

The Baylor Lariat

WEDNESDAY | APRIL 18, 2012

www.baylorlariat.com



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Bears dominate field
 Baseball blasts TAMU-Corpus Christi out of the Baylor Ballpark Tuesday

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Excellence recognized
 Hadassah Schloss of Texas Attorney General's office honored by Baylor journalism department

A&E Page 4
Film front and center
 The Austin Film Festival will feature conversation and film screenings with the creator of "Veronica Mars" today in Austin

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Bear Briefs

The place to go to know the places to go

Bears sing out
 The Baylor Men's Choir will perform at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in Jones Concert Hall of the Glennis McCrary Music Building. This event is free and open to the public. For more information call the Baylor School of Music at 254-710-3991.

Take the field
 Baylor Softball will play University of Texas from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. today at the Gettman Stadium. Tickets can be purchased at the box office of the Bill Daniel Student Center or at www.baylorbears.com.

Honoring the chief
 The President's Concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. Saturday in Jones Concert Hall of the Music Building. The Baylor Wind Ensemble will be directed by J. Eric Wilson. Also performing will be the Baylor Jazz Ensemble, the Baylor Saxophone Quartet and special guest stars the Jim Cullum Jazz Band. Tickets are priced at \$15. For information, call the School of Music box office at 254-710-3571.



baylorlariat.com

Student government elections begin

By LINDA WILKINS AND DANIEL C. HOUSTON
 STAFF WRITERS

Election day has arrived, and the candidates for positions in the student government elections are wrapping up the campaign season, during which they have been lobbying for the votes of their colleagues for the past two weeks.

The elections will take place electronically Wednesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at www.baylor.edu/sg/vote.

The Lariat interviewed all six candidates who will be on the ballot for the three highest offices in student government: student body president, external vice president and internal vice president.

Student Body President

The three candidates running for student body president are Houston junior Tyler Tribble, Des Moines, Iowa junior Kelly Rapp, and Rockwall junior Nick Pokorny.



Kelly Rapp
SBP

Tribble, a finance and economics major, served as a student senator and as a member of the student body president's cabinet.

"I'd like to take this job head-on and take it in a determined way to get things done," Tribble said. "I want to see the checklist with the most important things in the minds of the student body, and I want to be the voice for that, the voice for the students and ensure that their desires on campus and off campus are fulfilled."

Tribble said he wants to increase safety on and off campus by having the Baylor Police Department and the Waco Police Department collaborate.

He also said he hopes to increase parking capacity and encourage more student government member involvement.

Regarding his removal from his position as student

senator last year, Tribble said, "I voluntarily chose to come back to student government because I'm very passionate. I'm a passionate leader, I'm dedicated, and if not for these rough times in my life then it never would have taken place. I'm a very ethical and moral person and I believe in Baylor and everything it stands for."

Rapp, an economics major, has been a member of the external vice president's cabinet, a two-time member of the student body president's cabinet, and has worked with the Board of Regents as a student liaison.

"This is a great chance that I have to go forth with some of the goals that I've had since freshman year," Rapp said.

Rapp said he wants to focus on changing flat rate scholarships to percentage-based so that as tuition rises the scholarship rises a percentage with it.

He also said he hopes to bring more high-profile speakers to campus and improve safety on and off campus.

"I've seen the issues that students have and there are better ways to [approach] those than others, and I feel like I've learned a lot the past few years. I've prepared myself to be able to take on this position and to connect with the students and staff," Rapp said.

Pokorny, a political science and international studies major, has served two terms in the Student Senate, as the student representative for sustainability and also as the student representative to the university judicial affairs committee.

Pokorny said he wants to focus on the affordability of a Baylor education.

"While I appreciate the university trying to keep tuition rates from exponen-

tially increasing, one of the ways we really need to work on that is by going to alumni, going to community partners and creating a culture of giving towards Baylor," he said.

Pokorny said he also wants to focus on improving student access to working printers, have more campus facilities open 24 hours a day and have more public access to student government.

External Vice President

The race for external vice president — the office responsible for relations with the Waco community, the Big 12 and Baylor alumni — pits two class presidents against each other in junior Briana Treadaway and sophomore Raechel Adams.

Both candidates cited their experience organizing events as class officers and connections they have made with members of various communities as reasons why they feel they would be prepared for the EVP position.

Treadaway emphasized that, while addressing student affordability issues would be a high priority for her if elected, she said

SEE ELECTIONS, page 6



Raechel Adams
EVP



Nick Pokorny
SBP



Brian Kim
IVP



Tyler Tribble
SBP



Briana Treadaway
EVP

Diadeloso schedule in Fountian Mall

- 9:30 a.m. Dia Zumba
- 10 a.m. Swing & Latin Dance Shows
- 5K Fun Run
- 10:30 a.m. Lomelda
- Ultimate Frisbee Tournament
- Sand Volleyball Tournament
- 11 a.m. Dia Queen - Main Stage
- Indoor Soccer Tournament
- Tennis Tournament
- Dodgeball Tournament
- Tug of War
- 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Noon meal
- 11:15 a.m. Dia Dog Show
- 11:30 a.m. Fifth & Fite
- 12 p.m. The KamiKaze Fireflies
- Racquetball Tournament
- Basketball Tournament
- Noon - 4 p.m. Camel Rides
- 1 p.m. NPHC Step Show
- 2 p.m. O, Loveland
- Campus Golf Tournament
- Strongest Man Competition
- 2:30 p.m. Baylor Dance Company
- 3 p.m. Dr. Jon Taylor Comedy
- Hypnosis Show
- 4 p.m. Savion Wright
- 4:30 p.m. David Dulcie & The Ragtag Army
- 5 p.m. Ty Mayfield
- 6 p.m. Parachute



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR
 The first round of the 2011 Dia Del Oso women's tug-o-war competition gave the Women's Crew team an instant lead after their victory within 8 seconds of the kickoff.

Chet Edwards speaks on politics

By KAYLA REEVES
 REPORTER

There are problems in Washington, but America's positive aspects can overcome them, Former Congressman Chet Edwards said at the W. R. Poage Legislative Library's Spring Lecture Tuesday. The lecture was titled, "What's Wrong with Washington and Right about America?"

Edwards, the W.R. Poage distinguished chair for public service, was introduced by his father-in-law, Dr. John Wood, Baylor graduate and founder of

Mission Waco. "Whatever you could write out as far as characteristics of the ideal person, ideal politician, ideal lawmaker, ideal husband, father and son-in-law, all of it would apply to Chet Edwards," Wood said.

The first problem Edwards mentioned in his lecture was partisanship. There are huge divisions in America among political parties, religions and cultures, he said, and so many politicians refuse to work with together to find common ground.

News today is also much more divided than it used to be, Ed-



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

W.R. Poage Distinguished Chair for Public Service Chet Edwards gives a lecture titled "Whats Wrong with Washington and Right About America" Tuesday in Bennett Auditorium.

wards said. "People are listening to the news that tells them what they want to hear," he said. "So what happens is the American people, I find, are getting more locked into their positions and less willing to see across party lines."

The news also frequently tries to sum up political affairs in eight-second sound bites, which cannot give the full story, he said.

Many people get news from biased and unfiltered emails,

SEE EDWARDS, page 6

Starr to host former Supreme Court Justice

By TREVOR ALLISON
 REPORTER

Former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor will visit campus April 30 as part of Baylor President Ken Starr's "On Topic" series. The event will be at 1 p.m. in Waco Hall.

O'Connor, who was the first woman on the Supreme Court, will also take part in other activi-

ties while in Waco. The visit and On Topic event provide a unique opportunity for Baylor students, Dr. David Bridge, Baylor assistant professor of political science, said.

"It's really rare that Supreme Court justices give public talks," he said. "It will probably be a long time before Baylor sees another Supreme Court justice come visit."

Bridge said O'Connor's contribution to the court and American constitutional development goes beyond being the first woman on the court.

"She was the swing vote," Bridge said. "Decisions on many cases would have been different if someone else had been chosen in her place."

Bridge said he is also anticipating the visit for one more reason.

"Ken Starr is a great legal mind and I'm looking forward to the interaction between the two," Bridge said of the On Topic event.

O'Connor will be speaking with Judge Starr about her time on the Supreme Court, important issues facing America today and her involvement with iCivics, according to a flier released by

SEE O'CONNOR, page 6

Baylor PD to crack down on loud music

By LINDA WILKINS
 STAFF WRITER

The Waco Police Department is cracking down on people playing loud music from their cars or homes, Commander Bill Hall said.

"We've received many complaints about loud stereos," Hall said. "People have gone to City Council, too."

Because the Waco PD is typically shorthanded on Fridays and Saturdays when the music is most often the problem, many officers did not issue a warning or a ticket in the past, Hall said. But now they are going to.

A verbal warning was previously the common consequence for music violations, but now a written warning and/or a ticket will be issued, Hall said.

Waco PD encourages people to comply with the city ordinance concerning sound violations,

SEE LOUD, page 6



Kelly Rapp, student body president candidate



Raechel Adams, external vice president candidate



Brian Kim, internal vice president candidate

Rapp, Adams, Kim will best serve Baylor

Editorial

Every year the Lariat editorial board interviews student body officer candidates in order to understand platforms, gauge abilities and represent the student body's voice. This year's editorial board has chosen to continue the endorsements. We are endorsing junior Kelly Rapp for student body president on a 5-0-0 vote and Raechel Adams for external vice president on a 5-0-0 vote.

Brian Kim is running unopposed for internal vice president, though we still spoke with him to assess his plans for the upcoming year.

Student Body President

Out of the three candidates, Kelly Rapp brings the best balance of a strong platform and professional attitude needed

to enhance student life on campus. Rapp also supplies a wealth of experience after working on both the external vice president and internal vice president's cabinets and serving on Steppin' Out's steering committee.

Rapp's platform directly answers students' concerns. First, he wants scholarships to increase on a yearly basis by the same percent as tuition. His second goal of improving safety off campus comes at a time when crime around Baylor has some students worried. Finally, Rapp's desire to bring in more high profile speakers has proved meaningful after events like Condoleezza Rice's visit packed Waco Hall to full capacity.

Rapp currently works in the president's office and has worked with Vice President for Finance and Administration Reagan Ramsower and Senior Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships Kathy Wright. This working relationship with vice presidents can translate to more

student input turning into positive changes on campus.

We also felt Nick Pokorny's platform had solid points. Pokorny said he wanted to see an increase in Baylor alumni donations, improvements to on-campus buildings and equipment, an increase in Baylor product licensing and more public input in student government.

We sensed a lack of professionalism in Pokorny's interview responses, though, that would concern us if he were elected student body president.

For instance, it's perfectly fine to constructively criticize the current student body president, Zach Rogers. But Pokorny seemed to have personal disagreements with Rogers and casually referred to the legislature and executive branch as "rival branches" in the interview. We cannot have a student body president who views the branches that way.

When asked about tension in student government, Rapp sim-

ply replied he chooses to stay outside of gossip within student government.

We did not see a strong enough platform from student body president candidate Tyler Tribble to endorse him. When asked about his platform, his answer included eight different goals, ranging from increased parking to lighting on the Bear Trail to individualized career fairs. Individualized career fairs would serve the students well, but that is not enough to substantiate a candidate's platform.

External Vice President

Because of a much clearer, stronger set of goals than her opponent, we want to see Raechel Adams as external vice president next year. Adams' platform, commitment to community, focuses on improving off- and on-campus safety, getting students more involved in community service and working more closely with

alumni to transition students to the real world.

Her points were well researched and she was able to explain how previous experience has helped bring positive ideas to Baylor. For example, after attending a Big 12 student government conference, she brought back the idea to host student government coffee in Fountain Mall to increase student input.

She also promoted an ambitious idea of a "free speech zone" on campus.

We favor Adams over Briana Treadaway because of the lack of clarity in Treadaway's platform. When we asked Treadaway to describe her platform, we did not receive a definite set of pillars in her plan. Treadaway did not offer many ideas on how she would help make a greater difference in the community.

Internal Vice President

Brian Kim is running unop-

posed for internal vice president. Even if he were opposed, however, he would be a tough candidate to beat.

What we liked immediately about Kim's attitude was a strong desire to see student senators gathering student input. We asked if he meant senators conducting surveys via the Internet or senators physically going out in public to talk to students. He emphatically replied, "Physically!"

Kim was also candid about the problem in student government of turnover rates. He wants to change the internal environment and discuss issues that matter instead of sitting "for three hours discussing something that probably won't happen."

Kim acknowledged that student senate needs to listen more to students before making decisions such as the DREAM act bill.

We hope these candidates turn their plans into reality and lead Baylor boldly into the future.

Senate's Bear Pit bill exemplifies how StuGov must improve

Here's the thing about any governing body: you know something it did something wrong when people start talking about it.

For a sports editor to write about Student Senate, the group had to step somewhere it should not have. Well, it did.

The Student Senate voted Thursday to disband the Baylor Bear Pit. If you don't know, the Bear Pit is a student organization created in 2005 to support and cheer for the men's basketball team. The Bear Pit is the students standing courtside at both ends of the floor with the gold and black striped jerseys doing the various chants during home games (and even some away games in Austin and College Station).

In a year when just about every Baylor sport has found success, we want to disband the Bear Pit? We want to take away the best group of fans men's basket-



Tyler Alley | Sports editor

ball — maybe any Baylor sport — has? How does that make sense?

How do you not even consult the organization or students around campus before eliminating the group? Maybe students wanted to see it go, and maybe they didn't. We'll never know, be-

cause Student Senate didn't ask.

Sophomore Senator Grant Senter said "for too long we have been bullied and intimidated by [the Bear Pit]."

Unless Bear Pit president Benjamin Friedman has a gang of hooligans running around dunking non-members' heads in toilets until they pay the entry fee and join, I do not see how the Bear Pit is bullying or intimidating anyone.

I would not even say the Bear Pit bullies or intimidates players on the opposing team. They just show up and cheer on the team.

There is also a belief that if the Bear Pit was disbanded, other students would fill in the gap.

Listen, I would love to see students fill the stands without necessarily being members of a group. I would love to see students wear the same shirts like other fans do, stay loud and excited the entire game — as well

"Maybe students wanted to see it go, and maybe they didn't. We'll never know, because Student Senate didn't ask."

as actually stay the entire game — and learn all the chants.

I would also like an Aston Martin, my very own island and my tuition to be zero. And if you've read some of the columns the Lariat has printed from sports writers and fans who complain about the attendance at the Ferrell Center, you might think my three wishes are more likely to happen than fans filling in for the Bear Pit.

We are not Duke. We are not Kentucky or Kansas. Our fans do not fill the stands and

chant together like some of these other schools, and until that day comes, we need the Bear Pit to even cause slight harassment towards our opponents.

Senter said the Bear Pit does not portray Baylor fans in a positive light and we do not want them representing our university.

Are you kidding? You know what the current representation of a Baylor fan is right now? Go to YouTube, search "Baylor fan" and take a look at the first video. How is the Bear Pit worse than that?

I've sat in front of the Bear Pit while covering men's basketball games for the Lariat, and I don't see a waste of money and space, or a negative portrayal of Baylor Nation. I see passionate fans who are involved in the game and the team. Head Scott Drew was quoted as saying the Bear Pit is worth 10 points every game for Baylor. Having said all this, if the

Bear Pit is not disbanded and gets to keep its traditions and ways, the members cannot take it for granted. The Bear Pit needs to fill its section during every single game and make its presence known to other teams in the nation.

With student government elections today and tomorrow, I encourage the next internal vice president, Brian Kim, to foster better communication between Student Senate and students and organizations on campus.

Hopefully this bill does not go all the way through and the Bear Pit sticks around. If not, we might as well get rid of the Courtside Players too. I mean, it's not fair that they get to sit courtside simply because they are able to play instruments, is it?

Tyler Alley is a senior journalism major from Humble and is the Lariat's sports editor.

the Baylor Lariat | STAFF LIST

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Students plan KONY 2012 poster campaign

By BRE NICHOLS
REPORTER

Long after the sun sets Friday, Baylor students will come together to plaster KONY 2012 posters all over Waco with one goal in mind — to make African warlord Joseph Kony famous.

Their efforts are part of KONY 2012, a national campaign created by the Invisible Children organization that is meant to raise awareness about Kony's crimes against humanity, especially those targeting children.

Kony is the leader of the Lord's Resistance Army, a guerrilla group that has terrorized communities in Central Africa and abducted tens of thousands of children.

On March 5, Invisible Children released a video on KONY 2012, which went viral after viewers saw the widespread corruption and violence he has spread in Africa.

Invisible Children's mission is to "end the use of child soldiers in Joseph Kony's rebel war and restore [Lord's Resistance Army]-affected communities in East and Central Africa to peace and prosperity," according to their official campaign website, www.kony2012.com.

Since the video's release, groups supporting Invisible Children's campaign have spread across the country. On campus, students have started "Baylor Covers the Night," a local adaptation of an event begun by Invisible Children.

Invisible Children created

The Night" Facebook event.

"I created this event because I wanted to give Baylor students an opportunity to be involved in the campaign," Buehler said.

The event will take place Friday from 11 p.m. until 2 a.m. Students will meet at Fountain Mall and are

least repost the video on Facebook or buy a kit to support the cause, or anything to help get the word out."

As of Tuesday afternoon, the Facebook group had 72 participants planning to attend the event. Buehler said the group intends to cover as much of Waco as they can during the night.

"Our goal on April 20 is to cover Waco with KONY 2012 posters, document this action and send it to Invisible Children so the world will see that we are demanding justice," Buehler said.

The group will be targeting a few main spots, such as the Baylor campus, restaurants, telephone polls and apartments.

Buehler said she wants to stress to participants to bring their own posters because they will not be provided at the event.

All posters have been sold out on the Invisible Children website. Buehler participants can download the free Kony Kit that includes printable items such as: door hangers, multiple posters, magazine inserts and stencils that can be used to get the word out about Kony.

For more information, visit the Facebook event page "Baylor Covers the Night."

1987: the year Joseph Kony took charge of The Lord's Resistance Army

30,000: the number of children abducted to be child soldiers since 1987

statistics from Invisible Children website

"Cover the Night" to get people in the U.S. and other countries involved in spreading the word about Kony and his brutalities.

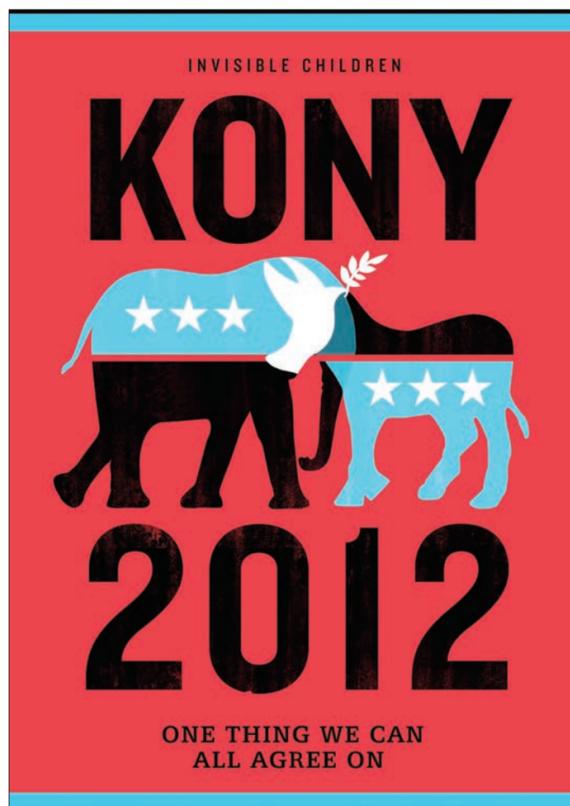
At the end of the organization's KONY 2012 video, viewers are encouraged to go out at night on April 20 and participate in covering their city in KONY posters in hopes of raising awareness, and keeping their communities aware of what is going on in Africa.

San Diego, Calif., senior Rachel Buehler started the "Baylor Covers

asked to bring their own KONY posters to cover the city, Buehler said.

Dallas senior Becca Ryan was also inspired to get involved after watching the KONY 2012 video, and said she hopes even students who can't go to the Cover the Night event will get involved.

"The video really got me emotional," Ryan said. "I couldn't believe that I hadn't heard of what was happening, and I think it's important for everyone to see it and at



Leadership team to take shoes with skills to Kenya

By AMANDA THOMAS
REPORTER

The Baylor Spiritual Life Women's Leadership Team will travel to Nairobi, Kenya this summer to deliver 120 pairs of new shoes to St. Kizito Orphanage.

The Women's Leadership team was founded last year by Melanie Smith, international student relations coordinator and Rebecca Kennedy, director of missions for Baylor Spiritual Life.

Six students make up the team and have been working with Smith to prepare for the mission trip. While in Kenya, the team will

teach leadership skills to women in schools, orphanages and businesses, Smith said.

Fort Worth senior Lauren Goff, project coordinator for the Women's Leadership Team, came up with the idea of taking the shoes to St. Kizito during the mission trip.

"I wanted to start a shoe project and bring over shoes to Kenya," Goff said.

Buckner International's Shoes For Orphan Souls ministry has distributed two million pairs of new shoes to children in the United States and in 74 countries, according to their website.

"We decided we wanted to do

more than be tourists in Africa, take pictures, come back and show people the pictures we took," Mel-



COURTESY PHOTO

anie Smith, international student relations coordinator, said. "We want to make a difference, and we saw so

much potential [to do that] in St. Kizito Orphanage."

San Diego, Calif., sophomore Hayley Gibson is keeping a blog to discuss the team's goals and progress along the journey. On the blog, Gibson wrote that St. Kizito facilities are not large enough to allow the children to stay on site, although many of the children are homeless.

Along with collecting shoes, the leadership team has also been working with Searsville Baptist Church, which has donated \$4,000 toward rebuilding and expanding the orphanage.

The team hopes to find more

sponsors so St. Kizito can buy a larger plot of land and build a facility that can house the children, according to the blog.

"When we go to Kenya, we plan to look at a piece of land and put down a down payment," Smith said.

Gibson said she has been on seven mission trips, including one with the leadership team to Nairobi last year. Gibson said the trip to Nairobi had such an impact on her that she wanted to go again this year.

"I've traveled a lot and seen a lot of poverty, but nothing like the poor parts of Kenya," Gibson said.

"We walked through the Kibera [Kenya] slums, the second largest slum in the world, and something inside of me broke."

Members of the 2012 team said they were excited to work on this upcoming project and serve the Kenyan community again. Next year, the team will travel to Ethiopia, and in the future, they hope to continue giving to St. Kizito.

"I felt that there is an extraordinary need to empower women in Third World countries because they don't have the opportunities we have," Gibson said. "God is definitely preparing our hearts to start something huge."

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"Chimpanzee" is a Disney-led look at chimpanzees in their native environments. Tim Allen, who has previously done voice work for Disney in the "Toy Story" franchise, narrates the film.

Film takes on chimps

By ROGER MOORE
McCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

ORLANDO — A few films into their Disney nature movie-making experience, producer-directors Alastair Fothergill and Mark Linfield, veterans of the BBC's acclaimed "Planet Earth" series, figure they're finally getting the hang of Disney.

"Of course, Disney provides us with a lot of money," Fothergill said after the Orlando world premiere of "Chimpanzee," the latest from the filmmakers who gave us "Earth" and "African Cats" between them. And money "translates into time in the field. We had over 700 shooting days on 'Chimpanzee,' almost three times as much as say, 'African Cats.'"

"And Disney allows us not to make a documentary," Fothergill said. "We're trying to have a narrative, tell a story."

"That's what they're teaching us," Linfield adds. "Story."

Even in a documentary, you start with a script, a part of the animal's lives you expect to be able to tell, Linfield said. But you need to have the money to be able to change directions, if that's what the animals do.

"African Cats" played out close to the script," Fothergill said with a chuckle. "The chimps never even looked at the script, much less read it."

Having Disney backing meant that the studio sent screenwriters from "Beauty and the Beast" and "Toy Story 2" to "rip our script to shreds, in a very constructive way," Linfield says. "Disney's input was far more oriented toward Hol-

lywood storytelling, and that was incredibly helpful."

Thus, "Chimpanzee" plays as a nature documentary with Disney touches. We meet Oscar, a baby, and follow him as he learns from his fellow chimpanzees how to use tools to gather ants and crack nuts. We see him lose his mom, and we see him adopted by the group's alpha male, behavior almost unheard of by the researchers who helped create the film.

Disney touches? Hiring Tim Allen as narrator, adding jokes to the script.

"Disney execs were at the recording session, and they'd yell, 'Get Tim to do the 'power tool grunt' for this scene' (with the chimps using tools). Alastair and I looked at each other. We're Brits. We didn't know what they were on about. And Tim was rolling his eyes, 'Not that again.' He did it, we resisted putting it in the movie — slightly resisted it. And then today, when the audience roared, we realized how wrong we were."

Some critics are bashing the film's kid-friendly "Disney touches," with Slant magazine complaining about an overdose of "cuteness."

But with Disney's long track record of aiming movies at and then reaching younger viewers, reviews like that may be irrelevant.

Disney touches aside, it took a Disney-sized investment to make "Chimpanzee," which Fothergill says was four or five times as difficult as "African Cats," which he co-directed.

"This is a very dark, thick forest with black animals in the shadows. Ninety percent of the time, that's

all you see — shadows. They're hidden by the foliage. Technically, just getting footage of them is difficult. Tai National Park (in Ivory Coast) is a humbling place."

Linfield jokes that at the outset, they had "a paranoia that it was going to be nothing but black shapes in the dark forest — very claustrophobic."

They rented gear, ziplines to make the cameras fly through the forest, ways to get camera up above the forest canopy.

Cameramen, paid tribute in the film's closing credits, would work with assistants from researcher Christophe Boesch's team, which has been studying these chimps for over 30 years. They'd spend days following chimps who cover 10 miles a day, "at speed, through dense rain forest," with only the hope of grabbing a single shot a day — "20 seconds of film," Linfield said.

"We are always a hostage to fortune," he adds. "You need a little bit of luck, filming a nature documentary. Clearly, seeing Oscar orphaned and then adopted by the alpha male was an incredible stroke of luck. The researchers we showed it to had to pick their jaws up off the floor."

That's one of the reasons primate researchers such as Jane Goodall have endorsed the film. Linfield hopes audiences will, too.

"It's very hard to convince people to conserve things they don't care about," Linfield said. "We want to make them care about 'African Cats,' and 'Chimpanzees.' The way to do that is to tell a compelling story and be more than just a conservation film."

Parachute selected for Diadeloso 2012

By JAMIE LIM
REPORTER

Most Baylor students anticipate one thing during the spring semester: Diadeloso. This year's headliner for the event will be Parachute.

"After coming up with desired outcomes and core components of the event, we began looking for an artist who would fit the fun and celebratory nature of Diadeloso," Diadeloso 2012 chairman Bo Rose said. "We then talked to students and researched the feasibility of bringing various artists to campus. Parachute emerged as a popular and fitting choice as a band that would be a great asset to the day."

Some students on campus may be wondering one thing: who is Parachute? The answer: Parachute is a rock band, or at least that's how it's classified on iTunes.

"Parachute is an up-and-coming pop/rock band that we believe will be well received by Baylor students," Rose said.

On Parachute's Facebook page, however, it's classified a little bit differently. The band describes its music as a mix between full-throttle rock with some soul, R&B and pop.

There are five members in the band: Will Anderson on lead vocals, guitars and piano; Kit French on saxophone, keyboards and vocals; Alex Hargrave on bass; Johnny Stubblefield on drums; and

Nat McFarland on lead guitar and vocals.

The band has performed and toured with many well-known artists, like Kelly Clarkson, the Goo Goo Dolls and Three Doors Down.

"Parachute puts on excellent performances and we believe that they will fit well with the feel of [Diadeloso]," Rose said. "We are excited to have them on campus."

Their most recent album, "The Way It Was," was released in May 2011. The album features the song "Kiss Me Slowly," which is their No. 1 selling song on iTunes. Parachute co-wrote the song with the Grammy award-winning band, Lady Antebellum.

"When I first found out that they were coming to Dia, I really didn't know who they were," San Angelo freshman Katie Hooker said. "Obviously they were significant enough because they were the main headliners. I looked them up online and recognized some of their songs."

Students may not be familiar with the band, but there is a high percentage that they've heard at least one of their songs, like "She is Love." It's one of Parachute's most successful and well-known songs. The song was on their first album, "Losing Sleep," which was released in May 2009.

During that year, "She is Love" was featured on a commercial for Nivea's Smooth Sensation body

lotion. The first campaign was so successful that Nivea featured another song by Parachute in a second campaign. The song "Under Control," was used in a commercial for its gradual tanner, Nivea Sun-Kissed Beautiful Legs.

In 2008, Parachute performed for Nivea's New Year's Eve event at Times Square in New York. The band shared the stage with other famous artists, like Taylor Swift and the Jonas Brothers. The band also performed at by South by Southwest in April 2009.

Some of Parachute's music has been featured on hit TV series like "One Tree Hill," "90210" and "The Vampire Diaries." Furthermore, Parachute's song "Back Again" was featured on "Band Hero," which is a video game spin-off from the popular game series "Guitar Hero."

"I look forward to hearing them, and hope all the Baylor students turn out to support and welcome them to our campus," Hooker said.

Whether students are familiar with them or not, Parachute's music can be heard anywhere. On Thursday, students will get the chance to see the band perform live. Parachute's performance is scheduled at 6 p.m.

"People have expressed their excitement for the style of music played by Parachute and we are expecting an excellent turnout," Rose said.

A&E Brief: "Veronica Mars" creator coming to Austin

Today, the Austin Film Festival is presenting "A Conversation in Film with Rob Thomas" at the The Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum in Austin.

Rob Thomas is the writer and

creator of "Veronica Mars," "Party Down" and "Cupid."

According to the festival, Thomas will present a public screening of the original, unaired pilot for Party Down for

the first time.

Tickets at \$12 to the public and \$10 to Austin Film Festival members. More information can be found at austinfilmfestival.com.

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16 Ear-related

17 "Doesn't bother me!"

19 "___ Zapata!": Brando film

20 Harbinger of lower temperatures

21 Man on a misión

22 Biblical mount

23 More than hesitant

24 Sign of puppy love?

25 Ben & Jerry's purchase

26 Spice gathered by hand from crocus flowers

30 Leave no escape route for

33 Aquamarine, e.g.

34 Carol syllables

35 After "on," relying mostly on hope in desperate circumstances

39 Stinky

40 Floor cleaner

41 ___ fit: tantrum

42 "500" race-sanctioning group

44 Boxer Max

46 Fed. property agency

47 Prefix suggesting savings

49 Sox, on scoreboards

52 Creep

54 Deli sandwich

56 Brit of Fox News

57 "Shake!"

58 Most draftable

59 Fortitude

60 Cardiologist's concern

61 Cold War initials

62 Year, on monuments

63 Small fry

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5 Hemming and hawing

6 Apply more varnish to

7 ___garde

8 Waters between Great Britain and Europe

9 Fawn's mom

10 Chick flick subject

11 Dangerous bottom feeders

12 DVR pioneer

13 Battle reminder

18 Wrinkle remover

21 Personal ad abbr.

25 Schoolyard handshake

27 Sound system part

28 Cheers for a torero

29 Not a one

30 Mata ___

31 Obi-Wan portrayer

32 Psychological tricks

33 Econ. yardstick

36 Org. with a much-quoted journal

37 Like beer cans before recycling

38 Dimming gadget

43 Lo-___: lite

44 Mackerel-like fish

45 Pre-med subj.

48 Replace a dancer, perhaps

49 Paper-pusher

50 Gold rush storyteller Bret

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53 Legs it

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20 AND COUNTING...

Bears keep streak going as head coach reaches landmark

By GREG DEVRIES
SPORTS WRITER

There was no shortage of offense for the No. 6 Baylor baseball team as it tied its all-time win streak total of 20 games by beating the Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi Islanders Tuesday 15-2. The game was ended after the top of the seventh due to run rule.

Head coach Steve Smith became the all-time leader in wins for a Baylor coach by recording his 650th win.

"It is absolutely special to be the winningest coach in Baylor baseball history," Smith said. "It was not something I thought about or set out to do, or anything like that ... these kinds of records are sort of records of perseverance or longevity."

This moves the Bears to 31-7 overall, and they will look to record the club's longest winning streak in history at 4:05 p.m. today at Baylor Ballpark against the Islanders.

Junior designated hitter Nathan Orf scored on junior first baseman Max Muncy's blooper single to left field in the bottom of the first inning.

Later in the inning, senior left fielder Dan Evatt hit a three-run home run over the left field fence

to give the Bears a 4-0 lead. Muncy and senior catcher Josh Ludy scored on the homerun.

In the bottom of the third with Ludy on first, third baseman Cal Tovey hit a triple to the right field wall to extend the Bears' lead to 5-0.

The Islanders got on the board in the top of the fourth inning after Corpus Christi left fielder Jordan Lee scored on a single up the middle. The Islanders added another run on an RBI double to right field.

After an error by Islander pitcher Trevor Belicek loaded the bases, Muncy drew a two-out walk to make the score 6-2. The walk prompted a Corpus Christi pitching change.

With the bases still loaded, Ludy singled to short and drove in another run. Tovey followed with a double, extending the lead to 9-2.

In the top of the fifth inning, the Islanders loaded the bases with nobody out.

Freshman right-handed pitcher Austin Stone was able to escape trouble with no damage done. Stone struck out two batters and forced the third to pop out to shallow center field.

"Bases loaded, no outs, you just have to make all of your pitches and compete," Stone said. "The

first guy got the strikeout, the second guy, [I] had to come back and make the first pitch, and come back and battle."

Stone was pulled going into the sixth inning for sophomore right-hander Trae Davis. Stone pitched a career-best five innings, and allowed two runs on four hits.

Tovey singled to right field in the bottom of the sixth inning, but an error on the left fielder allowed Muncy to also score.

Tovey advanced to third on the error. Baylor's lead was stretched to 11-2.

"It's a lot of fun when you're able to just relax and enjoy your at bat out there," Tovey said. "It feels really good when you're able to put it in left center."

A throwing error on Corpus Christi's third baseman Dan Sciantarelli allowed Tovey to score. This was the Islanders' fifth error on the day.

The next batter, junior second baseman Steve Dalporto, singled to load the bases for freshman right fielder Logan Brown. Brown singled to right field to score two more runs for the Bears.

Junior pinch hitter Wes Mercurio singled to center to score Dalporto from third and give the Bears a 15-2 advantage.



MEAGAN DOWNING | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

No. 3 right-handed relief pitcher Trae Davis releases a pitch against Texas A&M-Corpus Christi on Tuesday at Baylor Ballpark. The Bears defeated the Islanders 15-2 in seven innings.

Tennis blanks Mustangs

By KASEY McMILLIAN
REPORTER

After honoring all of the Lady Bear's seniors for Senior Night, the No. 12 Baylor women's tennis team shutout SMU 5-0.

Baylor and SMU agreed not to compete in doubles and only play in five single matches.

"I think anytime it's Senior Day it makes everybody reflect on what the seniors have accomplished," head coach Joey Scrivano said. "It kind of inspires the team, so yes, senior day is always a special day and today was no different"

Freshman Nicole Kosakowski, has been out for most of the season due to a stress fracture in her back, but that did not stop her from getting Baylor's first point.

Kosakowski had her second win today in singles after winning her first match back against Notre Dame. Kosakowski came out strong and ended strong with a 6-1, 6-1 win over SMU's Erika Marschall.



DAVID LI | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior Diana Nakic slides to return a ball on Tuesday in a match against Southern Methodist University at the Hurd Tennis Center.

Sophomore Jordaan Sanford won a 6-0, 6-1 victory against SMU's Anderson, giving Baylor a 2-0 lead.

Baylor's seniors, Nina Secerbegovic, Diana Nakic and Sona Novakova, won all three of their matches, securing the win for the Lady Bears.

No. 45 Novakova, was the first senior to finish with a 6-0, 6-0 victory over SMU's Kris Roberts, followed by No. 24 Secerbegovic defeating SMU's Edyta Cieplucha 6-4, 6-1.

The final point was from Nakic

with a 6-3, 6-3 victory over Elena Fayner giving Baylor their second shutout for the season.

"It was a good win. We're reeling from that Texas loss still," Scrivano said. "So we're just trying to get on the right track so today put us on step closer to doing that."

The season is coming to an end and Baylor's final two matches for the season will take place at home on Sunday and Monday.

The Lady Bears will go up against Missouri at 1 p.m. on Sunday and against Iowa State at 5 p.m. on Monday.

Gonzalez beats Astros for first win with Washington Nationals

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Gio Gonzalez dominated over seven innings and had to wait out a nervous ninth with Brad Lidge on the mound before his first win with the Washington Nationals was secure.

Lidge gave up a double to his first hitter and walked the next batter before retiring three in a row and earning his second save in the Nationals' 1-0 win against the Houston Astros on Tuesday night.

"Man, one of these times I'll get a 1-2-3 (inning)," Lidge said. "I'm sure I gave a lot of people a heart attack today. That's kind of how I've done it for a while."

Gonzalez didn't acknowledge having any doubts over the outcome.

"I was trying to be cool, calm and collected with a big smile on my face knowing he was going to shut it down," Gonzalez said of the last inning.

The late dramatics stood in sharp contrast to the innings with Gonzalez on the mound, when the Astros rarely got the ball out of the infield. Gonzalez (1-0) allowed two

hits, walked two and struck out eight in his third start for Washington. The left-hander, acquired from Oakland in the offseason, also earned a standing ovation at the plate when he flied out to the warning track.

It was another close game for the Nationals, who improved to 9-3 — their best start since moving from Montreal to Washington in 2005. Half of Washington's first 12 games have been decided by one run and the Nationals are 4-2 in those contests.

"It's not easy on me," Nationals manager Davey Johnson said. "We've got guys who actually like it when it's close like that."

Gonzalez gave up a leadoff single to Justin Maxwell, who was later caught stealing second, and didn't allow another hit until the sixth. After Gonzalez walked J.D. Martinez in the first, he retired 13 straight.

Gonzalez ran into a little trouble in the sixth when he gave up a leadoff single to Jose Altuve and later walked Jed Lowrie to put runners on the corners with one out. Gonzalez credited catcher Jesus

Flores for a well-timed visit to the mound to help him get out of the jam.

"He came out to the mound and he goes, 'Hey, you're giving in a little bit. Your confidence is going down. Keep it up, and try to pound that strike zone,'" Gonzalez said. "When a catcher does that, all you can do is just boost it up a little bit more."

Wandy Rodriguez (0-2) nearly matched Gonzalez, allowing one run on five hits in seven innings. Rodriguez lost his second straight despite not walking a batter and striking out three.

The Nationals eked out their run on a pair of two-out bloop hits in the fourth.

Gonzalez drew a big cheer after lifting his long fly in the third inning.

"I'm not a hitter. I'm just trying to put the ball in play," Gonzalez said. "I was fooled on the curveball, then he came with a fastball and I was like, 'All right, let me see if I can at least make contact.'"

The pitcher, who got his first major league hit in his last start, smiled as he returned to the dugout.

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Woman receives award for defending First Amendment

By MALLORY HISLER
REPORTER

Difficulties in getting information from government sources shouldn't scare reporters off from following their stories, Hadassah Schloss, Cost Rules Administrator for the Open Records Division of the Office of the Attorney General of Texas, told students at Baylor's journalism awards banquet Tuesday.

"Keep asking the questions, and do not accept no for an answer," Schloss said at the annual Journalism, Public Relations & New Media student awards banquet in the Great Hall at George W. Truett Seminary.

At the banquet, Schloss received the First Amendment Freedom Fighter Award for her work in the Open Records Division of the office of the Attorney General of Texas.

Paul Carr, director of Student Publications at Baylor, and Ruth Soucy, deputy general counsel for Open Records for the Texas Comptroller, said Schloss literally wrote the book on open records in Texas.

"Hadassah actually wrote all of the cost rules on the Open Records [Act]," Soucy said. "She has really been in the forefront on that — keeping the public informed."

At the awards banquet, Carr's assessment of who exactly Schloss is was simple.

"She is a defender of freedom," he said.

Open records rules allow for freedom of information, which is something the media depend on as they gather facts for stories. Carr and Soucy said Schloss' role is a vital one to the public.

As Cost Rules Administrator, Schloss creates rules governing what it costs to obtain copies of public information, deals with complaints about overcharges and



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

Hadassah Schloss (center) received the First Amendment Freedom Fighter Award on Tuesday from The Baylor Lariat for her work in the Open Records Division of the Texas Attorney General's office. The award was presented by Director of Student Publications Paul Carr and Interim Journalism Chair Dr. Sara Stone.

handles government requests for rule exemptions.

She also serves as vice-chair of the Open Records Steering Committee.

"Hadassah is the person that you go to if you have questions about charges for records," Soucy said.

Soucy said those coming from the governmental side should not want to be seen using cost to keep people from getting information.

"You want to be as transparent as possible," she said. "She advocates for public information access. As a governmental entity, you want that kind of guidance."

Schloss said where she came from had a lot to do with her vigilance in making sure information was provided fairly. Born in Argentina, Schloss moved to Israel and now resides in Austin.

"Coming from a culture where people are encouraged to not ask questions, it became important to me because democracy can only function in the sunshine — in the

light," Schloss said. "It can't work behind closed doors."

Schloss' said her goal in her work is for both sides of a problem to be able to find middle ground.

"We have forgotten how to see each other in a civilized manner," she said. "It has become 'if you don't agree with me, you're wrong, as opposed to finding a consensus.'"

Schloss' position is in the government, but her function is for the public, Soucy said, and she believes Schloss is able to navigate both sides well.

"Hadassah seems to be able to promote public access and leaves both sides feeling like they won," Soucy said. "That's a really hard thing to do when negotiating complaints, but she does it."

Schloss was also the recipient of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas 1996 James Madison Award and the 2006 Open Doors Award from the Fort Worth Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, among others.

O'CONNOR from Page 1

the university.

According to its website, iCivics is a non-profit organization O'Connor founded in 2009 to help prepare young Americans to become knowledgeable, engaged citizens by providing free and innovative educational materials, such as video games that can be played in class.

Dallas senior Amy Stone is an intern for The Baylor Model with iCivics and the Baylor Law School, a program in which law students visit local classrooms to supplement what the students are learning with iCivics materials. The Baylor School of Education is doing research on the effectiveness of the iCivics materials.

"Last April, Justice O'Connor charged Judge Starr with creating

an iCivics model at Baylor Law to see what can make it [iCivics] better through trials and research," Stone said.

Stone said she and law student Alaina Smith worked on curriculum to be taught in Waco I.S.D. classrooms, and that the students who learned with iCivics materials scored higher on evaluation tests than they had in the past.

"It's been really cool to watch the program from the beginning to where it is now and to see the way the Waco I.S.D. kids love playing iCivics," Stone said.

O'Connor will attend a symposium during her time in Waco to hear the results of the trials and research, Stone said.

In addition, three students from each Waco I.S.D. class that uses

iCivics materials have been invited to participate in discussions with O'Connor, Starr and Chief Justice Wallace Jefferson of the Texas Supreme Court, Stone said.

Stone said the experience will be a significant one for her personally, and also for the university as a whole.

"I'm so thrilled that I get to spend time with [O'Connor]," Stone said. "It's huge for the school that she charged Baylor with this and she is coming to see the results."

Tickets to On Topic are free but required and are available until April 27 on a first-come, first-serve basis at the Bill Daniel Student Ticket Office. The office is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

EDWARDS from Page 1

blogs and websites, Edwards said. Even his father-in-law, Wood, has been tricked by chain emails about the government, Edwards said, like one that claimed President Obama was going to do away with the American flag and national anthem.

Edwards said other things that add to partisanship include congressional redistricting, which allows politicians to switch communities with another district instead of trying to work with their citizens; lower voting at primaries, which means most of the voters are very far right or left; party leadership in the House and Senate; and the invention of the jet airplanes that allow congressmen to live far away from Washington and therefore not have to socialize with each other as often.

The second big problem in Washington after partisanship is that neither political party is being honest with Americans about the tough choices it will take to reduce the national debt, Edwards said.

If we divide the total debt by the number of citizens in America, it will come out to \$45,000 for every man, woman and child, he said, adding that until politicians can work together and be honest about the economy, that will not get better.

The last major issue Edwards mentioned is the influence of "big money." Campaigning costs millions of dollars, he said, and some

LOUD from Page 1

which states any music exceeding 85 decibels during the day or 80 decibels at night is a violation, Hall said.

The ordinance also lists loud, irritating or disruptive music as violations, he said.

The loud music violations have occurred throughout Waco, and there is no particular area where the problem is worse than others, Hall said.

ELECTIONS from Page 1

she wanted to help connect Baylor students with alumni.

"[Affordability] is the main concern," Treadaway said, "but really, as EVP, I want to strive to help the student-alumni relationships. I have met with the Baylor Network and we have discussed ways to help increase awareness of the Baylor Network. ... The connections are so important because it will allow you to make possible ways to find internships or find jobs or just relate with someone and find connections within the network."

While Adams also talked about the importance of facilitating community service opportunities and completing

"I'm a member of the student safety task force," Adams said. "I've represented the opinions of on- and off-campus students in

groups have fundraising mini-mums.

"Members of Congress are having to spend so much time dialing for dollars that they don't have enough time to deal with issues," he said, "and the more special interest groups are giving these big dollars, the more they are demanding complete loyalty for their views."

Basically, if a group agrees to finance a campaign, they will expect the politician to always vote according to the group's ideas, though that is not how politicians should operate, Edwards said.

Edwards then talked about the good things about America, starting with the Constitution as the "bedrock foundation of our democracy."

He mentioned the system of checks and balances, separation of powers and majority rule as "inspired brilliance" of our Constitution.

However, the real greatness of America is the strength of values and faith of our citizens, he said. Then Edwards shared stories about people he remembers as brave and honorable Americans.

A little girl who had a rare form of cancer came to D.C. with her mother to lobby for more investment in the National Institutes of Health and drugs for rare diseases. She died at age 12, but Edwards said he will never forget her, and to him, she is an example of what is what is right about America.

There also is no particular music that is considered more disruptive, he said — it is the volume at which it is played that is the problem.

"Be respectful of others and don't force them to listen to your music," Hall said.

Hall said the Waco PD is looking into encouraging changes to the ordinance that would result in greater penalties for repeated

Another story was about Marine Gunner Sgt. John David Fry, who had a wife and three young children, serving in Iraq. He signed up for the most dangerous job possible, diffusing bombs, Edwards said. He got his hand mangled by an explosion, but refused to stop serving his country.

Then when he was finally being sent home, he volunteered to diffuse one more bomb, but did not know it was booby-trapped. Another bomb exploded and killed him.

"From our everyday heroes, we can see what is right with America," Edwards said. "There is a lot wrong with Washington, but I truly, deeply believe that what is right will overcome what is wrong with Washington." The lecture was concluded with a question and answer session and a reception.

Dr. Andy Hogue, lecturer of political science, agreed with Edwards about the need to address problems in Washington. The Constitution is not broken, he said, and deliberative democracy is meant to be messy.

"As it rids itself of reasonable moderates and agents of compromise like Congressman Edwards, Washington will get worse before it gets better," Hogue said, "and it will only get better if we acknowledge that it has gone astray, if we educate ourselves about its shortcomings and if we deliberate carefully about how to fix them."

violations and the inclusion of irritating bass vibrations among the other sound violations.

Baylor Police Department Chief Jim Doak said the Baylor PD was informed of the heightened enforcement of the ordinance, but they were not asked to participate with the Waco PD.

He said the Baylor PD will ask people playing loud music to turn it down if they hear it.

Romney rebuts Democrats' claims about his tax plan

By DAVID ESPO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BETHEL PARK, Pa. — Mitt Romney sought to inoculate himself Tuesday against Democratic charges that he favors the rich, saying his as yet-to-be disclosed tax plans will not benefit the well-to-do at the expense of others.

"I'm going to keep the burden on the upper-income people the same as it is today," the Republican presidential nominee-in-waiting said as he campaigned across Pennsylvania on Tax Day. "I know Democrats will say it day in and day out, 'They are for tax cuts for the rich,' he said, mimicking his rivals. "No," he added firmly.

By contrast, Romney said Obama wants to raise taxes, a step the Republican said would hamper job creation. Unlike Romney and most Republicans, the president wants to allow existing Bush-era tax cuts to expire at the end of the year for those at upper incomes.

As he sought to parry the inevitable Democratic accusations, Romney also tackled a second, if unspoken concern, a perception that he has difficulty establishing rapport with middle-class voters. To that end, his campaign arranged an outdoor event in a Pittsburgh suburb at which the wealthy former businessman-turned-politi-

cian and eight area residents sat amicably around a picnic table and talked about economic issues.

There was one fleeting moment of awkwardness, when Romney guessed that a plate of cookies set out on the table were from "a local 7-Eleven bakery or whatever," instead of a local firm, Bethel Bakery.

But Jason Thomas, one of the participants, later told reporters: "I thought he was likable person ... I will personally go on record and say he doesn't seem out of touch. He was asking us what our concerns were and we tried our best to represent our concerns, the concerns for our children, and a lot of our friends and family as well."

Freed of the last vestiges of a challenge for the Republican presidential nomination, Romney is now able to campaign around the country as the nominee of his party with only passing concern for upcoming primary states.

His itinerary this week runs from Pennsylvania, one of several primary states on April 24, to Arizona, where he will speak to a nationwide gathering of Republican officials. Along the way he has stops in North Carolina, to deliver a "prebuttal" to Obama's Democratic National Convention acceptance speech, and Ohio, a perennial battleground in presidential elections.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Republican presidential candidate, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney smiles while talking to a group of Pittsburgh area residents Tuesday in Bethel Park, Pa.

In yet another indication that the party is leaving the nomination campaign behind, Romney drew endorsements during the day from the two top Republican leaders in Congress, House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio, and Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the minority leader.

Romney so far has provided only a few details of the ambitious program of tax reform he says he will propose if he wins the White House.

He favors extending all the Bush-era tax cuts that are set to ex-

Romney has also said he would reduce or eliminate some common tax breaks used by the wealthy to make up some of the revenue that would be lost.

But he has yet to provide much additional information, or even define what he means by "wealthy."

In his conversation with Thomas and others around the picnic table, Romney emphasized that middle-income Americans would benefit from his proposal to eliminate taxes on interest, dividends or capital gains for anyone earning \$250,000 or less.

When another person at the table, Kelly Wassel, expressed concern that the \$500 per-child tax credit might expire at the end of the year, his response sounded like he might allow that to happen. "I would actually like to reshape the entire tax system, all right, that is what I'd like to do, and to simplify

the system as opposed to all these little ... baby steps," as she nodded without protest.

Romney set off a controversy over the weekend when he was overheard telling donors he might want to abolish the tax break for mortgages on second homes, or perhaps do away with state and property tax deductions for the wealthy.

For the second day in a row, aides sought to dampen the controversy while he avoided it.

On a conference call with reporters where surrogates criticized Obama for being vague about his own proposals, Rep. John Campbell of California turned aside a question about possible parallels to Romney. "There's a bunch of choices and there's a bunch of ideas, and frankly, which specific one you choose isn't that critical at this juncture," he said.

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