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"The advertising industry has made the right move to make Americans more aware of their rights concerning Internet privacy."

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Check out some tasty recipes to cook up while watching this year's Super Bowl

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All-American runner
Men's track star Trey Harts, an Indoor National Champion, looks toward Hall of Fame

Loan plan bolsters college hopefuls

By **BETHANY MOORE**
STAFF WRITER

Secretary of Education Arne Duncan discussed President Barack Obama's proposal to make college more affordable and answered questions from collegiate journalists, Thursday in a telephone conference.

The proposal is part of Obama's larger vision for an American education reform plan called Race to the Top.

Duncan said the plan, which was passed by the U.S. House

on Jan. 15 and is on its way to the U.S. Senate, is the biggest investment in higher education since the G.I. Bill, which offered educational benefits to soldiers after WWII.

"This is a part of a cradle-to-career program, because the president understands that a country's development depends on its education," Duncan said.

Although the plan calls for 10 million new teachers in the next five to eight years and even more reform for kindergarten through 12th grades, the conference con-

centrated on higher education reform and, more specifically its affordability.

"The proposal calls for \$173 billion in loans, grants and work-studies programs which will help lower financial burden for three out of every five college students," Duncan said. "We need for all [students] to be successful."

Duncan said one area of the proposal suggests the Income-Based Repayment plan for repaying student loans, allowing students to pay 10 percent of

their income in loan repayments and have their remaining debt forgiven after 20 years. Those who choose public service careers will have their debt forgiven after 10 years.

As outlined in Obama's fiscal budget for 2011, the plan will call for \$10.6 billion in better community colleges and \$500 million over the next decade in online learning sources.

"We need to invest more in community colleges since they are the gateway into the work force," Duncan said. "The online

learning sources should be free for students to take at their own time and pace."

Duncan also said they hope these initiatives will cause more than 10 million college students to graduate from college yearly.

"We want to increase the pipeline and lower the dropout rate," Duncan said. "This budget will allow us to increase the affordability of college and reduce financial burdens throughout college. We need to not just get them in the door, but help them graduate."

Chairman George Miller of the educational committee said that the plan would not raise the national debt or people's taxes by stopping subsidizing banks instead.

"This is not going to benefit banks in any way, but we have to stop subsidizing them, if we want to lower the financial burden on students," Miller said.

Dr. Tony Talbert, associate professor of curriculum and instruction in the School of Educa-

see **PLAN**, pg. 6



DANIEL CERNERO | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Drumming in the New Year

Martin McCall, a member of the group Kobushi, performs during Chinese New Year festivities Thursday in the Barfield Drawing Room of the Bill Daniel Student Center where students gathered to celebrate the Chinese New Year.

Several factors define alumni independence

Various post-grad association officials talk on variety of operating styles

By **LAURA REMSON**
STAFF WRITER

Not all alumni associations take the same form; some are independent organizations, while others operate in conjunction with their respective universities, often under university development.

By definition, an independent alumni association is a 501(c)(3) corporate entity. This tax code is used for nonprofit tax exemptions, according to the Internal Revenue Service Web site. As an independent organization, the association has editorial independence, separate financial and database information, the power to appoint its own board and the ability to decide on member programming.

The Baylor Alumni Association is one of these corporate entities, independent of the university. According to both Baylor and the BAA, there are different interpretations of what independent means.

Following the withdrawal of Baylor's proposal in October, Jeff Kilgore, executive vice president of the BAA, noted that nothing in the BAA's license agreement has changed.

"The alumni association - its status is no more independent today than it was 10 years ago," Kilgore said. "It's the interpretation [of independent]. It's a stricter definition of being separate that's been imposed by the university. In the past, we've been considered what we are; part of the Baylor family, part of the university community and we've been allowed access to fa-

cilities no different than another campus department or strong affiliate."

Randy Lofgren, associate vice president for constituent engagement and a former interim vice president for development, was the executive director of the BAA during 2001 to 2002. He sees some value of independence for the BAA.

"At Baylor, we have the independent association," Lofgren said. "To be an independent association as an ideological base makes a lot of sense to me."

A study conducted by Baylor during the winter of 2006 looked at the alumni association models of private and public universities such as Brown, Cornell, Notre Dame and Harvard, to name a few. The research surveyed three main tenets: who appointed the alumni association, to whom the association reports and finally, by whom the association is employed.

While the initial study included an undisclosed number of universities, findings were included for 23 universities. These findings of this study were included in the Sept. 19 merger proposal to the BAA.

Dr. Karla Leeper, Baylor's chief of staff, explained the distinct difference between alumni associations at private and public universities. Public universities are not permitted to lobby other public institutions, such as the state, for money and other resources. This is why public universities generally have independent alumni associations.

see **ALUMNI**, pg. 6

All for ONE, two groups unite

By **SARA TIRRITO**
STAFF WRITER

Nuru International, an organization that works to help countries overcome extreme poverty, is on a nationwide tour and will be welcomed by ONE Campaign-Baylor at 7 p.m. on Monday in Bennett Auditorium.

"The most important thing about these two organizations is instead of throwing money at the issues in developing countries, they believe it is important to help equip these countries with the tools they need to make long-lasting changes," said Hampton, Iowa, senior

Jenalee Schwab, president of ONE-Campaign Baylor. "We're hoping to raise awareness of the bigger issues in the world, those of poverty and world hunger, and how helping eradicate these issues would in turn help fight the war on terror."

Arlington senior Alex Schmidt, vice president of ONE Campaign-Baylor, said the event will be focused on educating students about Nuru.

"The focus is talking about different ways that they're planning on improving water sanitation, agriculture, health care and community economic development, and their ways for working with others to improve

those things," Schmidt said. "I think that we hope to just kind of spread the word about this new organization to Baylor students and kind of just give them a tangible way of getting involved and finding out what other people are doing."

Washington, D.C., junior Eugene Kim, director of events for ONE Campaign-Baylor, said that people often don't realize the long-term ramifications of poverty.

"A lot of times we think the end of poverty is just to feed people," Kim said. "It's interesting to expose students to the fact that poverty causes more than hunger. When we think poverty,

we think hunger, we think hungry kids; we don't really think about what that leads to. A hungry kid is resentful, and that resentment leads to anger, and that anger leads to a radical hate almost, when you have nothing else to live for."

Tiffany Newcomb, tour coordinator for Nuru, said the organization's goals are to help rural communities overcome extreme poverty and to motivate developed countries to confront this issue.

"We hope to empower rural communities living in poverty to achieve self-sufficiency, while

see **ONE**, pg. 6

Globe-trotting prof brings world to class

By **LELA ATWOOD**
REPORTER

Dr. Cristian Bratu, assistant professor of French, has traveled the world, speaks three languages fluently and is proficient in four others.

Bratu's knowledge of languages did not come easily or quickly, however. Bratu was born in Romania during its period of communist rule. He was not allowed to travel to other countries and did not see many people from outside his homeland.

"Before 1989 very few foreigners came [to Romania]. We weren't allowed to talk to the few people that came," Bratu said.

The only way they had access

to other cultures and ideas was through movies and officially sanctioned language textbooks.

But in 1989 when he was 10, his country experienced a dramatic change.

"After the fall of communism in 1989, things changed for the better," Bratu said.

He said he finally had access to meeting people from other cultures and his interest in languages really took off.

"I still remember when I was in high school I had an English teacher from the U.S. who was like a helping hand that helped us get out of isolation," Bratu said.

Bratu is fluent in French, English and Romanian. He said he has good writing and speaking skills in German, Latin, Italian

and Spanish. Other languages he has studied include two types of Old French, Portuguese, Arabic, Ancient Greek and Dutch.

Bratu started learning French in the fifth grade, after the fall of communism, because it was a romantic language similar to Romanian. A year later he added English to his language palette because it was the international language, as well as the language of William Shakespeare and Oscar Wilde.

"If you take a foreign language you learn about people and culture," Dr. David Uber, professor of French said. "The language unlocks the culture and helps you communicate with people and understand

see **BRATU**, pg. 6



JED DEAN | PHOTO EDITOR

Dr. Cristian Bratu, assistant professor of French, recalls the many universities he attended during both his undergraduate and graduate school experiences, Thursday in his office on the fourth floor of Draper Academic Building.

Correction

In Thursday's Lariat article, "Waco theater confirmed as paranormal site," Mike and Cindy Jacobus were misidentified as Mike and Cindy Jacobson. The Lariat regrets the error. For a full, corrected version of the article, please visit baylorlariat.com

Lariat Letters

Obama's drop in approval result of 'what' — not 'how'

Written in response to "For President Obama, Wednesday's disappointment is Thursday's triumph." (Feb. 2)

One of the major missteps of both the Obama administration and liberals at large is their presumption that the current anger with Obama is being caused by the president's tactics rather than his plan. I feel this presumption finds its way into Feb. 2's editorial. "But what he failed to realize is that the American people want clearly defined goals and a road map for how to reach them," states the editor, and although this is true, it is not the whole truth of the matter.

Some of the populist resentment finds its source in the content of the Obama plan. Some people out there are upset about what Obama intends to do rather than how he intends to do it. Certainly there are those who have become disillusioned with "Washington politics," but this is more reflected in liberals shifting their support from strongly approve to merely approve.

The general decrease in Obama's approval rating has resulted from Americans finally finding out what Obama really means and that they don't like it.

Jeffrey Vitarius
Economics '11

Poor attendance at Iowa game stirs up dismay

Baylor storms past Iowa State and nobody was there to see it! Pathetic turnout by the students.

What is wrong with our students when we have a nationally-ranked team and nobody cares enough to show up?

I only wish we had a team this good when I was in school. Our students should pack these games, especially during conference play.

It's flat-out embarrassing!

Scott Chanslor
Class of '96

Alumna: problem lies with individuals — not church

Written in response to "Roeder trial should be wake-up call to Christian church." (Feb. 4)

Just a thought and a question your article raised. You decried the seeming fact that the "Christian church," whatever that is, had not "done its job." Somehow you thought that fellow Christians should have done a better job of noticing Scott Roeder's "aberrant" thinking and provide community that would "bring accountability" to him, his thoughts and his actions.

So where was that so called "Christian" community that might have recognized the spiritual emptiness of Dr. George Tiller, his lack of remorse for killing who knows how many healthy babies? Where was that same community that, should have, would have, could have, called his thinking and actions into accountability with God's word?

Paul put it this way, "Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness... Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap." Galatians 6:1 & 7.

And "Now this I affirm and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds; they are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart; they have become callous and have given themselves up to licentiousness, greedy to practice every kind of uncleanness. You did not so learn Christ!" Ephesians 4:17-20

And "Be sure of this, that no immoral or impure man, or one who is covetous (that is an idolater) has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God... Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them." Ephesians 5:5,11

I do not condone Mr. Roeder's actions for one moment, but there is no way on God's green earth that Dr. Tiller should have ever been let inside the doors of his church, much less allowed to "serve" while he was a wholly unrepentant sinner, as though what he did, on a daily basis, for years, was no more serious than a that of a bug exterminator.

The problem is not in the organized "church" — that human creation — but is in the hearts and minds of people who claim to be followers (the body) of Christ — but do not know him (do not have a living, active relationship with him), and either do not know what he taught, by word and example as God led him, or do not want to follow it.

Marcia Cooper
Class of '67



Ad industry creates promising compromise for marketing

Editorial

It is no question that the Internet has become the advertising industry's domain. Spamming, pop-ups and cookies are only a few of the industry's guerilla tactics.

The Web makes it easy for advertisers to track consumers and target their interests based on accessible personal data, and in turn, this has helped the Internet economy to boom.

On the other hand, the idea that Web users are not properly informed of how their information is used has caused regulatory agencies to look into the issue.

Every time one enters personal information to register for a Web site or to buy an item online, it is saved and used in some way. Consumers are not always told exactly how the information they share on Web sites will be used, and to whom it will be dispensed.

Behavioral advertising, which targets consumers based on data about personal browsing interests, has recently come under the scrutiny of regulatory agencies, and for good reason.

This tactic is essentially equivalent to someone following you around on a shopping trip, tracking where you go, what you buy and what catches your eye in the process. This would likely make us uneasy in real life and it should have the same effect while browsing on the Internet.

The Federal Trade Commission has begun questioning whether the industry is cutting corners that compromise Web users' rights to privacy.

In a February 2009 report by the FTC, it laid out principles by which marketers must conduct behavioral advertising.

"Web sites are expected to provide clear and prominent notice regarding behavioral advertising, as well as an easily accessible way for consumers to choose whether to have their information collected for such purpose," the report stated.

The advertising industry took heed and exhibited their concern for educating consumers' by imposing a self-regulatory measure.

In January, the industry announced that it will begin placing a tiny white "i" symbol with a blue background on ads that appear on a user's screen through behavioral ad tactics, as reported by The New York Times on Jan. 26.

Users can click the symbol and be routed to a page explaining the kind of data that was collected about them, causing the ad to appear.

This solution, while not permanent, is a good first step to educating the public about how they are being tracked and acts as a good

compromise for the ad industry and consumers until the FTC can decide how to handle this problem.

While most of us would agree that we do not desire to be tracked while browsing, ad companies will now give us the information we need to see how exactly this is happening.

In a space like the Internet where one's personal information can be easily found, being tracked based on demographic data and preferences seems reminiscent of a dystopian novel and should indeed be something about which we, as consumers, become educated.

On the other side of the privacy issue, Internet businesses such as newspapers, which rely solely on ad revenue, are at risk of losing money if ads are too heavily regulated.

For this reason, marketers' recent step in imposing self-regulation is crucial to ensuring the Internet economy is not overturned by strict regulations by the FTC in the future, and that consumers are protected at the same time.

The FTC Bureau of Consumer Protection is right to look at the gray area that exists between consumer privacy and Internet marketing. In the meantime, the advertising industry has made the right move to make Americans more aware of their rights concerning Internet privacy.

A long trip from 'Oprah' show to Congo

By NICHOLAS KRISTOF
NEW YORK TIMES COLUMNIST

BUKAVU, Congo — Five years ago, Lisa Shannon watched "Oprah" and learned about the savage, forgotten war here in eastern Congo, played out in massacres and mass rape. That show transformed Lisa's life, costing her a good business, a beloved fiance, and a comfortable home in Portland, Ore. — but giving her a chance to save lives in Congo.

I found myself stepping with Lisa into a shack here. It was night, there was no electricity, and a tropical rainstorm was turning the shantytown into a field of mud and streams. Lisa had come to visit a woman she calls her sister, Generose Namburho, a 40-year-old nurse.

Generose's story is numbingly familiar: Extremist Hutu militiamen invaded her home one night, killed her husband and prepared to rape her. Then, because she shouted in an attempt to warn her neighbors, they hacked off her leg above the knee with a machete.

As Generose lay bleeding near her husband's corpse, the soldiers cut up the amputated leg, cooked the pieces on the kitchen fire, and ordered her children to eat their mother's flesh. One son, a 12-year-old, refused. "If you kill me, kill me," he told the soldiers, as his mother remembers it. "But I will not eat a part of my mother."

So they shot him dead. The murder is one of Generose's last memories before she is blacked out, waking up days later in the hospital where she had worked.

That's where Lisa enters the story. After seeing the Oprah show on the Congo war, Lisa began to read more about it, learning that it

is the most lethal conflict since World War II. More than 5 million had already died as of the last peer-reviewed mortality estimate in 2007.

Everybody told her that the atrocities continued because nobody cared. Lisa, who is now 5, was appalled and decided to show that she cared. She asked friends to sponsor her for a solo 30-mile fund-raising run for Congolese women.

That led her to establish Run for Congo Women, which has held fundraising runs in 10 American states and three foreign countries. The money goes to support sponsorships of Congolese women through a group called Women for Women International.

But in her passion, Lisa neglected the stock photo business that she and her fiance ran together. Finally, he signaled to her that she had to choose — and she chose Congo.

One of the Congolese women ("sisters") whom Lisa sponsored with her fundraising was Generose. Lisa's letters and monthly checks of \$27 began arriving just in time.

"God sent me Lisa to release me," Generose told me fervently, as the rain pounded the roof, and she then compared Lisa to an angel and to Jesus Christ.

Scrunching up in embarrassment in the darkened room, Lisa fended off deification. She noted that many impoverished Congolese families have taken in orphans. "They've lost everything," she said, "but they take children in when they can't even feed their own properly. I've been so inspired by them. I've tried to restructure my life to emulate them."

It's true. While for years world leaders have mostly looked the other way, while our friend Rwanda has helped perpetuate this war, while Congo's president has refused to arrest a gener-

al wanted by the International Criminal Court, while global companies have accepted tin, coltan and other minerals produced by warlords — amid all this irresponsibility, many ordinary Congolese have stepped forward to share the nothing they have with their neighbors.

So Lisa is right that Generose and so many others here are awe-inspiring. Lisa tells her story in a moving book, "A Thousand Sisters," that is set to be published in April. Congo is now her obsession, and she is volunteering full time on the cause as she lives off the declining royalties from her old stock photos.

She earns psychic pay when she sees a woman here who named her daughter Lisa. After we visited Congolese Lisa, I asked American Lisa about the toll of her Congo obsession — the lost business, man and home they had shared.

"Technically, I had a good life before, but I wasn't very happy," she mused. "Now I feel I have much more of a sense of meaning."

Maybe that's why I gravitate toward Lisa's story. In a land where so many "responsible" leaders eschew responsibility, Lisa has gone out of her way to assume responsibility and try to make a difference. Along with an unbelievable cast of plucky Congolese survivors such as Generose, she evokes hope.

On this visit to Congo, Lisa is organizing a Run for Congo Women right here in Bukavu, for Feb. 28, with Congolese rape survivors participating. You can sponsor them at www.runforCongo.org. And one of those participating in the run, hobbling along on crutches and her one leg, will be Generose.

Nicholas D. Kristof, a columnist for The Times since 2001, is a two-time Pulitzer Prize winner.

Opinion Policy

The Baylor Lariat welcomes reader viewpoints through letters to the editor and guest columns. Opinions expressed in the Lariat are not necessarily those of the Baylor administration, the Baylor Board of Regents or the Student Publications Board.

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Please Recycle This Issue

Baylor chosen for three-year science grant

Freshmen biology classes will have chance to conduct lab research with focus on bacteria, microbiology

By JAMES BLAKE EWING
REPORTER

Incoming freshmen have the chance to get a jump-start on research experience earlier in their college career.

Howard Hughes Medical Institute chose Baylor to participate in the Science Education Alliance with a three-year grant.

Dr. Tamarah Adair, senior lecturer in biology, and Dr. Bryan Gibbon, assistant professor of biology, got a chance to visit the institution's headquarters in Chevy Chase, Md., on Thursday. "Anything associated with HHMI is prestigious," Gibbon said.

This month e-mails will go out to incoming freshmen who are required to take basic biology lab classes. The e-mail will include an application that will allow them to participate in the program instead of the normal biology lab.

The program is a two-semester biology class that counts as the two biology lab credits.

While the lecture part will cover biology basics, it will be adapted slightly to the BIO 1105 and 1106 labs that involve the research.

The research focuses on the discipline of microbiology and experimenting with bacteria associated with tuberculosis. This will give students a chance to work with real data.

"We think this is a better way to learn," Adair said. "It's an inquiry-based lab."

All the information collected by participating universities is uploaded to a server. Students and professors can also communicate over a wiki. This wiki allows them to post and share a database of information online.

The Science Education Alli-

ance includes more than 36 different schools that range from top-end universities to small community colleges.

"It's quite a diverse group. They have tried to collect a wide group of universities," Gibbon said. "They pretty much run the gamut."

The cohort was started by Dr. Graham Hatfull, University of Pittsburgh professor. He wanted to get incoming freshmen involved in research since students usually don't get the opportunity until their junior or senior year.

"The main thing we are trying to attempt is give them the opportunity to do something great in undergrad," Adair said.

At the end of the school year there will be a summer symposium where each participating university sends a student and professor to present their findings to other universities.

While the program focuses on research, any student required to take a biology lab credit can participate.

Both Adair and Gibbon said they had research programs available for those who come out of their freshman year wanting more.

Adair and Gibbon hope this will help students get interested in contributing to the scientific dialogue.

"Having that real world research makes a big difference," Gibbon said. "It really helps hone critical thinking skills and teamwork as people discuss certain possibilities."

The program will help students obtain research positions with other professors at Baylor.

"When I recruit grad students I look for undergrad students who have research experience," said Dr. Ryan King, associate professor of biology.

They hope that the experience lays a good foundation for students interested in research and motivates them to get into a good graduate school.

BEAR BRIEFS

Symphonic concert

The School of Music is hosting a 71 member symphonic band concert 7:30 p.m. today at Jones Concert Hall. It is free and open to the public.

Kaleidoscope Carnival

OneBU will host Kaleidoscope Carnival from 6 to 10 p.m. today at Fountain Mall. It is a social carnival in conjunction with Kaleidoscope for Baylor students to show high school students the joy of college.

Senior recital

The School of Music presents Matthew Williams (tenor) at 5 p.m. Saturday in Roxy Grove Hall. This is Williams' senior recital.

Women's basketball

Baylor Women's basketball vs. Colorado will take place from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday at the Ferrell Center.

Men's basketball

Baylor Basketball vs. Texas A&M will take place from 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday in College Station. The game will be broadcasted on Big 12 Network.

Karate practice

Shotokai Karate will host karate practice from 8 to 10 a.m. Saturday in 320 Marrs-McLean gym.

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Waco Transit to add more vans to fleet for increased availability

By CATY HIRST
STAFF WRITER

The Waco transit system is receiving 18 new vans for the Demand Response Van Service.

The Demand Response Van Service is available to people who are unable to use the Fixed Route System because of a disability.

Brandon Thomas, marketing director for Waco Transit, thinks the new vans will be helpful to the Demand Response Van Service.

"We are extremely excited about the new vans and the ability to carry more passengers," Thomas said.

Allen Hunter, assistant general manager, said they have received two of the new vans and should receive four next week.

The vans are Chevrolet Durmax and will be equipped with GPS, fire suppressant systems and video security systems.

Hunter said the reception of the 18 new vans is a substantial addition to the fleet.

Thomas said the van service should be able to increase its availability to the community because of the addition of new vans.

"We will be keeping some of the old vans," Thomas said. "Some of the old vans have reached their useful life and those will be gotten rid of, but [the new vans] will be mostly an addition to the fleet."

According to the Waco Transit Web site, people who cannot board, ride or disembark from the bus because of a disability are eligible to ride the bus.

Other people who are eligible are those who cannot walk to a boarding location or from a disembarking location on a fixed route.

The van service picks up and drops off at the curb of the requested location and the operator helps passengers board and exit the van. There is an eligibility process to determine if a person can ride the Demand Response Van Service.

The service runs Monday through Saturday. Monday through Friday it operates from 5:15 a.m. to 7:15 p.m. On Saturdays the service runs from 6:15 a.m. to 8:15 p.m.

The rides cost \$3 for a one-way trip and \$6 for a round-trip.

People who have questions about the service or their eligibility should call 254-750-1900.

Possible lead in massacre

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico (AP) — Gunmen who killed 15 people in this Mexican border city — many of them teenagers with no known criminal ties — were directed to the neighborhood by a resident who said members of a rival gang were planning a party, an official said Wednesday.

The mayor of Ciudad Juarez and other officials have said the victims had no criminal records and the gunmen may have been acting on mistaken information.

The massacre could mark the worst loss of innocent life yet in the gang battles that have turned the city across the border from El Paso into one of the world's deadliest — and deepened a sense that no residents are safe,

even inside their own homes.

More than 2,300 people were killed last year in the city of 1.3 million. Authorities say most were drug gang members, but bystanders have increasingly gotten caught in the crossfire.

Authorities say two suspects — one in custody and another who was killed in a shootout with soldiers Monday — belonged to gang of hit men tied to the Juarez cartel.

The detained suspect told investigators about the tip from the neighbor, state Attorney General Patricia Gonzalez told reporters. The suspect said the neighbor claimed hit men tied to the rival Sinaloa cartel were planning a party in Villas de Salvarcar, a working-class neigh-

borhood of modest, cinderblock homes.

Gonzalez refused to comment on whether any of the victims may have been gang members, saying it was part of the investigation.

But Chihuahua state Gov. Jose Reyes visited distraught parents Wednesday and assured them he believed in their children's innocence.

"My two sons were students!" Maria Luz Davila shouted at the governor. "Their father and I could barely pay for their schooling, and they killed them both. Do you know what that's like? And to be told they were killed for being narcos!"

Reyes promised a thorough investigation.

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Round Up Brain Teaser

When one does not know what it is, then it is something; but when ones knows what it is, then it is nothing. What is it?

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Sparks' sixth movie adaptation proves mastery of romantic tales

By AMY KAUFMAN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES — Hours before the Hollywood premiere of "Dear John" earlier this week, best-selling author Nicholas Sparks was sitting in the expensive hotel room he'd been put up in, continually glimpsing at his iPhone as it lighted up with phone calls and text messages.

"That's my literary agent," he said. "And now here's a producer from the film."

Sparks, 44, had flown in earlier that day from his home in North Carolina for the opening of the fifth movie adaptation of one of his books. The sixth, "The Last Song," starring Miley Cyrus, is due out in April, and an adaptation of his novel "The Lucky One," already in the works, will potentially make seven.

Sparks, the author of 15 books with more than 50 million copies in print worldwide, writes love stories that he insists are about Joe Average — guys who build furniture, high school students, soldiers.

But the things that happen to his characters are far from standard: They pen fanciful love letters to one another and scale Ferris wheels to ask girls out on dates.

Those idyllic moments translate exceptionally well on screen — which has made Sparks one of the most desired brand names in Hollywood today.

A 2004 movie adaptation of his novel "The Notebook," starring Ryan Gosling and Rachel McAdams as star-crossed lovers, was made — like most of his adaptations — for \$20 million to \$30 million, but grossed around \$115 worldwide at the box office, while DVD sales of the film top 11 million to date.

"Everybody talks about 'The Notebook.' It's the standard by which all romance films are judged in popular America since it was released," said Marty Bowen, who served as a producer on "Dear John." "In the world of romance and Hollywood, Nicholas Sparks is the Good Housekeeping seal of approval."

Sparks, not one for false humility, made it clear he also believes this to be true.

"There's a really big difference between having one novel made into a film and having seven. Alice Sebold had 'The Lovely Bones.' Is her life changed now?" Sparks



Channing Tatum and Amanda Seyfried star in Screen Gems' romantic adaptation of Nicholas Sparks' novel, "Dear John."

asked. "But when you start getting over six, seven, we're moving into territory where not a lot of people go."

While racing through recollections of his earlier years, he spoke of his upbringing as if he has already mapped out its plot points. Example: While on spring break in Florida he met a young woman named Cathy, and instantly told her that they were going to get married one day. After writing her 150 love letters to convince her he was the right guy, she finally agreed (cue the wedding bells).

Years later, he took six months to write a novel inspired by the love story of Cathy's parents and called it "The Notebook." He bought a book on how to get a literary agent. Then he got one. The first publisher the manuscript was sent to purchased it for a million dollars.

Although Sparks' stories have resonated widely with audiences, he's hardly been a critical darling. His most recent movie adaptation, "Nights in Rodanthe" — which was Warner Bros.' second highest-grossing film of 2008 — was skewered by film critics.

"Even those with a high tolerance for melodramatic drivel ... will find 'Rodanthe' insulting, an assault on their already perilously weakened romantic hearts,"

said the New York Times.

And though most literary critics would cringe at calling Sparks' books classics, the author did find a fan in Mandy Moore.

The pop singer turned actress made her feature film debut as a young girl falling in love while battling terminal cancer in 2002's "A Walk to Remember," and fought for the part after Sparks' book resonated so strongly with her.

"I had such a visceral reaction to it that I remember not being able to read because I was almost hyperventilating while I was crying," she said, laughing. "It was my first movie and I know people say it may be cliché and it's a tearjerker or it's cheesy, but for me, it's the thing I'm most proud of."

That film became a favorite of teen star Miley Cyrus, and she told Disney she wanted to do a movie like it.

"She wanted to do a romance. Sparks met with Cyrus and asked her a few basic questions before sitting down to write the screenplay for the film, which also became his next novel.

"I said, 'Do you want to sing or not?'" Sparks said. "And she said no. Then I asked, 'Do you have anything you really like?' She said, 'I like animals.' Every teenage girl likes animals," he

said, laughing. "I said I'd see if I could work those in — other than that, the story was 100 percent mine."

In "The Last Song," Cyrus, 17, plays a rebellious young girl spending the summer with her estranged father when she falls in love with a local hunk.

"It was the best summer of my life," Cyrus recalled giddily of filming. "It's definitely edgier than what I'm known for, with all the kissing and stuff."

"I mean, I don't get to be a normal teenager and go to high school, so this was a dream come true for me. I think every girl is going to walk away from the movie wishing something like this would happen to her."

Denise Di Novi, who produced the first Sparks movie "Message in a Bottle" and has worked on three of his other adaptations, described him as a savvy businessman.

"How many authors can say that every single one of their movies are successful?" she said. "And I think they're just going to get more and more popular. His stories give great comfort to people. They're wish-fulfillment."

It's a point, of course, of which Sparks is well aware.

"You'll quadruple your money making a Nicholas Sparks movie. It's money in the bank," he said.

Super recipes for the Super Bowl

Hot Spinach, Bacon and Artichoke Dip

Ingredients

- 8 slices bacon
- 1 (10 ounce) package frozen chopped spinach, thawed and drained
- 1 (14 ounce) can quartered marinated artichoke hearts, drained
- 1 (5 ounce) container garlic-herb flavored cheese spread
- 1 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 (8 ounce) container sour cream
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise

Directions

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C). Place bacon in a large, deep skillet. Cook over medium high heat until evenly brown. Drain and crumble into a medium bowl. Mix spinach, artichoke hearts, garlic-herb flavored cheese spread, Parmesan cheese, sour cream and mayonnaise into the bowl with bacon. Scoop mixture into a 7x11 inch baking dish. Bake in the preheated oven 20 minutes, or until bubbly and lightly browned.

Debdoozie's Blue Ribbon Chili

Ingredients

- 2 pounds ground beef
- 1/2 onion, chopped
- 1 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic salt
- 2 1/2 cups tomato sauce
- 1 (8 ounce) jar salsa
- 4 tablespoons chili seasoning mix
- 1 (15 ounce) can light red kidney beans
- 1 (15 ounce) can dark red kidney beans

Directions

In a large saucepan over medium heat, combine the ground beef and the onion and saute for 10 minutes, or until meat is browned and onion is tender. Drain grease. Add the ground black pepper, garlic salt, tomato sauce, salsa, chili seasoning mix and kidney beans. Mix well, reduce heat to low and simmer for at least an hour.

Kellogg's Rice Krispies Chocolate Nutty Mini-Football Treats

Ingredients

- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 1 (10 ounce) package regular marshmallows
- 1/2 cup peanut butter
- 4 cups Kellogg's Cocoa Krispies cereal
- Canned frosting or decorating gel

Directions

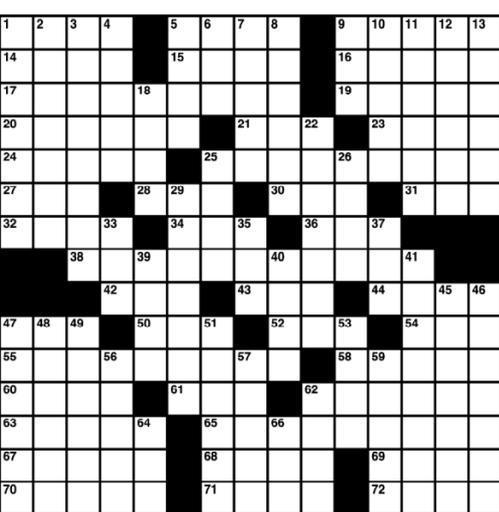
In large saucepan melt butter over low heat. Add marshmallows and stir until completely melted. Remove from heat. Stir in peanut butter until melted. Add Kellogg's Rice Krispies cereal. Stir until well coated. Cool slightly. Using buttered hands shape mixture into sixteen 3-inch footballs. Decorate with frosting. Best if served the same day.

COURTESY: ALLRECIPES.COM

FUN TIMES

Find answers at www.baylorlariat.com

McClatchy-Tribune



Across

- 1 ___ St Ives: Cornwall museum
- 5 Drift
- 9 Caught on video
- 14 *First family member
- 15 Muppet who testified before Congress
- 16 Spry
- 17 *Old street corner singer
- 19 Director De Mille
- 20 Keys
- 21 *Arthur in a dress
- 23 Orkan sign-off word
- 24 Express gratitude to
- 25 *Receptacle for choice slips
- 27 Publisher often seen in PJs
- 28 Park, in NYC
- 30 Cpl.'s superior
- 31 Valuable rock
- 32 Mine entrance
- 34 Cover letter letters
- 36 Diamond stat

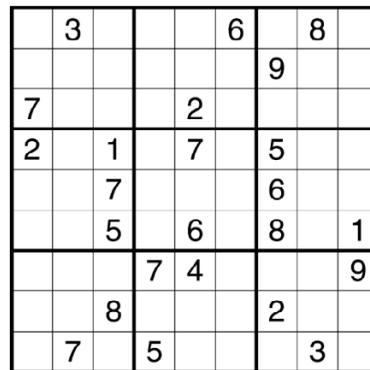
- 38 Demonstrate effectiveness, and a literal hint to the puzzle theme found in the answers to starred clues
- 42 Farm dweller
- 43 Musical ability
- 44 D.C. fundraisers
- 47 *Brit. award
- 50 Summa ___ laude
- 52 Eastern principle
- 54 "Murder, ___ Wrote"
- 55 *Danseur noble's partner
- 58 Eucharist plate
- 60 Culinary author Rom-bauer
- 61 63-Across hdg.
- 62 *Ball honorees
- 63 Besiege
- 65 *Southwestern horse-man
- 67 Musher's wear
- 68 Abbr. that shortens text
- 69 Gossip columnist
- Cassini

- 70 Extra large?
- 71 Con
- 72 Three-part nos.

Down

- 1 "Bewitched" role
- 2 Hangdog
- 3 Lie
- 4 Actress Barkin
- 5 Ruby and others
- 6 65-Across's "Bravo!"
- 7 Microscopic organ-ism
- 8 Provençal cuisine delicacies
- 9 Middle x
- 10 One taking a little off the top?
- 11 Street going downhill?
- 12 Emma's "Sense and Sensibility" role
- 13 Ritz
- 18 Aleutian island
- 22 Course with x's
- 25 Inclination

- 26 Other, in Spain
- 29 Risky undertaking
- 33 Drink from a bag
- 35 Fidel's friend
- 37 Finsteraarhorn, e.g.
- 39 Start of many a story
- 40 "Do I dare to ___ peach?": Eliot
- 41 Near-exhaustion metaphor
- 45 Root for
- 46 Radar guns, e.g.
- 47 San Luis ___, California
- 48 Bill for shots
- 49 Author Leonard
- 51 Chops finely
- 53 European auto
- 56 Carefree diversions
- 57 Bard's "below"
- 59 "___ forgiven"
- 62 Lip soother
- 64 West who said "To err is human, but it feels divine"
- 66 Repeated nursery rhyme opener



Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9.

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Bears anticipate battle against Aggies

By MATT LARSEN
SPORTS WRITER

Just two years removed from Donald Sloan's controversial off-the-backboard dunk as time expired, the rivalry between Baylor and Texas A&M University continues, as the Bears travel to College Station Saturday for a 3 p.m. tipoff.

Head coach Scott Drew acknowledged the tensions but doesn't believe they reflect anything more than an in-state college basketball rivalry.

"The last few years we have had some technical (fouls) during the game, some extracurricular activity at the end of the game," Drew said. "So it's just a situation where two teams are close by and know each other pretty well and defi-

nitely want those bragging rights," he said.

Players share similar views as they refuse to let any past events alter their preparation and mindset going into Saturday's game.

"It gets crazy. The A&M fans do a great job of coming out for these games," junior forward Ekpe Udoh said.

"You just got to stay within yourself. Don't think of the game as being too big. Just stay within yourself and with the game plan you have and you'll be successful."

Senior guard Tweety Carter also shared his thoughts about the matchup as well as the importance of coming out with a presence.

"You know you're going to have a battle," Carter

said. "But we just want to come out and play our ball. It's a rivalry. You don't want to come out with the mentality to get somebody back, but at the same time, let them know we're here."

In addition to sharing a heated rivalry, the Big 12 neighbors are both still feeling the effects of emotional victories on the road. The Aggies ended the University of Missouri's 32-game winning streak at home, while the Bears took down the then No.6-ranked University of Texas Longhorns before coming home to convincingly put away Iowa State.

"Both teams are on a high," Drew said. "They're coming off a road win."

"I think both of us have momentum and both of us will be excited to play."

Drew also acknowledged A&M standouts Donald Sloan and Bryan Davis, but doesn't plan on changing much defensively.

"We'd like to be every game going in defensively and making the other team adjust to us," Drew said. "We have such great size and length and we want people to have to shoot over us. And as long as we're contesting shots and making them play over us, then hopefully we're going to bother some shooters."

As for Sloan, Carter looks forward to matching up against him.

"He's a real good player," the Reserve, La., native said. "He's the heart and soul as far as scoring, but you know, I'm ready to take on any challenge that comes my way."



MATTHEW HELLMAN | LARIAT STAFF

Tweety Carter (right) guards Chris Colvin during Wednesday night's 84-63 victory against Iowa State University. Carter and the Bears travel to College Station Saturday to face Texas A&M.



COURTESY PHOTO | BAYLOR ATHLETICS

Trey Harts (left) sprints during a meet in 2009. Harts won the 2009 Indoor National Championship in the 200-meter.

Harts carving out 'Hall of Fame career'

By DANIEL CERNERO
REPORTER

Returning All-American Trey Harts, Indoor National Champion at the 200 meters and the 4x400 meter relay, looks to finish his Baylor career by improving on times of the past.

Harts, a senior from Lake Charles, La., says his toughest competition might be himself.

"I always try to compete against myself," Harts said. "As long as I keep seeing an improvement, I can definitely hold my head high and continue to work hard."

With thoughts of playing soccer as a young kid, his father convinced him to give track a chance.

"He basically gave me the tough love speech and said, 'Hey son, you're really not as

good as you think you are in soccer, but you're just faster than everyone else, so why don't you just take the ball out of the equation and go run?'" Harts said.

Harts said he took his father's advice and ended up falling in love with track.

Baylor wasn't the only university competing for Harts' attention. Harts said he was close to going to both TCU and Texas A&M University, but that it was his fellow recruiting class that convinced him to come to Baylor.

"While running in high school at the big meets, I met LeJerald Betters and J.T. Schuerman, and they both said that they wanted to come here," Harts said. "I got the idea that it'd be really nice to run on a relay with these guys, versus having to go out and

get worked out by them."

While aiming to defend his national titles of last year, Harts also serves in a leadership role on the team.

"Harts is a captain, and he's going to finish off a great career here—probably a Hall of Fame type career, head coach Todd Harbour said. "Harts has a lot of great accolades already, hopefully he'll finish on a great note this year."

In a sport heavy on individual performances, team chemistry still plays a big role.

"We all cheer each other on every time one of our teammates is on the track," Boyd said. "Last year at Nationals I almost lost my voice cheering for Harts."

We're all really close like that. When somebody is on

the track, we're going 100 percent for them."

There is a different mindset when you race in an individual event, than when you run on a relay, Harts said. Oftentimes in individual events, teammates might compete against one another to get the fastest time.

"I still have to be aggressive against my teammates, but in a relay I have to be aggressive with my teammates," Harts said.

This being his last year at Baylor, Harts said he's looking to have a strong end to his collegiate career.

"Right now, we want to win championships," Harts said. "We also want to show the whole United States that Baylor is still the premier (4x400 meter relay) team out there."

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DANIEL CERNERO | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Year of the Tiger

Students bring in the Year of the Tiger Thursday on the second floor of the Bill Daniel Student Center during on campus festivities celebrating the Chinese New Year.

BRATU from pg. 1

what makes them tick."

Bratu did his undergraduate work in Romanian, German and French universities. He spent a year in Germany after only studying the language over the summer.

"If you don't do adventurous things when you are young," Bratu said, "when will you do it?"

Bratu received a scholarship to New York University's French doctoral program that covered tuition, travel and food expenses, so he decided to study in the United States.

"The United States helped Romania get rid of communism. It was a country I was looking up to. I really didn't think I would end up in the U.S. I just thought it would be an interesting place to study in, like Australia," Bratu said.

"It was obvious that the United States had European roots, but everything was bigger."

He advises students not to be afraid of looking silly when learning a foreign language. It just comes with the territory.

"I remember going up to a woman in New York and asking, 'Would you be so kind as to tell me where the library is?' She gave me a strange look and asked me where I was from," Bratu said.

After completing his doctoral program at NYU, Bratu decided

to teach at Baylor since he had family in Texas. As an assistant French professor, he now has the job of opening French culture to students.

Bratu gives students the opportunity to experience the culture outside the classroom and co-leads the Baylor in Paris program with Uber. Together with Dr. Jennifer Good, assistant professor of German, he launched the World Cinema series.

The World Cinema series shows foreign films and gives participants the opportunity to learn about other cultures. The films are shown at 7 p.m. every Tuesday in Bennett Auditorium.

Katie Kimball, a 2009 alumna who took Introduction to French Literature and Introduction to French Cinema with Bratu said that he always stayed on task with his classes.

"A lot of the class seems to really love him. I haven't talked to anyone who didn't like him," Kimball said. "Even the non-French majors like his class. He doesn't move too fast and makes sure everyone learns the material."

Kimball, a French major, said Bratu really cared for his students and wanted them to learn. "I loved his teaching style," Kimball said.

"He's very informative and you can tell he's smart but not

condescending. We learn a lot of things from him. He never frowns at you for giving the wrong answer, just encourages you to find the right answer."

Bratu said learning another language helps students to better understand people from other cultures.

"Studying abroad is when people realize that people from other countries are not just people who pretend to be different," Bratu said.

"They really have a different culture and you talk to them on their terms."

Uber said anybody can master a language as long as they put in the time it requires.

"I think learning a language is like learning the piano," Uber said.

"If you work hard whether instructing or learning a foreign language, you can do well."

Bratu has visited Hungary, Austria, Tunisia, Canada, Turkey and the Netherlands and hopes to one day visit Japan and Australia.

Bratu said traveling to other countries is important when learning other languages.

"I have traveled quite a lot and I'll never stop. It has never been easier to travel than now because of planes, fast trains and porous borders," Bratu said.

ALUMNI from pg. 1

Private universities however, do not share the same reporting responsibilities that public universities have. Because of this, many private universities, host their alumni organizations as a department of the university itself.

According to Leeper, the findings were a primary motivation for Baylor's proposal to the BAA to join the university. Of the private universities studied, Baylor concluded that it was the only one in which the alumni held responsibility in all three categories.

Southern Methodist University, a private university, does not maintain an independent alumni association, according to Stacey Paddock, executive director of alumni giving and relations at SMU.

Instead, all alumni programming is done in-house within the department of development and external affairs. Paddock believes that this structure was created to make giving to the university easier for alumni. She explained that when the alumni give at an alumni event, they know that its going directly to the university and its directives.

"It's more transparent for the alumni," Paddock said.

On the other hand, Rice University is supported by an independent organization: the Association of Rice Alumni. In an e-mail to the Lariat, B.J. Almond, director of news and media relations, explained how their organization is structured.

"The Association of Rice Alumni is a 501(c)(3) organization whose activities are led by a board of directors in conjunction with the Office of Alumni Affairs & University Events, which is an office of Rice University," Almond stated in the e-mail.

"The board acts in an advisory capacity."

Almond would not say more, except to confirm that the asso-

ciation is independent of the university.

One interesting case in the world of successful alumni associations is that of Stanford University, in Palo Alto, Calif.

In May of 1998, the Stanford Alumni Association board of directors voted to formally join the university. At the time, the group had 72,000 members, according to a May 5, 1998 news release. Following the vote, the SAA gave up its independent 501(c)(3) status and became a division of the university itself.

Since then, Leeper explained that the SAA has become one of the premier organizations in the field of alumni groups.

"When you read the literature about alumni associations, Stanford is in the top three or four always," Leeper said. "Their alumni are organized, engaged, their donation levels to the university are tremendous. They are usually on the cutting edge in terms of the kinds of programs they offer and the things that they do."

Both Leeper and Lofgren noted Baylor hoped to imitate this merger with its Sept. 19 proposal to the BAA.

One of the successes of Stanford is in its communication. A study done by the University of Virginia Alumni Relations Task Force outlines the history and successes of the SAA.

A portion of the report also explains how the circulation of the Stanford Magazine was increased to nearly all alumni after the merger, particularly to donors who were not SAA members prior to the merger.

The issue of communication with alumni was directly addressed in Baylor's proposal to the BAA.

er communication pieces.

The BAA has 16,873 members and approximately 5,000 annual dues paying members. We believe that a joint effort could produce participation levels that would dramatically increase these numbers."

Lofgren explained that in the last 15 or so years, universities and alumni associations have become "interdependent." This allows an alumni association to speak for alumni from a different perspective than the university, but at the same time, this is not considered full independence because the university can hire and fire the alumni association executives and it provides financial backing for association programs.

"People liked the idea of having an independence about the alumni," Lofgren said. "On the other hand, the universities were not willing to say we can just give you this money. [The university] could do it ourselves and be sure that we are getting what we need."

Lofgren believes that alumni associations could report to both the university and their alumni while remaining independent.

"My feeling was always that you don't have to give up one to get the other," Lofgren said.

"But it's true. If you look around the whole alumni world, there are only one or two places that I could ever find that had a joint reporting arrangement, in which case you are responsible to the alumni board and you are evaluated annually by the alumni board and you are responsible to the president of the university and you are evaluated by him or her.

That's one of those situations where an idealist would say why not? You think, well gosh, what's so hard about that?"

The essential ingredient is trust. At the heart, you can do that if you trust each other."

PLAN from pg. 1

tion, said that stopping the subsidizing of banks means cutting out the middleman.

"In real dollars, the Income-Based Repayment invests billions of dollars to help families pay for college, at reduced cost to taxpayers, by eliminating taxpayer subsidies for student loan middlemen (private lenders)," Talbert said.

Ending these subsidies will save \$87 billion that we can invest directly in our college students and in improving early education and community colleges, Talbert said.

"It's a much better use of taxpayer dollars," Talbert said.

Although Baylor is a private institution, these governmental changes will still apply to stu-

dents since the university accepts government funding through plans such as the Federal Pell Grant Program.

Talbert also said that the Income-Based Repayment plan, if passed, will encourage more students to search for jobs that utilize their gifts and talents rather than worry about monetary obligations, such as loans.

ONE from pg. 1

partnering with them to come up with holistic sustainable solutions to lift them out of extreme poverty," Newcomb said. "The second part of what we do is we work to inspire the developed world to confront the crisis of extreme poverty."

When Nuru makes its stop at Baylor, Newcomb said the organization hopes that it can empower not only those who aren't aware of the ability they have to

make a difference, but also those who need a venue through which to make a difference.

The event will be open not only to Baylor students and professors, but also to the Waco community.

"We want to invite people to join with what Nuru is doing to end extreme poverty. We want to empower people to believe that they can make a difference in things that matter in the world,"

Newcomb said.

"I think that the individual is more powerful than they could ever realize. If there's somebody at Baylor that needs to hear that, or needs to realize that, then we hope they'll come so that we can tell them that.

"If there's someone at Baylor that has grasped that concept, we want to give them an outlet to act on that."

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Sunday Worship @ 10:50am

(254) 753-6425 www.seventhandjames.org

Look for Worship Weekly in every Friday Issue of the Baylor Lariat