

ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2007

Scientist says bird deaths not alarming



Chris Weeks/Lariat staff

A robin lies dead Monday outside the Bill Daniel Student Center. Recently there has been an increase in the number of dead birds on campus.

Health Department not concerned with recent increase

By Claire St. Amant
Staff writer

Nobody's calling it bird flu, but robins are dropping dead all over campus.

And even though students report they've seen numerous dead birds while walking to class, the Waco Health Department was unaware of the problem.

"We haven't heard anything about birds dying recently," said David Lipke of the department's

environmental health division. "Sometimes birds just die off."

Lipke said he remembered a similar occurrence a couple of years ago and believes the cold weather could be a factor.

While that theory would align with the death of 60 birds that fell out of the sky Jan. 8 in Austin, it would do little to explain the 500 confirmed bird deaths from the same day in Australia.

Esperance, located in Western Australia, reported deaths of hawks, pigeons, crows, wattle birds, yellow-throated miners and different species of honeyeaters over the span of three weeks from late December to

early January.

In Austin, bird flu was ruled out on Jan. 10, according to the news station KXAN, and no conclusive evidence for the deaths has been discovered.

Dr. Susan Bratton, chairwoman of the environmental studies department, speculated the bird deaths in Austin had more to do with cold, wet weather than with disease.

"I don't think that 60 mid-winter deaths is a big concern," she said.

"This is a very stressful time for birds."

Bratton said she believes the robin deaths on campus are also a result of the winter weather,

but admits this is the worst case of seasonal deaths she has seen in Waco.

"It's always a possibility they've contracted some type of disease or gotten into a toxic food source," she said.

While there is a confirmed case of a strain of the bird flu virus in the United Kingdom, Bratton said the situation there is much different than the local robin deaths. The United Kingdom's outbreak occurred in turkeys, and other red-flag species would be chickens and ducks, she said.

Even though Bratton said a

Please see BIRDS, page 6



Melea Burke/Lariat staff

Getting the hang of it

Students in Jason Carver's Beginning Tennis class practice their serves Monday afternoon at the tennis courts near Penland Residence Hall and Rena Marrs McLean Gymnasium.

Student forum offers solace

Faculty, staff lead frank discussions on variety of topics

Whitney Farr
Reporter

Laughter, encouragement and occasional threats are in abundance when students and faculty get together for casual and open discussion in the Bill Daniel Student Center.

Normally, the second floor of the student center is a perfect place for quiet study or a quick nap between classes. But on Wednesdays, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. the atmosphere of the Fentress Room changes, and sometimes things get feisty.

Last semester Pearl Beverly, director of multicultural activities, wanted to create a place other than her office where students could have laid-back conversations on issues important to them and receive positive feedback from peers and faculty.

Beverly said many students have no outlet for problems and concerns that arise in their lives, something she discovered over the course of her career as students would frequent her office in need of a listening ear and encouragement.

As a result, Beverly formed Frankly Speaking.

"It's helped the students to have a safe and welcoming environment where they can address their needs and concerns," said Taryn Ozuna, coordinator for multicultural activities. "Every week we have had

Please see SPEAK, page 6

Businesses look for prospects at Baylor

Matt Kennedy
Reporter

Hot pizza and cold soft drinks aren't the only items on the menu tonight.

Internships will be served as the main course of the Careers in Professional Selling event at 5:30 p.m. in the Jones Student Center between the Hankamer School of Business and the Cashion Academic Center.

Students will have the chance to "sell themselves" to recruiters from 3M,

Konica Minolta, Liberty Mutual and UPS at a meet and greet after a sales presentation sponsored by 3M and Pi Sigma Epsilon. The event's objective is to inform students about the sales profession and allow the companies in attendance to find quality applicants.

According to multiple professors involved, these companies are ready and willing to hire students.

"Students who want to find internships at this event should bring resumes and should present themselves

in a professional manner," said Dr. John Tanner, professor of marketing and associate dean for research and faculty development in the Hankamer School of Business. "These are companies that repeatedly hire our students."

According to Dr. Chris Pullig, assistant professor of marketing and director of the Baylor Center for Professional Selling, the company recruiters are primarily focused on hiring students for paid summer internships between the students' junior and senior years,

but recruiters are also open to discussing job possibilities for those about to graduate.

3M offered Edmond, Okla., senior Michael Smith a job for after graduation because of the work he displayed as a 3M sales intern over the summer. The job comes with benefits including a car, gas allowance and stock options.

Smith will take part in the discussion portion of the presentation along

Please see SELL, page 6

Ex-student pleads guilty

By Melissa Limmer
Staff writer

Former Baylor student Justin Thomas Loosier pleaded guilty to one count of indecency with a child by exposure Thursday in McLennan County's 54th District Court.

Loosier had been indicted on 11 counts of indecency on May 5, 2006 after allegedly exposing himself to male students in a bathroom at Robinson Junior High School on March 22.

Loosier entered his plea of guilty as part of a plea bargain

agreement with the district attorney's office. As part of the bargain, the district attorney recommended that the court only proceed with one count of indecency, that Loosier receive deferred adjudication probation and "that a finding of guilty be deferred for a period of five years."

Also as part of his punishment, Loosier will now be a registered sex offender.

Indecency with a child by exposure is a third-degree felony.

Loosier's sentencing will be March 27.

State Sen. Jane Nelson speaks to reporters Monday about her opposition to Gov. Rick Perry's executive order to require all girls entering 6th grade to be vaccinated for HPV.

Associated Press



Dissenters urge Perry to rescind HPV order

By Liz Austin Peterson
The Associated Press

AUSTIN — Several key Republican lawmakers lashed out Monday at Gov. Rick Perry's edict requiring anticancer vaccines for all Texas schoolgirls and vowed to derail the plan before it takes effect.

State Sen. Jane Nelson urged Perry to rescind the order and said she will ask Attorney General Greg Abbott to rule on its legality.

Three other Republican lawmakers filed bills that would override the mandate and several others were working on similar legislation.

"The public has the right to testify on this issue and the Legislature has the constitutional duty to be involved in this decision," said Nelson, who chairs the Senate's house and human services committee.

Perry defended his decision,

Please see HPV, page 6

Accident serves as reminder of life's importance

"Dad, I fell asleep at the wheel," was all I could mutter as I sobbed uncontrollably into the cell phone.

An after-winter breeze shuddered down my spine as the man who had seen the accident wrapped his jacket around my shaking body. We were in the middle of nowhere on a desolate two-lane road.

The surroundings felt foreign, even though they'd been our only companions for hours. My tear-filled eyes met my friend's as the blood from her forehead reached her chin.

It all happened so fast. Sitting at the kitchen table, I ran over and double-checked the

list of things we'd packed. This was our freedom trip. It was a road trip carefully planned for weeks, and we had it memorized.

My mom sat down beside us, with fear and excitement showing in her face. She looked us dead in the eyes and asked what we were going to do if we got in an accident.

"I know there are going to be late nights, but please don't drive when you're tired," she said.

Frustration began to mount inside me. Doesn't she think I'm responsible?

I put the keys in the ignition and pulled out of the driveway. We were finally on our own.

point of view



BY ASHLEY WESTBROOK

Everything had gone according to schedule, and we were having the time of our lives.

On the way back, things were different. We stopped for dinner and stuffed ourselves back into my packed car. The sun was beginning to set, and we weren't operating on enough sleep.

We stared silently at the passing foliage. Lindsay eventually

fell asleep with her head against the window. I shut off the radio so she could sleep easier. Soon I found myself being lulled to sleep by the car's warm silence.

I never even knew I had shut my eyes.

"Ashley, stop!" Lindsay screamed.

A jolt ran through my body. Stop? I didn't even know what was happening. The loud noise of the road dividers echoed through the car. We swerved into a small ditch in the median. I jerked the wheel to the right, and my car followed violently. We were thrown into the side brush as green, blue and black swirled in front of our eyes.

Then suddenly, we stopped.

Not a word was said. The rumbling engine was the only noise I could hear. Fear had paralyzed us. A tree uprooted my floorboard, and Lindsay's side of the car had been smashed in.

I looked around once more. There was red dripping down her face. She had taken off her seat belt so she could sleep and hit the window on impact.

A man banging on the window broke our deafening silence. He helped us through the entanglement of metal, glass and trees and gave me his cell phone to call my family.

My dad answered and I could sense his fear over the phone.

I wanted a freedom trip, and that's exactly what I got: freedom from the temptation to take the people I love for granted.

The moment my family arrived at the hospital, I threw my arms around them and promised myself never to lose sight of what's important — and to understand that my mom's concerns were nothing more than love.

It's unfortunate it took such a traumatic experience to show me that, but I was forever changed.

Life's too short. Luckily, I was granted more time.

Ashley Westbrook is a junior journalism major from Plano.

Editorial

Time has come for non-Baptist charters

Last Thursday, the Student Senate voted in favor of a bill that would communicate its support for chartering non-Baptist Christian student groups and allowing them to meet on campus.

The vote, which was not without significant debate, will bring a recommendation before the Baylor Board of Regents when it meets Thursday. It requests a change in policy to allow other Christian organizations to enjoy the same privileges Baptist groups enjoy.

We hope the board of regents will take the Senate's vote into consideration and immediately enact legislation to put this into effect. We would also like to commend the Senate for taking up this contentious issue; in particular, the 15 Senators who voted in favor of the bill.

Allowing non-Baptist groups to meet on campus is an important step in Baylor's progression toward its stated goals of being a top-tier institution. If Baylor wishes to join other universities in the top strata of prestige, it must abide by standards of openness. As long as the current policy is in place, Baylor is jeopardizing its chances.

During the debating of the bill, some senators expressed their concerns about losing the Baptist heritage and identity of Baylor.

Such concerns are understandable,



and we should be mindful of this.

But isn't it Christian to be accepting of others with differing views? Especially if they are Christians with only slightly differing views?

Those opposed to the bill cited slipping toward secularism as their chief concern. But by allowing more religious groups to meet on campus, it seems counterintuitive that Baylor would lose its religion. On the contrary, it would solidify Baylor's position as a Baptist school that encour-

ages practicing religion.

Not allowing other Christian groups to meet on campus sends the wrong message. Those of us concerned about retaining the university's Baptist heritage should surely have more confidence in our ability to do so than by worrying about treating other denominational groups equally. Only 40 percent of Baylor students claim Baptist as their denomination. Others expressed worry about offending the Baptist General Convention of Texas

or potential donors. While Baylor depends on the BGCT for some of its funding, it does not have to answer to it for a decision such as this.

The board should recognize the debates and conversations that went into reaching this decision and see that this is an issue that could affect more than half of the student body in a positive way. Having other Christian groups meet on campus will only enhance dialogue and serve to enrich the identity of Baylor.

Opinion policy

The Baylor Lariat welcomes reader viewpoints through letters to the editor and guest columns.

Opinions expressed in the Lariat are not necessarily those of the Baylor administration, the Baylor Board of Regents or the Student Publications Board.

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

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

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

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.

A subscription to the Lariat costs \$45 for two semesters. Send check or money order to One Bear Place #97330, Waco, TX, 76798-7330 or e-mail Lariat_ads@baylor.edu.

Visa and MasterCard payments may be phoned to 254-710-2662.

Letters to the editor

Players need time to develop

In the Friday column "Men's basketball: No more excuses, just results," Will Parchman shows, like many other Baylor fans, a gross lack of perspective, not to mention a disdain for facts.

While there are undoubtedly a number of Baylor fans — myself included — who tire of losing, I challenge anyone to find a comparable situation to what we have here at Baylor right now.

This current team consists of a large number of three- and four star recruits (as rated by Rivals.com), most of which are in their freshman or sophomore years. Underclassmen account for more than 70 percent of the minutes and more than 75 per-

cent of the points.

While this team is absolutely loaded with more talent than any Baylor team in recent history, there are no teams anywhere in the nation that have talent as inexperienced as ours.

There are a number of winning teams made up primarily of freshman and sophomore players, but the players on those teams are five-star recruits — some of the best players in the nation who are virtually ready-made out of high school.

Other teams are made up of three- and four-star players just like Baylor, but those players are in their junior or senior years. We have neither top-tier talent nor experienced players.

There is no arguing that head Coach Scott Drew needs

to make improvements in various aspects of his coaching, but Drew should be judged upon the performance of his team once they have been given time to develop. In other words, when they are juniors and seniors.

To judge Drew based on his current situation is more irresponsible and ridiculous than, well, alluding to the fact that Drew is "nice" as the reason the team is not on top of the Big 12.

Ty McNeely
Marketing, 2007

Senate resolution a good call

At the heart of the Student Senate's debate over whether to allow non-Baptist Christian groups to be chartered is "what makes a Baptist university Baptist?" And at the heart of this

question is the question of, "What does it mean to be Baptist?"

Historically, being Baptist has had much to do with freedom of choice.

According to Walter Shurden, director for Mercer University's Center for Baptist Studies, freedom is at the core of being Baptist.

If freedom is at the core of the Baptist identity, then limiting the freedom of others is decidedly against the Baptist identity. It would not be a rejection of Baylor's Baptist heritage to allow non-Baptist Christian groups to be chartered, but an embracing of that heritage.

If it is out of fear that embracing other Christian groups would weaken the Baptist character of

the school, then the school has already lost its Baptist identity, because fear seeks only to limit and reject freedom.

If Baylor wishes to remain a Baptist school, then it has little to fear from other Christian groups. The Student Senate made the right choice on Thursday and the Baylor Regents would do well to heed their advice.

Eric Wickman
Alum, 2004

Energy problem easily solved

The Lariat's article, "MCC to hold dialogue discussion on coal plants," failed to address some essential facts about TXU's plan. TXU is building 11 coal units at existing plant sites, not 17 to 19, to meet the state's urgent

power needs. These plants will be 80 percent cleaner than the average U.S. coal plant. TXU is also investing up to \$2 billion to commercialize state-of-the-art clean technologies that will give Texans the next generation of reliable, affordable and cleaner power.

People need to be aware that energy experts say Texas will fall well below reliable power supply levels by 2009. TXU has offered a plan that will meet those power needs, while at the same time improving air quality in Texas. The facts are simple: Texas needs power, and TXU has a plan to provide it in an environmentally responsible manner.

Don Montgomery
Alum, 1974

The Baylor Lariat

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V. EASY #17
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

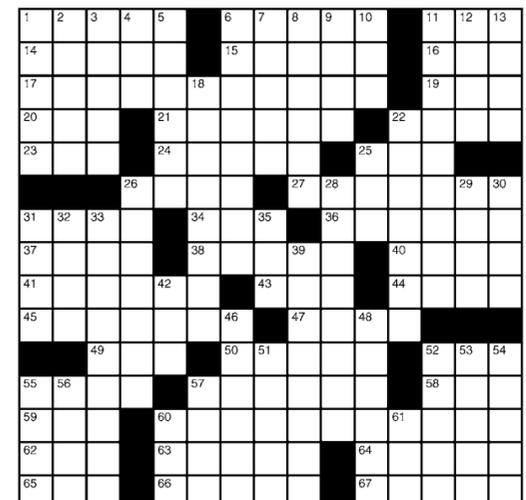
- Bicycle part
- Twilight times
- Ran into
- Legend maker
- Old Roman port
- Rhea relative
- Female court cases?
- Beak
- Shade tree
- Remove NaCl
- Nick and Nora's dog
- Susan of "L.A. Law"
- Awry, in a way
- Little white lie
- Govern
- Eagles, often
- Exile isle
- Assn.
- Words before a coin toss
- Rapids, MN
- Milo of "The Verdict"
- James of R&B
- Kansas City club
- Neighbor of Syr.
- Match breakers
- Off-the-neck hairdo
- Slapstick ammo
- Give in to gravity

DOWN

- Touched clumsily
- French school
- Face-up hand
- "You Lonesome Tonight?"
- Type of carriage
- Personnel records
- Regular
- Long-legged wading birds
- Songstress Eartha
- Nordic carrier's letters
- Male hard blows?
- Give off
- Brass band member

18 Free

- Like a vacuum
- Govt. air-safety grp.
- Fled
- Globular flutes
- "Norma Rae" director Martin
- RR depots
- Light tan
- Kind of hole?
- Male hard blows?
- Alphabet trio
- Coffee order
- Tour segment
- Took a look
- Swimmer Williams
- G-sharp
- Animated ogre
- Bizarres
- Nuisances
- Spadework
- The Kinks 1970 hit
- Dreadful
- Lass
- Eggs



By Robert H. Wolfe
North Woodmere, NY
2/6/07
For today's crossword and sudoku answers, visit www.baylor.edu/Lariat

Students prepare to expand 'Collect' site nationwide

By Jon Schroeder
Staff writer

Facebook started at Harvard. Campus Collect started at Baylor.

The site, which will launch nationwide this summer, lets organizations send simultaneous text messages to all their members and provides an online payment option for the collection of membership dues and apparel sales.

BUCollect, the Baylor version of the site, launched in January. The Web site gained 800 members in its first five days.

BUCollect has been online since August 2006, when a test version launched with 176 subscribers, but the idea got off the ground as a result of market research completed for Dr. Larry Chonko's Business 1301 class, said David Grubbs, a Half Moon Bay, Calif., senior and co-creator of the site.

Grubbs and two other students, San Antonio senior David Berchermann and Burleson senior Robby Mullens, are running the Web site, meeting with organizations and preparing for Campus Collect's nationwide launch. As part of that process, the three students have met with several Baylor departments to find out what communication services universities need.

Scott Wade, director of student activities, said his department and BUCollect are in a



Abbie Rosen/ Lariat staff

David Grubbs, a senior from Half Moon Bay, Calif., and co-founder of BU Collect, explains the new business Monday.

"discussion phase" of the process, although there's no agreement yet. He said he doesn't anticipate an agreement being signed before the end of the se-

mester, but that he met Thursday with Grubbs to talk about what sort of services BUCollect can provide.

Wade said Student Activities

is in the process of figuring out if BUCollect's services "mesh" with services already in place. In particular, Wade mentioned BUCollect's mobile technology services, which the university does not have access to.

Grubbs said in addition to Student Activities, he's met with representatives from Campus Living and Learning, Campus Recreation and the Parents League in order to find out what communication services they're looking for.

"It's a free service," Grubbs said. "It will always be a free service."

Both students and organizations can sign up at www.bucollect.com, although text messaging fees do apply for those who choose the service. Organizations can pay between seven and 10 cents each to send messages to their members.

BUCollect also provides online credit card sales for member organizations, taking a 10 percent cut for online orders and a 3.5 percent cut for the "strictly monetary" transactions, such as membership dues.

Grubbs said BUCollect differs from two similar services which allow student organizations to send out mass text messages because it doesn't charge students up front or advertise with the text messages.

In addition to its other services, the site provides forums, organizational apparel, local

artists' CDs and an events news ticker and a merchandise section for Baylor.

Despite the capabilities of the BUCollect Web site, some are concerned about the competition it may bring to similar Web sites students already use.

"They want to interact with students who read online forums," said Michael Schmoyer, an Allen senior and student government webmaster and ambassador to the Baylor Information Network, adding that the BIN and BUCollect are targeting a limited public.

"One is built for profit," Schmoyer said. "One is for students, by students."

The two Web sites share features, Schmoyer said, pointing to the two sites' message boards and classified sections. The only student group which has a relationship with both the BIN and BUCollect is Baylor's student government.

"We've partnered with student government," he said. "We've always catered to the entire student body as an online community."

While student government members are available for text messaging on the BUCollect Web site, the organization has not officially partnered with BUCollect.

The BIN, on the other hand, has catered its Web site specifically to student government, Schmoyer said. Four major fea-

tures were added to the BIN last semester as a result of ongoing talks between student government and the BIN: posting bills online immediately after Student Senate meetings, providing a mechanism for students to send feedback to student government members, letting students "vote" on upcoming legislation and providing profiles of student government members.

Student Body President Mark Laymon said the BIN was originally a student government project — a former internal vice president first came up with the idea.

"Right now, the BIN is student government's primary outlet to students," Laymon said. "They've done a great job with that this year. As an organization started and run by students, student government is committed to our relationship with the BIN and its continued success."

Schmoyer said the text messaging feature which makes BUCollect unique is not one he's heard students ask for, at least not until it was presented by Grubbs to Student Senate in November. In addition, he said the existence of multiple Web sites such as the BIN and BUCollect serving similar purposes splits the online community.

"It's an issue we're discussing right now," Schmoyer said. "I'm sure BUCollect will have their discussion as well."

Grammy nominee to speak at Black Heritage Banquet

By Star De La Cruz
Reporter

In celebration of Black History Month, gospel artist Kirk Franklin will speak today at the 20th annual Black Heritage Banquet.

Franklin will talk about struggle, faith and perseverance in life's journey.

"This year's theme can apply to everyone because everyone has a journey, and we need to

keep our faith in order to persevere," said Ashley Armstrong, Eules senior and vice president of the Association of Black Students.

Because of the high number of expected attendees, Armstrong encourages students to arrive promptly at 7:45 p.m. on the fifth floor of Fashion Academic Center to secure a seat.

Sugar Land junior Breia Fisher is heading up the banquet committee and said the tickets

for the banquet's dinner sold out because of Franklin's popularity.

The Association of Black Students, in conjunction with the multicultural activities department, has been preparing for this event since October.

Jade Mallory, a Dallas senior and president of the Association of Black Students, said the organization worked hard on accommodations, the menu, fliers, invitations, tickets and many

other details to celebrate the 20th annual banquet.

"I really ask students to come out and support the Association of Black Students because we have a great speaker," Mallory said.

Mallory also said when more people show up it gives encouragement to the speaker.

"I assure that he will be an inspiration to everyone," Mallory said.

After the banquet, the Asso-

ciation of Black Students' scholarship will be awarded to one student.

"I'm so glad to have taken part in such a big event, and I'm looking forward to getting great advice from the speaker and meeting other key motivators who will be attending," Aleana Peoples, a Dallas sophomore and Black Heritage Banquet committee member said.

Charlye Nichols, a Baytown sophomore, will perform a song

at the banquet.

Taryn Ozuna, coordinator for multicultural activities, said the banquet will be an opportunity for students to learn about Franklin's "great joy" and Christian testimony.

"When students encounter adversity, they sometimes feel as if it's the end of the world, but Kirk Franklin's story will encourage them," Ozuna said.

Franklin is nominated for two Grammy Awards this year

BEAR BRIEFS

Sciences job fair to be held

The science, technology, engineering and math job fair is from noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday in the Atrium of the Baylor Sciences Building. Thirty companies will be in attendance. For additional information call Baylor Career Services at 710-3771.

See *The Guardian* for free

Baylor Activities Council will be having free movie night at 7 p.m. today in the den of the Bill Daniel Student Center. The movie is *The Guardian*.

To submit a bear brief, e-mail Lariat@baylor.edu.

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Guards struggle to lug heavy load

By Daniel Youngblood
Sports editor

Entering the 2006-07 season, it was widely acknowledged that the Baylor basketball team would only go as far as its talented group of guards could take it.

With less than a month remaining in the regular season and the Bears sitting on a 2-7 conference record, that distance hasn't been nearly as long as some had hoped.

While it was lauded in the preseason as one of the Big 12's best backcourts, the Bears' guard unit of junior Aaron Bruce, sophomores Curtis Jerrells and Henry Dugat and freshman Tweety Carter has struggled to find consistency most of this season.

With few inside scoring options, the four guards have accounted for 59 percent of Baylor's scoring, 37 percent of the team's rebounding and 84 percent of the Bears' assists this season. But their Jekyll-and-Hyde production during Big 12 play has kept the Bears from reaching the expectations many had for them before the season started.

This was never more evident than on Saturday, when Baylor followed up back-to-back quality performances against the University of Texas and the University of Colorado with a disappointing 71-58 road loss to Iowa State University.

"It's frustrating that two different teams can show up for us at the moment," said Bruce, who missed all seven of his shots and scored zero points against the Cyclones. "Just when we think we're making progress and moving along nicely, we go and mess up like we did against Iowa State."

In Saturday's contest, Baylor guards scored just 20 points, made just 17.6 percent of their shots and turned the ball over nine times.

In the Bears' previous two games, the guards averaged 61.5



File photo

Sophomore guard Curtis Jerrells beats Colorado's Richard Roby for a layup in the Bears' 97-83 win over the Buffaloes on Jan. 30. Jerrells is shooting 41.2 percent on the season and leads the Bears' with 12.7 points per game.

points and shot 52.4 percent from the field.

"No one's happy with the way we performed, and I think that's obvious," Bruce said. "Basketball's a team game and we're all accountable for the loss, but I would have liked to have been more effective, and I think the rest of the guards feel the same way."

Jerrells had 16 points in Saturday's loss, but he shot just

33 percent from the field and turned the ball over five times. He said the Baylor guards didn't do anything well against Iowa State.

"Our guards didn't make shots, and we didn't get the ball inside," he said. "We didn't get production anywhere and on top of that, we weren't getting stops on defense."

"If you're going to play terribly offensively, you have to step

on defense," he said.

The Bears' center tandem of sophomore Mamadou Diene and freshman Josh Lomers are both limited offensively, which puts more pressure on the Baylor guards to score.

Sophomore forward Kevin Rogers is averaging 12.4 points per game and gives the Bears some inside and midrange scoring, but Baylor's guard play is the focus of every opposing team's defense.

Head Coach Scott Drew said defenses have made it tough for the Bears' guards to get open, but they'll have to overcome that if they hope to win games from here on.

"You have to give credit to some of the defense for stopping them and doing a good job, but we've got to make some shots," he said. "We've gotten some open looks and we've taken it to the basket, we just have to finish some of those."

In Baylor's nine Big 12 games, the team is 11th in the conference in field goal percentage at 40.1 percent and 10th in 3-point field goal percentage at 32.3 percent.

The Bears have taken a Big 12-leading 217 3-point shots in conference play — 28 more attempts than second-place Texas, which is making 42.9 percent of its shots from long range.

In the Bears two Big 12 wins, they made 24 of their 51 3-point attempts.

In their seven losses, they've shot just 27.7 percent from beyond the arc.

"All year long, we've lived and died with the outside shot," Drew said. "And we died on Saturday."

Drew said his team has tried to find other ways to score when it was shooting poorly, but it's been a struggle.

"Normally when you're missing from the outside, you need to get to the free-throw line or get into the paint," he said. "We tried that Saturday, we just didn't finish in the paint area or get to the free-throw line enough."

SPORTS BRIEFS

Lady Bears lose at NU

No. 22 University of Nebraska upset the No. 13 Lady Bears Saturday in Lincoln, Neb., 76-67. Nebraska (19-4, 7-2) raced out to a 16-2 lead and never trailed. Bernice Mosby, Baylor's leading scorer, only scored 3 points against Nebraska's Danielle Page, who blocked a Nebraska-record nine shots. Baylor (19-4, 6-3) cut the lead to one with less than four minutes before halftime, but the Huskers pulled away early in the second half with a 15-4 run. Baylor drops out of a three-way tie for second place but remains one game ahead of the University of Texas and Texas Tech University.

A&M tops equestrian

The Baylor equestrian team lost its first match of the new year to Texas A&M University 14-6. Baylor held a slim 6-4 lead after the Equitation segment of the competition, but the Aggies won 10 straight points to finish the show. After going 3-3 during the fall semester, Baylor drops to 0-1 for the spring season. The Bears will host the University of Georgia at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday.

Lady netters eliminated

The Baylor women's tennis team ended its run in the quarterfinals of the ITA National Team Indoor Championships in Madison, Wis., where the Bears were beaten by University of Notre Dame on Friday, 5-2, and the University of Miami on Saturday, 6-1. Jessica Zok returned to play Saturday after being sidelined by an injury last week, while Zuzana Cerna is still recovering from an appendectomy. The Lady Bears fall to 2-3 on the season and will return to Waco for a Feb. 18 match against Harvard University.

To submit a bear brief, e-mail Lariat@baylor.edu.

Men's tennis goes 1-1

The Baylor tennis team split its weekend tour of the Southeastern Conference as it beat No. 21 University of Kentucky 5-2 and lost to the No. 15 University of Florida 4-3. After dropping the doubles point against Kentucky, the Bears dominated singles play 5-1. The Bears lost the doubles point again against Florida, and each of their top three players dropped their singles matches.

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Designers combine class, color for shows

By **Samantha Critchell**
Associated Press

There's more classic tailoring on the New York Fashion Week runways than in recent memory and there's also a lot of shine. Designers are still making the case that fall is about chunky knit sweaters, but they have slimmed down the overall silhouette after a few seasons of over-the-top volume.

"There's a lot of suiting, which is terrific, and a return to great tailoring," Nicole Fischelis, fashion director of Macy's East, said. "There's also a lot of day to evening and evening to day. They're active clothes for a real lifestyle."

Fashion Week, attended by retailers, editors and stylists, continues

through Friday.

One of the top emerging trends is the mixture of different fabrics on a single garment. Oscar de la Renta hit on this right out of the gate—but of course in the most luxurious way: He trimmed his chunky knit sweaters with fur.

Cindi Leive, editor in chief of *Glamour*, said she particularly liked the way de la Renta paired brown-tone fur with gray.

"When you wear fur with gray, it doesn't look as hard as it does with black. It's more natural," she said.

Carolina Herrera presented a rich, textured fall line that will give her chic uptown customer something new and fresh to wear without stepping out of her comfort zone.

The first look, a black wool-felt

top and skirt, was elegant and unfussy, but full of interesting cutout details. A gray cashmere textured sweater worn over an ivory blouse and super wide-leg pants showed that while Herrera is known for suits and eveningwear, she certainly holds her weight in the world of chunky, cozy knits.

The designer said she had focused on a juxtaposition of texture, dimension and color. The palette, including a periwinkle-like "captain blue," purple, gray, poppy red and bark brown came from an Edvard Munch portrait of Hans Jaeger, according to Herrera.

The actual silhouettes were narrower than most of the styles previewed so far during fashion week, and that might be what made this

collection seem particularly pulled together.

The fashion flock often says that the European runway shows are more about spectacle, while their U.S. counterparts are more about business. On Sunday night, Londoner Matthew Williamson brought some of his colorful frivolity to these shores.

This collection is for the disco queens out there, and some models did indeed have miniature mirrored balls on their wrists as jewelry. Williamson's fans are women who like to wear purple and aqua sequins— together. They'll wear argyle fur frocks and a dress with a rainbow leopard print.

They'll also have a good time wherever they are.



Associated Press

Models walk the runway during the showing of the Oscar de la Renta Fall 2007 collection Monday as a part of Fashion Week in New York.

'Said so' not worth torturing boyfriend

By **Sharon Moran**
Contributor

Only occasionally does a film of pure sophistication, passion and genius grace theaters. *Because I Said So* brings no such blessing.

MOVIE REVIEW

In *Because I Said So*, an overbearing Daphne Wilder (Diane Keaton) mothers three charismatic daughters: outspoken and sexy Mae (Piper Perabo), successful psychologist Maggie (Lauren Graham) and slightly awkward yet endearing Milly (Mandy Moore).

Daphne reaches the height of her meddling when she creates a personal ad on behalf of Milly and sets in motion a web of secrets and absurdity.

Her ad, placed with the intent of preventing Milly from being single for the rest of her life, is answered by a throng of colorful men, including the charming and wealthy architect, Jason (Tom Everett Scott). After pegging Jason as Milly's soul mate, Daphne's plans are interrupted by the pursuit of an edgy jazz musician, Johnny (Gabriel Macht).

When Milly begins to date both, she is faced with the struggle between her conflicting desires to please her mother and to listen to her own intuition. Things get even more complicated when each boyfriend discovers the other, and Milly is forced to choose between the two.

I found this film to be obtuse and annoying.

Not only was it riddled with poor humor and painful dialogue, but the ideal at the very core of the film also disturbed me.

In short, the lineage of the movie is as follows: Milly is unhappy without a man. Milly's mother interposes herself to find Milly a man. Milly's mother finds her two men. Milly chooses one man, and she can now live happily ever after.

Although Moore's performance is terrible, Milly is an altogether charming girl. She possesses all the elements of a desirable female, yet she's consumed by the mistakes of all her failed relationships. Based on her mother's encouragement, she's convinced that without a mate she is incomplete.

Despite her success and charisma, she continues the pathetic pursuit so many women are convinced will bring them ultimate fulfillment—in the words of Daphne, to "not end up like a manless Tennessee Williams play."

Because I Said So goes on countless rabbit trails of confusing attempts at humor. At different points in the movie, I felt as though I was watching a high school skit collection with a bad script.

With such a diverse cast and credible writers, I expected more out of the ensemble. I felt rudely dropped at the curb by the time the credits were rolling.

This may seem a typical, sappy romantic comedy, but I see it as shameless propaganda for Match.com.

You might think this would be a charming date movie, but girlfriends, I beg you: Do not torture your men.

Grade: D

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Texas challenges Sprint

By April Castro
The Associated Press

AUSTIN — Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott filed a lawsuit Monday against Sprint Nextel Corp., asking the company to refrain from charging phone customers a "deceptive" fee.

Reston, Va.-based Sprint Nextel began charging the "Texas Margin Fee Reimbursement" on cell phone bills this month, and state officials immediately began investigating the fee.

"Sprint Nextel has defrauded its customers and violated a court order, blatantly disre-

garding the laws of the state of Texas," Abbott said, calling the fee false, misleading and deceptive. "Texans will not tolerate Sprint Nextel's unlawful business practices."

Company spokesman John Taylor has defended the fee and said last week that Sprint has no intention of ending the practice.

The company is charging cell phone customers 1 percent, but will owe a 0.7 percent tax on their gross receipts under the state's new business tax, often called the margins tax. Companies are prohibited by law from collecting more from their customers than the

amount of tax the company will pay.

The lawsuit asks the court to stop the billings and for the company to reimburse all customers who paid the fee. The lawsuit also requests temporary and permanent injunctions and seeks penalties of \$20,000 per violation under the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act.

Critics have argued that the term "reimbursement" implies that the tax or fee appearing on customers' bills has already been paid by Sprint. Abbott said that term is deceptive because the state will not begin collecting the revised franchise tax until 2008.

SPEAK from page 1

at least one faculty or staff member in the session, and it's been great for students to witness their support as well."

Wednesday's discussion topic was titled, "How do you know when you are being played?"

Male and female opinions collided during the discussion, but after a long, persuasive argument from Boston junior Wilkins Morency, the group concluded that guys are not only players, but they often fall

victim to the game.

At one point during the conversation, Trinidad graduate student Jason Kangalee said that after some of Morency's light-hearted accusations, he was heading for the exit in fear of the women's wrath on the men in the room.

During the discussion, eyes and mouths hung open as students and faculty expressed their bold opinions on the matter. Stories were told, fingers pointed and laughter shared.

Despite the entertaining

comments, Frankly Speaking also serves as a support group. "Most of the time a staff member sits in and they are not seen as a staff member, but just as a person sharing their life experience," Kangalee said. "Everyone is on the same level."

After participants shared personal stories about bad relationships, they concluded that people are played in all types of relationships, including any situation where someone feels used. To close the discussion, Baylor counselor Barbara Jack-

BIRDS from page 1

lot of people have been asking her about the robin deaths, she isn't worried.

"I don't think this is a major epidemic," she said.

Sarah Andrews, a Tulsa, Okla., junior, said she spotted between eight and 10 dead birds on her way to class.

"I was just confused because I didn't know what happened to them," Andrews said. "It has been really cold lately, but the chance that it's a disease is kind of scary."

Bratton doesn't believe the birds pose a threat to humans, but she doesn't recommend touching them.

"Birds get a number of bacterial infections, especially this time of year," she said.

son offered a word of hope and encouragement, telling the room that everyone could fight the harsh game of the player.

"You have control over the choices you make for yourself," Jackson said.

Past topics for the group have included stress, media, Facebook and taking friendship to the next level.

"It's just a good time to sit down and discuss and understand the obstacles we face as college students," said Texas City senior Ryan Sparks.

HPV from page 1

saying his fellow conservatives were wrong to worry that mandating the vaccine will trample parents' rights and promote premarital sex.

Still, he could face a disgruntled crowd when he addresses both chambers of the Legislature today in his biennial State of the State address. Many lawmakers said the governor didn't even tell them he was issuing the order, let alone ask their opinion.

"We don't want to be just a 'sometimes partner' with the governor," said Republican state Rep. Jim Keffer of Eastland, who chairs the tax-writing Ways and Means committee.

Perry's Friday order required the Texas Health and Human Services Commission to adopt rules requiring the Merck & Co.'s new Gardasil vaccine for girls entering sixth grade as of September 2008.

The vaccine protects girls against strains of the human papillomavirus, or HPV, that cause most cases of cervical cancer.

Two Democratic lawmakers filed bills in the fall proposing similar vaccine requirements, and several of their colleagues said those proposals should have been allowed to run their course.

Conservatives have several problems with the mandate, saying it contradicts Texas' ab-

stinence-only sex education policies and strays too far into families lives. They also balk at \$360 cost for the three-shot series and said Gardasil is too new to force on children as young as 11 or 12.

Parents can elect to avoid the vaccine by filing an affidavit outlining their religious or philosophical objections. But several lawmakers said they would prefer a voluntary program, where parents opt in instead of opting out.

"While the HPV vaccine can play a very important role in preventing cervical cancer, I don't think the government should ever presume to know better than the parents what to do with children," Republican

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst said.

Perry, a conservative Christian who opposes abortion and stem-cell research using embryonic cells, counts on the religious right for his political base.

But he has said the cervical cancer vaccine is no different from the one that protects children against polio.

"Providing the HPV vaccine doesn't promote sexual promiscuity anymore than providing the Hepatitis B vaccine promotes drug use," he said in a Monday statement.

"If the medical community developed a vaccine for lung cancer, would the same critics oppose it claiming it would encourage smoking?"

SELL from page 1

with executives from each of the companies. He plans on sharing his experiences from his summer internship and telling students what to expect.

"Students who get internships can expect to work hard and to learn a lot," Smith said.

"They also can expect to try new things, fail at them and try again."

During the internship, Smith traveled to New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Dallas, Minneapolis and Kansas City, Kan., to observe sales representatives in action. Smith said he was able to expand his horizons beyond his normal "southern way of life."

"I was forced to move outside my comfort zone and work with people that were very different from me," Smith said. "As a sales person, it's important that you are able to successfully work with a diverse group of people because your job depends on it."

Pullig said he thinks a large misconception about the sales field is the premise that natural ability is the only indicator of a good salesperson. He said sales can be taught and learned.

"We take a systematic approach to teaching sales," Pullig said.

"We will include a marketing message delivered in a per-

"Students who get internships can expect to work hard and to learn a lot."

Michael Smith
Edmond, Okla., senior

son-to-person setting at the event." Professional selling majors are not the only students hired by these companies, although experience helps. Pullig said if students have a desire to sell and they are good at it, companies will hire nontraditional majors.

"If you are good with people, you like doing something different every day and you have an analytical mind, you will probably be a good sales person," Pullig said.

Careers in Professional Selling is hosted by Pi Sigma Epsilon, a national sales and marketing fraternity.

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