

ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2006

Murder victim's mother takes unlikely stance

By Grace Maalouf Reporter

O.J. Simpson avoided the death penalty, Saddam Hussein is headed for it and Texas leads the United States in carrying it out. The morality and legality of execution is frequently brought into question by death penalty opponents.

But in Texas, another issue sometimes comes to the forefront of the debate — accuracy.

And it's an issue Jeanette Popp, a resident of Graham, has close experience with.

Popp's daughter was murdered in Austin in 1988, but during the trial of her daughter's

killer, Popp was strongly against the death penalty.

Two men were wrongfully convicted for her daughter's murder and spent 12 years in prison, she said.

"Had they been given the death penalty, they surely would have been executed," Popp said. "And what does that make us? That makes us murderers, just like the people we're killing."

So when her daughter's murderer was convicted in 2001, she begged him to take a plea bargain.

"He told me he would rather die than spend the rest of his life in a Texas prison," Popp said.

So she said she went public

with her appeals.

"I asked people to call the district attorney's office and demand that they take the death penalty off the table, and they did," Popp said.

She said the offender got two consecutive life sentences, which was what she wanted.

"I wanted him punished, but without punishing his loved ones," Popp said.

Popp said the support of family and friends kept her from turning her grief into anger. But she also said her religious beliefs were the biggest factor in healing after the murder.

"My faith in God helped get me through this," Popp said.

Popp, who is Catholic, said her religious beliefs also contribute to her views on the death penalty. But not everyone shares those views.

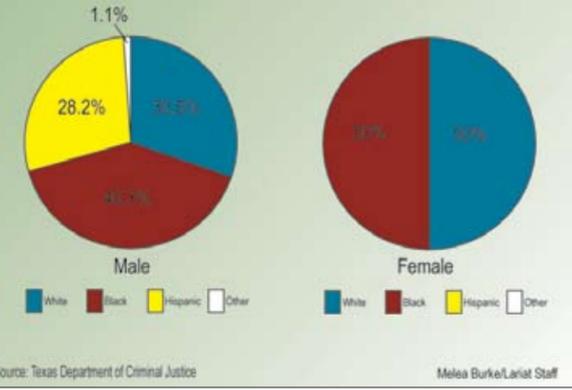
"The simple fact of the matter is that the majority of the American public supports the death penalty," said Dr. Byron Johnson, professor of sociology. "And they have for a long time."

Religious beliefs often contribute to the formation of people's views on the death penalty, said Paul Martens, an assistant professor of religion who teaches religious ethics.

"Many people, particularly

Please see PRISON, page 8

Gender and Racial Statistics of Death Row Offenders



Student found dead in house

By Christine M. Tamer Staff writer

Waco police are investigating the death of Keller sophomore Mark Hudson, who was found dead in his house Tuesday afternoon.

Waco Police Department spokesman Steve Anderson said in an e-mail interview that the cause of death is considered questionable until an autopsy is performed.

Hudson, 21, was found when his roommate came home and saw him lying on the floor of his bedroom, Anderson said.

According to Waco police, officers responded to the call at 1:30 p.m. to Hudson's residence in the 1400 block of S. 10th Street.

Hudson's death is the third student death to occur recently.

Bush library selection still up in air

Schools deny newspaper report of SMU selection over Baylor

By Christine M. Tamer Staff writer

Baylor and Southern Methodist University dismissed an article in Monday's *New York Daily News* saying that the \$500 million George W. Bush Presidential Library would be located at SMU.

Tommye Lou Davis, director of Baylor's Bush Library project, said the *Daily News* was likely operating on information that had not come from one of the members of the presidential library advisory team.

"The team is being very quiet," Davis said. "They are not leaking any information."

Davis said she believes the *Daily News* is "operating under the assumption that so many people have" because Laura Bush is an SMU alumna.

"I think it is just a presumption that may or may not be true," Davis said. "We feel strongly from information we received that no decisions have been made and all three institutions are still in the running."

Brad Cheves, SMU's vice president for external affairs, also said no decisions have been made.

"At this time we have no indication of when a decision will be made or what the decision will be," Cheves said.

"We stand in the same position as the other two fine universities that are being considered," he said.

According to the *Daily News* In March, the potential library sites were limited to Baylor, SMU and University of Dallas. "Megadonations" of \$10 million to \$20 million are anticipated from SMU and Bush fund-raisers, Bush sources said.

"You can't ask people in Dallas for \$20 million until they can be sure the library won't be in Waco," the same source said.

Please see SMU, page 8

"I don't think any of us really thought we could beat the No. 9 ranked team in the country."

- Head Coach Kim Mulkey



Senior guard Latoya Wyatt, right, a Fort Worth native, and sophomore guard Jessica Morrow, an Humble native, pressure the Louisiana College offense Nov. 2 in an exhibition played at the Ferrell Special Events Center. After losing to the No. 9 Purdue Boilermakers in the championship of the preseason WNIT tournament, the Lady Bears have reeled off three straight wins, including one at home over No. 11 Louisiana State University.

Melea Burke/Lariat staff

Lady Bears exceed predictions

By Will Parchman Sports writer

The Baylor women's basketball team wasn't supposed to be this good this soon.

The women were supposed to take time to overcome the loss of Sophia Young, perhaps the best player in Lady Bears history. This season was supposed to be a learning process, with seven newcomers and six freshmen figuring into the rotation.

Even head Coach Kim Mulkey wasn't expected to perform well in what appeared to be her toughest feat yet.

But already in this young season, the Lady Bears are taking all of those

lowered expectations and smashing them into pieces.

"We're having fun and are still able to go out there and do what we're supposed to do," said sophomore guard Jessica Morrow, who scored a team-high 14 points in Saturday's 71-53 win over South Dakota State. "Every day it seems like one person improves, and that helps everybody else."

The Lady Bears have torn through their nonconference schedule this season and are outscoring their opponents by an average of 26 points. That schedule includes quality wins over nationally ranked Brigham Young University and Louisiana State University.

Sophomore guard Jhasmin Player said their 64-60 win over LSU could very well be a springboard for the rest of the season.

"It was a great win. It was great for this program," she said. "It was great for this team because we're so young. Coach Mulkey tells us every day that if what you did yesterday still looks big to you today, you haven't done anything. We left that win there and we're trying to move on with the season."

After making an unlikely run to the WNIT Championship game, junior guard Angela Tisdale said it felt good because most women's basketball experts hadn't predicted them to see success this soon. And even after

losing to No. 13 Purdue in the final, Mulkey's team responded by beating No. 9 LSU just two days later, a team that beat the Lady Bears by 31 points last season.

"In order to get to post-season play you've got to beat some people you're not supposed to beat," Mulkey said. "I don't think any of us really thought we could beat the No. 9 ranked team in the country. I knew we would compete but because of inexperience you just don't know if you're good enough to make enough plays to win."

The Lady Bears can attribute a lot of their 5-1 start to their prevailing

Please see BEARS, page 8

Benedict tells leaders to condemn religious violence

By Victor L. Simpson The Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey — Pope Benedict XVI urged leaders of all religions Tuesday to "utterly refuse" to support any form of violence in the name of faith, while Turkey's top Muslim cleric complained to the pontiff of growing "Islamophobia" in the world.

As he began his first visit to a Muslim country, a trip that drew extraordinary security but few onlookers, Benedict sought a careful balance as he extended friendship and brotherhood to Muslims, hoping to end the outcry from many Muslims over his remarks linking Islam to violence.

He expressed support for Turkey's efforts to join the European Union, moving away from opposition he voiced when he was a cardinal.

But the German pope also hammered away at key points of his 18-month papacy, telling diplomats that leaders of all religions must "utterly refuse to sanction recourse to violence as a legitimate expression of faith."

He avoided mention of any specific religion, even as he decried terrorism and the "disturbing conflicts across the Middle East."

Benedict also said guarantees of religious freedom are essential for a just society, and the Vatican said he raised specific issues such as prop-

erty rights of Turkey's tiny 32,000-member Catholic community during talks with Turkish officials.

His comments could be reinforced later during the four-day visit when the pope meets in Istanbul with Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I, the spiritual leader of the world's Orthodox Christians.

The pope is expected to call for greater rights and protections for

Christian minorities in the Muslim world, including the small Greek Orthodox community in Turkey.

The 79-year-old made reconciliation a priority of his first day, taking on a taxing series of meetings that saw him needing a drink of water after coughing repeatedly while addressing diplomats in the last public appearance in the evening.

Benedict's journey is extraordinarily sensitive, a closely watched pilgrimage full of symbolism that could offer hope of religious reconciliation or deepen what many say is a growing divide between the Christian and Islamic worlds.

Please see POPE, page 8

Public should be educated on living with diabetes

Yes, I have a chronic illness. No, it isn't miserable. I'm sick of people always giving me a "you poor thing" look when I tell them I'm diabetic. It never fails. At first it was awkward; now it's just annoying. I do admit, when first diagnosed, I wasn't sure how to respond to questions about diabetes. Explaining how I had to shoot myself up with insulin four times a day and eat specific foods at specific times wasn't exactly the kind of thing other people could relate to. It was still a sensitive subject for me.

Without fail, inquisitive kids and adults would extend their apologies for my "burden." "Aw, I'm sooo sorry," they'd respond. Really, don't be sorry. I'm not. Honestly, now I'm glad I was diagnosed with diabetes. I consider it a burden-turned-blessing. I remember when I was first diagnosed in the fifth grade. I thought my life was over. I remember thinking I'd never be able to eat sugar again. For an overweight 11-year-old addicted to all things sweet, this wasn't exactly music to the ears.

point of view

BY GREER KINSEY

Growing up with diabetes has taught me a different kind of responsibility. I know how to take care of my body, and I've learned more about nutrition and the way the body works than I ever thought I could. I remember my senior year in biology when we learned about the endocrine system. I definitely got an A on that test because of what I'd learned from going to the doctor every three months for four years. It's even sparked an interest of working for *Diabetes Forecast* magazine. I'd love to contribute in some way about my experience with diabetes.

There's always been some kind of stigma about people with diseases. That stigma is usually that these people can't perform as well as those who don't have a disease. People are most likely to feel sorry for people with diabetes or some other kind of health problem. The only problem is ignorance. People are likely to judge what they don't know much about. Don't get me wrong; I'm thankful that people are concerned about my health and want to make sure I'm doing OK. What I'm not thankful for is the looks of "you poor girl, you must be miserable" when they see me prick my finger to get a blood sugar reading. Most people with diabetes can do everyday things. They

can go swimming, go out to eat or go to Six Flags just like everyone else. Along with diabetes, other illnesses like scoliosis, multiple sclerosis and even less severe stages of cancer don't prohibit involvement in everyday activities. People need to understand that people with diseases usually don't need special attention but just regular attention like everybody else. They just want to live as normal lives as possible. Greer Kinsey is a junior journalism major from Tyler.



point of view

BY ERIN PEDIGO

College is time for spontaneity

I bet if the entire student body was asked if they had trouble balancing work and fun in college, more than half would say they did. When tests are looming and fun is beckoning at the same time, the balance can lean too much in one direction.

If we choose to study, we'll likely do better on tests than if we go out and have fun. We all want to have fun, and most of us, anyway, want to do well academically at the same time.

I was told so often before I applied and up to when I went away for the fall of 2005 by so many people that Baylor was a challenging school and I would miss out on a lot of life's spontaneity.

Freshman year, I was the least spontaneous person among my friends. I studied too much, didn't relax nearly enough and never even ate dessert "just because." I wasn't taking advantage of all the freedom college gave me; instead, I was pushing aside the freedom and sinking into a rut, all because I was convinced I couldn't let studying go for one second.

All those people who said Baylor would be a challenge are correct, but they would be stunned at the difference in my treatment of that challenge this year.

I eat dessert "just because," I go out and have fun when I feel like it, which is often, and — the unthinkable — I sometimes even do big assignments the night before or forget to study for quizzes.

What I've discovered is that I get a feeling of being a "normal" person when I forget to study or put things together at the last minute. Things like that make me appreciate the uneven pace of life.

I'm not suggesting that studying for quizzes should be purposely shunned — study for them. If you do, your grades will be good, so when you forget to study for one, the grade will be a small blip on your screen.

What I am saying is don't stress too much. It makes you sick, it makes you angry and it wreaks havoc on your life. Be happy and stress-free. Watch movies with friends on weeknights if your homework is done; eat dessert whenever you're hungry and it's available. Take crazy pictures with friends — those are the best photos — and go outside on a sunny day.

College does require a lot of work, but the big picture shouldn't be lost among all the other information you get. While you're here at Baylor, do your best and study hard, but make sure you have as much fun as you can.

Build good memories with your friends because they will be around longer than your grades will be on paper in a file.

Your Baylor years are four years of your life that you'll never get back, so spend them well.

Erin Pedigo is a sophomore journalism major from Houston.



Editorial Friday shopping illustrates priorities

Amid eating, relaxing and watching football, most Americans were doing more than giving thanks last week. With the morning paper in tow, many began perusing through a thick stack of coupons and advertisements. It's the never-ending pursuit to find the highest percentage discount. Merchant comparisons, product quality and departure times were inevitably plotted by the tried and true shoppers. But those who were fortunate enough to turn on a TV Friday morning were greeted with an embarrassing display of America's greed and violence in honor of the almighty buck. Video footage of adults pushing and shoving their way through stores across the country only provided a reason for others to hang their heads in shame. Wal-Mart made \$1.43 billion in day-after-Thanksgiving sales. According to a National Retail Federation estimate, more than 140 million shoppers spent an average of \$360.15 during the Black Friday weekend. And while some parents were punching others to buy their children a Tickle Me Elmo Extreme, others were struggling to feed their children a meal. When some were running



through department stores in search of the perfect sweater, people were dying Friday in the northern city of Tal Afar from a car bomb explosion. The day before, 200 people died in bombings in the Sadr City slum in Baghdad. As of Friday, at least 2,871 members of the U.S. military have died since

the Iraq war began in March 2003, according to a count released by the Associated Press. The aggressive shopping behavior displayed by millions of Americans this past weekend should serve as a reminder that the U.S. doesn't have its priorities straight. There's no time like the present

for the U.S. to start considering someone other than itself. It's time to remember there are soldiers in harm's way and hungry children all across the world. Let's endeavor to remember that although we stretch from sea to shining sea, we still share the same oceans with the rest of the world.

Wanting child-free future isn't up for debate

A few weeks ago, I found myself defending Rachael Ray to some fanatics who were criticizing her for comments she made in a 20/20 interview about her decision not to have kids. Ray, who in addition to her five television shows has a monthly magazine with *Reader's Digest* and an array of cookbooks, said, "I love children, and having a child doesn't make sense to me because my workload is too great." While I don't happen to be a Ray fan, I have to say I applaud her honesty and understand her decision because I don't want kids either. When people find out about my no-kid policy, they either joke about it with me and

point of view

BY SARAH VIESCA

tell me I'm going to end up having 10 kids, or they make some nasty comments. My favorite is when people call me selfish and lecture me on how my life has no purpose, and then expect me to argue with them. To tick them off a little more, I like to walk away and leave them talking to themselves. I don't believe I need to justify myself to someone who's just insulted me. Some people aren't cut out to be parents, and I know

with 100 percent certainty I am not. Women all over the United States with different careers, incomes, religions and ethnicities prefer to be child-free because they like their lives the way they are or just don't feel they have the maternal instinct inside of them. Of course, I didn't come to this decision on a whim. There was a time in the distant past when I thought I would have kids, but my attitude changed as I became more goal-oriented and watched other family members raise their kids. I have a list of goals I'd like to accomplish, which includes: graduating college, writing for a newspaper or magazine for a few years, go-

ing back to graduate school, becoming a high school teacher and traveling during my time off. This is how I envision my life, and all the things I have planned don't involve having kids. Having a child would change my lifestyle, and I like being independent, committed to my goals and worry-free. Watching my cousin raise a child solidified my decision even more. He and his girlfriend had a baby two years ago, and while watching him try to raise a child is entertaining, I'd prefer not to deal with the stunts a 2-year-old pulls. Kids like to run around as if they were the Tasmanian Devil, causing chaos along

the way. While I wouldn't say I'm a neat person, I do like my things in order and not all over the house. Not wanting kids doesn't mean I don't like kids. I love spending time with my cousin's daughter and playing with my friends' kids. I just like them even more when at the end of the day I can leave them with their parents. I also don't think it's wrong if you want kids. For those who do want kids, kudos to you because it's no easy task. I just don't think people with kids should feel they're better than me because there's nothing wrong with my decision. Sarah Viesca is a junior journalism major from El Paso.

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Puzzles by Pappocorn

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EASY #13

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THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

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By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR
11/29/06

Pelosi passes over Hastings for committee position

By Katherine Shrader
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a decision that could roil Democratic unity in the new House, Speaker-to-be Nancy Pelosi passed over Rep. Alcee Hastings Tuesday for the chairmanship of the Intelligence Committee.

Hastings, currently the No. 2 Democrat on the panel, had been aggressively making a case for the top position, supported by members of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Critics pointed out that he had been impeached when he



Hastings

was a federal judge and said in a m i n g him to such a sensitive post would be a mistake just as the Democrats take over H o u s e control pledging reforms. "I am obviously disappointed with this decision," Hastings, D-Fla., said in a statement thanking his supporters. "I will

be seeking better and bigger opportunities in a Democratic Congress."

He learned his bid for the chairmanship was unsuccessful during a closed-door meeting with Pelosi on Tuesday.

In a statement, Pelosi, D-Calif., said Hastings has made national security his highest priority.

"He has served our country well, and I have full confidence that he will continue to do so," she said.

In a sign of the bitterness that has surrounded the debate, Hastings closed his statement

by saying:

"Sorry, haters, God is not finished with me yet."

The Black Caucus had no immediate comment.

A Democratic congressional aide, who spoke on condition of anonymity about internal party deliberations, said Pelosi has not yet decided who will get the position when the new Congress convenes in January.

Rep. Silvestre Reyes, D-Texas, is next in line in seniority and is considered a strong contender for the job.

Still, naming him would be a snub to the current senior Dem-

ocrat on the panel, Jane Harman of California.

Her committee leadership term expires at year's end, and she could be reappointed by Pelosi.

However, the two are believed to have deep differences.

Hastings, who came to Congress in 1992, was charged in an FBI bribery sting but acquitted by a federal jury in 1983.

Some judicial colleagues said Hastings fabricated his defense, and their allegations led to his impeachment by the U.S. House in 1988.

He was removed from the

bench by the Senate the following year.

In 1997, the Justice Department found an agent had falsely testified against Hastings, but no action was taken to reopen his case.

In 2000, Democrats passed over another member of the Congressional Black Caucus — Rep. Sanford Bishop of Georgia — for the senior Democratic spot on the intelligence panel.

Party leaders had agreed to give the position to Harman when she ran for Congress after an unsuccessful bid to be California governor.

Researchers receive funds, will study chemicals in fish

By Ashleigh Boutte
Reporter

Baylor has been awarded a \$100,000 subcontract to study whether products such as pharmaceuticals and personal care items are found within the tissue of fish.

Baylor anticipates results from the study, the first of its kind on a national level, to take place in the spring, a press release said.

At this time, no federal testing standards exist for such products as pharmaceuticals or personal care items simply because there is a lack of understanding of the effects of these products that leak into the water, the press release said.

"There is no doubt that pharmaceuticals and personal care products in the environment is an issue of concern," said Kevin Chambliss, assistant professor of chemistry at Baylor and one of the principal researchers on the project.

Chambliss said what remains to be seen is whether or not it is a significant problem.

However, Chambliss said investigating how often pharmaceuticals and personal care items are found in fish will provide some of the necessary information to answer this question.

Tetra Tech is a leading provider of consulting, engineering

and technical services that is acting as a contractor for the EPA according to the press release.

"Given the numbers and quantities of pharmaceuticals manufactured and used throughout the world, and that many of these chemicals are designed to have profound physiologic effects, comparatively little research has been published on their occurrence in the environment, effects on nontarget organisms or assessment of environmental impact," said Christian G. Daughton of the U.S. EPA.

Chambliss said that the completion of this study will give researchers a much better idea of whether or not these substances exist in fish tissue.

"The information we gather has the potential to support future risk assessment, management and regulation of pharmaceuticals and personal care products in aquatic systems," said Bryan Brooks, assistant professor of environmental studies and another principal researcher.

Brooks said the potential effects of compounds on fish that are being studied are numerous and specific to each compound that is under investigation.

He said that the researchers may be able, however, to use mammalian pharmacology information to predict the

potential effects that such products have on these fish.

Tetra Tech will collect samples of fish from various streams across the United States.

These samples will be brought to Baylor for close analysis of the fish's muscle and liver tissue for 40 different compounds ranging from antidepressants to heart medication.

Researchers will also be testing for personal care products such as the ingredients that exist in sun block and DEET, which is a mosquito repellent, according to the press release.

Brooks said the high levels of an antidepressant in the fish can cause behavioral changes, which have an impact on aggression, mating and other behaviors that are necessary for the survival of the fish.

Chambliss said fish are typically seen as a model organism for larger environmental issues, including human health.

"The preliminary data we have seen says there is not a human health concern," Chambliss said.

"But the compounds could be responsible for certain adverse effects on fish."

According to the release, Brooks and Chambliss received this competitively funded project because of their previous work and findings of antidepressants found in fish.



Associated Press photo

Truck driver William Walker talks Tuesday about recent deaths at two truck stops in San Antonio, Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2006. Five bodies have been found near two San Antonio truck stops in the past month.

Recent deaths near San Antonio cause concern among truckers

By Elizabeth White
The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — When two bodies were found in a rig at a local truck stop on the well-traveled route to Houston, some drivers figured it was an accident, maybe carbon monoxide poisoning.

When another body was found at the same truck stop weeks later, they called it a mystery.

But now that two more bodies have been found nearby — one in a motel room and the other in a stolen big rig at another stop — they are calling it something to worry about.

"You're scaring me now," said trucker Steve Fancher of Tulsa, Okla., when told about the five grisly discoveries. "I'd better get on out of here."

The string of deaths is leading police to consider drug activity in the area. So far, no one knows what killed the five or whether the deaths are related.

"Our experience would lead us to believe that ... this may be a case that somebody's either selling narcotics there or providing narcotics that may be laced with anything that could be lethal," said San Antonio Police Sgt. Gabe Trevino. "It's just a theory at this point, but that's the direction we're looking."

The bodies found Nov. 1 at the Petro Stopping Center on Interstate 10 in San Antonio belonged to Harry Ackroyd, 35, and Michelle Ackroyd, 32, according to police. The Ackroyds were a common-law couple who were found dead in a truck, but police said they don't know whether the two were truckers.

The Bexar County Medical Examiner's office said a third body was discovered inside a rig at the truck stop on Thanksgiving Day, and he was identified as Byron Gonzales.

Police reported that a fourth person, Clifton

Frank Lee, 62, was found dead in a motel room adjacent to the Petro on Sunday. A police report said Lee was a diabetic who had pneumonia and had left the hospital two days earlier against doctor's orders.

A fifth man, Hubert Hardesty, 53, was found dead Monday in a stolen rig at the Flying J stop just east of the Petro. A manager at the Flying J declined to comment.

William Walker, a San Antonio resident who has been driving trucks for 40 years, said he thinks the deaths are pure coincidence.

"Guys driving die all the time," Walker said, citing heart attacks as a common cause. "It's just been a bad couple of months."

In Hardesty's case, a trucker reported a foul odor coming from the cab of a parked flat-bed truck on Monday, leading authorities to Hardesty's body, which police said was too decomposed to determine a cause of death. The trucker, who was not identified, told police he saw blood on the passenger-side gas tank.

Jimmy Holguin, chief investigator for the Bexar County Medical Examiner's office, said no causes have been determined in any of the deaths.

"It may be a fluke, but obviously it doesn't look like it," said Ray De La Luz, travel store manager at the Petro. "It definitely is a concern."

De La Luz said he and his staff are constantly shooing drifters and others from the parking lot who aren't supposed to be there.

"We try to make as safe an environment as possible," he said.

The Bexar County medical examiner's office said it hadn't determined a cause of death for the five.

Trevino said police are working with truck stop managers to get the word out about the deaths and tell people to watch out for trucks parked in one place longer than a few days.

BEAR BRIEFS

BRAN Presents... hosted today

The Baylor Rising Artist Network hosts BRAN Presents... from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. today in the Bill Daniel Student Center. Contact Michael Riemer at 710-4186 for information on performing.

Habitat for Humanity Pie-A-Prof today

Baylor Habitat for Humanity will host Pie-A-Prof from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. today at Fountain Mall. Students and staff will be able to throw pies at volunteers for a

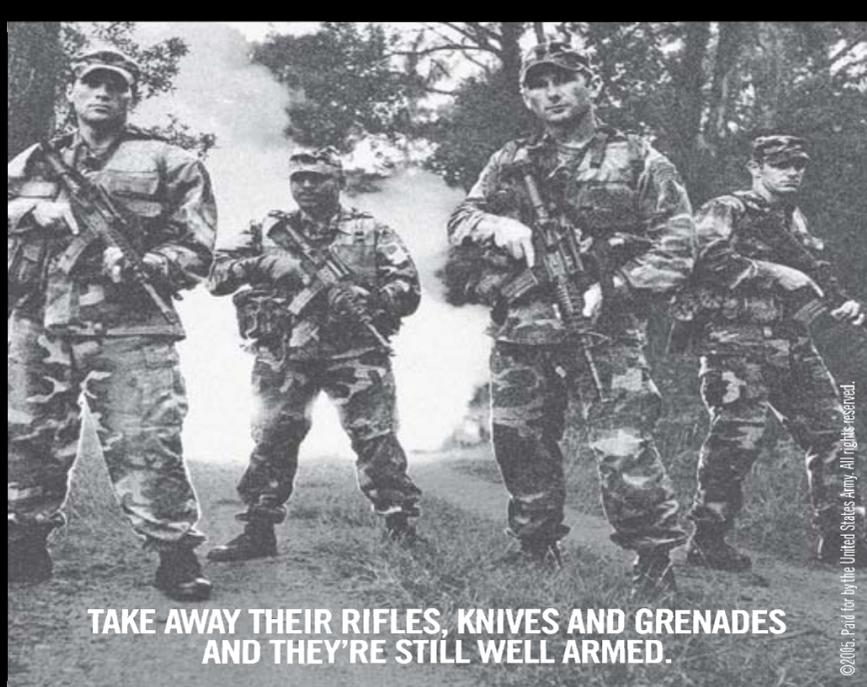
small fee, raising funds for Habitat's 20th anniversary house.

Sing Alliance holds sign-up meeting

Sing Alliance will host a sign-up meeting for new members from 8 to 10 p.m. today in Bennett Auditorium.

Freshman Formal tickets on sale

Tickets will be on sale for the Freshman Formal from noon to 4 p.m. today in dining halls across campus.



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Native American festivals in area few, far between

By Laura Frase
Staff writer

Most people would expect to see traditional Native American celebrations acknowledging November as National American Indian Heritage month, but Waco residents will be hard-pressed to find festivities this month in the area.

Between local museums and on-campus organizations, local November celebrations are limited.

But Mayborn Museum Complex Director of Marketing Sarah Levine said they don't have special exhibits during November out of respect for Native Americans.

"They shouldn't have just one month," Levine said. "We try to celebrate them throughout the year."

Levine also noted that the museum doesn't have special exhibits during Black History Month in February, either.

"We try to treat it the same any other history," she added. "Their heritage is all of our heritage."

While the museum chose to honor Native Americans year-round with various exhibits, the Baylor Native American Student Association has recently been stricken with a lack of manpower.

Up until about six years ago, Baylor had an active Native American Student Association

on campus and would celebrate National American Indian Heritage month with vibrant powwows and speakers.

Currently, the organization has three members.

"Just the school minimum," said Matt Nieten, president of the Native American Student Association.

The Pearland senior said he believes there are two reasons for the absence of members. First, he said the university doesn't boast a large Native American population.

An internal profile of first-year students at Baylor in Fall 2005 and 2006 backs up that claim.

Of 3,168 first-year students, only 25 said they were of Alaskan Native or American Indian descent, just 0.8 percent of total first-year students.

The number dropped off in 2006 to 20 out of 2,783 or 0.7 percent of first-year students.

Second, he believes students are discouraged by the name of the organization because they are under the false impression that they must be Native American to join.

Nieten said he commemorates his own family's heritage of the Ponca tribe by attending powwows throughout the year.

And he said he plans on traveling to Houston on Saturday for to attend a powwow, celebrating the month.

Classes and work have cre-



Members of the Native American Coalition of Boise put on a dance exhibition Nov. 15 at the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) in Boise, Idaho. The dance exhibition was one of the events put on at NIFC during a special ceremony honoring Native American firefighters who died while working on wildland fires. The ceremony was held to coincide with Native American Heritage Month.

Associated Press

ated obstacles for this Native American advocate to get the word out about the Baylor organization, but he plans to step it up next semester with more attendance and a campuswide powwow.

"So many people just don't know anything about the Native American culture," Nieten said.

Through Dr. Jerry Park's research for his Race, Class and Gender course, the assistant professor of sociology discovered a common stereotype regarding Native Americans and other minorities.

"The common stereotypes

are the African-Americans are worst off in American society," Park said.

"Native Americans are most hurt," he said.

"They are victims of more crimes. The average incomes are lower. And incidence of problematic behavior such as alcoholism are higher than any other group."

Andy Sudduth, a Dallas sophomore and a member of the Pikuni Blackfoot tribe, actually has seen the devastation firsthand.

"The saddest thing to see is on the reservations," Sudduth

said. "It's probably what I would consider Third World."

Sudduth's grandparents still live on a reservation in Montana and carry on the tribe's traditions.

"I'm proud to say that we were here before anybody else," Sudduth said.

"I'm proud to say that I come from a group of people that money didn't matter. And that I don't care how much my stock values were."

Despite being the poorest ethnic group, Sudduth is confident that the Native American

population continues to increase.

But Park disagrees. "This is the only group that has actually produced a decline until recently," Park said.

The current Native American population in Texas makes up about 1 percent of the population, while the black population is close to 11 percent, Park said.

Park said he believes people should learn more about Native American tradition.

"The Native American story is really our story," Park said. "It's the American story."

Pushing renewable energy

States with standards to require or encourage utility companies to increase their share of electricity produced from renewable sources:

State	Percent renewable	Reached by
Ariz.	15%	2025
Calif.	20%	2010
Colo.	10%	2015
Conn.	10%	2010
D.C.	11%	2022
Del.	10%	2019
Hawaii	20%	2020
Iowa	2%	1999
Ill.	8%	2013
Maine	30%	2000
Md.	7.5%	2019
Mass.	4%	2009
Minn.	19%	2015
Mont.	15%	2015
N.M.	10%	2011



N.Y.	24%	2013
N.J.	22.5%	2020
Nev.	20%	2015
Pa.	8%	2020
R.I.	16%	2019
Texas	5.5%	2015
Wash.	15%	2020
Wis.	10%	2015

Source: Union of Concerned Scientists (U.S.)
Graphic: Melina Yingling, Judy Treible

© 2006 MCT

Renewable energy standards increase

By Robert S. Boyd
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Lacking strong federal support for renewable energy, state and local governments increasingly are mandating the use of alternative power sources, a step the Bush administration and Republican-led Congress have been unwilling to take.

So far, 22 states and a sprinkling of cities and counties have adopted standards that require or encourage utility companies to gradually increase their share of electricity produced by wind, solar, biomass or other renewable power sources.

The latest is Washington

state, where voters on Nov. 7 approved a ballot initiative requiring that 15 percent of their electricity come from non-fossil fuels by 2020. Colorado voters adopted a similar program in 2004.

Legislatures in other states, such as California, Texas, New York and Pennsylvania, have set similar or even higher goals. California is struggling to double its reliance on renewable energy sources — to 20 percent — by 2010.

Its goal for 2020 is 33 percent.

The purpose of these standards is to reduce electric power generators' use of fossil fuels such as coal and gas, which

scientists believe contribute to global warming.

"States are taking action because they see the benefit of clean energy even in the absence of federal leadership," said Jeff Deyette, an energy analyst with the Union of Concerned Scientists, an environmental advocacy group in Cambridge, Mass.

"We hope enough states take action that it will lead to federal action."

Last year, Congress passed a massive Energy Policy Act that provided tax credits for renewable energy but didn't set a mandatory standard for private or public utilities.

The Senate approved a 10

percent goal, but the House of Representatives refused to accept it and the proposal died.

The Bush administration didn't support the standard because it generally opposes federal mandates.

Officials agree, however, that state standards can stimulate new markets for renewable energy.

"State-level mandates increase industry size and lower costs, which result in wind-capacity increases in states without mandates," Nate Blair, a senior energy analyst at the Energy Department's National Renewable Energy Laboratory, told a wind power conference in Pittsburgh in June.

Former juvenile camp guards charged with aggravated manslaughter

By Melissa Nelson
The Associated Press

PENSACOLA, Fla. — Seven former guards at a juvenile boot camp were charged with aggravated manslaughter Tuesday in the videotaped pummeling of a 14-year-old boy who later died — a case that led to the dismantling of Florida's military-style detention system for young offenders.

Also charged was a nurse who can be seen on the tape watching as guards repeatedly kneed and hit Martin Lee Anderson during a 30-minute scuffle on Jan. 5. Guards said the boy was uncooperative and had refused to participate in exercises.

The teen collapsed in the

exercise yard at the camp in Panama City and died at a hospital the next day.

The death sparked protests at the state Capitol and led to a shake-up in Florida's criminal justice system and the resignation of Florida's top law enforcement officer.

If convicted, the former guards and the nurse could get up to 30 years in prison. Bail was set at \$25,000 each.

Nurse Kristin Anne Schmidt did not show up for an initial appearance Tuesday, and her attorney did not return a phone call from The Associated Press.

Bob Pell, an attorney for former guard Joseph Walsh II, said: "I was hoping cooler heads would prevail, but we will deal

with this as it comes down. We understood the political pressure that was brought to bear."

Waylon Graham, attorney for Lt. Charles Helms, the highest-ranking officer charged, said that he had long anticipated charges and that Helms' family has saved money for bail.

Anderson had been sent to the boot camp for violating probation in a theft case. Boot camps often use grueling exercise to instill discipline in juvenile delinquents.

An initial autopsy found Anderson died of complications of sickle cell trait, a usually benign blood disorder. But after an uproar and cries of a cover-up, a second autopsy was conducted by another medi-

cal examiner, and it concluded Anderson suffocated because of the actions of guards.

Dr. Vernard Adams, who performed the second autopsy, said the suffocation was caused by hands blocking the boy's mouth, as well as the "forced inhalation of ammonia fumes" that caused his vocal cords to spasm, blocking his airway.

The guards said in an incident report that they used ammonia capsules five times on Anderson to gain his cooperation.

"Today is a good day for me," said Gina Jones, Anderson's mother.

"I'm finally getting justice for my baby," Benjamin Crump, the lawyer for the boy's parents, who have

been demanding for months that the guards be charged with murder, said the videotape leaves no doubt the guards are guilty.

"You wouldn't do this to your dog," Crump said.

"Stuffing ammonia tablets up his nose, pulling his neck back, covering his mouth."

In April, college students

staged a two-day protest in Gov. Jeb Bush's office.

The Revs. Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton joined the students and Anderson's parents for a march on the Capitol.

Bush signed a bill in May to replace Florida's boot camps with programs that offer job training and counseling and prohibit physical discipline.

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Soft nonconference schedule designed to build confidence

By Daniel Youngblood
Sports editor

After playing just one game last week, the Baylor basketball team will play its second of three games this week when the Bears take on Grambling State University at 7 p.m. today at the Ferrell Special Events Center.

With their 90-59 victory over Alcorn State on Monday, the Bears improved their record to 4-1, marking the team's best start since the 2002-03 season. But with the Grambling State game just two nights later, the Bears weren't given much time to think about that.

Senior forward Tim Bush said he enjoys the hectic schedule, and the games will help the inexperienced Bears.

"This is going to be a great week for us, and this is going to be a great experience for these (young) guys to get these games under their belts," Bush said. "The more (experience), the better."

Head Coach Scott Drew said Baylor's nonconference schedule was designed to get his young team some experience and success to build the players' confidence going into Big 12 conference play on Jan. 6.

Of the team's 13 nonconference games, 10 of them are at home and only four of the contests are against

teams with winning records.

"With a young team, you just want to get better every day in practice and you have to have that game experience to show them film and work on things," Drew said.

"We're able to accomplish both with this schedule and that's why most (teams in major conferences) have schedules like this.

"If you're busy traveling around and doing those kinds of things, then you're not gaining the confidence and getting your team where they need to be by conference time. We know in the Big 12 there's no night off."

After beating Texas Southern University and Alcorn State earlier this season, Baylor is 23-0 all time against Southwestern Athletic Conference teams, with Grambling State and Prairie View A&M still on the schedule.

Grambling State enters today's contest with a 1-2 record. The Tigers are led by guards Andre Ratliff and Kendrick Baker, who are averaging 16.7 and 12.7 points per game respectively.

But the Bears will answer with an impressive set of guards of their own.

Through Baylor's first five games, junior Aaron Bruce, sophomores Curtis Jerrells and Henry Dugat and freshman Tweety Carter have combined for 45.8 points per game, 11.2 rebounds per game and 68 of the team's 81 assists.

Bruce, who is averaging 10.2 points and a team-high 5.8 assists per game, said the team's strength is the players' versatility, but the fact that no one on the team is concerned about individual accomplishments is what makes the Bears unique.

"We just want to win games," he said. "We're all in the position where we can do certain things and will be called upon to do certain things in different games.

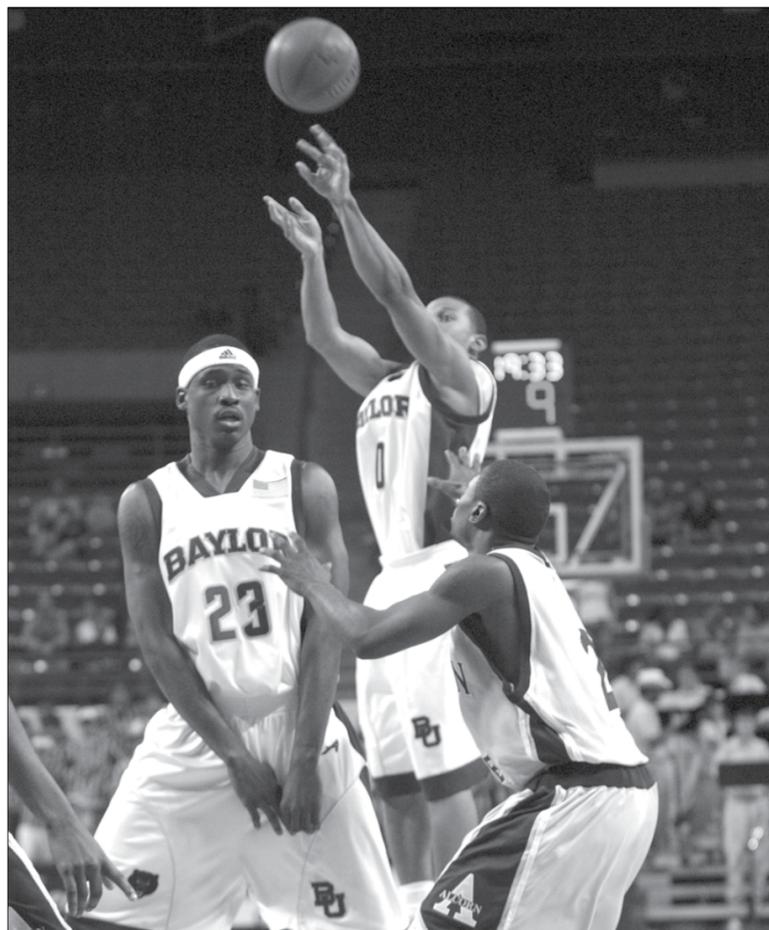
"We're all going to have big individual games, but we're not concerned about who has that game; we're just concerned about winning."

The Bears have already seen solid offensive contributions from many different players. Seven Baylor players have had at least one double-digit scoring game and five players have scored at least 15 points in a game.

Bush said the team's chemistry and unselfishness are the keys to the team's success.

"It's impressive how we support each other," he said. "When one guy's having a big night, we get that guy and the ball to continue to help him have a great night just because we have a desire to win."

After their contest with Grambling State, the Bears will have to rebound quickly, as they take on Texas State University at home Saturday to round out the week.



Melea Burke/Lariat staff

Sophomore forward Kevin Rogers, left, sets a pick Monday for Curtis Jerrells' three-pointer against Alcorn State. The sophomore guard is the second-leading scorer on the team, averaging 12.4 points per game.



Associated Press

Oklahoma University head Coach Bob Stoops was honored Tuesday as the Associated Press' Big 12 coach of the year. The decision was unanimous, as it was in 2003.

Stoops named Big 12 coach of

By Jeff Lutzke
The Associated Press

NORMAN, Okla. — In a season of turmoil, Bob Stoops was still able to mold a championship-caliber team at Oklahoma.

Even after the dismissal of their starting quarterback and an injury to their record-setting running back, the Sooners managed to go 10-2, 7-1 in the Big 12. It was good enough for OU to win its fifth Big 12 South title and a berth in the conference championship game Saturday — and, on Tuesday, Stoops was named with The Associated Press' Big 12 coach of the year.

Stoops was a unanimous choice for the honor, which he also won in 2000 and 2003. He becomes the first three-time winner in the conference's 11-year history. Only former Colorado coach Gary Barnett has won twice. Stoops is the second straight unanimous selection, following Texas' Mack Brown.

"With the things that we've had to overcome, the way he's kept this team focused, kept our mind-set focused on our main goals, is big," quarterback Paul Thompson said. "That's the main thing for coaches, keeping your team focused, keeping them away from the distractions. ... He's just done a great job overall with the adversity that we

have had this year."

Stoops has had to dismiss two players, including starting quarterback Rhett Bomar, who broke NCAA rules by taking more money than he earned at a Norman car dealership. The program is still under investigation by the NCAA, which has said Bomar took \$7,400 more than he earned while offensive lineman J.D. Quinn took \$8,100 in extra benefits.

Once the season started, Stoops had to brush aside a crushing 34-33 loss at Oregon that could've been a win if officials had made a correct ruling on a late onside kick.

Next, he lost his starting tailback, 2004 Heisman runner-up Adrian Peterson, to a broken collarbone that has kept him out six weeks. He's doubtful to return Saturday for the Big 12 title game against No. 19 Nebraska (9-3, 6-2).

Each time adversity has flared, Stoops attacked it directly by telling players no excuses would be allowed.

"It was just on and on," linebacker Rufus Alexander said. "He just came in and made it seem like it's your choice what you want to do and how you want to go through whatever has happened to you. You get dealt a hand of cards and you have to play them, and that's all we did."

Former SWC teams gain bowl prospects

Associated Press

TCU San Diego-bound

Texas Christian University will be playing Northern Illinois in the Poinsettia Bowl on Dec. 19 in San Diego.

With the bid this season, TCU (9-2) will be playing in its sixth bowl in seven years.

TCU head Coach Gary Patterson has led the Horned Frogs to three 10-win seasons in his five years at the school and has a chance to improve that to four when his team plays Air Force at home on Dec. 2.

NIU does feature the nation's leading rusher in Garrett Wolfe. The offensive player of the year in the Mid-American Conference, rushed for 1,900 yards this season with 19 touchdowns.

Cougars play for better bowl

Houston and Southern Miss

will learn their bowl fates shortly after Friday's Conference USA championship.

League officials said Tuesday that the winner of Friday's game will play in the Liberty Bowl on Dec. 29 in Memphis, Tenn. The loser will go to the GMAC Bowl in Mobile, Ala., on Jan. 7.

Houston (10-3), winner of the C-USA West Division, will go to a bowl game for the third time in four years under head Coach Art Briles.

Owls break bowl drought

Rice made its first bowl appearance since 1961 official Tuesday by accepting a bid to the New Orleans Bowl. The Owls, representing Conference USA, will play the Sun Belt Conference champion Dec. 22 at the Superdome in the first bowl game there since Hurricane Katrina. Who the Owls will play remains to be seen. Troy will be

Rice's opponent if it beats Florida International this week, but a loss would give Middle Tennessee the berth.

Rice (7-5, 6-2 C-USA) made a stunning turnaround from last year's 1-10 season, winning seven of its last eight games after an 0-4 start.

Bennett stays at SMU

While TCU, Houston and Rice are celebrating bowl bids, Southern Methodist is regrouping after a near miss.

Despite finishing the season 6-6 and missing out on a bowl bid, SMU Athletic Director Steve Orsini said Tuesday that Phil Bennett will remain as the school's head football coach.

The announcement ended speculation that the first-year athletics director might fire Bennett, talk that intensified after a season-ending loss to Rice dropped the Mustangs to 6-6.

"While we did not succeed to the levels we had hoped this season, we continued to make progress," Orsini said in a statement. "We will return SMU football to national prominence."

Bennett is 17-41 in five seasons at SMU. After a winless season in 2003, the Mustangs have increased their win total for three straight years: three in 2004, five last season and six this year.

Bennett signed a three-year extension in January that keeps him under contract through the 2009 season. But that extension came before Orsini took over.

"We have a great nucleus coming back and I am confident that we will again be competing for a conference championship in November," Bennett said in a statement.

Lariat Sports Editor Daniel Youngblood contributed to this report.

Crew strives toward perfection in difficult sport

By Kris Firth
Reporter

The goal of this sport isn't to score goals or baskets: it's to glide over water as fast and smoothly as possible.

Crew is one of the hardest, most consuming sports in history, said Brian Reed, a Houston alumnus. Reed, who graduated in the spring of 2006, had been a member of Baylor's club crew team since fall of 2001.

Reed said he wanted to join since he'd been interested in kayaking in high school. But when he started practicing with the crew team, "I was in for a rude awakening," Reed said.

"In my opinion, crew is psychologically the most strenuous exercise you can do," he said. Like a runner, rowers hit the proverbial "wall" and must push through it. But in crew, the "wall" is hit within the first 30 strokes and they still have to go another 1500, he said.

Although rowing is sometimes considered an individual sport, all people must be in synch or else the boat won't go anywhere, said Beau Johnson, a Houston junior.

"It's eight people acting as one," said Chase Ruby, a Tyler sophomore. "There's no physical contact or communication. You just feel the beat of the other seven members and flow with the motion of the water."

Ruby joined Baylor crew as a freshman and said he plans to continue rowing long after he is finished at Baylor. The rush of



The Baylor crew team practices at 5 a.m. every weekday on the Brazos River, learning to "act as one."

Courtesy Photo

energy after hitting the "wall," the mental relaxation of gliding over the water and the ability to rely on muscle memory well after the body goes numb is what Ruby said keeps him interested.

"People join because they love the feeling of being perfect," Johnson said. "The boat just glides, and the only sound you can hear are the oars pushing through the water in unison."

Baylor Crew, which is financed by parents, team members and fundraisers, has 45 to 50 members. They practice on the Brazos River at 5 a.m. every weekday for two hours, Reed said. But for all the practice they do in the spring and fall, the races are short and sporadic.

"It's not about the race at all," he said. "It's just about working as one unit to make that boat soar."

Between enduring morning practices,

sleeping in piles on the way to regattas (crew races) and socializing on the weekends, the team becomes a big family, Reed said.

Crew, or rowing, has been around since the times of the Greek and Roman empires. Originally used for transportation, it became a sport in the 1700s and an official collegiate sport in the 1830s when Oxford and Cambridge, a historic crew rivalry, began racing, Reed said.

"I feel like I'm a part of history," Johnson said. "It's a gentlemen's sport."

During high school Johnson played football and basketball, but said he enjoys rowing more since there's more respect for the opponent and the amount of physical stamina involved, he said.

"We hate the University of Texas team, but only between the start and finish line," Reed said. "We always congratulate each other at the end, and we mean it."

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Alumnus accomplishes life goal with baseball book

Brad Uptmore combines love of writing, baseball in humorous book

By **Katelyn Foster**
Reporter

Baseball and sarcasm come together in a book about much more than the ordinary "three strikes, you're out."

Hitting in the Clutch, written by 2003 Baylor alumnus Brad Uptmore, was published in May.

Hitting in the Clutch is the story of a major league baseball player who has made his career by being inconsistent and coming through in clutch situations. During his third year with the Arizona Diamondbacks, he tries to become more reliable and break the curse.

Uptmore's passion for writing and baseball inspired the story.

"I love baseball," Uptmore said. "I live for baseball, money and women, and I know the most about baseball."

He wrote the book in the back room of GNC, where he worked while attending Baylor, during his junior and senior year. After graduation, he moved to Illinois and added a second part to the

book. He said the misery he experienced in "Hellanois" inspired the addition.

"I remember sitting on my bed, and I had it," Uptmore said. "A light bulb went off."

Uptmore has been writing his entire life and said he wishes he could write for a living.

While at Baylor, he wrote for the *Lariat* in his beginning writing classes and also for *Focus* magazine. He's also written short stories, including stories for his mom's kindergarten class, with lessons such as, "Kids, don't be fat."

Uptmore made a list of 13 life goals to accomplish before he dies, which included writing a novel and having people pay money for it.

"I wiped that one off the old list," he said.

Hitting in the Clutch incorporates humor, camaraderie and the crazy acts that guys do.

He said he didn't intend for a sequel, but one is almost finished, and he hopes to publish it in time for the next baseball season.

"I'm glad the well hasn't run dry," he said.

Friends say that Uptmore displays his passion for baseball and writ-

ing in everyday life. Fellow alumnus Luke Henderson played baseball with Uptmore in high school and attended Baylor with him, as well.

"He's always talking about being a writer," Henderson said.

He also said Uptmore has many qualities that helped toward this accomplishment.

"His humor. His total outlook on life. He finds humor in everything," Henderson said. "He's one of those guys that's just easy to be around because you're always laughing. It's pretty simple."

2003 alumnus Brett Levins said Uptmore goes to spring training every year and has been to all the baseball parks in America.

"It wasn't surprising his book was about baseball," Levins said.

Uptmore said he remembers his favorite memory at Baylor was deciding to take Japanese after becoming sick of Spanish class. He said he'd like to have a conversation with Ichiro Suzuki of the Mariners.

Since graduation, Uptmore has achieved his dream of publishing a book and said he couldn't be happier about it.

"I'm thrilled," he said. "It's the greatest thing in the world."



2003 alumnus Brad Uptmore poses with his new book, *Hitting in the Clutch*. The book is a tale about a major league baseball player who tries to overcome the curse of being inconsistent and unreliable. Uptmore said he always wanted to write a novel to be published and had it on a list of 13 life goals.

Courtesy photo

Brand New pummels through genre barriers on 'The Devil and God'

By **Stephen Cortez**
Contributor

Three years in the making, Brand New's *The Devil and God are Raging Inside Me* proves the time was well spent.

ALBUMREVIEW

Every track on *The Devil* demonstrates that a great deal of thought was expended, and not a detail was overlooked. The song structures do an excellent job of keeping the listener guessing, whether an acoustic melody or an eruption of fury is pending. Examining the interplay of slow buildups and shattering crescendos is as entertaining as the songs themselves.

Brand New has never been a band to disappoint lyrically, and this has never been more evident than on *The Devil*. I caught myself listening to songs just to



Courtesy photo

Guitarist Vinnie Accardi, from left, bassist Garrett Tierney, drummer Brian Lane and vocalist/guitarist Jesse Lacey make up the alternative band Brand New.

hear a particular line and revel in vocalist Jesse Lacey's brilliance. Not only are the words

themselves exceptional, Brand New also has a skillful ability to vocalize them according to the

pace and mood of each track.

The Devil opens with "Sowing Season (Yeah)," the album's first single. A lengthy acoustic intro is displaced by an explosive guitar emergence that breaks you into the album. Catchy yet original, "Sowing Season (Yeah)" is easily forgotten after listening to the multitude of incredible tracks that follow.

"Jesus Christ" is one of the more lucid efforts on *The Devil*. An infectious continuous harmony is laced with some beautiful vocals from Lacey. While intentionally simple in its arrangement, "Jesus Christ" is so soothing it is impossible to overlook.

"Degausser" is certainly an impressive effort that features some intense screams and guitar solos and some of the finest writing on the album. Lacey lets you know it himself in the finale of the track by saying he's "still

the king."

"Limousine" is an epic journey in itself. A few minutes of buildup delve into the repetition of the line, "I love you so much. Do me a favor baby, don't reply 'cause I can dish it out, but I can't take it" for a total of 12 times, with each repetition emitting more emotion than the previous. This leads into a heated climax with an incredible guitar solo that makes for one of the most memorable moments on the album.

"Not the Sun" and "Archers" pick the pace up with some table-tapping drumming on display in the former.

"Luca" is another epic of note, and "Handcuffs" provides the serene finale for which Brand New has become infamous.

The Devil's defining characteristics are ironically what some may see as its weakness. The slow, intricate intros become

repetitive, and the grandiose and detailed tracks make it hard to listen to more than once.

These pitfalls are easily overlooked. *The Devil* can come across somewhat confusing at first, yet the impression improves after a few listens. The complexity of the songs causes you to miss some important detail upon first listen that you will catch on the next one.

Brand New has certainly set itself apart from the alternative/emo mold inhabited by Taking Back Sunday and the like. The maturity demonstrated on *The Devil* proves that Brand New has evolved far beyond the limitations of a genre.

The only thing that you can fault Brand New for is aiming too high, trying to create an album that is too good. But then again, can you really blame them for that?

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New York mayor meets with family of slain fiance

By Tom Hays
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — Mayor Michael Bloomberg met Tuesday with the family of the man who was killed on his wedding day in a barrage of police gunfire as he left his bachelor party, and investigators questioned a third civilian witness.

Three days after the fatal encounter, it remained unclear why four detectives and one police officer opened fire while conducting an undercover operation at a strip club.

The unidentified witness was on a darkened block in Queens when five police officers killed

23-year-old Sean Bell and injured two friends as the three men sat inside a car, officials said.

There are two other civilian witnesses: One woman on the street who says she saw officers firing their weapons, and a second woman who from her window spotted a man running away from the area around the time of the shooting. Investigators were trying to determine if that man had been with the three who were shot. They also reviewed security videotape from the scene.

On Tuesday, Bloomberg went to the Bell family's Queens church, where he met for about

an hour with the parents and fiancée of the victim, along with the Rev. Al Sharpton. The mayor then met at a restaurant with about 50 community leaders.

Some have questioned whether the shooting was racially motivated because the victims were all black men. The five officers who fired their guns included two blacks, two whites and one Hispanic.

The mayor held a similar meeting Monday at City Hall in which he declared that officers appeared to use "excessive force" when Bell was killed hours before his wedding. He stood by his comments Tuesday.

"I am a civilian. I am not a

professional law enforcement officer," he said. "I used the word excessive and that's fine. That was my personal opinion. It may turn out to be that it was not excessive."

Councilman James Sanders Jr. of Queens said he warned Bloomberg about possible unrest.

"I alerted the mayor that the temperature on the streets has increased to a large degree," he said. "While we are sitting in these meetings, a lot of people are out on the streets."

Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said some tension was inevitable because of "the nature of what police depart-

ments do, we arrest people, we give them summonses, we're the bearers of bad news, we use force and sometimes we use deadly force."

Police investigators have not interviewed the officers because of a district attorney probe that could result in criminal charges, nor have the officers spoken publicly. An attorney for the detectives' union, Philip Karasyk, has called the incident "a tragedy, but not a crime."

Union officials familiar with the officers' account say at least one undercover detective was convinced there was a gun in the car. They also allege that Bell defied orders to stop and

used the vehicle as a weapon, bumping the undercover detective and ramming an unmarked police van.

"They are genuinely concerned and very sympathetic toward the three men who were shot," said Michael Palladino, president of the Detectives' Endowment Association. "However, they are anxious to speak to the district attorney in Queens and tell their side of the story."

The gunfire early Saturday stemmed from an undercover operation inside the Kalua Cabaret, where seven officers in plain clothes were investigating alleged prostitution and drug use.

BEARS from page 1

...youth, which has been consistent in the early goings of the season.

Freshmen Latara Darrett and Danielle Wilson both average more than eight points and 20 minutes per game, while fellow freshmen like Whitney Jones and Jessika Bradley have provided valuable contributions off the bench.

Despite the fact that her team has beaten some lesser opponents, Mulkey said she has emphasized to her players that with their inexperience in mind, each game brings a uniquely new challenge.

The Lady Bears promptly launched off their uplifting win over LSU by winning two consecutive games in the Junkanoo Jam tournament in the Bahamas last week, edging their way closer to conference play that begins in January.

Player said if you can focus on basketball in the Bahamas, you can focus just about any-



Melea Burke/Lariat staff

Senior guard Latoya Wyatt, a Fort Worth native, drives past a Louisiana College defender Nov. 2 in an exhibition game. The Lady Bears are off to a 5-1 start despite relying heavily on new players.

where.

"I'm confident in this team," she said. "You never know if your team is going to be able to beat LSU. You never know if a

team with six freshmen, three sophomores and a transfer will be able to play with a Purdue.

"But the way things have gone, I'm not at all surprised."

POPE from page 1

Seeking to ease anger over his perceived criticism of Islam, Benedict met with Ali Bardakoglu, who heads religious affairs in Turkey, warmly grasping hands. Benedict sat nearby as the Muslim cleric defended his religion.

"The so-called conviction that the sword is used to expand Islam in the world and growing Islamophobia hurts all Muslims," Bardakoglu said.

The comment appeared to be a reference to Benedict's remarks in a speech in September when he quoted a 14th-century Christian emperor who characterized the Prophet Muhammad's teachings as "evil and inhuman, such as his command to spread by thy sword the faith he preached."

The Vatican described the cleric's speech as "positive, respectful and non-polemical," applauding what the church sees as efforts for a true dialogue between faiths.

On Sunday, more than 25,000 Turks showed up to an anti-Vatican protest in Istanbul, asking the pope to stay at home, but on the streets of Ankara most people went about their usual business and only a tiny protest was held outside the religious affairs office hours before the pope arrived.

"Today we had the sensation he was a welcome guest," said

Vatican spokesman the Rev. Federico Lombardi.

"All feel the same responsibility in this difficult moment in history, let's work together," Benedict said during his flight from Rome to Ankara, where more than 3,000 police and sharpshooters joined a security effort that surpassed even the visit of President Bush two years ago.

"We know that the scope of this trip is dialogue and brotherhood and the commitment for understanding between cultures ... and for reconciliation," he said.

Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan, in a last-minute change of plans, welcomed the pope at the foot of the plane and described the visit as "very meaningful." Erdogan's political party has Islamic roots, though the government is secular.

In his first official act, Benedict visited the mausoleum of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the founder of modern Turkey, and wrote a message in a guest book calling Turkey "a meeting point of different religions and cultures and a bridge between Asia and Europe."

Police monitored the highway leading to Ankara from the airport, where Turkish and Vatican flags waved in a light breeze. Snipers climbed atop buildings and hilltops. In wooded areas along the route, soldiers in camouflage fatigues set up obser-

vation points and sniffer dogs passed along bridges.

It was his first visit to a Muslim country as pontiff. The original goal of the pope's trip to Turkey was to meet Bartholomew I, leader of the world's 300 million Orthodox Christians.

The two major branches of Christianity represented by Bartholomew and Benedict split in 1054 over differences in opinion on the power of the papacy, and the two spiritual heads will meet in an attempt to breach the divide and reunite the churches.

Benedict leaves Ankara on Wednesday for Ephesus, where the Virgin Mary is thought to have spent her last years, and will then travel to Istanbul.

A closely watched moment of the trip will come Thursday during Benedict's visit to Hagia Sophia, a 1,500-year-old site that was originally a Byzantine church and then turned into a mosque after the Muslim conquest of Istanbul, then known as Constantinople, in 1453. It is now a museum, and Turks would take offense at any religious gestures by the pontiff, who also plans to visit the nearby Blue Mosque.

In 1967, Pope Paul VI fell to his knees in prayer, touching off protests by Turks claiming he violated the secular nature of the domed complex. In 1979, Pope John Paul II made no overt religious signs during his visit.

PRISON from page 1

Christian people, would be concerned about not ending life, but restraining people from committing further crimes ... without ending the possibility of spiritual renewal," Martens said.

Rabbi Gordon Fuller of Waco's Congregation Agudath Jacob said Judaism holds a similar view of the death penalty.

"We believe in repentance," Fuller said. "If someone can repent at any time, then there's always hope for them."

Fuller said Judaism as a religion is "extremely in favor of life."

"So it would be a little incongruous to be in favor of the death penalty," Fuller said.

Martens said that in 2003, the Baptist General Convention of Texas came up with a statement suggesting there be a moratorium on the death penalty in Texas.

"So there are elements of the Baptist community that are against it, but there certainly are elements of the Baptist community that would be for it," Martens said.

He said Biblical texts cited in favor of the death penalty usually come from the Old Testament, where God outlines Israelite society.

"In that society, the death penalty is commanded for various crimes, including things like adultery and being disrespectful to your parents," Martens said.

New Testament texts are often used to oppose the death penalty, Martens said.

But they can sometimes be used to support capital punishment, said Deacon Daniel Payne, lecturer in the Institute of Church-State Studies.

"Paul in Romans says God has allowed for the use of the sword by the state," Payne said. "How you interpret that passage is what is at issue for Christians who either oppose or support the death penalty."

Those in favor of the death penalty believe the passage is God's sanction of state execution, whereas those opposed to the punishment see it as simply a statement of fact that God controls the state, Payne said.

"God has allowed state to

use sword as form of law, but that doesn't mean that's endorsing the use," Payne said opponents of the death penalty would argue.

Popp said her religious objection is to humans taking any life.

"We have no right to take human life," Popp said. "No one gave us that right. That's God's right. I don't care if it's the man that murdered my daughter, a drunk driver, abortion, whatever. We have no business doling out the final punishment."

Not everyone agrees with her stance on the death penalty, though, including some family members, Popp said. But Popp hasn't let that stop her from turning her pain into a passion.

"I've been an activist for six years now, and I'm very proud of what I do," Popp said.

She said she and others who share her vision have worked hard to influence the state and local governments.

"We've made a lot of progress," Popp said, pointing to recent changes in laws concerning execution of the juveniles and the mentally ill.

In 2002 the Supreme Court declared it unconstitutional to execute the mentally ill.

Popp also pointed out the change in sentencing options for jurors.

In June 2005, Gov. Rick Perry signed a bill giving juries the option of sentencing capital offenders to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

"Before, if it was a person who had committed a murder, the only choice (the jury) had was life in prison - which gives them the possibility of parole - or execute them," Popp said.

She said she thinks the new option represents important progress.

"I believe you will see less and less execution as jurors are given that choice," Popp said.

Popp said the possibility of innocent people being executed is one of her biggest objections to the death penalty.

"The death penalty is such a final thing," Popp said. "And with over 100 people exonerated from death rows because they were there for crimes they didn't commit, we're making mistakes. And if we're making mistakes, we don't need to be

in the business of killing people."

Popp believes life in prison without the possibility of parole is the best sentencing option because any potential mistakes won't be final. With the death penalty, she said, all the punishment creates is more victims.

"Everybody we execute has a mother, a father, a husband, children, people who love them," Popp said. "And you're victimizing those people, because you're murdering their child like that man murdered my child."

"I would not put another mother through that pain for anything."

From 2001 to 2004, Popp served as chairwoman of the Texas Moratorium Network.

"Our goal is to create a moratorium on executions in Texas along with a study commission that would look into the problems of the administration of the death penalty," said Scott Cobb, president of the organization.

"We work with different organizations that are interested in criminal justice reform, as well as churches and faith-based groups," Cobb said.

He said the group currently has about 10,000 members trying to influence the Texas legislature and local governments to pass moratorium resolutions temporarily suspending use of the death penalty.

The organization also supports an office of statewide defenders of capital punishment cases to handle cases of people from when they're arrested throughout the appeals process, Cobb said.

"A lot of people executed received the death penalty where they really should have been punished with a lesser punishment like life without parole," Cobb said. "And in some cases they were completely innocent and there would have been a different outcome had they had better representation."

Popp said she now views what she does as an effort to honor her daughter.

"Neither one of us believed in death penalty," Popp said. "I hope what I do honors her memory, because I would much rather honor her in that way than to murder in her name."

SMU from page 1

The official location of the library is will be announced in early 2007, Davis said.

Student Body President

Mark Laymon said he had not been informed of any new developments concerning the location for the Bush Library.

"Last I heard from any legitimate source is that we're

absolutely still in the running," Laymon said. "I have only heard positive feedback. Regardless, the fact that we are in the finals is a huge honor and compliment to Baylor."

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