

ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

# THE BAYLOR LARIAT

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2008

## Baylor grad runs for position in the House

By Ashley Corinne Killough  
Staff Writer

In challenging Congressman Chet Edwards, for his seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, republican candidate Rob Curnock knows what he's up against. "This is a David-versus-Goliath race," Curnock said. Edwards, a Democrat, is serving his ninth term representing Waco, a job he's held since 1991. But despite facing an 18-year incumbency, Curnock, a Baylor graduate and local businessman, remains optimistic. "David had five smooth stones, but we all know it only

took one to do the job," Curnock said. That stone Curnock's counting on is shaped like a statistic: the 64 percent of the district's vote won by statewide Republican candidates in the 2006 general election. From the southern tip of Ft. Worth to College Station, District 17 spans a distance of nearly 200 miles and encompasses all or parts of 12 counties. The last Republican challenger won only 34 percent of

the vote in McLennan County, an indicator of high approval ratings for Edwards. But Curnock said he believes his opponent's early endorsement of Sen. Barack Obama and strong ties with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi is unrepresentative of what is known as a largely Republican area. "My opponent has done an adequate job in taking care of his district. But just because you do

**Congressman Chet Edwards will be profiled in the Thursday edition of The Lariat.**

Please see **CURNOCK**, page 3



Courtesy Photo

U.S. House of Representative Republican candidate Rob Curnock will challenge Congressman Chet Edwards in the Nov. 8 election for the Texas House position for District 17. The candidates will debate Oct. 20 in College Station.

## Local bank robbed Friday

Jade Ortego  
Staff Writer

Police have released surveillance images of the man that robbed a downtown bank Friday. An arrest has not been made. At about 10:40 a.m. Friday, a man in his mid-to-late 20's walked into Community Bank and Trust on 1800 Washington Ave. and handed a note to the teller stating that this was a robbery, according to police spokesman Steve Anderson. The exact content of the note can't be released because it is evidence, Anderson said. No force was used and no one was hurt, he said. The man left the bank with an undisclosed amount of money walking south toward Austin Avenue. The teller described the robber as a white man between 5-foot-10-inches and 6 feet tall, about 170 pounds and wearing a gray T-shirt with a "blue, ring-style collar," blue jeans, white tennis shoes and a blue bandana that covered his hair. The teller also noted that the suspect had extremely hairy arms, Anderson said. Waco police ask that anyone with information on the robbery contact them at 254-750-7500. This is the second bank robbery in the span of 10 days. The First University Credit Union on 605 S. University Parks Drive was robbed Sept. 30. An arrest was made in connection with that case.



Shanna Taylor/Lariat staff

## Mind-melting mid-term madness

Dallas junior Alison Dunn keeps a coffee cup close at hand during a midterm study session Monday evening in Moody Memorial Library. The study areas of Moody were full as students prepare for this week's midterms.

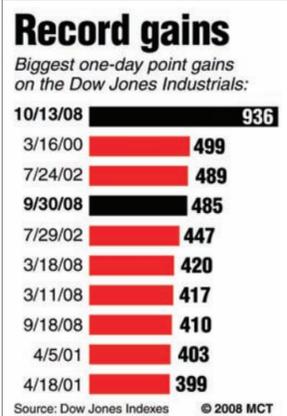
## Dow jumps after last week's dive

By Tim Paradis  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK - Wall Street snapped back from last week's devastating losses after major governments announced further steps to support the global banking system, including plans by the U.S. Treasury to buy stocks of some banks. All the major indexes rose well over 6 percent, and the Dow Jones industrials gained 500 points. The hope on the Street was that the market was finding a bottom after eight sessions of devastating losses that sent the Dow down nearly 2,400 points. But while a rebound had been expected at some point, Wall Street can expect to see volatile, back-and-forth trading in the coming days and weeks as investors work through their concerns about the banking sector, the stagnant credit markets and the overall economy. But the market did appear to take heart when the Bush administration said it is moving quickly to implement its \$700 billion rescue program, including consulting with law firms about the mechanics of buying ownership shares in a broad number of banks to help revive the stagnant credit markets and

in turn get the economy moving again. Neel Kashkari, the assistant Treasury secretary who is interim head of the program, said in a speech Monday officials were also developing guidelines to govern the purchase of soured mortgage-related assets. However, he gave few details about how the program will actually buy bad assets and bank stock. Jim King, chief investment officer at National Penn Investors Trust Co., said the fear that took hold of the markets was

Please see **DOW**, page 3



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[http://www.waco-texas.com/city\\_depts/police/crimestats.htm](http://www.waco-texas.com/city_depts/police/crimestats.htm)

## Study abroad students journal experiences for Web site

By Janna Quinn  
Reporter

Blog-journalists in group study abroad programs are being used as recruiting tools for Center for International Education. Four students attending Baylor in Maastricht and one from Baylor in London/Foundation for International Education

(FIE) are documenting their experiences online with blogs that are posted to the program's Web site. Entries are sent to Karen Connors, coordinator of semester abroad programs, who reviews them before uploading them to Baylor study abroad Web site. Connors explained that blogging is an ideal way for students to express them-

selves and keep themselves dedicated to journaling. "Sometimes you study abroad thinking you'll journal, but don't give yourself time to actually do it," she said. "Now (students) can look back on this and remember their experiences." The participants signed a contract with Baylor to submit an entry weekly. According to the contract, the student must begin writing at least two weeks

before departure and for at least a month upon returning home. Journalists will receive \$100 in BearBucks at the end of the semester. "For students signed up already, the entries help them see the emotions of current students as they go over," Connors said. "It also helps students understand the reverse culture shock." The postings reflect on the

nature of study abroad and show what it is about. Orlando, Fla., senior Lizette Perez is currently a blog-journalist for Baylor in Maastricht. "I love how anything that I have experienced may help a future student who decides to study abroad," she said in an e-mail interview with The Lariat. "For example, I give advice in my blogs about being flexible while traveling because

there are a lot of unexpected moments." The blogs also have the potential of helping ease the worries of students and parents. "It provides additional information that may not be available," Perez said, "and the parents can have a snapshot of what their son or daughter is experiencing abroad." Please see **BLOG**, page 3

## 'Al Sabor Latino' to offer new, sweet spin on Latino culture

By Prisca Anuolam  
Reporter

Baylor students will get a chance to experience various Latin American cultures at Al Sabor Latino, held by the Hispanic Student Association. The event will take place today at 7 p.m. on the fifth floor of Cashon Academic Center. Formerly known as the Latin Culture Fest, Al Sabor Latino

seeks to promote and educate the Baylor community about Latin American culture. Al Sabor Latino, which means a Taste of Latin America, is a free event, and will feature an arts and crafts section, where students can create crafts such as a tissue flower and masks. The tissue flower is used to decorate festivals, parades and weddings. The masks are colorful and very decorated and are

used for carnivals. There will be music, entertainment, food and the popular agua frescas, a Mexican fresh fruit beverage. Decatur junior Erika Pedroza, public relations officer for the association, said this event is different from previous years and has been restructured to include more awareness about each country's culture. "In the past, HSA just hosted

the event," Pedroza said. "This year, HSA will provide the coffees from different countries, and different organizations will provide dessert and a poster board or tri-fold with information." Pedroza said it will be a fun learning experience for the Baylor community. "Students can expect to leave with good dessert and an exposure to Latin flavor," she said.

Each participating organization chose a country and researched information about it. A list of countries was sent to each organization, and the countries were chosen on a first come, first serve basis. There will be 21 different displays and tables, with 12 countries sponsored by other organizations and the rest sponsored by HSA. They are responsible for presenting the

audience with geographical information, celebrations and important facts about it. Organizations such as Asian Student Association, Baylor Women's League, the Freshman Class Council and ONEBU will prepare a dessert from different countries, such as Argentina, Panama, Chile and Puerto Rico. Please see **CULTURE**, page 3

# Dropping 'devil' from name proved successful for Tampa

Throughout my years at Baylor, I have been involved in my fair share of religious discussions. The majority of these have focused on someone trying to prove some sort of point. Whether the point was the validation of a certain religious belief versus another, or something much more broad, like the existence of heaven or hell, they all ended the same. Every one was trying to prove something that, in reality, they couldn't.

However, I have recently been exposed to one of the most convincing arguments for the existence of religion. I already had my beliefs. But this bit of proof, of some sort of afterlife, strengthened them. It gave me the solid evidence I needed to confirm that the Devil exists. And if you

need proof, look no further than the baseball team from Tampa Bay.

If you don't know the story of the Rays, brace yourself. It's ugly. Since its introduction to Major League Baseball in 1998, Tampa Bay has been a doormat. Only once had they finished higher than last in their division, the American League East, and through 12 seasons as a franchise, they had yet to finish with a record of above .500 winning percentage.

They also consistently finished near the bottom in average attendance for Major League Baseball. One player went as far as welcoming a rookie to his first season with Tampa Bay by saying "Wait until we go on the road, then it will feel like you're in the

## sports take



BY KYLE MCKANNA

big leagues."

All of these struggles compounded, and rumors that the team could be moving out of their home city, St. Petersburg, Fla., began swirling about. But then something happened.

In an effort to improve the team's image, majority owner Stuart Sternberg decided to make a name change. As a result, the Rays dropped the Devil from their name like God dropped him from Heaven, officially changing

from the Tampa Bay Devil Rays to the Tampa Bay Rays. Suddenly, lazy or ground outs turned into infield singles. Fly outs became home runs. Seats starting filling up like Fat Albert's pants. And more importantly, losses turned into wins.

Call it fate. Call it coincidence. Call it whatever you want. But there is no denying what the Rays have done since making the change. After 12 straight losing seasons, the Rays bolted into first place in their division early and never looked back. They compiled a 97-65 record in the 2008 season, won the AL East and beat the Chicago White Sox in the first round of the playoffs to advance to the American League Championship Series.

The combination of their

young players, franchise history and a powerhouse division that includes the Boston Red Sox and the New York Yankees makes the Cinderella run they are on even more improbable. In fact, it's almost impossible — unless you consider the alternative.

Could it be that the mere association with the presumed leader of hell has been the reason for the demise of the Rays franchise? Is it possible that the Rays recent success can be attributed to something as simple as a name change? I think so.

If the name change is the reason for Tampa Bay's success, perhaps others should take note. Perhaps if The Devil Wears Prada had just been titled She Wears Prada, it could have won Best Picture at the Academy Awards. If

the makers of the pitchfork added an extra prong to their product, it might become the most widely used gardening tool in the world. If Devil's food cake and deviled eggs dropped Satan from their slogan, they may be able to join up and start their own chain of fast food restaurants.

Tampa Bay isn't questioning where the winning came from, they are just hoping it continues. The Rays split the first two games of their seven-game series with the Red Sox in the American League Championship Series. Game four will be played tomorrow afternoon in Boston.

Wait. The game is on right now. Speak of the Devil. Actually, I better not.

Kyle McKanna is a senior journalism major from Diana.

## Editorial

# Freshmen given peripheral treatment in SAT testing

With Baylor 2012 looming in the near future, it seems Baylor is using some cheap ploys to try to better its rankings. Baylor officials offered the incoming freshman class, ironically the Class of 2012, \$300 toward Baylor Bookstore purchases and the possibility of more scholarship money, to retake the SAT this past June. Students who earned 50 or more points higher than their original SAT score would also be rewarded with \$1,000 added onto their scholarship packages. If students earned a score that would put them in a higher scholarship bracket, they earned that scholarship instead of the \$1,000.

This deal is unfair to the upperclassmen at Baylor. Every college student could use an extra \$300 to pay for books or the chance to knock \$1,000 off each year's tuition, but only this year's freshmen received that opportunity. For the students who came before, once the deadline to retest had passed, the scores they had were the scores that stuck. They couldn't earn a higher scholarship package.

The original deadline for this year's freshmen to submit their SAT scores was February. Baylor decided to dismiss that deadline when it sent an e-mail with the offer to students to retest in the summer. If Baylor is going

to offer this opportunity to one class, it should offer it to every class. We all had to take standardized tests to get in here, and we all have to pay large sums of money to continue going here, so we should all get the chance to retake the test for the same benefits.

Since students don't really have any use for SAT scores once they are accepted into college, it seems Baylor's motives for the retesting opportunity were purely selfish.

Baylor officials say the reason for the extended deadline was to motivate students to get as much scholarship money as they could. The reason for the incentives was to motivate more students to take advantage of the testing, officials said. While officials can claim these reasons for encouraging freshmen to retake the SAT, it seems that the real motive was to increase the school's rankings in reports such as those in U.S. News and World Report.

This year's freshman class had an average SAT score of 1200, 19 points lower than the freshman class of 2007 and 13 points lower than that of 2006. Academic standings like SAT scores are known to have an effect on a school's rankings, which may explain why Baylor's ranking dropped a spot, from 75 to 76, this year.



A better solution to this problem is simple: Don't admit low-scoring students into Baylor. Dr. Reagan Ramsower, vice president for finance, said Baylor had a goal of 3,000 students to admit for this year's freshman class, and to meet that quota, Baylor had to recruit more students with a middle-ranking academic index. Baylor should focus on recruiting the best students and not solely on increasing the size of the student body. Baylor officials are choosing quantity over quality, and to compensate for the dip in rankings, they are making shady back-door deals.

The offer to the freshman

class may have seemed more legitimate if Baylor officials had done it in the open instead of trying to handle it behind closed doors.

Members of Student Government were unaware of Baylor's decision to pay students for higher SAT scores until months after the incentives had been offered. The Baylor officials that the Lariat spoke with couldn't name exactly where the decision had come from but said it came from the "higher-ups" in Pat Neff. Many of these officials did not agree with the idea.

Baylor officials also could not tell the Lariat where the money

to pay for these incentives came from. There were 861 students who took advantage of the offer, receiving the \$300 credit to the bookstore. That's \$258,300. Of the 861, 151 scored the extra 50 points or more to receive the \$1,000 added to their scholarship packages or achieved a higher scholarship level. That's at least another \$151,000. Altogether, that's \$409,300 that had to come from somewhere, potentially students' tuition.

Baylor needs to be more open with information like this, so it can be held accountable for decisions that may be made with students' money.

## Opinion policy

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

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

Letters to the editor should include the writer's name, major, graduation year, phone number and student identification number. Non-student writers should include their address. Letters that focus on an issue affecting students or faculty may be considered for a guest column at the editor's discretion.

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

Letters should be e-mailed to Lariat\_letters@baylor.edu or mailed to The Baylor Lariat, One Bear Place #97330, Waco, TX 76798-7330.

The Baylor Lariat is committed to ensuring fair and accurate reporting and will correct errors of substance on Page 2. Corrections can be submitted to the editor by sending an e-mail to Lariat\_letters@baylor.edu or by calling 254-710-4099.

A subscription to the Lariat costs \$45 for two semesters. Send check or money order to One Bear Place #97330, Waco, TX, 76798-7330 or e-mail Lariat\_ads@baylor.edu. Visa, Discover and MasterCard payments may be phoned to 254-710-2662. Postmaster: Please send address changes to above address.

# Letters to the editor

## Chicken Little logic misses shot

I believe that Chad Shanks has become a "Chicken Little" himself. It is regrettable that newspaper articles do not contain source citations. Gloom and doom eschatology is not new, as asserted by Mr. Shanks. Just ask any person who lived through World War II, and they will tell

you there was talk of Armageddon then and talk of Hitler as the Anti-Christ.

Further, if we are to judge candidates by the churches they attend, let us not forget that not so many months ago Barack Obama declared his minister to be one of his closest friends. Video sermons from his minister do not predict the end of the world, they merely contain memorable

phrases, such as "God Damn America!"

By Mr. Shanks' logic, if we are to conclude that Mrs. Palin will act as if the end of the world is coming, we should assume that Mr. Obama will act as if God should damn America (and perhaps will take a similar role as Ms. Palin as God's agent and consider it his duty to carry out that damnation).

Both of these conclusions regarding Ms. Palin and Mr. Obama are ludicrous.

Finally, Mr. Shanks abandons journalistic objectivity for rancid subjectivity. Again, I wish I could see citations for the assertion that The Master's Commission is a "theologically militant" group. Not even Wikipedia makes such assertions.

After watching the gradua-

tion video referenced, I found a couple sentences that, when divorced from context, could be twisted to support his article. But for one who prides himself on logic, as Mr. Shanks does, it seems he would research the predicates for his conclusions more thoroughly.

Maybe his interpretation of Ockham's Razor does not require proper predicates.

Who am I to discount his interpretation?

The article consists of nothing more than one Chicken Little, Mr. Shanks, warning others about an "alarming" group and its Chicken Little leader, Ms. Palin. The sky will not fall if Ms. Palin becomes vice president, nor will it fall if Mr. Obama becomes president.

Ryan Reneau  
Law Graduate Student

## The Baylor Lariat

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## SUDOKU

THE SAUNAN OF PUZZLES By The Mapham Group

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## THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

### ACROSS

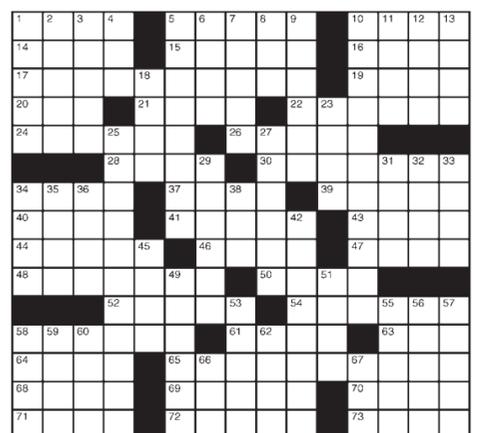
- 1 Dollar, slangily
- 5 Employs
- 10 One of the Trumans
- 14 Sword handle
- 15 Love to pieces
- 16 Puccini tune
- 17 Legitimate
- 19 Yearn (for)
- 20 Bread buy
- 21 Coat with gold
- 22 Iditarod landscape
- 24 Team animal
- 26 Head of Hades
- 28 Pronto!
- 30 Way down
- 34 TV journalist Paula
- 37 Bandleader Puente
- 39 Cut off
- 40 Tucked in
- 41 Leaks slowly
- 43 Mosquito attack
- 44 Rings out
- 46 At any \_\_\_
- 47 Otherwise
- 48 Heavenly gatekeeper
- 50 Actress Gilbert

- 52 Merchant's figures
- 54 Part of a group
- 58 Small cave
- 61 Accumulation
- 63 "Norma \_\_\_"
- 64 Son of Leah and Jacob
- 65 Package delivery service
- 68 Oil cartel
- 69 Inventor Howe
- 70 Water pitcher
- 71 Student grind
- 72 Autographs
- 73 Warhol or Williams

### DOWN

- 1 Bracelet bangle
- 2 Qaddafi's land
- 3 Medicinal plants
- 4 Cable channel choice
- 5 Natural environments
- 6 Religious statue
- 7 Byways
- 8 Goof up
- 9 Unruffled
- 10 Gymnastics apparatus
- 11 God of love
- 12 Kitchen basin

- 13 Heroic tale
- 18 Personalities
- 23 Glasgow girl
- 25 Taper holder
- 27 Takes on as one's own
- 29 Designer Cardin
- 31 Devil's doings
- 32 Trawler equipment
- 33 Grove unit
- 34 Gets with a ray gun
- 35 Aid in wrongdoing
- 36 Disorderly pile
- 38 Drink with crumpets
- 42 Like a smooth transition
- 45 Immediately, in the OR
- 49 Runs off to marry
- 51 Staggar
- 53 Miniature branch
- 55 Ivy League school
- 56 Slackened off
- 57 Do-over
- 58 Luminescence
- 59 "\_\_\_ Man," Stanton film
- 60 Pizzeria appliance
- 62 Winner's mantra
- 66 Clay, today
- 67 Garden sphere



By Norma Steinberg  
San Francisco, CA

10/14/08

For today's crossword and sudoku answers, visit www.baylor.edu/Lariat

**CURNOCK** from page 1

your job doesn't mean you're representing your folks," Curnock said. "We feel that there needs to be more of a conservative voice." Beaumont senior Phillip Chaney, president of College Republicans and campaign volunteer, said he believes Curnock has that voice. "This is the home district of President George W. Bush, and it's being represented by a Democrat," Chaney said. "It would be nice to have a change." Curnock grew up in a Chicago suburb watching his father, a World War II veteran, work with severely injured and paralyzed patients as an orthotist at Hines Veterans Hospital. He later put himself through college by making auto parts at a Chevrolet plant. After attending the University of Buffalo, Curnock transferred to Baylor and graduated with a degree in communications in 1981. Enjoying life in the South, Curnock pursued a career as a reporter and weekend sports

anchor at KWTX-TV, Waco's local CBS affiliate. He also reported on politics, including state and presidential races. "I covered both political parties," Curnock said. "I always had a conservative bent, but I saw so many things on the Democratic side that I just strongly disagreed with." In 1988, Curnock reduced his hours at the station so he could start his own business, a video and audio production service company called Dub-L Tape. As the videotape industry grew, Curnock left his journalism job in 1991 to fully dedicate his time to his business. Curnock's interest in politics soon turned into action. After leaving the TV station, he served as the public relations director for the McLennan County Republican Party, a precinct chairman and an election judge. He's attended GOP conventions as both a county and state delegate, and in 2000 and 2002 he ran unsuccessfully in the Republican primaries for Congress. With three full-time and four part-time employees, Curnock's

business remains in operation. Larry Hunter, campaign manager, said Curnock's experience as a small business owner helps him relate to Central Texans. "Without small businesses, what would this country be? There are thousands upon thousands of them in this district, alone," Hunter said. "It's the private sector that makes the economy work. The last thing they need is more taxes." During his campaign, Curnock said Central Texans have primarily voiced concerns about the war on terror, gas prices and the financial crisis. "They're especially concerned about the war. They want to make sure our troops are being supported," Curnock said. In Congress, Curnock said he would work to get what he calls "legitimate funding" for building better infrastructure in the district, especially in the northern county of Burleson. When asked about the highly disputed rescue plan, Curnock said it was a tough call. While he was strongly opposed to the idea, he still rec-

ognized something needed to be done. "The bill went from three pages to more than 400, with the second bill containing a lot of pork," Curnock said. "In hindsight, though, I probably wouldn't have voted for it." Curnock said he was angry that taxpayers would have to pay for something that started from poor political decisions, referring to legislative acts that encouraged banks to lend to low and moderate income-earners. "One thing I would do is haul in front of a panel any politician or administrator who gained from these policies," Curnock said. Curnock is a strong proponent of domestic oil exploration and supports drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Another one of his priorities in Congress would be overhauling the federal tax code, he said, by replacing it with a national sales tax. More information on Curnock's platform can be found at [www.robcurnoockforcongress.com](http://www.robcurnoockforcongress.com).

**BLOGS** from page 1

Future study abroad participants can avoid mistakes and misconceptions that their classmates experienced by reading the blogs, Connors said. "They may also gain travel tips in addition to recommendations of must-see sights in Europe or elsewhere," Connors said. The hardest part of being a blog-journalist is finding time to sit down and write, Edmond, Okla., junior Laura Emamian said in an e-mail interview with The Lariat. "I'm almost glad that I had to sign an agreement for it because it holds me accountable," she said. "I know I'll be glad later when I want to reminisce."

Blog-journaling is officially part of Baylor in London/FIE and Baylor in Maastricht. Center for International Education is looking to implement journalists in exchange and affiliate programs. "The entries provide a record of the student's travels they can look back on in years to come, after the passport has been put away and their work and family life begins," Connors said. Emamian said that studying abroad has been one of the most beneficial choices she has made in college. "I hope students will gain an insight from the blogs about the study abroad experience as a whole," Emamian said. "I hope it lets others realize the possibilities outside of Baylor campus."

**DOW** from page 1

overwrought. "Our position is that the fundamental values never went away in the first place and that we have exceptional companies at fire sale prices," he said. Still, King cautioned that any market rebound likely will be choppy. "Even if this is the beginning of a recovery we're not just going to have up markets from here on in," he said. "We're not through the woods. We think

there is collateral damage from this debacle." King pointed to an increase in unemployment and nervousness among consumers that could, for example, hurt retailers and in turn, take stocks lower. In late morning trading, the Dow Jones industrial average rose 525.68, or 6.22 percent, to 8,976.87. Broader stock indicators also jumped. The Standard & Poor's 500 index advanced 55.89, or 6.22 percent, to 955.11, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 104.57, or 6.34 percent, to

1,754.08. Investors also reacted to word from the Bank of England that it would use up to \$63 billion to help the three largest British banks strengthen their balance sheets. The Bank of England, the European Central Bank and the Swiss National Bank also jointly announced plans to work together to provide as much short-term funding as necessary to help revive lending. After a series of weekend meetings in Washington of heads of the Group of Seven

nations, the gains in global markets signaled that investors found comfort from the actions and pledges coming from government officials. The surge in stocks comes after a dismal week on Wall Street that erased an estimated \$2.4 trillion in shareholder wealth. The Dow, after eight consecutive daily losses that totaled just under 2,400, or 22.1 percent, finished at its lowest level since April 2003, and also suffered its worst weekly percentage loss ever, a fall of 18.2 percent.

**CULTURE** from page 1

Joshua junior Mayra Varela, a member of HSA, said students should come prepared to experience the different tastes of different Hispanic cultures. "A lot of people assume that Latinos or Hispanics are one and the same," she said. "This event will distinguish the difference between cultures using food." San Antonio senior Jennifer Moore plans to attend the event and said it will help break stereotypes about Latin America because of common assumptions that their culture is all the same. "It will help me learn about different cultures and expand my horizons past my own

community." She said she intends on taking her friends with her and is excited about experiencing the countries represented. Eagle Pass junior Gladys Rodriguez said that students can come prepared to learn more about the diversity within the Hispanic culture. "It's a way for them to expand their knowledge," she said. "Most primarily, students can come have fun tasting different desserts from Latin America." Last year, there were no deserts or coffee, there was just a sample dish from the country, she said. "This year, we're trying to have a mellow atmosphere by having deserts and coffee and soft music."

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**Academic Integrity Matters**

*This message provided by the Office of Academic Integrity*

# Senate candidate reflects on financial woes

By Rebecca LaFlure  
Reporter

Democrat Rick Noriega visited El Conquistador in Waco Monday to discuss his campaign for the U.S. Senate and encourage McLennan County citizens to cast their ballot for him in November.

A Houston native and member of the Texas House of Representatives, Noriega is running against current Republican Sen. John Cornyn.

The Baylor Lariat interviewed Noriega during his Waco visit.

**Q: With college tuition continuing to rise, why should Baylor students vote for you?**

A: In the education plan that we've proposed, we talk about how we can increase access to college education. I've fought in the Texas legislature against tuition deregulation. I said it was going to be a tax on the middle class, and it's proven to be. I want to expand grants and scholarships, reduce the interest rates on college loans ... I want those universities that receive federal dollars to have a rate stabilization. If you're coming

in at a \$20,000-a-year tuition rate and you know by the time you graduate it's going to be \$25,000, we're going to have a fixed rate for you so it's predictable. It's going to be \$23,000 for the four years.

**Q: How do you differ from your opponent Sen. John Cornyn?**

A: My priority is Texas families and those people who elect me. My opponent's priority is the special interests of Washington D.C. that contribute to his campaign. Whether it's insurance companies or his bailout vote where he's received close to \$4 million from the money houses on Wall Street, or big oil companies, his priority has been those special interests. My priority is Texas families.

**Q: Texas is a historically Republican state. Why does Texas need Democratic leadership?**

A: Texas is a very independent state, and I think they recognize they've been led astray due to poor leadership. They want change and if they had a choice of someone with proven

credibility and leadership having served our country as a businessman, in the legislature and military service for 27 years. They recognize our sincerity and commitment to stand up and fight for Texas families. I think an independent Texas, regardless of political flavor, will see that we can do much, much better than what we have in the past six years.

**Q: You said in a debate last week that you were against the recently approved \$700 billion financial bailout plan. Why did you disapprove of the bill and what would you propose as senator to help the struggling economy?**

A: I was against it because it didn't put Texas homeowners first. It put the money houses on Wall Street first. It didn't resolve anything.

The market had the worst week on Wall Street than we've ever had in the history of this country because there's a fundamental mistrust of what government is telling people today, whether it's domestic policy or international policy.

My focus would have been



Christina Kruse/Lariat staff

Noriega, who is running for the US Senate, stopped by El Conquistador Monday to meet with supporters.

on increased regulatory reform, which would've patched a hole in the roof and not just mopped up a wet floor. That means putting in regulatory oversight on the issues that got us to this point.

The second thing is we need

to have more accountability. We need to have cops on Wall Street like we have cops on Main Street. That way we can build a trust with taxpayers and restore trust with the international community too. We didn't do those things.

## BEAR BRIEFS

Hispanic Student Association will hold *Al Sabor Latino - A Taste of Latin America* from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. tonight, on the 5th floor of Cashion Academic Center. Come enjoy free dessert, and drinks from various Latin American countries, arts and crafts, music and entertainment. For additional information, contact Gladys\_Rodriguez@baylor.edu or Caitlin\_Brewer@baylor.edu.

Bear Pit Sign-Ups will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. today until Friday in the Bill Daniel Student Center. Students can sign up or renew a membership. A Bear Pit membership includes floor seating for men's basketball games, pizza and drinks, travel opportunities and chances to win prizes. Renewals are \$10, for those with jerseys, and new memberships are \$20. For additional information, contact BearPit@baylor.

## CONTACT US

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# Former professor remembers career as journalist, volunteer

By Christina Kruse  
Lariat Staff

As a professional journalist, fluent Portuguese speaker, Baylor professor and first-generation college graduate from his family in San Angelo, Michael Stricklin has spent 91 percent of his life "300 miles from Interstate Highway 35," he said.

Stricklin came from a service-oriented family whose grandfather was a lay preacher in the Ft. Worth area.

Baylor alumnus understood that his alma mater also has a service-oriented attitude underneath.

"I came with the seeds - Baylor gave me the tools to become who I am today."

Stricklin and his wife joined

the Peace Corps the same year they graduated from Baylor in 1966. Stricklin said the event changed his and his wife's lives.

"I didn't understand that the world worked in different ways," he said.

Stricklin soon learned what a world without electricity was like. During his time in Brazil, Stricklin helped start a hot lunch program for students in a small town in Brazil and helped start a garden.

Since his time in the Peace

Corps, Stricklin has worked in the field of journalism as a reporter, editor and publisher. He was publisher of the Daily Iowan and assistant managing editor of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Stricklin also was a copy editor and reporter for newspapers in Amarillo, Corpus Christi and San Angelo.

As a professor, Stricklin has taught at the University of Iowa, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Baylor University and the Federal University of Piau, Brazil.

Stricklin said he became a professor at Baylor in the 1970s after he returned from the Peace Corps, not because of his burning passion to be a Baylor Bear, but because people who care about their roots come back.

As a professor within the journalism department, Strick-

lin taught the history of journalism and an editing course.

Two of his students are currently journalism instructors at Baylor: professor Rick Bradfield and associate professor Robert Darden.

Darden was under the instruction of Stricklin during the Watergate scandal, and while it seems like a time to praise journalistic efforts, Stricklin and other professors sought to downplay the event.

"We shouldn't celebrate newspapers for what they are mandated to do," Darden said.

Darden said he recalls Stricklin teaching that the purpose of journalism was to comfort the afflicted and afflict to comfortable.

"What Stricklin and his colleagues taught was nuts and

bolts reporting; how to get the story and how to write it." Bradfield said in an e-mail interview. "30-some-odd years later, some of those lessons still resonate."

Also, as a Fulbright senior lecturer and researcher in Brazil, Stricklin gave the first lecture on communication consequences of the Internet in 1999.

"Now that's flinging your gold and green afar," Stricklin said.

Stricklin said that he is best known for PCQ for Windows: Factor analysis Program for Q-Technique.

Stricklin generated the computer program in 1984 as a Ph.D. student with the knowledge from a computer course he took at the University of California-Berkeley.

Stricklin retired in 2003

from The University of Nebraska-Lincoln to return to lecture in Brazil.

Stricklin said it was an easy decision to move back to Brazil.

"We moved to where our friends were," Stricklin said.

Stricklin does not consider himself a strong Portuguese speaker, but a serious student of the language.

"All languages are different and have an infinite capacity for innovation," he said.

Studying abroad is a necessity for journalists, in order to interpret events they are asked to write about, Stricklin said. "In this day and age, everything is interconnected."

Stricklin and his wife have two children; Woods and Robin, and two grandchildren; Ruben and Penelope.



Stricklin

# Thinking About CHEATING?

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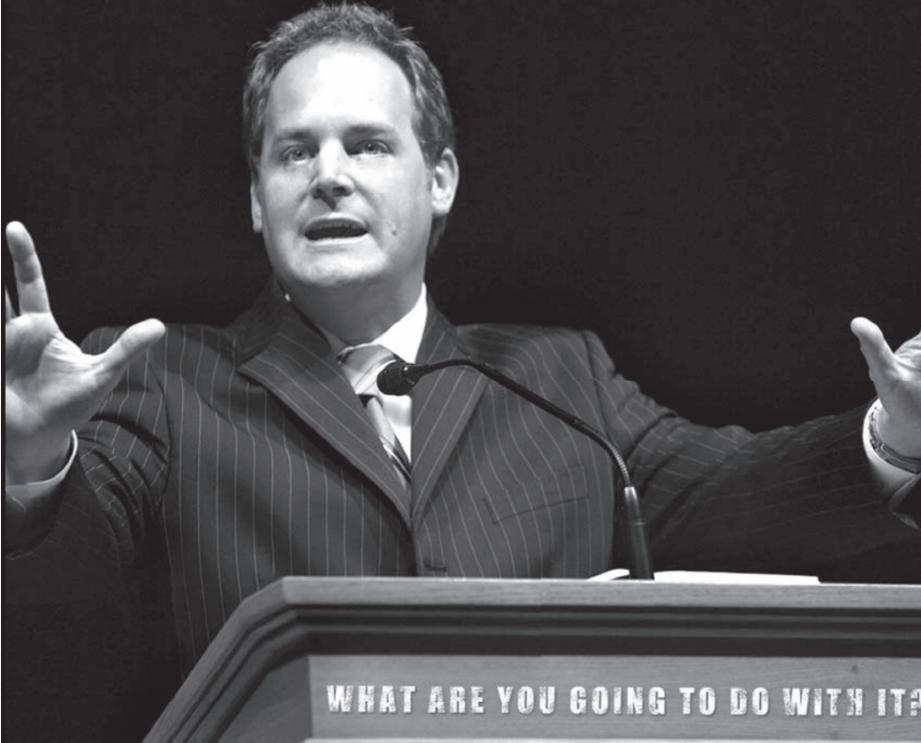
To learn more about the Baylor Honor Code and what constitutes CHEATING, visit the

## Academic Integrity Website.

<http://www.baylor.edu/honorcode>

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# BU freshmen top producers in 38-10 rout over Cyclones

By Brian Bateman  
Sports Editor

For football fans around the nation, Baylor's 38-10 victory against the Iowa State University Cyclones was a surprise. Not because of the score — although the Bears did cover the spread by 23.5 points — but because of the production of two key true freshmen: quarterback Robert Griffin and slot receiver Kendall Wright.

"I go up against Robert everyday," sophomore linebacker Earl Patin said of Griffin and his production. "I guess now the fans and other players are starting to see how they're maturing as freshmen."

Against the Cyclones (2-4, 0-2), the duo accounted for 63 percent of the Bears' offense. Even Griffin's two touchdown passes were to Wright.

Coming into the game, the focus of the Cyclone defense

was on stopping Griffin. His 438 rushing yards led the team on Friday, but Iowa State made quick work pushing him backward. On the first and second Baylor drives, the defensive line and linebackers kept an eye on the Copperas Cove freshman, sacking him twice. It worked, briefly, forcing a punt and two more fourth-down attempts.

Then Griffin connected with Wright on a 34-yard, fourth-and-12 touchdown in the back of the end zone.

"I knew I had a touchdown," the Pittsburg freshman said. "It was just a go route."

The youngest quarterback in Division-I football then began distributing the ball to multiple receivers, beating the blitz with short lobs and quick gains. Seven receivers caught a Griffin pass, while seven others carried the ball.

"The key was to distribute the ball to everybody else," Griffin said. "I didn't have a whole lot of pressure on my shoulders to do it all. The guys tell me every day 'We've got your back and you don't have to do it all yourself.'"



Sarah Morris/ Lariat Staff

Baylor's quarterback, Robert Griffin, right, hands the ball off to running back Jay Finley, left, in Baylor's 38-10 victory over the Iowa State University Cyclones Saturday at Floyd Casey Stadium. Griffin, along with freshman slot receiver Kendall Wright, combined for 63 percent of Baylor's offense.

Closing Griffin's file is his passing efficiency. He was 21-of-24 on the night, and he has never thrown an interception.

"I thought he did a great job of managing the football game," head coach Art Briles said. "We wanted to take some pressure off of him running, and he did a

great job of executing."

His favorite target was Wright, who earned a career-high 132 yards receiving, along with 13 rushing yards and two touchdowns. In his previous five games, Wright had 201 yards.

"He's fearless," senior receiver Thomas White said. When you

come into the Big 12 as a 18- or 19-year-old kid and you play like a man, there's something to be said for that."

Wright now tops all receivers with 333 yards, Griffin holds the passing title with 1,109 yards and Griffin trails Jay Finley by four yards in total rushing at 421.

# Romo out 4 weeks with broken finger

By Stephen Hawkins  
The Associated Press

IRVING — The already slumping Dallas Cowboys now must survive a few games without two-time Pro Bowl quarterback Tony Romo, who has a broken finger on his throwing hand.

There was indeed something wrong when Romo badly missed on his last two pass attempts to Terrell Owens in a 30-24 overtime loss at Arizona on Sunday, the Cowboys' second defeat in three games. Coach Wade Phillips said Monday that Romo broke his right pinkie on the first play of OT.

Brad Johnson, the 40-year-old backup whose last start was in 2006 for Minnesota, takes over Sunday when Dallas plays at St. Louis.

"Obviously, it's unfortunate for Tony to have to go through

something like this. He'll recover quick; he has a great attitude about it," Johnson said. "At this time, it's really just important for the offense especially to just kind of catch on to my snap count and the way we manage the huddle. ... I'm excited about the opportunity, worked hard to get here."

Johnson, who came to Dallas last year, won a Super Bowl with Tampa Bay during the 2002 season and is the only Cowboys player with a championship ring.

Arizona blocked a punt and recovered it for a game-ending touchdown — a play that also cost Dallas its punter, Mat McBriar.

McBriar was carted off the field, and an MRI on Monday showed he has a broken foot. He could be out two months, so the team will have to sign another

Volleyball, soccer, tennis and golf updates are online at [www.baylor.edu/lariat](http://www.baylor.edu/lariat)

# Intramural golf finishes season

By Kyle McKanna  
Reporter

The Baylor intramural golf tournament has completed another successful season.

The tournament consisted of eight, two-player teams competing in a team total score competition. Each team's score was added over four rounds, and the lowest total wins.

Those who competed enjoyed four rounds of competitive golf.

"It's been really fun," Panhandle freshman Ryan Vance said. "I've gotten to meet and play with new people that share the same hobby as I do."

Vance noted that meeting new people wasn't the only advantage he gained from competing in the tournament. The course gave participants a discounted green fee.

"It's been nice playing golf for \$20 instead of \$30," he said.

Cottonwood Creek Golf Course is a challenging par 72 course that was voted the No. 13 best municipal course in Texas. Cottonwood hosted all four rounds of the tournament.

"Cottonwood has been very accommodating," senior intramural coordinator Dominique Hill said. "When we had to reschedule because of the rain they opened up a couple of

spots for the teams to make up their final round."

Overall, the event was viewed as a success.

"We've had a positive response to the tournament," Hill said. "Besides the rain out, everything went as planned."

The appreciation Hill has for Cottonwood is mutual.

"We enjoy working with Baylor Intramurals," Cottonwood employee Jesse Kruse said. "I think it's good they have a golf tournament. It's not a typical intramural sport."

The success of the event already has its planners and competitors looking forward to next year.

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