



ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2006



The Associated Press

The floodgates of the Orleans Avenue canal are shown against the New Orleans, La., skyline one year after Hurricane Katrina came ashore in Southern Louisiana. The Orleans Avenue canal did not fail during the hurricane, but floodgates are being installed.

Students aid in aftermath

A year after Katrina, Baylor continues in rebuilding efforts

By Laura Frase
Staff Writer

With one year of reconstruction under New Orleans' belt, pictures still tell a story of destruction, but students have been stepping out to help during the last few months by cleaning up, rebuilding and offering hope.

During last spring break, Baylor students teamed up with First Baptist Church of New Orleans to spend their break gutting out houses rather than hitting the beach.

Springdale, Ark., sophomore Chessa Baldwin and San Antonio sophomore Matt Pompa were two from a group of 60 volunteers from Baylor.

Even though, the group had seen pictures on television and in newspapers, nothing prepared them for what they saw, Baldwin said.

"It looked like a tornado and a hurricane had hit. Like everything had just happened the day before and this was seven months after it happened," Baldwin said. "It looked like nothing had been done."

The team gutted out homes, tore down walls and Sheetrock, moved out refrigerators and helped any way they could.

As the cleaning process began, Pompa became aware of the personal ties intertwined in the rubble.

He recalled thinking, "These used to be homes, now they are just houses."

The team swept and cleaned

to transform houses into homes again.

"Sometimes it was hard because you would finish a little house and then you walked outside and none of the houses around had been touched," Baldwin said.

At times Baldwin and Pompa felt overwhelmed with the immense amount of work ahead, but they were rejuvenated when residents expressed their gratitude.

"We let them know that we were here to genuinely help," Pompa said.

In return, "they would come up to us and say we are so glad you're here," Baldwin said. "We all made it our personal goals to recap their stories because they want to share them."

Every time Baldwin sees pictures of the devastation, memories flood back, she said.

"You just can't describe being there and seeing it," Baldwin said. "The residents are in my thoughts and prayers daily."

"I would go back in a heartbeat," she added.

For Houston senior Becca Childs, the spring break trip with Baylor's Chi Omega sorority wasn't enough for her. During the peak of summer heat, Childs hooked up with a Christian organization called World Changers and traveled to New Orleans with more than 400 other students from other universities.

"We did something completely different from spring break during the summer," Childs said. "Spring break was a real heartbreaking job. This was more of a hopeful work because we could see change from the

Please see AID, page 6

Victims' struggles continue

By Analiz González
Staff writer

It's been a year since Hurricane Katrina struck Louisiana, but some of those who evacuated to Waco still haven't been able to return home.

Johnnie Marchand, from New Orleans, La., said her house was declared "unlivable." She hasn't been able to work on restoring her house because she can't abandon her job in Waco.

"The house has not been restored because there are problems with insurance, like most folks (in New Orleans)," Marchand said. "I'd have to be away from Waco in order to restore it, so then I would lose my job. And there are no jobs in New Orleans, so I think I'm making the best decision that I can for now. I just don't want to be caught without any means of support."

Marchand's son, who is back in New Orleans, is living

in a trailer in Marchand's front yard.

"Sometimes I feel like screaming," Marchand said. "I just try to keep myself busy because if I just thought of the whole thing, and how overwhelming it is, I think I'd kind of lose it."

She said there are mounds of trash stacked up against houses in New Orleans because the trash collectors aren't making rounds like they used to.

"It brings rodents and bugs

and some people are living among that filth because they don't have any other choice."

According to an article in the Dallas Morning News, Hurricane Katrina evacuees in Texas are most likely to stay in the state long-term. But that may not be the case in Waco.

Carlton Willis, Director of Mission Waco's Empowerment Program said although some

Please see EVACUEES, page 6

Familiar face heads up senate

By Analiz González
Staff writer

New Faculty Senate Chairwoman Dianna Vitanza is the first to hold the position a second term.

"Probably people haven't wanted to do this more than one year because it's a tiring job; rewarding, but tiring," said former Faculty Senate Chairman Eric Robinson. "It's easier to do something if you know you're just doing it for one year."

But Vitanza, who served her last term as chairwoman from 1992-1993, didn't mind picking up the title again.

"It is a concrete way to make a contribution," Vitanza said. "I love Baylor. It's my alma mater.

I want to do whatever I can to help the institution become all it can be and I think part of that is having good relationships among the various entities on campus. I want groups to be able to work together and I want it to be a pleasant place to work, where people will not have high levels of anxiety."

The chair's responsibilities include developing the agenda, serving as a voting member on the council of deans, presiding over senate meetings and executive committee meetings as well as serving as a liaison with the president and responding to issues suggested by the faculty.

This year, Vitanza aims to see faculty members get more involved in voting and run-

ning for senate positions. She also wants there to be a greater awareness of what the senate is doing by starting up an electronic newsletter.

She said she also aims to expel a myth that the Faculty Senate is anti-administration because the senate believes in working with members of the administration to make Baylor better.

Vitanza said she looks forward to working with Baylor President John Lilley, whom she said has demonstrated an interest in Faculty Senate.

"I think the evidence is in that Lilley takes the senate seriously because he's been meeting with the senate each month, both at senate meetings and with the executive committee," she said.

Vitanza has served in other administrative positions at Baylor such as associate dean in the College of Arts and Sciences and vice-provost for academic affairs.

She has also worked as the Director of Undergraduate studies in English.

Robinson said Vitanza's experience in various leadership roles will help her as chairwoman.

"She has the ability to see the role of faculty in the context of the administration as well as the ability to advocate on the faculty's behalf," Robinson said. "I believe she is going to be an exceptional chair."

Please see SENATE, page 6



Faculty Senate Chair Dianna Vitanza is the first person to hold that position for a second term. Vitanza has worked at Baylor for 24 years and has held positions as both a member of the faculty and the administration.

Henry Chan/Lariat staff

Cowboys blend bridles, Bibles

By Claire St. Amant
Reporter

Don't be hankerin' for yer buddy's stuff.

Few theologians have ever reduced coveting to such simple terms, but the Texas Fellowship of Cowboy Churches has no problem translating elevated religious language into words any cowboy can understand.

This simplicity is in part what drew a record crowd to George

W. Truett Theological Seminary this weekend for a cowboy church conference sponsored by the Baptist General Convention of Texas (BGCT). The weekend's events covered topics such as youth ranch rodeo, chuck wagon cooking and cowboy band worship.

The concept of cowboy churches is an outreach of the

Please see CHURCH, page 6



Henry Chan/Lariat staff

Paul and Corey Howie, along with other cowboy church members, gathered this weekend at George W. Truett Theological Seminary.

Ernesto eyes Florida

By Adrian Sainz
The Associated Press

MIAMI - Florida residents rushed to fill their prescriptions and stood in long lines for gasoline, food and other supplies Monday as officials warned people not to wait for Tropical Storm Ernesto to become a hurricane again before taking precautions.

Forecasters said Ernesto could grow back into a hurricane in the warm waters off Cuba and come ashore in South Florida as early as Tuesday night, exactly one year after Hurricane Katrina pummeled the Gulf Coast.

It would be the first hurricane to hit the United States this year.

Memories of Katrina and the seven hurricanes that have struck Florida since 2004 were fresh in the minds of many.

"Make sure you have the supplies for the 72 hours after the storm," Gov. Jeb Bush warned people in Tallahassee. "A hurricane's a hurricane, and it has a devastation we've already seen. All you have to do is rewind to last year and see."

Pedro Ballesteros, 40, carried two new six-gallon gas tanks out

Please see FLORIDA, page 6

New, veteran students should encourage one another

"What is man that You make so much of him, and that You are concerned about him, that You examine him every morning and try him every moment?"

Many of us are returning to Baylor for our last year: some are lucky enough to be just beginning their journey.

As I prepare to embark on my last year, I wanted my final welcome to our students to be a reminder and an encouragement.

Job knew that our heavenly Father loved him and cared

about his life. He lived his life always conscious of this reality, and today I want to encourage all of us to live with this same perspective. We have a God who loves us, who has a better plan for our lives than we could ever dream. I believe He is calling us to lay down our plans and our desires and in faith seek the much better life He has for us.

I began my time at Baylor unsure of what I wanted during my four years. Part of me was curious to experience the parts of life that a Christian upbringing

point of view



BY MARK LAYMON

ing and home had not afforded me.

And I knew that my excuse could always be, "That happened when I was in college and stupid."

And so this is my encourage-

ment. Freshmen, encourage one another to stand strong in your faiths. Be confident that the only source of security and love that you will find at Baylor will be in our Lord. Hold fast to the ideals you have come to our campus with. Believe me, we need your leadership. We need your faith.

Upperclassmen, we have already begun to leave our marks on this campus. The way we have lived our lives and interacted with one another has shaped our organizations and the culture of our beloved insti-

tution. However, are we content with this culture we have helped create where our freshmen are about to enter into?

I pray that we will be honest with ourselves and one another and have the strength to abandon the parts of our lives that are empty and only defile us.

This freshman class has been entrusted to us. We are in a position of great influence to affect the course it will take at Baylor.

Let us commit to being older brothers and sisters to these freshmen and encourage them

to live lives of godliness and purity and assure them that in so doing they will miss out on nothing good.

Finally I leave you with Paul's encouragement to Timothy. "For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him; If we endure, we will also reign with Him; If we deny Him, He also will deny us; If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself."

Student Body President Mark Laymon is a senior economics major from Richardson.

Editorial

Katrina aid dispersion shows flaws of system

Capitalism, and America itself, is built on the idea that competition will bring a better product to the people at a better price.

A recent report in *USA Today* stated that the federal government keeps two financial books, and if it were to report the federal deficit the way corporations are required to file with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the deficit would be \$760 billion instead of the current \$318 billion.

This number does not include Social Security and Medicare programs, which would bring the total debt to \$3.5 trillion.

The government says it is spending the taxpayers' money wisely, but the lack of counting the money leads us to believe otherwise.

And it may not even be spending the money wisely.

The Democrats in the House of Representatives issued a report Thursday outlining the lack of frugality in contracts for reconstruction in ravaged areas following Hurricane Katrina last August.

The report states that of \$10.6 billion awarded to construction companies, \$7.4 billion was awarded after only one company placed a bid.

A simple lesson in economics would tell the government not to take the first bid.

And if companies caught on to the idea that the government was awarding contracts with no competitors, some unscrupulous companies might



use it to their advantage, wasting even more taxpayer money.

Take the example of fans at a football game. If you want to buy a Coke, it's going to cost \$4. There is nowhere else to go buy a Coke in the stadium, so vendors will charge whatever they can get away with. The fans are a captive audience.

Given the choice, a thirsty pedestrian would not walk into a movie theater to buy a drink. He would go to a convenience store down the street and buy one for much cheaper.

The federal government was not a

captive audience to one construction company but chose to buy a \$4 Coke.

A larger question that is difficult to answer is where is the rest of the Katrina relief money? According to an article published Aug. 11 in the *National Journal*, reporter Paul Singer stated, "Congress has provided \$125 billion in aid through four emergency appropriations bills."

The article states that after a request filed by the *National Journal* for a summary of where the money was spent, the Homeland Security Department's Office for Gulf Coast Rebuilding could

not provide the information.

Not only is money being doled out to the highest bidder, the government isn't keeping close tabs on the money itself.

"I asked (President Bush) for \$1 billion and said I will personally guarantee it, be responsible for it and audit it. And I'll do everything in my parish," St. Tammany Parish President Kevin Davis said in the *National Journal* story.

Maybe putting the money in the hands of those who can't afford to take the first bid is the best idea.

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.

Letters to the editor should include the writer's name, major, graduation year, phone number and student identification number. Non-student writers should include their address.

Letters that focus on an issue affecting students or faculty may be considered for a guest column at the editor's discretion.

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

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Letters to the editor

Lilley unites in divided time

This is in response to John Jones' letter Aug. 21.

Dear President Lilley,

I would like to take the time to thank you for comments made at the graduation ceremonies recently. In a world divided by cultural and religious differences, I find it profound that the leader of the biggest Baptist college in the world would take time to mention Jews and Muslims positively in a prayer.

Sure, many will say that comments equating the Christian God to the Jewish God and Muslim God can diminish the Christian faith, but for you to go out of your way to reach out a hand to those minorities here at Baylor is something I find commendable.

Though these three faiths maintain many, many differences in their approach to God, I find it hard to believe that God

refuses anyone's prayers who reaches out to those of other beliefs.

It's time we as Christians stop focusing on how to distance ourselves from each other through denominations and other religions through our differences. Thank you for taking a step in the right direction.

Luke Blount
Professional writing 2008

Baylor influences from core

I firmly believe that Pastor John Jones' remarks involving Christianity being watered down at Baylor University are a little far-fetched.

As a Baylor student, I was required to take a semester each of Christian Scripture and Christian Heritage. In addition to constantly increasing my knowledge of Christianity in the classroom, I was also required to attend two semesters of Cha-

pel. Every day at Chapel there is praise and worship through music, and numerous Christian speakers gave riveting talks on subjects of salvation.

I think including Jews and Muslims in prayer during a brief but important graduation ceremony could not possibly tarnish the Christian influence Baylor provides to its students.

Matthew Dennis
Political science 2009

House influenced volunteer

I thoroughly enjoyed Melinda Henderson's column Aug. 21 about her internship at the Ronald McDonald House this summer.

Reading about her experience of working with this outstanding organization brought back wonderful memories of my years at Baylor as a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority, as we volunteered at the Temple

branch of the Ronald McDonald House - the sorority's national philanthropy.

We were always full of excitement during the car rides there about what we would do for the children and families staying at the RMH, while during the rides back we were always more reflective of what turned out to be the blessing my sorority sisters and I received from interacting with the families.

Sharing time with them and seeing their courage as they faced their children's illnesses had a significant impact on us to realize that we should live each day meaningfully, as each day is given to us as God's precious gift.

Even now, several years after graduation, when I volunteer at my local RMH with other alumnae sisters of Alpha Delta Pi from around the country, the same feeling still occurs as we assist the staff of RMH and visit

with the people staying there.

We realize that we are receiving as great a blessing ourselves to interact with the families staying at RMH as they receive from the help we give.

Thank you for highlighting this quality organization and the assistance it gives to those in need.

Holly Gerard
Alumna 1994

Parking headache continues

I do not want to offend your parking options/availability, but I don't think that 10,000-plus students are going to fit into your so inconveniently cluttered 500 spots.

Maybe if Houdini worked for your DPS Department, this feat would be achievable.

I think the students may appreciate a garage behind North Russell, located in the heart of the three largest on-

campus residences.

It wouldn't hurt to slap some pavement down in that so-called recreational field and solve some real problems around campus.

I'm pretty sure you should have enough money saved up from writing parking tickets all day long to those poor saps that make the mistake of parking backwards or not adhering to every minute detail of your so masterfully worded parking code of conduct.

If I had come to college to walk 15 miles a day to and from my truck in the parking garage, I would have moved to the Himalayas and become a Sherpa instead.

I hope this letter might make you think more of your students' welfare than your professors' pocketbooks and spend some money on something that actually matters.

Cam N. Joe
Political science 2009

The Baylor Lariat

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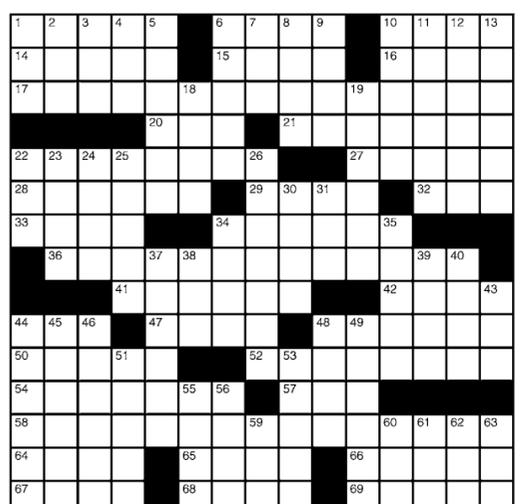
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THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS**
- 1 Leading
 - 6 Earring site
 - 10 Yorkshire gey
 - 14 Hold contents
 - 15 Sitting on
 - 16 Waikiki's island
 - 17 Surrender
 - 20 Pouch
 - 21 Listens to again
 - 22 "Hawaii" writer
 - 27 Twin Cities suburb
 - 28 Anticipates with terror
 - 29 Deuterium discoverer
 - 32 Last of cash?
 - 33 Mountain lake
 - 34 Vile smiles
 - 36 I surrender!
 - 41 Kin by marriage
 - 42 "Hud" co-star
 - 44 Exist
 - 47 Fraternal frock
 - 48 Areca nuts
 - 50 __ nova
 - 52 Complained peevishly
 - 54 Features
 - 57 Lofting tennis shot
 - 58 Surrender
- DOWN**
- 1 Take steps
 - 2 Expression of derision
 - 3 Be off
 - 4 In the past
 - 5 Used a divining rod
 - 6 Biker Armstrong
 - 7 Great Giant
 - 8 Physicist Niels
 - 9 Fencing foil
 - 10 Talked to pigeons
 - 11 Hilo's island
 - 12 "A Night to Remember" star
 - 13 Rotating neutron star
 - 18 Holm and Hunter
 - 19 __ coming to Take Me Away, Ha, Haaa!
 - 22 Denver summer hrs.

- 23 "Dies __"
- 24 Eur. particle accelerator location
- 25 Vietnam capital
- 26 Flee
- 30 Fam. members
- 31 Pamphlet ending?
- 34 Uneven do
- 35 A votre __!
- 37 Pull up fasteners
- 38 Day-__ paint
- 39 Forest denizens
- 40 Big name in locks
- 43 Dr. Tim's hallucinogen
- 44 Humbled
- 45 Speakers' platforms
- 46 __ de corps
- 48 Coll. hotshot
- 49 Represent in relief
- 51 Rouen's river
- 53 Coeur d'__, ID
- 55 Part of M.I.T.
- 56 Freeze, Fido!
- 59 Cool or groovy
- 60 Potash
- 61 Miner matter
- 62 Dismember
- 63 Pronounce



By Jim Page
New York, NY 8/29/06

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

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Officers begin term with ease

By Van Darden
Staff Writer

With dust mites from a recent cleaning binge still floating above him, student government's new External Vice President Allan Marshall settles into his new black overstuffed desk chair.

He's comfortable. And he should be. He spent the summer planning for his transition into office.

"The changeover was seamless," said Student Body President Mark Laymon. "Both he and Travis (Plummer, new internal vice president) were well-prepared and well-organized."

Laymon said because both Marshall and Plummer spent the summer in preparation for this semester's term, he expects things inside the student government offices to run very smoothly.

"I spent a lot of my time this summer getting ready for the student senate," Plummer said. "I've been working hard at establishing relationships and building foundations for the senate to

be successful."

Marshall called the transition "a really positive experience," adding that one goal this year is to open his office up and be more accessible to students.

"My motto this year is 'Get out of the office,'" Marshall said. "I want students to know I'm here for them."

Marshall, who calls himself a "people person," said he's encouraging Baylor students to stop by his office anytime.

Laymon said he was impressed with both Marshall and Plummer's upbeat attitudes and hard work.

"They've already organized committees and have people signing up for them," Laymon said.

Plummer said he and Marshall's predecessors did an amazing job during their time in office.

"They set up everything for us to be successful," Plummer said. "From day-to-day paperwork to new bylaws and a new constitution, they paved the way for us to have a voice that the administration will listen to."

Plummer said the next step for the office of internal vice president is putting a student on the board of regents, eventually a student who votes.

"If we can get a student regent on the board, even one without a vote, I'd consider that a victory," Plummer said.



Laymon



Kelly Moore/Lariat staff

Taking the heat in stride

Michelle Clanton, a graduate student from Van and Baylor Golden Girl, practices with the Baylor University Golden Wave Band Monday Afternoon. The students were all smiles despite the scorching weather.

Student Congress nixes legislative session

By Van Darden
Staff Writer

For the first time since the early 1950s, Student Congress will not hold a legislative session this year.

Instead, the inaugural Student Senate will convene at 5 p.m. Thursday, with senate leader and Internal Vice President Travis Plummer promising a more streamlined method for

enacting legislation.

"Everything is different this year," Plummer said. "We wanted a more easily established policy for direct representation so we condensed the old way of having representatives from each class, college and residence hall into 13 members directly representing each class."

Plummer said they have also changed election dates.

"It used to be confusing hav-

ing some people vote for their residence or college representatives in the spring and voting for class representatives in the fall," Plummer said. "So we switched everything to the spring, except freshman class representatives which will still be voted for in the fall. Elections will be easier, no question about it."

Plummer said despite its new name and format, the student senate's main focus is tending

the needs of Baylor's student body.

The 52-member senate is divided into six standing committees, including Academic Affairs, Community Life, Finance and Operations & Procedures.

"We take our positions very seriously and as a result, the debate can get a little heated," Plummer said. "But we are a great group of friends."

Prosecutors drop charges against Karr



The Associated Press

John Mark Karr is escorted off of a plane on last Thursday in Broomfield, Colo., to face charges of homicide in the slaying of child pageant star JonBenet Ramsey.

DNA fails to link suspect to child beauty queen slaying

By Jon Sarche
The Associated Press

BOULDER, Colo. — Prosecutors abruptly dropped their case against John Mark Karr in the slaying of JonBenet Ramsey and released him Monday, saying DNA tests failed to put him at the crime scene despite his repeated insistence he killed the 6-year-old beauty queen.

The move came just a week and a half after the 41-year-old schoolteacher was arrested in Thailand and put on a plane to the U.S. in what was regarded as a remarkable break in the decade-old murder mystery that had cast suspicion on JonBenet's parents.

District Attorney Mary Lacy said Karr emerged as a suspect in April after he spent several years exchanging e-mails and later telephone calls with a Colorado professor in which he admitted responsibility for the slaying.

According to court papers, Karr told the professor he accidentally killed JonBenet during sex and that he tasted her blood after he injured her vaginally.

But officials at the Denver crime lab

conducted DNA tests last Friday on a cheek swab taken from Karr and failed to connect him to the crime.

"This information is critical because ... if Mr. Karr's account of his sexual involvement with the victim were accurate, it would have been highly likely that his saliva would have been mixed with the blood in the underwear," Lacy said in court papers.

She also said authorities found no evidence Karr was in Boulder at the time of the slaying.

Karr was released from custody by the Boulder County sheriff, who said California authorities had not asked for him to be detained to face child pornography charges in that state.

Defense attorney Seth Temin expressed outrage that Karr was even arrested.

"We're deeply distressed by the fact that they took this man and dragged him here from Bangkok, Thailand, with no forensic evidence confirming the allegations against him and no independent factors leading to a presumption he did anything wrong," Temin said.

Lacy defended the decision to arrest Karr, and said there was no way to collect DNA for testing because it would have alerted Carr of their suspicion.

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www.methodistchildrenshome.org

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PARENTS OF THE YEAR 2006

The Baylor Parents League is now accepting nominations for Parents of the Year 2006!

Recipients of the award will be honored during Parents Weekend festivities, **September 22-23.**

Nomination forms are available online at www.baylor.edu/parentsleague.

Nominations are due **Friday, September 1 @ 5 P.M.**

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the Baylor Parents League @ 710-8545.

'New blood' infuses volleyball

By Brittany McGuire
Sports writer

It's pretty easy to aim high when you're already tall. Even with an average team height of more than 6 feet, the Lady Bears' volleyball team is doing more than aiming high.

The team is trying to accomplish what it hasn't done since 2001 — make an appearance at the NCAA tournament.

After losing five seniors, this feat might seem too high to reach for the Lady Bears, but after bringing in a strong freshmen class, third-year head Coach Jim Barnes is confident his team can rise to the challenge.

"Recruiting's a big game now, especially at the top of the Big 12," Barnes said. "We were lucky to find so many quality players in Texas. We really pushed for getting the best."

Barnes' search paid off. His freshmen class ranked No. 16 nationally, the second-highest ranking in Baylor's history behind the 2000 class, which ranked third. With talent and playing experience, Barnes said, the freshmen will be key to building a strong team core to make up for the seniors lost.

"We lost some great players that we're certainly going to miss, but we really feel like there's a new blood of young players," Barnes said. "These freshmen are going to be a good nucleus to what we build."

Although young, Barnes' freshmen seem up to the high goal the team has set.

"We've been practicing together since early July," Buda freshman Anna Breyfogle said. "One goal we have is to just put forth everything we have."

Breyfogle, a member of the 2005 Junior National Training team, will be joined by Arlington freshman Taylor Barnes. As



File photo

Sophomore right-side hitter Nicole LeBlanc and junior outside hitter Kelly Spriggs go up for a block against a Kansas State player in 2004. The Lady Bears will host the Clarion Invitational at noon Friday in the Ferrell Special Events Center.

a senior in high school, she led Martin High School to win the Class 5A state championship and was the state tournament MVP.

Coach Barnes said the pair has a great chance of starting for the Lady Bears, and expects them to complement the experience of his returning squad.

"The seniors have been great leaders for this new group coming in," he said.

The seniors include Deja Sweeny, Adeline Meira and All-Big 12 players Nicole LeBlanc and Desiree Guillard-Young. Guillard-Young said the freshmen will help make up for the depth lost from last year's team.

"We lost a lot. We gained a lot," the Berkeley, Calif., middle blocker said. "It will be interesting to watch their progress over the next four years."

Guillard-Young was tabbed 2006 pre-season All-Big 12, but she said the team's interests come first.

"The honor was great, but I'll take a team win over a personal accolade any day," Guillard-

Young said.

The Lady Bears had their first test of the season at a round-robin tournament in Berkeley, Calif. They got off to a great start with a 3-1 win against UC-Davis and a 3-0 sweep over the University of Montana.

LeBlanc led the way for Baylor, tying her career-high with 21 kills and added a team-high 21 digs. LeBlanc's feat was the Lady Bears' first 20 kill-20 dig match since former Lady Bear Stella Odion did it in 2004.

After victories in each of their first two matches, the Lady Bears took their first loss of the season in their final match of the tournament. After suffering an ankle injury in the first match, Guillard-Young returned to help the team against No. 17 University of California, but it wasn't enough, as Baylor fell to the Golden Bears 0-3.

The Lady Bears won't have long to dwell on the loss. Later this week, the team will host the Clarion Invitational at noon Friday at the Ferrell Special Events Center.

Sepulveda possibly punting Sunday

Oklahoma, Texas Tech, Texas name starting quarterbacks

The Associated Press

One of Baylor's best weapons is punter Daniel Sepulveda, who last season averaged 46.2 yards per kick, better than in 2004 when he won the Ray Guy Award as college football's best punter.

After tearing the anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) in his non-kicking knee during a pickup basketball game in April, it was expected by coaches and doctors that he would miss at least the nonconference portion of his senior season.

But the NFL prospect might play Sunday when the Bears open against No. 22 Texas Christian University in a match up of former Southwest Conference rivals.

When coach Guy Morriss went by the weight room to check on workouts over the weekend, Sepulveda pulled his knee aside and said he wanted to kick.

"We'll punt him this week as he was going to punt Sunday. We'll see how the knee holds up and how he feels Saturday," Morriss said.

"Like you, I thought he was definitely out," he said.

Morriss plans to talk to Sepulveda's parents and team doctors before making a final decision.

"I just want to make sure he understands what he has to gain, and what are the risks," he said.

Oklahoma faces Bomar loss

The unexpected loss of starting quarterback Rhett Bomar created plenty of questions about if No. 10 Oklahoma could still be a legitimate Big 12 contender this season.

Maybe for everybody else, but not Coach Bob Stoops, who believes too much has been made out of Bomar's departure.

"We had a guy who ended last year with 10 interceptions and 10 touchdowns. It's not like when (Heisman Trophy winner) Jason White left," Stoops said Monday on the first Big 12 coaches teleconference of the season.

"Maybe at one point, (Bomar)



File photo

Daniel Sepulveda is expected to play in Sunday's game against Texas Christian University after suffering a torn ACL in April.

might have developed into that. He hadn't developed into that yet."

When the season opens Saturday against UAB, senior Paul Thompson will be the starting quarterback, just like in last year's opener when Oklahoma lost to TCU.

Bomar took over as the starter after that, and Thompson switched to receiver.

Thompson is getting another chance at throwing instead of catching passes after Bomar was kicked off the team Aug. 2 for breaking NCAA rules.

"He looks great. He has done a really good job," Stoops said. "Day in and day out, he's gotten more comfortable with his reads, throwing and where we're going with the football."

McCoy starting for Texas

At least defending national champion Texas knew last January that Vince Young wouldn't be back. The Heisman Trophy finalist bypassed his senior season to be a first-round NFL pick, leaving redshirt freshman Colt McCoy and true freshman Jevan Snead to battle for the starting job.

Texas head Coach Mack Brown ended the quarterback controversy Monday when he announced that McCoy would get the nod in the Longhorns season opener on Sept. 2 against the University of North Texas.

Brown said McCoy, who red-

shirted last season behind Vince Young, earned the start with a strong preseason camp.

"(McCoy) had a terrific camp and was at his best during our scrimmages," Brown said.

Brown said he still wants to play both quarterbacks against UNT, but won't script when Snead might get in the game.

"I think we're in as good of a spot as we could expect at the position," Brown said. "All they need now is to get some game experience."

Sophomore throwing for Tech

Sophomore Graham Harrell has been named the starting quarterback for No. 25 Texas Tech, and in Saturday's opener against SMU he'll become the first underclassman to lead the Red Raiders' wide-open offense since 2001.

Harrell, who owns the Texas high school career records for passing yards and touchdowns, had been favored to beat out redshirt freshman Chris Todd.

Tech coach Mike Leach confirmed Harrell won the job Monday.

Harrell, who wasn't available for comment Monday, passed for 392 yards and three touchdowns in five games as a backup last year. He went 41-3 as a starter in high school and racked up 12,532 yards and 167 touchdowns. He threw 67 TDs in his senior season.

Harrell and Todd spent the fall practices competing for the starting spot, and Tech head Coach Mike Leach said both men will continue to split plays in practice to ensure arm fatigue doesn't set in.

While Leach doesn't believe in using a two-quarterback system, he said Todd will probably see more playing time than other recent Tech backups.

"If Graham's not healthy, we'll play him right then," he said. "If Graham is healthy, then we'll play him when we think we've got the game in hand and we think it would be best to put him in."

Sports editor Daniel Youngblood contributed to this report.

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Concert to blend music, missions

By Cat Smith
Reporter

"It's not about being a super Christian," said Rick Heil, lead singer of the band SONICFLOOD. "It's about being involved in other people's lives."

Waco is the second stop on a special tour for the band SONICFLOOD and will feature music with a mission – literally. The band partnered with the International Missions Board to give attendees the chance to learn more about volunteering for missions around the world while enjoying worship music.

"We wanted to tell people about this opportunity to change people's lives," Heil said. The band will perform at 7 p.m. today at Columbus Avenue Baptist Church. The concert will feature footage shot by the International Missions Board during past mission trips.

"We are calling this a multimedia mega-music experience with mission mobilization," said Lynn Jaspersen, a personal

assistant with Sonic Club Inc.

SONICFLOOD said it wanted this tour to reach out to people and let them know how missions affect the lives of people who may not find out about Christianity otherwise.

"We have visited India, Istanbul and Thailand, and we saw that there was such a great need for truth, the Lord and his word," Heil said. "It's going to take going out and being Jesus to change lives."

A big motivator for the band was the horrible conditions it saw when they visited orphanages in India and learned about children who are sex slaves in Thailand.

"With the world becoming smaller through travel and technology, it is easier than ever to bring ministry to the world," Heil said.

He said he also recognized that missions around the world are not for everyone. He said missions are for doing the Lord's work, no matter if they are half way around the world or in the



Courtesy photo

Grammy-nominated Christian band SONICFLOOD will perform at 7 p.m. today at Columbus Avenue Baptist Church. Tickets cost \$11 and can be bought at the Compass Bookstore, the Baylor BSM or the door.

same city.

David Dover, the coordinator for the Baptist Student Ministries at McLennan Community College and Texas State Technical College, is largely responsible for the band's stop in Waco.

"I heard the band play at a conference and approached them with the idea," Dover said. "We prayed on it and decided that Waco would be a great place to put information about missions out there and let students make the decision if it was right for them."

Dover said he thought that SONICFLOOD's mission would

benefit the numerous college and high school students in the area.

"Our goal is to put information out there for students," he said. "We wanted to make them aware of the possibilities to serve God now and in the future."

Tickets for the concert are available at the Compass Bookstore, online and at the Baylor BSM. Tickets cost \$11 and also will be sold at the door.

Heil said he was excited to educate people about the value and necessity of mission trips.

"Let's do it," he said. "Let's change the world."

Stars, singers unite for charity prizes in 'Idol'-like contest

By Marisa Guthrie
McClatchey Daily Newspaper

Singing in the shower is one thing.

Singing with the likes of Aaron Neville or Patti LaBelle is another.

But Lucy Lawless, Cheech Marin, Lea Thompson and wrestler Chris Jericho will give it a try, all for your entertainment pleasure.

They have been chosen to perform with the pros in Fox's *Celebrity Duets*, a musical version of *Dancing With the Stars*, produced by *American Idol*'s Simon Cowell.

Other contestants are gymnast Carly Patterson (a 2004 Olympic gold medalist), Alfonso Ribeiro (who played Will Smith's uptight cousin in *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*), *Queer Eye* style guru Jai Rodriguez and Hal Sparks (*Queer as Folk*).

Each week they'll perform a duet with a rotating roster of singing stars including LaBelle and Neville as well as Clint Black, Michael Bolton, Belinda Carlisle, Taylor Dayne, Peter Frampton, Macy Gray, James Ingram, Wynonna Judd, Chaka Khan, Kenny Loggins, Richard

Marx, Brian McKnight, Smokey Robinson, Randy Travis, Dionne Warwick and Lee Ann Womack.

Viewers will vote to send one contestant packing each week. The winning celebrity will get \$100,000 – to give to his or her favorite charity, of course.

Producer David Foster, who is looking for a new singing star with NBC's online series *Star-Tomorrow*, is one of the *Duets* judges, with two others still to be named. Comedian Wayne Brady will host.

Duets bows at 7 p.m. today with a two-hour installment before settling into its regular time slot, 9 p.m. Thursdays, beginning Sept. 7.

All of the celebrities participating in *Duets* can carry a tune, promised Peter Liguori, Fox's head of entertainment, and some of them may surprise you.

"I can't tell you what they're going to do under pressure, but as a public service," he said, "I make you a solid commitment that we will do everything humanly possible to present high-quality singers in the competition because I think that's where the 'wow' factor is going to come in."

'Idlewild' presents music where story lacks

By Amanda Toller
Contributor

Idlewild meets all the basic criteria of an old-fashioned gangster movie.

MOVIE REVIEW

There's the aging mob-boss and moonshine distributor, ready to pass on the business and retire from his life of crime. He, of course, has a backstabbing assistant who turns out to be more cold than his predecessor.

There's the loyal wife and many fallen women, a little love and lots of hate, booze and, well – more booze.

There's even a car chase and a gunfight now and then.

Director Bryan Barber, best known for directing *OutKast*'s off-beat music videos, checks off all the requirements for a great gangster movie. Since it seems he stuck to the basic mob-movie, the plot is predictable.

Rooster (Antwan A. Patton – better known as Big Boi from *OutKast*) is the star performer at *Idlewild*'s sleazy juke-joint Church, where men worship women, women worship Rooster and everyone worships moonshine and music.

When Sunshine Ace, Church's owner, meets his maker, Rooster is the natural replacement.

The club's booze supplier, Rooster's "Uncle" Spats, meets the same demise as Ace, leaving Trumpy (Terrance Howard), his heartless assistant, controlling the booze and trying to control

Rooster.

Meanwhile, Rooster's childhood friend and the club's piano player, Percival (OutKast's Andre Benjamin), is busy falling for the club's newest performer. He fights the classic battle of going against his father's wishes and following his heart.

Idlewild's characters fall flat in most cases, with the exception of Trumpy. Howard's experience as an actor shows on screen next to the singer cast.

Patton shines during the musical numbers, but he never turns Rooster into a real person the audience can connect with.

Benjamin runs into the same problem. Percival faced a life filled with heartache, but the emotions never soar the way they should.

What does soar in *Idlewild*

is the music. *OutKast* mixes its style with jazz, blues and swing creating a blend that is uniquely Church.

As Rooster raps about his bow tie surrounded by scantily clad chorus girls, Church's patrons swing dance. It sounds ridiculous, and yet it all comes together seamlessly.

Barber's only failure musically is he didn't take full advantage of the amazing artists in the film. Macy Gray only sings one incredibly forgettable number. Patti LaBelle's appearance was barely long enough to be considered a cameo, and, sadly, she doesn't sing a note.

It isn't a blockbuster Hollywood musical, but it's entertaining. The music alone makes it worth the trip.

Grade: B-

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AID from page 1

homes we were building.” Even with the visible changes, Childs noted that the city reminded her of a messy bedroom with no notable place to begin picking up. “Even though it’s been a year since it happened, compared to when I was there every spring break, it pretty much looked the same,” Childs said. “That was a four-month gap.” During her summer trip, Childs had “one of those eye-opening moments,” with a couple residents in the area. Two men approached Childs and a group at McDonald’s while they were taking a break for breakfast, and showing

interest, they asked the group questions about their age and why they were in New Orleans, Childs said. “They were shocked that I was out here with my friends in the middle of summer in the heat,” she said. “He really expected me to preach to him, and I told him that I was here to serve God and that I hoped I could lead as an example, but it’s not my opinion that matters.” Childs said she believes she made an impact in the mens lives. Even though there’s been little change in the past year, students are hopeful for the people and the community, Childs said.



Courtesy Photo

World Changes volunteers spent their 2006 summer cleaning out the destroyed homes in New Orleans, La.

EVACUEES from page 1

settled in the Waco area, most have either already returned to New Orleans or are still deciding whether or not they want to return. “The cost of living here is different than in New Orleans, so the wages they are getting here are less than what they were getting and they don’t understand that,” Willis said. “Some people were also working in areas that didn’t require certification in New Orleans, but they do in Texas.” Marchand’s family was the first to reach Seventh and James Baptist Church’s temporary evacuation center on Sept. 2. She arrived with her son, daughter and her two grandchildren after they ran out of money for

hotel rooms. “Pastor Raymond (Bailey) had opened up the Bible study hall to those who needed shelter from Katrina,” she said. “He was able to place families in separate rooms. There was food and water and drink and it was clean and there was a host of volunteers from Baylor who were able and willing and on stand-by.” Mary Darden, who was the Seventh and James moderator during the evacuation, said she estimates that more than 100 Baylor students participated in relief efforts at the church. Marchand said she appreciated all the student efforts. “I give so much thanks to Baylor students,” she said. “They were out there full force.”

FLORIDA from page 1

of a Home Depot for his home generator. “Every year we prepare a little more because we’re learning from our past ordeals,” he said. “I’m taking care of everything that’s important – flashlights, batteries, gasoline.” Forecasters issued a tropical storm warning Monday afternoon for all of South Florida’s eastern coast, north to Vero Beach, as well as the Keys and

the Everglades. A warning means tropical storm activity is expected within 24 hours. About 400 miles of the state’s densely populated Atlantic coast were under a hurricane watch, issued when such conditions could occur within 36 hours. Over the weekend, Ernesto became the first hurricane of the Atlantic season and lashed the Dominican Republic and

Haiti. One person was reported killed along Haiti’s southern coast. Forecaster Richard Knabb at the hurricane center in Miami urged people not to become complacent. “Just because the system is not a hurricane now, doesn’t mean it can’t be a hurricane later,” he said. In the Keys, visitors were ordered out, and authorities

planned to evacuate sick and elderly people to Miami. Mobile home residents in the Keys were also urged to clear out. Miami-Dade County opened a shelter for people from the Keys. Some Keys residents and business owners put plywood over windows or installed hurricane shutters as tourists struggled to get flights out.

SENATE from page 1

Faculty Senate Chair-Elect Matthew C. Cordon, who worked with Vitanza for two years as part of an ad hoc policy revision committee, praised Vitanza for her “clear sense of judgment.”

“She is a great bridge between administration and faculty because she has worked in administration and also knows a lot of faculty because of her years in the provost office.”

CHURCH from page 1

BGCT and targets those “in a western culture who may not be comfortable in a regular church,” said Pastor Greg Moore of Top Hand Cowboy Church in Crawford. While their theological beliefs are in line with the BGCT, their style of worship varies. Many cowboy churches meet in arenas or barns as opposed to traditional church buildings and have youth rodeos instead of retreats, Moore said. In addition to conventional values like discipleship and evangelism, cowboy churches also have a desire to keep the service and activities culturally relevant to the western heritage. Events like trail rides, cookouts and cowboy poetry read-

ings allow the church members to have fellowship in a familiar environment. Top Hand Cowboy Church began last September with a Bible study and had an official kick off on Jan. 1. The church now averages 125 cowboys and cowgirls on Sundays, Moore said. This type of growth is not uncommon in the cowboy community. Pastor Paul Howie of Leon River Cowboy Church in Eastland, said his church began only two and a half years ago and now has around 200 attendees each Sunday. “We don’t do a lot of publicity. Most of it is by word of mouth, ranchers talking to their friends, ropers inviting

other ropers to come,” Howie said. “The church started with a vision that a lot of cowboys were lost folk.” This vision was apparently prophetic. According to the BGCT Web site, there are currently 68 cowboy churches in Texas, the first of which began in 2000. This weekend’s conference was the 10th School of Cowboy Church Planting and had 460 registered attendants. “This is the biggest gathering of Cowboy Churches I’ve seen yet,” said Bill Rice of Duncanville, who frequently volunteers at cowboy conventions. “It’s spreading like wildfire.” The event targeted pastors and church leaders but was open to all Cowboy Church

enthusiasts. Dwayne and Jodie Dye of Texarkana are new members of Circle J Church but came to the conference “to meet more Christian cowboys and cowgirls and learn about the ministry.” Truett Seminary was proud to host this event and to support others in their quest to encounter God in a unique cultural environment. “It’s a new concept, but one that has attracted a lot of interest, and one that we are excited to be a part of,” said Nancy Floyd, assistant to the dean of Truett Seminary. “Everyone always has a good time. They bring their horses out, barbeque on the grounds, and even have live music.”

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