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THE BAYLOR LARIAT

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2008

Garland brings life experience to office

By Ashley Corinne Killough
Staff Writer

When people say Baylor's Interim President Dr. David Garland has a sense of humor, they're not kidding.

"My first attempt was to take the BU logo off the football helmets and put 'Truett' on there," Garland said. "It didn't go over so well."

With a life dedicated to ministry, Garland's story is a narrative that spans decades of research, teaching and preaching.

Growing up Baptist in Baltimore, Garland felt like a rare breed. He lived in a diverse neighborhood and attended Baltimore Polytechnic Institute, an all-male, magnet high school that specialized in engineering.

"The school I went to was in downtown Baltimore. Students came from all over," Garland said. "I thought everyone else in the world was Jewish or Catholic, and so I felt fairly isolated."

Little did Garland know he would later have a desk in the president's office of the largest Baptist university in the world.

But Garland would tell you life in the ministry was not something he sought. It was something he simply followed.

"It's not so much that I decided. It's more that it was decided for me," Garland said.

"Paul uses the language of having been captured by Christ in Philippians, Chapter 3, and unless you've experienced that, you don't understand."

Ministry was also in his blood. Garland's grandparents served as missionaries in India, where they lost three of their six children. One of the daughters, Garland's mother continued to do missionary work in India as an adult with her husband. After losing their first child and faced with health issues, Garland's parents returned to the United States, where his father became pastor of the first Baptist church in Maryland.

While Garland has never been to India, he remembers learning about his parents' experience at an early age.

"My parents told me stories that would scare me to death about King Cobras and Tigers," Garland said. "And also I grew up seeing horrible pictures of poverty."

Garland was attracted to scholarship at an early age under the guidance of his father's associate pastor, a doctoral candidate in Old Testament studies at John Hopkins University named Tom Jackson.

"He probably had the greatest effect on me, because he was a really beloved minister who was also a scholar," Garland said. "I'd get in trouble all the

time as a pastor's kind, and he was the one that exercised discipline. I didn't do anything bad, I was just obnoxious growing up."

After graduating high school, Garland spent two years at the U.S. Naval Academy and then went to Oklahoma Baptist University, where he graduated Magna Cum Laude with a concentration in philosophy in 1970. It was there that he met his wife, Dr. Diana Garland, who now serves as the dean of the Baylor School of Social Work.

Mrs. Garland was hooked after their first date, and the couple was married in 1970.

"He's very funny and has kept me laughing for 40 years," Mrs. Garland said.

Six years ago, Garland got a dog to keep him company while his wife traveled. The lighthearted scholar called it "Agishab"—the same name of the servant woman who lied in bed with King David, keeping him warm in his old age.

"The dog is not allowed to sleep in the bed," Mrs. Garland joked.

They both worked as professors at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky until 1996, with Mr. Garland teaching the New Testament and Mrs. Garland teaching courses in social work. Throughout the years, they found their two fields interconnecting and wrote three books together.

In 1997, they felt called to Baylor, where Mr. Garland was appointed the associate dean of academic affairs at George W. Truett Seminary in 2001 and then dean in 2007. Mrs. Garland was appointed dean of the School of Social Work in 2005.

"We've always been partners. Our work complements

Garland addresses student government, page 7.

"I went to chapel my freshman year, and our group was led by this cool looking guy with a blue turtle neck named David Garland," Mrs. Garland said.

The guy in the turtle neck noticed her, as well.

"I went to all-male schools all my life, so I did not know how to ask girls out for dates," Mr. Garland said. "I basically tricked her in to going out for lunch. She thought I was interviewing her about her chapel experience, when I fully intended on taking her out on a date."

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Alex Song/Lariat staff

Baylor Interim President David Garland smiles as he talks with students at Dr. Pepper Hour in Barfield Drawing Room in the Bill Daniel Student Center Tuesday.

Professors awarded grant to continue ethanol research

By Sommer Ingram
Staff Writer

Baylor professors have been awarded a \$492,000 grant by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to assist in furthering their research on the production of cellulosic ethanol. This is a renewal grant for a project started about five years ago in which Baylor researchers study the by-products created during the process of making cellulosic ethanol. Their research should ultimately conclude in a considerable decrease in the cost involved in producing ethanol.

"This project is relayed at improving the efficiency of producing biofuels from nonfood agricultural resources; in other words, cellulosic materials," said Dr. Kevin Chambliss, lead researcher in the study and associate professor of chemistry and biochemistry. "The renewal of this grant is essentially a stamp of approval. They're saying they like what we are doing and want us to keep going."

The grant specifically addresses two problems that are caused when trying to produce ethanol: the stubbornness of ethanol as a reactant and the inhibitory compounds released in bioprocessing. Chambliss and his research partners target their research efforts on the latter.

The process to make cellulosic ethanol can be broken down into three steps: chemical pretreatment, where the sugar is released; enzymatic digestion, where the cellulose is cut up into simple glucose units; and fermentation, where the glucose is converted to ethanol or another

product.

"In the first step, when the sugar is released, there are also byproducts released that are inhibitory to the following steps of the manufacturing process," Chambliss said. "What we want to do is try to understand what products are released and which ones are inhibitory downstream."

Chambliss has collaborated with researchers at the University of Maine and University of Georgia to maximize the effectiveness of his research.

"Our expertise here at Baylor is an analytical skill set—one aimed at identifying and measuring," he said. "At Maine they have experts in the pretreatment and enzymatic conversion process, and at Georgia they are developing the use of microorganisms. We have a better chance of succeeding in research such as this when we network and play off of each other's strengths."

Chambliss has also partnered with Dr. Ken Busch, professor of chemistry and biochemistry at Baylor, who is an expert in chemo metrics. Chemo metrics is a way of using statistics to interpret chemical data.

"Modern institutions are capable of putting out incredible amounts of information, so much that it becomes difficult to make sense out of," Busch said. "Chemo metrics attempts to apply statistical principles to chemical measurements and simplify the data. We can sometimes uncover relationships that would otherwise be

Please see ETHANOL, page 6



AP Photo

The interior of a destroyed home is exposed in Cocodrie, La., on Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2008 after Hurricane Gustav came storming through the region on Monday, making landfall at Cocodrie.

Gustav packs a punch to coast

By Molly MacEwan
Reporter

Although Hurricane Gustav only brought chances of rain to Central Texas, its affects have been felt locally.

Gustav slammed into the Louisiana coast Monday as a Category 2 hurricane. While Gustav caused much less damage than expected, parts of New Orleans lost electricity and levees were threatened.

The initial Category-4 rating caused many southeast Texas and Louisiana cities to issue mandatory evacuations that sent residents fleeing to Central Texas, a precaution that later seemed unnecessary when the hurricane didn't live up to its hype. This weekend, local hotels felt the affects of Gustav through the arrival of evacuees Best Value Inn on I-35 had to use extra help with the influx of evacuees, said Best Value Inn employee Judy Tahilia.

"We've been full, busy 24/7," she added. A similar scene occurred at the Hampton Inn, where the lobby television stayed on The Weather Channel and guests at the hotel expressed frustration at having to leave their homes, said employee Bruna Castro. Evacuees began arriving late Sunday night and as of Tuesday, most had left and started home, she said.

Other Waco facilities made preparations and catered to evacuees.

At the Waco Veterans Affairs Medical Center, 70 patients arrived at 4 p.m. on Sunday after a seven-hour bus ride from the Chennault Place, a residential care facility in Lake Charles, LA. The

center was alerted of the incoming patients on Saturday at 5 p.m., Nelia Schrum, public affairs officer said. Strum praised her staff for working through the night to clean and prepare Building 91, previously vacant, for the new patients.

While Chennault Place brought its residents to Waco during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the evacuation process went much smoother thanks to lessons learned in those storms, Strum said. The center was able to pull medical records and prepare medicine for all but four of the incoming patients. They were also able to let the patients stay with the same roommates they had at Chennault Place. The patients will stay until their facility in Lake Charles has been checked for safety.

Sherry Hughes, chief of voluntary service, said the center is in need of toiletries such as travel size shampoo, soap and toothpaste as well as Vaseline and combs.

The Waco Corps of The Salvation Army, led by Captain Russell Czajkowski, traveled to Tyler to bring important resources and supplies. More than 4,000 meals will be served three times a day at shelters in Tyler and Hattiesburg, Miss.. In San Antonio, the Emergency Disaster Mobile Feeding Unit is helping evacuate the homeless and provide resources for those with nowhere to go. The Salvation Army is serving 15,00 to 20,000 meals per day at the five shelters opened in Texas.

Beaumont junior Katy Reeves said her parents initially planned to evacuate when Gustav was a Category 4 storm. But the family stayed home, waiting out the hurricane until it weakened.

The Associated Press contributed to this story.



AP Photo

Texas delegates react as President Bush speaks via satellite at the Republican National Convention in St. Paul, Minn., Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2008. Refer to 'Convention' on page 7.



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Dining halls aim for eco-friendly measures

Jade Ortego
Staff Writer

Baylor dining services are taking steps to reduce their ecological footprint. Over the summer, two new environmental sustainability initiatives, tray-less dining and "Eco Clamshells," reusable to-go containers, were added to the list of Baylor's environmentally-friendly programs.

The dining halls have stopped offering trays in an effort to reduce food waste.

When food waste with and without trays was measured at Penland, Memorial, Collins and Brooks' dining halls, it was found that 692 pounds less food was wasted when diners did not have the option to take more than one plate.

Another new program is the use of reusable green plastic to-go containers to replace the traditional plastic foam containers, which are not biodegradable.

A free one comes with a meal plan or employment at Baylor. They can be used and brought back, and dining services will sanitize and replace it.

Five hundred have already been given out, said Brett Perlowski, district manager of dining services.

Eco Clamshells will be offered in all the dining halls except for Brooks, which was never a take-out location.

"I don't know of too many other institutions doing this," Perlowski said, "If there's any bleeding-edge thing that we're doing, that's it."

Most changes, Perlowski said, were not initiated from complaints.

"A lot of stuff that we've done, no one asked us to do, we just did it on our own. I mean, it's the right thing to do," he said.

Baylor has also started offering vegan options. Reducing the consumption of meat can reduce greenhouse gas emissions, according to the British medical journal, The Lancet.

The vegan options are offered on a small scale, because "Baylor is of a demographic standpoint that we don't have a strong vegan push," Perlowski said.

He said, however, that the change was initiated at the request of students.

Baylor also works with the World Hunger Farm, donating used coffee grounds to feed worms.

Some new changes, such as the use of "green" chemicals, free-trade coffee and locally grown fruits and vegetables, can be more expensive.

But "it was going to come sooner or later," he said.

Whitney Petty, Hallettsville senior and president of the Baylor Environmental Concern Organization and member of Baylor's sustainability committee, said she is excited about the changes.

"I think any step in the right direction is incredible. It's very detailed in ways it hasn't been detailed before. This program covers all the bases," she said.

The representatives of dining services say they're trying to stay abreast of new developments in sustainability.

"I think today more than a year or even two years ago, Baylor as a whole and dining services in particular are looking for ways to ... reduce our carbon footprint," said Chris Krause, director of operations.

"Some people think no means no, but maybe no means not yet," Krause said, "Who knows what the next thing is?" Krause said.

Petty praised Baylor's progress. "A lot of work is going on behind the scenes. There's much going on underground that you may not see the fruits of immediately. Exciting changes are being efficiently and effectively phased into everyday life at Baylor," she said.



Rowlett senior Emily Eoff fills an Eco Clamshell Tuesday in Collins dining hall. The reusable to-go boxes are part of an environmental initiative.

BEAR BRIEFS

Bruce Berg, professor of violin, will present the music of Johann Sebastian Bach in a faculty recital at 3 p.m. Sunday in Roxy Grove Hall. This recital is free of charge and open to the public. For more information, call the Baylor University School of Music at 710-3991.

Clarinetist Jun Qian, a Baylor alumnus and assistant professor of music at Saint Olaf College, will play at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in Meadows Recital Hall, in the Glennis McCrary Music Building. He will be joined on stage by Kae Hosoda-Ayer, a lecturer in collaborative piano.

Mammoth Day at the Mayborn Museum Complex will be held from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday. This event focuses on the Waco Mammoth Site and will feature the "Mammoths in Waco" film. For more information, contact the Mayborn Museum Complex at 710-1110.

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University plans to continue, expand environmental efforts

By David Poe
Reporter

Following the recent popularity of going green, Baylor has been recognized by the National Wildlife Federation for the university's environmental efforts.

According to the National Wildlife Federation Web site, Baylor was recognized, along with 13 other higher learning institutions in Texas, as Schools with Exemplary Programs in the National Wildlife Federation's Campus Environmental 2008 Report Card.

In the spring of 2007 Baylor received a grade of D+ from the Sustainable Endowments Institute and received a C+ in the

spring of 2008.

The lower grade served as a catalyst to spark awareness and discussion about the need to form a full university effort in sustainability, said Pattie Orr, Vice President for Information Technology & Dean of Libraries.

Since receiving the low grades from the Sustainable Endowments Institute, Baylor has created a committee that plans sustainability efforts on and off campus.

The committee assists in creating programs that provide education about recycling and sustainability as well as implementing policy.

For the fall, Baylor aims to

install 600 recycling containers on campus in addition to the 120 already in place. 400 have already arrived and will be distributed throughout the next couple of months, Orr said.

"One goal of ours is to have recycling containers belong to buildings like trash cans do," Orr said.

With more recycling containers, Baylor sends less material to the landfills. It is estimated that the landfill in Waco will last another 15 years, but with Baylor's new recycling efforts, the landfill may last another 20 years, Orr said.

Baylor, along with the City of Waco and Keep Waco Beautiful, has made a push for increased

recycling at athletic events.

At the football games this fall, volunteers and new dumpsters for recycled material will help with recycling at the games. An estimated 12 volunteers are needed each week for this new recycling effort.

Baylor stands alone in this effort, as only five other Big 12 schools have indicated that they are recycling, and in most cases, only after the games Orr said.

One major problem encountered with these new recycling efforts is contamination of the recycled materials.

Recycled materials can become contaminated when objects that don't belong, such as uneaten food, are thrown in

with recycling.

Diadeloso in April 2008 served as an example of this, in that almost nothing was recyclable due to the large amount of contamination to the material in the recycling bins, Orr said.

Recycled materials can receive up to five percent contamination before they are considered unrecyclable.

Baylor recently joined the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, which is the largest organization on university sustainability, and aims to attend a conference hosted by the AASHE in the near future.

The increases in recycling efforts are evident in the num-

bers. During move-in week Baylor recycled 12.42 tons of material, whereas 9.31 tons of material were recycled in the entire month of August in 2007.

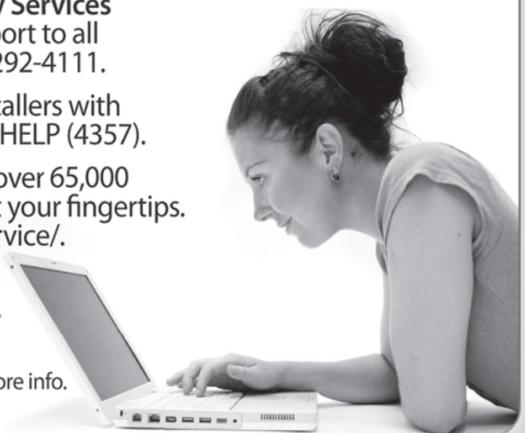
In a recent press release from Matt Pene, assistant director of media communications, it was estimated that with the Baylor's new efforts in recycling and sustainability, the university would save around \$27,000 a year. While this amount would not cover the cost of recycling containers, education, and other measures, such savings could help fund already-present programs.

"Our greatest goal is to develop a sustainable sustainability program", Orr said.

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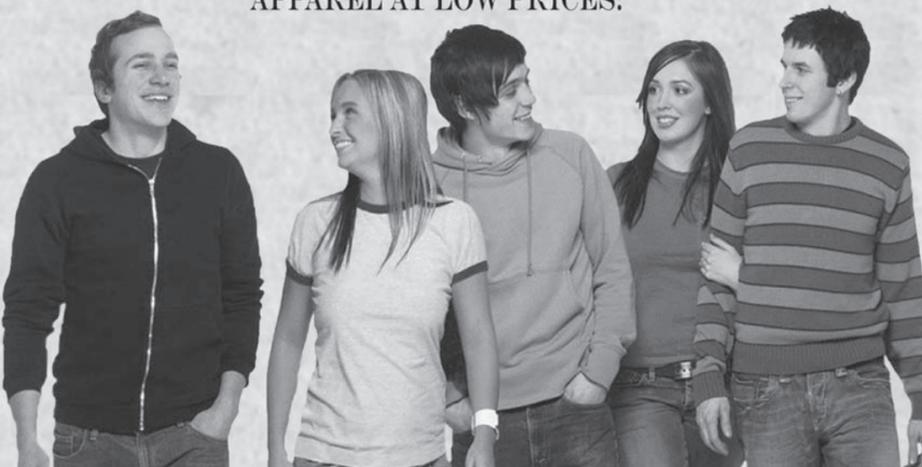
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Stadium recycles trash, goes green

By Andrew Martinez
Reporter

The football game Thursday against Wake Forest University not only marked a new season for Baylor football, but also the introduction of Baylor's next step in becoming a greener university.

"As Coach Briles kicks off his season, we're beginning ours," Chair of the University Sustainability Committee Pattie Orr said.

As part of the expansion of Baylor's recycling program, over 200 recycling bins were placed at Floyd Casey Stadium.

The recycling bins allow Baylor fans to recycle bottles and aluminum cans.

Also, Baylor's recycling program plans to offer expanded recycling services at other sporting events such as basketball, baseball and softball games.

The placement of recycling bins at sporting events has been part of the committee's plan since Baylor began to expand its recycling options last fall, said Carl Flynn, a member of the University Sustainability Committee.

"Along with the containers, we plan on having a marketing campaign to get students to recycle," Flynn said.

Spreading the word about the new bins is important to the program's success, Orr said.

"Education is a key aspect to encouraging fans to recycle," Orr said. "If people don't recycle then the containers aren't going

to make a difference."

Operations Director for Athletics and member of the University Sustainability Committee Paula Young, conducted a recent survey of what other Big Twelve schools are doing to recycle for sporting events.

While five other Big Twelve schools have game day recycling programs, most of them are post-game recycling pick-ups conducted by volunteers, Young said.

Baylor's on-site recycling bins will allow fans to recycle before, after and during the game.

"We're trying to do a lot of containers so that post-game cleanup is not as crazy," Young said. "Hopefully we'll be able to share with other Big Twelve schools the success that we have with our program."

The sustainability committee estimates that over 220,000 bottles are sold annually at Baylor sporting events and hopes to recycle at least 110,000 of those bottles, Orr said.

The increased recycling efforts by the university coincide with the addition of new recycling containers at various places throughout campus.

The Bill Daniel Student Center, Student Life Center and the Baylor University libraries are now home to 125 recycling bins.

"We're just trying to be the best stewards of the resources that we've been given by God," Orr said.

In addition to keeping Baylor facilities clean, other organiza-



Sarah Morris/Lariat Staff

Cups and assorted trash litter the Brazos River under University Parks next to the Marina Aug. 25.

tions are volunteering to help recycle trash accumulated on or near Baylor's campus.

The Environmental Concern Organization and other community environmental organizations have been volunteering to clean up the Baylor marina and the rest of Waco Creek.

Torrential rains can cause the marina and creek to fill up with empty bottles and other trash.

"It really takes a lot to get that stuff out," said Susan Bratton, chairman of environmental

sciences and faculty adviser for the ECO. "One year, a volunteer team found a septic tank," Bratton said.

Due to the recent flooding at the marina, this year the cleanup process has been a little slower than usual.

The flooding makes it harder for volunteers to use kayaks and small boats to help clean up the litter in the marina, Bratton said.

Christina Kruse contributed to this story.

Wreck suspect had 4 prior DWI offenses

By The Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — A drunken driving suspect with four previous DWI arrests and an invalid license raced away from a sheriff's deputy, ran a red light then went airborne after a wreck and landed on top of an SUV, killing a newlywed couple inside, authorities said.

Second-grade teacher Erika Clouet, 24, and her husband of a little over a month, construction worker and aspiring musician German Clouet, 23, of Irving, were killed in the accident early Monday.

The driver, Uriel Perez Palacios, 22, of Dallas, remained in the hospital Tuesday in fair condition, Dallas County Sheriff's Department spokeswoman Kim Leach said. His passenger had to be cut from the vehicle and was also hospitalized. She is in critical condition.

Officials on Tuesday charged Palacios with two counts of murder and three counts of intoxication assault. A phone listing for Palacios could not be found.

The murder charges are believed to be the first time a Dallas County prosecutor has pursued a DWI case as murder, Leach said.

Dallas County authorities Tuesday were still piecing together Palacios' extensive arrest record. Palacios was arrested as recently as June for driving while intoxicated and was released after paying a \$500 fine.

Palacios' was also involved in two police chases and had four outstanding warrants, officials

said.

After a DWI arrest in 2007, his bond was set at \$3,500, increased to \$100,000 and then lowered back to \$3,500, Leach said. It is unclear why the judge lowered the bond, which Palacios paid.

"When he's in our jail and he pays his bond, we have to release him," Leach said.

Palacios was also driving on a suspended license, which became invalid on Aug. 14, Leach said.

A Dallas County sheriff's deputy pulled over Palacios around 2 a.m. Monday after spotting him weaving through traffic, authorities said. The deputy smelled alcohol on Palacios and asked for his keys. Instead, Palacios sped off with his lights off and drove through a red light, striking a sport utility vehicle carrying five Southern Methodist University students.

Palacios' car went airborne and crashed into the Clouets' SUV, crushing it and killing them at the scene, authorities said. The couple was returning from a date at the movies.

"She was a wonderful teacher and will be greatly missed," said Irma Vega-Zadeh, the principal at the elementary school where Clouet taught.

Five SMU students were injured. One broke his arm, two were hospitalized with non-life-threatening injuries and two more were treated at the scene.

"Many deputies said it was one of the worst accidents that they ever saw," Leach told The Dallas Morning News.



thank you MOVERS



Baylor University welcomed more than 3,000 new students to campus during Move In, Aug. 20-21, when a volunteer crew of more than 2,000 students, faculty, staff and community members moved our newest Bears into residence halls. The Division of Student Life appreciates your time and effort to make this event such a great success!



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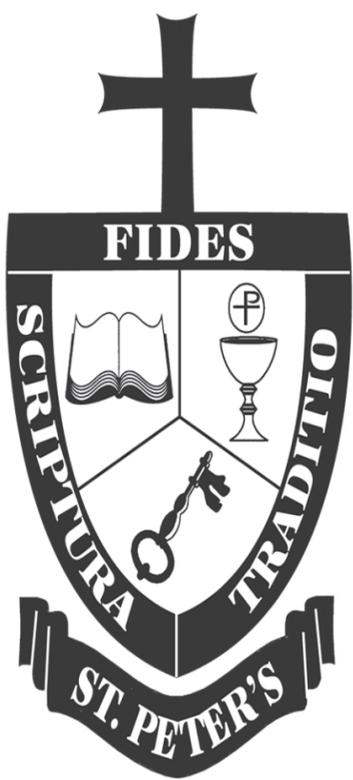
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Area Democrats gather for speech

By Rebecca LaFlure
Reporter

Democrats of all ages and backgrounds gathered at Poppa Rollo's Pizza in Waco Thursday night to watch Sen. Barack Obama accept the Democratic presidential nomination.

"Half the Democratic Party is a party, and I wanted to be here with everyone else to celebrate," said Travis Hobbs, Georgetown senior and secretary of the Baylor Democrats.

The speech raised an array of emotions from the audience of about 40.

People laughed, clapped, cheered and even cried.

"I was teary-eyed," said Kiera Boyle, a Lewisville senior and vice president of the Baylor Democrats. "My reaction was more emotional than I expected."

The overall consensus of Obama's speech at the watch party was a positive one, most saying it was better than expected.

"It was exactly right on target, exactly what I wanted to happen, what I wanted to hear him say. He's talking about the essence of what America should be, and we've kind of missed the point over the past few years," said Sharon Rollins, a Woodway resident and active Obama campaigner. "There are a lot of

people saying they haven't seen this much excitement since the '60s."

The watch party was organized by the McLennan County Democratic Party to unite local supporters and witness the historic event as a group.

Members said they hope it will get citizens more involved in Obama's campaign.

"It allows people to feel they are part of a bigger movement ... and hopefully energize people to go out and participate in democracy," said Tom Lupfer, McLennan County Organizing Committee chair.

According to Lupfer, Obama has inspired youth be more politically active than in previous elections. He cited the increase in young people volunteering.

Not everyone was as impressed with Obama's acceptance speech.

"Overall it was what I expected, too much Hollywood, too many promises, and too much bashing of his opponent. The only thing that I am waiting to see is McCain's speech, hopefully he doesn't do the same thing," Dallas senior Erik Klintmalm said.

Sam Chen, a senior from Allentown, Penn., said although Obama gave an excellent speech, it wasn't good enough to



AP photo

Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., speaks at a rally at the Marcus Amphitheater in Milwaukee Monday.

convince "those on the fence." He pointed out Obama focused too much on President Bush and not all his statements were accurate.

"He claims that McCain has voted with Bush 90 percent of the time, and you can't bring change when you always vote with your party. Obama, how-

ever, votes with his party about 97 percent of time. There were details like this that Obama omitted and have been dug up by the news media."

John McCain is scheduled to make his acceptance speech at the Republican National Convention tonight in St. Paul, Minn.

Bush backs McCain in Republican convention

By David Espo
Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — President Bush hailed John McCain Tuesday night as a man "ready to lead this nation," a courageous candidate who risked his White House ambitions to support an unpopular Iraq war.

Republicans defended vice presidential running mate Sarah Palin in the face of fresh conven-

tion-week controversy.

Barack Obama drew criticism from the convention podium for the first time when Sen. Joseph Lieberman said the Democratic presidential candidate voted to cut off funding "for our troops on the ground" in Iraq last year.

By contrast, Lieberman, who was the Democrats' vice presidential nominee in 2000, said McCain had the courage "to stand against the tide of public opinion."

McCain was in Pennsylvania and Ohio during the day, campaigning his way into the convention city where the 72-year-old Arizona senator will deliver his formal acceptance speech on Thursday night.

Bush reprised the national security themes that propelled him to a second term as he spoke briefly from the White House.

"We need a president who understands the lessons of Sept. 11, 2001," he said in prepared

remarks. "That to protect America, we must stay on offense, stop attacks before they happen and not wait to be hit again. The man we need is John McCain."

Inside the convention hall, former Tennessee Sen. Fred Thompson delivered a strong defense of Palin. He said the Alaska governor, was "from a small town, with small town values, but that's not good enough for those folks who are attacking her and her family."

Interim president promises 'clarity'

Kate Williams
Reporter

Student Senate welcomed Interim President David Garland's message of clarity and peace after months of confusion and turmoil between the students and administration at their first meeting of the year Wednesday.

Garland said his first job is to, "listen to the concerns of the students and not dismiss them."

Tyler Walton, a sophomore senator from San Antonio, said he believes Garland is good for the interim position.

"I can respect him for his honesty and ability to be personable," Walton said.

Students' concerns about his interim presidency taking place in the middle of the 2012 vision were answered by Garland, who said he aims to keep with the 2012 vision that has been established.

"No question that 2012 is going to be continued," Garland said. "It is not dependent on the particular president at the time."

While Garland's role as an interim president can last no longer than two years, his leadership still impacts the university's future plans.

Plans to focus on fundraising and getting the finest professors possible are at the top of Garland's to-do-list, as well as bringing peace to the campus in the time of transition.

"Enormous stride has occurred and we will continue what we have started," Garland said, "This is not just a period of treading water."

Students raised concerns about noticing changes.

"My hope is that (the changes) are not going to be noticed," Garland said.

He confirmed that changes have already been made within Pat Neff, joking that the faculty

is very excited about denim Fridays.

"Dr. Garland is genuine about anything he does. He doesn't put up a front and doesn't pretend to be something he is not," said Andrew Shaffer, the seminary's associate director of recruitment.

Garland's ability to connect with students in and out of the classroom has lead him into positions of leadership.

In June 2007 Garland became the dean of George W. Truett Seminary after teaching as a professor of Christian Scriptures.

When asked what compelled him to serve as the interim president he simply stated, "I was answering God's call."

Vice President for Student Development Dr. Dub Oliver followed Garland's speech by thanking students for expressing their appreciation to Garland.

"Garland is a gifted teacher, writer and minister," Oliver said. "The institution will advance greatly during this period."

While Dr. Garland's position is the first step in finding a new permanent president, the complete process has not been laid out.

"The regents will look at various methods used in the past in order to select a president," Oliver said.

Regents will then appoint an advising committee that will be responsible for interviewing and selecting a president.

Oliver stressed that the regents are concerned about how things are moving forward and their desire to establish a plan, which will be accomplished in the coming months.

"He understands what Baylor is looking for in this period of transition and he will provide us with the opportunity to progress as a top tier university," said Brian Fonville, Garland senior and student body president.

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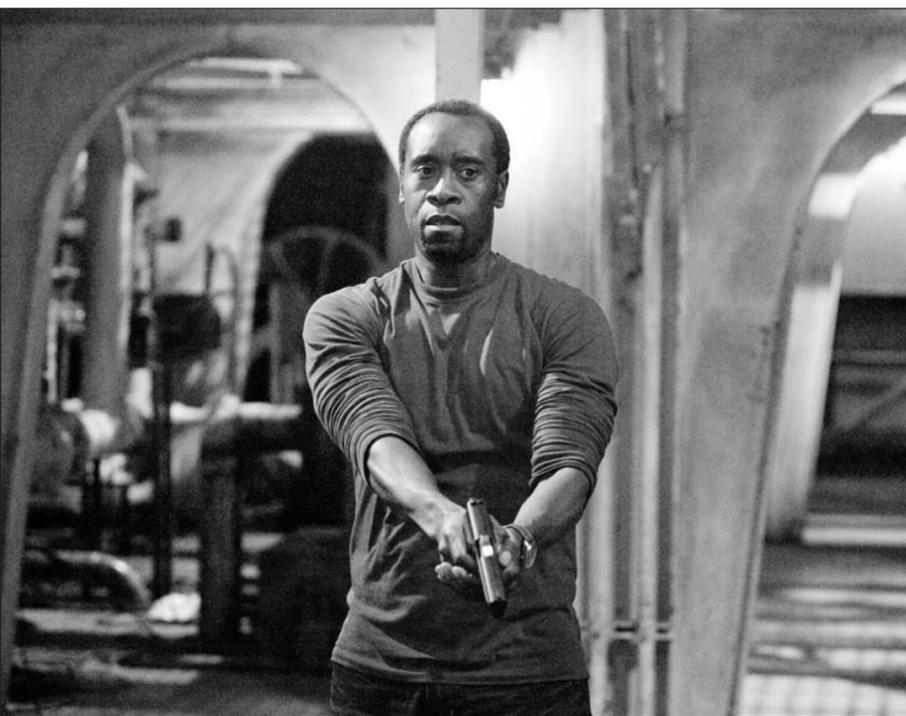
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Lacking depth, character, 'Traitor' borders on mediocrity



Courtesy of Overture Films

Don Cheadle plays Samir Horn, an Islamic explosive specialist under investigation by FBI agent Roy Clayton, played by Guy Pierce.

By Stephen Jablonski
Web/Multi-Media Editor

It's an interesting perspective that "Traitor" attempts to provide: insight into the moral perspective of radical Islamic terrorists, insight into the morality of the American perspective, and general insight into the nature of morality.

MOVIEREVIEW

And while I wouldn't necessarily deem "Traitor" a proponent of the Islamic faith, it certainly gives more depth to contemporary international involvement than America=good, terrorists=bad.

Which is good; depth of purpose is good. Depth of character is good too, and unfortunately "Traitor" offers less of that.

The cast has their motives and they're sticking to them. They're not challenged, and they're not in the mood for discussion.

They'd rather act. Which is bad, because the action is pretty mediocre, specifically an extensive montage of bomb-

assembly. It's like watching someone do a puzzle.

"Traitor" follows Samir Horn (Don Cheadle), an Islamic explosives specialist and former U.S. Special Operations officer with links to terrorist organizations.

FBI agent Roy Clayton (Guy Pierce) begins an investigation into the whereabouts of Horn after he's linked to a prison break in Yemen, a bombing in Nice and a raid in London.

Further than that, the film offers foreseeable and/or ill-conceived twists.

Coupled with bland characters and action sequence, this is an average film.

Not that there weren't plenty of opportunities to make characters dynamic and action sequences compelling.

Instead of developing the friendship between Samir and Omar (Said Taghmaoui) as they trek across the U.S. charged with a terrorist objective, there's a detailed montage of the bombs being handed off to the mission's operatives.

Instead of a detailed study into Samir's personal life and relationships, there's a brief-

Briefing. That's the word for this movie.

It describes the distance created between all elements, like someone listing a sequence of events: prison break, terrorist training, bomb explosion...it's action without conveying the emotion that the moviegoer pays for.

Occasionally the argument will arise that a movie had too much of an agenda but agenda isn't a bad thing if it's done well, meaning the contemporary correlations and the message conveyed aren't delivered in concussive blows.

Agenda is fine, as long as the audience remains engaged. But Traitor isn't that engaging.

It's just disappointing. The concept and the cast had potential, but the most crucial opportunities to develop that potential were dismissed in montage.

Conceptually, this movie could've been an accomplishment of film communication, but it wasn't.

The tagline's true: "The truth is complicated." Unfortunately, this movie isn't.

Grade: C

New 'American Idol' judge to join in eighth season

By Heather Svokos
McClatchy Newspapers (MCT)

Is there trouble already brewing for the newly appointed fourth "American Idol" judge Kara DioGuardi?

Idol producers announced Monday that the Grammy-nominated songwriter will join Simon Cowell, Randy Jackson and Paula Abdul at the judges' table when the show premieres its eighth season on the Fox Network in January.

DioGuardi, who has worked with Christina Aguilera, Gwen Stefani and Kelly Clarkson, started as a singer, but eventually carved out a niche in songwriting.

In a conference call with reporters, she talked about her judging style, but also had to deal with questions about the Paula factor.

Abdul's sometimes incoherent behavior has raised eyebrows in recent seasons, and interviews she has granted have become increasingly loopy, leading to speculation that she might be replaced.

Producers quashed the rumors, saying Abdul wasn't going anywhere.

The choice of DioGuardi is interesting because of her connection to Abdul.

Earlier in DioGuardi's career, the two co-wrote "Spinning Around," a No. 1 hit for Kylie

Minogue in the United Kingdom.

DioGuardi said Monday that she hadn't yet sat down with the three judges for a chemistry test run, and she hadn't yet spoken with Abdul.

"I've always had a great relationship with Paula," DioGuardi said.

"I can't imagine her not being happy with it. ... We were friends, and she was very instrumental in my career in the beginning."

But Abdul was singing a more cautionary tune on a morning radio show Monday.

According to US magazine, she told listeners on Phoenix radio that she was excited about the new judge, but "I am concerned about the audience and acceptance. Time will tell. We'll see."

After being told of Abdul's remarks, DioGuardi said she wasn't concerned.

"She's on a big, big show, and she's just probably pondering what could or could not happen."

So why a fourth judge? Producers "wanted to try a change," Abdul said in her radio interview.

"They always tried for a fourth judge because it followed the format of the original show, (Britain's) 'Pop Idol.' We haven't had much luck with that working, but we're going to give it another try."

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Christina Kruse/Lariat Staff

"Children of Eden" will run every weekend during September at the Waco Civic Theatre. Ben Tallcott plays Cain/Japheth and Kaley Caperton plays Yonah.

'Children of Eden' opens Civic Theatre season

By Courtney Webb
Reporter

"Children Of Eden" transforms the first nine chapters of Genesis into an exuberant musical put on by the Waco Civic Theatre.

The music and lyrics are by Stephen Schwartz, the well-known composer of "Godspell," "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" and "Pippin."

John Caird wrote the book on which the play is based.

The musical is directed by Russ Williams, with musical direction by Tommy Edds, for the Civic Theatre Production.

This is William's third musical to direct, but he has been a directing plays for 20 years.

Prior to directing he served on the Board of Directors at the Civic Theatre.

"The musical was presented to us while I was on the board of directors for The Waco Civic Theatre," he said. "I jumped at the opportunity to direct it."

"Children of Eden" converts the biblical story of creation through the flood into a light-hearted, clever comedy about universal truth, the relationship of family and their children.

Some of the stories acted out in the play are those of Adam, Eve, Cain and Abel and Noah's Ark.

The musical has elements that

will interest all ages.

"There are a lot of cool aspects for the younger audience in ways of simply teaching the book of Genesis," said Alexa Teichgraber, a Waco Civic Theatre patron, said. "Also, it's great for the middle- and older-aged crowds in the sense of making the bible real, by putting the story on stage in front of you."

Win Emmons, one of the storyteller's in the production, said Baylor students will enjoy the great music and appreciate the way the story is written from the biblical text.

"There is only one level to comprehend the musical," he said. "Which is from a religious viewpoint, making Baylor students one of the crowds this musical is aiming for."

Williams is sure the musical will be well received.

"It's a great show for Waco and central Texas," he said. "But anyone can see it because it's not just good for the religious theology behind it, but also because of the way it's written."

Houston senior Sunil Parmar said he would see the musical because of its reputation and the message of the play.

"I have heard about the amazing composer of the music and lyrics, Stephen Schwartz, but I would also see it for the message that goes along with the music," he said.

Baylor students will not only be in the audience but participating in the productions as well.

Baylor graduate Ben Tallcott plays Cain and Lake Jackson junior Lisa Chapa is stage manager for the musical.

The musical has a powerful message alongside the lighthearted comedy.

"The message of 'Children Of Eden' is to learn from our mistakes," Teichgraber said. "God gave us the gift of free will, which is the most precious gift and the most terrible one, because we can choose to make the right decision or we can choose to make the wrong one."

Waco theatre coach Heidi Johnson has coached a lot of actors that have performed for the Civic Theatre.

"Children Of Eden' is one of the most powerful shows I've ever seen," she said. "I can't wait to see how the Waco Civic Theatre presents it."

Johnson's said her favorite part about the musical is seeing all the animals enter Noah's Ark.

"You get to see the artistic imagination in transforming people into animals like elephants, giraffes and cheetahs," she said.

The last song in the musical is the most powerful one, Johnson said.

"It's more of a generational song



Christina Kruse/Lariat Staff

"Children of Eden" brings to life the first nine chapters of the Old Testament. James E. Johnson III plays Noah and Cathey Hawes is a storyteller.

titled 'In the Beginning' and it says we cannot know what could occur, we can just make the journey worth the taking, and pray we are wiser then we were in the beginning," she said.

Because of the "jaunty calypso beat," Emmons said his favorite song is "Generations."

The first performances of "Children of Eden" are Sept. 5 and 6 at 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors. Waco Civic Theatre is located at 1517 Lake Air Drive.



Courtesy of Lionsgate Films

Nicole Parker plays the "Enchanted" princess in the film parody "Disaster Movie."

'Disaster Movie' fails to generate laughs with crude, repetitive humor

By Rick Bentley
McClatchy Newspapers (MCT)

"Disaster Movie." The name says it all. Not since the Hindenberg has something crashed and burned as spectacularly as this film.

This is the latest juvenile attempt by writer/directors Jason Friedberg and Aaron

in the audience just to end the tedium.

The thread that tries to bind together all of the short comedy ideas has All-American Will (Matt Lanter) trying to get to his girlfriend (Vanessa Minnillo) when the end of the Earth starts. He's joined on his quest by Calvin (G. Thang), who has less acting abilities than a coma

MOVIE REVIEW

Seltzer to milk laughs out of the formulas used in their "Scary Movie," "Date Movie" and "Epic Movie." The formula had worn as thin as Kim Kardashian's acting skills by "Meet the Spartans." But that dead horse gets one more severe beating.

The focus of what is supposed to pass as humor are films like "Cloverfield," "Night at the Museum" and "Iron Man." All the writers have done is taken a lot of short bits, many you probably already saw on a late-night network comedy show, and thrown them one at a time at the screen like some cinematic version of a paper wad. But nothing really sticks.

Even when the writers stumble across something that could actually generate humor, they kill it by keeping the bit going long after the laughs have ended.

Take for example the scene where Carmen Electra and Kim Kardashian end up in a professional wrestling diva fight. Funny idea. They start to fight. They fight some more.

They keep fighting. They continue to fight to the point you might actually pray for someone's cell phone to ring

patient.

And the final member of their group, Crista Flanagan, does nothing more than repeat characters she played on "MADtv" with send ups of "Juno" and Hannah Montana. Why would anyone pay to see material they have been able to watch for free for years?

Along the way they run into an assortment of characters from at least two dozen films and television shows.

Through it all there are only two funny moments. One comes when they run into the Enchanted Princess (Nicole Parker). Her fairy tale look at the world, often accompanied by her singing, is explained as being the result of loads of "wonderful mind-altering drugs."

That's a wicked parody of the Disney film that works because Parker is the only person in the cast who is funny.

The other funny moment is a jab at "High School Musical." That's the parody that should have been done.

The reality is there was no need for anyone to try that hard. A built-in audience exists for this franchise.

This is a movie for anyone who gets the giggles.

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Lady Bears volleyball eager for NCAA competition

By Justin Baer
Reporter

Since his arrival more than four years ago, head coach Jim Barnes has always had a good team. But good isn't enough in Big 12 volleyball.

Featuring perennial powerhouses such as the University of Nebraska and the University of Texas, cracking the upper echelon of the conference seems like an impossible feat. But with the prestige of the Big 12, conquering the elite two of the conference isn't necessary to land a spot in the NCAA Tournament: somewhere Baylor hasn't been since 2001.

"Our first step to being a top 25 team (and a NCAA tournament team) is being in the top six in the conference," Barnes said. "All the signs point that way, and now we go play the matches and see where we are at as a team."

The signs which Barnes speaks of come in the form of preseason All-Big 12 selections setter Taylor Barnes and middle blocker/outside hitter Anna Breyfogle, as well as fellow junior and last season's leader in kills outsider hitter Katie Sanders.

The trio sparked an immediate impact in the program as soon as they stepped foot on campus. Now with two years each of experience under their belts, the Lady Bears have a solid foundation to build a strong campaign this season.

"That's the reason we're most excited- the way our returners

returned in shape," Jim Barnes said. "They are in the best shape of their lives, mentally and physically. Those three handle a lot of our offense and defense, for them to come back in such great shape was huge for our team."

Bringing back four other returning players as well as welcoming seven talented newcomers, gives the Lady Bears every feasible reason that they can make it to the NCAA Tournament.

"I think we are really going to surprise a lot of teams this year," Arlington native Taylor Barnes said. "We are coming in everyday to practice with the right mindset."

Eliminating late-season fall

Ask any of the members from last season's squad what was the greatest fault of the team, and the unanimous response would be inconsistency.

Baylor's final twelve games started off on a five-game win streak. With an NCAA tournament bid portrayed as a light at the end of the tunnel, the Lady Bears dropped off a figurative cliff, losing seven of their final matches. Four of those matches went to the fifth game.

"We lost some matches last year down to the wire," Jim Barnes said. "They are playing with a lot of hunger this year to show we are one of the top teams in the Big 12."

The inconsistency is a trend the Lady Bears look to buck this season. With a 2006 recruiting class ranked No. 16 in the

nation, and the two previous recruiting classes ranked in the top 45, the talent is undoubtedly there. Now, as Jim Barnes has said, it is just a process of using that talent to hold on to close matches.

Talented Trio

Taylor Barnes, Breyfogle and Sanders headline the team and its success will most likely hinge on the three players. Yet with the other three starting spots up for grabs before the season began, many of the newcomers look to make their mark as the season unravels.

"We have a lot of good, new players," Breyfogle said. "They are talented, but they are not sure exactly how to handle the Big 12 and NCAA volleyball yet. But I think they will definitely step up and take the role that they are to take. If we keep going on the track we're going with hard practices, I think that will really help us."

Possibly the biggest signee of the offseason for the Lady Bears is Houston freshman Briana Tolbert. Tolbert, ranked the No. 19 middle blocker in the 2008 class adds depth to an already stout front line of Sanders and Breyfogle. Standing at an overbearing 6-foot-3, Tolbert has the athleticism to be an instant force in the Big 12.

"She has all the tools to make an immediate impact," Jim Barnes said. "It's all about her adjusting to NCAA volleyball."

With last season's libero Sarah Grace transferring, the



Christina Kruse/Lariat Staff

Anna Breyfogle (14) Ashley Byrd (6) and Ashlie Christenson celebrate a 3-0 victory over the weekend. Breyfogle was selected to be on the preseason All-Big 12 squad.

defensive specialist spot is now open and, like last year, will be filled by a freshman. The early favorite is Allison King, a former four-year letterwinner at Hebron High School in Lewisville. Jim Barnes said King is just as talented, if not more so than Grace, her departure hasn't implanted any worries into Jim Barnes' mind. Houston sophomore Caitlyn Trice and Waco freshman Jordan Rice could also vie for time at the libero position.

Elsewhere on the court, Council Bluffs, Iowa freshman Brittany Ridenour provides a solid back up to Taylor Barnes at the setter position. While at middle blocker, Ashley Byrd, who got six starts as a freshman last year, looks to gain more playing time after a solid rookie year.

At outside hitter, Cleburne sophomore Ashlie Christenson could easily become a regular starter after appearing in all 31

of the Lady Bears matches last season. Her 2.72 kills per game were third on the team and helped place her on the freshman All-Big 12 team.

Meanwhile, Beijing freshman Qian Zhang and Richmond senior Mandy Elliott are competing for minutes off the bench as well.

The Lady Bears conference schedule begins Sept. 17 when they play host to the Texas Tech University Red Raiders.

Baseball makes club CWS

By Kyle McKanna
Reporter

The Baylor club baseball team lived every baseball player's dream this past May: They played in a World Series.

One of eight squads that competed in the National Club Baseball Association (NCBA) World Series, the Bears earned their spot in the tournament by sweeping No. 2 Sam Houston State University in a best of three series at the regional. Shortly after their victory, the team found themselves as the No. 7 seed in the NCBA World Series at the City of Palms Park in Fort Myers, Fla., the same place where Red Sox greats David Ortiz and Josh Beckett hold their spring training.

"It was pretty awesome," Nick Arredondo said. "We went there for one reason and we obviously didn't achieve that, but it turned into a once-in-a-lifetime experience."

Baylor squared off against the University of Oregon in their first game. Defensive struggles put the Bears in a hole, and despite a solid offensive effort,

they dropped their opener 18-10.

The Bears faced 2006 NCBA Champion Colorado State University in their second game, and the experienced CSU team proved too much for the young Baylor squad. The Bears lost 12-1 and were eliminated from the tournament. Colorado State went on to win the 2008 title.

Though their first trip to the NCBA World Series didn't go exactly as they hoped, the team planned to parlay the experience they gained into another successful season this year.

Brian Ozols, a returning player and one of this year's co-captains, said the World Series trip was fun, but it also taught him a lot about what it takes to win as a team at that level.

Chase Mekalian, a San Diego native and high school teammate of Ozols, was also anxious to put his baseball experience to use in the upcoming season.

"Our practices are going to be fine tuned," co-captain Mekalian said. "We know how we need to prepare and what it takes to win."

The Bears choose to have

players coach the team rather than bringing in an adult outsider; a move they feel has many advantages. After seeing what it takes to succeed at the top level, the player/coaches have an idea of how they want to run things this year.

"Every practice is going to be a competition," said Ozols. "No one has a starting spot yet. We don't want people to get comfortable during the season."

The team has scheduled a barbecue at 1 p.m. Sept. 17 at Fountain Mall for anyone who is interested in information about the team.

Players like Mekalian, who had been out of baseball for six years before picking it back up last season, are exactly the type of players who are encouraged to tryout for the team. Though Ozols did mention specific need for a catcher (the Bears lost NCBA All-American catcher Joseph Soto to graduation) he made it clear that the tryouts are open to everyone who fits the qualifications.

It's like Ozols said, "It's a place to play when you didn't think you'd play again."

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Sports Briefs

Lady Bears win big in Canada

The Lady Bears basketball team went 2-0 this weekend as they defeated Simon Fraser University and the University of British Columbia. The Lady Bears exhibition games were held in Vancouver.

Baylor beat Simon Fraser University 86-67 on Saturday and British Columbia 101-44 on Sunday.

The Lady Bears will not play again until Nov. 3 and Nov. 7 when they play the Houston Jaguars and the Dallas Diesel. Tip-off for Baylor's regular season is on Nov. 14, when they host Florida Atlantic.

Volleyball sweeps invitational

The Baylor volleyball team beat both SMU and Prairie View A&M this weekend in the Baylor Invitational.

The Bears volleyball team swept SMU on Friday in the team's season opener in Waco. Katie Sanders and Anna Breyfogle recorded double-doubles in Baylor's 3-0 sweep of SMU.

Baylor also swept Prairie View A&M 3-0 on Saturday morning at the Ferrell Center. The Bear's match against Lamar University that was scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. was cancelled because of the threat of Hurricane Gustav moving into the Beaumont area.

Briana Tolbert recorded a career high 11 kills and Katie Sanders and Taylor Barnes each added 8 kills in Baylor's winning effort.

Cross Country women win and men take second at Baylor Twilight Invitational

The Lady Bears cross country team won first place at the Baylor Twilight Invitational and the men's team got second place in the meet held at the Baylor Intramural Fields.

The Baylor Twilight was the first meet of the season for both squads.

The women's cross country team grabbed the meet's top six spots to finish with 15 points. Nichole Jones claimed the individual title by for the second straight season by beating teammate Erin Bedell by 6 seconds to finish with a run of 14:13.91.

The men's team finished second with 52 points to Lamar University, which won the team competition with 46 points.

The cross country team's next compete on Sept. 13 at College Station to compete in the Texas A&M Invitational.

Drew receives award

Baylor head men's basketball coach Scott Drew will be presented The Don Nelson Award by the Dallas All Sports Association at the organization's annual awards banquet on Tuesday at the Dallas Fairmont Hotel.

The Don Nelson Award is presented to a college or professional basketball coach for great achievement both on and off the court of play in the spirit of NBA player and coach Don Nelson.

Jobson picks up first win

The Baylor soccer team won its first match of the season, defeating the Presbyterian Blue Hose 3-0.

Sophomore Lindsey Johnson scored the Lady Bears first goal of the season in the second minute of play.

Baylor's 22 shots-on-goal were the most since a 25-shot performance against Texas State University.

It was Baylor's first home match of the season, and nearly 1,000 fans watched.

Baylor (1-2) continues its home-stand against Prairie View A&M University Sunday.

Sports briefs compiled by Andrew Martinez

Fumbles, offense woes hand BU 41-13 loss

By Garrett Turner
Sports writer

A different season, a different team, even a different coach but still the same result, a loss for the Baylor Bear football team in their season opener. For the third consecutive year, the Bears have failed to produce a win in their first game, due to a lack of offensive production and too many turnovers.

For head coach Art Briles, it was a painful and disturbing loss.

"Certainly not the way we planned it to happen, without a doubt," head coach Art Briles said. "The thing that is really painful to me and to our staff is you want to give people a reason to believe, you want to keep them around, you want to keep them excited and we did not do that (against Wake Forest)."

Averaging a little less than a touchdown for the past three season openers, the offense, in each game, couldn't get into rhythm. Against Wake Forest University, the first three offensive drives for the Bears produced a total of 21 yards of offense. Even though highly-touted Copperas Cove freshman Robert Griffin came into the game for the fourth drive, the offense failed to produce any points until late into the second quarter.

When the offense picked up momentum, costly turnovers would soon end it. A total of five turnovers in the Wake Forest game -- three fumbles and two interceptions -- was the highest number of turnovers in the last three season-opener losses. This wasn't expected for Briles and his staff.

"Consequently, you are not going to win football games if you can't win the turnover battles," Briles said. "Two of those were self-inflicted wounds, they were unforced errors and that's the worst part about it."

Offensive production was deadly to both sides of the ball, forcing the defense into short-field situations and turning the ball over within their own territory twice. The defense held as best as it could, putting some pressure on the quarterback and giving defensive captain Joe Pawelek's defense multiple chances to produce a sack.

"We were put in some short fields, but at the same time that is what the defense's job is ... to stop them, whether you're on the 50 or the 10," Pawelek said. "It was a complete team loss today from the top to bottom."

Even though the Bears offense sputtered, there was a major improvement in Baylor's rushing offense. For the 2007 season, the Bears averaged 77.8 yards per game rushing. In the past two season openers the Bears rushing offense averaged just 49 yards per game. This year the Bears 94 yards rushing almost doubled the past three season-openers average. The Bears' offense hasn't been synonymous with rushing touchdowns in the past, but the two touchdowns of the game against Wake Forest were scored on the ground. Griffin's elite speed helped provide a spark to the team and allowed him his first collegiate touchdown.

Yet, Griffin wasn't pleased with the outcome.

"My performance really doesn't matter. The outcome of the game is what matters and we didn't get the (win) today," Griffin said. "I've just got to do better to help us get (the win)."

Taking a loss for the first game can be a tough start. However, according to Pawelek the team's focus should be on the future.

"It's disappointing when you work so hard throughout the summer, spring ball and two-a-days," Pawelek said. "The great part is we still have 11 more times to line up."



Alex Song/Lariat Staff
Ernest Smith (13) celebrates with Justin Fenty (23) and Robert Griffin after Griffin scores Baylor's second touchdown of the season. Griffin had 29 yards rushing and 125 passing in his college debut.

Superdome remains open

By Brett Martel
AP Sports Writer

NEW ORLEANS - The Louisiana Superdome will be ready for some football Sunday night, and the Saints say they're looking forward to celebrating the end of a stressful week with their storm-weary fans.

Forced to flee to Indianapolis ahead of Hurricane Gustav, the Saints will be able to open their season as scheduled against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, team officials announced Tuesday.

Doug Thornton, vice president of SMG, the company that

runs the state-owned Superdome, said that there had been only minor damage -- exterior signs ripped with downed fences and light poles blown over.

Still, Thornton said he had to coordinate with city officials to make sure evacuation orders would be lifted in time for the opener so he could count on the staff of roughly 2,500 people, including police officers on security detail, needed to host an NFL game.

"It takes significant resources to run the dome for a Saints game and we are very pleased that our employees, subcontractors and suppliers will all be available when the doors open on Sunday," said Thornton, who spearheaded the ambitious \$200-million, eight-month renovation of the Superdome following Hurricane Katrina.

Thornton remained in the stadium with a small handful of staff during the surging storm Sunday night and Monday.

The game could have been switched to Tampa, Fla., because the Saints and Buccaneers both play in the NFC South and meet twice, once at each location. The Saints are due to visit Tampa on Nov. 30.

For lineman Rhodes, life continues outside hash

By Joe Holloway
Sports Writer

Growing up in Denison, Texas, senior defensive tackle Vincent Rhodes enjoyed both fishing and football. While he still enjoys the former when he can, it is football with which he now occupies his time.

The son of Robert and Virginia Rhodes, Vincent started playing football when he was 5-years old and has since become one of Baylor's best players, cited by CollegeFootballNews.com as the Bear defense's best pro prospect.

That's good news to Rhodes. "It's always been a dream of mine," he said. "I have two cousins playing professionally in Canada and they're always telling me 'Hey, you keep going, man, and you can make it.'"

"I've always wanted to do it." But before he was raking in 25 multi-tackle performances in 34 career games through 2007 and sharing the team's best defensive lineman honor with

defensive end Jason Lamb, Rhodes was a multi-talented high school athlete.

Rhodes received first-team all-state honors by the Associated Press at the offensive tackle position, and second-team all-state honors for his work as a defensive end.

He also participated in choir, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, threw the discus for the Denison High School track team and was a Texas Scholar.

When it came time to pick a college, Rhodes says that he chose Baylor over other schools like Texas Christian University and the University of North Texas because of the Bears' consistent interest in him.

"They were always there," he said. "A couple other people kind of shadowed off and I was like, 'Hey, I'm going to Baylor.'"

Rhodes also said that the coaches' personal interest in him helped him make the decision to come to Baylor when he was going through recruitment.

"They were always coming and talking to me, giving me phone calls," he said. "They

came and met my parents, sat in the house, sat on the couch and just hung out pretty much."

It's a decision that has worked out well for both parties. Rhodes has started in 23 consecutive games, tied for second on the team with junior linebacker Joe Pawelek, behind senior offensive tackle Jason Smith.

Not bad company. Smith was also cited as the offense's top pro prospect, and Pawelek will no doubt be one of the defense's top prospects next year.

There's plenty of football left in Rhodes last year as a Bear and he intends to enjoy it as much as possible with his teammates, both on and off the field.

"Most of the time we just go eat somewhere, hang out. We go to the movies a lot sometimes," he said. "We've been bowling before."

And maybe he'll get to fish more sometime as well.

"I don't really do it much when I'm here," he said. "But when I get a chance to go back home I do it a lot."



Photo courtesy of Baylor Athletic Media Relations
Vincent Rhodes (91) busts through the Rice Owls' offensive line during the Sept. 8 game. Rhodes has 25 multi-tackle performances in his 34-game career.

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