."

But Orr, along with the others involved in the project, stressed that was not simply for scholars.

"Whether you're an 8th grader just learning about sonnets or a senior-level professor that's an expert on it, this is something that everyone can experience and enjoy," Orr said.

Valentine's Day couples tour NY sewage plant

By MEGHAN BARR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — All across America, men gave their sweethearts flowers and chocolates for Valentine's Day. Michael Jennings gave his girlfriend something more memorable, if less fragrant: a tour of a Brooklyn sewage plant.

Love was not the only thing in the air Tuesday as about 100 people ventured out to the Newtown Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant for a free guided tour that was billed by the city as an "unforgettable" way to celebrate the most romantic day of the year.

Proving, as the song says, that love stinks, the couples got a big whiff of something, and it wasn't

flowers or fine perfume.

"I told her it wasn't going to be like something romantic," said a grinning Jennings, who sprang the tour on girlfriend Nitisha Rawlings as a surprise. "I mean, it is. It's very beautiful."

She seemed to be getting a kick out of the experience.

The complex is the largest of New York City's 14 sewage treatment plants, processing 1.5 million gallons of waste every day. The city gives tours once a month to show off its odor-control technology; this time, tour day fell on Valentine's Day.

To mark the holiday, plant workers set out red and pink bins filled with Hershey's chocolate kisses for the visitors to snack on

as they learned about things like sludge.

The tour began with an hour-long slideshow on how the city has disposed of waste over the past century. Then the group peeked inside the control rooms and ascended to the top of the "digester eggs" — futuristic-looking stainless-steel globes where the waste is processed.

The couples laughed nervously when Jim Pynn, the plant's enthusiastic superintendent, called out: "Is anyone going to propose today? This is the most romantic part of the tour." Nobody was willing to go quite that far.

"You're going to smell a little bit of the gas," Pynn said as he lifted a vent at the top of a digester egg.

"It's going to be foul. But it smells like what natural gas smells like."

As predicted, the area soon began to smell like rotten egg.

"Very stinky," said 6-year-old Blake Hewitt, who wrinkled his nose.

That didn't seem to bother the visitors, who were too busy taking photographs of the panoramic view of the city.

Eliza Wierzbinska had dragged along her boyfriend, Daniel Gunter, because she wanted to do something out of the box this year. He happily obliged.

"It's an idea of something fun to do together," he said, leaning over to kiss her on the cheek. "And anytime we're together, it is Valentine's Day."

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