

ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2009

OU proves tough opponent for Bears



Shanna Taylor/Lariat Staff

No 'W' for Dubya

Former President George W. Bush and wife Laura Bush applaud the teams Wednesday before the Lady Bears' game against the Oklahoma Sooners in the Ferrell Center. This is the former president's first public outing since leaving office. "This isn't and wasn't about politics tonight," said Baylor women's coach Kim Mulkey. "When the leader of our country for 8 years shows up at a women's basketball game and thinks enough of me and this program to acknowledge us in the manner he did, you bet it's special. It's a night that none of us will forget."

Lady bears couldn't hold off Sooners for win, but familiar face cheered them on

By Joe Holloway
Sports writer

The largest crowd the Ferrell Center has drawn all season and even a visit from former President George W. Bush weren't enough to lift No. 4 Baylor over No. 2 Oklahoma as the Sooners handed the Lady Bears their first home loss of the season 56-51.

Baylor head coach Kim Mulkey said she thought the fact the Lady Bears remained in the game until the final minute was remarkable. Baylor shot a mere 27.1 percent from the field.

"You're not going to beat anybody when you shoot like that," she said. "We just missed point blank shots. I have no idea how we stayed in the game. I really don't."

She discounted the possibility that having 8,220 people in attendance or a president in the house might have rattled her players.

"We've played in Big 12 games. We've played in front of crowds this big," she said. "Some of them need to do some soul-searching, and I'm going to help them search."

Even with offensive woes

plaguing nearly everyone on the team, sophomore guard Melissa Jones managed to put together 16 points.

"Melissa seemed to be the only one who could score out there for a while," Mulkey said of the Thornton, Colo., native. "She is one of the bright spots."

The other bright spot would seem to be a staunch Baylor defensive effort, led by the play of junior post Danielle Wilson, who took the task of guarding six-foot-four senior Oklahoma center Courtney Paris.

"Danielle Wilson had her hands full," Mulkey said. "I can't fault Danielle Wilson's effort. The kid played 40 minutes and she almost had a double-double. She's banging in there with a kid twice her size. Our problem was on the offensive."

The Bay Shore, N.Y., native said her play was a result of maturity.

"I've played Courtney the past two years and each year I've gotten better against her," Wilson said. "You can't stop her. You can only contain her."

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TO VIEW AN ONLINE SLIDESHOW OF THE BUSHES CHEERING ON THE LADY BEARS PLEASE VISIT: WWW.BAYLOR.EDU/LARIAT

Icy conditions cause wrecks, late openings

By Brittany Hardy
Staff Writer

The Waco Police Department has investigated 50 auto accidents occurring between 9 p.m. Tuesday and 11:45 a.m. Wednesday.

"Ice is slick, and unless you have to leave the house, don't," said Steven Anderson, Waco chief of police.

One man, who was struck by a car while crossing Interstate 35 in Bellmead, was seriously injured. The Texas Department of Public Safety said the man was transported to a local hospital.

Scott McConnell, Assistant Athletics Director of Media Relations for men's basketball said the University of Texas basketball team's bus was delayed a little, due to poor weather con-

ditions, but they were able to return safely Tuesday night.

In response to the weather, Baylor cancelled all classes before 10:00 a.m. Wednesday.

"The weather forecast last night was the biggest indicator that we were probably going to have travel issues this morning. Rather than force people on the road when it was unsafe, we thought it would make more sense to delay until the sun was out on the ice," said Warren Ricks, director of risk management.

The decision to postpone classes was made at approximately 10:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Warren said the decision was a result of an educated guess as to when weather and travel conditions would improve.

He said the risk management department understood that it would be sunny after 10:00 a.m.



Associated Press

Julie Beatrice takes her dog Bella on a walk Wednesday over the ice-covered grass at the Bear Creek Park in Keller. Icy conditions in Waco caused Baylor University to postpone classes until 10 a.m. Wednesday and 50 auto accidents were investigated by police between Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning.

Wednesday, according to weather predictions.

The lows and highs for the rest of the week will be approximate-

ly 30 degrees to 65 degrees.

Drivers should use caution and allow extra time for reaching their destinations.

Financial aid for students in House bill

By Ashley Corinne Killough
Staff writer

The \$819-billion stimulus package passed by the House of Representatives Wednesday could alleviate financial aid concerns for students over the next two years.

Included in the 650-page bill, shaped by spending increases, tax cuts and backed by the Obama administration, are provisions that would increase federal grant money, funding for work study programs and money for states to use on education infrastructure.

The bill will now make its way to the Senate, where it will likely be amended to include variations already approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee, according to the Associated Press.

Both the Senate and House

versions of the stimulus package include additional funding for the federal Pell Grant, the government's largest need-based student aid program. The House plan proposes a \$500-increase to the maximum award amount, to \$5,350 from \$4,371.

The Senate plan would boost the maximum amount to \$681 over a two-year period, with an initial increment of \$281 in the 2009-10 academic year, followed by \$400 increase in 2010-11, according to Inside Higher Ed.

With 2,021 Baylor students benefiting from Pell grants in 2006-07, the increase in funding would significantly assist students in need of financial aid, said Cassidy Ford, internal vice president of Baylor

Please see **STIMULUS**, page 4



Associated Press

In this Sept. 18, 2003, photo, Virginia Beach postman Paul Martin delivers mail in Virginia Beach, Va. Massive deficits facing the post office could force the agency to cut out one day of mail delivery per week. Postmaster General John E. Potter asked Congress Wednesday to lift the requirement that the agency deliver mail six days a week.

Massive deficits, lower mail volume may lead to 5-day delivery week

By Randolph E. Schmid
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Massive deficits could force the post office to cut out one day of mail delivery, the postmaster general told Congress on Wednesday, in asking lawmakers to lift the requirement that the agency deliver mail six days a week.

If the change happens, that doesn't necessarily mean an end to Saturday mail delivery. Previous post office studies have

looked at the possibility of skipping some other day when mail flow is light, such as Tuesday.

Faced with dwindling mail volume and rising costs, the post office was \$2.8 billion in the red last year. "If current trends continue, we could experience a net loss of \$6 billion or more this fiscal year," Potter said in testimony for a Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs subcommittee.

Total mail volume was 202 billion items last year, over 9

billion less than the year before, the largest single volume drop in history.

And, despite annual rate increases, Potter said 2009 could be the first year since 1946 that the actual amount of money collected by the post office declines.

"It is possible that the cost of six-day delivery may simply prove to be unaffordable," Potter said. "I reluctantly request that Congress remove the annual appropriation bill rider, first

added in 1983, that requires the Postal Service to deliver mail six days each week."

"The ability to suspend delivery on the lightest delivery days, for example, could save dollars in both our delivery and our processing and distribution networks. I do not make this request lightly, but I am forced to consider every option given the severity of our challenge," Potter said.

Please see **POST**, page 4

Editorial

BBB's ratings unfair

The Better Business Bureau has recently changed the way in which it rates businesses. Now instead of the usual black and white – “satisfactory” or “unsatisfactory” – ratings, the bureau has adopted a rating system that yields grades from A+ to F.

The grading system is based on 16 different factors, including how long a company has been in business, the type of business and the complaint volume, among other factors. The bureau determines the importance of each factor and distributes points accordly. Theses points are added together and calculated in a formula before the bureau bestows a business with a certain grade.

Though it may seem that having a wider range in the BBB grade scale would provide a clearer and more accurate assessment of businesses for consumers, this hasn't been the case.

The new way in which the bureau has gone about assigning ratings is unfair to many businesses for several reasons.

Instead of judging each business on a level playing field, the system favors paying members over non-members. From the start, non-members are already penalized for their lack of membership to the BBB. Non-members can never achieve an A+ no matter how perfect their business because the highest ratings are reserved only for paying BBB members. The highest score non-members can receive is an “A.”

According to Richard Kitterman, executive director of the bureau's office that serves the Waco area, the bureau justifies its grading discrepancies on a stipulation required as part of the BBB's membership. Kitterman told the Waco Tribune-Herald that members



must agree to a binding arbitration through the bureau in the event that a business is unable to resolve consumer complaints. Once this condition is accepted, members are allotted extra points, giving them a ratings advantage over other businesses.

The double standard inflicted upon non-member businesses is hardly fair. For businesses that can't afford to pay the membership fee, such as small family-owned restaurants or mom and pop stores, money becomes the issue. Based on the size of the company, annual membership fees can range from a minimum of \$360 to thousands of dollars. Some businesses aren't able to afford an A+, even if they deserve it.

How the bureau chooses to issue extra points is comparable to a student paying a teacher for higher grades. As this practice would never be tolerated in the academic world, such practice should also be condemned in the business world.

Another way points can be deducted

is if the bureau has insufficient background information on a business. Something as small as an un-updated e-mail address can cost businesses points. Before the lack of information is factor into the grade, the bureau should notify the business a give them a chance to respond, to send in updated or missing information.

It's not to say this new rating system isn't an improvement from the last. It does offer more comprehensive grades. But for all the measures that the bureau has taken to give consumers more information about businesses, it's actually doing consumers a disservice by allowing double standards and bias to impinge upon it grading practices.

For the bureau to be a credible and fair assessor, it must reformulate its system and purge itself of the double standards and favoritism that are present.

point of view

Repeal of global gag rule long overdue

Just one day after the anniversary of Roe v. Wade, in a reverent gesture to that landmark case and to women all over the world, President Barack Obama repealed the Mexico City Policy, otherwise known as the global gag rule.

The policy required that all non-governmental organizations that receive federal funding from America, like International Planned Parenthood Federation, refrain from performing or promoting abortions overseas. Groups that refused to comply lost funding, even if they provided other invaluable services, like reproductive health education, gynecological care, contraceptives and HIV testing.

Some of the women potentially affected by this policy are the poorest and most vulnerable on earth. They live in developing nations with high birth and infant mortality rates, in societies that devalue and mutilate women. They are often forced into marriage at a young age and have no access to any type of family planning.

Groups that continued to offer abortion services lost not only federal financial aid but technical assistance and U.S.-donated contraceptives.

The shortage of contraceptives caused more unintended pregnancies, and, therefore, more abortions and possibly deaths. The absence of legal and safe abortions will not prevent women from procuring them. Women in desperation will resort to dangerous methods that could permanently damage or kill them, like visiting untrained abortionists or intentionally causing miscarriage through drugs, abdominal trauma or the insertion of objects into the uterus.

With overpopulation, an international AIDS epidemic and the knowledge that in some countries rape goes unpunished and women have no reproductive freedom, Obama's move is one of conscience and should be applauded.

President Ronald Reagan instituted the global gag rule in 1984 and President Bill Clinton repealed it in 1993. President George W. Bush reinstated after a few days into office, and President Barack Obama was expected to repeal it, and he did. The policy is gone, for now, but I hope it isn't reinstated with the next Republican president. It should be abolished forever. Women's worldwide safety and reproductive health should not be a political toy, tossed back and forth to show party loyalty or rancor for the previous administration.

While opinions on abortion are violently debated here, in the abstract, women in places like Niger face a reality of no options. Those women are imprisoned by their bodies, doomed to die while birthing a seventh or eighth HIV-infected child they probably haven't chosen to conceive. This is not a partisan issue but one of basic human rights. Western hegemonic sexual mores should hold no weight in matters of life and death.

The right to choose what happens to our bodies is a foundational aspect of personhood; to not own one's body is to be enslaved. We should encourage this notion of personal freedom in countries that we perceive to be less evolved in their understanding of gender roles. Facilitating these women's empowerment – helping them to own their bodies, to choose when to have children, to avoid disease- should be an immediate goal.

More can be done here in our own country. According to the Guttmacher Institute, the average cost of a nonhospital abortion with local anesthesia is \$487.

In 1976, Congress passed the Hyde Amendment which banned the use of Medicaid funds to pay for abortions except in cases of rape, incest and immediate danger to the mother. All repeals have been consistently denied. Medicaid recipients are some of the least prepared to care for children. If they are seeking an abortion, then they probably don't think they are currently fit to be parents and we should trust them on that conviction, rather than push them into raising a child in poverty.

Obama has shown integrity in his first few days, taking many steps to reverse the harmful mistakes of the Bush administration, displaying a genuine break from the suffocating conservative ideology that ruled and ruined the past eight years. I hope that he continues in this vein, and during his administration remembers the women in his own country, as well.

Jade Ortego is a senior journalism major from Sweeny.



BY JADE ORTEGO

Letters to the editor

Vandalizing's not effective to express emotions over court case

On January 22, when Bears for Life members proceeded to take down the flags and crosses from Fountain Mall (which commemorated the 1,200 babies aborted in Waco in the year 2005), they were horrified at the defacement of the signs, flags, and crosses.

A condom had been taped to each of the flags and crosses, as well as writing defacing the signs. Members of Bears for Life are highly concerned that at Baylor University, the largest Baptist university in the world, someone or some group had been so disrespectful and offensive.

On the anniversary of Roe v. Wade, people should be allowed to remember all of the unborn babies (due to the passing of that law).

Bears for Life, in placing the flags, crosses and signs on Fountain Mall were choosing to help remind or enlighten fellow students of the anniversary of Roe v. Wade.

It is understandable that not every student may choose to commemorate the unborn babies, as everyone has their individual beliefs and values. However, choosing to vandalize crosses and flags by taping condoms to them is not an effective way of attempting to express emotions about either their dislike of Bears for Life or the fact that the unborn babies were being remembered on Fountain Mall.

Baylor University is an excellent school, and its students should be able to respect other student organizations, and, if necessary, communicate effectively by directly contacting that organization.

Amelia Myers
Biology '09

Baylor Forum

The Lariat wants to provide students a medium for discussion. So send us any burning questions that you'd like to pose for the Baylor community, and you might see them on this page.

Lariat_letters@baylor.edu

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Opinions expressed in the Lariat are not necessarily those of the Baylor administration, the Baylor Board of Regents or the Student Publications Board.

Letters to the editor should include the writer's name, major, graduation year, phone number and student identification number. Non-student writers should include their address. Letters that focus on an issue affecting students or faculty may be considered for a guest column at the editor's discretion.

All submissions become the property of The Baylor Lariat. The Lariat reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, length, libel and style.

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THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

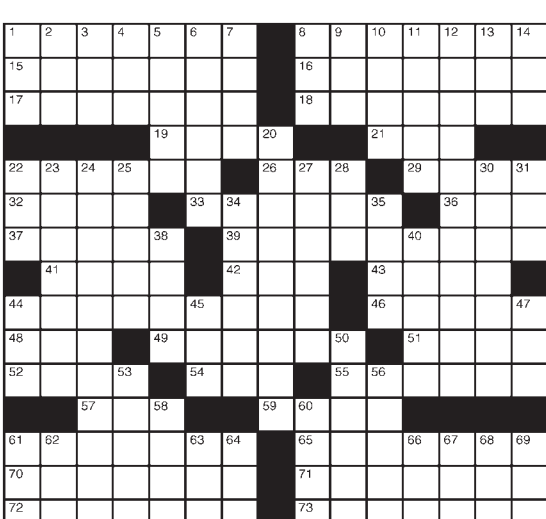
- 1 Surveying instrument
- 8 Token amount
- 15 Holiday singer
- 16 Ground-hugging stems
- 17 Start of Joe Paterno quote
- 18 Part 2 of quote
- 19 On ___ (no contract)
- 21 Bobbsey twin
- 22 Scarcity
- 26 Bullring shout
- 29 Camp beds
- 32 Confront
- 33 On the front burner
- 36 Oolong, for one
- 37 Twisted forcibly
- 39 Part 3 of quote
- 41 Tip ending?
- 42 Part 4 of quote
- 43 Bit
- 44 Part 5 of quote
- 46 Buy off
- 48 Extinct bird
- 49 Songs of praise
- 51 Related
- 52 Irritating tingle
- 54 Baseball legend Mel

- 55 Online newsgroup system
- 57 Gear tooth
- 59 Writer Ferber
- 61 Part 6 of quote
- 65 End of quote
- 70 Failed to keep a promise
- 71 Direct route
- 72 Erik of "CHiPs"
- 73 D and C, in D.C.

DOWN

- 1 Do something
- 2 Well, ___-di-dahl!
- 3 Anger
- 4 Part of DJIA
- 5 Social category
- 6 Oracle site
- 7 Perry's penner
- 8 Colo. hours
- 9 Of the ear: pref.
- 10 Pillow stuffing
- 11 Of a pelvic bone
- 12 Implied idea
- 13 One: pref.
- 14 Handwritten doc.
- 20 Reverse direction of an electric current
- 22 Texas airport letters

- 23 Hearing range
- 24 Mark above a vowel
- 25 Make fresh
- 27 Tea brand
- 28 Rock producer Brian
- 30 Well-founded
- 31 Took seats
- 34 Canned corn morsel
- 35 Small amount of liquid
- 38 Handhold
- 40 Rich cake
- 44 Leaky PA reactor
- 45 Tony Randall movie, "7 Faces of Doctor ___"
- 47 Summer hrs. in D.C.
- 50 Day's end
- 53 One with aspirations
- 56 Hoarder
- 58 Bonkers
- 60 Claim to a share
- 61 Prefix's prefix
- 62 Hi-___ graphics
- 63 Crimson or scarlet
- 64 Writer LeShan
- 66 ___-de-France
- 67 Dead heat
- 68 Opp. of syn.
- 69 Guitarist Paul



By Alan P. Olschwang
Huntington Beach, CA

1/29/09

For today's crossword and sudoku answers, visit www.baylor.edu/Lariat

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Chinese tradition sees new faces

Professional dancers will perform at the celebration for the first time

By Lauren Hollon
Reporter

The Asian Students Association is bringing a professional Chinese dance company for the first time to perform at their annual Chinese New Year Celebration. The celebration will take place from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. today in Barfield Drawing Room.

"We've looked at traditional dance groups in the past, but they've always required a lot of stage equipment that we weren't able to provide," said Dallas junior Hallen Dao, Internal Vice President of ASA.

The Jiaping Shi Dance School doesn't require as much equipment and is based out of Plano, making them close enough to travel easily.

The school was founded by Jiaping Shi almost nine years ago.

Shi has been a folk and classical dancer, teacher and choreographer for over 30 years. She is a member of the Association of Chinese Professional Dancers in China.

The group will give three performances, featuring two modern dances and one traditional minority dance.

Plano graduate student Stacy Chen said that Chinese classical dance emphasizes beauty, grace and nature.

"Destiny," the first dance, is a modern fan dance about how young people accomplish their dreams and handle the real world. It conveys a message of opportunity and hope.

"In the feather fan dance, fans are used to create different patterns, like cloud shapes and other forms of nature. Dancers wear flowing, ornately designed dresses," Chen said.

Fabric fans are used in Kung Fu-style fan dances. Performers normally wear uniform-

type costumes, and the fans are loudly snapped open and closed during the dance to add drama.

The second modern dance, called "Paper Cutting Dolls," links the ancient and the modern dances together. The dancers' movements and formations mimic the cutting of paper dolls.

Paper is bound up in China's history; the Chinese invented it in 105 A.D. during the Han Dynasty, according to chinaart-world.com.

The Web site said paper cutting came into its own as an art form during the Northern and Southern Dynasties, between 386 A.D. and 581 A.D.

Dao previewed the performances when looking into booking the dance company.

"The paper doll dance was very unique. I had never seen anything like it before," she said.

The final performance is called "Working in the Cemetery." It is a traditional folk dance of the Yi Zu minority group. Performers will be wearing the special folk costumes of the Yi Zu people.

Michael Bi of the Jiaping Shi Dance School said Chinese dance started when Chinese culture did.

"We have 5,000 years of history, and dancing started at the very beginning. It was the first language people spoke," Bi said.

Even in more recent history, dance has played a large part in the life of the Chinese people.

Dance became especially important for the Chinese in 1949, when the Communist Revolution was taking place, Bi said.

"Dance helped people express their feelings and dreams. Between 1949 and 1979 when people were poor, when they watched dancing, it was like nutrition for their mind," Bi said.

Besides the performances by the dance group, there will be games, family activities, prizes and free food. All are welcome to join the celebration.



Stephen Trumble/Courtesy Photo

Dr. Stephen Trumble visited Antarctica in November and December of 2006. Trumble first became interested in working with arctic animals in 1999 and has been conducting research ever since. He has been working with seals to examine ways in which they can be used to help patients with heart disease.

Seals may hold heart disease answers

By Sommer Ingram
Staff Writer

The muscle and lipid physiology of deep-diving seals may have the potential to assist researchers in discovering new techniques to aid humans with heart and lung disease.

Dr. Stephen Trumble, assistant professor of biology, is working with these tissues to better understand what methods these seals utilize to remain stable in a chronic hypoxic, or low-oxygen, environment.

"These animals can hold their breath for up to 90 minutes; they are basically in a chronic state of losing oxygen," Trumble said. "I want to examine the molecular signals associated with being able to withstand that."

By studying how the skeletal muscles of seals develop to work during diving, even when the animal is not breathing, researchers may be able to apply certain new approaches to humans. Heart disease has

been the leading cause of death in America for the past 80 years, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"The big issue with humans is heart attacks and lack of blood supply or oxygen to various heart muscles," Trumble said. "Seals might have some mechanism to keep them away from that, and that's the aspect we need to examine. Hopefully what we discover will have broader implications."

It was during a prestigious research cruise called the Antarctica Pack Ice Seals in 1999 that Trumble first became interested in working with antarctic animals.

"There were 70 researchers on this vessel that spent a little more than 3 months traversing back and forth doing various research," he said. "I got down there and got a taste of the environment and it was pretty amazing. These animals are really great subjects. I was hooked from there on."

Trumble has been to Antarctica seven times to take samples from seals. A process similar to a human biopsy, a procedure in which tissue is removed for examination and chemical analysis, is performed on the animals. The tissue is typically removed from the swimming muscles and does not harm them.

"The animals down there have no land predators, so they are very mild," Trumble said. "You can walk right up and pet them or get a sample. It's the perfect lab."

Select graduate students will also be a part of this research.

"Getting to go to Antarctica and Alaska would be just amazing," said Kathy Young, doctoral student of biology. "I've worked before with whales and dolphins, but no one's really looked a lot into the skeletal muscles seals use. I look forward to getting back to work with animals again."

Giving students the chance

to apply what they've learned in the classroom to real-world situations is an invaluable opportunity, Trumble said.

"I think anytime you put students in the position to learn something, it's a bonus to them for sure, and also for me. I get to teach them, but also learn from the things they bring to the table," Trumble said. "Even if they're not going into research, it's always good to have that experience. Anyone can pick up a book. Actually doing what you've read about is always important."

Trumble said he doesn't expect miraculous results from his research, but is eager to contribute whatever he can to the field.

"Not everybody's going to find the cure for cancer," he said. "If I can just add a little bit of knowledge in this field with what we find out with these animals, I am satisfied. I love doing what I do: it's the greatest job in the world."

STATEMENT ON HAZING, SPRING 2009

Section 51.936 (c) of the Texas Education Code requires Baylor University to publish and distribute during the first three weeks of each semester a summary of the Texas Hazing Law, subchapter F, Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code, and a list of organizations that have been disciplined for hazing or convicted of hazing on or off the campus of the institution during the preceding three years. In compliance with this law, Baylor provides the following information:

Texas Hazing Law, Subchapter F, Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code

§ 37.151. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter: (1) "Educational institution" includes a public or private high school. (2) "Pledge" means any person who has been accepted by, is considering an offer of membership from, or is in the process of qualifying for membership in an organization. (3) "Pledging" means any action or activity related to becoming a member of an organization. (4) "Student" means any person who: (A) is registered in or in attendance at an educational institution; (B) has been accepted for admission at the educational institution where the hazing incident occurs; or (C) intends to attend an educational institution during any of its regular sessions after a period of scheduled vacation. (5) "Organization" means a fraternity, sorority, association, corporation, order, society, corps, club, or service, social, or similar group, whose members are primarily students. (6) "Hazing" means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act, occurring on or off the campus of an educational institution, by one person alone or acting with others, directed against a student, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in an organization. The term includes: (A) any type of physical brutality, such as whipping, beating, striking, branding, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on the body, or similar activity; (B) any type of physical activity, such as sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, calisthenics, or other activity that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student; (C) any activity involving consumption of a food, liquid, alcoholic beverage, liquor, drug, or other substance that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student; (D) any activity that intimidates or threatens the student with ostracism, that subjects the student to extreme mental stress, shame, or humiliation, that adversely affects the mental health or dignity of the student or discourages the student from entering or remaining

registered in an educational institution, or that may reasonably be expected to cause a student to leave the organization or the institution rather than submit to acts described in this subdivision; and (E) any activity that induces, causes, or requires the student to perform a duty or task that involves a violation of the Penal Code.

§ 37.152. PERSONAL HAZING OFFENSE. (a) A person commits an offense if the person: (1) engages in hazing; (2) solicits, encourages, directs, aids, or attempts to aid another in engaging in hazing; (3) recklessly permits hazing to occur; or (4) has firsthand knowledge of the planning of a specific hazing incident involving a student in an educational institution, or has firsthand knowledge that a specific hazing incident has occurred, and knowingly fails to report that knowledge in writing to the dean of students or other appropriate official of the institution. (b) The offense of failing to report is a Class B misdemeanor. (c) Any other offense under this section that does not cause serious bodily injury to another is a Class B misdemeanor. (d) Any other offense under this section that causes serious bodily injury to another is a Class A misdemeanor. (e) Any other offense under this section that causes the death of another is a state jail felony. (f) Except if an offense causes the death of a student, in sentencing a person convicted of an offense under this section, the court may require the person to perform community service, subject to the same conditions imposed on a person placed on community supervision under Section 11, Article 42.12, Code of Criminal Procedure, for an appropriate period of time in lieu of confinement in county jail or in lieu of a part of the time the person is sentenced to confinement in county jail.

§ 37.153. ORGANIZATION HAZING OFFENSE. (a) An organization commits an offense if the organization condones or encourages hazing or if an officer or any combination of members, pledges, or alumni of the organization commits or assists in the commission of hazing. (b) An offense under this section is a misdemeanor

punishable by: (1) a fine of not less than \$5,000 nor more than \$10,000; or (2) if the court finds that the offense caused personal injury, property damage, or other loss, a fine of not less than \$5,000 nor more than double the amount lost or expenses incurred because of the injury, damage, or loss.

§ 37.154. CONSENT NOT A DEFENSE. It is not a defense to prosecution of an offense under this subchapter that the person against whom the hazing was directed consented to or acquiesced in the hazing activity.

§ 37.155. IMMUNITY FROM PROSECUTION AVAILABLE. In the prosecution of an offense under this subchapter, the court may grant immunity from prosecution for the offense to each person who is subpoenaed to testify for the prosecution and who does testify for the prosecution. Any person reporting a specific hazing incident involving a student in an educational institution to the dean of students or other appropriate official of the institution is immune from civil or criminal liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed as a result of the report. Immunity extends to participation in any judicial proceeding resulting from the report. A person reporting in bad faith or with malice is not protected by this section.

§ 37.156. OFFENSES IN ADDITION TO OTHER PENAL PROVISIONS. This subchapter does not affect or repeal any penal law of this state. This subchapter does not limit or affect the right of an educational institution to enforce its own penalties against hazing.

§ 37.157. REPORTING BY MEDICAL AUTHORITIES. A doctor or other medical practitioner who treats a student who may have been subjected to hazing activities: (1) may report the suspected hazing activities to police or other law enforcement officials; and (2) is immune from civil or other liability that might otherwise be imposed or incurred as a result of the report, unless the report is made in bad faith or with malice.

The following student organizations have been disciplined for hazing or convicted for hazing during the previous three years:

Brothers Under Christ	Spring 2006	Phi Kappa Chi	Spring 2006	Sigma Chi	Spring 2008
Gamma Alpha Omega	Spring 2006	Kappa Sigma	Spring 2007	Phi Gamma Delta	Spring 2008
Kappa Sigma	Spring 2006	Zeta Phi Beta	Fall 2007	Alpha Tau Omega	Spring 2008
Phi Gamma Delta	Spring 2006	Alpha Tau Omega	Fall 2007	Phi Delta Theta	Spring 2008

Baylor's Statement on Hazing can be reviewed online at: http://www.baylor.edu/student_policies/hazing.

HONOR CODE REPORT Spring 2009

The Baylor University Honor Council is charged with the responsibility of reporting each semester to the campus community violations of the Honor Code.

During the Fall 2008 semester, there were 72 reported violations of the Honor Code. Nine of these cases proceeded to Honor Council hearings (three cases are still pending). The other 63 cases were handled by faculty.

The types of violations and sanctions for each may be reviewed on the Academic Integrity Web site under the Honor Council Report at: http://www.baylor.edu/student_policies/honorcode.

Study: Kidney donors experience no long-term health consequences

By Stephanie Nano
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Donating a kidney doesn't appear to have any long-term health consequences for the donor, a reassuring study shows. Researchers at the University of Minnesota found those who gave up one of their two kidneys lived a normal life span and were as healthy as people in the general population. The donation also didn't raise the risk of having kidney failure later.

Kidney donation has generally been considered safe, although with surgery, there are always risks. The new research of nearly 3,700 donors dating back more than four decades is the largest and longest study to look at long-term outcomes, said the researchers.

"It is a confirmation that living donation is a safe thing," said Dr. Matthew Cooper, a transplant surgeon at the University of Maryland, who was not involved in the research.

Kidneys filter waste and excess fluid from the blood. If your kidneys fail, the options are dialysis or a transplant. More than 78,000 people are on the national waiting list to receive a kidney from a deceased donor. The need for kidneys has soared with the rise in diabetes and obesity and the wait can last for years.

Living donation has increased as more people became willing to donate and newer surgery techniques shortened recovery time. In 2007, more than a third of the 16,629 kidneys transplanted in the U.S. came from living donors, according to the United Network for Organ Sharing.

Dr. Hassan Ibrahim, the study's leader, and his colleagues wanted to find out what happened to the 3,698 people who had donated a kidney at the university since 1963. They tried to contact everyone and used government records to find out who had died. A group of 255 donors was randomly selected to have kidney and other tests. Results were compared with

health outcomes for the general population.

Overall, 268 of the donors died, which the researchers said was comparable to survival in the general population. Eleven donors developed kidney failure decades later and needed dialysis or a transplant. The researchers said the rate of kidney failure in the donors was lower than that reported in the general population.

Most of the donors tested had good kidney function and reported an excellent quality of life, the study found.

The good outcomes likely reflect the strict criteria used to pick the donors, the researchers said. The donors had to be healthy with no kidney problems, and be free of high blood pressure and diabetes-two main causes of kidney disease.

Ibrahim said he hopes the results will increase donations and encourage transplant centers to continue to carefully select donors and not relax their requirements.

"We think these donors do extremely well because they were screened very well," said Ibrahim.

While there are no regulations for selecting living donors, the transplant network offers guidelines, said Cooper, who heads a UNOS committee on living donors. He said any kidney donor who later needs a transplant is given priority on the waiting list.

"There is a recognition of the sacrifice that these people have made," Cooper said.

Drs. Jane Tan and Glenn Chertow, of Stanford University School of Medicine, who wrote an accompanying editorial in the journal, noted that the study donors were mostly white and were likely younger than donors today. The results may not apply to older, nonwhite donors, they said.

"We always have to be careful when it comes to potential harm to another individual," Tan said. "This study is very reassuring."

One of the study donors said she didn't worry about potential problems when she gave a

kidney to her oldest brother in 1983.

"I really didn't think too much past that," said Susan Kivi, 52, of Roseville, Minn. "He just deserved another chance to live a normal life."

Her recovery from surgery was a little harder than she expected, said Kivi. But she hasn't had any health problems related to giving up a kidney since then. Her brother died about four years later.

"It was worth it. He got a few good years," she said.

BEAR BRIEFS

The School of Music will hold a recital featuring two bassoonists at 7:30 p.m./ Saturday at the meadows Recital Hall in the Glennis McCrary Music Building.

As part of World Wetlands Day, GEAR UP Waco will have an wetlands informational table from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday in the Atrium of the Baylor Sciences Building. There will be activities, games and giveaways. For more information, contact michelle_grose@baylor.edu.

The Hooper-Shaffer Fine Arts Center will hold a photography exhibition featuring the works of O. Rufus Lovett from Jan. 22 to Feb. 24 at the Martin Museum of Art.

The Pulse Undergraduate Journal of Baylor University is now accepting papers from all disciplines for the Spring 2009 print edition. The deadline is February 3 and submission information is available at <http://baylor.edu/pulse>.

To submit a bear brief, e-mail Lariat@baylor.edu.

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STIMULUS from page 1

Ambassadors.

Ford traveled on a four-day trip with Baylor Ambassadors in December to advocate for the Pell grant on Capitol Hill.

"All of us are directly affected by the Pell grant and the Stafford loan," Ford said. "When lawmakers hear our stories, they can put faces with the legislation, and they're more apt to fight for it."

For federal work-study programs, the House bill provides \$490 million. The Senate plan excludes work-study provisions, allocating instead \$61 million in capital contributions for the federal Perkins Loan Program, which provides low-interest, need-based loans.

With an estimated cost of 12.5 billion over 10 years, the House bill would establish a \$2,500 tax credit available for four years of college.

According to a statement released by Rep. George Miller (D-Calif), chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee, this could expand access for higher education tax credit to about four million students.

Both bills designate \$39 billion to states for school districts and public colleges, with an additional \$25 billion to states for "high priority" needs, "which may include education," according to Inside Higher Ed.

Rochonda Farmer-Neal, director of governmental relations at Baylor, said if Texas were to receive the money, Baylor and

other private institutions would advocate for a portion of the funds.

"We will share with the state executive and legislative branch how providing funding to students at private universities will benefit the state of Texas. By Baylor being proactive with all necessary stakeholders, we will be able to better communicate the needs of our students," Farmer-Neal said. "Therefore, we will provide data and any other additional information that is beneficial to expressing our need."

During recessionary periods, studies show more people tend to re-enroll in school to gain additional skills or weather times of unemployment.

"In this case, Pell grants assist these nontraditional students to become competitive in the workforce," Farmer-Neal said. "The grant is something they wouldn't have to pay back."

House Republicans contending the stimulus package argue that long-term provisions, such as energy research and higher education funding, cause the bill to fall short of its intended purpose: stimulating the economy.

On Sunday's "Meet the Press," House Minority Leader John Boehner of Ohio criticized the bill, saying that while he agreed with some of the long-term plans, most were unnecessary for the short-term.

"Providing \$300 billion of this package to states -- \$166 billion in direct aid to the states, another \$140 billion in

education funding -- this is not going to do anything, anything to stimulate our economy, to help the -- our ailing economy," Boehner said.

According to a report released by the Congressional Budget Office, most of the education funds provided by the House bill would be used over the next two and a half years.

"We expect that the initial rate of spending would be lower, however, reflecting the time it would take the agencies to establish new programs and to ramp up their spending from current levels," the report said.

Dr. John Pisciotta, associate professor of economics, said the bill's controversy stems not only from the debate over how quickly the stimulus package will impact the economy but over provisions that could significantly increase the size and role of the government.

"Maybe it's good to promote long-term higher education in the economy, but that's not a stimulus. That's not jolting the economy," Pisciotta said. "The concern is that it's sort of like a switcheroo, that we're using the downturn in the economy to institute some new government policies that President Obama and Democrats would like to see."

The Senate could start combining through the piece as early as Monday, as Congressional leaders have pledged to finalize the legislation for President Barack Obama's desk by mid-February, according to the Associated Press.

Salmonella spawns investigation

By Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar and Greg Bluestein
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The salmonella outbreak spawned one of the largest ever product recalls Wednesday by a Georgia peanut plant where federal inspectors reported finding roaches, mold, a leaking roof and other sanitary problems.

Managers at the Blakely, Ga. plant owned by Peanut Corp. of America continued shipping peanut products even after they were found to contain salmonella.

Peanut Corp. expanded its recall Wednesday to all peanut products produced at the plant since Jan. 1, 2007.

The company is relatively small, but its peanut paste is an ingredient in hundreds of other food products, from ice cream, to Asian-style sauces, to dog biscuits. Major national brands of peanut butter are not affected.

A senior lawmaker in Congress and Georgia's agriculture commissioner called for a criminal investigation of the company, but the Food and Drug Administration said such a step is premature while its own food safety investigation continues.

More than 500 people have gotten sick in the outbreak and at least eight may have died as

a result of salmonella infection. More than 400 products have already been recalled. The plant has stopped all production.

"We feel very confident that it's one of the largest recalls we've had," said Stephen Sundlof, head of the FDA's food safety center. "We're still in the process of identifying products, but it certainly is among the largest."

Most of the older products recalled Wednesday probably have been eaten already. Officials said they were seeing no signs of any earlier outbreaks that might be linked to the plant.

The latest recall covers peanut butter, peanut paste, peanut meal and granulated products, as well as all peanuts, dry and oil roasted, shipped from the factory.

Stewart Parnell, president of Peanut Corp. of America, said in a statement late Wednesday that the recall was expanded out of an abundance of caution.

"We have been devastated by this, and we have been working around the clock with the FDA to ensure any potentially unsafe products are removed from the market immediately," Parnell said, adding that officials at the Lynchburg, Va.-based company were cooperating with state and federal

inquiries.

FDA inspectors reported that salmonella had been found previously at least 12 times in products made at the plant, but production lines were never cleaned up after internal tests indicated contamination. Products that initially tested positive were retested. When the company got a negative reading, it shipped the products out.

That happened as recently as September. A month later, health officials started picking up signals of the salmonella outbreak.

PCA on Wednesday said "categorically denies any allegations that the company sought favorable results from any lab in order to ship its products."

Inspectors at the Blakely plant also found that Peanut Corp. did not take proper steps to prevent finished products from being contaminated by raw peanuts. Roasting is supposed to kill the bacteria, but raw peanuts can harbor salmonella.

Peanut Corp. also warned consumers that salmonella potentially can be transferred to people handling pet treats exposed to salmonella, especially if they have not thoroughly washed their hands after having contact with the products or any surfaces exposed to the products.

POST from page 1

That doesn't mean it would happen right away, he noted, adding that the agency is working to cut costs and any final decision on changing delivery would have to be made by the postal governing board.

If it did become necessary to go to five-day delivery, Potter said, "we would do this by suspending delivery on the lightest volume days."

The Postal Service raised the issue of cutting back on days of service last fall in a study it issued. At that time the agency said the six-day rule should be eliminated, giving the post office, "the flexibility to meet future needs for delivery frequency."

A study done by George Mason University last year for the independent Postal Regulatory Commission estimated that going from six-day to five-day delivery would save the post office more than \$1.9 billion annually, while a Postal Service study estimated the saving at \$3.5 billion.

The next postal rate increase is scheduled for May, with the amount to be announced next month. Under current rules that

would be limited to the amount of the increase in last year's consumer price index, 3.8 percent. That would round to a 2-cent increase in the current 42-cent first class rate.

The agency could request a larger increase because of the special circumstances, but Potter believes that would be counterproductive by causing mail volume to fall even more.

Dan G. Blair, chairman of the Postal Regulatory Commission, noted in his testimony that cutting service could also carry the risk of loss of mail volume.

He suggested Congress review both delivery and restrictions it imposed on the closing of small and rural post offices.

The post office's problem is twofold, Potter explained.

"A revolution in the way people communicate has structurally changed the way America uses the mail," with a shift from first-class letters to the Internet for personal communications, billings, payments, statements and business correspondence.

To some extent that was made up for my growth in standard mail — largely advertising — but the economic meltdown has resulted in a drop there also.

Potter also asked that Con-

gress ease the requirement that it make advance payments into a fund to cover future health benefits for retirees. Last year the post office was required to put \$5.6 billion into the fund.

"We are in uncharted waters," Potter said. "But we do know that mail volume and revenue — and with them the health of the mail system — are dependent on the length and depth of the current economic recession."

He proposed easing the retirement pre-funding for eight years, while promising that the agency will cover the premiums for retirement health insurance.

At the same hearing the General Accounting Office agreed that the post office is facing an urgent need for help to preserve its financial strength. But the GAO suggested easing the pre-funding requirement for only two years, with Congress to determine the need for more relief later.

Potter noted that the agency has cut costs by \$1 billion per year since 2002, reduced its work force by 120,000, halted construction of new facilities except in emergencies, frozen executive salaries and is in the process of reducing its headquarters work force by 15 percent.



Jacky Reyes/Lariat staff

The man behind the curtain

Independence Historical Society Leader and 1954 alumna Lanella Gray (left) and Houston freshman Kyrie Cameron unveil the portrait of Judge R.E.B. Baylor Wednesday in the Allbritton Foyer of Moody Memorial Library. The portrait was painted by famous Texas artist Henry A. McArdle and was presented as part of the Founders' Day exhibit.

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Stephen Green/Lariat staff

Welcome to the big top

The Circus Gatti stopped in Waco on Wednesday Jan. 28. This was the second stop on the new 2009 Tour. Events were held at the Heart O' Texas Coliseum.

Italian Garden serves up a blend of delicious food, comfortable atmosphere

By Heather Fogt
Contributor

Take a journey down 19th Street, and you'll soon find your way out of Waco, down the winding road guarded by trees leading to China Spring. At the end of a small strip mall is China Spring's Italian Garden. This family-owned restaurant serves a variety of pastas, pizzas and salads.

RESTAURANTREVIEW

I tried Italian Garden for dinner with a friend and was pleasantly surprised by the quality of the food and the homey atmosphere.

Its modest appearance is a reflection of its youth. It has been open only a year. Simple, cushioned chairs that have seen plumper days awaited us as we were seated by a friendly hostess at a candlelit table by the window. The laughter of families resonated in our section of the restaurant.

I ordered chicken parmigiana over spaghetti, and my friend ordered tortellini alfredo. Complimentary rolls were served before the meal. The crunchy top and fluffy middle of the large dinner rolls were a nice contrast.

The service left much to be desired as my friend received tea and fettuccini alfredo instead of water and tortellini alfredo. The waitress was polite and quickly fixed her mistakes, but I still had to wait with my plate while they prepared the alternate dish.

Italian food is one of my favorites, so I've eaten my share of marinara sauce. As I took my first bite of the chicken parmigiana, my taste buds were delightfully surprised by the unique blend of flavors and spices in the sauce. The meat and spaghetti were great complements to each other and combined to form a satisfying meal.

My friend's tortellini was served in a large bowl with soup-like alfredo sauce. The cheesy dish was tasty, but could not compare to my meat and pasta combination. The dishes were served on unique plates that added to the charm of the restaurant.

Big band music played softly overhead as we shared a slice of strawberry cheesecake for dessert. The rich dessert topped with strawberries and drizzled with sauce was a perfect dessert for two after a filling meal. They also serve black forest and plain cheesecakes, cannoli pastry cr me and tiramisu for dessert.

The friendly staff continued to make us feel at home as we checked out, telling us about



Stephen Green/Lariat staff

Italian Garden offers fine Italian cuisine with a touch of homestyle comfort. The restaurant is located at 10207 China Spring Road.

future specials and showering us with take-home menus for future use.

We returned the next week to try out the daily lunch specials offered. The candles were no longer lit, but the new waitress was much more experienced. In addition to the large rolls, we also got a small salad as an appetizer. Simple lettuce and carrot slices with your choice of dressing on top was not quite impressive, but appetizing nonetheless.

I ordered the pasta sampler, which included lasagna, manicotti and cannelloni. The cannelloni and manicotti, nearly identical, were delicious topped with the signature marinara. The lasagna was a little below average. The meat could have used more seasoning. But overall, the dish was good and filling once again.

My friend ordered chicken marsala over spaghetti. The tender chicken, covered in marsala wine sauce and mushrooms was a nice variation from my cheesy pastas.

After filling up with two delicious Italian dishes, I would recommend Italian Garden for anyone looking for something outside the numerous chain restaurants that clog Valley Mills Drive.

The meals are moderately priced and always filling. They also have a wide selection of New York style specialty pizzas such as brochette, eggplant or baked ziti. I would recommend trying anything with their unique marinara sauce, which is sure to bring delight to any Italian lover.

Italian Garden, located at 10207 China Spring Road, is open 11 a.m. 9 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday.

Grade: B

Capital's sights offer gaze into history

By Anita Pere and Sommer
Ingram
Editor in chief and staff writer

Our trip to Washington, D.C. to cover the inauguration wasn't all work and no play.

After our stories were written, we took a day to see the sights. It was our first trip to Washington, and we're glad we were able to experience the history and culture of the Capitol.

Here's what we saw:

The Library of Congress

The most impressive part of this research center was Thomas Jefferson's library. The books are arranged in an open circle. As we stood in the center of the books, an eerie feeling of familiarity with the president swept over us. His books spanned a wealth of information, from social science to surgery.

Other exhibits we liked were "Exploring the Early Americas," "Creating the United States," "The Library of Congress Bibles Collection," "Maps in Our Lives," and "Voices, Votes, Victory: Presidential Campaign Songs."

Arlington National Cemetery

Aside from the Lincoln Memorial, this was our favorite spot in D.C., and something every American should see.

It's a bit overwhelming when you step through the gates and realize that thousands of headstones are all you can see in every direction.

It's very humbling to stand among the graves of veterans of wars from the American Revolution to the Iraqi war —more than 300,000 lives are represented here.

The Tomb of The Unknown Soldier is probably the most popular attraction in the cemetery.

The dedication and precision of the sentinels who guard the tomb is absolutely inspiring. They treat our men with the utmost respect. Each of these



Anita Pere/Lariat staff

The Library of Congress is the largest library in the world with over a million books, photographs, recording, maps and manuscripts.

soldiers is a volunteer in superb physical condition and holds an excellent military record. They rotate walks every hour in the winter, never leaving the tomb unattended.

One of the greatest things about Arlington Cemetery is that you can wander through at your own pace, taking time to reflect and remember those who have given their lives for our country.

The beautiful view overlooking the rest of D.C. is also a plus.

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

This somber museum makes the Holocaust more personal than a death toll.

The video testimonials and pictures struck us in a profound way.

The museum is divided into three parts: "Nazi Assault," which chronicles the party's rise to power in Europe; "Final Solution," which tells of the genocide of the Jews; and "Last Chapter," which recounts the Jews' struggle with getting back to life and the establishment of Israel.

Be ready to see some disturb-

ing images. The video of medical experimentation carried out on Jews in concentration camps is not for the squeamish. Although less graphic, pictures of children undergoing tests to prove their Aryan ancestry seem barbaric. Head circumference, nose



Anita Pere/Lariat staff

The Lincoln Memorial was finished in 1917 in honor of the nation's 16th president.

width, eye color and skin color were all measured.

Young children should stick to the exhibit "Remember the Children: Daniel's Story," a special account of the Holocaust through the eyes of a boy.

Vietnam Veterans Memorial

This massive wall stands proudly between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial.

The thousands of names etched in light gray text stand out boldly against the polished black granite of the vast memorial.

If you visit at night, the effect is even more striking. Illuminated by the lights of the Washington Monument across the water of the reflecting pool, the endless stream of names evoked a sobering, yet patriotic feeling within me.

As we reached out to touch the wall, we realized we could see our reflection along with the engraved names. Gazing at our reflections among the many names, the realization that countless people died so we could stand before this great wall hit home.

Simple, yet poignant, this memorial is definitely something you don't want to miss.

The Lincoln Memorial

The Lincoln Memorial was our favorite memorial near the National Mall.

Judging by the crowd there, it was a favorite of many other tourists, too.

There was a constant flow of smiling folks approaching the statue to have their picture taken with the immortalized president.

Lincoln's image is so solemn, so mighty as he looks out onto the reflecting pond.

The nice thing about this piece of Washington is that, unlike the Washington Monument and the museums, there's no waiting in line.

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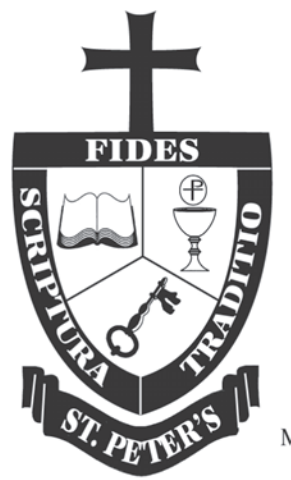


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Sports briefs

No. 4 Equestrian begins spring schedule

The No. 4 ranked equestrian team will look to improve to 6-2 on the year when they host No. 11 Southern Methodist University and No. 12 Delaware State University at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 31 at the Willis Family Equestrian Center.

The Lady Bears hope to stop a hot SMU team coming off a 7-5 upset win over then-No. 3 University of Georgia in November. Head coach Ellen White and company are coming off a Nov. 22 win over rival and then-No. 2 Texas A&M University, who they defeated 15-5.

Reagan named to Top 50 Watch List

Senior infielder Brette Reagan has been named to USA Softball's National Collegiate Player of the Year Award Watch List, the highest individual honor in women's college softball. Reagan, who is from Magnolia, is a three-time All-Big 12 selection and hit a career-high .385 last season with 10 home runs and 36 RBIs.

She currently ranks second on the all-time Baylor RBI list with 126 and set the new program record for walks last season with 109 for her career.

Globetrotters, ex-Bear Branch to visit Baylor

A familiar face will return to the Ferrell Center on Feb. 3 when the Harlem Globetrotters come to Waco as part of their international tour. Ex-Baylor Bear Aundre Branch, also known as "Hot Shot", will suit up with the Globetrotters on the same court he played on with Baylor from 1991-1995.

Branch earned all-Southwest Conference honors in his final two seasons with the Bears. He currently ranks fifth on the program's career scoring list and still holds first place on both the single season and career three pointers list.

He signed with the Globetrotters in 2001 after stints with several teams overseas.

compiled by Gordon Voit

Talking track with Townsend

BU's Tiffany Townsend discusses life on and off the asphalt with The Baylor Lariat

By Julie Sessions Reporter

After notching three NCAA provisional qualifying marks at the Razorback Invitational in Fayetteville, Ark., last weekend and breaking the Baylor school record in the 200-meter, sophomore sprinter Tiffany Townsend has helped set a winning tone for the Bears this season.

This week, she adds an honor of even more personal merit to her already impressive resume: Big 12 Female Track and Field Athlete of the Week.

Q: Tell me how this whirlwind of a week has been for you so far since the Razorback Invitational.

A. It's been exciting, I didn't realize how big of a deal it was until my family and everyone started calling me when they heard the news. My family has always been very supportive of me, especially my mom. She's really excited. She actually found out I received the award before I did, because she read it on the Internet. That's her back-up way of checking up on how I'm doing; if she isn't at a track meet then she's calling up my teammates or surfing the Web 24/7 to see how I ran. Her and my grandmother tried to sound surprised when I called to tell them the big news yesterday, but I just laughed because I could tell they already knew.

Q: Well it definitely is a big honor and, as I understand it, your first career one. Tell me a little about how far you've come since your freshman year, and how you successfully made the transition from high school to college-level track.

A. It was definitely a big transition for me to make because they're different.

In high school, I was used to running three meets and then going to nationals, so com-

ing here and doing five meets before a trip to nationals was a big step. I was also the state champion and record holder in the 100- and 200-meter (relay) back in high school, and after being used to winning at that level, I had to come back and fall into place here. It was sort of like proving that I could be a "top dog" again. I liked the challenge but it was hard not initially performing like I wanted to my first year here. This year it's definitely gotten a lot better and I've been able to improve a lot of my times.

Q: What would you say is your best event at the moment?

A. My personal best in track and field right now is the 200-meter, and the record I broke in it was a pretty big accomplishment for me. In high school, I ran a 22:80.04 in the 200 and then coming here, I definitely wanted to improve that.

Outdoors, I didn't do as well as I wanted to last year, but I did break the school record and (provisional record) with a 22:75. So I guess I was happy for my outdoor season in that, but I just couldn't get my start together in my 100-meter. Here I ran less than an 11:04 and in high school, I ran an 11:21. I want to work on my 100 this year and also try to help out the relays also ... but I feel like I really need to work on getting that 100 up to where it needs to be.

Q: So tell me what influenced your decision to come to Baylor for track and field. Why did you pick it over the other universities?

A. My junior year at Killeen (High School), I went to a nationals event – AAU Junior Olympics – and won, so by senior year I knew track was something I wanted to pursue in college. I started applying to Big 12 schools and had ones like the University of Oklahoma and the University of Texas seriously considering me. When it came down to it, I chose Baylor over the University of Miami and the University of South Carolina because of the strong academ-

ics they had. Plus, I liked the colors!

Some people doubted if I should have come to Baylor, though because they generally think of Baylor as a "400 meter" school rather than a "sprint-school," just because of Baylor's long-standing winning success with the 4x400 relay. But I wanted to be different and have the chance to stand out.

Q: Well obviously being healthy is key in ensuring those stand-out performances and personal bests. How do you stay healthy and fit for a meet?

A. Eating right. In the off-season, I pretty much eat whatever I want to, but in-season, I try to stay close to the traditional track diet of chicken, fish, pasta and rice. A lot of carbohydrates are important for giving us the energy to run, and I am constantly drinking water.

In the beginning of a typical practice week when we have a meet coming up that weekend, I'll incorporate some red meat on that Monday to get in the protein. Then I'll do chicken, etc. the rest of the week. I try to stay away from things like candy, but I do have a sweet tooth for Skittles.

Q: Sounds like a pretty well-rounded diet. Can you tell me what you guys have coming up in a couple weekends at the New Balance Invitational on Feb. 6? What all do you hope to accomplish there?

A. The New Balance Invitational in New York is definitely going to be a very important meet for us. There is going to be a lot of tough competition there. I want to go in to win because I feel like I train harder than anybody. I want to win, but it's important for me to stay humble because whatever God has put in my path, that's what I'm going to go run. I'm just hoping that hard work and training pays off so I can perform well.

Townsend and the Bears return to action Feb. 6 at the New Balance Invitational at the Armory in New York City.



Shanna Taylor/ Lariat staff

Baylor guard Melissa Jones (5) makes a shot during the first half of the game against the Oklahoma Sooners Wednesday in the Ferrell Center. The Lady Bears lost 56-51.

GAME from page 1

Not unlike Baylor's last second win over a then No. 9 ranked Texas A&M University team, Oklahoma's victory over Baylor was only apparent in the closing seconds of the game. Oklahoma head coach Sherri Coale said it came down to her team making plays when they needed to make them.

"We just showed some poise and some resiliency down the stretch," she said. "We feel very fortunate to be leaving the Ferrell Center with a win tonight. They're so tough and physical and play so hard. It's huge until Saturday when we play again."

Mulkey said that she wanted a few of her players to file the game away forever and make sure they think about it.

"It gives you that burning feeling in your gut to do better the next time you play," she said. "This game's not going to win the Big 12 for Oklahoma. It's not going to end it for us. You don't like to be on the losing end but we'll rebound."

As for having a president in the audience, Mulkey said that only a win could have made it more special.

"When the leader of our country for eight years shows up at a women's basketball game and thinks enough of me and this program to acknowledge us in the manner he did, you bet it's special," she said. "It's a night that none of us will forget. This was his first public outing since being out of office. It speaks volumes of the respect that he has for our program."

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February 13, 2009

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Please Check One:

☐ **\$5.00** – Generic Text – Provided by the Lariat (Choose One)

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“Will you be my Valentine?”
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TEXT:	

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