

ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2008

Talk of code violation fuels controversy

By Liz Foreman Assistant City Editor

Baylor's incentive-based SAT testing has created national controversy among college admissions experts...

National Association for College Admission Counseling, NACAC. Founded in 1937, the organization strives to ensure principled conduct among professionals...

The Statement of Principles of Good Practice, the NACAC code of conduct, bans awarding

merit-based aid solely based on test scores, said Robert Shaefter, public education director of the National Center for Fair and Open Testing.

"The Baylor policy and bribes offered violate all of those injunctions," he said. "Even if their explanations were true, Baylor violated proper test-use guidelines."

The university's offer of

retesting to freshman this summer and offering merit-based incentives has called into question the university's ethics and motivations behind the retest.

The university offered the Class of 2012 a \$300 Baylor Bookstore credit for retaking the SAT in June after enrollment and additional merit-based incentives for score improvement.

Faculty Senate chairwoman

Georgia Green expressed concern over the possibility that the university transgressed the NACAC code of ethics.

"If indeed Baylor did violate terms of the association, it's a very serious thing," Green said, "I hope they didn't, but if they did, it needs to be fixed."

Green said she heard about the residual testing in June, through a conversation with a

group of freshman faculty advisers.

"I was surprised, so I checked into it," she said. "I approached President (John) Lilley at a meeting and asked him if what I heard was true."

Then-president Lilley stated that he did not know, Green said, and a few days later she received

Please see SAT, page 4

Final round: candidates get personal

By Beth Fouhy The Associated Press

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. - John McCain assailed Barack Obama's character and his campaign positions on taxes, abortion and more Wednesday night, hoping to turn their final presidential debate into a launching pad for a political comeback.



seeking the last word.

McCain is currently running all negative ads, according to a study by the University of Wisconsin-Madison. But he has run a number of positive ads during the campaign.

The 90-minute encounter, at a round table at Hofstra University, was their third debate, and marked the beginning of a 20-day sprint to Election Day. Obama leads in

the national polls and in surveys in many battleground states, an advantage built in the weeks since the nation stumbled into the greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression.

With few exceptions, the campaign is being waged in states that voted Republican in 2004, Virginia, Colorado, Iowa, and in many of them,

Please see DEBATE, page 4



Associated Press



Shanna Taylor/Lariat Staff



Sarah Morris/Lariat Staff

Top: Presidential candidates Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., and Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., exchange responses as moderator Bob Schieffer listens at Hofstra University in Hempstead, N.Y., Wednesday. Left/Right: Students watch the Debate in the Bill Daniel Student Center and in the Kayser Auditorium in conjunction with the economic forum.

'Dub' Oliver to leave Baylor

By Anita Pere Editor in Chief

East Texas Baptist University named Dr. Samuel "Dub" Oliver, vice president for student life at Baylor University, the next university president. Effective Jun 1, 2009, Oliver will replace current President Bob E. Riley, who plans to retire.

Interim Baylor President David E. Garland spoke of Oliver's contributions to Baylor University. "Dub has championed numerous projects that have been important to our progress such as the growth and expansion of our living and learning communities, including our faculty in residence program and the resurgence of Baylor Line camp," Garland said in a press release.



Oliver

"He has been a strong advocate for students and their representation and participation in decisions that affect them and he has worked hard to raise the bar in Student Life by establishing an on-going assessment for all departments in the division. He has also assembled a very dedicated and talented team in our Student Life area who will continue to ensure that Baylor provides a student life experience that is second to none." Garland also called Oliver's departure as "a great loss for Baylor" in a phone interview. Garland said the university might use a search firm to find a replacement for Oliver, but there is no plan yet on how the university will go about a search.

Please see OLIVER, page 4

Professors of economics weigh candidate issues

Jade Ortego Staff Writer

"It's all about the tradeoff between big business savings and savings for the country, and the country will save more on a macro level under Sen. Obama," said Ben Brandt, Kansas City, sophomore.

Brandt says he's now leaning toward Obama after seeing the economic debate between Baylor professors after the third presidential debate.

The debate, between Dr. Stephen Gardner, professor of eco-

nomics, and Dr. John Pisciotta, associate professor of economics, began with Gardner presenting two slides of information from factcheck.org.

The information showed that Obama's plan would produce a tax cut for 81.3 percent of all households, and 95.5 percent of households with children.

The plan would cause a smaller national debt increase, \$2.5 trillion less than McCa-

in's, by 2018.

"That means the biggest overall tax cuts come from McCain, but he gives it to the highest income and it's a higher cut," Gardner said.

When Pisciotta took the stage, he gave a defense of "unbridled capitalism."

"I don't welcome it, but I think we are moving toward vast government

Please see FORUM, page 4



Points Of View



Veronica Schlachter

"It's really about where both of them have been and their history of political statements. Not much is going to happen as to what they say in those debates. Obama definitely outspoke McCain, but McCain was stronger in his points."

Junior, San Francisco



Seth Reed

"I like when Obama keeps trying to redirect (the debate) back to policy issues because then the candidates are actually talking about something as opposed to attacking each other personally."

Senior, Cassdile, Mo.



Christina Kruse/Lariat Staff

Congressman Chet Edwards (D) was one of the top four finalists chosen as to Senator Barack Obama, D-Ill., vice presidential running mate for the election.

Chet Edwards seeks 9th consecutive term

By Ashley Corinne Killough Staff Writer

It was just two months ago when Central Texas was buzzing with the news that Rep. Chet Edwards, D-Waco, could be Sen. Barack Obama's running mate.

Driving through Hill County during the first week of July, Edwards received a call on his cell phone from the Democratic nominee and thought it was a prank.

"When he said his name, I was about one one-hundredths of a second from saying 'Yeah right, and I'm John McCain,'" Edwards said.

But the congressman is glad he didn't joke around, as Obama was calling to ask if Edwards would consider joining the short list to be vice president.

"Caroline Kennedy called me on August 10 to let me know my name would soon be leaked to the press," Edwards said. "It was a fascinating experience for my family."

Much to his misfortune, there was another "Edwards" making national news at the same time. John Edwards, former democratic vice presidential nominee, started a major media wave when he admitted to having an extramarital affair that ended

two years ago.

"Senator Obama said it would cause too much confusion to have two 'Edwards' in the headlines at the same time," Edwards said.

While the "gold medal" went to Sen. Joe Biden of Delaware, Edwards said it was a privilege to even be considered.

With his support for Obama dating back to the senator's speech at the Democratic National Convention in 2004, Edwards endorsed him during the primaries, something he had never done so early for a presidential candidate.

"I endorsed Sen. Obama

because I believe it's time for change in the country," Edwards said. "He's extremely bright. And he cares deeply about moving the country forward and changing partisanship in Washington."

Edwards is now focusing on his campaign to serve a tenth term in the U.S. House of Representatives, while also working to help ease tension in the financial markets.

Opposing Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson's original plan, Edwards voted twice for the Emergency Economic

Please see EDWARDS, page 4

# Public needs to check on facts behind political ads

There's nothing quite as American as freedom of speech. More than apple pie, The Star Spangled Banner and blind arrogance combined, nothing says "America" like freedom of speech.

If that's the case, then the last few months have been the most American times in history, on account of politicians proving you can say whatever you want and get away with it.

A recent John McCain television campaign ad attacked Barack Obama's lack of influence on the educational system. It claims his "one accomplishment" was legislation to teach "comprehensive sex education to kindergarteners."

"Learning about sex before learning to read?" the narrator asks over soft lullaby music. "Barack Obama - wrong on edu-

cation, wrong for your family."

This ad intends to evoke strong emotional reactions like, "Oh, my goodness! Barack Obama wants to teach babies how to fornicate!" However, in this 30-second spot, the McCain campaign greatly benefits from good old American free speech.

According to a September article in The New York Times, Check Point: Ad on Sex Education Distorts Obama Policy, the legislation sponsored by Illinois education and public health organizations, intended to teach "age appropriate" sex education aimed at showing kindergarteners how to recognize and prevent molestation. Obama supported the bill, but it never made it to a final vote. Obama's record also shows extensive education reform in Illinois.

So why would the McCain

## point of view



BY CHAD SHANKS

campaign make such damning accusations if they're not completely true? Our current presidential candidates say whatever they want because you're not going to stop to look it up. With so many responsibilities at home and work, who has the time?

Their purpose is to arouse instant emotional responses absent of any empirical evidence. As long as the ad scares voters into thinking that Obama will teach their toddler about the birds and the bees, the truth doesn't really matter.

Sure, news organizations employ their own fact checkers, who look up everything a candidate says to question its accuracy. But at this point in the race, candidates are targeting individuals who cannot define accuracy, much less know how to look for it.

In the vice presidential debate, Gov. Sarah Palin accused Obama and Joe Biden of voting "for the largest tax increases in U.S. history," even though nothing they've supported has remotely rivaled the post-World War II tax increases.

Why would she say that? She says it hoping gullible voters will be convinced Obama will take all their money, knowing these voters won't Google it to prove her wrong.

In the interest of fairness to my Republican readers, an

Obama-Biden campaign ad aired in Florida attempted to play on the elderly's growing economic worries by falsely claiming McCain wanted to privatize Social Security by placing it all in the stock market.

Our politicians are simply reminding us that this is America. And in America, you have the freedom to make derogatory statements, regardless of their veracity, because most people won't put forth the effort to call you on it.

Since our leaders have shown the acceptability of all views, I know I have the right to say whatever I want in my opinion column.

Barack Obama will recoup America's war debts by taxing Iraqi citizens once our troops are withdrawn. Is that true? I can say it because I don't think you'll

take the time to look it up.

John McCain voted 14 times to legalize certain forms of cannibalism. That doesn't exactly sound plausible, but do you want a cannibal running our country? I sure don't.

People make ludicrous statements like these because some Americans have sadly stopped making decisions based on empirical truths. They have instead started making their decisions based on emotional responses to extreme accusations.

Palin punches bald eagles in the face while driving a Russian-made snowmobile fueled by baby penguin meat.

Don't believe me? Look it up. I haven't.

Chad Shanks is a journalism grad student from Dayton and is a staff writer for The Baylor Lariat.

## Editorial

# Peace Corps funds should be approved by Congress

For many students, next May will mark the end of their college careers and the start of something new. Graduates will take life's next step, whether it be starting a job, going to graduate schools, or taking a vacation. Increasingly, for some, the appeal of volunteering abroad will lead them to the Peace Corps. But little do they know, it is getting harder and harder to join.

After receiving a 37-year high in volunteer numbers, it looks as if the Peace Corps will be cutting as many as 400 volunteer positions next year. This cut is attributed to an \$18 million budget shortage caused by the declining value of the dollar and the worldwide increase in food and fuel cost.

The Bush administration has requested that Congress approve their 2009 budget of \$343 million for the program. This would increase the program's budget by \$13 million, which is only fitting with the renewed enthusiasm about the corps. Congress has yet to pass the budget, but it should act quickly and grant this request.

It may sound questionable, when our country is dealing with an economic crisis and funding a war, to ask for an increase in Peace Corps funds. But a closer examination of what the Peace Corps has accomplished and

can continue to do is apparent to why Congress should make it a priority to maintain, or better yet even increase, the number of Peace Corps volunteers.

Not only have the more than 190,000 volunteers in the program's history, including the 8,079 working this year, made a difference in the lives of people living in developing countries through training and educating them in areas to meet their needs. Peace Corps volunteers also build friendships and gain a better understanding of the area, culture and people where they live and serve during their 27 months of service.

These volunteers are acting as young American ambassadors, promoting a better understanding of Americans while abroad. Once their service is over and they return home, these volunteers can promote a better understanding of people abroad to people at home.

What is learned in a classroom or from a book comes nowhere close to what is and can be learned from complete immersion in different societies through the Peace Corps.

Having a better understanding of people from different cultures - their beliefs, their values their process of thinking - is vital in today's globalizing world.

Not only is sufficient com-



prehension of cultures pivotal to successful business transactions and foreign policy, but in the wake of recent events leading to America's War on Terrorism, it's obviously necessary to understand the people and world around us.

Just think about it. If the United States was more knowledgeable about Middle Eastern society, culture and history, would the events leading up to 9/11 been handled differently? Would Iraq have been handled differently?

In a mid-September 2001 interview with PBS Frontline, Porter Goss, the then chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and now a former CIA director, emphasized the urgent need for qualified personnel and analysts who are experts in the language and culture of the Middle East. "Those people are invaluable. We have fewer and fewer of them," Goss said. "And the tragedy is we have not brought along the next generation of them."

What better way to bring in the next generation of educated and informed potential CIA personnel and analyst than supporting the mission of the Peace Corps? Peace Corps volunteers, who've lived and worked in critical areas such as the Middle East (including Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan and Turkey), Africa, Russia and China, can provide the understanding that our nation seeks in times of foreign conflict.

Most importantly, Congress should approve the increase in Peace Corps funding for the sake of peace. How many conflicts can be avoided, how many misunderstandings can be cleared and how many discriminating judgments can be erased if we could

just continue to work toward a mission of cultural understanding? If we can learn from each other, maybe this cultural, geographical and economical wall can be torn down.

Tuesday marked the 48-year anniversary of John F. Kennedy's impromptu speech that inspired the establishment of the Peace Corps. The then-senator, who was three and a half weeks away from being elected president, spoke on the University of Michigan Union steps at 2 a.m. in front of a crowd of students, some whom waited for three hours to see him. He challenged students to a greater purpose. Since then, the increasing number of Peace Corps volunteers is proof that young Americans are willing to serve for peace.

Kennedy recognized the potential in young Americans to be ambassadors abroad. Congress should, too.

## 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.

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# Letters to the editor

## The New York Times reporter praises the Lariat for SAT story

As a former editor in chief of The Lariat, I couldn't be more proud than to read in my own paper, The New York Times, that The Lariat broke the story on Baylor freshmen being offered the chance to retake the SAT.

Given my experience with stories that the administration did not welcome, I am certain many people there wish this one had never seen the light of

day.

The fact that you pursued and published the story is a testament to the fact that The Lariat offers students an excellent opportunity to pursue the kind of journalism that will be welcomed at any publication. My proud congratulations to Liz Foreman and Ashley Kilough, and to everyone there at The Lariat. Sic 'em!

Edward Wyatt '84  
Reporter  
The New York Times

## Focus on outcomes over inputs

I just saw the story in The New York Times about Baylor's offer to admitted freshmen to retake the SAT. If I ever had any thought of sending either of my daughters to Baylor, - my mother's alma mater - I now have serious reservations.

Baylor sullies its reputation with such an obvious attempt to manipulate college rankings. The real 'top-tier' institutions in this country are going to be

those that focus on outcomes - transforming lives and elevating the academic achievement of students - rather than inputs.

Mike Munroe  
San Antonio

## Ethical character more important

Well, these seem to be exciting times for Baylor. It has been a pleasure seeing the university's profile rise over the past five years, give or take the occasional hiccup. I am sure Vision 2012

has played a large part in that. But is a tier-one ranking so precious that a respectable university is buying SAT scores? What does that say about institutional character?

At a time when so much injustice takes place not just abroad but also at home, a strong, ethical, faith-centered character is more important than ever, and that's something Baylor is expected to represent regardless of rank.

Is that shiny label so important in the real world? I don't

think so. Cream rises no matter what school you attend. People who fixate on a school's place in a magazine too often forget that. The university's emphasis should shift more strongly toward character and teaching, so that Baylor speaks through the accomplishments of its graduates.

I think the fact that The New York Times noticed says it all. I hope Baylor never makes such an offer again.

Flora Lee Peir '03  
New York

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## THE Daily Crossword

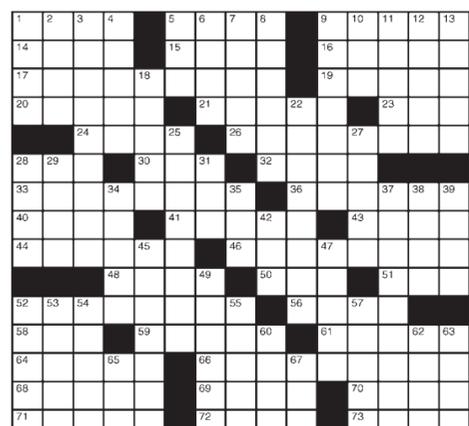
Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

### ACROSS

- 1 Sailor's mop
- 5 Takes steps
- 9 Donna lead-in
- 14 Volcano output
- 15 Record spoiler
- 16 Kindled anew
- 17 Start of quip
- 19 U.A.E. rulers
- 20 Remove the rime
- 21 Break down, as a sentence
- 23 Had lunch
- 24 Accomplishes, Biblical-style
- 26 Part 2 of quip
- 28 Advanced deg.
- 30 Baloney!
- 32 Reclined
- 33 Part 3 of quip
- 36 Epistle
- 40 Isinglass
- 41 Bumpkin
- 43 Greek letter
- 44 White-collar worker?
- 46 Part 4 of quip
- 48 Amino, for one
- 50 Tango number
- 51 Sound of a leak

- 52 Part 5 of quip
- 56 Long or hot finish?
- 58 ETs' transportation
- 59 Synthetic fabric
- 61 Certain wind instruments
- 64 Overcharge
- 66 End of quip
- 68 Tapestry in "Hamlet"
- 69 Poi source
- 70 Ky. neighbor
- 71 Takes ten
- 72 Collar or jacket
- 73 Those, to Jose
- DOWN
- 1 Lost traction
- 2 Bogs of baseball
- 3 Shunning
- 4 Barcelona bank
- 5 Opening letters
- 6 Sound of thunder
- 7 Pentateuch
- 8 Unsaturated alcohol
- 9 Early neonate
- 10 ZZZ letters
- 11 Of a pelvic bone
- 12 Jocularity

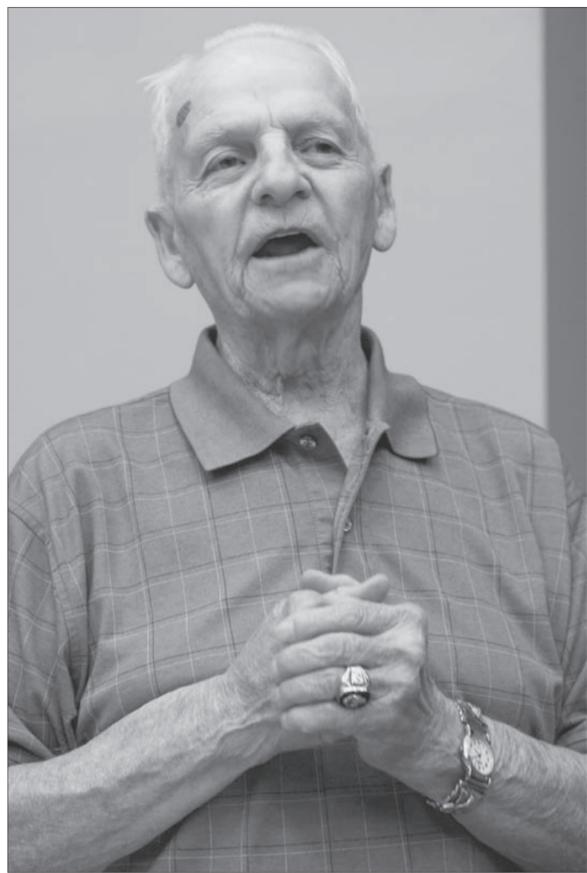
- 13 Sailing
- 18 Colorful tropical fish
- 22 Ingests
- 25 Pilgrimage destination
- 27 Up to
- 28 3100
- 29 Cash for security
- 31 Boxing letters
- 34 "\_\_\_ Bulba"
- 35 Snow runner
- 37 F.A.O. Schwarz and others
- 38 Numerical endings
- 39 Dawn Chong and Carruth
- 42 Small newt
- 45 Frigidity
- 47 Not by any means
- 49 Widen
- 52 Sweetener
- 53 Ere
- 54 \_\_\_ for the taking
- 55 Like Jack Sprat's diet
- 57 Milton of Uganda
- 60 Fictional sleuth Wolfe
- 62 Ferber or Buchanan
- 63 Tax return info
- 65 Gun in old slang
- 67 Achieved victory



By Alan P. Olschwang  
Huntington Beach, CA

10/16/08

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



Photos by Sarah Morris/Lariat Staff

## Man of honor

Wacoan Frank Currie, a US Navy veteran, spoke Wednesday about his experiences aboard the USS Tennessee during the bombing of Pearl Harbor, at a veteran's panel held by the Air Force ROTC. The panel is part of a celebration for the detachment's 60th anniversary on Baylor's campus

"I can think of no greater honor than to lay side by side the men I served with in World War II," Currie said.

## State governor asks for cuts in spending

By Monica Rhor  
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Even though the Texas economy remains strong — despite the financial impact of Hurricane Ike and a national economic crisis — Gov. Rick Perry is asking state agencies to tighten their belts. "Texas businesses and families are tightening their belts. They are cutting spending and exercising greater discipline," said Perry, in a speech Wednesday to Houston business leaders. "They are taking a closer look at the difference between want and need. In times like this, state government should be no different."

This week, the Republican governor sent a letter to agency heads, asking them to look for ways to rein in spending.

Among Perry's suggested trims: cutting back on taxpayer-funded travel.

Perry also asked the agencies to reconsider their budget requests for the next legislative session.

"As stewards of public dollars, we must remain fiscally

responsible and continue to put taxpayers first by finding ways to curtail state spending," Perry wrote in the letter.

The agency heads have 10 days to let Perry know how they will reduce budgets for the remainder of the fiscal year.

"Here's the bottom line," Perry told the meeting of the Greater Houston Partnership, the equivalent of a chamber of commerce. "Given the current economic turndown and the expectation that it will ultimately impact Texas, all state agencies need to dial back their spending."

The Republican governor credited tax cuts, spending reductions and tort reform put into place when the state tackled a \$10 billion deficit in 2003 with helping to keep the Texas economy strong.

"Our economy is better equipped today than any other state in the nation to handle the two storms that have roiled the financial seas around us," Perry said.

However, Perry warned that Texas is not immune from the financial meltdown shaking the national economy.

## Professor finds mentally-ill experience negative interactions at church

By Jacqueline Deavenport  
Reporter

Results of a recent psychological study found that clergy and church leaders may dismiss diagnosed mental illnesses of individuals in their congregation.

Dr. Matthew Stanford, Baylor professor and director of graduate studies, conducted two research studies to assess the perceptions encountered in the local church by individuals diagnosed with a mental disorder.

An anonymous survey of mentally ill church-goers across the United States and Canada,

was done via the Internet.

Stanford's personal experience prompted him to conduct the research.

"Over the many years of my career, being a person involved in psychology and a member of the church, people would come to me and say, 'Well, I have this disorder or that disorder,' and ask me questions," Stanford said. "Many times, they would tell me that they had very negative interactions with the church."

The first study found that of 293 Christians with a diagnosed mental disorder, approximately 30 percent reported a negative interaction with the church.

This includes abandonment by the church, which equated

mental illness with the work of demons and suggested that the mental disorder was the result of personal sin.

The second study found that of 85 self-identified, mentally ill Christians, 41.2 percent of them said that the church had dismissed the diagnosis.

Dismal or denial of mental illness happened more frequently in conservative churches than

in more liberal ones.

The studies suggest that the clergy is the most common source of help sought in times of psychological distress, and psychologists tend to view the clergy as mental health gatekeepers.

In areas of psychiatrics, however, how to address cases of mental illness is complex, said Diana Garland, dean of the social work department.

"People want to help and do the right thing, but they just aren't sure how to care," Garland said. "Because mental illnesses affect a person's behavior, providing a support system within a church for a person with a mental illness can be difficult."

The first study was conducted in mid-2006, and the study took about three months to complete.

The study appears in an article titled "Mental Health, Religion and Culture."

The second study was done over a period of a month, and appears in the "Journal of Religion, Disability & Health."

"This research is greatly needed and should help pastors and church leaders as they seek to be better prepared and equipped to minister to individuals who experience episodic and chronic mental illness," said Ron Cook, associate professor at George W. Truett Theological Seminary. "Many

pastors and key leaders of congregations will readily admit to the need for better preparation in this area."

Stanford received his bachelor's, master's and Ph.D. from Baylor University. For two years he did post-doctorate research at University of Texas Medical Branch-Galveston, and spent 10 years at the University of New Orleans.

Six years ago, he returned to Baylor to focus part of his research on aspects of psychology and faith, Stanford said.

His area of research focuses on impulsive and aggressive behavior, post-traumatic stress disorder, and psychology and issues of faith.



Stanford

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**OLIVER** from page 1

University entities around campus will have a voice in the search, he said.

Student body president and Garland senior Brian Fonville also spoke highly of Oliver.

"At Baylor, Dr. Oliver leaves a legacy marked by continual improvements to the student experience. Through Dr. Oliver's leadership, Baylor has seen more students living on campus, greater student participation in organizations and a more robust student life," Fonville said. "Over his tenure at Baylor, Dr. Oliver made student concerns one of his greatest priorities. He was instrumental in the recent decision to increase study hours in the Baylor Science Building. As an adviser for Baylor Student Government, Dr. Oliver frequently attended Student Senate meetings to visit with representatives about campus issues and concerns." As vice president for student

life, Oliver took on leadership roles in various areas of the university, including the Academy for Leader Development and Civic Engagement, Baptist Student Ministries, Campus Living and Learning, Campus Recreation, Counseling Center, Judicial and Legal Student Services, Multicultural Activities, New Student Programs, Student Activities and Spiritual Life.

Before becoming vice president for Student Life, Oliver served as assistant vice president for student life, interim university chaplain, director of student activities and dean for student development. He has been recognized twice as a Mortar Board Outstanding Professor.

Oliver graduated from Baylor in 1987 with a bachelor's degree in education before completing graduate degrees in educational psychology and educational administration from Texas A&M University.

Oliver is also the pastor of Canaan Baptist Church of Crawford.

**DEBATE** from page 1

Obama holds a lead in the polls.

McCain played the aggressor from the opening moments of the debate, accusing Obama of waging class warfare by seeking tax increases that would "spread the wealth around."

The Arizona senator also demanded to know the full extent of Obama's relationship with William Ayers, a 1960s-era terrorist and the Democrat's ties with ACORN, a liberal group accused of violating federal law as it seeks to register voters.

And he insisted Obama disavow last week's remarks by Rep. John Lewis, a Democrat, who accused the Republican ticket of playing racial politics along the same lines as segregationists of the past.

Struggling to escape the political drag of an unpopular Republican incumbent, McCain also said, "Sen. Obama, I am not President Bush. ... You wanted to run against President Bush, you should have run four years ago."

Obama returned each volley, and brushed aside McCain's claim to full political independence.

**EDWARDS** from page 1

Stabilization Act.

"I believe it was right in order to keep our economy from prolonging a recession and going into a depression," Edwards said. "It was a very sensitive situation that came down to a choice of taking no action or bold action."

Edwards said the next step is to use the \$700 billion to free up credit, so that small businesses can survive and students can get loans.

"I grew up in a middle class family and needed a student loan to graduate," Edwards said. "I just want students today to have the same opportunity I did."

Edwards noted that he voted against a 2005 plan proposed in Congress that would cut \$14 billion from student financial aid programs over five years.

For the campaign in District 17, Edwards said his track record is his strongest argument against his opponent and local businessman Rob Curnock.

Elizabeth Connor, campaign manager, said that along with accomplishing local projects for Waco, Edwards has also obtained federal funding for Baylor.

Edwards secured \$1.6 million this year for a Post Traumatic Stress Disorder research study conducted by researchers at Baylor and in conjunction with the Waco Veterans Affairs

"If I've occasionally mistaken your policies for George Bush's policies, it's because on the core economic issues that matter to the American people, on tax policy, on energy policy, on spending priorities, you have been a vigorous supporter of President Bush," he said.

McCain's allegation that Obama had not leveled with the public involved the Illinois senator's decision to forgo public financing for his campaign in favor of raising his own funds. As a result, he has far outtraced McCain, although the difference has been somewhat neutralized by an advantage the Republican National Committee holds over the Democratic Party.

"He signed a piece of paper" earlier in the campaign pledging to accept federal financing, McCain said.

He added that Obama's campaign has spent more money than any since Watergate, a reference to President Nixon's reelection, a campaign that later became synonymous with scandal.

Obama made no immediate response to McCain's assertion about having signed a pledge to accept federal campaign funds.

and Fort Hood.

Other funding included \$97,000 for the university's Language and Literacy Center and \$200,000 for the Mammoth Exhibit at Baylor's Mayborn Museum Complex.

Representing Waco in the Texas State Senate for eight years and on Capitol Hill for 18 years, Edwards has gained wide support for his role as a legislator.

"He lives here and he's one of us," said John Cullar, Baylor graduate and chair of the McLennan County Democratic Party. "He's able to attract votes from people of both parties. The support that he has across the board is reflective of the appreciation that people have of his effectiveness as a representative."

According to the McLennan County Elections Office, Edwards received 65 percent of the vote in the 2006 election against the Republican candidate.

"Rob Curnock will call me a liberal, same thing I've heard from the last 10 opponents I've beat," Edwards said, adding that he's been endorsed by the National Rifle Association, Veterans for Foreign Wars, Texas Farm Bureau and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

"If Curnock thinks those are liberal organizations, then that's scary," Edwards said.

More information about Chet Edwards' campaign can be found at: [edwards.house.gov](http://edwards.house.gov).

**SAT** from page 1

a call from Reagan Ramsower, vice president for finance and administration, confirming that the residual SAT would be offered, and that the idea had originated somewhere within the admissions department.

The questions regarding the university's use of testing have erupted nationally in the wake of a report released by the NACAC Commission on the Use of Standardized Tests, at a national conference in late September.

According to the commission's report, examples of test misuse include: using test score cut-off points as the sole screening factor for awarding merit-based scholarship money and the use of score data to evaluate institutional "quality" in terms of national ranking systems and bond ratings.

Lori Fogleman, director of media relations for Baylor, said that the university will continue to be honest about details of

motivation behind the testing program and that this issue is not exclusive to Baylor.

"The value of the SAT and what role it plays in the admissions process are issues that need to be discussed on a national level," she said.

Schaeffer said he is aware of other institutions awarding aid based on scores, but has not heard of another university offering the chance to take the SAT for merit after enrollment.

"Baylor administration is being driven to misuse test scores in any way possible. If their goal was solely to award merit scholarships, they could have taken the top students and awarded them. There is no other explanation than that this was gamesmanship to boost average scores for US News and World Report," he said.

The driving factor for the residual SAT testing "had nothing to do with rankings," Fogleman said.

Ethical issues aside, Robert Morse, director of data research for the U.S. News and World

Report, said that SAT scores only factor 7.5 percent into the magazine's college rankings, which he oversees. On the other hand, 25 percent of the ranking is based upon academic peer surveys.

A gain of 10 points to the freshman class' SAT average would not have made any difference, Morse said. The only direct way this situation could affect Baylor's future rankings is if the views of peers change.

"There's a lot of talk that people should use the SAT for admissions responsibly," Morse said. "Whether or not those who do ratings in academia will grade Baylor lower is possible. The jury is still out."

Green showed concern for Baylor's appearance on the national stage.

"Anytime we get bad publicity, especially on national level, it affects our reputation," she said. "Even if not in the long term, in the short term, and that's never a good thing."

Though no investigation is currently under way, the

NACAC regional chapter would handle any investigation into a possible violation by the university, said Philip Ballinger, University of Washington director of admissions and member of NACAC commission on the Use of Standardized Testing. If found in violation of the code of conduct, the university would then be asked for a response, which would likely determine the action taken by the regional chapter.

"Generally, violations are resolved. They rarely come to sanction or removal of membership," he said.

Ballinger said he expects conversations to take place between the university and the regional chapter of NACAC, but said that Faculty Senate's timely response Tuesday condemning the testing should factor positively for the university.

"The Faculty Senate moved quickly to review and ensure appropriate measures were taken," he said. "I commend them with the speed with which they looked at this issue."

**FORUM** from page 1

expansion," Pisciotta said.

He didn't refute the information from factcheck.org.

"Gardner presented this information and Pisciotta didn't really argue against it. The facts speak for themselves," Brandt said.

About Obama's tax cuts, Pisciotta presented a scenario: "What if you're living with your parents, and your mom says, 'I'm gonna cut your rent? That's what Obama's tax cuts are like,'

he said. "You do not cut taxes on people who do not pay taxes."

Gardner explained the health care proposed by the two candidates.

"With McCain's plan, employees would pay federal income taxes on the value of these benefits. And companies would not be taxed," he said.

To a question from the audience about how health care will be paid for, Pisciotta responded, "I think a lot that's promised in a campaign does not come to pass. I look a whole lot less at what they're saying today and look at what they did 10 years

ago."

Pisciotta repeated that McCain will not win in November.

There was some discussion about socialized health care, including questions from the audience about Great Britain's system. Gardner corrected the notion that Obama's plan was socialist.

"He is in favor of expanding the availability of existing health care, which most doctors are in favor of," Gardner said.

Pisciotta explained earmarks to the audience.

"Pisciotta made an excellent

point of being clear of where spending is coming from and going to, and how we need to be more particular about what powers the legislative branch holds," said Kathryn Francis, Kansas City, sophomore.

Francis said she can't say who she is voting for because of her position in her sorority, but she said that education is the most important issue.

"Whoever has the best policy is who I'm voting for. That's going to amount to the best and the worst of this country. Everything will trickle down from that," she said.

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# Slight chance for BU upset

By Joe Holloway  
Sports Writer

Last week's 38-10 win over Iowa State University was big for the Bears.

Not because the Cyclones are any good, because they're not. It was Baylor's first conference win since 2006, but that's not it either.

## SPORTSCOLUMN

Instead it was the lopsided nature of the game that supports the assertion that this is not the same team that Big 12 Conference opponents have grown accustomed to walking over in years past.

That's why no one, not even No. 8 Oklahoma State, can sleep on Baylor.

Now let's get one thing straight. I have no illusions about the likely outcome of Saturday's game in Stillwater. The Cowboys are No. 8 for a reason and that reason is that at 6-0 they are a very good football team.

They have the best scoring offense in the conference and

the second best in the nation raking with 48.5 points per game. They run for 293.8 yards per game and tack on another 215 per game through the air.

Junior quarterback Zac Robinson leads every Big 12 quarterback not named Sam Bradford in quarterback rating, 190.88, and sophomore running back Kendall Hunter has been downright dominating with 143.7 yards per game. Sophomore receiver Dez Bryant averages 17.6 yards per catch.

It's hard to argue with stats like that.

If the past year of college football have taught us anything, it should be that numbers don't mean much on game day.

Coming off a victory over former No. 3 University of Missouri in week six, and facing No. 1 University of Texas in week eight, it could be easy for the Cowboys to look past week seven against Baylor. If that happens, it's not unrealistic to think the Bears could pull off the upset.

Head coach Art Briles has placed a lot of emphasis on his team becoming "tough." Other

than a week one blowout loss to Wake Forest University and one bad quarter against former No. 1 University of Oklahoma, Briles would be pleased with the Bears' tenacity. Opposing coaches and players would agree that Baylor has come a long way from where it was last year.

There's no telling how good freshman quarterback Robert Griffin is going to be, but even more important, he's really good now. He's had at least one touchdown in every game this year and has thrown 128 passes with no interceptions, the longest streak in the nation.

Jay Finley is having a pretty good year as well. Both he and Griffin average just over 70 yards per game on the ground and share the No. 6 and No. 7 spots on the list of top Big 12 rushers respectively.

If Baylor is to make a game of it, Griffin, Finley and the rest of the offense will have to put up big numbers and I fully expect them to do so. OSU's defense is middle of the road and let an absolutely horrible Texas A&M University team put up 28 points on them in week five. If

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Stillwater, OK 74075  
(405) 624-8037

the Aggies can get 28, it's reasonable to think Baylor could hang 42 on the board.

If Baylor did manage such an outburst, it would still fall short of a team that has put together 50-plus points in four games this season. The Bears' defenders will have to play the game of their lives, which, given the tone of college football these days, is entirely possible.

# OSU should focus on stifling Griffin

By Grant Belcher  
The Daily O'Collegian

Oklahoma State University is riding high after its 28-23 upset of Missouri in Columbia.

## SPORTSCOLUMN

The Cowboys have moved up to No. 8 in the Associated Press poll, their highest ranking since 1985. Most importantly, it seems they have finally found a capable defense to go with their already potent offense, holding the Tigers to 30 points less than their season average.

On the other side of the ball, OSU is as capable as ever with the fourth-best rushing attack in the country and the second-highest scoring average.

There's no time to celebrate though, as the road ahead is treacherous. OSU still has to face Texas, Texas Tech and Oklahoma and their Heisman candidate quarterbacks.

What many fans do not realize, however, is that the Cowboys' most dangerous opposition at quarterback might come this Saturday in the form of Baylor's Robert Griffin.

Griffin is flat-out scary. He is a big-time threat, both with throwing the ball and with his legs: the type of quarterback that OSU has traditionally had trouble against. Although the Cowboys were able to intercept Missouri's Chase Daniel three times, he still completed 39-of-52 passes for 390 yards and a touchdown. He also ran for 46 yards.

In order to shut down the Baylor offense, OSU will need to zero-in on Griffin even more than it did with Daniel. It has to contain Griffin with the pass rush and keep him from getting loose in the open field.

Griffin just completed a ridiculous 21-of-24 passes in a 38-10 rout of Iowa State this past Saturday. With statistics like those, it is safe to say the freshman is the definition of a dual-threat quarterback. After keeping the powerful Tiger offense in check, OSU's defense simply cannot afford to take a week off.

The homecoming match-up against the Bears is sandwiched between games at then-No. 3 Missouri and on the road against

No. 1 Texas. Sitting at 6-0 and being mentioned in BCS bowl talk is fairly unfamiliar territory for the Cowboys, but they can't let that get them overconfident.

After all, this is not the same Baylor team that used to go

w i n l e s s in conference play. The Bears' win over Iowa State ended a 13-game conference losing streak, and it ended it with authority.

It is clear that this is a team full of young talent with a new head coach, Art Briles, who has them quickly moving in the right direction.

If Baylor wants to hang with Oklahoma State, it must be aggressive on offense and attempt to match the Cowboys score-for-score. OSU has 16 touchdown drives of two minutes or less this season, so attempting to slow down the game and make it a low-scoring affair might not be an option.

The Bears can turn to game film of any of several teams that have posted 500-plus yards on the erratic OSU defense over the past couple of seasons.

They must start quickly and not find themselves playing from behind.

Baylor also must hang on to the ball and win the turnover battle. The OSU defense has forced 11 turnovers in the past three games.

Finally, the Bears must cover kickoffs and punts to win the field position battle.

Cowboy wide receiver Dez Bryant leads the best punt return team in the nation, while cornerback Perrish Cox is the top kickoff return man in the Big 12.

A win in Stillwater against the No. 8 Cowboys is not entirely out of the question for Baylor, but it would take quite an effort on the part of the Bears. What we do know is that Baylor is going to do everything in its power to put a damper on Oklahoma State's illustrious homecoming celebration.



Belcher

# Golf grabs 2nd, 4th

By Garrett Turner  
Sports Writer

The men and women's golf team are coming back to Waco after finishing impressively in their respective tournaments earlier this week.

The men were in Birmingham, Ala., where they competed in the Jerry Pate Intercollegiate tournament and came away with a fourth place finish. The women finished second at the Price's "Give 'Em Five" Invitational in Las Cruces, N.M.

"We used everybody's score this week," women's head coach Sylvia Ferdon said. "I'm most pleased with the depth we had on our team. Hannah (Burke) had a bad hole but the rest of the team came through."

The women are coming off a second place finish in Lubbock last week, where they finished on top of the Big 12 Conference competition. This weekend, the team was matched with Oklahoma and finished ahead of them. An important issue for the team is participating in the Big 12.

"You like to see the confidence building," Ferdon said. "We're going to be playing in Texas next, where a lot of regional schools are there, which is a good thing. It's nice to see we're five players deep. That's what we have to do to be competitive."

As for the men, confidence couldn't be any higher. Finishing first place in their last two tournaments and receiving a national ranking from two different polls is giving the team a boost going into every tournament. Men's head coach Greg Priest noticed that it was interesting to see how his team would fare.

"It's the first time we didn't have the lead and I was curious to see how we would respond," Priest said. "The good thing about this team is that we pick each other up, which we haven't had in the past. I was glad to see our guys hang in their and keep battling."

The men travel to Dallas to play in Baylor's Intercollegiate tournament Oct. 27. The women play in the Challenger Nov. 2 at Wolf Dancer tournament in Austin.



Sarah Morris/ Lariat Staff

## Riding off to Kansas

Kendra Vickary rides Luke in a Sept. 26 competition. The team will travel to Manhattan, Kan., to take on the Wildcats at 11 a.m. Friday. Baylor is ranked No. 6, while Kansas State is ranked No. 7.

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# Actor Mark Wahlberg discusses role in 'Max Payne'

By Liz Foreman  
Assistant City Editor

Mark Wahlberg stars as Max Payne in the video game spin-off "Max Payne," opening Friday. After his family is killed as part of a conspiracy, DEA police officer Payne goes rogue and seeks revenge against those responsible for his family's murder. While Wahlberg's character is filled with rage, Wahlberg showed his true nature at the start of the conference call interview, by boasting with pride about his one-month-old son.

**Q: Have you ever played the Max Payne video game?**

Mark Wahlberg: I did not. I actually read the script before I found out there was a video game. My assistant and I immediately wanted to check it out because I wondered how I could make a video game into a movie. I got my assistant, who is a gamer, to play and I was amazed of how elaborate the story was. They've been trying to make it a movie for a while. Unfortunately, "The Matrix" kind of ripped off the bullet time, so they wanted to do something fresh and different, you know. Now the technology is changing. We are able to capture things at a thousands frames per second. We are able to do something different and new. I just read it and I love the character. After doing "The Happening," where I play a science teacher, kind of scared of trees, and "The Lovely Bones," I wanted to go off. I wanted to buzz some heads.

**Q: So this is an intense role for you?**

Wahlberg: I am a father, so I have to put myself in that headspace. Thinking about something horrific happening to my beautiful family is enough to make me go bananas.

**Q: You have played a lot of violent and adult roles. How will you explain your roles to (your children)?**

Wahlberg: I am constantly thinking about it, weighing all the pros and cons. First and foremost, I hope God is a movie fan, because I've done some things that are maybe questionable, especially "Boogie Nights." I try to keep my films away from my kids. I don't want them seeing anything daddy does. It's so weird. My son is two and half years old and he already knows the word paparazzi, so at the right time I will explain to them. I am more worried about having to explain running around in my underwear and all the crazy stuff I did with music. I want them to be in college like you guys, not running the street at 13, like I was doing. I have a big responsibility and believe me,

I am committed 110 percent to raising my kids the right way. I am aware of the fact that I have a lot of explaining to do. I am just looking for interesting and different things. I don't want to be the king of shock. I just want to do interesting films.

**Q: How would you describe the character Max Payne? How is he different from action roles you played in the past?**

Wahlberg: I just think he is all of those characters, times 10. There's nobody tougher, nobody badder. I wouldn't want to see any my other characters going up against this one, that's for sure. He is driven by emotion, so he's got license to really go crazy. I mean everybody is accepting the fact that this guy is dealing with the death of his wife and his infant child. Everybody that's even associated with those responsible for their deaths, he's going to get, and people are going to cheer for him.

**Q: How did you prepare mentally and physically to play the character Max Payne?**

Wahlberg: Physically, I've been training to do a boxing movie for two years now, so I was in shape and I've done a lot of stuff with weapons in the past, like "Shooter," so that was easy. It was just going to that dark place, mentally, and staying there for the entire time. My kids didn't understand why when I come home to visit, I was like, squeezing them to death. I had to think about that happening, I tried to make things as real as possible and it's not a fun place to be, but I am just happy that I came out with my sanity.

**Q: Was there a specific dynamic between you and the cast?**

Wahlberg: It always seems weird when I am the most experienced on the set. I still feel like a newbie in this business, even though I have been making films since 1992. Chris (Bridges) has asked all the right questions. He is really in it for the long haul. He wants to have a long career in this business. He's not looking for a quick paycheck where the cash is. But if I got to crack the whip, I will. It is what it is, because obviously, at the end of day I think I have more riding on it than anybody, especially in a movie like this. I am the only person above the title, but everybody that we got was very talented, very capable of doing their job and bringing something extra to the part, so I felt very fortunate in the cast.

**Q: Is there anything about the movie that might surprise fans of the game?**



Mark Wahlberg plays "Max Payne" in the upcoming movie based the eponymous video game. The film opens Friday.

Wahlberg: Well, I think that we stay true to the game, but took it to another level. Some might be shocked, if they weren't thrilled, with what we were able to do with that little baby.

**Q: Do you have any regrets for choosing to act in a movie or turning down a good role?**

Wahlberg: No, I don't think I have ever turned down a role and regretted it. I did some films that I'm not too proud of, but all the reasons were good and pure, especially early on, working with the filmmaker even though I didn't necessarily love the movie, the script or the part. If you get an opportunity

to work with guys like Tim Burton or Jonathan Demme at that stage your career, you are going to benefit greatly. Look, if you have a resume from most of the people in the business, almost 50 percent of their movies are good. I have much better than 50 percent. There is a couple that I would like to destroy or bury my head in the sand like an ostrich, but it could be worse.

**Q: Any possibility of a sequel if the movie does well?**

Wahlberg: I don't want to do anything unless we can make it as good or better than the first. If people really want it — and like I said, the most important part is if we can make it good,

or better than the first.

**Q: Mark, you seem extremely down to earth and easy to talk to. How do you remain grounded in Hollywood?**

Wahlberg: Look, I'm so fortunate, so blessed and appreciative for all the beautiful gifts that God has given me. I know I have been put in this position for a reason and it's not to forget about where I come from — it's to give back and create opportunities for people. All I want to do is do the right thing. I have made a lot of mistakes in my past and I'm trying to do the right thing. I want to go to heaven. It's very difficult for rich men to get into heaven, so I treat people the

way I would like to be treated. The only time I'm going to bust somebody's head open in real life is if they are harming somebody that can't defend himself. I'm so grateful for all things that I have done, and you know, I feel so fortunate. If that (attitude) were to change, my mother would fly right out to California and slap me in the face.

**Q: How did director John Moore try to make this movie visually unique?**

Wahlberg: We definitely wanted to do something new and fresh. You will see, when you see the movie, that I'm not strung up to any wires — unfortunately for me, because I kept landing on my head. There is very little CGI in the movie and if there is, it's the demon stuff and the explosion of the building, because you can't blow up the building in the middle of downtown Toronto. He (John Moore) understands every aspect of the process. Once we saw eye-to-eye on how to play this character and how to approach this, I kind of let him do his thing, and he kind of let me do mine. It was a great experience. It was so funny, because I read the script and it says a couple of drug addicts living in this little run-down apartment and you go to this place, and it's like 5,000 square feet. I would say to John that I pictured it smaller and John would reply, "My name is John Moore, not John Less, OK?" The movie looks like the \$100 million movie, but it was shot with \$45 million.

**Q: Are there any future projects you are currently signed on to do or are looking to do?**

Wahlberg: I did "The Lovely Bones" with Peter Jackson, who is the greatest director of all time. The guy is a genius and hopefully I will be doing "The Fighter" with Darren Aronofsky next year at some point; I've been training to do that for two years now. Other than that, I'm looking for a great comedy. I want to try to mix it up. I dabbled in comedy with "I Heart Huckabees" and little bit in "The Departed," which obviously was unintentional comedy. People were laughing at places where I didn't think they were going to, but that was OK. So, yeah I want to give it a crack. At least the people around me that I pay, say I'm funny, so we will see if I can pull it off.

The Lariat also nabbed an interview with 'Max Payne' co-star Chris 'Ludacris' Bridges. For the full story, please go online to the Lariat Web site.

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