



ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2008

University quells financial concerns

By Ashley Corinne Killough
Staff writer

While educational institutions nationwide take heavy hits from the now-official economic recession, Baylor's favorable financial condition may help the university endure the storm.

In an e-mail sent to faculty and staff Nov. 25, Dr. Regan Ramsower, vice president for finance and administration, said

the university rests on "sound financial footing," and his office is "guardedly optimistic" about the coming months.

By the end of October, Baylor's endowment had dropped below \$1 billion from \$1.1 billion on May 31, the end of the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

But because of its diverse nature of investments, the endowment, according to the e-mail, is "well positioned to ben-

efit from a recovery, while appropriately positioned defensively if the economy weakens further."

University officials across the country have reported dramatic declines in endowment earnings this fall, including Harvard University President Drew Gilpin Faust, who cited the need to prepare for "unprecedented endowment losses" in a letter sent the university's students, faculty and staff.

Texas schools are no exception. In a Nov. 16 article, The Houston Chronicle reported a 23 - percent loss for the University of Texas on both its endowment and Permanent University Fund, a 16 - percent drop in earnings at Texas A&M University and a 28.5 - percent dip in the University of Houston's endowment earnings in 2008.

Kenneth Redd, director of research and policy analysis

at the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO), said that while there's no "hard and fast evidence," he's noted about a 25 percent anecdotal average in endowment declines nationwide.

While Baylor's endowment has dropped, administrators, similar to those at many private universities, declined to specify on the endowment's percentage

loss.

In an e-mail from Jill Scoggins, assistant vice president for media communications, Scoggins said the e-mail from Ramsower was "addressed to, sent to and intended for faculty and staff employees of Baylor University" and that it was "not a release from the university but an employee communication

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Meth lab found under bridge

Jade Ortego
Staff writer

Two men were arrested at a makeshift methamphetamine lab under the Loop 340 bridge over the Brazos River on the southeast side of Waco. Ingredients for the production of methamphetamine, including ether and bottles of anhydrous ammonia, were found at the site.

Jason Campbell, game warden for McLennan County, said he found the ingredients during a routine patrol and watched for someone to return to the site. He found two men at about 1:30 p.m. Monday in a car at the site. They claimed to be there to fish, but they had no fishing gear, he said.

Campbell said that he inferred that the men had intentions to produce methamphetamine.

"This was, I guess, speculation on my part. (There were) several things there that are hard to get," Campbell said. He cited ingredients like lithium batteries and sudafedrine, also found there, which can only be bought in small quantities and identification must be provided to get it, he said.

Methamphetamine can be made anywhere, Campbell said. "It can be made in the backseat of a car," he said, so he said he felt that the suspects could have been trying to produce it under the bridge. The suspects were arrested on narcotics charges unrelated to the lab.

Campbell also said the ingredients may have been stored there for individual transport later.

If someone is caught with several components for the production of methamphetamine, there is a large penalty, he said. The people involved may have been collecting ingredients so that when they were ready, multiple people could be sent out with separate ingredients to make it in a different location. They would thus avoid incriminating one person with the intent to make the drug, he said.

Campbell said that he thinks that methamphetamine usage is less prevalent now than it was a few years ago, due to the lack of availability of sudafedrine.

Texas Parks and Wildlife officials are working with the McLennan County Sheriff's Office on this investigation. The sheriff's office could not release the names or bond information on the suspects, as the case is being developed.



Sarah Morris/Lariat Staff Photos



Above: Corpus Christi freshman Nikesh Patel (far right) and other students gathered for the candlelight vigil put on by the Indian Subcontinent Student Association Tuesday night in light of the Mumbai attacks last Wednesday. Attendees held a moment of silence in respect for those who were affected or lost their lives. Left: Richardson senior Mickey Aberra (far left), McKinney sophomore Varun Joseph and San Antonio sophomore Moez Mithani gathered after the vigil Tuesday. Moez's extended family live in Mumbai and he is thankful they are all safe.

Pakistani group suspected of India attacks

By Jennifer Loven
and Anne Gearan
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. and British citizens were the targets of the violent siege in Mumbai last week, although most of those killed in India's financial capital were Indians, Defense Secretary Robert Gates said Tuesday.

A group partly based in Pakistan apparently carried out the deadly attack, U.S. officials said. Earlier, the U.S. had warned the Indian government that terrorists appeared to be plotting an assault on Mumbai, the officials said.

At the Pentagon Tuesday, Gates said the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Adm. Mike Mullen, had gone to the region to meet with officials. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice also is to visit India on Wednesday, carrying the U.S. demand that Pakistan cooperate fully in the investigation into the attack.

Among those killed in Mumbai were six Americans.

Neither Rice nor Gates would confirm that the United States had passed specific information

to India ahead of the attacks.

The brutal, prolonged attack had some roots in Pakistan, a senior State Department official said. That's the closest the U.S. has come to placing blame for the coordinated assaults, although the official was careful to say that not all the evidence is in. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the investigation was still under way.

The revelation of a U.S. warning to Indian counterparts about a possible attack comes as the Indian government faces widespread accusations of security and intelligence failures concerning the assault.

Washington had advised that a waterborne attack on Mumbai appeared to be in the works, and that Westerners and Israelis may be targeted, said senior administration officials. They spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitive nature of intelligence information. The official would not elaborate on either the timing or details of the U.S. warning.

However, U.S. and foreign

Please see ATTACKS, page 4

Nonprofit major puts twist on learning

By Jessica Belmares
Copy editor

Finally, students who enjoy stewardship and civic service can prepare themselves for a career through a new major offered through this year's undergraduate catalogue.

The fall catalogue for 2008-2009 was the first catalogue in Baylor's history to offer a major in marketing through the nonprofit and development track for undergraduate students and is the only university to offer this major, said Charles S. Madden, Ben H. Williams professor of marketing and director of the Baylor Center for Nonprofit

Leadership and Service.

A course currently offered, Nonprofit Marketing, was offered back in the early '90s, and there are master's programs that have been around for 25 or 30 years, but never a program such as this, Madden said.

"Choosing nonprofit as a career path is relatively new," Madden said. "People would lead United Way or Red Cross but would never think of it as a career path. A lot of discipline for nonprofits has developed in the last 20 to 25 years."

Madden said the center thought the nonprofit and development track would be a graduate level disci-

pline, but they came to the conclusion this could probably affect more students at the undergraduate level.

"People get interested in nonprofit somewhere along the way because of personal interest," he said. "Years later they realize they don't have much background. Some of them go back and get master's degrees, but that still doesn't prepare students coming out of undergraduate school to be prepared to lead and develop nonprofit organizations."

Students can major in marketing through the nonprofit and development track by completing 24 hours of coursework in that

discipline. Some courses that are currently offered are Professional Selling and Communicating for Nonprofit Organizations, Nonprofit Marketing, and Stakeholder Data Management for Nonprofit Organization.

These courses give students a chance not only to learn, but to gain real world experience working for nonprofit organizations, Madden said.

Directed Studies in Marketing, a project course offered for Spring 2009, provides students a chance to work with a nonprofit organization and help to

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Christina Kruse/Lariat Staff

Charles S. Madden serves as the director for the Center for Nonprofit Leadership and Service. Baylor began offering a major in marketing through the nonprofit and development track this fall.



Sarah Morris/Lariat Staff

The Freedom Fountain sits in its current location in front of the Waco Convention Center in downtown Waco. The historical fountain may be forced to relocate to Indian Springs Park due to renovations to the convention center.

Historical fountain faces possible location change

By Chad Shanks
Staff writer

The Waco City Council discussed Tuesday the possibility of relocating the Freedom Fountain, a 35 year-old historical landmark commemorating the 12 Waco citizens who met with North Vietnamese officials in 1971 to negotiate the release of prisoners of war.

The large concrete waterfall fountain, currently outside the Waco Convention Center, has been non-operational due to several mechanical problems, water leakage and concrete deterioration.

With the upcoming renovations of the Waco Convention Center and an estimated \$170,000 cost to completely repair the fountain, Waco City

Manager Larry Groth recommended building a new fountain along the Brazos River in Indian Springs Park.

"With the cost of repair, it would probably be better to relocate and rebuild the fountain in a more visible location," Groth said.

Groth previously met with

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Bowl Championship Series rankings laughable

There aren't many things in today's world that would make sense if you took the letter "c" out of them. If someone was expecting you pay them in cash, but instead you gave them a pile of ash, it simply would not work. If an exhausted person went to sit on a chair but fell through a bunch of hair instead, you can bet they would be upset. It wouldn't be good. But if you take the letter "c" out of the current college football ranking system, the BCS, you get exactly what it is — B.S.

The Bowl Championship Series, or BCS, is a combination of polls and computer selection methods that are intended to match the top two college football teams in a "national championship game" each year.

I would explain the process more in depth, but even the

highest paid ESPN analysts don't completely understand it, so there is really no point. The only thing that seems to be apparent about the BCS is that it has a problem. It rarely seems to pick the right two teams.

Since its inception in 1998, all the BCS has seemed to do is create controversy. Every year mediocre teams get embarrassed in national championship games when there was clearly a much more worthy opponent beating the Big East champion to a pulp in the Orange Bowl.

Not only does the series play host to the national championship game, it has four other games each year that are considered BCS bowl games — the Sugar Bowl, the Orange Bowl, Fiesta Bowl and the Rose Bowl. These five games rotate hold-

point of view

BY KYLE MCKANNA

ing the national championship game.

Along with having traditional locations, the BCS has six conferences whose champions receive automatic bids. The Atlantic Coast Conference, Big 12, Big East, Big Ten, Pac-10 and Southeastern Conference champions take up six of the eight spots in the BCS bowl games. The other two teams are chosen "at large" by individual bowl committees.

Fifteen years ago my friends and I created a statistical analy-

sis machine (SAM) that correctly analyzes a wide variety of information.

We can't tell you how it works, no one is really sure. But one thing you can count on is that it is never wrong. It uses a computer.

One of the studies we conducted with SAM was on the teams who should have been in BCS games that weren't. We found that over the last 10 years an average of five teams per year have been unjustifiably excused from either a national title or BCS bowl game. Five teams. That would mean more than half of teams playing in the most financially lucrative bowl games of the year (each teams conference is projected to receive \$17.5 million for participation in 2009 BCS bowl games) don't really deserve to

be there. And that has to be right; it's what our computer said.

Though it may not be exact, it is what happens in the BCS. It happens because one team has more "style points" than the other, or plays in a weaker conference or doesn't like to run the score up on opponents. How can you employ a system that encourages classlessness?

This year, the style points not only affected the BCS bids, it determined the Big 12 South champion as well. A three-way tie in the Big 12 south ended up being decided by BCS standings. Despite beating Oklahoma 45-35 on a neutral field earlier in the season, Texas lost the No. 2 ranking to OU on the final day of the season. The computers revealed that Okla-

homa's four straight 60-point performances had been enough for them to edge Texas out of the conference championship against Missouri on Saturday.

The outcome of this week's conference championship games will likely decide who competes in the national championship game in January. A slew of one-loss teams are going to feel worthy, and with three undefeated non-BCS conference teams undefeated, an "at large" bid is sure to disappoint a few teams.

The system that would be more correctly named without a "c" in its name is sure to raise a lot of those c words this weekend — controversy, commotion and confusion. What a bunch of BCS.

Kyle McKanna is a senior journalism major from Diana.

Editorial

Internet users should network cautiously due to lack of laws

The recent ruling in the case of cyber bullying on MySpace has once again brought issues of Internet regulation to the forefront.

In a disturbing case of cyber bullying, 13-year-old Megan Meier committed suicide after reading a MySpace message from a fake love interest, Josh Evans, which stated, "The world would be a better place without you."

It was later revealed that Josh Evans was actually 49-year-old Lori Drew, the mother of an ex-friend of Meier, who created a fake MySpace profile to investigate whether Meier was spreading rumors about her daughter. Drew tricked Meier into an online romance using an assumed identity, only to later reject the girl through a series of MySpace messages.

In a verdict that was announced Friday, Drew was found guilty of three misdemeanor charges of computer fraud in what is being described as the first cyberbullying verdict. This case was the first time someone was convicted under the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act, a law passed by Congress in 1986 intending to reduce computer hacking.

Drew essentially violated MySpace usage agreements by posing as someone else, and therefore was found guilty of computer hacking.

Since MySpace's launch in 2002, it has been a very popular networking site in the United States and currently has more than 250 million members. With its interactive capabilities and widespread use by adults and teenagers, it has become a breeding ground for questionable Internet conduct.

There is no denying that the Internet can be a very dangerous place for all those who log on. Social networking sites like MySpace and Facebook have instigated the debate on what should and shouldn't be regulated on the Internet.

The bottom line is that regulating the Internet is impossible. Considering the wide-open world of cyberspace, it isn't plausible to effectively regulate something so vast. It's a better, safer idea to regulate oneself than try to impose laws that will inevitably have loopholes.

Common sense is key when using social networking sites and is a means of prevention and protection. Ultimately, it's up to the user to safely navigate their way through the World Wide Web, not the government.

In the case of Megan Meier, the 13-year-old did have the power to end the friendship or simply ignore the disturbing messages that were being sent to her. MySpace doesn't have any effective way of protect-



ing its users from predators, so there is a responsibility that is implied when one signs up for a profile. And a computer can only do so much.

But that's not to say that the actions of Drew were excusable. Drew's punishment was adequate for her crime. Considering that there are not well-established laws against cyberbullying, the verdict was appropriate and fitting to the crime. She violated usage agreements and the law with her actions and was justly dealt with according to the law.

As a moral issue, the actions

of Drew were inexcusable. There is no doubt that a 49-year-old woman has no business participating in "mean girl" teenage antics on MySpace. She manipulated a young girl by knowingly playing with her emotions and ultimately played a role in her death. She will be living out the repercussions of her actions through the negative media attention for the rest of her life.

This case is a glimpse at a growing trend of Internet issues that are surely going to increase as technology continues to evolve. This case should serve

as a reminder that all things on the Internet aren't secure and safe. With the strokes of a few keys, lives can be ruined.

It's unclear whether more cases like this will be handled in a similar manner, but a precedent for punishment has been set.

Hopefully, Internet users young and old can learn to regulate themselves and make smart decisions about their online activities. Social networking sites are well established and here to stay, but hopefully common sense will outlast them both.

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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Faulty economy puts pressure on university seniors

The economy. Everyone's talking about it, but why should we care as students? What's the big deal about it anyways? We're just students, it doesn't really matter to us anyways, right?

For those graduating in 2009, this is something we need to start worrying about now.

I talked to several professors in different departments to get an idea of what they thought the job market looked like for upcoming Baylor graduates. Professor Rosland Kennerson-Baty, lecturer in the communication studies department, who also teaches an interviewing class, expressed a concern for the state of the economy and its effects on

graduates.

"It depends on the profession, but right now the job market looks a little stalemated," Kennerson-Baty said.

She also said the main reasons college graduates can't get jobs in today's economy is because it's a personal and a social issue.

"Graduates are very brilliant but they don't have the knowledge to get their foot in the door," she said. "They need to give themselves the opportunity to grow in their profession."

Professor of economics Kent Gilbreath shared Kennerson-Baty's concerns. "The job market looks miserable for graduat-

point of view

BY JILL HENDERSON

ing seniors," Gilbreath said. "But it will vary for different majors. Teachers and other highly skilled occupations such as high-tech professionals are OK, but the rest of the market is seeing a general falling in demand for employment."

According to a survey conducted by the National Association of Colleges and Employers featured in an October article of

the Wall Street Journal online, employers plan to hire just 1.3 percent more graduates in 2009 than they hired in 2008. This is not a big increase, because the same source said that just two months ago the survey indicated a 6.1 percent increase in hiring.

So what exactly does that mean about college graduates right now? I'm personally worried about what I'm going to do after graduation. I don't know if I'll get a job or not.

I want to go into the television newscasting sector of the job market, but I'm not sure whether a job will be there after I walk across the stage next December.

I may not know whether I have a job or not after graduation, but what I do know is that I just spent over four years of my life busting my rear end trying to make the grades so I can get the job after graduation. This is the goal I've been working toward for as long as I can remember. This is why I chose to go to a prestigious school such as Baylor University. I was hoping that I would have a better chance of obtaining a job after graduating from a top-notch university.

What this means for you and I is that we're going to have to work twice as hard to get a job as those who have graduated before us. It's not that I'm lazy and not

willing to do the work, its just that this is not the news I was hoping for when I started this research into job placement for college graduates. So now I need to answer the question I posed in the beginning: Why should we care about the economy as students? I think that if you care about your future at all, you should care about the economy.

I'm hoping for a quick rebound of the economy because I don't want my money, hardwork and education to go to waste, and I doubt anyone else at Baylor does either.

Jillian Henderson is a senior communication specialist major from Nome.

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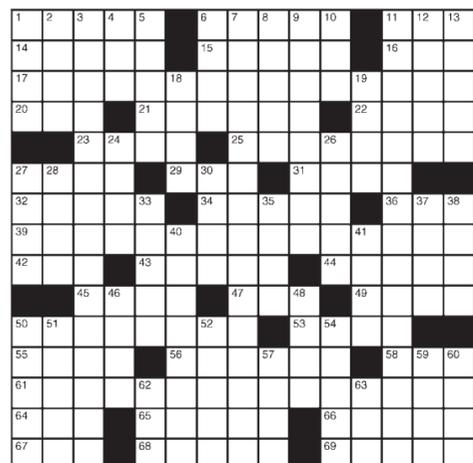
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THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

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By Verna Suit
 Silver Spring, MD
 12/3/08

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

Soldiers re-enlist for job security amid tough times

By John Milburn and Stephen Manning
The Associated Press

FORT RILEY, Kan. — Sgt. Ryan Nyhus spent 14 months patrolling the deadly streets of Baghdad, where five members of his platoon were shot and one died.

As bad as that was, he would rather go back there than take his chances in this brutal job market.

Nyhus re-enlisted last Wednesday, and in so doing joined the growing ranks of those choosing to stay in the U.S. military because of the bleak economy.

"In the Army, you're always guaranteed a steady paycheck and a job," said the 21-year-old Nyhus. "Deploying's something that's going to happen. That's a fact of life in the Army — a fact of life in the infantry."

In 2008, as the stock market cratered and the housing market collapsed, more young members of the Army, Air Force and Navy decided to re-up. While several factors might explain the rise in re-enlistments, including a decline in violence in Iraq, Pentagon officials acknowledge that bad news for the economy is usually good news for the military.

In fact, the Pentagon just completed its strongest recruiting year in four years.

"We do benefit when things look less positive in civil society," said David Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness. "What difficult economic times give us, I think,

is an opening to make our case to people who we might not otherwise have."

The retention rate of early-career soldiers in the Army has risen steadily over the past four years and now stands 20 percentage points higher than it was in fiscal 2004.

As for the Navy and the Air Force, early- and mid-career sailors and airmen re-enlisted at a higher rate in October than during the same period in 2007. The Marine Corps was not immediately able to provide comparative figures on re-enlistments.

Alex Stewart joined the Army two years ago, when the factory where he worked as a welder started laying off. He was sent to Afghanistan with the 82nd Airborne Division, which suffered 87 deaths last year, the highest total suffered by the 20,000-member unit since the fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan began.

When his hitch was up in

"I want a stable life for my wife in a very shaky economy."

Alex Stewart
Army
82nd Airborne Division

earlier this year, the 32-year-old from Grand Rapids, Mich., didn't hesitate to re-up for five more years.

"I want a stable life for my wife in a very shaky economy," Stewart said. "There were no



Associated Press

Sgt. Ryan Nyhus re-enlists during a ceremony at Fort Riley, Kan., Wednesday. He spent 14 months patrolling the deadly streets of Baghdad, where five members of his platoon were shot and one died. As bad as that was, Nyhus would rather go back there than take his chances in the job market.

other options."

Army Spc. Alicia Fauls, 20, of the Woodlands, Texas, had two years to go when she re-enlisted last week at Fort Riley, home of the Army's 1st Infantry Division, which has one brigade in Iraq, one headed home and another preparing to ship out. She has not been sent into the war zone yet but knows an assignment in Iraq or Afghanistan is probably in her future.

"I did have only two years left, but I'm not sure what I would do," Fauls said. "It's harder to find jobs."

When Nyhus' tour in Iraq ended last April, he talked to his wife about getting out of the Army and working toward a college degree. But the father of a 2-year-old daughter opted for the job security, even though he is likely to be sent back to Iraq as a member of the 4th Infantry Division, which has shouldered a heavy burden of the fighting.

Marine Staff Sgt. Angela Mink, who was injured in a helicopter accident in Iraq in 2004 and now works in public affairs

at the Corps' New River air station in North Carolina, said the thought of taking a civilian job "without my fellow Marines just didn't appeal to me." Moreover, she had little hope of finding a private-sector job that pays as well as the Marines.

"Equivalent pay is nonexistent, once you factor in insurance premiums, housing costs," said Mink, 37. "And we would definitely have had to relocate."

And so the married mother of five signed up recently for four more years.

Roughly 208,000 men and women left the military in 2007. Some were rank-and-file warriors, while others worked in specialized fields such as satellite communications or computer networking. Only about 30 percent of enlisted soldiers hold a bachelor's degree.

John Milburn reported from Fort Riley, Kan., Stephen Manning from Washington. Associated Press writers Kevin Maurer in Fort Bragg, N.C., and Estes Thompson in Raleigh, N.C., also contributed to this report.

Handmade crafts to support charity

By Molly MacEwan
Reporter

Handmade soap, scarves, wood-crafted items, jewelry and stained glass are some of the few items the Baylor community can purchase on campus this week.

The department of Student Activities is holding the 10th Annual Christmas on 5th Street Arts and Crafts Fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. today in the Bill Daniel Student Center.

The student center's den will be filled with local crafters' items.

The fair will also be open from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday in conjunction with the Christmas on 5th Street celebration held by Student Activities.

The fair's vendors consist of students, faculty and staff and other outside vendors, said Debbie Williams, office manager for the department of Student Activities.

"The money they pay for registration goes to Santa's Workshop," Williams said.

Santa's Workshop is a program that gives the opportunity for almost 900 local children to come to campus and have lunch, participate in Christmas activities and meet Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus, according to the Gifts to BU Web site at www.baylor.edu/development. The children also will receive a new gift from donations.

"We're hoping to have more students come this year," Williams said. "We want a large turnout."

Patt Black, training and support spe-

cialists for Information Technology Services, is one of the vendors. She said she will be selling crochet scarves, flower hairpins, hats, hand-sewn pillowcases and a few paper-covered journals.

"I learned to sew when I was young and just recently learned to knit and have loved it since," Black said. "I was accumulating way too many items and running out of people to gift them to, so I went to a fair and asked a vendor how they got involved. I've been in it since."

She said it was a great way to meet students because her job is behind the scenes on campus and she usually only gets to interact with faculty.

"I also get to share my love of crafts as it is inevitable that someone will ask how I made something," Black said.

Barbara and Charles Lewandowski will be selling wooden items such as bowls, boxes and vases that are all made of local and exotic woods.

"We like to meet new people and share my husband's talent," Barbara said. "He enjoys explaining the process of turning wood and might interest others in trying the craft."

Some of the vendors include Handmade by Charlotte, Annie's Custom Jewelry, Petrice's Hand-knit Accessories, Bless the Sister Designs, KK's Homemade Creations, Julie's Jewelry, Heart Creek Designs, Miller's Texas Leather, WDRcrafts and Mission Waco's "Fair Trade Market & World Crafts."

More information can be found on the Student Activities Web site or on the Baylor University Campus Programs Facebook fan page.

Baylor's Model United Nations team wins overall best delegation

By Amanda Ochoa
Reporter

Baylor's Model United Nations traveling team competed in the American Model United Nations Conference in Chicago last week and came back as the Overall Best Delegation (Best School), securing a spot in New York at the National Model United Nations Conference this spring.

"It felt great to win because we put so much effort and time in researching, understanding and discussing such hard, real-life topics," said Allison Campbell, North Fort Myers, Fla., senior and head delegate of the

team.

The conference was held from Nov. 22 to Thursday. Over 1,400 college students and faculty from across the U.S. and around the world attended.

Baylor's traveling team was composed of 10 Baylor students and one Baylor Law School student. Members that participated in the Chicago conference included Tim Azevedo, Lucas Buckles, Allison Campbell, Christopher Dunn, Jaimee Gates, Stanley Kabzinski, Will Masters, Seth Reed, Jeffery Vitarius, Brook Worcester and Steven Zimmerman.

The American Model United Nations is an educational orga-

nization that allows students to participate in a professional simulation of the United Nations in the United States, according to the American Model United Nations Conference Web site.

"This organization is to basically prepare students for confronting real-life issues," Campbell said. "You learn about conflict resolution and negotiation and you honestly do gain a talent for public speaking, which is very important in the real world."

Months before the conference, each school was assigned a nation to research and become familiar with. At the conference the teams then discussed and

debated about important issues with their nation's best interest.

"When you're assigned a country, it's difficult because it could be completely different than what you believe," Campbell said. "You have to learn why the people in your nation act and live the way they do."

Baylor's Model United Nations team members were assigned the Republic of Uganda. Each member was a delegate for Uganda during the conference; two delegates made up a committee that discussed different issues in a room full of hundreds of people at the conference.

Topics discussed among

committees included malaria in developing countries, regional disarmament, external debt crisis and development, human rights in the administration of justice, mine action, international cooperation in combating transnational organized crime and corruption.

"Being able to debate and stick out over the other 250 delegates was the idea," said Will Masters, member of traveling team and Baylor Law student. "It's kind of an art to grab the attention of people."

Masters said he considers being a member of this organization as beneficial because it has helped him master parliamen-

tary procedures and learn how to debate and negotiate, which he believes are important characteristics for the real world.

The National Model United Nations conference in New York will be held in the spring of 2009. According to the NMUN Web site, this is the world's largest, college-level Model United Nations conference and will include more than 4,000 delegates from five continents.

"The good thing about this organization is that everybody gets a fresh chance in the spring to participate in the conference," Campbell said. "All they have to do is try out for the traveling team."

BEAR BRIEFS

Lt. Andy Baldwin, M.D. will speak to premedical students about entering the medical profession from 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. today in B110 Baylor Sciences Building. Baldwin starred on season 10 of ABC's "The Bachelor" television series.

Baylor Air Force ROTC will present a military parade at 4:15 p.m. today at the Baylor Sciences Building fields. The event is free. For more information, contact Cherriza_Plott@baylor.edu.

Kappa Omega Tau's Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony and Benefit Concert T-shirts and fleeces are now on sale in Penland, Collins and Memorial residence halls and at Bill Daniel Student Center, Baylor Sciences Building and Hankamer School of Business. T-shirts are \$12 and fleeces are \$40. All proceeds from the sales will go to Shaohannah's Hope. For additional information, contact Bo_Weathersbee@baylor.edu.

The School of Music will present a combined choirs Christmas concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday at Jones Concert Hall in Glennis McCrary Music Building. For more information or for tickets, call the Baylor School of Music at 710-3571.

To submit a bear brief, send an e-mail to Lariat@baylor.edu.

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commitment

ATTACKS from page 1

government officials said, the warning information was too vague to be actionable.

Indian authorities have claimed a Pakistan connection for days, but the United States has not wanted to "jump to conclusions," as Rice said Monday. The administration fears that any misstep amid the extraordinarily high emotions surrounding the three-day assault, which killed 172 and wounded 239 in the heart of Mumbai, could spark new and possibly deadly tensions between longtime, nuclear-armed rivals India and Pakistan.

"The target of this terror-

ist act was not just India. It was also Pakistan's fledgling democracy, and the India/Pakistan peace process," Pakistan's ambassador to the U.S. Husain Haqqani told The Associated Press. "Extremists have wanted India and Pakistan to be at each others' throats for a long time."

The Indian government is already facing intense public accusations of security and intelligence failures in the wake of the attacks. Indian Foreign Minister Pranab Mukherjee said his country gave a list of about 20 people — including India's most-wanted man — to Pakistan's envoy in New Delhi on Monday.

The only surviving attacker told police that he and the other

nine gunmen had trained for months in camps in Pakistan operated by the banned Pakistani militant group Lashkar-e-Taiba. Mumbai police commissioner Hasan Ghafoor said ex-Pakistani army officers trained the group — some for up to 18 months.

U.S. and foreign officials also said the attack pointed to Lashkar, a terrorist organization based in the disputed Kashmir region. It was banned in Pakistan in 2002 under pressure from the U.S., a year after Washington and Britain listed it a terrorist group. It is since believed to have emerged under another name, Jamaat-ud-Dawa, though that group has denied links to the Mumbai attack.

FINANCES from page 1

intended to inform faculty and staff about the relationship between the current economic climate and Baylor University's current financial position."

Scoggins added that "neither the vice president or any other representative of the university sees any need to comment further on the information contained in the e-mail. The communication fully stands on its own and provides complete comment for anyone needing to know the information it contains."

Because the typical private university endowment sits at about \$80 million, Redd said, Baylor's above-average endowment could contribute to more stable financial conditions at the university.

"With Baylor having over a billion dollars last year, its endowment is higher than a typical private university, which can be used to weather these hard times," Redd said.

According to a report on Baylor trends from 2001-2007, the university's endowment income made up an annual average of 6.1 percent of total revenues over the seven-year period, with 5.6 percent in 2006-2007. Tuition made up the largest portion of Baylor's income, constituting 75.6 percent of total revenues for 2006-2007.

In general, tuition-dependent institutions, Redd said, could be at a slightly greater

risk of losing funds if students and their families aren't willing to pay the tuition rate.

Ramsower stated in the e-mail that since Baylor hasn't received an unusual amount of concerns regarding spring financial settlements, and expectations over fall-to-spring retention remain positive, the university currently has no plans to "curtail or cut back budgets."

It also was announced in the e-mail that Baylor will accept more students next year, with freshman applications and acceptances already running 30 percent above the same time a year ago. "In the current economy we expect that more families than normal might find themselves financially challenged, so we have to modify our enrollment model to accept a higher number of students to reach our freshman enrollment goal," said Lori Fogleman, director of media communications. "For example, if we have historically accepted 10 students to get five, in this economy, we might need to accept 12 students to get five."

While Baylor will accept more students, the university seeks to enroll about 3,000 freshmen, close to the 3,062 enrolled this year.

If the 2013 class turned out to be larger than expected, however, it wouldn't be unusual. During times of economic downturns, university enrollments historically have increased, according to a report

by NACUBO and the Governing Boards of College and Universities. The report cited a national enrollment increase from 15.9 million in 2001 to 16.9 million in 2003 and similar trends during the 1980-1981 and 1990-1991 recessions.

The report attributes this to individuals going back for additional training, finishing their degree or advancing their education. While the final data has yet to be finalized, the study suggests that enrollments across the country continued to increase this fall.

In his e-mail, Ramsower said he believes "total revenues this year will exceed original budget projections." He said the university's careful and responsible spending has allowed room for the approval of nine new staff positions and 21 capital improvement projects exceeding \$4 million.

Due to waning economic conditions, some schools, such as Boston University, Princeton University and Brown University, have announced hiring freezes for cost-cutting purposes. Redd said institutions also try reducing expenditures by hiring more adjunct or part-time professors and limiting travel and utility costs.

On budget plans for next year, Ramsower's statement reported plans for a flat budget, with the exception of salaries, benefits and contracts and with no intention of limiting or reducing raises for 2009-2010.

MAJOR from page 1

market or raise funds for that organization, Madden said. Students registering to take this course in the spring will be working with KWBU, a public television and radio program serving central Texas.

In the spring, students who took the project course worked with World Hunger Relief, Inc., a Christian organization committed to the alleviation of hunger around the world, according to www.worldhungerrelief.org.

"Fundraising is critical," said Neil Rowe Miller, executive director of World Hunger Relief, Inc. "We always have a need for skilled and unskilled labor in the front. Students come and work alongside interns and volunteers as well as our professional staff labor. It's just a really big help."

San Antonio entrepreneurship and marketing major senior

Kenneth Cook took the project class in the spring and helped World Hunger Relief.

"I learned very quickly that the people that work there are there for the sheer fact that this is what they love to do," Cook said. "They have a very strong dedication and this Christian spirit of selflessness."

Cook said it's very possible he will be using what he learned from this course when he graduates and begins his career.

"I hope in the future to start a nonprofit wildlife farm," Cook said. "This course gave me a better understanding of how to raise capital and the process to gain funding."

Even students who major outside of the business school can minor in marketing through the nonprofit and development track.

"We found the big thing that everyone wants to do is raise money," Madden said.

The Center for Nonprofit

Leadership and Service surveyed several hundreds of nonprofit organizations, including Red Cross, and asked them under what conditions they would hire students directly out of college, Madden said.

"It came back very strongly they would hire them into their fundraising area and that they have trouble finding people who have undergraduate preparation and the desire to do that," he said.

Madden has been a faculty member since 1983 and has served as vice president for university marketing and university relations. Madden said when he finished, he came back to the business school because that's what he really felt committed to do.

"This is my passion — to see people prepared for leadership," Madden said. "We care to see (students) working, but more for just working for something they really care about."

FOUNTAIN from page 1

three of the surviving 12 members of the group to get their opinions on moving the fountain. Cullen Smith, the group's chairman, attended the meeting to show their support.

"I support moving it if they do it right," Smith said. "It needs to be a beautiful memorial with water actually running through it. I visited the proposed area and it's beautiful and has much more people walking around than where it is now."

Smith, an attorney and former city councilman, led a racially diverse group of 12 Wacoans that included Baylor's student body president, a Baylor religion professor and Waco's incoming mayor to Paris in 1971, where the U.S. and North Vietnam were meeting to negotiate the release of American prisoners of war.

The group, termed the "Waco Dozen," saw that peace talks were not progressing and hoped to have a positive effect. After learning about Vietnamese culture from former missionaries,

Smith and two other members were able to arrange a meeting with Vietnamese negotiators in a park by the North Vietnamese embassy in Paris.

"We talked with them for about three hours and took a petition with 50,000 signatures addressed to the POWs. We asked to study their prison camps and for them to stop torturing the POWs," Smith said.

Smith says their delegation hoped to create publicity about the POWs and put pressure on the U.S. and Vietnamese governments.

"It was a wonderful experience. The Vietnamese never understood why we cared about our prisoners. If their people got captured, they didn't want them back," Smith said.

When the Waco Dozen returned, they raised money to build the fountain to emphasize America's freedom. The fountain is surrounded by a border with "freedom" inscribed in several languages.

"This was a proud moment for the people in Waco and we need to remember the 12 that had the guts to stand before the

North Vietnamese and demand the release of our prisoners," council member Alice Rodriguez said.

While the majority of the council supported moving the landmark to a more visible location, some wanted to preserve the fountain's history by leaving it in its original location.

"I'd like to see it untouched," council member Randy Riggs said. "I want to see it repaired unless it's cost-prohibitive. I'd like to preserve the history and incorporate as much of the original structure as we can if it's moved."

Groth responded that any attempts to fix the fountain at its current location would be extremely difficult and costly and would most likely result in a memorial that Waco would not be proud of.

Groth is also planning public meetings to get the community's input and ideas for the fountain's future.

"This is an opportunity to tell this story again and keep it alive. It took a lot of courage to do what they did," Waco Mayor Virginia DuPuy said.

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Austin band releases first extended single, 'Art of Change'

David Poe
Reporter

A new band is born everyday in the Live Music Capital of the World, more commonly known as Austin. From the masses of the musically talented and not-so-talented found there, come The Beautiful Fools.

ALBUMREVIEW

With the recent release of its extended single (EP) in November, titled "Art of Change," the members of The Beautiful Fools continue their journey to becoming the privileged few who make their living playing music.

The Beautiful Fools consist of Brady Davis of Hamilton, Casey Needham of Hico and Will Scott of Lindale.

The Beautiful Fools can trace its beginning back to Davis and Needham's high school days.

"Casey and I were dating girls that were best friends," said Davis. "So they convinced me to go down to Hico to jam with Casey."

Davis and Needham continued to practice together until college. Davis and Needham attended separate colleges and did not play together as a band, but played intermittently for three years.

Davis played throughout his college years in local venues with friends, but ultimately wound back up with Needham after graduation.

Although Davis had played with many bassists, he and Needham decided on Will Scott.

"I met Will through a college friend of mine and played for us a couple times while he was still at the University of North Texas," said Davis. "He learned our songs and just came out and played."

So Scott, the third piece of The Beautiful Fools, was added in the spring of 2007 when the three sat down together in a smoothie shop and decided to fully pursue a career in music, Davis said. This decision meant that Scott would transfer schools in order to join Davis and Needham in Austin.

Since the three became The Beautiful Fools they have played several Austin venues including the legendary Stubb's Bar-B-Que outdoor stage.

In a world where band names confuse even the most creative of people, The Beautiful Fools have an explanation for its name.

"We are all beautiful and wonderfully created, but often we can be foolish beyond belief," said Davis.

Scott said the band feels that so many people go through tough times and reach out for things that are empty and unfulfilling.

"We want to write music that sends out a positive message," said Needham. "So many times people turn to sex, drugs and alcohol in tough times, but there



David Poe/Reporter

From left: Casey Needham, Brady Davis and Will Scott make up the Austin-based band The Beautiful Fools. The band formed in the Spring of 2007 and recently played on Stubb's Bar-B-Que backyard stage.

is something bigger than ourselves that we can grasp onto for hope."

With the recently released "Art of Change", listeners who haven't been able to hear The Beautiful Fools live, get a taste of the band's easy-on-the-ears, melodic sound and inspirational lyrics.

"Art of Change" starts with the song, "Rise Up," a title track appropriate for the title of the EP.

With lyrics like, "Time to rise up, tonight is the night to turn it around, there's nothing we've lost that can't be found" the song is full of messages of hope, and a call for change.

"Rise Up" features a mellow sound with instrumentals that still give it a driving beat, which is consistent to the end. The catchy melody will cause listeners to find themselves singing or at least humming along when the chorus comes around. There is distinctly evident Switchfoot and Coldplay influences in the

track.

Another song that stood out is the third track, titled "Today."

The lyrics continue the theme of hope and a desire for change. The song begins with the words "It's not the end of the world, close your eyes pretend you're alive," and optimistic view difficult to take in hard times.

The lyrical content of the chorus stand as the heart of the song saying, "Come on break my heart, I need a brand new start, Tear down all the idols I've raised, no better time to change than today."

"Today" also features a melody that is easy to listen to and difficult not to sing along to. The beginning guitar riff will remind listeners of MuteMath. The verses, however, are acoustic and give off a hint of Ryan Adams.

The entire EP is full of warm and mellow sounds that are just easy to listen to, but with plenty of variety that makes each song unique. Despite a great debut EP, the band still has room to grow.

The lyrics from song to song, are mature and positive, and tie in perfectly with title of the EP and the band's overall message.

"Art of Change" from The Beautiful Fools is available on iTunes and more information about the band is available on their MySpace page, www.myspace.com/thebeautifulfools.

Grade: B



Christina Kruse/Lariat staff

The nose knows

Cyrano de Bergerac, played by Joey Melcher (left), and Christian de Neuville, played by Callen McLaughlin, engage in dialogue in the first act of the French play "Cyrano de Bergerac." The play is Baylor Theater's final production of the fall. The story follows Cyrano, a romantic poet who can't get the girl he loves. He then helps a handsome swordsman woo her by giving him the words to say. The play began Tuesday and runs through Sunday. Ticket are \$10 for students and \$15 for adults. They can be purchased at the Baylor Theater box office at 710-1865.

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Wednesday Watchlist:

movies and music released this week

Movies:	Music:
Wanted	Britney Spears "Circus"
Step Brothers	Akon "Freedom"
The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian	Scarface "Emeritus"
The X-Files: I Want to Believe	

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Big 12 announces conference honors

By Betsy Blaney
The Associated Press

LUBBOCK — Mike Leach can look back on this season and know he led Texas Tech to its best one yet.

The pirate-loving coach and his No. 8 Red Raiders did it by getting their first win over a top-ranked team, garnering their highest national ranking and capturing their first Big 12 South trophy — the latter a shared prize due to a three-way tie.

Now Leach can add another first. The Associated Press on Tuesday named him Big 12 coach of the year. In balloting by a panel of conference media, Leach got 16 votes to four for Texas' Mack Brown.

Baylor's Robert Griffin was also announced as the Big 12 Offensive Freshman of the Year.

Since the conference began in 1996 it is the first time Texas Tech's coach has won the honor.

"I don't know what to say," said Leach, who's rarely at a loss for words. "I have good people around me. We had a good year, and I had something to do with it, too, you know."

For the man known to enjoy reading Winston Churchill, the season has seen, well, his finest

hour.

Tech has for years been considered a good team, but the Red Raiders' pass-happy offense was mostly written off as a gimmicky outfit that put up gaudy numbers in Leach's spread offense. Every quarterback but one has led the nation in passing in Leach's nine seasons, yet the Red Raiders never won more than nine games.

This season's no different from the wild offense standpoint — Tech averages 417 yards passing a game and Graham Harrell will probably be named a Heisman Trophy finalist. But Tech has also added a powerful running game and an improved defense, leading to a top-10 ranking and a school-record 11 victories.

Baylor players on All-Big 12 roster

- Jason Smith, OT, 1st team offense
- Joe Pawelek, LB, 1st team defense
- Jordan Lake, FS, 1st team defense
- Derek Epperson, P, honorable mention
- Dan Gay, OL, honorable mention

Other award-winners

Offensive Freshman of the Year:
QB Robert Griffin, Baylor

Offensive Newcomer of the Year:
WR Brandon Banks, Kansas State

Offensive Player of the Year:
QB Sam Bradford, Oklahoma

Defensive Newcomer of the Year:
DE McKinner Dixon, Texas Tech

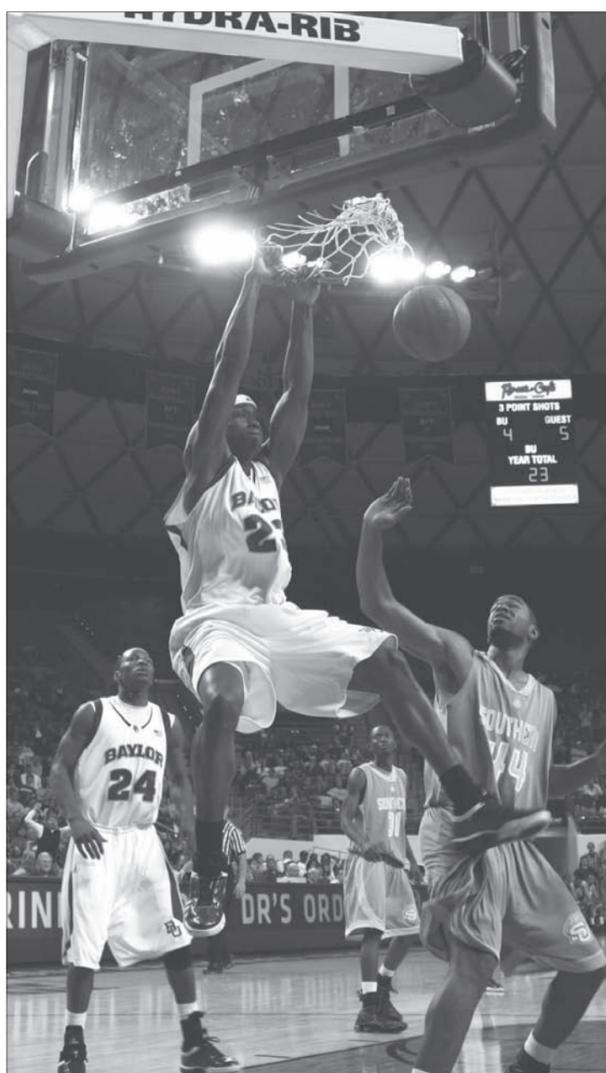
Defensive Player of the Year:
DE Brian Orakpo, Texas

Special Teams Player of the Year:
PR Dez Bryant, Oklahoma State

Offensive Lineman of the Year:
Jon Cooper, Oklahoma

Defensive Freshman of the Year:
LB Travis Lewis, Oklahoma

Defensive Lineman of the Year:
Brian Orakpo, Texas



Alex Song/ Lariat Staff

Baylor forward Kevin Rogers, 23, dunks against Southern University in the second half of the game in Ferrell Center on Nov. 22, 2008. Rogers had 10 points and 14 points against Wake Forest.

Baylor football fans:

Was Art Briles the right choice for the Bears' football team? Is Robert Griffin the real deal? Will the Bears go bowling in 2008? Will Kendall Wright have a sophomore slump next year?

The Baylor Lariat sports desk wants to know what you think.

Send a short comment, question or observation about the 2008 Baylor football season to lariat_letters@baylor.edu, and check back Friday when we publish your comment and a response from the sports desk.

Drew's crew part of Big 12/Pac-10 Challenge series

By Joe Holloway
Sports writer

Baylor's 2-1 performance in the 76 Classic in Anaheim, Calif., proved impressive enough to jettison the men's basketball team into the nation's top-25 rankings for the first time this year.

After knocking off No. 14 Arizona State University in the second round of the tournament, Baylor fell to then-No. 24 Wake Forest in the title game. The loss, however, was not enough to keep the Bears out of the AP poll as they entered the No. 24 spot vacated by the Demon Deacons, who moved up to No. 15.

Head coach Scott Drew called the ranking a great compliment for the whole Baylor community.

"Anytime you can get recognized as a top-25 team is a tremendous accomplishment," Drew said. "We have higher goals than that. We want to keep moving up the polls."

Sophomore guard LaceDarius Dunn said that being ranked is nice but that he's not satisfied with being No. 24.

"I don't have a great feeling about being No. 24," he said in a pre-practice interview Tuesday. "If we continue to stay focused I think we'll get that higher."

Freshman forward Quincy Acy expressed his dissatisfaction as well, and indicated that the team is looking forward.

"We're still not on the ESPN ticker," he said. "If we play hard against Washington State we should be."

That game against the Cougars is Saturday night in Washington. With back-to-back road trips to the west coast, fatigue is always a concern, but senior center Mamadou Diene didn't appear too worried.

"I don't think there will be any sign of fatigue," he said. "That's what preparation is about."

Dunn said that the Bears will be playing with a chip on

their shoulder against Washington State, who beat Baylor last year in the Ferrell Center 67-64 and also indicated that fatigue wouldn't be a factor.

"I think it'll be good. I think we're ready," he said. "My body recovered right after that loss (to Wake Forest). You've got to be focused and well prepared and I think I'm ready."

The Cougars aren't ranked but received votes in both the AP and ESPN/USA Today polls. Drew called them a top-30 team.

Upcoming Big 12/Pac-10 Challenge games

Thursday
USC at Oklahoma
UCLA at Texas
Oklahoma State at Washington

Friday
Arizona at Texas A&M

Saturday
Oregon State at Iowa State
Baylor at Washington State

"Washington State's a well-coached team. They're off to a great start," he said. "We're very excited about the Big 12/Pac-10 Challenge. It's a great opportunity for both conferences. We want to have the score a little different from last year."

The Bears will look to fix problems that were made apparent in their loss to Wake Forest before traveling to Washington.

"I think we just came out and played bad," Dunn said. "We had a lot of turnovers, shot the ball very poorly. It's very hard. It's a nasty taste."

Drew seemed to look at the loss as a learning experience.

"Now we know what we need to work on," he said. "It's great preparation. That's why you play that non-conference schedule, to prepare you for conference. Every team's going to face adversity throughout the year. You know you have your work cut out for you."

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Student recalls working for tsunami relief in Thailand

By Lian Qiu
Contributor

It was already getting dark when Walai Jantawiboon and other church volunteers arrived. She had no idea what this small village would look like, or where it was located. The sound of rolling waves suggested that it was close to the sea. During the whole day's travel, they had seen pain and agony of people, the effort to rebuild lives shattered by the tsunami and the determination to move on. Now the volunteers were tired, both physically and mentally. Arrangements were made for them to rest in a temporary shelter. Jantawiboon drank some water and then lay down on a mat made of thin bamboo strips.

She couldn't sleep. It was quiet inside the shelter. In the distance, dogs barked loudly from time to time. She had a feeling that her friends were awake, too. Fatigue didn't help them forget about their fear, nor help them temporarily ignore things weighing on their mind.

One of the volunteers, a twenty-something-year old woman, broke the silence. "Do you smell something?" The smell was so strong that no one could deny its existence. And they knew what the smell meant.

April 2005, four months after the tsunami, in Khao Lak, one of the hardest-hit areas in Thailand, Jantawiboon said the stench from the decomposed corpses was inescapable. It permeated the air and the drinking water. There were bodies waiting to be uncovered, many lost in the muddy ponds and sinkholes scattered throughout the village.

"I will never forget the smell," Jantawiboon said. She was sitting across from me, telling me how the experience of serving as a tsunami recovery project coordinator became the turning point of her life.

"I realized the importance of helping people at grass roots," she said.

I met Jantawiboon at a picnic in Waco's Cameron Park. As she explained, she is a graduate student in Baylor's School of Social Work from Bangkok, Thailand. We had a short conversation about an on-line personality test she recently took.

"The test shows I am a very idealistic person," she said with a gentle smile. "I'm thinking about making changes to this world."

That trip to the village of Khao Lak in 2005 was the first time Jantawiboon had visited the tsunami-affected area. Her full-time job at the time was operations assistant for the United Nations Office for Project Services in Bangkok. She didn't go to the village as a United Nations worker, but as a volunteer on behalf of her church, Immanuel Baptist Church of Bangkok. She was on her vaca-

tion at that time.

Khao Lak was once an ideal place to spend a vacation. The scene used to be one right off a postcard, with the sky a deep blue, trees swaying gently in the breeze and the deep turquoise sea stretching out to the horizon. The tsunami destroyed this seaside resort in the blink of an eye. The final official death toll is over 4,000.

"Considering the fact that a large number of the victims were illegal aliens who came to Khao Lak to work in the tourist industry, and they are not recognized as residents, the real death toll probably tops 10,000," Jantawiboon said.

Despite the destruction, Jantawiboon chose Khao Lak as her "vacation destination." She recruited 10 people from the church to accompany her. They wanted to observe first-hand the process of reconstruction and see what they could do to help.

During this trip, someone from the We Love Thailand Foundation approached Jantawiboon, and asked her if she would consider taking a position as a project coordinator. Without much hesitation, she quit the UN job, which was more secure. She said she took this leap of faith because she needed more of a human connection to the work.

"I should do more things in the field, not in the office with administrative works."

She became a full-time coordinator in Khao Lak in Jan. 2006.

In the first six months after the disaster, the international news media gave the affected areas intensive coverage. Television, radio and newspapers mobilized assistance, money and sympathy from around the world. Publicity ensured the use of the relief fund under careful supervision. But as time elapsed, the media shifted focus. A villager told the Bangkok Post, the English daily newspaper published in Bangkok, that the press generally either abandoned peo-

"When you talk to people, you are not talking, you are listening."

Walai Jantawiboon
School of Social Work

ple or filed misleading stories.

"They are always eager to let the bigwigs show their faces and advertise how they have helped us. But we have not seen any money yet, and that's a fact," the villager said to a Bangkok Post reporter.

Jantawiboon said she knew the relief funds weren't spent wisely. The UN tried to install money-management software in computers of a local government office.

"They failed because of the

language barrier. The software hadn't been fully translated into Thai," Jantawiboon said. "Thailand had no experience of a natural disaster in recent history, so the emergency response system hadn't been well-established. Money had to go through so many levels, and when it reached grass roots, it shrank."

What disappointed Jantawiboon, she said, was seeing money go to waste.

The second interview was at her apartment, where she invited me to have dinner. The aroma of

people who will spend time with victims during the recovery period," she said. "Knowing what victims really need, they can ask the agencies for the exact supplies."

Jantawiboon has many ideas. She is in the School of Social Work to learn how to turn ideas into reality. She said she also feels she needs more education.

"I want to know more about mental health, how we should deal with the people who are grieving from losing their mothers, brothers, cousins and other

vide the most beneficial effects. So psychiatrist may give medication, and social workers do the counseling part, and then form a partnership to help people.

Had Jantawiboon mastered the counseling skills earlier, she said her approach would have been different.

"I wouldn't have talked so much," Jantawiboon said. "One thing I learned from Baylor is that when you talk to people, you are not talking, you are listening."

Jantawiboon remembered

after graduation next May. Life goes on in southern Thailand, but psychological condition is seldom the concern of local officials. Limited budget for mental health and shortage of trained personnel left 20 percent of the affected population with traumatic stress symptoms and depression. Jantawiboon said she has been haunted by her sad memory of failing to help people out of the shadow. Now, after studying in Baylor, she said she can go back and do something.

"I will create a community-health volunteer workshop, and train people to carry out a Quality of Life Survey," Jantawiboon said. "From the survey, I am capable of assessing people's life quality and then addressing their needs."

Jantawiboon designed her presentation carefully. She showed trainees the way Thai people greet each other, with the palms pressed together in a prayer-like fashion, and she also explained Thai peoples' daily lives.

"I like the approach of how she incorporates her own culture into the presentation," said Sally Neeley, Jantawiboon's classmate. Neeley was born and raised in Mineola, Texas. The ethnical mix in her town includes mainly Hispanics and blacks, she said. "The cultural symbols are very basic to her, but totally new to me."

Helen Harris, senior lecturer of School of Social Work, who taught Jantawiboon's class, videotaped the whole process when she demonstrated the survey skills.

"She will self-evaluate how well she communicated the information, the pace, the content, and then write a critique by seeing the videotape," Harris said, and her comment on Jantawiboon's performance was "She demonstrated them very well."

"To my knowledge, what I have decided to do in future, the community counseling, is still a new term to Thai people," Jantawiboon said. "Community developers or planners are more common than community counselors and are probably at least required to have a Bachelor degree."

According to the data released by World Health Organization, the percent of social workers per 100,000 people in Thailand is 0.6.

"You will never be fired as a social worker in Thailand," Jantawiboon said, only half joking, to her classmates. "If you can't find a job in U.S., please come to my country. People need help there."



Courtesy Photo

Walai Jantawiboon (left) chats with a Thai woman in the village of Khao Lak, Thailand. Starting in 2005, Jantawiboon took a position as tsunami recovery project coordinator in the village. The village lacked basic necessities such as food and water, and financial aid was bottlenecked because of poor money management in the country.

mushroom enhanced the warm atmosphere.

"Thai people love rice and they have hundreds of ways to make this staple delicious," Jantawiboon said.

She created a baked rice recipe of jasmine rice flavored with beef, onion, green pepper and mushroom.

Rice, or Khao, is the main component of Thai meals. "Gin khao reu yung?" is a greeting rather than an inquiry in Thailand. To translate literally, it means: "Have you eaten rice yet?" Thai people feed babies rice soup after months of breastfeeding. When babies grow older, they are fed sticky rice to strengthen their teeth.

Rice has quite a lot to do with the problem Jantawiboon faced in the village. In Khao Lak, Jantawiboon heard from a pastor that some international agencies had distributed canned food for victims' babies. This waste of money can be attributed to lack of knowledge about Thai customs.

"Local babies can't eat canned food, she said. "I have no idea where the canned food has gone."

From then on, Jantawiboon had a plan in her mind.

"I want to train a group of

relatives," she said.

As a project coordinator in Khao Lak, Jantawiboon invested a lot of time and effort in talking with local people. But they still faced trauma.

"I didn't realize it until I saw a middle-aged man — whose life I supposed already back to normal — started to drink again," Jantawiboon said.

What Jantawiboon lacked included advanced counseling skills.

"Counseling is about powerful words," said Dr. Dennis Myers, director of the Master of Social Work program. "Social workers learn the skills to help people change their thinking about the problem, their doing about the problem and how they feel about the problem."

He said psychiatrists deal with serious mental-health challenges, and they have a lot more tools at hand, including counseling and medication. Studies showed that medication in combination with counseling pro-

that a local couple invited her many times for a dinner of the hot and sour Tom Yam Kung made with mixed seafood. Since the tsunami took everything, including their children's lives, food was all they could offer to Jantawiboon to show the gratitude. She spoke a few words of comfort to them, such as, "You would be fine" and "Look at the positive side."

"It turned out that what I said wasn't enough. The couple never got back to their normal life. When people are desperate, you have to see why they feel desperate and help them get rid of the despair," Jantawiboon said.

Nov. 17, 2008, was an important day for Jantawiboon. In her Physical and Mental Health Advanced Practice class, she gave a one-hour presentation about how to practice counseling in different cultures and contexts, more specifically, in a Thai community.

The presentation was a rehearsal for what she will do

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