

ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 2007

Baransi claims run-off for IVP

By Melissa Limmer
Staff writer

Plano junior Samer Baransi won the run-off election Tuesday against El Paso junior Jen Kim for the office of internal vice president in student government, electoral commissioner and Houston senior Kevin Nguyen announced Tuesday evening.

Nguyen said Baransi won by 6 percent of the vote, which totaled about 1,100.

Baransi said he was "completely elated" and started jumping up and down when he found out he had won the election.

"I am looking forward to it,"

he said. "It is a great opportunity to serve students."

Baransi said some of his goals as the new internal vice president are to reach out to the student body and to bring Baylor back to its Christian heritage.

He said his first goal as IVP will be to gain the respect of the "new and strong" Student



Baransi

Senate and to "open the lines of communication with the administration" in order to get security funding to keep the Baylor Science Building open 24 hours a day.

"We are going to do what we say," he said. "The work has just begun."

Baransi's campaign platform included leaving the Baylor Sciences Building open for 24 hours, making faculty evaluations available for students, returning a fountain to Fountain Mall and setting aside part of the Student Life Fund for events that encourage diversity.

Kim ran her campaign with a focus on "bringing the student

voice back to the student body" through Student Senate. She also campaigned for increasing safety on campus.

Both candidates also addressed the need to create a better relationship between students and the current administration, and lengthening visiting hours at the residence halls.

"I think that is actually pretty big for a run-off," he said.

Kim said she thought Baransi was a worthy opponent.

"He will do a great job," Kim said.

Kim also expressed her thankfulness for the support

Please see IVP, page 10



Abbie Rosen/Lariat staff

Trash to treasure

Omaha, Neb., freshman Tucker George examines a basket made from a polo shirt Tuesday at the Earth Week art exhibit in the Bill Daniel Student Center.

Following the Textbook Dollar

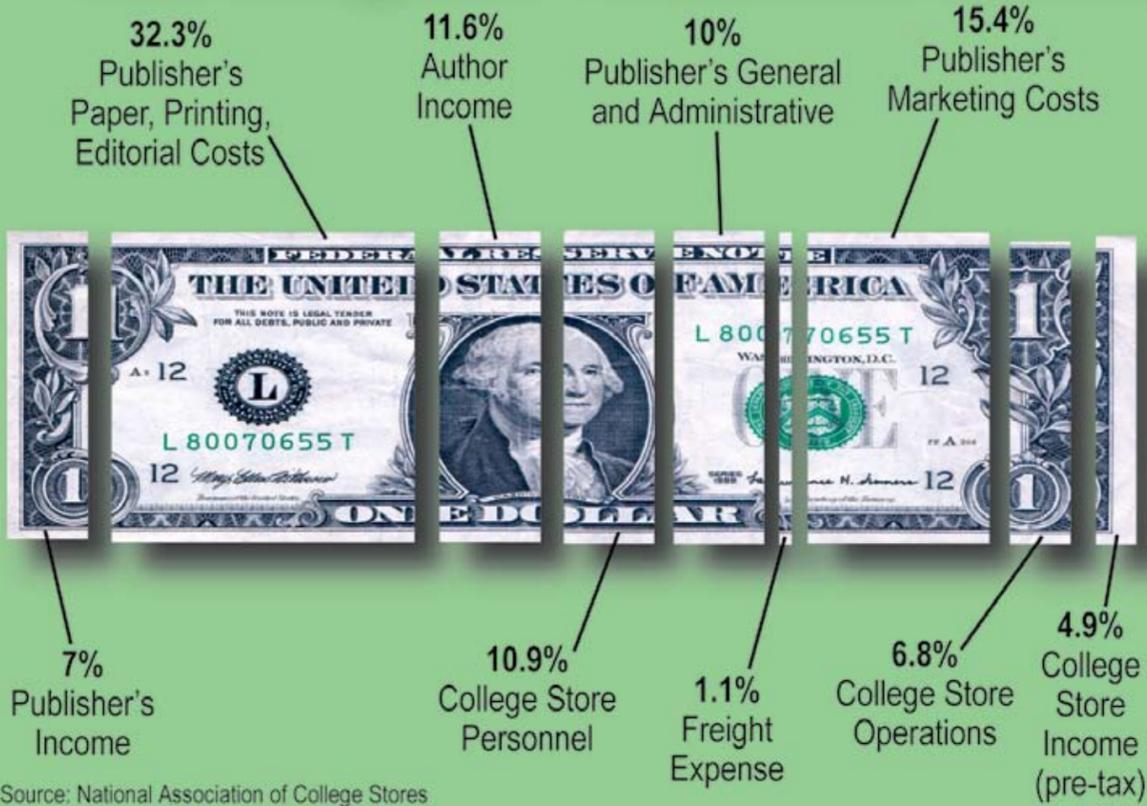


Photo illustration by Melea Burke

Students cry foul play in textbook prices

By Jon Schroeder
Staff writer

It's about time to sell back your college textbooks — and doing it quickly could help you get the most bang for your book.

At least that's the word from the managers of all four Waco stores that sell textbooks to Baylor students.

Selling books back just before and during finals could help you get up to 60 percent of the original price of a new textbook back, although several other factors — the number of copies in stock, whether a particular edition of the book will be re-used and the number of students who will need the same edition — also weigh into the process.

The Lariat took an in-depth look at the bookselling process, incorporating perspectives of the major on-campus players: the bookstores, the authors and the consumers.

University Bookstore

Waco's off-campus bookstores — UBS, University Bookstore and Spirit Shop — are all owned by Nebraska Books. Nicole McFarlin, the general manager of each of the stores, said her stores guarantee the lowest selling prices and the highest buy-back prices in Waco.

Other than that, she said, there is no standard percentage for which students can sell books back. If students sell their books back at the right time, under the right conditions, they can expect to get up to 60 percent of their original price back.

The right time, McFarlin said, is at the beginning of finals or just before. The conditions are right if a professor is planning to use the book in the next semester and if the bookstore doesn't have many copies yet.

"I try as hard as I can to give that 50 percent or higher back to as many stu-

dents as I can," McFarlin said. "But as we start buying more books back, the prices are going to start to go down."

Her bookstores will generally buy books for 20 to 25 percent of the number of students registered for a given class, since students also have other places they can get their books.

Baylor Bookstore

Anne Richards, director of Baylor Bookstore, said the bookstore's goal is certainly not to rip students off. Like each of the other three textbook stores near Baylor, the on-campus bookstore buys books back for up to 60 percent of the original price, but the Baylor Bookstore doesn't offer guarantees that it offers the best buyback price to students.

"We often do (have the best price)," Richards said, adding that the Baylor Bookstore is the store most likely to carry

Please see BOOKS, page 10

Arts, Sciences select new dean

New college leader selected for first time in ten years

By Claire St. Amant
Staff writer

While the rest of campus spent Diadeloso playing on inflatable pirate ships and practicing their best "Arrgh, matey," Dr. Lee C. Nordt, associate professor of geology, was enjoying his new appointment as the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Nordt had served as the interim dean for the college the past two years and was chosen out of three finalists to lead the university's largest academic unit.

This appointment marks the first time in 10 years a new dean has been installed at Baylor, said Dr. William H. Bellinger Jr., chairman of the College of Arts and Sciences dean search committee.

Bellinger, who is also the professor and chair of religion and The W. Marshall and Lullie Craig Chairholder in Bible, said Nordt was chosen from a field of well-qualified candidates in a search that began

last academic year and was rekindled in October.

One candidate from Mississippi State University withdrew after accepting a position at the University of Tennessee in Chattanooga. The other candidate, the associate provost of Eastern Michigan University, interviewed on campus during a two-day final round process, Bellinger said.

"It came down to deciding between someone with a depth of Baylor experience or someone with a fresh perspective," he said. "An external candidate would have to take a lot of time just to understand the context of the university. I am very pleased with the appointment of Dean Nordt."

After the candidates underwent sessions with a variety of groups, including the chairs of the arts and sciences department, other university deans, the president and provost and two student groups, the search committee prepared a report on the candidates for the administration to review, Bellinger said. The ultimate decision was made by the president and the provost, not

Please see DEAN, page 10

Virginia governor targets gun laws

By Bob Lewis
The Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — Virginia's governor said Tuesday he may be able to single-handedly close the loophole that allowed a mentally ill Seung-Hui Cho to buy the guns he used to kill 32 people at Virginia Tech.

Federal law bars the sale of guns to people who have been judged mentally defective. But it is up to states to report their legal proceedings to the federal government for inclusion in the database used to do background checks on prospective gun buyers.

In Cho's case, a special justice ordered outpatient psychiatric counseling for him in 2005 after determining he was a danger to himself.

But because Cho was never committed to a mental hospital, that order was never entered in the database.

Democratic Gov. Timothy M. Kaine said in a radio interview that he may be able to tighten that reporting requirement by issuing an executive order.

"This is the magnet we're all really focusing on. This grabbed our attention," Kaine

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Retiring baby boomers leave companies recruiting recent grads

By Jane M. Von Bergen
The Philadelphia Inquirer (MCT)

College career directors are reporting record numbers of recruiters on campus. Job offers are up, and companies are saying they'll bring on nearly 20 percent more new graduates than they did last year.

This is a banner year for college hiring.

"We don't have enough students to fill the positions," said Patricia N.S. Peterson, director

of career services at the University of the Sciences in West Philadelphia.

In March, Philadelphia University hosted its Design Expo, a job fair for design majors. Sixty-nine employers attended, up from 54 last year. "Now they are coming in April to do on-campus interviews. We didn't have that before," said Patricia "Trish" Shafer, director of career services.

The National Association of Colleges and Employers said

its employer members intend to hire 19.2 percent more graduates this year than they did in 2006.

Five years ago, in 2002, the fallout from the Sept. 11 attacks, the bursting of the dot-com bubble, and the recession sent the numbers the other way, with firms planning to hire 20 percent less, said Andrea Koncz, employment information manager for the Bethlehem, Pa.-based group.

This year, "most of them said

the economy is doing better and their companies are growing and they have a lot more positions open for new college graduates," she said.

Comcast Corp., for example, is strengthening its relationships with colleges in Pennsylvania and Colorado to staff a growing number of engineering and technical positions, spokeswoman Jenni Moyer said.

"Our hiring is definitely up," said Megan Charlton, campus recruiter for PricewaterhouseC-

oopers in Philadelphia. In 2006, the accounting firm hired 175 local graduates. This year it will bring on 200, mostly business students in accounting, finance and information systems.

"The students I've met have been really motivated and they know what their long-term goals are," she said.

They are also used to selling themselves, said Lindsey Pollak, author of *Getting From College to Career*, published April 10 by Harper-Collins.

"This group of students, it was so challenging for them to get into college because they are part of the baby boomlet," she said. "I see them as applying the same strategies they used to get into college to getting a job. They seem savvy about the need to market themselves and get started earlier."

May's graduates are entering the job market at a time when the unemployment rate is a low

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In light of any tragedy, the best we can do is learn

Until last Monday, the only things I knew about Virginia Tech University were that it was located in Virginia and the school colors — orange and maroon — were ugly.

Maybe that's because they are the colors of Baylor's two biggest conference rivals. Or maybe they just don't go together.

But the tragedy on April 16 interrupted my ignorance.

As I watched the fallout from the shootings, I found myself removed from violence. I even found myself forgetting that a distant cousin is studying engi-

neering there.

When I turned off the television, however, questions began to race through my mind.

They weren't the usual "why did he do it?" questions.

"What's a hokie?" "Where's Blacksburg?" "Did anyone famous go there?" and, once again, "Who thought of putting orange and maroon together?"

Well, for those who are as inquisitive as I am, here are the answers.

According to the school's Web site, "hokie" refers to a modified version of the first school spirit yell and Blacks-

point of view



BY BRIAN BATEMAN

burg is roughly 200 miles west of Richmond.

Famous alumni include Johnny Oates, who managed the Texas Rangers from 1995 to 2001, Atlanta Falcons' quarterback Michael Vick and the creator of the gold safe at Fort Knox.

And as for the colors, a committee changed the colors from black and gray — which the school Web site listed as "resembling prison uniforms" — to burnt orange and Chicago maroon in 1896.

Well, at least it's a step in the right direction.

After I found the answers to these questions, I thought I would be satisfied. But my curiosity returned a few minutes later. Maybe it's because I'm a trivia nerd. Or maybe I'm just human.

There's something compelling about disorder — it's the

reason we tap our brakes and strain our necks, peeking over the concrete barrier between our vehicle and the mangled car wreck on the other side of the road.

It's also the reason the instant our friend says, "This water fountain is nasty!" we rush to taste the water, only to find our friend's opinion is the same as ours. We could have spared our taste buds the pain if we had just listened. It may be a morbid fascination, but we learn from it anyway.

Life's trials all have lessons, and it's up to each person to

retain the concept we have to learn. And if you're lucky enough, you can watch it on CNN instead of outside your classroom window.

The point is, each of us is incredibly lucky to have the ability to learn from other people's troubling situations, and it's up to us to discover what that is.

It could be as simple as taking a second glance behind you before you walk into your dorm room, or learning where Blacksburg, Va., is.

Brian Bateman is a senior history and journalism major from Garland.

Editorial

McCain's 'Bomb-Iran' joke not a laughing matter

When politicians embark on presidential campaigns, they have to know that every word and action from the time of their announcement to the end of their race will be scrutinized.

This might not be fair to the candidates as people, since all people make mistakes sometimes, but as politicians they should know better than to make some of them.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., made one such campaign mistake on April 18 while in South Carolina.

When asked about potential United States military action toward Iran he responded by bringing up the chorus of a Beach Boys song, "Barbara Ann."

"That old, eh, that old Beach Boys song, Bomb Iran," he said. "Bomb, bomb, bomb, bomb..."

He didn't finish the phrase, but the effect was the same. He made light of a critical political situation — one of the tensest in current international affairs — and turned the prospect of war with another country into a joke.

Compared to threats from the leader of the country to which he was referring, his singing seems harmless — at least he wasn't serious about the proposed destruction of a whole nation.

But his joke does make him seem less serious about becoming president.

McCain has already alienated some moderate Republicans with his staunch support for the war in Iraq and increased troop levels, not to mention the fact that he's already under fire for contested remarks about Baghdad's increasing safety. McCain simply can't afford to make any more mistakes in his campaign.

The liberal political action group MoveOn.org has already capitalized on his undiscerning statement and created a commercial campaign against the candidate, saying America can't afford

another "reckless president."

While it's slightly overreacting to build an argument out of one joke, the fact is that presidential candidates need to hold up under the scrutiny they will face because it will only increase if they win the office.

McCain keeps putting his foot in his mouth, and we certainly don't need any more of that. Being Commander in Chief just makes the consequences even bigger.

With the Bush administration's refusal to engage Iran in diplomacy, officials at the United Nations are at their wits end on how to come up with a solution to the diplomatic standoff. The last thing they need is a joke about more pre-emptive strikes.

McCain defended his actions by saying it was just a joke and people should lighten up.

Maybe people should lighten up about certain things, and technically McCain can joke all he wants. But unfortunately for McCain, we really need the jokes because we sometimes learn as much about a person by what they find funny as we do by what they find serious.

And sometimes when they can't tell the difference, we learn about their skills of discernment.

If McCain is serious about fulfilling the duties of the nation's highest office, he should start acting — and speaking — like the presidency should be his.

He might not necessarily turn out to be another reckless president, but who can tell for sure based on what he's said already? With statements like the ones he's made, he might make another president whose rhetorical missteps are so prolific they turn into coffee table books and little desk calendars.

America definitely can't afford another one of those.



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.

Correction

In Friday's edition of the Lariat, the caption of the front page photo stated that the four Baylor students in the photo were members of the Ajax tug of war team and were also members of Phi Kappa Alpha.

The team is in no way affiliated with the fraternity. In Monday's article "Four BU students selected for Ful-

bright scholarships," the picture of Fulbright scholarship winner and Plano senior Meghan Merchant was incorrectly attributed to the wrong name.

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.

Developing integrity gives purpose and meaning to everyday life

Integrity is a powerful virtue that has been forgotten by many of this generation.

It is one of the most critical virtues a person can possess, giving an individual a solid foundation to operate on for the rest of their life.

This virtue is established through desire and discipline and must be constantly exercised to remain sharp. Otherwise the world will dull it.

Most people could give only a vague definition of integrity if they were asked to do so, because in reality, they have given little or no consideration to it.

Integrity is defined by The Oxford English Dictionary as "an unimpaired moral state; freedom from moral corruption; in-

nocence, sinlessness." Further definitions include "soundness of moral principle; the character of uncorrupted virtue, especially in relation to truth and fair dealing; uprightness, honesty, sincerity."

This definition implies an immense weight and responsibility. When reading between the lines, this exemplifies a moral strength that cannot be toppled despite any evil that one may face.

Integrity is not only a virtue but a weapon. When combating Satan and the worldly ways capable of oppressing Christians, strong integrity is the weapon needed to go into battle. This offers freedom from moral corruption — something all Chris-

point of view



BY MATTHEW RUSSELL

tians struggle to escape daily.

In short, it illustrates what every Christian should strive for in their relationship with God.

In Proverbs 11:1-3 it says, "The Lord abhors dishonest scales, but accurate weights are his delight. When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom. The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity."

This verse underscores the importance and necessity of integrity in one's daily life both for guidance and for God's delight.

Many people have misconceptions that integrity is a virtue that can be possessed only by the elderly who have experienced life's trials.

This leaves youth with the impression that integrity will come naturally with age — this is clearly a mistake. An individual is never too young to begin developing integrity.

The values of adults young and old seem to be unconcerned with admirable virtues like integrity.

For example, many people do not see lying as an immoral act. Lying can lead to hypocrisy

which has the power to devastate and compromise relationships and morals.

Unfortunately, lying to positively benefit one's self has become socially acceptable. This immoral selfishness will only bring us temporary reward and ultimately distract us from our true purpose on this earth.

Integrity will not just positively anchor a person spiritually, but will also prove an invaluable guide for our daily choices and decision making for the rest of our lives.

In every aspect of life, integrity can and will lead an individual in the right direction.

Integrity is about keeping your word, telling the truth in all situations and conducting

yourself in the same manner in private as well as in public.

In order to build integrity, one must have an inner strength and a sincere, overwhelming desire.

Once a true sense of the meaning of integrity is taken to heart, the defining characteristics mentioned above must be practiced daily to personally sharpen the virtue.

Developing integrity isn't an easy task, yet that shouldn't discourage people from this worthy challenge. Integrity can give a life worth, so use the time we have been given to diligently make your life meaningful.

Matthew Russell is a junior Psychology major from The Woodlands.

The Baylor Lariat

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THE Daily Crossword

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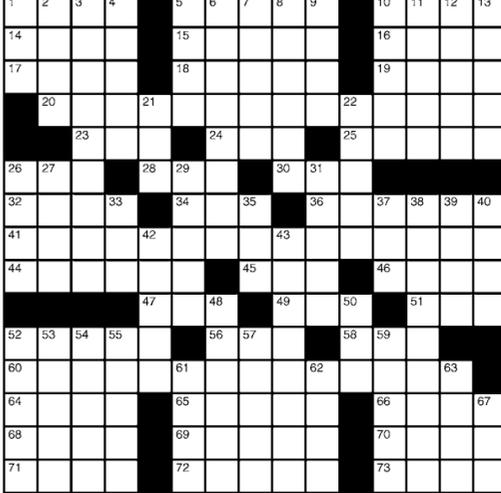
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- 42 Noted architect
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- 53 Maternally related
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- 59 Propelled a raft
- 61 Go a round with
- 62 Killed violently
- 63 Sharp pain
- 67 Tolkien creature



By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR
4/25/07
For today's crossword and sudoku answers, visit www.baylor.edu/Lariat

Lecture to focus on future of clones as food

By Jon Schroeder
Staff writer

Mmm. Clone. Soon, you could be saying just that – the FDA is reviewing data about the safety of consuming cloned animals. If approved, grocery stores could start selling products from cloned animals.

Dr. Scott Davis, co-founder and former president of ViaGen Inc., a company on the edge of cloning technology, will be speaking about genetics at 7 p.m. Friday in B110 Baylor Sciences Building.

ViaGen successfully cloned a mare – the first mare ever cloned – in February 2006 with the birthing of “Royal Blue Boon Two.”

His speech, titled “Cloning within the context of FDA risk protocols,” will address con-

cerns about cloned foods.

ViaGen offers cloning services for owners of cows, horses and pigs, although none of the cloned lines has been used to produce food.

However, the company already dabbles in the food market – it genetically tests beef to determine whether it’s Angus beef.

But could companies like ViaGen go further, actually producing food animals? Not yet, said Dr. Rene Massengale, an assistant professor of biology.

“There’s currently an embargo in place,” she said, adding that the FDA is looking into any health risks eating cloned meat might pose. Although more and more labs are looking into cloning, there are several boundaries they can’t cross.

Human cloning is not al-

lowed in the U.S., and – for the near future – neither is selling cloned animal products for consumption, Massengale said.

“One of the challenges is the potential for zoonosis, the transmission of diseases from animals to humans,” Massengale said. “The ethical question is, ‘Is it ethically or morally acceptable to clone animals artificially to get them bigger, stronger, faster?’”

“We’ve done genetic manipulation (through selective breeding and other techniques) for years. This is sort of the next step.”

As for health risks, the FDA’s 678-page preliminary report, “Animal Cloning: A Draft Risk Assessment,” draws several conclusions about possible health risks.

According to the preliminary

report, edible products from juvenile and adult bovine clones pose no new risks. Edible products from goats and adult swine also pose no new risks.

The preliminary report says there is insufficient information on the health status of sheep clones to draw conclusions about possible health risks from their consumption, but adds that for all the animals examined, there are no additional health hazards from eating the progeny of clones.

“In summary, there is no current evidence that food products derived from adult somatic cell clones of their progeny present a food safety concern,” the report goes on to say.

Dr. Robert Doyle, chairman of the biology department, said studies like the FDA’s are important.

“We certainly want to make sure we do studies and understand things,” he said. “Typically, new techniques come online and people become wary or concerned about them.”

We may “look back and wonder what all the fuss was about,” Doyle added.

Davis’ speech is part of the Davidson Lecture series, hosted by the biology department. The department’s annual Awards Night will immediately precede the lecture. Both events are free to the public.

Doyle said students should be particularly interested in this topic because it could have far-reaching effects on the public, but little is known about it.

“(Students) probably have a lot more questions than they have real information,” Doyle said. “Should be fun.”

BEAR BRIEFS

The Block Party is on!
The NAACP will hold its second annual block party from 5 to 8 p.m. at Fountain Mall. For more information, contact bunaacp@baylor.edu.

Don't miss Acoustic Cafe
Enjoy a night of free music, coffee and pastries. Acoustic Cafe will be held at 8 p.m. Thursday North Village Residential Community. Featured artists will be Trey Duck and Keron Jackson. For more information, visit www.baylor.edu/special_performances.

To submit a bear brief, Lariat@baylor.edu.

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Cheney, Reid spar publicly over Iraq policy

By Anne Flaherty
The Associated Press

Vice President Dick Cheney accused Democratic leader Harry Reid on Tuesday of personally pursuing a defeatist strategy in Iraq to win votes at home – a charge Reid dismissed as President Bush’s “attack dog” lashing out.

The particularly harsh exchange came just hours after Bush said he would veto the latest war spending bill taking shape in Congress, which includes a timetable for withdrawing from Iraq.

“Some Democratic leaders seem to believe that blind opposition to the new strategy in Iraq is good politics,” Cheney told reporters at the Capitol after attending the weekly Republican policy lunch. “Senator Reid himself has said that the war in Iraq will bring his party more seats in the next election.”

“It is cynical to declare that the war is lost because you

believe it gives you political advantage,” Cheney said.

Cheney said he felt compelled to make a statement in front of cameras to express his frustration with Reid, D-Nev., after the Senate majority leader told reporters last week the war was lost. Cheney’s remarks also showed the high stakes involved for the White House in trying to stave off Democratic efforts to end the war.

While Bush has enough Republican votes to sustain his veto, Democrats say they have public opinion on their side and that will eventually force Bush to change.

“This isn’t a political issue,” said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif. “I respect where the president is coming from on this. I wish he would respect where we are coming from, which is a reflection of where the American people are coming from.”

Reid shrugged off Cheney’s remarks – but with his own dig at the vice president.

“I’m not going to get into a name-calling match with the administration’s chief attack dog,” he said.

The \$124.2 billion legislation would continue to fund the war in Iraq but also would require that troops begin pulling out by Oct. 1 – or earlier if the Iraqi government does not make progress in taming sectarian violence and forging political agreements. The bill ultimately sets a nonbinding goal for combat operations to end by April 1, 2008.

“It’s a good piece of legislation,” Reid said. “I would hope the president would stop being so brusque and waving it off. This is a bill that is good for the troops. It’s good for the country.”

With Democrats expecting to send Bush the final bill as early as next week, Bush stood firm Tuesday against any measure that would set a timetable for withdrawal.

“They chose to make a politi-

cal statement,” he said. “That’s their right, but it is wrong for our troops and it’s wrong for our country. To accept the bill proposed by the Democratic leadership would be to accept a policy that directly contradicts the judgment of our military commanders.”

House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer said Democrats will ignore the veto threat and send the bill to Bush in the hope that he will have a change of heart. But, Hoyer added, they don’t expect it.

“He will do with it what he will do,” said Hoyer, D-Md. If Bush vetoes the measure, Democrats will consider their next step and try to bring Republicans on board.

Bush said U.S. troops should not be caught in the middle of a showdown between the White House and Congress. Under the bill, U.S. forces could remain in Iraq after the 2008 date but would be restricted to three noncombat missions.



Associated Press

Flags for the fallen

Students from Reynolds Elementary School line the procession funeral route of Cpl. Cody Putman with flags Tuesday, in Reynolds, Ind. Putman, 22, was killed April 12 along with another soldier in Baghdad by an improvised explosive device.

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Studies define today's cancer

By Sapna Prasad
Reporter

Our daily lifestyle habits have changed, and so have the diseases we suffer from.

Lung cancer

A study released a month ago from the Harvard Women's Health Watch said that more women die annually from lung cancer than from breast, ovarian and cervical cancer combined. A century ago this wasn't the case.

According to the American Cancer Society, smoking is the most preventable cause of death in our society.

Smoking damages nearly every organ in the human body. It's linked to 10 different cancers and is responsible for 30 percent of all cancer deaths.

And still one in four Americans chooses to light up.

Dr. Suzy Weems, chairwoman of the department of family and consumer sciences, said stress management and weight control are the leading reasons younger women get into the habit of smoking.

Weems said the environment students live in today has changed because there are more mechanisms in place that make life easier to live.

Weems said more students are also drinking larger amounts of alcohol during their late teenage years and into their early 20s.

"When you wake up after a night of heavy drinking, you're not going to feel like running a couple of miles around the Bear Trail, so you pick up a cigarette," Weems said.

"This sets you up for a number of diseases, not just lung cancer."

Dr. William Hillis, professor of biology, said smoking by women appears to be a bad habit that is perpetuating in society. The increase in lung cancer in women is thought to have occurred because more women are engaged in smoking and at younger ages, Hillis said.

Testing and treatment

The Harvard Women's Health

Watch study focuses on a test that can detect lung cancer at its curable stages.

According to the study, spiral computed tomography scans the lungs to first generate cross-sectional images, which are then computed into three-dimensional images.

Hillis said research shows this to be more effective in the detection of lung cancer than the traditional chest X-ray in many cases.

Hillis said other types of cancer have decreased in proportion. These decreases in breast, ovarian and cervical cancer are due in part to the emphasis on early detection efforts made by women.

Because of frequent mammograms and pap smears, intervention can take place before the cancers have spread too far.

Medical advances are also giving younger generations the advantage of better anti-cancer drugs.

But lung cancer testing isn't as common as tests for other forms of cancer.

"I suspect that it is both advances in the medical profession, and the better habits of women undertaking early detection," Hillis said.

Changing environments

Weems said people are more likely to suffer from some type of illness because life expectancy is constantly increasing. Weems said 50 years ago it was difficult to diagnose ailments, but today people can live longer because of advances in clinical testing and treatment. Prolonging life also gives us a chance to see the benefits and consequences of the way we live.

"The way we live doesn't make us sicker, it changes what we suffer from," Weems said.

Weems doesn't think the changes in the diseases we suffer from have anything to do with gender.

Dr. Cynthia Wall, staff psychologist, said media influences have impacted our lifestyle habits in such a way that it has become increasingly common

for men and women to suffer from the same types of eating disorders or bouts of unhealthy amounts of exercising. Wall said this has caused an increase in the mental illness seen on college campuses across the United States.

"It becomes more than a physical fight, it's a deeply psychological one," Wall said.

Lifestyle choices

Weems said the food supply in the United States is the best in the world in terms of quantity and quality. But Weems said our society is spending too much time enjoying the convenience of fast food rather than realizing how the body uses the artificial preservatives that make Taco Bell or McDonald's taste so good. Weems said we have to find ways of "active relaxation" in order to keep up with the "fast-paced, instant-info" world we live in.

"We no longer know when we're hungry or when we're full, we just eat out of habit," Weems said.

She said there is an increasing disconnect between how our body works and how we choose to fuel it. Weems said that it doesn't matter what diet or program an individual chooses to follow, in the end it is a lifestyle change that will make the difference.

She said our society is good at making excuses and putting off making healthy choices, commonly saying, "I'll fix it when I'm older."

Here at Baylor, Weems has seen two distinct groups of students: one group is intent on exercising and staying fit, the other chooses not to be physically active.

She said it isn't as easy as fat or skinny: It's the small things that make a difference. Weems said it is as easy as taking the farther parking spot or walking up the stairs instead of waiting for the elevator. According to Weems, the little steps we take for granted will make obesity the leading cause of health problems among the next few generations.



Associated Press

Waves, plane crash on beach

Police and emergency crews surround a single-engine aircraft Tuesday on the beach in Oxnard, Calif., after it crash-landed. Officials said the pilot and one passenger were not injured.

Seminary president comments on VT

By Matt Curry
The Associated Press

DALLAS — The head of a Southern Baptist seminary told male students they should charge an attacker when confronted with a situation like last week's Virginia Tech campus shootings.

Paige Patterson, president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, made the comments at an April 18 chapel service, two days after Seung-Hui Cho fatally shot 32 people before killing himself.

"All you had to do was have

six or eight (students) rush him right at that time and 32 people wouldn't have died," Patterson said.

Patterson, who helped lead the 1979 conservative takeover of the Southern Baptist Convention, told The Associated Press in a phone interview Tuesday that he doesn't regret the remarks.

He said he wasn't criticizing actions taken at Virginia Tech, though he said his comments were characterized that way by some "for less than noble reasons."

"None of us were there, and

when the bullets are flying no one can predict the way anyone can respond, including myself," he said.

The seminary leader said part of his role includes building character among his students, some of whom will become missionaries and suffer for their faith.

Patterson put a statement on the seminary's Web site Monday stating that he sympathizes not only with families who suffered losses, but also the university president and Virginia Tech security force, who he said are being maligned.

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European astronomers find potentially habitable planet

By Seth Borenstein
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For the first time astronomers have discovered a planet outside our solar system that is potentially habitable, with Earth-like temperatures, a find researchers described Tuesday as a big step in the search for "life in the universe."

The planet is just the right size, might have water in liquid form, and in galactic terms is relatively nearby at 120 trillion miles away.

But the star it closely orbits, known as a "red dwarf," is much smaller, dimmer and cooler than our sun.

There's still a lot that is unknown about the new planet, which could be deemed inhospitable to life once more is known about it.

And it's worth noting that scientists' requirements for habitability count Mars in that category: a size relatively similar

to Earth's with temperatures that would permit liquid water. However, this is the first outside our solar system that meets those standards.

"It's a significant step on the way to finding possible life in the universe," said University of Geneva astronomer Michel Mayor, one of 11 European scientists on the team that found the planet. "It's a nice discovery. We still have a lot of questions."

The results of the discovery have not been published but have been submitted to the journal *Astronomy and Astrophysics*.

Alan Boss, who works at the Carnegie Institution of Washington where a U.S. team of astronomers competed in the hunt for an Earth-like planet, called it "a major milestone in this business."

The planet was discovered by the European Southern Observatory's telescope in La Silla, Chile, which has a special instrument that splits light to

"It's a significant step on the way to finding possible life in the universe."

Michael Mayor
astronomer

find wobbles in different wave lengths. Those wobbles can reveal the existence of other worlds.

What they revealed is a planet circling the red dwarf star, Gliese 581. Red dwarfs are low-energy, tiny stars that give off dim red light and last longer than stars like our sun. Until a few years ago, astronomers didn't consider these stars as possible hosts of planets that might sustain life.

The discovery of the new planet, named 581 c, is sure to fuel studies of planets circling similar dim stars. About 80 percent of the stars near Earth are red dwarfs.

The new planet is about five times heavier than Earth. Its discoverers aren't certain if it is rocky like Earth or if it's a frozen ice ball with liquid water on the surface.

If it is rocky like Earth, which is what the prevailing theory proposes, it has a diameter about 1 1/2 times bigger than our planet. If it is an iceball, as Mayor suggests, it would be even bigger.

Based on theory, 581 c should have an atmosphere, but what's in that atmosphere is still a mystery and if it's too thick that could make the planet's surface temperature too hot, Mayor said.

However, the research team believes the average temperature to be somewhere between 32 and 104 degrees and that set off celebrations among astronomers.

Until now, all 220 planets astronomers have found outside our solar system have had the "Goldilocks problem."

They've been too hot, too cold or just plain too big and gaseous, like uninhabitable Jupiter.

The new planet seems just right — or at least that's what scientists think.

"This could be very important," said NASA astrobiology expert Chris McKay, who was not part of the discovery team. "It doesn't mean there is life, but it means it's an Earth-like planet in terms of potential habitability."

Eventually astronomers will rack up discoveries of dozens, maybe even hundreds of planets considered habitable, the astronomers said.

But this one — simply called "c" by its discoverers when they talk among themselves — will go down in cosmic history as No. 1.

Besides having the right temperature, the new planet is probably full of liquid water, hypothesizes Stephane Udry, the discovery team's lead author

and another Geneva astronomer. But that is based on theory about how planets form, not on any evidence, he said.

"Liquid water is critical to life as we know it," co-author Xavier Delfosse of Grenoble University in France, said in a statement. "Because of its temperature and relative proximity, this planet will most probably be a very important target of the future space missions dedicated to the search for extraterrestrial life. On the treasure map of the Universe, one would be tempted to mark this planet with an X."

Other astronomers cautioned it's too early to tell whether there is water.

"You need more work to say it's got water or it doesn't have water," said retired NASA astronomer Steve Maran, press officer for the American Astronomical Society.

"You wouldn't send a crew there assuming that when you get there, they'll have enough water to get back."

Mexico City lawmakers legalize abortion

By Mark Stevenson
The Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — Mexico City lawmakers voted to legalize abortion Tuesday, a decision likely to influence policies and health practices across Mexico and other parts of heavily Roman Catholic Latin America.

The proposal, approved 46-19, with one abstention, will take effect with the expected signing by the city's leftist mayor. Abortion opponents have already vowed to appeal the law to the Supreme Court, a move likely to extend the bitter and emotional debate in this predominantly Catholic nation.

"Decriminalizing abortion is a historic triumph, a triumph of the left," said city legislator Jorge Diaz Cuervo, a leftist social dem-

ocrat who voted for the bill.

Nationally, Mexico allows abortion only in cases of rape, severe birth defects or if the woman's life is at risk. Doctors sometimes refuse to perform the procedure even under those circumstances. The new law will require city hospitals to provide the procedure in the first trimester and opens the way for private abortion clinics. Girls under 18 would have to get their parents' consent.

The procedure will be almost free for poor or insured city residents, but is unlikely to attract patients from the United States, where later-term abortion is legal in many states. Under the Mexico City law, women having an abortion after 12 weeks face punishment of three to six months in jail. Those perform-

ing abortions after that period would face one to three years in jail.

Mexico City is dominated by the leftist Democratic Revolution Party, at odds with President Felipe Calderon's conservative National Action Party, which opposed the abortion measure.

"We go to great lengths to protect (sea) turtle eggs," said city lawmaker Paula Soto, a member of Calderon's party. "Lucky turtles! It appears they have more people willing to defend them than some unborn children."

The law alarmed Calderon's party and prompted authorities to send ranks of riot police to separate chanting throngs of opposing demonstrators outside the city legislature. A crowd of abortion-rights supporters

chanting "Yes, we did it!" gathered at a monument to 19th-century anti-clerical reformer Benito Juarez in downtown Mexico City after the vote.

"I feel happy, because this is a step forward, not backward, for a woman's right and freedom to choose ... about her body and her life," said demonstrator Gabriela Cruz, 36.

The Roman Catholic church has protested the measure and Mexico City Cardinal Norberto Rivera led a march through the capital last month in opposition. The Archdiocese said Tuesday that it would "evaluate the moral consequences of the reforms" and said Rivera would have no public comment on the vote until Sunday.

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Associated Press

Pro-abortion activists, holding signs that read "The right to decide," shout slogans during a protest outside Mexico City's Assembly on Tuesday. The proposal has alarmed Mexico's conservative ruling party and prompted the Vatican to send its top anti-abortion campaigner to the Mexican capital.

legalized abortion for all women are Cuba and Guyana. Most others allow it only in cases of rape

or when the woman's life is at risk. Nicaragua, El Salvador and Chile ban it completely.

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Fourth-ranked Bears still hungry

By Will Parchman
Sports writer

After clinching his seventh Big 12 title Sunday, men's tennis head Coach Matt Knoll proved once again that he is no stranger to the kind of success that matters.

But that won't make his sixth-consecutive regular season conference title any less sweet.

"It's funny, I think I appreciate it more now than I did the first couple times we won it," said Knoll, who was responsible for Baylor's first ever national title in 2004. "I was so concerned with the NCAA tournament that I undervalued playing in the conference, and now I've come to appreciate it more."

Now that No. 4 Baylor appears poised to run roughshod through another post-season, Knoll has more to appreciate than ever. The Bears clinched their Big 12 title with a shaky but important 5-2 win over the University of Oklahoma on Sunday to complete their regular

season slate. From here on out, every match means more, and that's not lost on a team so used to winning.

"We've won the Big 12 regular season title all three years I've been here, so for me it's not a given, but I expect us to win the Big 12 every year," said junior Lars Poerschke, Baylor's highest-ranked singles player at No. 13. "Our goal is always to win the national championship. This was a big step. It's always good to win the Big 12, but now we'll try to win the Big 12 Tournament and the national championship."

Senior Matija Zgaga has seen the rise of the Baylor tennis team from the front and owns an NCAA National Championship ring from his freshman season. He made his way back from seven match points on Sunday to win, and the scrappy senior said winning titles never loses its luster.

"It's always great winning, and I've learned to appreciate it more," Zgaga said. "It's definitely

not boring or anything. The Big 12 is a pretty tough conference with some real strong tennis, so we had to compete our best, and we did."

Despite not having the kind of star power that's carried them through seasons past, the Bears' dominance has continued. With former No. 1 netters Benjamin Becker and Benedikt Dorsch making their way through the ATP Tour, which recently named Becker its Newcomer of the Year, Knoll has had to rely more on experience than ever.

That's where Zgaga shines. The senior from Slovenia has never been higher than No. 62 in singles play and has largely made his mark as a doubles player teamed with Dorsch, who has since moved on. But there are some things that go beyond statistics, and Knoll believes Zgaga's experience, which now includes four Big 12 titles in four years, has been critical.

The team's experience has certainly bolstered its season, but Baylor men's tennis is still

a group of powerful and highly-touted tennis players headlined by Poerschke. The German was named the Big 12 Men's Tennis Player of the Week for his efforts last week, which included three wins over ranked players.

Poerschke finished the season with a 24-8 overall record and a 5-1 record in the Big 12. While he knows the ultimate goal lies with the NCAA tournament, the Big 12 tournament is an important tune-up.

"We've seen everybody in the Big 12 this year and beaten them all, so we hope and expect to win that tournament," Poerschke said.

For a coach always looking for the next challenge, Knoll said he knows the stakes are higher at this point in the season than ever.

The team will travel up to Kansas to begin play in the Big 12 tournament on Thursday and then will wait for NCAA Championship seed selections on May 1. Until then, Knoll said, all the team can do is prepare.



Abbie Rosen/Lariat staff

Senior netter Lars Poerschke serves during the Bears' 5-2 win over the University of Oklahoma on Sunday. Baylor claimed its sixth-straight Big 12 title by going a perfect 6-0 in conference play.



Melea Burke/Lariat staff

Senior pitcher Lisa Ferguson throws a pitch during the Baylor softball team's 4-3 win on April 14. Ferguson is 19-6 with a 1.92 ERA in 164 innings this season.

No. 9 softball sets aim on Big 12 title claim

By Daniel Youngblood
Sports editor

With a little over two weeks left in the regular season, the No. 8 Baylor softball team (41-11, 11-2) is just four Big 12 victories away from winning its first conference championship.

With a two-game series against second-place University of Missouri at Gettman Stadium this weekend, and home games against rivals University of Texas and Texas A&M University next week, the Lady Bears will take the title if they can win out.

Senior infielder Ashley Monceaux, who leads Baylor in batting average (.405), home runs (15) and RBIs (54), said it's nice to know the team's fortune is in its own players' hands.

"It's a great feeling to know we control our destiny," Monceaux said. "In the past we've had to rely on other teams messing up for a

chance at the championship. This year it's different."

But standing between the Lady Bears and a conference title is Missouri, which at 9-2 in Big 12 play is the surprise of the league, and a pair of perennial powerhouse in Texas and Texas A&M.

Monceaux said the team isn't taking any win for granted.

"Waving the championship banner has crossed our minds, but we're going to take each opponent seriously and play each game as it comes," she said. "After getting swept by the University of Oklahoma, we realize we can't look forward at all."

The pair of games the Lady Bears lost to the No. 3 Sooners on April 18 are their only two slip-ups in conference this season, but with the competitiveness of the Big 12 this season, one loss may get Baylor passed up in the standings.

Senior pitcher Lisa Ferguson said this knowledge serves as moti-

vation for the team.

"It's funny because if we lose one game, the championship's not ours," she said. "It's unbelievable that the difference between two or three losses determines the title. The good news is we've won against tough teams this year and we know we're completely capable."

The Lady Bears have already beaten two of their three remaining opponents. Baylor defeated No. 5 Texas A&M 3-1 on April 4 in College Station and shut out No. 15 Texas 6-0 in Austin on April 11.

Head Coach Glen Moore said his team is capable of winning out, but it will take their best effort.

"Our chances of reaching this goal is more realistic now than it's ever been," he said. "The biggest thing will be the maturation factor of our team and improving with every game."

Before the Lady Bears begin the championship gamut this weekend, they play their final road game of

the season against Texas State University at 6 p.m. today in San Marcus.

Moore said the Texas State game, which will be Baylor's 10th road game in its last 12 contests, will serve as a good tune-up for the team's final four games.

He said this week will be used to recover and to get refreshed heading into the pivotal Missouri series.

"Missouri has played really well this year," he said. "The have a great pitcher, a new coach and they're playing with a breath of fresh air and nothing to lose. They're a good team, but we are too. We intend to show that this weekend."

Ferguson, who has won a wide array of individual awards for her pitching throughout her four years at Baylor, said she thinks this year's Baylor team is special. She said the team's immediate goal is to win a conference title, but that is just the beginning of what they hope to accomplish in the coming weeks.

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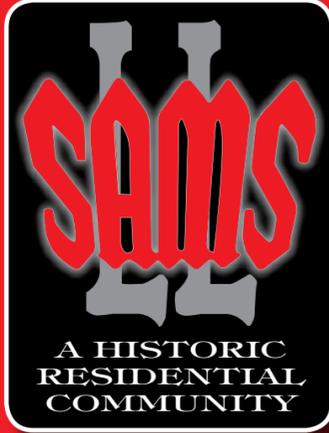
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Associated Press

Avril Lavigne tapes an appearance on MTV's *Total Request Live* on April 16 at MTV's Times Square, studios in New York, where she promoted her new CD *The Best Damn Thing*. The album was released the same day.

Avril's new album has harsh sound, lyrics

By Tamara Parker
Contributor

The *Best Damn Thing* is the third and much anticipated new album by singer-songwriter Avril Lavigne. Described by Lavigne herself as "fun, bratty, aggressive, and confident" *The Best Damn Thing* delivers more upbeat jams and definitely more explicit lyrics that match the album title than past albums.

ALBUMREVIEW

Unlike Lavigne's usual mellow tunes, *The Best Damn Thing* kicks off with the fast and likable track "Girlfriend," which has already debuted on the Billboard Top 100 chart at No. 5 — before the album even dropped.

Boasting lyrics like "I don't like your girlfriend" and "I think we should get together" definitely target her teen audience, but it's the explicit lyrics and overall snobby tone of the album that may turn away her typical fans and leave listeners confused about what exactly she's trying to say.

If you haven't heard "Girlfriend" or "Hot" — yet another self-involved tune — you soon will. Despite how crass and

shallow these songs are, they are unfortunately still catchy, which takes us back to the days of "Complicated" and "Sk8er Boi," which were just as cheesy but at least harmless fun.

The difference here is that these tunes are sending the "I'm better than you message" over and over again — to the point that you're wondering if every song has the same lyrics, just different notes.

Perhaps Lavigne's newest approach came with a little bit of help from her husband, Deryck Whibley of Sum 41, another band which is known for callous and angry tracks.

It would appear his new bride has joined in and is leaving her existential tracks behind in order to talk about how much hotter and "damn" better she is than everyone else.

It's disappointing to see an artist take a giant step back. Lavigne started off unexpectedly strong with two albums that possessed deep, meaningful lyrics along with beautiful melodies. Now it seems as if she doesn't want to let us in anymore but has instead sold out to the popular audience with jagged tunes and harsh lyrics.

Hey hey, you you — go back to writing better songs.

Grade: C

By Margo Harakas
South Florida Sun-Sentinel

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — They are the new majority — women who find themselves, by choice or not, living spouseless. Divorced, widowed, never married, they are women discovering new strengths.

Many rejoice in their independence, their achievements and their ability to go it alone, happily.

They are doctors, teachers, entrepreneurs, supporters of the arts, civic activists, volunteers, and yes, the poor. Living without spouses, they constitute a new demographic of the American landscape.

"I view my spouseless life as serene, peaceful and content for now," says Amber Harper, 26, of Fort Lauderdale.

Jeannette Markus of Delray Beach, Fla., agrees.

"I am happy as a clam," says the 48-year-old divorced mother of a college-bound daughter and an active volunteer.

"I work hard in my office, maintain

a large home by myself, grow orchids and exotic plants in my garden and am friends with every family (in) my neighborhood."

U.S. Census figures for 2005 showed more American women living without a spouse than with one. In 1950, according to analysis by *The New York Times*, only 35 percent of women made that claim.

Whatever the circumstances, they are mostly leading lives that are productive, active and joyful.

"If I had my druthers, I would prefer a partnership," says Rhonnie Robins, divorced and living single in Boca Raton, Fla., for the past three years.

But at 51, Robins says "I've lost my fear of just about everything, gained a lot of self-respect and learned 'I can' — no matter what. I've never felt more emotionally, mentally, physically or spiritually complete."

Laura Finley, director of social change at Women in Distress, a shelter for victims of domestic violence in Broward County and visiting professor of sociology at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Fla., sees

the trend as a natural extension of the women's movement.

"We now have a generation of people who partly say that it's OK to be by myself, people who have devoted themselves to a career because that became available because of the women's movement," she notes.

Jane Caputi, professor of women's studies at Florida Atlantic University, notes that notes that historically, "women really had to be married to be economically viable and socially acceptable. Any who weren't were seen as disreputable."

Modern capitalism changed all that with women gaining access to full employment and, as a result, economic independence.

That's allowed women, says Caputi, "to forge new models of community and relationships, (and) function happily and with economic stability."

Caputi also noted that economic independence is still illusory for many women.

Less jubilant, too, about going it alone are women isolated by age, frailty and the loss of a beloved husband.

Chicago fire interrupts filming for upcoming 'Batman' movie sequel

By Jason Meisner
and Alexa Aguilar
McClatchy Newspapers

CHICAGO — A fire Tuesday morning on the upper floors of Chicago's vacant former post office interrupted filming of an upcoming *Batman* sequel and caused a surreal scene of costumed Gotham City detectives wandering among Chicago firefighters and police.

The fire was not related to the filming, officials said.

The blaze was called in about 11:20 a.m. local time at the sprawling, 14-story building, Chicago Fire Department Chief Jose Santiago said.

The structure used to house the city's main post office but is currently unoccupied. Part of the ground floor

has been transformed into the "Gotham National Bank."

Firefighters arrived to find smoke coming from the top of the building, and extra manpower and ambulances were called to the scene as a precaution.

Santiago said the blaze appeared to have started in a ventilation unit on the 14th floor of the tower at Van Buren and Canal Streets. The building's sprinkler system was activated, and firefighters were able to keep the flames from spreading to other floors. Although the exact cause of the fire was under investigation, Santiago said the ventilation system was old and firefighters have responded there numerous times in the past.

"It had nothing to do with (the movie set)," Santiago said. "We've had

several fires in this location."

Witnesses said the *Batman* crew was filming a scene involving a fleet of school buses on Canal when the fire broke out.

Steve Burrell said he was watching from the 16th floor of a nearby building when he saw "a giant, quick burst of flame and then smoke."

"They were set to film their scene, the filming people were in position, but then everything was aborted," Burrell said.

The fire was extinguished by about noon, but crews remained on the scene looking for hot spots this afternoon.

There were no injuries or evacuations, Santiago said.

He also noted that filming will resume today.

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Album hypnotizes listeners

By Sharon Moran
Contributor

For Explosions in the Sky, there are no words. First, the breadth of its work is inexpressible, and secondly, there are literally no lyrics in *All of a Sudden I Miss Everyone*.

ALBUMREVIEW



Courtesy photo

Explosions in the Sky, a band known for its instrumentals, recently released *All of a Sudden I Miss Everyone*.

This instrumental six-track album is a continuation of a series of statements made by the band with each new release, starting with its first album in 2001, called *Those Who Tell the Truth Shall Die, Those Who Tell the Truth Shall Live Forever* and continued with 2003's *The Earth Is Not a Cold Dead Place*.

In short, Explosion's goal is to simplify the chaos of the world for its listeners.

The four members of the band — guitarists Mark Smith and Munaf Rayani, bass guitarist Michael James and drum-

mer Chris Hraskey — previously formed a band called Breaker Morant in Austin in 1999. After playing a show on the Fourth of July, fireworks inspired them to name their band Explosions in the Sky. Its post-rock ethereal sound first gained mass popularity when its music was featured in the soundtrack for the movie *Friday Night Lights*.

The band's unique approach

to its genre lends no front-and-center attention to one particular type of music. As post-rock is often criticized and seen as over-reaching, Explosions sticks with the working formula of its variety and does it well.

It is like a modern symphony, a new approach to classical music amplified with heightened expression of emotion and aggressive drive.

For the most part, the band consists of three guitars, at times, a bass guitar and drums. The band's avant-garde approach to rock is hypnotizing, as many of its songs continue for up to 12 minutes yet never become monotonous. The majority of the tracks in *All of a Sudden I Miss Everyone* consist of layered sounds of pianos, synthesizers and chimes all set to inspiring beats. Like a tragic soundtrack with a redeeming ending, nothing could better describe this group's hypnotic sound than explosions in the sky.

Grade: A



Associated Press

Musicians Joseph Pepper, Nic Hudson, Jeff Lett, Kevin Sanders and Will Pugh of the band Cartel pose backstage Monday during MTV's *Total Request Live* show at the MTV Times Square Studios in New York.

Dr Pepper, MTV team up

Pop-punk band Cartel will live in a bubble on Pier 54 in New York

By David Koenig
The Associated Press

DALLAS — Most Americans over 40 can probably recall a commercial jingle from the late 1970s that told them, "Be a Pepper, drink Dr Pepper."

The maker of Dr Pepper is turning again to music to help sell soda, but in a way that shows how both music and advertising have changed in a generation.

Dr Pepper is paying an undisclosed amount to have a pop-punk band live and work in a transparent bubble on New York's touristy Pier 54 for 20 days. Cameras will record the members of Cartel as they write and record a new CD.

The bubble will be loaded with cameras so fans can watch the band online around the clock. Plans also call for MTV to produce four half-hour shows, although network officials wouldn't be pinned down on which of its channels will air the episodes.

The idea for the promotion started at one of Dr Pepper's advertising agencies, Mediaedge:cia. The agency folks knew people at MTV, and soon Dr Pepper executives were going over a list of up-and-coming bands.

"The idea of watching the

band make music — the trials and tribulations and personal challenges that come along with that — was really appealing to us," said Tim Rosta, a marketing vice president at MTV.

Plus, he added, Dr Pepper wanted MTV to make the show rather than handing the network a finished product that might not look, well, like MTV programming.

"Anyone can sponsor a concert tour," said Andrew Springate, a marketing vice president for the U.S. beverages unit of Britain-based Cadbury Schweppes PLC, which owns Dr Pepper. "We wanted to help consumers get access to how an album gets put together."

Besides, he added, MTV attracts young viewers, and young people drink lots of soda.

The Dr Pepper name figures to be prominent inside the bubble, but Springate insists the company won't have any voice in the band's work.

"We're not going to ask the band to create a Dr Pepper song," he said.

Cartel is an Atlanta-based quintet whose guitarist is appropriately named Joseph Pepper.

MTV executives said plans call for the network to air an episode May 24, when the band

goes into the 2,200-square-foot bubble on Pier 54, another when it emerges June 12, and two more in between.

Advertising experts say the Dr Pepper promotion shows how far brands are willing to go to grab attention in a media-saturated world. They are paying to have products mentioned or displayed in popular TV shows, movies, even books. The trick is to do it effortlessly. Viewers are turned off if the program looks like an infomercial, said David Freeman, managing director of the advertising practice at public relations firm Edelman.

Product placement goes back at least to 1982 and E.T. *The Extra-Terrestrial*, said Daniel J. Howard, chairman of the marketing department at the business school of Southern Methodist University. The movie's title character was an alien that devoured Reese's Pieces.

Short of turning off the set, viewers in the 1970s couldn't skip over that spot of a clean-cut guy dancing and singing his way through "Be a Pepper." They can now.

"We're bombarded with commercials. People blow them off. They skip them on TiVo," Howard said. "You won't be able to filter this out."

Dating author says, 'Loosen up'

By Mark de la Vina
McClatchy Newspapers

Three years after his mega-hit relationship advice book for women dropped a sobering hammer on dating reality, co-author Greg Behrendt is delivering a new message for daters whose aims are amorous: Lighten up.

Behrendt, co-author of *He's Just Not That Into You*, former daytime talk show host and the ex-consultant on *Sex and the City*, has returned to his stand-up comedy roots. He has released a comedy DVD, *Greg Behrendt is Uncool*, and has reconnected to the comedy club circuit.

Behrendt's suggestion that we take things a little less seriously also applies to his recent writings on dating. He and co-writer Liz Tuccillo, a former executive story editor for *Sex and the City*, revised *He's Just Not That Into You* last December.

The difference: The original version of the book suggested that women and men cut bait

when a potential partner displays signs of indifference, if not outright disinterest. In the expanded version, their advice is not so narrow. They say many people so crave a love connection that in their results-crazed fervor, they miss out on the actual experience of dating, which should be the point. Behrendt and Tuccillo will delve even deeper into the subject in *It's Just a Bleeping Date*, their follow-up due this fall.

Long before Behrendt, 43, became the relationship guy, he was a theater geek at the University of Oregon who relocated to Los Angeles to become a rock star. He performed stand-up on the side for six years before dropping his musical aspirations to become part of the Los Angeles indie comedy scene that launched the careers of Ben Stiller, Janeane Garofalo and former roommate David Cross.

His success on stage led to his own HBO special, *Mantastic*, which toyed with the idea

of gender stereotypes — and got the attention of the creators of *Sex and the City*. He was hired as a consultant for the series. While in the *Sex and the City* writing room, he and Tuccillo developed the idea for *He's Just Not That Into You*, which also became a story line for one episode. He has since co-written *It's Called a Break-Up Because It's Broken* with his wife, Amiira Ruotola-Behrendt.

After his recent stint as a talk-show host, Behrendt says his return to stand-up comedy has gotten him back in touch with what helped him excel in writing and television in the first place.

"I want to make sure that I'm letting people know that that's where I came from, that that's the well from which everything sprang," he says from his home in Los Angeles. "I think my relationship advice has had an effect because it comes from a comedic place as opposed to an 'I know better than you' place."

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DEAN from page 1

the committee.

Nordt, who also teaches a class in geochronology, said he was looking forward to working as a full dean.

"This university has been growing for a long time," he said. "The dean's role needs to be open to growth and change as well."

Even though Nordt said in a lot of ways his daily role will not change, he does have plans for long-term restructuring.

Some of these plans include more involvement in fundraising issues and strategic planning, as well as the addition of a third associate dean, he said.

"I'd like to empower the associate deans to do more in the college," he said. "This would allow the dean to take on other responsibilities such as development."

Lufkin junior Trey Duck, who served on a student panel that interviewed the candidates, said he felt Nordt was "very personable and transparent."

"A big concern of mine was how to balance a well-rounded education with a high standard of faith," he said. "Dean Nordt handled that question really well and was very sympathetic to my concerns."

Duck said his experience with the entire selection process was positive.

"I felt like our voices were really heard by the university," he said.

Bellinger said the committee believed it was important to have students involved in such a major appointment. Committee members contacted students from their academic departments and solicited recommendations from department chairs and student government offices, he said.

Nordt said initially going into the student discussions, he wasn't sure what to expect.

"It was very challenging," he said. "The students had some of the toughest questions of all."

BOOKS from page 1

every book for every class.

"We want to rely on used books," she said, noting that used books are more affordable for students.

"If we can stock 100 books for a class ... we might put 10 new books on the shelf. The more (used books in stock), the better."

Richards said students come first at the Baylor Bookstore.

"We're connected to the Baylor community," she said.

Efollet, a major bookstore provider to universities across the country, claims that the reason textbooks are expensive is because the paper and print quality are so high. The company also states that students should view textbook purchases as an "investment in your future."

Efollet also discourages

students from creating online bookstores, citing the difficulties of staying competitive.

"Experience shows that most of who tried ended up realizing, one, there's not a lot of money in it, and two, it's a pain to keep track of the constant changes in the business," promotional materials from the company state.

According to information compiled from a National Association of College Stores study, 64.7 cents of every dollar spent on textbooks goes to publishing companies.

College stores get a smaller chunk, at 22.6 cents. The remainder of textbook spending goes to the author (11.6 cents) and to freight expenses (1.1 cents).

Author perspective

Dr. Jeff Donahoo, associate professor of computer science, who started a series of computer

science texts, said he's not getting rich from his authorship.

Donahoo said he wrote his first textbook because he felt bad about asking students to buy two textbooks when only one was being fully used.

He listed the other as a "recommended" text for the class, but said it only contained a few needed topics.

So Donahoo wrote a textbook for his introduction to networking class, a textbook which he said costs "significantly less" than the standard. That class still uses one of his texts. Since then, he's also written the text for his introduction to data bases class.

"I wrote my first book to save students money," Donahoo said, adding that even though he doesn't make any money on used text sales, he still "wouldn't want (his) publisher to skewer the used market."

That first textbook has since been translated into Japanese and sold around the world. Still, he said, he does it "solely to benefit my students."

Do students think they're being overcharged?

Many students believe that bookstores overcharge them in an effort to improve profit margins.

"Yes, of course," said Megan Gary, an Austin senior. "It's an excellent deal for (textbook stores). It seems kind of like a conspiracy."

Most of the law schools to which Gary has applied use online texts rather than textbooks. That's a better alternative, Gary said, adding that colleges and publishers should re-evaluate how they approach textbooks as a whole. To her, that means using cheaper paperback books in the absence of viable online

alternatives, rather than using hard back texts with glossy pages.

Most of the responsibility rests with professors to pick less expensive options for students, Gary said.

"If (professors) change what students are forced to demand, the publishers will be forced to change how they do things as well."

Gary said the most important step to making the cost of textbooks less prohibitive is for publishers to change the type of materials they offer.

Although Gary said it's a good thing that bookstores allow students to sell back used texts, she generally only gets back about 10 percent of what she paid for her books. If she realistically received 50 to 60 percent of the original cost when she sold books back, she said, she wouldn't feel ripped off.

JOBS from page 1

4.4 percent, meaning there is more competition for skilled workers.

And they are also looking for jobs just as companies are beginning to plan for the retirement of baby boomers, even though the anticipated labor shortage has not yet hit, Koncz said.

"They want to build from the bottom up," she said. "Train and retain, that's what I've heard."

Last fall, in response to the pending shortage, the University of Pennsylvania organized its first job fair just for government positions, which will be particularly hard hit.

"The federal workers still get pensions, so they are ready to go," said Patricia Rose, Penn's director of career services. "Some of them can go out into the world and get another job."

Rose said that in 2006, 85 percent of the graduates who entered the work force (as opposed to entering graduate school), had accepted offers by May. Most of them had locked in positions by Jan. 1, following internships. "I'm sure the numbers will go up this year."

At this time last year, Temple University's Fox Business School graduates told counselors about 119 job offers. This year, the number just topped

200. Senior Mariam Adeyemo has an informal offer from the Philadelphia controller's office. "It's looking good right now," she said on Thursday, just back from her interview.

That same day, seniors were among the students in Temple's required professional development class, which teaches resume writing, interviewing skills, and table manners, in case the job interview also includes a meal.

"As far as using cell phones during the meal, well, is anyone that gauche? Your cell phone is not a dog whistle. Who's controlling whom?" lectured instructor Janis Campbell. Her students

were graded on whether they were wearing business casual attire.

Standing outside the doorway, senior Clay Stewart, a finance manager from Clover, S.C., smiled. He said he had taken the class last year and it helped him land a job at SEI Investment Co. in Oaks.

"I got the job in November," he said. He'll be earning nearly \$50,000. "They gave me a signing bonus and told me to go travel." He starts July 31.

Stewart's resume includes his position as the president of Temple's student Financial Management Association, his athletic record as a top-flight gymnast,

and last summer's stint as a fund-raiser for the Democratic National Committee.

"I wanted to spend my summer doing something that I would never be able to do later," said Stewart, who has had some business internships. "I'll be in corporate America for the rest of my life."

Stewart met his contact from SEI in his official capacity as the association president. But, in his job interviews, it was his work in gymnastics and politics that drew the most discussion.

"In general," he said, "employers look for people who are passionate. I'm going to be mayor of Philadelphia one day."

GUNS from page 1

said later in the day in an interview with The Associated Press.

Similarly, the chairman of a panel appointed by Kaine to review the massacre said the reporting requirement must be tightened.

"It's pretty clear: He should not have been able to obtain a weapon," said retired Virginia State Police Superintendent W. Gerald Massengill.

The governor also met in suburban Washington with Korean-American leaders to assure them that Virginians do not hold people of Korean descent responsible for the tragedy. Cho was a 23-year-

old South Korean immigrant who came to the U.S. at about age 8 and was raised in suburban Washington.

"I can assure you that no one in Virginia — no one in Virginia — views the Korean community as culpable in this incident in the least degree," Kaine said. He also said Virginia "would be a weaker place, Virginia would be a lesser place, if it were not for the contributions of our Korean-American citizens."

The Virginia Korean leaders asked Kaine to boost mental-health funding for immigrants and their families.

Key Young Kim of the Korean Community Service Center of Greater Washington urged the governor to "help the

citizens of this country not to mistake race as the cause of this incident."

Kaine said that state officials will watch for any reprisals against Korean Americans but that none have been reported.

Dr. Damian Kim, a New York City psychiatrist and psychoanalyst, said Korean-American parents may hesitate to seek outside help because of the stigma mental illness carries.

He said "saving face" is paramount to Koreans, who are fiercely proud and protective of their family name and reputation, a vestige of Korea's Confucian history and culture. The shame of one is shared by all, he said.

IVP from page 1

of all who voted and helped with her campaign.

"It was great to see students get involved in the elections," she said.

She also said she "absolutely" plans to stay involved with student government in some way as well as being an officer for Model United Nations next semester and a Baylor Ambassador.

In retrospect, Nguyen said, the election "has been a learning process for everyone." He said he hoped to take what Student Senate and the electoral commission have learned to better serve the student body.



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CHAPTER AWARDS RECEIVED:

Baylor University Student Organization of the Year 2007
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Catherine Cyrier: Outstanding Greek New Member
 Mallory Driggers: Alumni in the Making Award (Outstanding Student Involvement)
 Elise Wasser: Panhellenic Scholarship Award