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“After years of sub-par education in Israel, a plan for government-funded, improved education has been set into motion. Quality of education should be improved by this plan.”

NEWS PAGE 3

SLC is movin’ on up
McLane Student Life Center welcomes more machines; several upgrades to come

A&E PAGE 4

April is bringing the films
A variety of movies are set to premiere this month, including ‘The Losers’ and Fey and Carell’s ‘Date Night’

Student dies in hospital after party

Navarro College sophomore found unconscious in Arbors apartments
By LIZ FOREMAN
EDITOR IN CHIEF

A Navarro College student was pronounced dead at Hillcrest Baptist Medical Center after she was found unresponsive at the Arbors apartment com-

plex on March 21. Police responded to a 911 call from Dallas sophomore John Whitfield around 7 a.m. March 21 after he found his 19-year-old girlfriend Megan Helal unconscious. After contacting authorities, Whitfield performed CPR on Helal until the paramedics arrived, said Waco Police spokesman Steve Anderson. Helal, a sophomore volleyball player at Navarro College

and Combine resident, was in Waco visiting Whitfield for the weekend, Anderson said. Both Baylor Police and Waco Police responded to the initial call. Though the apartment complex is a Baylor-owned property, Baylor Police deferred the case to Waco Police after questions emerged about the events leading up to Helal’s death, said Baylor Police Chief Jim Doak. “Waco was there and we were there,” Doak said, “and it

was determined that due to nature of questions surrounding what happened, they are more prepared. We don’t investigate things of that nature, so we let them take the case.” Anderson said the 19-year-old’s cause of death is questionable until autopsy and toxicology results are returned. Judge Christie DeCluitt, Precinct One justice of the peace, handled Helal’s case and said it would likely take up to a few

months before autopsy results are made available. Dr. Kevin Jackson, vice president for student life, said in an official statement Wednesday that the student life division is also looking into the circumstances surrounding the event. Whitfield, a member of Sigma Chi fraternity, told police that on the evening before Helal’s death, the two attended a party somewhere in the county outside city limits.

According to Sigma Chi faculty adviser Dr. Jason MacGregor, the fraternity held an unauthorized off-campus event on the evening before Helal’s death. “I can confirm that many Sigma Chis, including John (Whitfield), spent their evening together on Saturday night (March 20),” MacGregor said. MacGregor, however, said that Helal’s death was not re-

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ASSOCIATED PRESS

Guard Kimetria Hayden, center, looks for help as she fights Duke players Allison Vernerey, Keturah Jackson, and Karima Christmas, right, for the ball in the second half of the NCAA Memphis Regional championship college basketball game Monday in Memphis, Tenn.

BU preps for Husky game

By CHRIS DERRETT
SPORTS WRITER

The Lady Bears have watched the tape and seen the numbers. They know their Final Four opponent, Connecticut, has won 76 straight games and outscored opponents by an average of 47 points in the NCAA tournament. It makes no difference to the youth-laden Baylor, who takes on the Huskies Sunday in Baylor’s second-ever Final Four appearance. “We are going to do like everybody else does. We are going to toss it up and just play. Just go out there and do the best you can,” coach Kim Mulkey said at the Lady Bears’ Final Four me-

dia day. Baylor has already overcome the odds to upset No. 1 Tennessee in the Sweet Sixteen and erase a six-point deficit in 3:47 to topple Duke. Preparing for a Connecticut squad that has intimidated many opponents before meeting them on the court, the Lady Bears focus solely on their own team. “We have to start with us. We can’t be intimidated. This is the biggest game in our basketball history,” junior guard Melissa Jones said. In fact, the team embraces each chance to play the best teams in college basketball. On Sunday Baylor plays two of the nation’s best in first-team All Americans Maya Moore

and Tina Charles. Moore, a 6-foot junior forward, edges Charles to lead the team in scoring with 18.4 per game. She has also nailed 74 3-pointers and shoots 40 percent from behind the arc. Charles leads the Huskies’ inside attack as a 6-foot-4 senior post. She hauls in an average 9.4 rebounds per game while blocking 85 shots, giving Griner her greatest collegiate challenge yet. “I feel like it’s going to do nothing but make me better,” Griner said. “To go against an All-American and somebody like Tina Charles is just going to help me in the long run.” Griner’s supporting cast also knows the job it must do to give the Lady Bears a

chance on Sunday. “It’s going to be fun playing UConn, the No. 1 seed. They have to get beat one day, and why not Sunday?” freshman Jordan Madden said. Madden and Griner, along with Kimetria Hayden and Shanay Washington, have produced 50 percent of the Lady Bears’ points as freshmen. With the unpredictable nature of young players on big stages, Baylor faces a challenge in the consistent shooting from Connecticut, who has hit 53 percent from the field in the tournament. “They are pretty good. We just have to keep our heads

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Gay rights activists return to convey messages of love, acceptance

By LAURA REMSON
STAFF WRITER

Equal rights advocacy group Soulforce Equality Ride will be making a stop on Baylor’s campus Tuesday as part of its equality ride across the nation. The group is making 16 stops at colleges that are traditionally considered conservative and have conservative policies on their students’ sexuality. Other stops in Texas include Hardin Simmons University and Abilene Christian University. Baylor’s statement on human sexuality states: Baylor University welcomes all students into a safe and supportive environment in which to discuss and learn about a variety of issues, including those of human sexuality. The University affirms the biblical understanding of sexuality as a gift from God. Christian churches across the ages and around the world have affirmed purity in singleness and fidelity in marriage between a man and a woman as the biblical norm. Temptations to deviate from this norm include both heterosexual sex outside of marriage and homosexual behavior. It is thus expected that Baylor students will not participate in advocacy groups which promote understandings of sexuality that are contrary to biblical teaching. Jaxon Lindars, who is from Plano and is one of this stop’s

organizers, said that one of the main reasons the Equality Ride is coming to campus once again because the school’s policies have not changed since the last time they were here. On March 20, 2007, five members of the group and one Baylor student were arrested after continuing to chalk on campus grounds in front of Waco Hall after Baylor Police Chief Jim Doak asked them to stop. The six people were arrested on charges of criminal trespassing. “Our hopes are strictly to have dialogue with students and administration about the intersection of faith, sexual orientation and gender identity,” Lindars said, noting that the organization is stopping to “just have a conversation on an area usually silent on Baylor’s campus.” Lindars said he is not sure what the plans for the visit are just yet, but he is hoping for a potluck dinner Monday night and a community event Tuesday night. Equality Riders will be around campus Tuesday and have been granted access from Student Life to the Bill Daniel Student Union Building and to the Bear Market Food Court. “We haven’t made all of our plans concrete and we are still trying to figure things out at this point,” Lindars said. “We are choosing to obey university policies and outside groups are not allowed to do [chalking] and so we will respect that.” Following the arrests in March 2007, a number of

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Fake rays get real tax hike

Reform bill implements 10 percent tax on indoor tanning sessions
By LAURA REMSON
AND CATY HIRST
STAFF WRITERS

A little-known piece of the recently passed health care reform bill is taking major heat for its bronzing abilities. The “tan tax,” as it’s being called, is a new 10 percent tax on all indoor tanning sessions, with the exception of medical light therapies. “Indoor tanning is dangerous,” said president of the American Academy of Dermatology, William D. James, MD,

in a statement regarding the new tax. “There is compelling, irrefutable scientific evidence which shows that indoor tanning beds can increase your risk for skin cancer. A tax on indoor tanning services serves as a signal from the federal government to young people that indoor tanning is dangerous and should be avoided. In addition, the indoor tanning tax furthers the goal of promoting wellness and prevention as part of health reform.” This tanning tax replaces a “Botax,” which was a 5 percent tax on all cosmetic procedures performed in the United States. The American Academy of Cosmetic Surgery was one of the major opponents to the possible “Botax.” According to a news release from the organization, this

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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY JED DEAN AND NICK DEAN

Officials look to citizens for areas of improvement

Baylor pairs with Waco Police, asks for critiques of current crime strategies

By SARA TIRRITO
STAFF WRITER

The Waco Police Department recently teamed up with Baylor’s Center for Community Research and Development to administer a telephone survey that would help the department gauge locals’ attitudes toward crime, the department’s work and possible new law enforcement strategies. Dr. Martha Sherman, assistant professor of sociology, is leading the project and soci-

ology graduate students Kate Ballew and Jessica Farrar are in charge of the survey. “It was just time to get a benchmark and see how we’re doing now and look toward the future and see if there are areas where we need to improve our services,” Chief Brent Stroman of the Waco Police Department said. The police department is funding the survey. “I’ve never actually heard of a police department voluntarily spending money to find out how people feel about them doing their job,” Sherman said. “It’s pretty impressive of them.” Sherman said the department

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Encountering information overload

Point of View

By BRITTANY HARDY



The 1950s coined the term “sensory overload.” Essentially, it is the idea that if our senses were switches on a master switchboard, too many have been clicked on.

Consider the last time you were caught up in your own head. Your roommate asks you a question about laundry and, this time without meaning to, you ignore it because you’re thinking about how Ricky Martin finally emerged from the closet or how that Taylor Swift song explains your life or the fact that Blair and Chuck never seem to be able work it out. It is the inability to focus on what is right in front of you.

Alvin Toffler initially formulated the concept of “information overload” to describe the current Information Age. He has written, “The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn.” He seems to fear that we will become burdened by the constant information consumption and lose the emotional determination to complete works of quality.

I have no reasonable solution for this problem. I can’t stop the constant stream of information nor do I necessarily want to, at least not in an all-or-nothing sense. However, I write what I know and philosophies of distraction have certainly occupied my mind lately, in both the figurative and literal sense.

Nonetheless, certain concerned consumers are not alone in their quest for a possible solution. Many Web sites, including Twitter, Facebook, RSS and many news sites, have utilized the idea of prediction to help the user quickly locate what he is looking for. Algorithms have been created to assess what is important to you through your online behavior, (links you click, how long and how often you view certain pages, etc).

Sure, this may be primarily well-intentioned, but it seems like a temporary (at best) fix. I have a hard time believing the predictive aspect of Web sites does much more than keep the information-seeker wanting more.

I do think it is important to break the cycle periodically, but I also recognize the difficulties. One Sunday during my freshman year of college I fasted from technology. The point was to temporarily rid myself of all the things that I might use to drown out God — music, Internet, TV, phone. It was a startling and necessary realization that constant technology consumption had truly become a way of life. Concurrently, it was difficult to complete even a mere 24 hours

due to responsibility, habit and expectation.

My attention span shrinks as the constant tide of quick information floods the ocean of ready availability. My brain works more like Internet pop-up ads than Homer’s epic Greek poetry. The ADHD kid who acted up in class and couldn’t seem to locate the end of his sentence used to stick out in classrooms around the world. Now, I am amazed to see people who are able to focus for long periods of time (or, more accurately, at all).

So, now I can’t help but wonder if masterpieces like *The Odyssey* or the Mona Lisa could have been created under conditions such as these. And that leads me to wonder what this generation will be remembered for. Honestly, I hope it’s more than health care and the iPad. I hope that when children flip through the pages of their history textbooks to the section marked “2010” they stumble upon some kind of quality, focus and perseverance among the muck and chaos that repeatedly characterize this time.

My intention is not to be negative. I am appreciative of the innovative experiences offered by the 21st century. I am a fan of its technology and its opportunity. However, as I look down at the chemistry textbook I’ve been staring at for hours and am reminded that I have probably clocked as many library hours texting or browsing articles on my New York Times App, I am frustrated by this information overload. If I’m at a computer, I instinctively check my e-mail and Facebook. Nothing catastrophic could have happened. And if it did, I would already know — notifications are sent immediately to my phone. Yet, there I am, experiencing information overload.

Teresa of Avila, Virginia Woolf and — more modernly — Anne Lamott all utilized the “stream of consciousness” technique while writing their novels, which still developed into masterpieces, in their own manner. Perhaps that’ll be more reflective of this era. The art we produce will feel similar to stumbling into the author’s mind rather than the organized parallels that characterized the brilliantly composed Celtic art of the Middle Ages. After all, what’s good enough for Teresa is good enough for me.

I don’t like this song. Switch.

I’ve already seen this episode. Switch.

This article began to bore me a couple of sentences ago. Done.

Brittany Hardy is an Argyle junior majoring in journalism. She is the opinion editor for the Baylor Lariat.



Israel takes positive steps for education, representation

Editorial

After years of sub-par education in Israel, a plan for government-funded, improved education has been set into motion. Both quality and availability of education should be improved as this plan is implemented.

The need has been made clear. In the last 10 years, about 20 percent of the education budget has been cut. This was especially troublesome for current, new and incoming students, as they feared the loss of the future they had hoped for and invested in.

These students did not remain silent about their fears. In Spring 2007, several distressed students held a 41-day strike. Their roaring complaints reflected frustration over planned tuition increases. Following suit, the next semester, tenured professors held their own strike in the name of a pay raise. Their patience proved stronger (or, perhaps, their frustrations greater): 90 days.

Finally, their concerned cries have been answered in a plan that benefits all participants of the issue: the Israeli government ministers, education officials and students. These participants will not only reap the benefits of this

plan, but be active members in its coming to fruition.

These government ministers, education officials and students will form permanent committees to plan how best to deal with all issues that have come up concerning higher education and setting uniform tuition rates.

The inclusion of students in these dialogues is a positive innovation. Their inclusion means Israel is beginning to take serious the voice of their youth. One of the main problems students voiced during their strike was their lack of say in educational matters.

The chairman of the planning and budgeting committee for the Israeli Council for Higher Education Manuel Trajtenberg recently admitted that the extended exclusion of students from these types of conversations had been a mistake. Now officials are admirably working to intentionally include students in the future.

Students in Israel will have a legitimate say in their future. This will mean a turn-around for education and for

many who have fearfully hoped for better quality and availability of education. It is no secret that education is an important aspect of the improvement of any country’s economy. The effects of this plan could potentially extend to several aspects of improvement in Israel, notably improved job performance and opportunities and an overall improved economy.

Not only will the new system reward and encourage individuals to enter the educational system, but it will also reward and encourage current students by refunding about \$27 million for tuition to students who have attended college in the last two years.

In addition to setting more stable and reasonable tuition rates, many of the plan’s primary goals focus on getting more teachers into classrooms. Specifically, these goals include creating 500 new teaching jobs over the next five years and replacing 1,000 professors due to retirement.

Israel has seen so much darkness and turmoil. This plan will give voice to its youth and deliver light to its educational system.

Lariat Letters

Smoker refutes campus ordinance

As a smoker on campus, I understand all the effects of smoking to my health as well as to the health of others. However, if you do not like the fact that I smoke, move a couple of feet away!

I, as a responsible college adult, have the right to make my own decisions.

Baylor University does not have a bubble over it, contrary to popular belief, and the smoke will go away in a matter of seconds.

If students choose to smoke between classes, they would have to stand inside a parking lot, where there is constant traffic, and possibly be very late to class.

As we all know, the driving skills of students on the Baylor campus also

leaves much to be desired, and the smoking students would be like bowling pins in the parking lot.

The choice to smoke is clearly ours, which we would be more than happy to walk away from you and not blow smoke in your face, however you would confine us to a smoker’s coop?

I completely agree with the rules against smoking near entrances to buildings and the ash trays on campus help students find adequate receptacles for their cigarette butts.

I do believe, however, that Baylor is invading my personal right to live my life as I see fit.

I am an adult, I pay \$42,000 a year in

tuition, and I pay \$6.60 for my pack of cigarettes to smoke them in between my classes.

If you are a non-smoker, I ask you to respect my right to smoke as I will respect your right to not smoke by walking as far away from the crowd as possible.

I can guarantee you that I will not stop smoking between classes, unless the university would like to buy me an E Cigarette at their expense, or would like to pick the cigarette from my fingers, to which there are plenty more where that came from.

*Matt Bueno
San Antonio senior*

Baylor Theatre: good for health

Some new research suggests that, of all of the arts, live theater contributes most to our sense of well-being and quality of life.

Baylor’s quality of life meter was off the graph during and after Baylor Theatre’s performance of Macbeth. A brilliant staging and updating of the 1606 play made it come alive for myself and for my students, many of whom avoid Shakespeare like the plague. A subterranean set replete with contemporary Scottish hooligans in wonderful costume brought home the “wages of sin are death” message, and

verified George Bernard Shaw’s comment, “There are two great catastrophes in life, not getting what you want, and getting what you want.”

There is some exciting, and creative energy surging through Baylor Theatre. Thank you, Stan Denman, for assembling this talent, including director Thomas Ward, and costume designer Sally Lynn Askins. And students, get thee to the theater! Check it out.

*Professor Michael B.Frisch
Psychology and Neuroscience*

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Please Recycle This Issue

Student Life Center receives shiny upgrades

By JOHN D. ELIZONDO
REPORTER

If you have not been in McLane Student Life Center lately, you may not have been aware of the newest improvements to the facility - the SLC now hosts enough television screens to make Bufalo Wild Wings jealous.

Over spring break the fitness department and campus recreation department replaced seven of the 10-year-old televisions in the Student McLane Life Center with five new flat-screen Vizio televisions. They are planning to make more improvements this summer.

Clint Patterson, Student Life Center coordinator of fitness, said the improvements and upgrades made this spring break and summer 2009 were made for the satisfaction of the student body.

"The televisions were purchased and designed to stay current with a lot of the trends and with the desire of the students," Patterson said. "We are excited about the improvements in the fitness center."

Patterson said the televisions would be wired to a cardio theater system on the new recumbent bikes coming this summer.

This will allow students who

use the bikes to plug their headphones into the system and listen to the programming on any of the five new televisions.

"We used to have the whole floor devoted to just the seven TVs and then last August we purchased Personal Viewing Screens, the PVS system, for all of our treadmills, ellipticals and arc trainers," Patterson said. "Now you can jump on whatever treadmill you want, scroll up and down on the 12-inch screen in front of you and watch whatever show you want to watch while working out."

Currently the Fitness Center contains 11 bikes, 14 treadmills and 16 ellipticals. Of these machines, 28 have Personal Viewing Screens, or PVS, but the bikes and the step climbers do not have PVS systems yet.

Van Davis, director of campus recreation fitness, said the fitness department listens to the students when adding new pieces of equipment.

"We do listen to the students. If we feel that there is something that will be beneficial to all the students that work out we try to get the equipment asked [for]," Davis said. "Sometimes we will try out pieces of equipment to see if students like it and want to

keep it."

Davis said most of the time, decisions about fitness equipment are made not only by students' requests but also depend on the space available and if the fitness department's budget allows upgrades to be made.

Patterson said improvements that are not requested by students are made on an annual basis.

"About every four or five years we try to cycle out the equipment because there are different upgrades, different improvements the companies make, different trends in the fitness world," Patterson said. "We try to stay current everywhere we can and provide the best workout experience for the people using the equipment."

When upgrades at the fitness center are made, the old machines are traded in and equipment companies buy the machines back and use the trade-in as credit to offset the cost of the new equipment. According to Patterson, the machines for weightlifting will not be upgraded for a while because the equipment is constructed to be durable and to last a long time.

"We will have to replace cables usually annually because of the wear and tear but as far as

the frame, the frame is solid and durable," Patterson said. "Upholstery will have to be replaced if needed."

He said the campus recreation staff cleans every machine at least once a day, and they do a lot of preventive maintenance routines to ensure the longevity of the equipment.

Mesquite junior Christian Arnoult thinks the upgrades are good but is not too excited about the improvements.

"Personally, if you are going to work out you don't need a TV, but for some people they think it is a good thing," Arnoult said.

Davis said more than 3,000 students come to the SLC every day.

Patterson thinks the improvements will be beneficial not only to current students, but will also benefit the university with luring prospective students.

"Students who walk into other universities and other facilities and they see the technology and entertainment systems there and frankly our equipment was outdated," Patterson said. "That is why we are very excited with the options that we have on the floor right now — it really puts us on par with other college fitness centers."



DANIEL CERNERO | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Waco junior Kyle Randolph looks on at the new Vizio flat screen televisions while riding the stationary bike Wednesday in the McLane Student Life Center.

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editorials and letters were printed in the Lariat, condemning the actions of the university. Additionally, Dub Oliver, then vice president for student life, sat down with Soulforce equality rider Amanda Harris and sent out an e-mail regarding the incident and Baylor's position on human sexuality.

Lindars said the upcoming visit has been prefaced by conversations with Baylor officials.

"I've spoken with Kevin Jackson, vice president of student life, and we are allowed on campus, but with the understanding that it's OK as long as we aren't disruptive or coercive in our dialogue," Lindars said. "The university is not hosting us in any sort of sense."

Jackson says the advocacy group will be treated the same way all visitors are treated when visiting campus.

"As long as they abide by the rules and regulations of the uni-

versity, then they are allowed to visit campus," Jackson said.

Jackson said Soulforce has been made aware of campus rules and regulations and he does not foresee any problems arising as long as the group commits to obeying those rules.

"I went back and researched the last time Soulforce came and that was back in 2007 and the approach we are using today is the same approach we used then," Jackson said. "We have spent a great deal of time talking with Soulforce so that we can be clear on what we would expect from them on visiting on campus and they have said they understand our rules and regulations and that they are committed to abiding by them."

La Jolla, Calif., equality rider Mia Mutch said the reaction Soulforce received during its previous time on campus was cause for the upcoming visit.

"I felt that it was important for

us to come back to Baylor's campus because I was in high school the first time that we came," Mutch said. "Because of the campus' response to us being there, they didn't have a lot of interaction with students and felt that there is still, very much, a need to reach out to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans students there and let them know that they are loved and let them know that everyone is created in God's image. That's really the message that we're trying to bring. Though the first time that we were there, we had a negative interaction with the school. We still feel that that message needs to be conveyed to the students there." Jackson said that in his talks with Soulforce, he highlighted several campus rules. "I reminded them that any visitors to are not allowed to distribute written material, post information or conduct any other form of solicitation that could be disruptive," Jackson said.

Jackson said these rules apply to all groups visiting campus and that he hopes Baylor students will respond positively to the visit.

"Our desire is that our campus will show the care and compassion of our Christian faith," Jackson said. "And in doing so, what we would hope is that individuals on campus would not feel compelled to protest. In accordance with their core values, the Equality Riders will participate in "nonviolent resistance against religious and political oppression of LGBTQ people," as stated on the Soulforce Web site. "From our end, I don't think there will be any problems, but I have heard from a couple of Baylor students that there are a couple of groups that are planning on protesting: two being student organizations and two being organizations just from the Waco community," Lindars said. "I think if there is any problem with the interaction, it's going to be from that side and

not ours. We're strictly coming for dialogue."

Part of the Equality Ride is to answer questions and help students who, according to Lindars, have been unable to live out of the closet on Baylor's campus.

"I have spoken with some students, who have felt that, though they have found friends that they can be out to, campuswide they are not able to," Lindars said. "They are somewhat afraid to be out completely." Overall, the Equality Riders hope for change. "We really just want to have dialogue and normal conversation with students from all walks of life and to put a face to the people who are being discriminated against on Baylor's campus," Mutch said. "We feel that no one should have to compromise who they are to in order to get an education. An educational experience is the best when people are allowed to be their true authentic selves."

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strong and don't overlook ourselves. We are going to stay with them," Hayden said.

Whether she wanted to or not, Mulkey had to call on her freshmen and sophomores to perform all season, especially when a stress reactor sidelined Jones for much of the conference season. Mulkey used nine different starting rotations, including Hayden and sophomores Terran Condrey, Ashley Field and Lindsey Palmer, to help get Baylor where it currently stands.

Now the Lady Bears enter this weekend playing as a full team, healthy and baptized by fire. Connecticut has no plans for losing, but neither does the upstart Baylor team.

"That doesn't mean we are just going to go out there and give up and start waving the flags," Mulkey said.

Baylor will host a send-off for the Lady Bears at the Lt. Jack Whetsel Jr. Practice Facility at the Ferrell Center on Thursday at 4:45 p.m.

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lated to Sigma Chi.

"Sigma Chi is working with the dean's office and the national chapter to ensure proper investigation and to ensure that counseling is available for John, his family and other Baylor students."

A member of the organization confirmed that the off-campus event held on March 20 was the semi-annual Sigma Chi Pledge Dance in which 35 fraternity members and their dates were in attendance.

The fraternity chartered two buses to transport attendees to a bar in a nearby town, according to the source.

The fraternity member confirmed the presence of alcohol and underage drinking at the event.

Brad Bartels, a Temple senior and former president of the Baylor Sigma Chi chapter, resigned from his position Friday, MacGregor said. San Antonio freshman Jake Wilker has taken over the position.

Dr. Elizabeth Palacios, dean of student development, confirmed Bartels' resignation.

"He chose to step down," Palacios said. "That would be something to talk to him about."

Bartels did not respond to phone calls or e-mails from The Lariat on Wednesday.

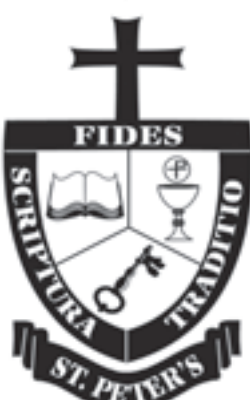
In addition, the fraternity's annual event, Derby Days, was canceled this year.

"All I can say is this is really a tragic situation and just unfortunate and our hearts go out to the family," Doak said.

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Forget spring showers, try April movie releases

By RACQUEL JOSEPH
REPORTER

Unfortunately for the month of April, it can be known for only two things: April Fool's Day and unpredictable weather. We get tricked into making springtime plans and then are forced indoors with trademark showers.

So, I vote we avoid the whole spoiled picnic and go to a movie. Well, six movies in this one temperamental month.

On April 9 "Date Night" premieres, a potential comedic work of genius is born. Tina Fey and Steve Carell are united in a classic comedy of errors: mistaken

identity. The plot will be nothing you have not seen or read before, but hopefully the comedy will be fresh. Fey's oddball timing and Carell's out-of-place aura should make an excellent plot out of a suburban couple stealing an upscale, uptown restraint table under someone else's name.

April 23 is a night for a double-header. Nothing says variety like a shoot 'em up movie and a romantic comedy. "The Losers" is a fast-paced movie about an "elite group of fighters" who are betrayed by their own boss. The cast is packed with potential: Columbus Short ("Armored"), Jeffrey Dean Morgan ("Watch-

men"), Zoe Saldana ("Avatar"), all who can make action feel as natural as a night in the library.

Also opening on April 23 is "The Back-Up Plan," in which Jennifer Lopez and up-and-coming Alex O'Loughlin meet each other at the worst possible time. Tired of waiting for Mr. Right, Lopez's character decides it's time to have a baby. The day of Lopez's character's insemination, she meets a man that might be Mr. Almost Right. Apparently the movie is, by parts, hiding signs of pregnancy, confession, commitment and a slight case of cold feet. Sounds like one of the more interesting romantic comedies to

come down the Hollywood pipe in a long time.

April will send you on your way with the rebirth of a classic. The 30th is the debut of a new take on "A Nightmare on Elm Street." Though most will be interested in this movie in order to compare it to the original Wes Craven version, the attempts at deeper psychological insights will hopefully be more interesting. Because he has kept almost all of the main plot elements the same - setting, villain, victim demographic - director Samuel Bayer, who specializes in music videos, has a lot to prove.

If you want more of a chal-

lenge this April, the final two must-sees will be limited releases forcing you to steal spots in friends' Netflix queues or drive long distances.

April 2 is when "The Greatest" (Susan Sarandon, Pierce Brosnan and Carey Mulligan) becomes available. The last name might have tripped you up but it won't for long; Mulligan ("Pride and Prejudice," "An Education") is one of the most celebrated young actresses and was nominated for Best Actress at this year's Oscars for "An Education." This movie is the tale of a family dealing with the loss of a son and the new presence of a woman he might

have loved.

And finally, on April 30 comes the controversial "I Love You Phillip Morris" which will enter wide release in late May. Jim Carrey plays the role based on real life Steven Russell, a happily married Texas police officer who has a life change and comes out of the closet and into the con game. During a brief stint in prison, he falls for a soft-voiced, soft-hearted Ewan McGregor and begins a crime binge to keep up appearances for his ex-con boyfriend.

So, mark your calendars for these six films. They are all different and should provide a great escape from spring showers.

LL Cool J dumps Palin's Fox premiere

By MATEA GOLD
LOS ANGELES TIMES

NEW YORK – The announcement by Fox News on Tuesday that LL Cool J would be featured in the debut episode of a new show hosted by Sarah Palin provoked surprise among many – including, apparently, the rapper himself, who wrote on his Twitter account late Tuesday that he had not participated in the show.

"Fox lifted an old interview I gave in 2008 to someone else & are misrepresenting to the public in order to promote Sarah Palins Show," he tweeted. "WOW."

Fox News said the program, "Real American Stories," included an interview the performer gave to the network as part of an online project of the same name that launched during the 2008 election.

However, producers are now excising his interview from the show after LL Cool J, whose real name is James Todd Smith, raised objections.

"Real American Stories' features uplifting tales about overcoming adversity and we believe Mr. Smith's interview fit that criteria," said a spokeswoman for the network. "However, as it appears that Mr. Smith does not want to be associated with a program that could serve as an inspiration to others, we are cutting his interview from the special and wish him the best with his fledgling acting career."

LL Cool J did not immediately respond to requests for comment made through his Twitter account or his manager. On Wednesday morning, while the news that Fox



McCLATCHY TRIBUNE

Former Alaska governor Sarah Palin delivers remarks at the Orange County Republican Executive Committee Lincoln Day Dinner in Orlando, Florida on March 12.

had cut him from the show was breaking, the star of "NCIS: Los Angeles" tweeted that "Nobody can bring you peace but yourself."

The "Real American Stories" Web site is still up, now as an extension of the television series. The site currently includes profiles of Americans, including some celebrities, who share their lessons about fulfilling their dreams and helping others. (The LL Cool J interview cannot currently be found on the site.)

The cable show hosted by Palin is being cast as program in the same vein, focused on inspirational people who have overcome obstacles in life. The premiere episode, which airs Thursday at 10

p.m. EDT, is set to feature a piece about a Marine who sacrificed his life for his fellow soldiers, and a story about a stockbroker who helps underprivileged youth pay for college.

"As Americans, we aspire to greatness," Palin says in a promo for the show. "When we dream, we dream big. We reach out, we pick each other up. We pride ourselves on our make up and our character."

In its original release about the show, Fox News said LL Cool J and former General Electric Chief Executive Jack Welch would be featured in the first episode, talking about making it in America as part of a segment called "In Their Own Words." The network did

not specify when the interviews were conducted.

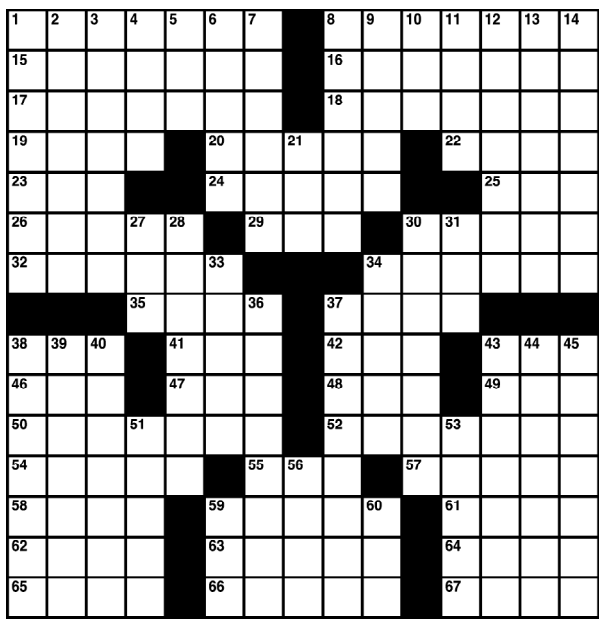
Palin serves as host of the program and conducted some studio interviews, a role that is part of her larger deal as a regular contributor to Fox News. The premiere episode of "Real American Stories" is re-airing Sunday, but does not yet have a regular time slot.

None of the well-known figures who will be featured on the show, including country music star Toby Keith, were interviewed by Palin. But the former Alaska governor did conduct interviews before a live studio audience with people with stories of inspiration, such as a girl who risked her life to save a stranger.

FUN TIMES

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McClatchy-Tribune



Across

- 1 Start of a thrill-seeker's mantra
- 8 More of the mantra
- 15 Conductor's nickname
- 16 European car company with a prancing horse logo
- 17 Government heave-hos
- 18 "Million Dollar Baby" Oscar winner
- 19 Shoppe sign adjective
- 20 Set one's sights on, with "at"
- 22 Big ape
- 23 Artery: Abbr.
- 24 Poet who won the 1923 Nobel Prize for Literature
- 25 Juan's uncle
- 26 Piles
- 29 Reuben bread
- 30 Giant

- 32 Percentage on a bank sign
- 34 2007-'08 NBA Rookie of the Year Kevin
- 35 Trig. e.g.
- 37 Letter opening
- 38 Sounds of hesitation
- 41 Demure
- 42 Rotate, as a camera
- 43 Casual "I'll pass"
- 46 Floor exercise surface
- 47 "For ___ a jolly ..."
- 48 "Star Wars" saga nickname
- 49 Corrida shout
- 50 At the ready
- 52 Tablet alternative
- 54 Dungeons & Dragons creatures
- 55 Farmyard female
- 57 Kept
- 58 Bandleader Puente
- 59 Step
- 61 ___ Mason: asset management giant

- 62 Nabokov's title professor
- 63 Scorch slightly
- 64 Farmyard female
- 65 More of the mantra
- 66 More of the mantra
- 67 More of the mantra

Down

- 1 More of the mantra
- 2 Blamed
- 3 "Whatever you say, honey"
- 4 Bone: Pref.
- 5 Mountain West Conference athlete
- 6 Deck out
- 7 More optimistic
- 8 Decadent
- 9 Unlikely class presidents
- 10 Mine find
- 11 Hike
- 12 "Raging Bull" boxer
- 13 Shiraz resident
- 14 More of the mantra

- 21 Might
- 27 Kitchen spray
- 28 Hoards
- 30 Root vegetables
- 31 Collection agcy.?
- 33 Bygone anesthetic
- 34 Roman goddess of the hunt
- 36 Mass reaction, perhaps
- 37 Era that began in 1957
- 38 More of the mantra
- 39 Like some drying clothes
- 40 Commence
- 43 ___ riche
- 44 Fast, to a
- 15-Across
- 45 More of the mantra
- 51 Téa of "Ghost Town"
- 53 Actress Hayek
- 56 Left
- 59 Sound of disapproval
- 60 German article

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Track preps for relays

By DANIEL CERNERO
REPORTER

The men's track and field team began the outdoor season over the weekend with strong finishes in both the 4x100- and 4x400-meter relays at the Victor Lopez Classic in Houston.

Originally, the Dr Pepper Invitational was on the schedule for the outdoor season, but after inclement weather rolled through the Waco area, the meet was canceled.

In Houston, the 4x100-meter relay squad – senior Marcus Boyd, sophomore Whitney Prevost, senior Courtney Thomas and senior Trey Harts – crossed the line with a time of 40.18 seconds, resulting in second place.

Baylor's other second place finish of the day came from the 4x400-meter relay squad – Prevost, senior J.T. Scheuerman, freshman Drew Seale and sophomore James Gilreath – which posted a time of 3:05.67.

"It was a good start," head coach Todd Harbour said. "We still have some (athletes) that we have to get back. We had some good performances though."

The men's track meet on Saturday was sandwiched in between the NCAA Sweet 16 and Elite Eight games of Baylor's men's basketball team. Many of the track members attended Friday's game against the Saint Mary's Gaels.

Boyd said sarcastically that he thought the team did a good job, "considering we were all thinking about the basketball game."

"At the (basketball) game, it was tough, because we wanted to sit down to rest our legs, and we were standing the whole time," senior Michael Liggins said.

The Bears will travel down to Austin this weekend for the heavily lauded Texas Relays, where top schools from across the nation come to compete.

"Texas Relays has been special to me since high school," Boyd said. "It's the meet right before the playoff season for track (during high school) and it's where



DANIEL CERNERO | LARIAT STAFF

Senior sprinter Trey Harts bursts off the start line as his 4x100-meter relay teammates, senior Courtney Thomas and sophomore Whitney Prevost, wait for their turn during practice Tuesday at the Hart-Patterson Track and Field Complex. The relay squad will look to defend its 4x100 relay Texas Relays title this weekend in Austin.

everyone shows their stuff."

"It's as big of a meet as any of the ones we have on the calendar," Harbour added. "It can be a blessing and it can be a curse. It's bigger than what it needs to be, but it's a lot of fun."

"It's such a carnival atmosphere. It's one of the best track meets in the world every year. The fans are great, especially on Saturday where they'll have a huge crowd. The combination of all of that makes it a really special meet."

Senior Chris Gowell looks to be back in action for the first time since injuring his leg during the NCAA Indoor Championships

earlier this month. Gowell was considered to be a favorite at the 800-meter distance, but was not able to finish the race.

"His hamstring is doing better," Harbour said of Gowell. "We're going to run him this weekend, so we'll see where he is at. It was a tough blow losing him at Indoor Nationals, but hopefully we'll have him back and he's ready to go this weekend."

At last year's Texas Relays, the Bears left with four titles, a school record.

"The top teams in the nation always come, so we can see how we match up against them," Boyd said.



MATTHEW HELLMAN | LARIAT STAFF

Dani Leal drives a base hit in Wednesday night's 3-2 victory against Texas A&M University. Leal scored the game-winning run in the bottom of the 10th inning to capture the victory for the Lady Bears.

Softball defeats A&M in extra innings

By JEREMY JOSEPH
REPORTER

Courtney Repka had the best game of her career, allowing three hits, two runs and striking out 11 as the No. 24 Lady Bears defeated rival No. 18 Texas A&M University 3-2 in 10 innings Wednesday night at Gettman Stadium.

"A Big 12 pitcher showed up tonight," head coach Glenn Moore said. "She put it all together tonight against a good team."

Repka started the top of the third by hitting Macie Morrow in the middle of the back with a pitch.

Two batters later, the Aggies got retribution as Meagan May drilled a home run over deep center field to give the Texas A&M a 2-0 lead.

The Lady Bears threatened in

the bottom of the fourth as Dani Leal was walked and advanced to third on the single Kathy Shelton hit to left field. Shelton advanced to second base on Kelsey Spittler's throw to third base.

The Bears were not able to score any runs as they stranded their sixth runner to that point.

Rebecca Arbino came in to pitch for the Aggies in the bottom of the sixth, and she walked the first batter she faced, Shelton, to load the bases.

But Arbino was able to work her way out of the jam, though, as KJ Freeland reached on a fielder's choice and Tiffany Wesley popped out to left field to end the inning.

The Bears rallied in the bottom of the seventh as Nicole Wesley singled to start off the inning. Vannatta followed Nicole

Wesley's single with a walk.

Nieten came up next and sent a deep fly ball to left-center field for a double while tying the game for the Bears.

"I got up there and I just tried to do whatever it took to move the runner. I got up there and got a base hit, and it worked well," Nieten said.

Arbino settled down and retired the next three batters in order to send the game into extra innings.

The game entered into international tie-break rules in the 10th inning, and Leal advanced from second to third on a Shelton groundout. The Lady Bears were able to end the game as Leal scored on a passed ball.

"It was the longest sprint home that I have ever run, but I made it," Leal said.

Sports Briefs

Broosova receives
Big 12 Player of the Week

No. 5-ranked senior Lenka Broosova received her first Big 12 Player of the Week award of the season and the fourth of her career for her contributions between March 22 and 28.

During that span, the Slovakian native did more than her part to help the Lady Bears put away No. 29 SMU and No. 35 Texas, convincingly defeating the No. 23 and 29 players in the country, Texas' Aerial Ellis and SMU's Marta Lesniak.

Baylor improved to 15-2 overall and 5-0 in the Big 12 with the wins.

Griner takes home All-America, Freshman of the Year honors

Baylor women's freshman Brittney Griner joined men's basketball junior Ekpe Udoh among the Bears' basketball players receiving AP All-American honors this week.

The 6-8 Memphis Region MVP earned a second-team All-America spot after setting a new single season block record with 218 swats.

She was also named the National Freshman of the Year on Wednesday.

Compiled by Matt Larsen

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TAN from pg. 1

tax would not only create a sense of tax collector duty for doctors, but would also be more focused on women, since they are more likely to receive cosmetic procedures.

Additionally, the release notes a similar tax implemented in New Jersey, which “has failed to realize proposed profits from the bill and faces opposition from the same legislators who approved it in the first place.”

John Overstreet, executive director of the International Tanning Association, said switching the “botax” with the “tan tax” was an unethical move by Senate.

“This is not the way Congress should be making tax policy,” Overstreet said. “It doesn’t matter whether you agree with the tax or not. It is not hard to realize that this was a backroom deal in the middle of the night, no input from the industry, no idea who it was going to affect, no idea how it was going to affect people, no idea who’s really going to pay it. That is just not the way we expect the federal government to make tax policy, and unfortunately, it really shows you what’s wrong with Washington right now.”

Overstreet said powerful interest groups have stronger control over politicians than the tanning industry has, and lobbied Congress about changing the tax.

“[The bill] passed on Christmas Eve, which as you know was a week before the end of the year, so it was an incredible deadline pending in all this,” Overstreet said. “And it was a backroom deal. They struck a deal in some Senate office late one night and replaced those two taxes. There was no outreach to the industry, there were no hearings, there was nothing; and it was just a raw power play by a powerful special interest group.”

Clement Moore, owner of Equator tanning salon in Waco, believes the tax targets white people. He believes all people should be taxed equally, not just fair-skinned people who use tanning beds. Since white people predominantly use tanning beds, Moore believes it is racist to target the tanning industry. “We are being taxed to death, that’s my opinion,” Moore said. “I think it is an unfair tax, mainly because it pinpoints only people that tan.”

Overstreet agrees that the tax targets a specific group of people.

SURVEY from pg. 1

did this type of survey yearly in the 1990s, but that the last survey done was around 2001. Sherman said this year’s survey would be essentially the same as those of past years, but with the addition of questions concerning new topics of the past decade.

“It’s really not very different because the police wanted to be able to compare to prior years,” Sherman said. “There’s the addition of [questions about] the red light cameras and the surveillance cameras, and additional questions about animal control, but for the most part it’s the same so that they can compare.”

The survey contains 34 main questions, which can increase to about 50 depending on the respondents’ answers to the main questions, and demographic questions.

Topics included are victimization, perceptions of police and safety, among others.

Sherman said the survey would help the police department ensure that their resources are being used in the most beneficial ways for the community.

“I think it’s important because the police have limited resources and limited time, and so they’re able to get a large amount of information regarding use of their services, perceptions of the officers and perceptions of safety,” Sherman said. “So then they can use their resources in the best way possible to make community members safe and happy. If they don’t have that information, they have to guess.”

Stroman said past surveys have shown that the department was service-oriented and that citizens were satisfied with their experiences with the department, and also prompted changes such as increasing efforts to contact the victims of crimes and hiring more officers.

He said he hopes this survey will report similar satisfaction and also that help gauge receptiveness to potential new law enforcement strategies, such as Internet reporting for certain types of crime or the implementation of red light cameras.

“It is a tax that disproportionately hits women, both in a business sense, because women are the prime owners and operators of these businesses and the primary employees of these businesses, but also they are the primary customers of these businesses.”

Overstreet believes the tanning tax might not be as effective as the Botax.

“I can tell you that the folks that would have paid the other tax are far better to pay a tax, if there is going to be a tax,” Overstreet said. “There is a lot more money in that industry than there is in ours.”

Oklahoma City senior Ashlee Owens typically tans from January through May for about 15 minutes.

“I feel that the new ‘tan tax’ is unfair,” Owens said. “It indirectly targets a large consumer base for the wrong reasons.”

Owens said the new tax, which is aimed at taxing an industry reputed to cause skin cancer, ignores important benefits of tanning.

“I feel they overlooked the benefits that come with tanning like a higher increase in vitamin D, which is shown to reduce depression, and the opinion that people who tan are usually more active and healthy than those who don’t,” Owens said. “Also most tanners are aware of the importance of hydration and staying hydrated, which decreases the risk of certain skin problems.”

Owens is not overly concerned about getting cancer from tanning indoors, because it can happen outside as well.

“So while I am concerned about cancer, I don’t think that tanning indoors is going to speed up that process,” Owens said. “Being outdoors can be just as dangerous as being in a tanning bed, so are they going to start taxing people for laying by the pool or sitting at their kids’ outdoor sporting events or other outdoor recreational activities? No, probably not, and that’s why this tax is an unfair and not really thought through.”

Owens plans to keep tanning, despite the tax.

Moore does not believe the new tax will affect his business, because tanning is seasonal.

“People that are going to tan are going to tan and they are going to understand that it is a tax,” Moore said.

“I would hope to see that again for our current situation and for the future,” Stroman said. “Some of the survey questions are geared toward some of the things we’re looking forward to for the future, so I would hope to see that there’s some receptiveness to those changes.”

Waco Police Department Assistant Chief Frank Gentsch said the department’s goal is for its interactions with Wacoans to be as positive as possible.

“We always hope that the survey shows that people are having a positive experience when they’re dealing with the police department in all aspects,” Gentsch said.

“Our job is to serve the public, and sometimes the public does not necessarily understand why we do certain things the way we do, but we’re hoping that even if they don’t understand why we do things they way we do that their experience is as positive as it can be.”

Undergraduate students in sociology classes were trained to conduct the survey and have been placing the calls since March 16. Sherman said the group also includes some Spanish callers so that surveys can be administered even with Spanish-speaking respondents.

“They seem to enjoy it,” Sherman said. “I think they learn a lot about being on the other end of the hang-up.”

Farrar said working on the survey has provided helpful experience for both the graduate and undergraduate students.

“It’s good for us because we’re learning how to branch out and do these on our own,” Farrar said.

“And it’s great for the undergraduates because it gives them an opportunity to see how social science research is conducted, so when they’re reading about a telephone poll they’ll actually have done it and they’ll know what went into that.”

Sherman said calling is slated to end Thursday because the necessary 500 respondents have already completed the survey.

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