The Gathering

This Sunday, March 29th, starting at 5 p.m. in McLane Stadium is The Gathering. I anticipate you have received information about this historic event which is being described as the “largest prayer and worship assembly of churches in Waco’s history.” The evening will feature a choir some 900 strong, praise and worship music led by Israel Houghton, remarks by our very own Judge Ken Starr, Bryce Petty, and Joanna Gaines, as well as the wonderful preaching of Dr. Tony Evans. This incredible all-star lineup is guaranteed to create more energy and excitement than the amazing 61 to 58 come from behind win over TCU this year and the reason we will gather is infinitely more important. So, I for one will be there and encourage you to consider attending as well. In doing so, we will be part of an amazing experience in a stadium that was built to serve as beacon of light to illuminate our motto of "Pro Ecclesia, Pro Texana," which we translate as for the church, for Texas and the world.

I hope to see you there.

Blessings,

[Signature]
ELLISTON CHAPEL AT EAST VILLAGE NEARING COMPLETION

John Erwin Construction and RBDR architects continue to move Elliston Chapel toward an anticipated completion in early April. Installation of wood flooring was scheduled for the middle two weeks of March, followed by installation of the stained glass window on March 26-27. Final interior finishes including chandeliers, furniture delivery, piano installation, and exterior site work (sidewalks, landscaping, entry sidewalk, scripture stone, Elliston Chapel monument sign) are among the final steps remaining.

Rocky Mountain Peer Leadership Conference

In early March, several members of the peer leader steering committee attended the Rocky Mountain Peer Leadership Conference. This conference was co-hosted by the Peer Leader Center and the CU-Denver PALs. Not only did the students attend this conference but they hosted a team-building exercise for all attendees, presented at the poster session, and presented an hour-long workshop regarding applying strengths to your peer leading experience. The room was overflowing with attendees. The conference was a valuable experience for everyone entailed. Sic ‘em peer leaders – navigating to success!
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Despite wintery weather on Saturday, February 28, over 100 climbers representing a dozen Texas universities made the 12th annual BearClimb a soaring success. Top finishers in the Women’s Beginners division included two Baylor students, with sophomore music major Angela Yip placing 2nd, and senior engineering major Crystal Engl placing 3rd. Bruce Hodson, senior lecturer and Baylor’s Rock Climbing Sport Club sponsor came in 4th place overall, completing some of the hardest routes on the wall.

Several area businesses donated snacks, water, clothing and prizes for BearClimb. Platinum level sponsors, The Bear Mountain, provided backpacks, hats, shirts, and more for winners within each division. Additional gear was donated by Gossamer Gear, Black Diamond, Lowes, Hole-in-the-Roof, Vitae’s BBQ (Silver level), and ENO, Misty Mountain, Mountain Khaki, Alpine Mountain (Bronze level).

It was greatly appreciated of staff, sponsors, competitors, and everyone who worked to make BearClimb a huge success!

Outdoor Adventure Sends 40+ West for Spring Break

More than 40 students, faculty, and staff headed west for Spring Break, trekking, backpacking, and ice climbing in Arizona, Colorado, and Utah.

Part-time lecturer and Rock supervisor Daniel Ezell, along with two student guides, led a team of
students backpacking through Paria Canyon in northern Arizona.

Just 155 miles south, OA student guides Andrew Watson (‘15, Geology), Gabby Marye (‘16, Environmental Science, and Chase Turnbow (‘15, Social Work) successfully led a team of students and staff down the 8.2 mile Hermit’s Rest Trail to the bottom of the Grand Canyon, then back up again two days later.

The Grand Canyon group then met up with a group led by OA Coordinator, Jeremy Yarbrough and HHPR lecturer, Kelli McMahan in Colorado. Jeremy and Kelli spent five days snowshoeing and ice climbing with students in the Weminuche Wilderness outside of Durango.

While many Baylor students took advantage of warm sands and sunny beaches, Outdoor Adventure estimates that the 43 faculty, staff, and students who participated in the 2015 Spring Break OA trips clocked more than 120+ combined trip miles (all 4 trips), and an estimated 1,315 cumulative miles.

Assistant Director for OA, Cody Schrank, and Stephanie Davis, OA graduate assistant, led a nine-person team backpacking through the Escalante National Monument in Utah.

Campus Recreation’s Outdoor Adventure program seeks to offer experiential educational opportunities and services through both land and water-based skills and activities. More than 7,400 students participate annually in team building, clinics, trips, the Rock, Marina, and Bruiser Games (Line Camp).
Congratulations to Ashton Cooper! Wacoan of the Week!