

# THE BAYLOR LARIAT

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2006

## BU completes most comprehensive religious study ever Americans split on God

By Laura Frase  
Staff writer

With most Americans barely able to agree on what's for dinner, it's no surprise that 95 percent of people believe in God, yet they disagree on what God is like.

Through American Piety in the 21st Century, called the most comprehensive study of its kind, Baylor professors discovered there are four distinct views Americans hold of God.

"People are very split," Dr. Christopher Bader, assistant professor of sociology and research member, said. "They think God is engaged with the world and angry with the world."

Through its research, the team discovered two distinct beliefs in God: God's level of engagement and his level of anger. This eventually branched off into the four views of God: authoritarian, distant, benevolent and critical.

According to the study, God's level of engagement refers to how people view God's involvement in the world, such as war and politics, while his level of anger refers to how people view God's reaction to human sins.

The levels of engagement and types of God predict moral attitudes and political opinions, said Dr. Paul Froese, assistant professor of sociology and research group member.

Of these political opinions, 20 percent of Americans believe that God is on America's side in world affairs, and 4 percent believe God favors one political party, Froese said.

He also said that the majority of those who believed God favors a political party were affiliated with the Republican Party.

"If I know your image of God, I can tell all kinds of things about you," Froese said.

Please see **GOD**, page 6

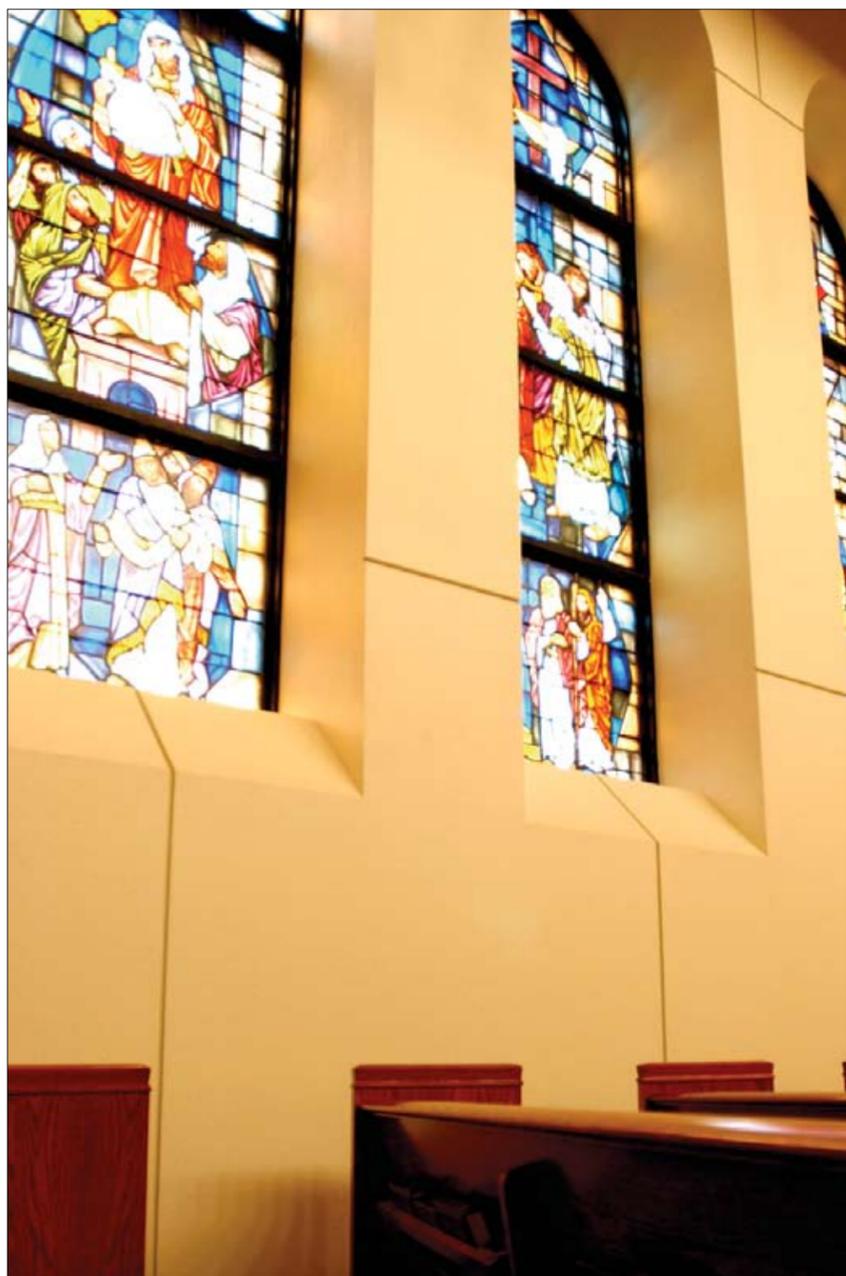


Photo illustration by Henry Chan/Lariat staff

Researchers polled Americans from across the nation about their religious views. American Piety in the 21st Century found that Americans view God one of four ways: authoritarian, distant, benevolent or critical.

## Student views vary on religion

By Claire St. Amant  
Reporter

With the proliferation of "Jesus is My Homeboy" T-shirts being worn around on campus, and more prayer meetings and Bible studies than some universities, one may think the average Baylor student is deeply religious.

But what is seen on the outside is not always an accurate indication of what is happening on the inside. Revealing opinions on everything from drinking alcohol to speaking in tongues, the *Lariat* conducted its own poll Monday to see if student's opinions

of religion and God coincide with most American's.

The official survey, American Piety in the 21st Century, was the most extensive religious inquiry ever conducted across the nation. The Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion partnered with the Department of Sociology to conduct the survey. A student survey, using a selection of the questions from American Piety, uncovered current religious trends at Baylor.

While students surveyed believed in God, the questions about religious identity and practice had a wide range of responses. Various students identified themselves

as "mainline Christians" or those in the "moral majority." Only a few students considered themselves "theologically conservative," while some felt like a label was inadequate.

"There isn't a word to describe my identity as a Christian, besides Christian," Minnesota freshman Kelsey Davidson said.

According to the Baylor survey, the most common subject for prayer among students was world concerns, followed by praise and adoration, family issues and the confession of sins. A few students identified financial security as a prayer request, while almost no one surveyed prayed for

someone they did not know personally.

Most students surveyed rejected the idea that the consumption of alcohol was always wrong, saying that it is only wrong sometimes.

"There is nothing wrong with drinking as long as it doesn't own you," Carrolton junior Andrea Brashier said. "It's an issue of moderation."

Other students echoed Brashier's sentiments.

"I wouldn't say drinking is wrong all of the time, it's only a problem if it is out of control," Waco junior Patrick Smith said.

Please see **FAITH**, page 6

## Baylor retains high percentage

By Christine M. Tamer  
Staff writer

A larger number of first-year students are choosing to stay at Baylor for their second year.

The retention rate of first-year students enrolled in fall 2005 increased 1 percent to 84.2 percent, according to Baylor's Office of Institutional Research and Testing.

To reach the goal Baylor 2012 has set forth, Baylor needs to improve the retention rate to 93 percent, said Diana Ramey, assistant vice president for enrollment management.

"We have a ways to go," Ramey said. "We are certainly going to have to make a significant impact with the new things this year as well as things that will get kicked off next fall that will help make us stronger."

"A lot of students have been taking advantage of this (free tutoring) to help them succeed," she said.

Ramey said the new advising center, CASA, for the students in the College of Arts and Sciences as well as free tutoring should help increase retention rates.

"I personally believe we are doing everything we can to intentionally increase our retention rate at Baylor," said Brandon Miller, assistant vice president for student success. "Student retention rates are not going to drastically jump from the current percentage to our 2012 goal percentage in the matter of a few years. "It is an intentional process that takes the effort of an entire institution working towards the same common goal of ensuring student success."

Of the 3,168 first-year students enrolled last year, 501 did not come back, according to Baylor's Office of Institutional Research and Testing.

"Students leave Baylor for a variety of reasons that range from health issues to change of career objectives to family and

financial matters," Miller said. "There really is not one major reason why students choose to withdraw from the university."

Houston senior Tiffany Macey went to Baylor for two years before transferring to Texas Tech University.

"I left because I wanted to major in advertising, and Baylor only had a marketing major in the business school," Macey said. "I switched to Tech because it has a great communications school and had an advertising major."

Dr. Thomas Hanks, English professor, said the new retention task force is largely to thank for the increase in retention rates.

"Diana Ramey (head of the task force) is constantly cheerful, upbeat and with it ever minute of the day," Hanks said. "She is doing a superb job of keeping the whole task force going and making sure that the changes we make are helpful."

One change implemented this year was the introduction of University 1000. University 1000 is a 12-week course requirement for freshmen in replacement of last year's Chapel Fridays. In University 1000, students meet in small groups and learn tools for success in college, Hanks said.

"University 1000 helps students learn for themselves how to find academic help if they need it," Hanks said. "Some students let themselves get behind after the first four weeks because it is so easy to think no one is checking up on them."

University 1000 groups have lessons ranging from organization to time management and test-taking techniques, Hanks said.

"It is so sad when a student after four to six weeks realizes that they are so far behind that there is no catching up," Hanks said.

Please see **RATES**, page 6



Associated Press

A New York firefighter wipes a tear from his face Monday while standing before a reflecting pool filled with flowers and other mementos following the memorial ceremony at the site of the former World Trade Center.

## Bush addresses fight on terrorism

By Terence Hunt  
The Associated Press

Five years after the worst attack on U.S. soil, President Bush said Monday night the war against terrorism is "the calling of our generation" and urged Americans to put aside differences and fight to victory.

"America did not ask for this war, and every American wishes it were over," Bush said in a prime-time address from the Oval Office. "The war is not over, and it will not be over until either we or the extremists emerge victorious."

Bush also staunchly defended the war in Iraq though he acknowledged that Saddam Hussein was not responsible for the Sept. 11 attacks that killed nearly 3,000 people.

His address came at the end of a day in which he visited New York, Pennsylvania and the Pen-

tagon to honor victims of the attacks that rocked his presidency and thrust the United States into a costly and unfinished war against terror.

"We are now in the early hours of this struggle between tyranny and freedom," the president said.

As for Iraq, he said Saddam's regime, while lacking weapons of mass destruction, was a threat that posed "a risk the world could not afford to take." At least 2,670 U.S. servicemen and women have died in Iraq, which Bush calls the central front in the war on terror.

"Whatever mistakes have been made in Iraq, the worst mistake would be to think that if we pulled out, the terrorists would leave us alone," the president said. "They will not leave us alone. They will follow us."

Please see **BUSH**, page 6

## Faculty, staff updated on school priorities

By Analiz González  
Staff writer

Administrators brought faculty and staff up to speed on SACS accreditation, finances and strategic planning during a meeting Monday at Waco Hall.

Assistant Vice Provost Tiffany Hogue said the Baylor Accreditation Committee submitted the completed the documentation necessary for the SACS reaffirmation of accreditation.

"Southern Association of Colleges and Schools is one of six regional accrediting bodies in the U.S.," Hogue said. "It accredits two- and four-year institutions. Our last accredita-

tion was in 1996 and it's good for ten years," Hogue said.

If the SACS accreditation is not reaffirmed, Baylor will either lose federal funding or prestige and reputation in academia, the Baylor SACS Web site states.

Baylor submitted two reports: the Compliance Certification and the Quality Enhancement Plan.

"The Compliance Certification is a large snapshot of Baylor, and it presents much of the information captured in the old self-study," the site said. "The QEP, on the other hand, is a new requirement used to outline a course of action for institutional improvement by

addressing one or more issues that contribute to institutional quality, with special attention to student learning."

The QEP title is: "Strengthening Scholarly Engagement through Academically themed engaged learning groups and undergraduate research initiatives."

Hogue said the engaged learning groups will be groups of 60 students who work together from their freshman through sophomore year. They will be led by teams of two to four faculty members.

The faculty leading ELGs will have graduate students assigned to them, receive stipends and have an operating

budget, while students will benefit from working with a faculty team and engaging in research with other students.

Hogue said the QEP will be implemented in August. The SACS will make its announcement regarding Baylor's reapplication in December.

Vice President of Finance and Administration Reagan Ramsower said last year's financial surplus was \$23 million explained how it was allocated.

"Our class last year was very large," Ramsower said. "In fact, it was too big, and this created a number of challenges throughout the university."

Please see **FACULTY**, page 6

# Romania caught between stifled past, booming future

I spent my summer in Romania writing for an English-language tourist magazine. I saw everything I expected to see: fog-covered mountains, colorful gypsy peasants, Dracula souvenirs.

But, I saw so much more that was unexpected.

I woke up one morning, went to work and found the electricity turned off in much of the Old Town.

Nobody knew for how long it would be off and nobody seemed very concerned that this was the third time this had happened in two months.

One week I woke up and was unable to take a shower or brush my teeth because the water was turned off in our neighborhood.

Apparently, construction workers had hit an unmarked section of the water main.

In June, the whole city was without water for three days as city water specialists dealt with problems in other parts of the city.

You simply have to take every day as it comes in Romania.

Romanians are no strangers to uncertainty. About 17 years ago, they woke up to a revolu-



## point of view

BY VAN DARDEN

tion in their streets and the next day woke up to a completely new government.

Outside of Bucharest, most of the business and industry is relegated to farms, factories and other labor-intensive commerce. For many adults who lived under Nicolae Ceausescu's communist

dictatorship (including my host family), free time is money to be made. The feeling is, "Why talk when you can work?"

This reckoning marks a salient disparity between Romania's tortured past and the optimism of a progressive future, personified in the attitudes of the older generations.

Little old women wrapped in black shawls carrying bouquets of hand-picked flowers toddle along the sidewalks while teenagers hurry by in designer jeans, sunglasses and shoes.

Flashy Mercedes-Benz scream past horse-drawn carts

on the highway.

Billboards in plain view of crumbling, nine-story apartment blocks proclaim brand new, upscale housing out of the fiscal reach of all but the top economic percentage of Romanian citizens.

What I saw was a country in total transition.

Besides corrupt government officials, Romanian "children's homes" (formerly called orphanages) are in need of a complete overhaul.

Infrastructure like railways, roads and telecommunication lines are in desperate need of

upkeep and regulation.

It will take time and dedication, but the country is going to need to hurry if it wants a European Union bid bad enough.

As it is, Romania is positioned to work as a major political and economic liaison between Western and Eastern Europe — they just need to get their act together.

To quote the late, great Sam Cooke: "It's been a long time coming, but I know a change gonna come."

Oh, yes, it will.

Van Darden is a senior journalism major from Waco.

### Editorial

## Retention rates need attention

The numbers have been calculated and the retention rate improved only a little more than 1 percent over the past year.

Rates for last year topped 83 percent and improved to 84.2 percent this year.

While a 1.2 percent increase shows that progress is being made, Baylor has a long road to travel to reach its final destination.

Baylor's ultimate retention goal of 93 percent is outlined in Baylor 2012.

In order to achieve this goal, a stronger gain than 1 percent must be reached each year.

Baylor has taken some steps to continue raising retention rates by beginning various new programs. One is CASA, the new advising center for students in the College of Arts and Sciences.

This program will provide resources and evaluation tools that can be used by students from their first year to graduation.

Department advisers will have a close relationship to CASA so the transition from freshman year until the student chooses a major is a smooth one.

CASA is also working to develop sequencing sheets for all majors in the program to provide a roadmap for what courses should be on the horizon for every student.

Freshmen also receive practical assistance in University 1000, which replaced Chapel Friday sessions.

University 1000 lessons include test-taking techniques and time management skills.

University 1000 will also offer the newest students a chance to connect with other students and faculty, making connections that could help boost retention.

A 9.8 percent increase over the six years is possible, but we've got to step up the intensity. Both of the new programs created focus on making a personal connection with new students.

The personal connection some students have is often the key to who stays and who withdraws.



### 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.

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

Letters should be e-mailed to Lariat\_letters@baylor.edu or mailed to The Baylor Lariat, One Bear Place #97330, Waco, TX 76798-7330.

### Corrections policy

The Baylor Lariat is committed to ensuring fair and accurate reporting and will correct errors of substance on Page 2. Corrections can be submitted to the editor by sending an e-mail to Lariat\_letters@baylor.edu or by calling 254-710-4099.

# 'Azzam the American' offers redemption

An open letter to Azzam:

I must admit I'm intrigued; no one's ever invited me to become a fanatic before. Of course, it wasn't just me, but all 299 million Americans you were addressing in the video posted last week on a militant Islamic Web site. You were featured with al-Qaida's No. 2 man, Ayman al-Zawahri. "Azzam the American," read the caption.

Al-Qaida apparently gave you that nickname, but according to the FBI — which would really like to chat with you, by the way — your real name is Adam Yahiyeh Gadahn. You're 28, a Californian who's trained at al-Qaida camps in Pakistan. The group is thought to regard you as someone who can speak to Americans in their own idiom. You lived up to that billing in the video, advising that any unbeliev-



## point of view

BY LEONARD PITTS

er who dies in battle with Muslims is bound for hell "without passing go."

The gist of the video is that, instead of following the "incoherent and illogical beliefs" of Christianity, Judaism, Buddhism and atheism, non-Muslim Americans need to join your faith while they still can. "Instead of killing yourself for Bush," you say, "why not surrender to the truth (i.e., Islam), escape from the unbelieving army and join the winning side. Time is running out, so make the right choice before

it's too late." I've got to say, Azzam, your pitch could stand some work. You should know your fellow Americans well enough to know how unlikely it is we would be coerced at gunpoint into choosing your religion. Especially the perversion of it you represent.

It's always been my experience that the best advertisement for a faith is not proselytizing and certainly not threats. It is, rather, the adherents of that faith observing its rituals, finding comfort in its Word, struggling with its commandments, living centered in its promises. This is what makes a nonbeliever looking on say, "I've got to get me some of that."

Frankly, it's hard to see any upside in pledging allegiance to your version of Islam. It's not like doing so would make anyone safer. Do you know how

many Muslims were killed in the Sept. 11 attacks? Me neither. As far as I know, there's been no official count, though former Secretary of State Colin Powell once put the toll at 500.

Five hundred Muslims killed. By a group that purports to fight the oppression of Muslims. You want to talk "incoherent and illogical beliefs?" Start there. Azzam, Lord knows the "War on Terror" has been ineptly and inefficiently prosecuted. But that's OK. Presidents come and go. The national will, especially on a matter such as this, endures. So thanks for the offer to join up. In response, I'd like to say, please stick your offer where the sun don't shine. There's another Americanism you can explain to your friends.

Leonard Pitts is a columnist for the Miami Herald.

### Letters to the editor

#### CLs defend current policies

This letter is a collaboration of community leaders across Baylor's campus. Within the last week, two articles have been written concerning relationships between community leaders (CLs) and residents.

The articles' case is best summed up in the statement, "The last conversation you had with your community leader may be filed away in your hall director's computer."

We first want to ask, "What

were these articles trying to accomplish?" Campus Living and Learning values building relationships between CLs and residents, and this gross misrepresentation of the CL position, in many ways, has hindered our ability to reach students effectively.

One resident asked (after reading the articles), "Do you really record everything we say?" Our answer to that resident is the same one we offer to the Lariat.

As a CL, our main goal (fostered by Dr. Frank Shushok) is to build relationships. Our hall directors serve as our mentors to reach our residents in an appropriate way. Nearly all of them have backgrounds in working with residents and provide invaluable information to foster community.

The biweekly reports (submitted once every two weeks), are a summary of the involvement we have had with our residents.

These reports are an opportunity for us to reflect on the

positive interaction occurring on our hall. We may mention a conversation in this report, but nothing in great detail, and nothing that will harm a resident.

CLs do not exist to be parents, babysitters or police officers. Rather, we are fellow students who seek to serve and influence our peers. Relationships, within the context of a community, are paramount.

As community leaders, we are thankful for these articles, in that we have been able to discuss the factual foundations for our mission-centered conversations.

Yet we do not agree with your portrayal of the community leader position. Finally, we are here to educate not only the Lariat staff, but the campus as a whole, about the importance of building authentic, Christ-centered relationships in a community.

Mariann Alexander  
Meghan Becker  
Shane Boswell  
Crystal Brewster

Justin Brown  
Marquette Bugg  
Cole Casper  
Lauren Castro  
Jenna Chang  
Phil Christensen  
Constance Cole  
Alexandra Dubois  
Christina Gaona  
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Tara Gitau  
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Jenny Iwasko

Kelley C. Kimple  
Kali Leamon  
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Damon Yousefy  
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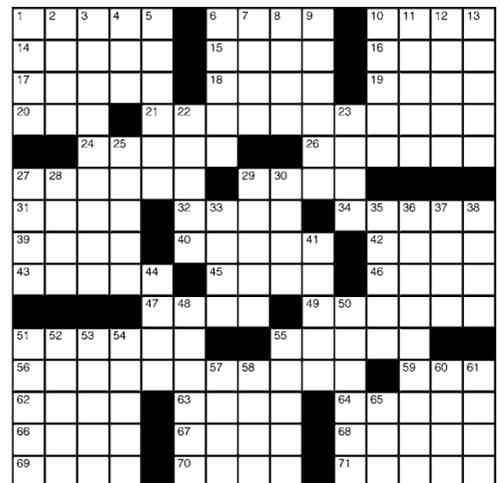
V. EASY #3

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3X3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats.

### THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS**
- 1 Orderly arrangement
  - 6 List of choices
  - 10 Buck or stag
  - 14 Take off
  - 15 Stratford's river
  - 16 Gershwin and Levin
  - 17 Magnitudes
  - 18 Tenant's expense
  - 19 Affectations
  - 20 Lennon's love
  - 21 Reflection depiction
  - 24 Poised for action
  - 26 Perfect accord
  - 27 Gas pump info
  - 29 On \_\_\_ (without guarantee)
  - 31 Cowardly Lion player
  - 32 Soreness
  - 34 Monastic superior
  - 39 Very, very bad
  - 40 Isaac's mother
  - 42 Jason's galley
  - 43 Intuit
  - 45 Tableland
  - 46 Confident
  - 47 Floored
  - 49 Thuds and pings
  - 51 On land
  - 55 London flashlight
  - 56 Cutty Sark, e.g.
  - 59 Govt. agent
  - 62 At any \_\_\_
  - 63 Plebiscite
  - 64 Japanese verse
  - 66 Author Hunter
  - 67 "\_\_\_ in the Morning"
  - 68 Concur
  - 69 Gels
  - 70 Lover's path
  - 71 Must-haves
- DOWN**
- 1 As well
  - 2 Bridle strap
  - 3 Barely visible from the side
  - 4 Hail, Caesar!
  - 5 Flunky
  - 6 Get hitched
  - 7 In any way
  - 8 Prohibited activity
  - 9 Disloyal
  - 10 Florida city
  - 11 Met highlights
  - 12 "Key \_\_\_"
  - 13 City on the Ruhr
  - 22 R&D output
  - 23 Early Peruvian
  - 25 Warren and Scruggs
  - 27 Cheers for the matador
  - 28 Lascaux or Altamira
  - 29 Reduce to tatters
  - 30 Pod contents
  - 33 Showed up
  - 35 Fundamental
  - 36 Minor crisis
  - 37 Shrek, for one
  - 38 Low digits
  - 41 Vietnamese capital
  - 44 OK Corral combatant
  - 48 Beetle pest
  - 50 Foundling
  - 51 Rancher's measure
  - 52 Great \_\_\_ Lake
  - 53 Swat
  - 54 Unwraps
  - 55 The closer ones
  - 57 Fellini film
  - 58 Knock for a loop
  - 60 Made do with little
  - 61 Membership fees
  - 62 Birthday secret?



By Norma Steinberg  
San Francisco, CA 9/12/06

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

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Melea Burke/Lariat staff

Kacy Sandidge, a Longview senior, avoids a puddle Monday evening on her way to Moody Memorial Library. According to the National Weather Service Web site, Waco accumulated .04 inches of rain Monday.

# Muslims share Sept. 11 thoughts

By Lauren Hightower  
Reporter

Nohayia Javed, a senior from Tulsa, Okla., visited one of the Afghani refugee camps on the Pakistan side of the Pakistani/Afghani border in 2002.

While she was there she noticed a young boy sitting on the floor drawing circles in the dirt with a stick.

She asked him if he needed any food or water. He smiled and said, "No."

She then asked if there was anything he needed, and he told her, "Mama." When she asked where his mother was he pointed toward the sky.

This account was one of many things discussed Monday night at the Sept. 11 "Visions for the Future" panel sponsored by the Center for American and Jewish Studies.

The panel focused on the effects of Sept. 11 in both the American and international Islamic community.

Students and professors met in Alexander Residence Hall's reading room and listened to three speakers share their views and experiences in a post-Sept. 11 world.

The room was so full that many had to stand in the back or sit on the floor.

"We're trying to present different points of view that you wouldn't normally hear," said Dr. Marc Ellis, director of the Center for Jewish Studies and university professor.

"It's important for us to talk about what has happened between then (Sept. 11) and now."

Imam Sheikh Zobir, of the Islamic Society of Greater Houston focused on the differences between the claims of terrorists and the peaceful teachings of Islam.

Adeel Zeb, a graduate of the Baylor School of Business and Communications Director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) in Houston, spoke about the effects of Sept. 11 on Muslim Americans.

"The thing we need to remember is that we cannot base our beliefs on the acts of certain individuals," Zeb said.

"Muslims that commit acts of terrorism in the name of Islam are in fact hijacking and defaming their own religion."

Javed, Zobir and Zeb also answered questions.

# Short-lived rainfall won't end drought

By Katelyn Foster  
Reporter

Monday's pounding rain wasn't enough to stop drought plaguing the region.

Central Texas is in an extreme drought that the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration predicts will last through November.

"We've been in a drought for several years, but this seems to be the longest period of time without significant rainfall," said Dr. Don Greene, a professor of geology and meteorologist for News Channel 25.

Waco has a 30-year average of 31 inches of rain per year, but Waco has only received 14 inches this year.

"To bring a normal level, we need 9 to 12 inches of rain for

the next three months," News Channel 25 meteorologist Kevin Barrett said. "The probability is very low. That's a lot of rain."

Although Monday's rainstorm was a major relief from the heat, it's only a small contribution to the amount needed for local agriculture industries to begin recovery.

Barrett said the lack of rainfall has had a "big impact on agriculture."

"Central Texas has lost several millions of dollars in agricultural products this year," Greene said. "If we can't recover from this drought, millions of dollars will continue to be lost."

Greene said the cattle industry alone has lost millions of dollars because hay wasn't produced, resulting in the animals being sold early in the market.

The industry may not recuperate for a year, he said.

"Waco must receive normal rainfall in the fall and winter," Greene said.

"There is considerable doubt that enough soil moisture will be added to return to normal agricultural practices."

For now, Central Texas will have to endure extreme grass fire danger, burn bans and low lake levels, he said.

Short-term relief may not be in sight, but there is some good news for the future.

Consistent with the Dust Bowl of the 1950s and another major drought in the late '70s early '80s, the drought pattern shows promising relief in the coming years, Greene said.

In Central Texas, these extended droughts occur about

every 22 years, he said.

"We've been in a drought pattern for about four or five years," Greene said. "Typically, this type of drought will come to an end after six years. I'm hoping to be near the end of this episode."

Waco's drought is an immense crisis with a simple solution.

"We need an extended period of consistent rain," Barrett said.

According to the National Weather Service Web site, Waco accumulated .04 inches of rain as of 9 p.m. Monday night.

Greene's main concern are the trees in the area, which he said are prematurely dormant because of the drought.

"Every little bit helps," Barrett said. "But it's not a drought breaker."

However, he said, history shows a drought isn't forever.

## BEAR BRIEFS

### Creamery opening

An opening celebration for The Seasons Creamery will be held at 1:30 p.m. Thursday in North Village Residential Community. The first 50 customers will receive a free T-shirt.

### Balloon Glow

The Balloon Glow, featuring Big Daddy Weave, will be held at 7 p.m. Saturday Sept. 16 at Floyd Casey Stadium. The concert is free to the public, but there's no

reserved seating. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

### Democrat meeting

Baylor Democrats will meet at 7 p.m. every Tuesday in 349 Draper Academic Building. Everyone is welcome.

### Lariat positions available

Applications are available for the following positions: Assistant City Desk, staff writer, copyeditor and photographer.

## STATEMENT ON HAZING

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

|                    |             |                       |             |                 |             |
|--------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Arnold Air Society | Fall 2003   | Sigma Phi Epsilon     | Spring 2005 | Kappa Sigma     | Spring 2006 |
| Kappa Alpha Psi    | Fall 2003   | Kappa Sigma           | Spring 2005 | Phi Gamma Delta | Spring 2006 |
| Kappa Omega Tau    | Spring 2004 | Brothers Under Christ | Spring 2006 | Phi Kappa Chi   | Spring 2006 |
| Pi Kappa Alpha     | Spring 2004 | Gamma Alpha Omega     | Spring 2006 |                 |             |

Baylor's Statement on Hazing can be reviewed online at:  
[http://www.baylor.edu/student\\_policies/index.php?id=32286](http://www.baylor.edu/student_policies/index.php?id=32286)

## HONOR CODE REPORT

The Baylor University Honor Council is charged with the responsibility of hearing cases of alleged violations of the Honor Code (academic dishonesty). A hearing is conducted when a matter of academic dishonesty is not resolved between a faculty member and a student.

During the Spring 2006 semester, the Honor Council chair mediated in several cases of academic dishonesty. However, none resulted in a hearing.

The Honor Code can be reviewed online at: [http://www.baylor.edu/student\\_policies/index.php?id=32287](http://www.baylor.edu/student_policies/index.php?id=32287).

Copies of Baylor's Statement on Hazing and the Honor Code are available from the Judicial Affairs office.

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Associated Press

Dallas Cowboys quarterback Drew Bledsoe looks for an open receiver as Jacksonville Jaguars' John Henderson, right, closes in during an NFL football game Sunday in Jacksonville, Fla.

# Bledsoe remains starter 'for now'

By Jaime Aron  
Associated Press

IRVING — Drew Bledsoe put his hands behind his hips, arched his back and grimaced, partly from the pain and perhaps partly to brace himself for the questions he knew were coming — about his lousy outing in the Dallas Cowboys' season-opening loss and about the inevitable cries for backup Tony Romo to take his place.

Bledsoe usually speaks to reporters on Wednesdays, but made an exception Monday because of the circumstances. He said he was merely being accountable, like a starting quarterback should.

He didn't emphasize the words "starting quarterback." Still, his message was clear: This remains his team.

And if you don't believe him, then take it from coach Bill Parcells: This remains Bledsoe's team ... "right now."

Parcells defended his longtime quarterback Monday, insisting that plenty of others were to blame for a 24-17 loss to the Jacksonville Jaguars. He said Bledsoe will definitely start Sunday night against the Washington Redskins and calls for him to turn to Romo as premature.

However, Parcells' loyalty to Bledsoe has its limits. By qualifying most of his comments with "right now," he opened the door to the exact speculation he was trying to deny.

Maybe that's why he got so testy about it.

"I told you I was getting Romo ready to play. And at some point in time, I'm hopeful I will be able to play him this year," Parcells said. "Now, I don't know when, where or under what circumstances. But that shouldn't be the story for today because it's a non-story."

Asked about it again, Parcells said, "Well, I tell you what let's do — you write what you want, I'm going to explain it the best way I can. ... I think you're trying to get me to say at some point in time I'm going to get Romo in. That time is not now, OK? Is that clear enough? Do you want me to repeat it?"

There's no denying Bledsoe had a bad day. After taking a 10-0 lead after two drives, the Cowboys didn't score again until late in the game, when they were already down by 14 points. He threw two interceptions in between, then a third on Dallas' last-gasp drive.

"I think that he could have played better and I'm hopeful that he will," Parcells said. "But I am going to give him an opportunity to do that."

Dallas committed nine pen-

alties, many of them drive-killers. One of the worst was offensive interference on tight end Jason Witten, wiping out his go-ahead touchdown in the third quarter. The Cowboys ended up trying a field goal and Shaun Suisham, filling in for inactive Mike Vanderjagt, missed. Jacksonville scored on its next possession and was in control the rest of the way.

"If we go out and play with focus and eliminate the mistakes, we're going to be hard to beat," Bledsoe said. "But if we go out and make mistakes and get in our own way, then we can lose to anybody."

Bledsoe is being scrutinized more than last season for several reasons, starting with higher expectations. Dallas went 9-7 last year, has a strong defense and added Terrell Owens on offense.

Another reason is Bledsoe's track record. He hasn't been the starter on a playoff team since 1998. He's 0-for-his-last-6.

Then there's the perceived readiness of Romo, who has been on the Cowboys three years without throwing a pass in a regular season game. He's earned Parcells' trust on the practice field and validated it in the preseason, earning a contract extension.

That's heightened anticipation among fans, turning this week's buzz into Bledsoe vs. Romo instead of how close Dallas came to winning its opener on the road against a team that was 12-4 last season.

"Any time you have a couple of quality players at a position, that's always going to happen," Romo said. "At the same point, it's a long season. All I'm here to do is help this team win, whatever capacity that is."

The easiest way for Romo to get into a game is if Bledsoe gets hurt, which appeared to be the case in the fourth quarter Sunday, when Bledsoe was throwing passes on the sideline to keep loose. He insisted Monday that his back is fine.

Bledsoe also insists he learned long ago to ignore whatever is being said about him, good or bad. He knows he can't do anything about it until Sunday night.

"In this league and, really, probably just in life, how you respond to things defines who you are," he said. "I'm looking forward. I'm preparing to play the next game. I've got plenty on my plate in terms of going out and competing with the Redskins and hoping to lead this team and get us where we want to go."

And if he can't, Parcells can always let Romo try.

# Bears stomp Demons in 47-10 rout

Bell sets BU passing record; Wilson intercepts two passes, scores one touchdown

By Will Parchman  
Sports writer

The Bears capitalized Sunday on a sloppy showing from the Northwestern State Demons, which included five turnovers and 20 penalties from the visiting I-AA opponent. Baylor improved to 1-1 with a convincing 47-10 win.

A crowd of 31,125 watched the Bears pounce on the hapless Demons Saturday, who were outgained by 21 yards despite running 13 more plays and controlling the ball for almost 15 more minutes than the Bears.

And unlike last weekend against Texas Christian University, the offense took an early lead it would keep throughout the contest.

Receiver Trent Shelton caught a perfectly thrown pass from quarterback Shawn Bell on the left hash mark for a 46-yard touchdown early in the first quarter, opening up a barrage from both the Baylor offense and defense.

Bell showed improvement in his second start of the season, throwing 41 times for 288 yards and four touchdowns, which tied both the school record and his career high.

Receiver Dominique Zeigler sat out the game with a shoulder injury, but it didn't take long for Bell and Shelton to find a rhythm in his stead.

Shelton's nine catches for 158 yards led all players. He also caught a pass in his 35th consecutive game, which set a Baylor record.

"You couldn't ask for anything better," Shelton said. "I had kind of a weird feeling last night and today, and I knew that with (Zeigler) out I'd have to have a big game."

And in a fitting tribute to his record-breaking streak, Shelton's record-breaking first catch on Saturday was a touchdown.

"I called Trent right before that play and told him, 'let's make this play a touchdown,'" Bell said. "It was really special. I couldn't be happier for the guy."

Despite Shelton's big night, head Coach Guy Morriss put his performance in perspective.

"It may be Zeigler next week, it may be Trey (Payne) next week," Morriss said. "That's just the nature of the offense. You take advantage of who is there and who has the hot hand. I know Shawn has a lot of confidence in Trent and Zeigler both, and that was just Trent being Trent."

The swarming Baylor defense hounded Northwestern State starting quarterback Ricky Joe Meeks. The Northwestern State starter threw three interceptions and passed for just 57 yards before being replaced by



Kelly Moore/Lariat staff

Joe Pawalek (41) and Anotonio Jones (8) try to take down Northwestern State running back Patrick Earl on Saturday. But it wasn't just the Bears' run defense that improved — the Bears also intercepted three Northwestern State passes.

*"We still have not played up to our potential."*

Guy Morriss  
head football coach

Roch Charpentier midway through the second quarter.

When Meeks returned in the second half, the damage had been done.

"(The defense) played well enough the whole game to keep things under control until we could find a rhythm on offense," head Coach Guy Morriss said. "As long as they're playing hard and flying to the football, that's all you can really ask."

Cornerback C.J. Wilson, who intercepted a pass against TCU, had an even better night Saturday. Wilson intercepted two passes in the Demons' first three possessions, returning the second 52 yards for a touchdown to put the Bears up by 14 points.

"C.J. has had a great first two games," Bell said. "He gives us so much momentum, and when the defense makes a big plays it just does wonders for our offense."

Northwestern State scored its only touchdown of the game during their first possession of the second half with a 10 play, 80 yard drive.

But the Bears would return the ensuing kickoff to the Demon 45-yard line and take advantage, eventually scoring on a touchdown pass from Bell to wide receiver Trey Payne. The touchdown catch was his first of two in the second half.

"Trey is a very intelligent receiver," Bell said. "When he finds that zone you know he's going to make a big play for you."

Running back Paul Mosley was scratched from the lineup late with turf toe. Morriss said both he and Zeigler could have played, but the coaches chose to save them for the Washington State game.

Both Mosley and Zeigler should play Saturday in Seattle, Morriss said.

Even with a solid 47-point outing, Morriss said the offense should continue to improve.

"We still have not played up to our potential," Morriss said. "Coming into halftime, coach Hays peeled the paint off the wall a little bit and got them fired up."

"We are glad to get the win, and in the second half we got an eyeball of what this offense can do."

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# Anna Nicole's son discovered dead

By Jessica Robertson  
Associated Press

NASSAU, Bahamas — The 20-year-old son of Anna Nicole Smith died while visiting his mother in the hospital where the reality TV star and former *Playboy* playmate had given birth last week, a Bahamas police official said Monday.

Daniel Wayne Smith was visiting his mother in her room at Doctors Hospital in Nassau when he died Sunday, Reginald Ferguson, assistant commissioner of the Royal Bahamian Police Force, told The Associated Press. He said an autopsy was under way.

Smith arrived Saturday night in the Bahamas, and apparently went directly to the hospital where he spent the night in his mother's room, Ferguson said.

"It would appear from our report that the mother had gotten up, saw him in the chair and he appeared to be sound asleep," he said. "She tried to wake him up; he was unresponsive, and she sounded the alarm."

Medical personnel arrived and pronounced him dead at the scene, Ferguson said.

Anna Nicole Smith, 38, gave birth to a healthy 6-pound, 9-

ounce girl at the hospital Thursday, her Web site said.

"Anna Nicole is absolutely devastated by the loss of her son. He was her pride and joy and an amazing human being," a statement on the site said. It said that drugs or alcohol were not believed to be a factor.

Her son had traveled to the Caribbean country "to share in the joy of his baby sister," the statement said. "Please do not make any press inquiries at this time so that Anna Nicole can grieve in peace."

Daniel Smith was the product of Smith's 1985 marriage to Billy Smith. The couple, who met while working together at Jim's Krispy Fried Chicken in Mexia, divorced in 1987.

Daniel had small roles in her movies *Skyscraper* and *To the Limit*.

Robin Bonnema, a spokeswoman for Trimspa, the diet products company that has been endorsed by Smith, said she did not know the name of the baby girl's father.

Smith married Texas oil tycoon J. Howard Marshall II in 1994 when she was 26 and he was 89. He died the following year.

She then feuded with Mar-



McClatchy Newspapers

Anna Nicole Smith and her son Daniel attend G-Phoria — The Award Show 4 Gamers at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles on July 31, 2004. Daniel's body was found in the Bahamas on Sunday. Authorities had not determined what caused his death.

shall's son, Pierce Marshall, over her entitlement to the tycoon's estate before he died in June at the age of 67.

In the long-running dispute, Smith had won a \$474 million judgment, which was later cut to about \$89 million and eventually reduced to zero. In May, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled Smith could continue to pursue the fortune in federal courts in California despite a Texas state court ruling that Marshall's youngest son was the sole heir.

# 'World Trade Center' film conveys poignant heroism

By Joe Dooley  
Contributor

At times nerve-racking, and at other times emotionally exhausting, *World Trade Center* successfully presents the struggle of faith and love against mounting pain and meaninglessness.

## MOVIE REVIEW

Oliver Stone's most recent directorial effort is based on the true story of two Port Authority cops, John McLoughlin (Nicolas Cage) and Will Jimeno (Michael Peña), who were buried alive in the rubble of the Twin Towers.

Contrary to his previous movies, Stone abstains from advancing a political viewpoint in his movie's source material. He also avoids the clichés and commercialism that marred 2001's *Pearl Harbor*. Instead he focuses on the personal experiences of a select group of people closely related to the event.

The audience is welcomed with candid shots of a pre-dawn New York, a few containing the iconic skyscrapers, which we know will inevitably collapse. The principal characters go about their morning as if it were any other.

As the characters get caught up in the events that unfold quickly after the first plane strikes the World Trade Center, relating to them comes easily. Their reactions to the shock and the suffering of that day are like our own.

One quickly forgets the characters are being played by movie stars. One even forgets that this is, after all, just a movie. This credits the realism the actors lend to their performances and the credibility of the director's vision.

The real stars of the movie are the Twin Towers themselves. They loom majestically over everything. Their presence evokes discomfort because we know they are not supposed to be there.



Courtesy photo

In *World Trade Center*, Academy Award-winning director Oliver Stone tells the true story of the heroic survival and rescue of two Port Authority policemen — John McLoughlin (Nicolas Cage, right) and Will Jimeno (Michael Peña) — who were trapped in the rubble of the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, after they went in to help evacuate victims.

After the towers are attacked, we feel helpless in their shadow. The sight and sound and rumble of the crash site are unforgettable.

When it does happen, we feel relief because we think the worst is past us. But the movie has only just begun.

While McLoughlin and Jimeno are immobilized in the rubble, they lament the dumb luck to which they owe their lives and their co-workers owe their brutal deaths. How the characters deal with this existential crisis is key to understanding the movie's message about holding onto faith in response to tragic suffering.

Much of the action after the collapse, though, centers on the two men's respective families. This is the most taxing part of the movie, and it runs too long for comfort.

The characters move aimlessly, trying to focus on insignificant, menial tasks to avoid confronting their grief.

For those who experienced especial loss on Sept. 11, these are the moments that are the most powerful and the most saddening.

For others who are up to this point emotionally involved in the movie, they may feel something they never felt before.

Grade: B+

# Swing workout uses 'purse' weight

By Desonta Holder  
McClatchy Newspapers

MIAMI — Study Russian history and you're sure to find two things, Adam Khai-Cronin says: vodka and kettlebells.

These gadgets resembling cannonballs with handles date to more than 100 years ago, when Russian strongmen and Scottish curlers used them to train.

In the past few years, they've made a comeback as a low-impact workout tool to help improve strength, cardio and flexibility.

Once you get the basic moves down, you can rev up your squats by grasping a kettlebell with both hands and swinging it overhead and between your legs as you lower yourself into the squat position.

For lunge lovers, there's the woodchopper workout. You lunge forward and swing the kettlebell in a chopping motion as your body absorbs the momentum.

Then there's the overhead press, where you lift and lower the kettlebell.

Since February, Khai-Cronin and his wife Michelle have been swinging kettlebells with their clients at Soma Fitness & Performance in Miami Beach's The Standard hotel.

"It's an incredible core-training tool," Adam said. "It gives men a lean, athletic physique. It makes women look cat-like, strong but feminine."

Although a kettlebell workout is a lot different from working out with weights, handling the gadget is similar to handling a purse or suitcase, but it "teaches

you to shock-absorb smoothly and help prevent injuries," Adam said.

You can start with an 8.8-pound kettlebell and, if that's not challenging enough, work your way up to a 90-pounder. Adam's "little 62-year-old mother can handle a 70-pound kettlebell."

Khai-Cronin clients range in age from 20 to 87.

Adam has worked with boxer Shannon Briggs and Michelle has trained Jock Soto, former New York City Ballet principal dancer.

Their former student Julio Anta, 49, has been swinging kettlebells for 2-and-a-half years at his fitness studio in Doral, Fla.

Kettlebells "give you ballistic power and speed and work every part of your body," said Anta, a kung fu master.

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**FAITH** from page 1

Some students interviewed said that war was wrong sometimes, and a few students believed it was almost always wrong. When discussing the style of worship at their church, some students interviewed said their churches would allow or encourage speaking in tongues. Only

a few students believed that it would be discouraged, citing reasons of "uncomfortableness" and "a lack of translation." "Speaking in tongues hasn't happened that much at my church, but they definitely allow it," Smith said. Many students interviewed also said that raising hands in worship is encouraged.

**BUSH** from page 1

Earlier, Bush visited a New York fire station, the wind-swept field in Shanksville, Pa., and the Pentagon to place wreaths and console relatives of attack victims.

"Five years ago, this date, Sept. 11, was seared into America's memory," the president said. "Nineteen men attacked us with a barbarity unequalled in our history."

Bush said that Osama bin Laden, the mastermind of the attack, and other terrorists are still in hiding. He said, "Our message to them is clear: No matter how long it takes, America will find you and we will bring you to justice."

Bush said the war on terror was nothing less than "a struggle for civilization" and must be fought to the end.

"We are fighting to maintain the way of life enjoyed by free nations," the president said. Two months before the November elections, he attempted to spell out in graphic terms the stakes he sees in the unpopular war in Iraq and the broader war on terror.

He said Islamic radicals are trying to build an empire "where women are prisoners in their homes, men are beaten for missing prayer meetings and terrorists have a safe haven to plan and launch attacks on America and other civilized nations."

"The war against this enemy is more than a military conflict," the president said. "It is the decisive ideological struggle of the 21st century and the calling of our generation."

Five years ago, the attacks transformed Bush's presidency and awakened the world to bin Laden and his band of al-Qaida terrorists. While the public has soured on the war in Iraq, the president still gets high marks for his handling of Sept. 11.

While Bush urged resolve, the two co-chairs of the 9/11 Commission accused the Bush administration and Congress of a lack of urgency in protecting the country. About half of their 41 recommendations to better secure Americans, offered in July 2004, have become law.

"Where in the world have we been for five years?" said former Rep. Lee Ham-

ilton, D-Ind., who was joined by his Republican counterpart, former New Jersey Gov. Tom Kean. Hamilton spoke of failures to put first responders on the same radio spectrum so they can talk to each other during an emergency, as firefighters and police officers who died in the World Trade Center could not in 2001.

The 9/11 attacks changed the political tone in Washington and abroad \_ but only briefly.

"We had an astonishing moment of unity in America and around the world," former President Clinton told a Jewish conference in Washington. That has given way to bitter political divisions between Democrats and Republicans."

Still, dozens of lawmakers, Republicans and Democrats alike, joined on the steps of the Capitol Monday to remember the attacks, singing "God Bless America" as they had five years ago. House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi said Monday, "Five years later, we have to continue to move forward with unity, urgency and in the spirit of international cooperation, because we are not yet fully healed and not yet as safe as we should be."

Bush began the day in New York with firefighters and police officers at a Lower East Side firehouse. He stood in front of a door salvaged from a fire truck destroyed on Sept. 11. It was a cloudless morning reminiscent of the sunny day when two hijacked planes slammed into the twin towers of the World Trade Center.

The mourners silently bowed their heads, at 8:46 a.m. and again at 9:03 a.m., marking the moments when the planes slammed into the towers. The attacks killed 2,749 people.

The next stop was in Shanksville, Pa., where Bush and his wife stood without umbrellas in a chilly rain to lay a wreath honoring the 40 passengers and crew killed when United Airlines Flight 93 plowed into a Pennsylvania field. The terrorists apparently had been planning on crashing the plane into the White House or the Capitol.

Bush had an emotional meeting with relatives of the Shanksville victims. "There were some people who were still clearly grieving about what happened five years ago," Snow said.

**GOD** from page 1

"It's a central part of world view and it's linked to how you think about the world in general."

Several distinct conclusions were drawn from the different versions of God, including the role of gender and income in choosing a type of God.

According to the study, women lean toward very "engaged" images of God, such as an authoritarian and benevolent God, while men are drawn to images like a distant God and are more likely to be atheists.

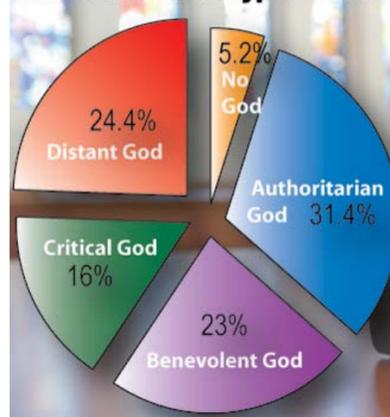
Researchers found that Americans who believe God to be a "he," rather than a "she" tend to believe in an authoritarian God, according to the study.

The team also found a correlation between income and the type of God chosen.

The higher the income, the less likely a person will think God is angry, but the lower the income, the more likely a person will think God is angry, Froese said. However, the study found that college graduates earning more than \$100,000 believe in a distant God or lean toward being atheists. The type of God chosen not only applies to gender or income norms, but also researchers found that a belief in a certain type of God affects people's views on controversial issues such as abortion or gay marriage.

About 12 percent of Americans believe abortion is wrong in all

**Percent of Americans who believe in each type of God**



Source: Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion - American Piety in the 21st Century - September 2006

Henry Chan/Lariat staff

instances, but those who chose an authoritarian God doubled that percentage with 23.4 percent, according to the study.

Again, Americans who chose an authoritarian God topped the total percentage on gay marriage with 80.6 percent believing that gay marriage is always wrong. Through these statistics, the team found that an authoritarian God and distant God have clear differences.

"Believers in a distant God ... are 72 times less likely to believe converting others is a very important part of being a good person than

those who believe in an authoritarian God," according to the study.

With such personal information available by knowing a person's type of God, researchers will use this data to better understand the United States' culture.

To keep this data updated, the researchers plan to redistribute the survey every two years to a new group of people, Dr. Kevin Dougherty, assistant professor of sociology said.

"Somebody's image of God is going to inform the world how they think in detail," Froese said.

**RATES** from page 1

Ramey said the professors who refer students to the Success Center make a "big difference" in getting students the proper help they need to succeed.

Miller, who interviews students who are contemplating departing from Baylor, said most students who leave do not do so by choice.

"The majority of students that

I meet with during the withdrawal process do not want to leave Baylor," Miller said.

"However, they are dealing with life issues or family matters that are beyond their control," he said.

Increasing retention rates is not a "quick fix," Miller said.

"By all measures, Baylor's retention rate compared with other peer institutions is not bad," Miller said. "In fact, it is relatively good. But

Baylor intends to do better in the future and impact the overall success of our students."

According to Baylor's Office of Institutional Research and Testing, the retention rate of total undergraduate students is 87.1 percent, a 0.1 percent increase from last year.

"It takes the whole campus working together and watching out for students to help them succeed," Ramey said.

**FACULTY** from page 1

He said interest rates were also much higher than budgeted, oil revenue was up, endowment growth was good, grants and gifts were higher than expected and athletic revenue was up significantly.

Some of the money went to the following: to repay scholarships, fund and provide start-up cost for faculty and for the reserve for faculty hires,

fund promotions and upgrades for faculty and staff, and to create a promotion reserve for faculty and staff.

Lilley talked about strategic planning and emphasized the value of the ideas of staff, faculty, and students.

According to Baylor's Strategic Planning and Improvement Web site, the goal of the SPI office "is to develop and implement a simple and effective iterative planning, budgeting, implementation and evaluation approach

to ensure that our actions are aligned with, and promote the achievement of, our Vision 2012 imperatives."

"Strategic planning is not a new idea at Baylor, but the extent of its linkage to budget and fundraising decisions is new," Lilley said. "Strategic planning is a way for us to straighten out priorities and lay out a framework for choosing among those best ideas of faculty, staff, students and friends."



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