



ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2007

Sophomore dies from car wreck complications

By Kimi Willingham
Reporter

Houston sophomore Kate Bronstein died Wednesday in a Houston hospital from injuries sustained in a one-vehicle accident Friday on Highway 6 near College Station.

Bronstein was an art history and international studies double major and a member of Kappa Delta sorority, where she served as the special events coordinator.

Bronstein was in charge of planning the sorority's tailgates and annual Mother's Day

event.

Bronstein had a servant heart and deeply cared for others, Kappa Delta president Heather McLeod said.

Bronstein had started a collection of money for Kimber Fowler, a fellow Kappa Delta whose house



Bronstein

burned down during the California wildfires.

"She was always one of the first ones to step up and help people," McLeod said.

Memphis, Tenn., junior Lucy Berry, chaplain for Kappa Delta, said all the sorority's members are devastated.

"We're all just mourning right now," Berry said.

Berry described Bronstein as a strong-minded person. She said she was always there for anyone who needed her.

"She was very determined," Berry said. "Anything she started, she finished."

One of Bronstein's roommates, Clear Lake sophomore Jenny Brumfield, described Bronstein as ambitious, full of life and a go-getter.

She said she was the kind of person who knew what she wanted in life and ran after it.

"Kate was the kind of person who would bend over backwards for you," Brumfield said.

She said Bronstein was a loyal friend and student. She said that she was joyful and did not do things half-heartedly.

"She shined. She was just so ambitious and so dedicated to Kappa Delta," Brumfield said.

She said Bronstein was her first true friend in Kappa Delta, and after pledging together that spring, they immediately made plans to room together the next semester.

"I knew that this girl was someone I wanted to spend the next four years with," Brumfield said.

Rolling Meadows, Ill., senior Kathryn Silverman was Bronstein's Kappa Delta big sister. She said that Bronstein was a "little butterfly" in the chapter room.

Silverman said Bronstein loved art and singing and

always extended encouragement to her friends just to "let them know she was thinking of them."

"She was my little sister, and she will always be," Silverman said.

"We were shocked and saddened to hear about the accident," said Eagan, Minn., senior Emily Spangler, president of Alpha Chi Omega. "Our thoughts and prayers go out to Kate's family and the ladies of Kappa Delta."

A prayer service was held Wednesday night for Bronstein's family and friends.

For better or for worse?

By Victoria Marie S. Bongat
Reporter

While some people choose to take advantage of the immunizations to prevent the diseases, others believe the risk of the side effects associated with the vaccine outweighed the benefit.

A recent Associated Press report drew attention to parents who made false religious claims so that their children would be exempt from immunizations required for them to enroll in kindergarten.

Parents who did not want their children to receive immunizations were forced to claim opposing religious beliefs because local laws did not allow them to claim philosophical exemptions.

Why are people willing to use religious beliefs as an excuse to by-pass health care?

Dr. Jonathan Tran, assistant professor of ethics, said parents who claimed religious exemptions to avoid getting their children vaccinated have two explanations for their actions.

"They think they have a reason to be fearful and they think science supports their fear," Tran said.

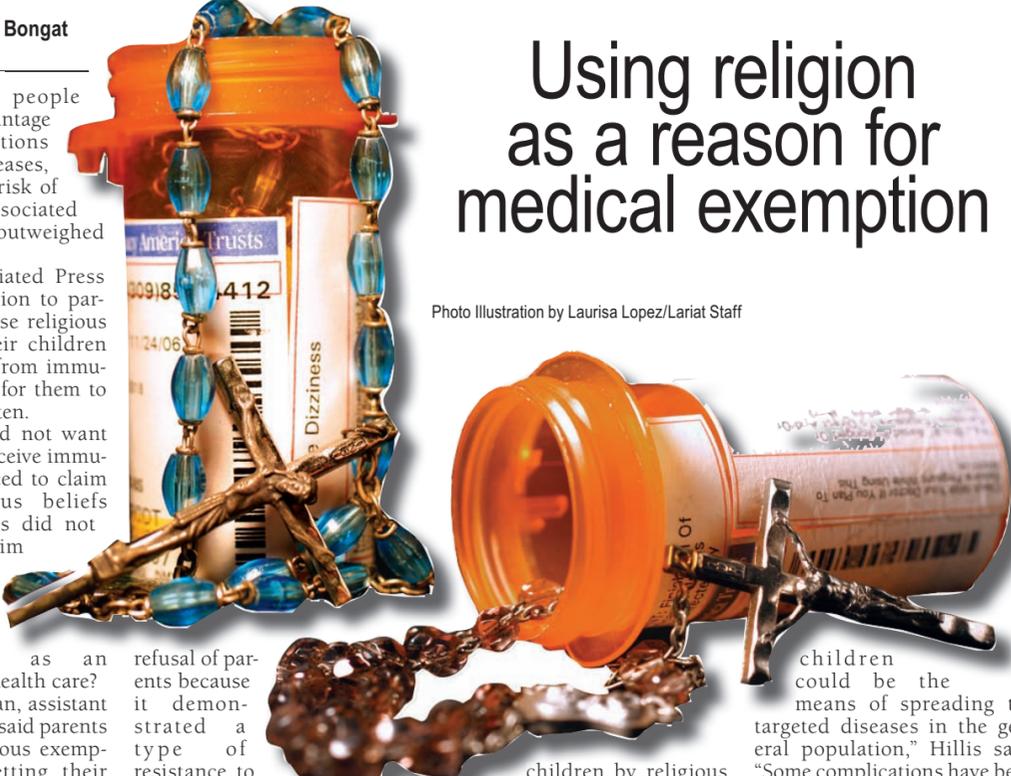
Tran said he admired the

refusal of parents because it demonstrated a type of resistance to the allures of technology and medicine.

Dr. William Hillis, Cornelia Marschall Smith Distinguished Professor of Biology, said the forbidding of vaccines for

Using religion as a reason for medical exemption

Photo Illustration by Laurisa Lopez/Lariat Staff



children by religious groups is actually very limited.

"The failure of increasing numbers of children to receive vaccinations that are required for childhood diseases increases the probability that such

children could be the means of spreading the targeted diseases in the general population," Hillis said. "Some complications have been reported for the occurrence of allergic responses, and such histories ought to legitimize a medical reason for not being vaccinated — but it needs to be

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Increasing fund could up student fees next fall

By Sommer Ingram
Staff Writer

The Student Life Fund has diminished this semester from close to \$30,000 to barely \$2,000.

The fund, designated for the purpose of financing individuals and organizations hosting events on campus, will be replenished at the beginning of the new semester, but the amount depends upon the enrollment figures for that semester.

Each full-time student pays a general student fee of \$1,135, and \$2.50 comes out of this fee to comprise the Student Life Fund. This amount has not been increased in at least four years, but Senate has recently considered proposing legislation that would add more money to the fund.

Though no plans are set in stone, members of the executive branch said they have heard brief talk throughout the Senate about raising the fee each student pays since the need has arisen to allocate more funds to more organizations.

"There are no official steps being taken toward creating

legislation or anything to raise the student fee, but there is definitely a positive buzz among the senators about doing so," student body president Travis Plummer said.

The use of the Student Life Fund is left to the sole appropriating power of Student Senate, which hears requests for allocations and debates the use of the fund in weekly meetings.

"It is the duty of Student Senate to see to the dispersal of the fund," internal vice president Samer Baransi said. "We try to be generous and allow as many organizations to put on events as we can, but it depends on the quality of the events and how well put together they are."

The diminishing of the Student Life Fund does not mean that Senate has used money carelessly, Baransi said.

Groups come to the financial committee with prepared proposals for bills, as well as itemized budgets to ensure that money is used in the most efficient way possible.

"We don't just let them put down any dollar amount when

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Labeling Muslims moderate not relevant, student says

By Shannon Daily
Reporter

With terms such as liberal, conservative, moderate and extremist floating around, moderate Muslims have also begun to be labeled pro-America or pro-West.

Muslim society, however, doesn't necessarily appreciate the label.

"For people who don't understand, they think there are two or three or four different types of Islam," said Bedford senior

Hoda Said. Said is also an officer with the Islamic Studies Project, a project with the Center for Jewish Studies.

Said said she believes these terms all came up after Sept. 11 2001. She also said she thinks these terms have been attributed to differentiate between Muslims who have committed terrorist acts and those who haven't.

"I don't believe (the labels) are valid, because Islam is clear. There is one Islam. If you deviate from that, that's from their own human errors," Said said.

Labeling someone a moderate or extremist Muslim would be the same as calling Adolf Hitler an extremist Christian, she said.

"Whenever you put the term moderate or extremist in front of the term Muslim, it's misconstruing Islam," Said said. "And first of all it's overused in the media. Second of all it's a way of differentiating Muslims in the minds of people who don't necessarily understand the faith."

Said said the media defines the term "moderate" to describe pro-American or pro-West Mus-

lims.

"If we are following the definition of what in the media a moderate Muslim is, a moderate Muslim in that context would be the pro-American Muslim," Said said. "But those labels are irrelevant because Islam teaches us to be tolerant of all people, all faiths, all nationalities."

Labels should not be used at all, she said.

Ahmad Alaswad, a 20-year-old student of criminal justice at Sam Houston State University, is an imam, or Islamic religious leader.

He spoke Wednesday at a lecture sponsored by the Islamic Studies Project.

Alaswad said that a majority of the 1.3 billion Muslims in the world fall under the moderate label.

"Actually, as Muslims, we're supposed to be moderate. Muhammad said do not be too extreme or too liberal, but be in the middle," Alaswad said. "I guess that's the problem with media. Not a lot of people know that the majority of Muslims are moderate."

An entry on getreligion.org

also speculated that the use of the term "moderate" has something to do with a belief that someone can be a faithful and practicing Muslim without living under Sharia, or Islamic law.

"It's complicated because in Islamic theology Sharia is an ideal that's really hard to meet," said Carrollton senior and philosophy major Nick Howard.

He also said that this issue is worth discussing both politically and religiously. "Questions, like, 'What is moderate Islam?' are really important to ask," he said.

Mukasey sworn in as U.S. attorney general

President Bush vows to rebuild leadership of Justice Department

By Lara Jakes Jordan
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush welcomed Michael Mukasey back into government Wednesday and promised to help the new attorney general rebuild the top leadership of the beleaguered Justice Department.

Speaking at Mukasey's ceremonial oath-taking, Bush said the retired federal judge "will

bring clear purpose and resolve" to the agency.

"As he embarks on his new responsibilities, Michael Mukasey has my complete trust and confidence," Bush told a packed ceremony at the Justice Department's Great Hall. Agency employees filled the hall and lined the balcony to watch their new boss take the ceremonial oath from Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts.

With a pointed smile at the applauding crowd, Bush added: "And he's going to have the trust and confidence of the men and women of the Department of Justice."

Bush also promised to announce on Thursday nominees to fill some of the dozen vacant senior leadership jobs in the department, which has been in a state of upheaval since a series of controversies — including the dismissals of federal prosecutors — led to the resignation of Attorney General Alberto Gonzales.

When Bush praised Gonzales as a man of integrity and decency, Justice Department employees responded with sustained applause. It got even louder moments later after Mukasey took the oath, formally ending the Gonzales chapter in the

agency's history.

Mukasey, who also worked in the Justice Department early in his career as a trial prosecutor in New York, said "it's great to be back."

He promised to make sure the Justice Department follows an "unswerving allegiance" to the law and the Constitution.

Though he was officially sworn in last week to begin work, Mukasey said he did not feel he had become the attorney general until taking the oath in front of his employees.

"My job involves not only an

Please see **BUSH**, page 8



Associated Press

Chief Justice John Roberts, left, participates in the ceremonial swearing-in of new Attorney General Michael Mukasey Wednesday at the Justice Department in Washington.

Guess what? Christmastime again. OMG I'm so excited!

It's that time of year again. The sun is shining, it's a balmy 80 degrees, final exams haven't even appeared on the horizon, and I walked into the grocery store this weekend only to have my ears assaulted by a sentimental rendition of "Silver Bells" blasting through the speakers.

I did a double take, irrationally looked at my watch and realized, much to my dismay, that Christmas has officially arrived. Great.

Don't get me wrong, I'm fully supportive of harnessing pagan holidays to the Christian calendar and using them to celebrate the birth of Jesus — I'm just not ready for it to start before my actual favorite holiday, Thanksgiving.

I at least want to have decided on a recipe for sweet potatoes before I have to watch sweat-clad models hop around full of holiday spirit and cheer on my television screen.

I just haven't prepared myself yet for the commercials with snowflakes and glitter and copious amounts of red everything, requisite hipster bass lines playing in the background. ("I'm so quirky and unconventional. You don't even understand. Buy my jeans.")

Before my poor brain is thrown into cultural overload debating the reason for the season and listening to pundits argue about whether Target or Wal-Mart is the more evil and atheistic corporation, I'd like to settle on which couch in my

point of view

BY GRACE MAALOUF

house I'm going to sprawl across in post-Thanksgiving-dinner stupor to watch the football game.

But no. It's too late. It's Christmas already, dang it.

The frenzy keeps starting earlier, and now we no longer have to wait so long for the culture wars, the boycotts, the public debates about seasons' greetings semantics.

The rush for presents is almost here, already preceded by

the movies dripping in gratingly sappy life lessons and epiphanies about family secrets.

As Christmas becomes more about all of that, and Thanksgiving becomes more about the next day's shopping, I'd like to offer a little post-mortem for the holiday itself. Let's call it "Thanksgiving: At least it's not overrated."

Think about it. Halloween is nothing but a ridiculous excuse for children to eat candy and college students to throw inappropriate parties; it seems like an underachieving holiday, but really it's not aiming for much.

Easter is always on a Sunday and accompanied by bad weather, and in a way it almost aims too high. You have theologically inaccessible mysteries on one

hand and baskets of chocolate animals on the other; it's a bad juxtaposition that just makes the whole weekend a little disconcerting. (Pink marshmallow bunny rabbits! And the resurrection!)

New Year's is just depressing because Christmas break is almost over and you realize your resolutions failed again and you're getting older and dumber and probably lazier. I guess the Fourth of July isn't bad.

But Thanksgiving is better. Thanksgiving doesn't try to be something it's not. It isn't religious or political or international or pretentious, despite what they tell you in elementary school.

Really, it's about food. Food and family and football. One

meal can't be overrated — at least one dish is bound to turn out great.

As far as the vacation itself, sometimes Thanksgiving is a stress reliever. It's a little too early to study for finals and a little too short to consider getting actual work done.

Too bad Christmas is already here to overshadow its merits. And you had better be happy about it for the next five weeks if you love Jesus and America. I know I am. But I just want to spread the spirit.

So Merry Christmas. See you after that other vacation we take for that other thing with the turkeys.

Grace Maalouf is a junior University Scholars major from Fort Worth.

Editorial

Draft may force civic engagement

As we've gone to class day in and day out this semester, men and women our ages have said goodbye to their families and flown to Iraq to fight in a war that has no end in sight. We listen to the analysts discuss the fate of the conflict, effectively the fate of the troops, with sadness and occasional outrage. But for most of us, that's as involved with the struggle as we get.

Are we serious about winning the war in Iraq? Are our leaders? If this were really the epic, eschatological battle it's framed to be in public dialogue, we would do everything in our nation's power to win. But that would require disturbing our daily lives in ways very few of us are ready for.

It might even require something few of us like to think about — a draft. Our volunteer military has done an excellent job, but they have done it for far longer than many of them expected when they enlisted.

Even after the surge in the spring, there is an urgent need for more troops. Our military has been stretched to the brink. Standards of recruitment have lowered to increase enlistment, tours have been extended to 15 months and some soldiers are seeing their fourth and fifth tours of duty.

Shortly after Sept. 11th and in the run-up to the war in Iraq, President Bush encouraged us to go on vacation and continue shopping to keep the economy rolling. That's no longer an option. It's time for us all as citizens to face the reality who our sol-



diers are fighting for. Do we support our troops? Sure. But enough to help shoulder the burden? A draft would force us to look at what we're doing with our resources — not just economically, but also the most precious of our resources, our citizens.

This war touches us all in some way or another, but it touches most of us second-hand at best. Considering the thousands of lives lost and

the hundreds of billions of taxpayer dollars paid to advance this fight against terrorism, the collective American detachment from the conflict is unfortunate. But why shouldn't we be detached from the conflict? We rarely see its consequences.

We would with a draft, but no one would institute one because it would prove to be political suicide. It's much more convenient to use military contractors than ask citizens to actually sacrifice.

A draft would automatically create wide-scale civic involvement on a level unmatched since the Vietnam War. Suddenly, maybe people would care. It would be a high price to pay, but that's what you do when you go to war — you either go all in or get out. A draft may be what it takes for us to decide.

In busy modern life, cell phones offer brief connection to others

A chill gray day under lowering skies and I left home without my cell phone and didn't go back for it — thought, Naw, I'll just use a pay phone if necessary — and felt awfully lost without it for the next 24 hours.

The problem with pay phones is that you have to stand still. A man gets accustomed to striding off the plane and without breaking stride dialing up the C.O. and reaching her in five seconds flat and giving his location and ETA and then, as time permits, phoning around to others in his unit.

As a boy I followed the intrepid detective Dick Tracy in the Sunday comics and envied him his 2-Way Wrist Radio that kept him in touch with Sam Catchem in their crusade against Pruneface and other desperate villains. That wrist radio, my

dears, was the precursor of the cell phone of today. For millions of us aging Tracy followers, the cell phone is no mere plaything; it is a weapon in the fight against crime.

When you see us in the airport terminal, 2-Way Cell Phone in hand as we stride purposefully toward jet airplanes bound for distant destinations, we are talking to far-flung colleagues about matters that, for security purposes, we must keep secret for now, but they are crucial, trust me.

My home base is the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, a very well-run establishment near the confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers, and I do think that the presence of thousands of men and women with Instant 2-Way Communication Capability is

point of view

BY GARRISON KEILLOR

one reason the airport (I prefer to think of it as an airfield, or airstrip, but never mind) works so well.

It is 15 minutes from my house. I cruise into the parking ramp where — listen up now — I simply slide my credit card into a machine at the gate and am admitted. Swift, secure. No paper trail.

I drive up the curlicue ramp to the top level where I park and, for a moment, surveil the airfield and runways for suspicious activities, and then descend

via electric elevator to Level 3 where a 2-Way Skyway affords easy access to the terminal. I pass surreptitiously through the milling crowd to an airline computer terminal, insert my credit card and get a boarding pass. Bingo.

This is a perilous moment right here. A person unknown to me could approach at this point and ask me to carry objects aboard the plane.

The unknown person could be large and have a prune-type face and a bulge in the pocket. The object is in a brown paper bag. It is bulky. I must resist, but how?

Right here is when I take my phone out and hold it in my hand, easily visible to unknown persons. They can see that I mean business. I am no sap.

I proceed through security

and toward my aircraft to complete my mission in an undisclosed city.

I don't remember Dick Tracy using the 2-Way Wrist Radio to call up his wife, the beautiful Tess Trueheart, and murmur endearments to her, but I must admit that, in weak moments, I have called up mine and said things that I am not about to repeat to you now.

The crime-fighting life is a lonely one, and as I make my way from MSP to LGA and ORD and LAX and back, I sometimes feel an urgent need for 2-way intimacy and have used the cell phone for that purpose.

Intimacy is a luxury when you're young, and as you get older, it becomes a necessity without which life is unbearable.

You walk around in your

public face (mine is very solemn because we hicks from the sticks are wary of card sharps and bunco artists who might approach and an hour later we are wiped out, our home is gone — it happens) and you long for unguarded small talk with a friendly soul.

You can glom onto an utter stranger and tell your life story. But, sitting on an airplane, in the mood to chat, I hesitate to talk to women, who are likely to misinterpret this, and men tend to be monosyllabic, so I pull out the 2-Way and there's a long list of pals. Scroll down, press the green button. Talk.

A lovely invention. God bless it. Can't get along without it.

Garrison Keillor's "A Prairie Home Companion" can be heard at 5 p.m. Saturdays and 10 a.m. Sundays on KWBU.

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THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

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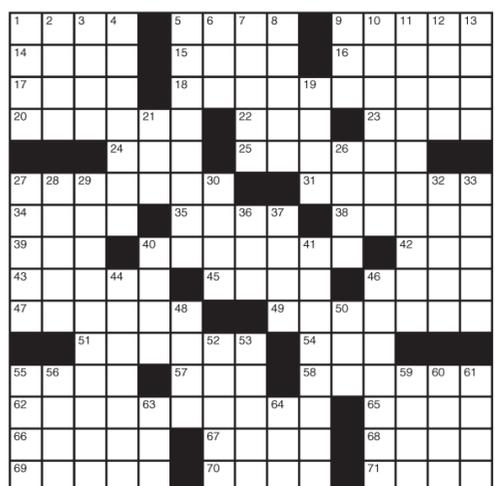
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By Alan P. Olschwang, Huntington Beach, CA

11/15/07

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Broadway to resume dialogue

By Michael Kuchwara
The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — With the lucrative Thanksgiving week looming, striking Broadway stagehands and theater producers say they will start talking again — this weekend.

Local 1 and the League of American Theatres and Producers jointly announced Wednesday that they will resume negotiations "at an undisclosed place and time."

"No comment from either organization will be issued until further notice," both sides said in a joint statement.

Thanksgiving weekend is one of the best times for business on Broadway, with many shows usually selling out. It may have added to pressure for the union and producers to



The Associated Press

Stagehands and a stage manager, center, picket outside Grease at Broadway's Brooks Atkinson Theatre Tuesday in New York. The current walkout by stagehands has shut down more than two dozen Broadway theaters.

reignite their deadlocked negotiations, which have languished since last week.

"Today's announcement ... is a very important step forward," said Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who reiterated his willingness "to help resolve these disagreements and let the shows go on."

The stagehands walked off the job Saturday, shutting down

27 plays and musicals.

All week, the mood along Broadway had been one of resignation and gloom.

Wednesday was to have been the New York premiere of "The Farnsworth Invention," the eagerly anticipated return to Broadway of playwright Aaron Sorkin, the creator of such television shows as "The West Wing" and "Sports Night."

Islam in Europe lecture to focus on Muslim culture

By Amanda Allen
Reporter

One of the leading scholars on the topic of Islam in Europe will be speaking on Baylor's campus Friday.

J. Christopher Soper, professor of political science at Pepperdine University, was invited to speak at the Fourth Annual Hugh and Beverly Wamble Lecture.



Soper

The lecture, titled "Muslims in Europe: Singing God's Song in a Strange Land," will cover a topic that is becoming a key issue for western governments to address.

"We'll look at the rise of Muslims in western Europe and how governments have responded to that. Hopefully students will learn how prominent Muslims have become in that region and how it has caused political controversy in every country in Europe," Soper said.

The lecture will touch on Islamic terrorism in western Europe, how Muslim's found themselves in western Europe, and specifically the religious quest of Muslims and how states look at those rights.

This could encompass how western states handle the dress of Muslim girls, for example, whether they are allowed to wear head coverings.

This is an issue France has most famously decided against.

Soper said anyone who has traveled to Europe in the last 10 years will notice how prevalent the Islamic population is. Trav-

elling is actually what sparked his own interest. He wanted to know what kinds of policies were set up for newcomers.

This isn't something the U.S. has had to face as much, because the size of the Islamic population in the U.S. simply isn't as large. "We generally handle newcomers's better, for a variety of reasons," Soper said.

"We wanted to invite him to engage in discussion with our faculty and students," said Dr. Christopher Marsh, associate professor of political science and church-state studies and interim director of the J.M. Dawson Institute of Church-State Studies.

Soper is an analyst. "His research is terribly interesting, and it's an important window to the potential future for America, because the population of Muslims in Europe is approaching 20 percent. And based on some projections, the number will rise," Marsh said.

Soper's done research on different state policies, such as France and Germany, to see what their policies look like and how their policies affect Muslim religious liberties. Other Western states are looked at, "as an indicator of how things these policies could pan out here," Marsh said. Hugh Wamble has passed away, but his wife Beverly attends the event every year in his memory. The lectureship was established to honor the work of Hugh Wamble, who Marsh described as a staunch supporter of religious liberty.

Dr. Charles McDaniel, full-time lecturer in the Dawson Institute of Church-State Studies, said anyone with interest in human rights or religious rights would be interested in attending the lecture. The lecture will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. Friday in 116 Draper.

Judge rules Simpson to stand trial

By Linda Deutsch
The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — O.J. Simpson must face trial on kidnapping, armed robbery and other charges stemming from a suspected sports memorabilia heist, a justice of the peace ruled Wednesday.

Defense attorneys had argued during a preliminary hearing that the case was based on the accounts of con artists and crooks, and they asked for the charges to be dropped.

Justice of the Peace Joe M. Bonaventure ruled all charges in the 12-count complaint would remain against Simpson and co-defendants Clarence "C.J." Stewart and Charles "Charlie" Ehrlich.

"This is what we expected," Simpson told The Associated Press before he left the courtroom. "If I have any disappointment it's that I wish a jury was here. As always, I rely on the jury system."

Kidnapping convictions could result in a life sentence with possibility of parole. Armed robbery convictions would require some time in prison.

The defendants were ordered to arraignment on Nov. 28. The case stemmed from a Sept. 13 confrontation in a casino hotel room where Simpson and a group of men are accused of stealing items from two sports memorabilia dealers.



The Associated Press

O.J. Simpson, center, leaves the Regional Justice Center Wednesday in Las Vegas during a break from his preliminary hearing to determine whether he should stand trial in an alleged armed robbery of sports memorabilia dealers.

Bonaventure ruled hours after listening to 3½ days of testimony by witnesses.

Simpson's lawyer, Gabriel Grasso, argued it was unclear whether prosecutors considered as kidnapping the act of luring two sports memorabilia dealers to a hotel room — or whether the charge was based on a confrontation that followed.

"This is clearly overcharging," he said.

Simpson, 60, has maintained that no guns were displayed during the confrontation, that

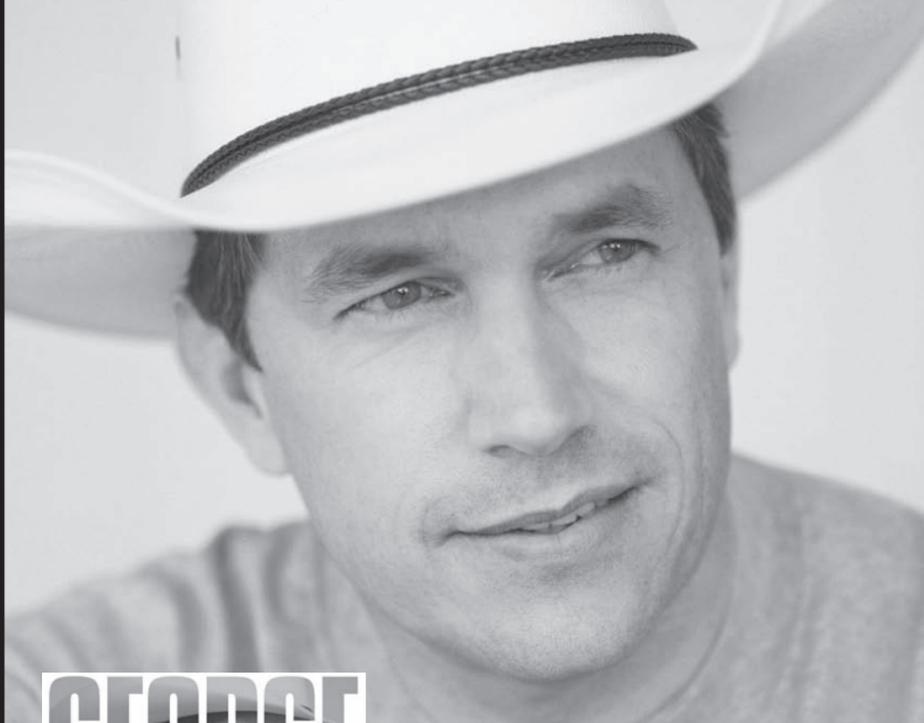
he never asked anyone to bring guns and that he did not know anyone had guns.

He has said he intended only to retrieve items that had been stolen from him by a former agent, including the suit he wore the day he was acquitted of murder in 1995 in the slayings of his wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ronald Goldman.

Simpson and the other defendants did not testify in their own defense at the hearing.

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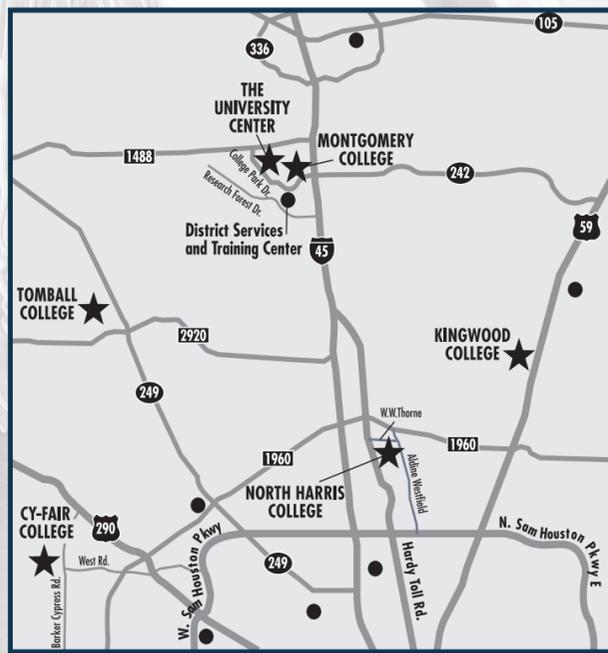
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18 people arrested in Atlantic City, N.J., casino gambling ring

By Wayne Parry
The Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — An illegal sports gambling ring run out of a high-stakes poker room in an Atlantic City casino was busted Wednesday, authorities said, and 18 people were arrested, including four with mob ties.

Since March 2006, the ring took in \$22 million in bets on college and professional football and basketball in the poker room of the Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa, said New Jersey Attorney General Anne Milgram.

The off-the-books exchanges of cash and casino chips were unraveled only when an informant told authorities what to look for using the casino's eye-in-the-sky surveillance cameras, Milgram said.

The suspected ringleader of the operation, Andrew Micali, 32, of Ventnor, is an associate of Philadelphia mob boss Joseph "Skinny Joey" Merlino, according to a New Jersey law enforcement official who spoke on condition of anonymity because the criminal complaints do not mention any reputed mob ties.

Micali was charged with promoting gambling, money laundering and loan-sharking.

Three associates of Micali also

were arrested. Vincent Procopio, 41, of Brigantine, was charged with promoting gambling. Anthony Nicodemo, 36, and Michael Lancellotti, both of Philadelphia, were charged with conspiracy to promote gambling.

"They sought to escape detection by enlisting casino employees in their crimes," Milgram said. "I'm pleased to say they greatly underestimated our vigilance and determination to keep organized crime out of Atlantic City casinos."

Twenty-three people in all are charged, and authorities were seeking five on Wednesday. Most were charged with promoting gambling or money laundering.

Unlike Las Vegas, Atlantic City has no legal sports book.

Authorities said the Borgata cooperated with the investigation and let investigators use casino surveillance video.

Borgata spokesman Rob Stillwell said the ring involved "rogue employees." No one was arrested on the casino floor, and the integrity of the casino's operations was never compromised, he said.

The casino employees charged included poker room supervisors, dealers and a bartender.

The state Casino Control Commission was expected to



The Associated Press

New Jersey state Attorney General Anne Milgram, center, along with state police officials, announce arrests in an illegal sports gambling ring in Atlantic City, N.J. Wednesday during a news conference in Atlantic City.

punish the casino workers, commission spokesman Daniel Heneghan said.

The four men with alleged mob ties, along with Borgata supervisor Joseph Wishnick, 42, of Brigantine, were taken into custody Wednesday.

Bail was set at \$100,000 for Micali and \$50,000 for the others. Wishnick was in custody Wednesday at the Atlantic County Jail.

It was not immediately clear whether any the others had posted bail or were waiting to be processed at the jail. None could be reached for comment by The Associated Press on Wednesday.

The state Attorney General's Office said lawyers had not come forward for any of the 23 suspects.

If the charges are proven, the case would be among the most serious mob incursions into the Atlantic City casino industry since the first casino opened in 1978.

Milgram said authorities followed the money in the case from the casino to so-called "wire rooms" in Philadelphia. The wire rooms were used to tally the bets and calculate winnings and payouts for the ring.

The ring was publicized mainly by word of mouth among illegal gamblers, who were advised whom to see in the poker room to place their bets.

Authorities said the ring engaged in "massive money laundering" facilitated by casino employees who would not record certain exchanges of cash and

gambling chips. This is a common method of money laundering at casinos called "chip washing," Milgram said.

"It involves taking cash, turning it into chips, 'washing' the chips by betting and then turning them in, and taking cash out," she said.

Losing bettors were forced to take out loans from the ring at more than 50 percent interest to cover their losses, authorities said.

In their search Wednesday, authorities seized more than \$40,000 worth of cash and Borgata chips from a safe deposit box Micali maintained at the casino. The state also obtained a court warrant freezing Micali's bank account with more than \$200,000 in it.

Covert tests uncover screening failures

By Eileen Sullivan
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Government investigators smuggled liquid explosives and detonators past airport security, exposing a dangerous hole in the nation's ability to keep these forbidden items off of airplanes, according to a report made public Wednesday.

The investigators learned about the components to make an improvised explosive device on the Internet and purchased the parts at local stores, said the report by the Government Accountability Office. These covert tests were conducted at Transportation Security Administration checkpoints at 19 airports in March, May and June of this year. In August 2006, the TSA changed its screening policies after officials foiled a plot to use liquid explosives to blow up commercial airlines headed toward the U.S. But the investigators only tested one of TSA's 19 layers of security, said TSA spokeswoman Ellen Howe.

"While people think about us in terms of the checkpoints and they see us as the checkpoints, there's a lot more layers of security," she said.

Clinton speaks out against Spitzer's proposal

By Devlin Barrett
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton on Wednesday came out against granting driver's licenses to illegal immigrants, after weeks of pressure in the presidential race to take a position on a now-failed ID plan from her home state governor.

Clinton has faced criticism from candidates in both parties for her noncommittal answers on New York Gov. Eliot Spitzer's attempt to allow illegal immigrants in his state to receive driver's licenses. Spitzer abandoned the effort Wednesday.

"I support Governor Spitzer's decision today to withdraw his proposal," Clinton said in a statement. "As president, I will not support driver's licenses for undocumented people and will press for comprehensive immigration reform that deals with all of the issues around illegal immigration including border security and fixing our broken system."

Clinton stumbled when asked about the issue during a Democratic debate two weeks ago, and her new position comes the day before another debate where opponents are expected to raise the issue again.

Rival campaigns made clear they were not letting go of the issue.

"When it takes two weeks and six different positions to answer one question on immigration, it's easier to understand why the Clinton campaign would rather plant their questions than answer them," said Barack Obama spokesman Bill Burton, referring to the Clinton campaign's admission that aides had staged a question for her at an Iowa event.

Colleen Flanagan, a spokesman for Chris Dodd, called Clinton's position "flip-flopping cubed." She was for it before she was against it, before she was for it, before she was against it.

Spitzer met with New York lawmakers in Washington on Wednesday, and conceded that there was too much public opposition to his plan. Clinton did not attend the meeting.

"It does not take a stethoscope to hear the pulse of New Yorkers on this topic," he said.

The Democratic governor introduced the plan two months ago with the goal of increased security, safer roads and an opportunity to bring immigrants "out of the shadows."

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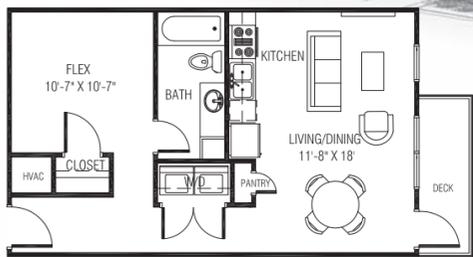
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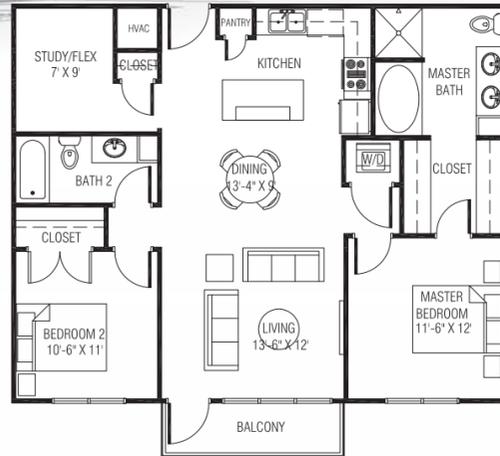
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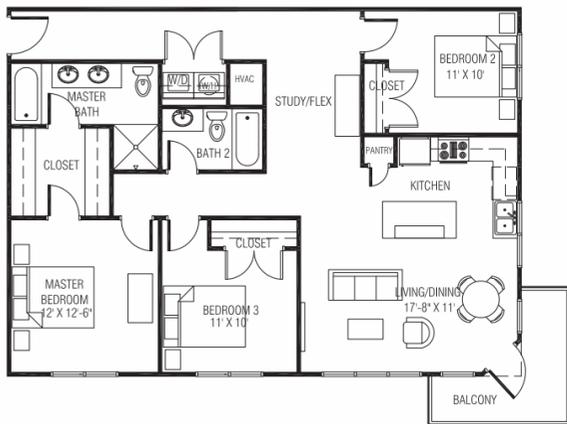
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Men's basketball heads into tournament riding high

By Will Parchman
Sports editor

Scott Drew saw all he needed to see last Sunday.

A 100-76 season-opening win over Jackson State University effectively smoothed over the ruffled feathers created by a 10-point exhibition loss two weeks ago.

So with a 1-0 record and optimism abounding, the team enters the Paradise Jam Tournament this weekend.

But the fact that the tournament is in St. Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands is somewhat of a misleading statistic, according to Drew.

"That's the biggest misnomer for these trips," Drew said. "The weather outside is just for the fans that go, not for the coaches or the players, because you don't want them obviously spending a lot of time outside."

After shooting a sidelong glance at Drew upon hearing that there would be minimal sight-seeing, junior guard Curtis Jerrells smiled and acknowledged the real purpose of the trip.

"It's business time now," he said. "We're just going down there to win some games."

With a looming tournament

in a place fraught with distraction, the competition figures to take the Bears' minds off the fun and sun.

The field is headlined by Notre Dame University and Georgia Tech University, both of which had at least 20 wins last year and were NCAA Tournament teams in March. Other teams of note include the University of North Carolina-Charlotte and Winthrop University.

The Paradise Jam sets up as a two-loss tournament with championship games for the seventh, fourth, third and first-place teams.

Baylor's only sure opponent is Wichita State University, but will play either Notre Dame or Monmouth University in the second round.

The winners of both contests will play each other in the winner's bracket while the losers will do the same on the other side.

"We knew we wanted to play in a competitive tournament," Drew said. "There is no weak team. It's not like there's a team that stands out that's a win."

The Bears will be getting a conference-tournament-like environment this weekend in St. Thomas, which Drew said could bode well for the team once Bay-

lor's difficult conference schedule opens up in January.

"It was all geared to help us with the Big 12 tournament," Drew said. "Wichita State is a team that really executes well in their half-court offense ... so it will really test our defense early in the year to see how we adjust."

With the absence of center Mamadou Diene for at least the next few weeks, rebounding was a key issue in Baylor's 95-85 exhibition loss to Division II Tarleton State University.

After a 24-point win Sunday, the team can breathe a little easier entering the tournament knowing that center Josh Lomers can help ease the strain on stand-out forward Kevin Rogers in the post while Diene remains sidelined.

"I felt like we improved and got better there," Drew said.

Improvement seems to be everywhere this week. One of the strengths of Baylor's guard rotation, sophomore Tweety Carter said, is that not every guard has to have a big night for the team to succeed.

"The most important thing is that we got the win," said Carter, who took just three shots in 23 minutes last Sunday. "The other guys hit some big shots for us,

they got us the lead, which I don't have a problem with distributing the ball and they did a great job knocking down the shots."

While optimism is high, freshman Fred Ellis came to a joint decision with the coaching staff Tuesday to redshirt this year. It will end his season and will tack on a fifth year to his time at Baylor.

Ellis is trying to make the transition to more of a perimeter player, and Baylor's depth at the shooting positions allowed Drew to redshirt Ellis, prolonging his four years at Baylor.

Drew added that Ellis has "aspirations for graduate work," and the redshirt will allow him more time to devote to his studies.

"If we're lucky enough in the future to be able to redshirt people, it will probably always be done at this time as well, just because you never know what can happen," Drew said.

For now, the team's attention turns to a difficult tournament and the chance to solidify a spot as one of the nation's most talented up-and-coming teams.

"We're not underestimating anybody, but we feel we can go out there and take care of business," Jerrells said.



File photo
Sophomore Tweety Carter brings the ball up court Sunday in a 100-76 win over Jackson State University. Carter took just three shots, but the team's depth at guard allowed him to take on more of a passing role, he said.



File photo
Freshman guard Melissa Jones, center, and the Lady Bears take on the University of Texas-Pan American at 7 p.m. today in the Ferrell Center.

Mulkey signs 4 as Lady Bears prepare for game

Signing class will include McDonald's All-American nominee

By Justin Baer
Sports writer

With a Travelers Tip-Off Basketball Tournament championship title won over the weekend, the No. 13 Lady Bears look to extend their three-game winning streak when they host the University of Texas-Pan American Lady Broncos tonight.

Baylor leads the all-time series between the two 6-0. The last time UT-Pan American visited Waco in 2002, the Lady Bears easily defeated the Lady Broncos 84-40.

Even though the Lady Broncos are not as formidable an opponent as the University of

California, whom Baylor plays in 10 days, head coach Kim Mulkey and company are not overlooking UT-Pan American.

"Although Pan-American is not Top 25, we are treating this game like any other game," Jonoeboro, Ark., junior Rachel Allison said. "We are watching film on them and going over their plays just like any other team, so we are definitely not taking them lightly."

The Lady Bears have five players who are averaging double-digit scoring in their first three games.

Despite the fact that Baylor's first three games came against teams that are not NCAA powerhouses, the offensive distribution could be indicative of things to come.

"I think that's going to be the trademark of this basket-

ball team," Mulkey said. "We are probably going to have to be a team that does a lot of scoring from a lot of different places."

"There is nothing wrong with that. Sure you would like to have an All-American, but I feel like we have a lot of All-Americans who just play their roles and do what is asked of them."

A victory tonight is even more essential to the Lady Bears' morale with a 10-day break following the game.

Baylor will then host No. 12 California in what will be its toughest game of the season thus far.

Tonight's game gives Baylor the opportunity to go into the Thanksgiving holiday on a solid note.

But the 2005 National Champions will also use the contest against UT-Pan American as

a preparation for the Golden Bears.

"I think it helps us get prepared on things as such as what plays to run," Austin senior guard Angela Tisdale said. "Just in that aspect, I think it will help us once the big games come around, so we don't have mistakes and we don't have errors."

The Lady Bears also signed four players to National Letters of Intent on Wednesday.

Terran Condrey (Eufaula, Ala.), Lindsay Palmer (Tulsa, Okla.), Cherrish Wallace (Pasadena, Calif.) and Ashley Field (Lampasas) will join the Lady Bears for the 2008-2009 season.

The group includes three guards, with Field being the only post. The class consists of a cousin of former Tennessee All-American Gwen Jackson (Con-

drey), a McDonald's All-American nominee (Palmer) and a Street and Smith All-American (Field).

The Lady Bears squad only has 10 players this season, so a large recruiting class will immediately help Baylor's depth.

But Mulkey said the newcomers have an opportunity to make a quick impact once they arrive on campus next fall.

"We are very pleased with the signing those group of outstanding student-athletes," Mulkey said. "Their addition will help us continue to keep our program at an elite level that allows us to compete each year for the Big 12 Conference and NCAA championships."

"All of these players are impact players who possess minds for the game of basketball and winning attitudes."

Football finding ways to keep faith with one game remaining

By Brian Bateman
Sports writer

Fifty-five.

It's both Blake Szymanski's completion percentage and the number of opposing players between the Bears and Thanksgiving.

And while the team would have preferred a bowl bid, the players and coaches have several things for which they are thankful.

"Well I think you need to start with the offensive line, which has developed pretty nicely. They're going to be nothing but better next year," head coach Guy Morriss said Tuesday.

Allowing just 16 sacks on the year, the offensive line graduates just one starter and brings in several red-shirted players.

"I think Blake (Szymanski's) arm will be better and so will the offensive line," offensive

coordinator Lee Hays said.

However, it's not just quarterback protection that the line improves, the line's blocking has helped the running game nearly double its production. Brandon Whitaker, Jacoby Jones and Jay Finley have contributed in different ways.

Whitaker is the leading rusher, performing well in space, while Jones and Finley perform well in traffic.

Last year, the Bears ranked last in all of Division-I football with just 40.2 yards rushing per game. Going into Saturday, the Bears have improved considerably with 77.4.

Although ranked at No. 116 out of 120, Baylor ranks above Texas Tech University and just two behind undefeated University of Hawaii.

"It's just a result of the kids doing it over and over and over again," Hays said. "When the ball is snapped, you reacted



File photo
Senior linebacker Nick Moore, 44, practices Tuesday in preparation for Saturday's home finale against Oklahoma State University.

instinctively. That way you're not that split second behind."

On the defensive side of the ball, the Bears have had to

battle the departure of senior leadership, young players and nine teams that could be bowl eligible after next week.

And many injuries.

"We play 12 games in a row. There are just a few of us in the Big 12 that do that," defensive coordinator Larry Hofer said. "Coach Morriss has done a great job working practice to keep injuries down."

But that hasn't cured them all. Adam Geib and Brandon Stiggers are out on the defensive side of the ball, while three receivers and backup quarterback Michael Machen limit the offensive capabilities.

But someone has to fill the void and many newcomers get experience where they normally would not.

"We're going to have some seniors that we're gonna miss, just like every year," Hofer said. "We lost a couple of guys last week, but some guys have stepped forward and helped out, and they'll be playing Saturday. We've got a lot of confidence in them."

But when they stayed healthy, the defense found ways to get off the field. Although they gave up 36.3 points per game, the Bears held everyone but Texas A&M University under 50 percent on third down conversions, which managed 58 percent.

"I've been pleased with the overall toughness of our defensive players and our staff," Morriss said. They've been put into really bad field position situations and those kids have really fought hard."

And with a second year offense sputtering through the season, those short fields came often.

But Hays has reason to believe it will change.

"The third year was the year we won the conference championship at West Texas," Hays said. "It was the third year that Tech exploded. I really think that will happen next year."

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Acoustic Cafe to showcase rising student artists in SUB



Courtesy photo

Denver senior Whitney Whyte will be one of the featured performers at Acoustic Cafe at 8 p.m. Thursday in the Bill Daniel Student Center den.

B.R.A.N. to present variety of musical performances tonight

By Caitlin Forehand
Reporter

Some of Baylor's most talented students will be performing tonight at the second Acoustic Café during the fall semester.

This event, hosted by the Baylor Rising Artists Network, will be from 8 to 10 p.m. in the den of the Bill Daniel Student Center. There will be three performers including Brian Patterson, Whitney Whyte and the Kappa Sigma Smoker Band.

"Each artist will perform a 40- to 45-minute set, including original and cover music," said Coordinator for Campus Programs Blake Reeves.

Patterson, a Waco senior

and communications specialist major, said he has been a musician for more than 12 years.

He is also a member of the band Dutton, which has performed often at University Baptist Church.

"You could put my music in the pop rock genre," Patterson said.

The performers at the concert will play a variety of genres.

Whyte, a Denver senior and international studies major, said she will be playing acoustic guitar and keyboard.

Whyte will have a three-person band playing with her during the event.

Two students included in the band are Temple sophomore Logan Smith, who will play the upright bass, and Sugar Land senior Jonathan McKenzie will play acoustic guitar.

"Lyrically and soundwise, I would hope that my music

comes across as earthy and organic," Whyte said.

She has been playing music since she was in the eighth grade.

The Kappa Sigma Smoker Band is made up of four members of Kappa Sigma fraternity.

The band includes Dallas senior Travis Cobbs, Plano junior Jonathan James, Dallas senior Jeff Herral and Duncanville junior Grant Carson.

"We play only cover music," Cobbs said.

The show will present a variety of musical performances through the three featured bands.

Along with music, the Baylor Rising Artists Network will provide pastries and free coffee from Common Grounds during the event.

According to the Baylor Rising Artists Network Web site, the purpose of B.R.A.N. is to

provide students with opportunities to perform.

Patterson is a member of the Baylor Rising Artists Network and said he believes it has helped him.

"They do a great job of helping you promote your gigs around campus," Patterson said.

Though Whyte is not a B.R.A.N. member, she also feels it has improved her music career. Her music will even be featured on the next B.R.A.N. CD.

"(B.R.A.N.) has been a great support for me lately," Whyte said. "This weekend the band and I are going to Austin to record my contribution to the B.R.A.N. CD that, I believe, will be released in the spring."

For more information on Acoustic Café or Baylor Rising Artists Network visit the Student Activities Web site or contact Molly_Borgmeyer@baylor.edu.

Hippodrome to get a colorful splash of 'Hairspray'

By Amanda Robison
and Kelli Boesel
Entertainment editor and reporter

The hit Broadway musical *Hairspray* will roll into the Waco Hippodrome Theatre at 7:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday for two performances filled with bright lights, bold colors and big hair.

Hairspray is the tale of Tracy Turnblad, an underdog dancer in the '60s whose big aspirations help her achieve acceptance and tolerance of those who are different.

Hairspray was originally a film by John Waters in 1988, and later debuted on Broadway where it has won eight Tony Awards (among others) including "Best Musical," "Best Original Score" and "Best Costume Design."

Most recently, *Hairspray* was recreated on film this summer and starred John Travolta, Zac Efron and Queen Latifah.

"It has the facade of a beautiful set and costumes and wigs and an amazing score. But underneath all that, there is a message of tolerance and acceptance"

Jarret Mallon
"Corny Collins"

Georgetown native Jarret Mallon plays Corny Collins in the national tour and said, "I've done nearly 400 performances (of *Hairspray*) and I still don't get tired of it."

Mallon credits strong material and the important message of the musical as the reason why he still enjoys it.

"It has the facade of a beautiful set and costumes and wigs and an amazing score," he said. "But underneath all that, there

is a message of tolerance and acceptance that it puts out there that relates to so many people."

Mallon has played the same character since the national tour began in the summer of 2006.

"He's the host of The Corny Collins Show, which is the dance show Tracy longs to be on," Mallon said. "He's a good guy and fun to play. And he's one of Tracy's allies — they help each other."

Mallon said The Corny Collins Show is based on a real dance show in Baltimore called The Buddy Deane Show, which at one point was more popular than American Bandstand.

He also said he feels really fortunate to be part of such a successful production.

"It's really amazing, because sometimes you sit backstage and hear the orchestra begin to play and you watch this huge million dollar production with all these great costumes," he said. "You sometimes can't believe you're a part of it."

The 31 cast members of the national tour of *Hairspray* have been traveling nearly non-stop all around the world to perform in different cities each night.

Mallon said it is the actors' obligation to the audience to keep it fresh every night, but he said the audience gets involved and makes it easy for them.

"We've been from Tokyo to Texarkana, and no matter who's in the audience or what age they are — they're with us," he said.

When asked to define it in three words, Mallon described *Hairspray* as energetic, upbeat (musically) and powerful (the message).

Scott Baker, director of Waco Performing Arts, agreed with Mallon by saying, "It has all the elements that makes a good musical — it's got a lot of songs, lots of dance, notable characters and funny moments."

The show is attracting a new, younger audience to the Hippodrome, Baker said.



Courtesy photo

The cast of the national tour of *Hairspray* dances and sings in the finale, which will be performed Monday and Tuesday at the Waco Hippodrome Theatre.

The Hippodrome marketed the production around Baylor through posters, social involvement and word-of-mouth.

He said a performance was added because he was predicting an early sell-out.

"We wanted to make sure that everyone who wanted to come and see (the show) would be able to," he said.

Tickets are still available for both performances, but Baker said they are selling out quickly. Another option for students on the night of the performance is tickets for balcony seats, which will be sold to students for \$10, but Baker said if you really want to see the show, don't wait until the last minute.

The summer blockbuster of *Hairspray* made the story and songs familiar to a lot of people, but Baker said there is nothing like seeing the performance on stage.

"Any true fan or analyst will tell you the movie is never as good as the book — the movie is never as good as the play either," he said.

To add to an already fun-filled night, the Hippodrome will hold a special *Hairspray*-inspired competition before the show. The women of Waco are invited to come out and participate in "Waco's Best Beehive," from 5 to 7 p.m. both nights of the show.

"We've had really successful ticket sales," said Houston junior Melissa Limmer, public relations intern for Waco Performing Arts. "It's a big deal that we're close to selling out both shows, so we wanted to do something to get people in the spirit of the show. The whole big hair and the '60s works perfect."

Limmer said the competition will create a good overall experience for coming to the theater,

instead of just coming to the show and leaving.

The Hippodrome partnered with Star 92.9 FM and The Beauty Shop salon (located at 2034 N. Valley Mills Drive), to present the event.

Winners will be determined by Dustin and Beth from the 92.9 FM morning show and will receive a free cut and style from The Beauty Shop, along with an Ultra Clutch *Hairspray* gift basket from the salon as well as a copy of the new *Hairspray* DVD, which will hit stores Tuesday.

Limmer said this is a great opportunity to see a Broadway show at a fairly inexpensive price compared to the cost of tickets to see shows on Broadway, where tickets are usually more than \$100. Prices range from \$28 to \$50 and can be purchased by calling the box office or visiting the Web site, www.wacoperformingarts.org.

ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS

Film screening

The Environmental Concern Organization will hold a screening of *Kilowatt Ours* at 7 p.m. today in the Bill Daniel Student Center bowl. Hot cocoa and cider will be served. For more information, contact Whitney_Petty@baylor.edu.

Dave Barnes

The Baylor Religious Hour choir will sponsor singer-songwriter Dave Barnes in concert at 7 p.m. Friday in Waco Hall. All proceeds will benefit the BRH mission trip in May 2008. For more information, contact Shay_Dixon@baylor.edu.

Spotlight Talent Show

The Baylor Impact Spotlight Talent Show will be at 7 p.m. Friday in the den of the Bill Daniel Student Center. There will be entertainment, food and prizes. The show is free and open to all students. For more information, contact baylorimpact@gmail.com.

Charity Masquerade Ball

The Indian Subcontinent Student Association will hold a charity masquerade ball at 6 p.m. Saturday on the fifth floor of the Cashion Academic Center. The event will benefit the organization Developments in Literacy. For more information, contact issa@baylor.edu.

All My Sons

Tickets are now on sale for the Baylor Theatre production of *All My Sons* by Arthur Miller. Performances will be held at 7:30 p.m. from Nov. 27 to Dec. 1 and at 2 p.m. Dec. 2 in Jones Theatre. For additional information, call the Department of Theatre Arts at 254-710-1861 or contact Sherry_Ward@baylor.edu.

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MISCELLANEOUS

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validated by the family's physician."

Hillis said the threat of several diseases, such as diphtheria and tetanus, have been eliminated because of widespread vaccine use.

"I admit to being convinced of the usefulness of vaccines for individuals and for populations in general," Hillis said. "Exclusions from required vaccinations should, in my mind, be absolutely limited to those who have legitimate medical reasons, and to those who have

valid and verifiable religious objections."

There are several religious groups that have always been nervous about modern technology.

Christian Scientists have firm objections to modern medicines. Jehovah's Witnesses strongly oppose the practice of blood transfusions.

Roman Catholics are against abortion and the use of birth control.

They also see problems with the use of human stem cells for research and determining "quality of life" when deciding whether to sustain artificial assisted life.

Tran said many people have a simplistic view of technology and believe what it produces is good.

The patient's right to decide whether to consent to treatment is one of the fundamental principles of medical ethics.

"A doctor can't force his or her values on patients," Tran said.

Before entering Baylor, students received letters from the Health Center containing information about completing required medical forms that would be kept in the school's records.

Located on the back of each form was a section on immuni-

zations.

At the Health Center, exemptions are accepted for both medical and religious reasons.

"We don't get many," Nancy Keating, director of nurses, said. "I'm a proponent of vaccines."

Not all vaccines are required for school enrollment. Law requires some of them, while others are taken voluntarily.

Some vaccines have been around for years and have proven themselves effective with very few side effects.

Other vaccines are still new with side effects that are more risky.

The Centers for Disease Con-

trol and Prevention recommend that women between the ages of 11 and 26 receive the HPV vaccine to prevent the human papilloma virus.

The vaccine has caused controversy because critics, including many religious groups, argue that it promotes premarital sex.

Tran said the reason this topic is difficult is because Baylor is a Christian university. In the case of premarital sex, religious and secular views are polar opposites. From a secular perspective, the worst-case scenario to result from premarital sex would be either pregnancy or a sexually transmitted dis-

ease. From a religious standpoint, he said, the premarital sex would be the worst thing because it would be a sin.

"All religions are going to be critical at some point of some of the things we can do with modern medical technology," said Bob Kruschwitz, professor of philosophy and director of the Center for Christian Ethics.

Using the example of the morning-after pill, Kruschwitz said the existence of technology does not mean it has to be used.

"Religions on the extreme end of the spectrum are still on the spectrum," Kruschwitz said.

BUSH from page 1

oath, but also a pledge, which I now give you," Mukasey told the 110,000 Justice employees nationwide, some of whom watched on the department's internal TV system.

"And that is to use all of the strength of mind and body that I have to help you to continue to protect the freedom and the security of the people of this country, and their civil rights and liberties, through the neutral and evenhanded application of the Constitution and the laws enacted under it."

He said he would "ask myself in every decision I make whether it helps you to do that, to take the counsel not only of my own insights but also of yours, and to pray that I can help give you the leadership you deserve."

Mukasey, 66, inherits a Justice Department struggling to restore its independent image with more than a dozen vacant leadership jobs and little time to make many changes before another president takes office. He now has 14 months to turn it around after almost a year of scandal that forced Gonzales to quit and cast doubt on the government's ability to prosecute cases fairly.

An internal Justice inquiry is investigating charges that, under Gonzales, politics were allowed to influence decisions about prosecuting cases or hiring career attorneys. The allegations stemmed from an ongo-

ing congressional inquiry of last year's firings of nine U.S. attorneys, and prompted questions about Gonzales' honesty.

Gonzales did not attend the ceremony, which lasted only about 14 minutes and was kicked off by a reading of the Pledge of Allegiance by Mukasey's two young grandsons. Former attorneys general John Ashcroft and Richard Thornburgh were among those in the crowd, which also included GOP Senate Judiciary Committee members Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania, Lindsey Graham of South Carolina and Sam Brownback of Kansas.

The Senate confirmed Mukasey last week by a 53-40 vote, which critics noted marked the narrowest margin for an attorney general in 50 years. His confirmation snagged briefly after Mukasey refused to say whether he believes an interrogation tactic known as waterboarding is a form of torture.

Lasting only four minutes, Mukasey's comments aimed to calm the bruised department. He allowed himself a small smile as he stood before his staff after he was sworn in, then briskly launched into his speech.

"What each person here does, on a day to day basis, is law," Mukasey said. "We don't do simply what seems fair and right according to our own tastes and standards."

"We do law, but the result is justice," he said.



Stephanie Jeter/Lariat staff

Pizza picnic

Sugar Land junior Jackie Alvarenga and Dallas junior William Draper relax Wednesday at Kappa Alpha Theta's Fall Crush at Indian Springs Park. The event included pizza, drinks and music.

FUND from page 1

requested money," he said. "They have to produce a well-thought-out budget and do extensive research to check into all costs."

External vice president Bryan Fonville said the fund depletion is right on schedule.

"We only have time for about two more allocations anyway," he said. "This semester we made a better attempt to publicize the fact that organizations should come to the Student Life Fund for money because it is here for them. Since students were more aware, the money in the fund was used up more quickly."

This semester is the first in many years for the entire fund to be used. Raising the \$2.50 students pay as a part of the student fee may provide opportunities for more organizations to host their events.

"It's really exciting that we are using all of this money because it's going back to the student body," Plummer said. "Increasing the fund would give more students a chance to promote culture, promote student life on campus, and really give back to the community. We would like to help them in that process."

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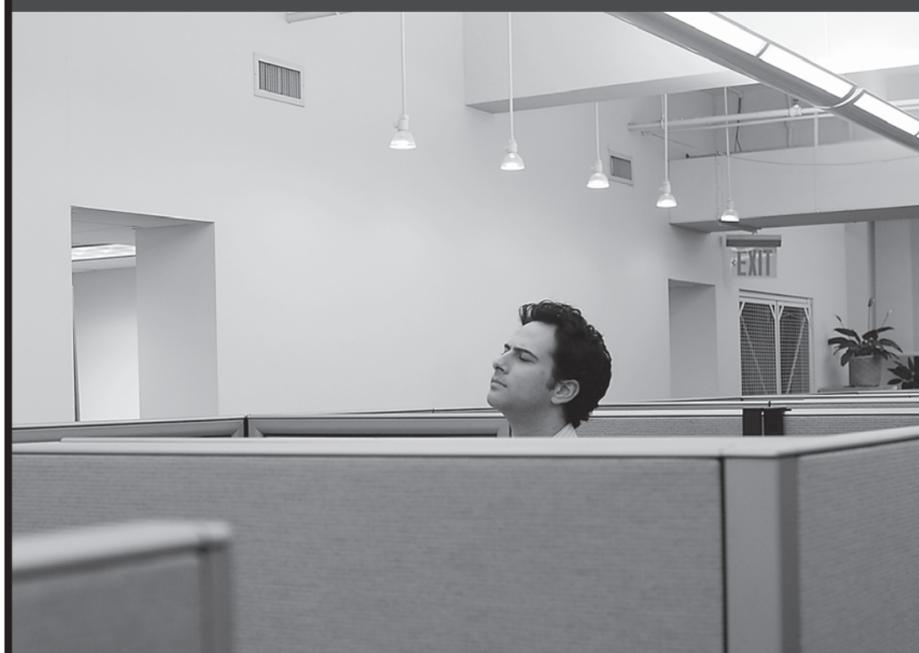
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