

ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2009

Baylor alum accused of money fraud

By Stephen Bernard
 The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The federal government says R. Allen Stanford's investment businesses were too good to be true, and shut his companies down on Tuesday.

Stanford graduated with a Bachelor's degree of Arts and Sciences from Baylor in 1974.

Two months after Bernard Madoff was accused of running the largest investment fraud in history, Securities and Exchange Commission officials raided the offices of Stanford, a Texas billionaire, and froze the assets of three companies he controls, saying he perpetrated an \$8 billion investment fraud.

Stanford was accused in civil charges of lying about the safety of investments he sold as "certificates of deposit" and promised unrealistically high rates of return.

Regulators also said he faked historical data about other investments which he then used to lure in more investors for the CD products.

The fraud's operations allegedly reached as far as the tiny Caribbean island of Antigua,

where Stanford was knighted in 2006 and helped sponsor high-stakes cricket matches. As news of the charges broke Tuesday afternoon, panicked residents of Antigua swarmed a second bank controlled by Stanford hoping to take their money out, only to be turned away by guards. That bank was not part of the complaint released Tuesday.

Dozens of angry customers turned up at the main branch of the Bank of Antigua trying to get their money.

"Open the door and give us our money," Liston Lewis, a 45-year-old construction worker said to one of the guards. "Even if it takes until 12 o'clock give us our money."

Stanford's whereabouts were not immediately known. Brian Bertsch, a spokesman for Stanford, referred all questions to the SEC. Stephen Webster, an SEC attorney, said the agency is actively trying to find Stanford and didn't know whether he had been served with court papers.

Stanford owns a home in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands and operates his businesses from

Please see FRAUD, page 6



Associated Press

Investigators from the U.S. Marshals office walk out of the offices of Stanford Financial Group and head to their other office building in the Galleria Tuesday, in Houston.

New law hinders pool opening at student center

By Trent Goldston
 Reporter

The re-opening of the Baylor aquatic facilities at the Student Life Center was scheduled for Tuesday, but today the pools still remain empty.

The entire aquatics facility was closed and drained for maintenance on Dec. 19, and the timing of its completion is still unclear. It's prolonged closure has caused students to take notice.

"It threw off my routine. I used to go swimming there every day, but this semester I haven't been able to go at all," San Antonio junior Andy Billnitzer said.

The story behind the pool closure goes back much further than Dec. 19. In 2002, Virginia Graeme Baker, the granddaughter of James Baker III, former U.S. Secretary of State, died

after becoming trapped in the drain of a pool spa. Under the influence of Baker, lawmakers were prompted into action and the law known as the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Safety Act was brought into existence.

"The new law says that all public pools in the nation must have the new safety drains installed before they can open," said Van Davis, assistant director for Fitness & Nutrition Education.

It wasn't until Dec. 2007 that the act came to life when President Bush signed the paperwork. At the time of its signing, the Consumer Product Safety Commission mandated that all public pools comply with the law by using only ASME/ANSI drains by Dec. 19, giving all of the facilities about a year to get ready. Even then, many pool facilities were not prepared.

"Most of the 300,000 public

Olympian Dawes visits campus



Clint Cox/Lariat Staff

Former Olympic gymnast Dominique Dawes spoke Tuesday night in the Cashion Academic Building as part of a banquet honoring Black History Month. Dawes' motivational speech focused on the acronym "ENVISION" with each letter representing a talking point in her speech.

By Megan Duron
 Reporter

Former Olympic gymnast Dominique Dawes explained the meaning of the acronym "ENVISION" Tuesday night at the 22nd Annual Black Heritage Banquet, in a speech titled "Success is a Journey."

The event took place on the fifth floor of the Cashion Academic Building on the Baylor University campus.

Held in honor of Black History Month, the banquet was sponsored by the Baylor University Association of Black Students in conjunction with the Department of Multicul-

tural Activities.

Dawes made history when she became the first African-American female gymnast to earn an individual medal. She competed in three separate Olympic Games in 1992, 1996 and 2000 and has won three medals: one gold and two bronze.

Since retiring from gymnastics after 18 years, Dawes said she has devoted her life to inspiring others, and has chosen to do this through motivational speaking.

She stood at a meager 5 feet 2 inches as she addressed

Please see DAWES, page 6

No students have reported stalking concerns, police say

By Brittany Hardy
 Staff writer

Despite a report by Channel 25 news about an alleged stalker near Baylor campus on Saturday, Baylor Chief of Police Jim Doak said the campus police department has received no reports from students.

The alleged stalker was reported to be near campus, on South 9th, 10th and 11th streets.

Doak said a report was made by a non-student last week, but no Baylor students have reported any claims of abduction or assault of any kind.

Kelvin Williams, president

of the Baylor Neighborhood Association, was quoted in the Channel 25 story and said the claims were based on a report given to him by a man from the neighborhood postal service.

Williams said the postal service man contacted him on Thursday, saying he witnessed an incident involving a woman

and a stalker and brought in pictures of a white Ford vehicle and a license plate number. The man asked Williams to spread the word concerning the possibility of a stalker in the area. The postal service man was unavailable for comment as of

Please see ALERT, page 6



Jacky Reyes/Lariat Staff

The pool at the McLane Student Life Center sits empty Monday afternoon as staff wait for a new drain cover in compliance with the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Safety Act. The Act requires all public pools to install safer drain covers to prevent accidental death.

pools and spas in the U.S. are required to close, including all public pools, community parks, YMCAs, apartments, condominiums and other homeowner associations, water parks, hotels, schools and universities," said Laurie Batter of the National Swimming Pool Foundation.

Due to the enormous number of public pools across the nation rushing to order their drain covers, many have been forced to close until they can obtain the covers. The McLane

Student Life Center was one of them.

"There are only about four manufacturers for these ANSI drains covers, and they are overloaded with orders," said Ben Robert, coordinator for Aquatics and Safety Education at Baylor. "We were supposed to have it all in by January, but now they are telling us that we will have it by the first week of March."

Please see POOL, page 6

Obama approves stimulus plan

By Liz Sidoti and Tom Raum
 The Associated Press

DENVER — Racing to reverse the country's economic spiral, President Barack Obama signed the mammoth stimulus package into law Tuesday and readied a new \$50 billion foreclosure rescue for legions of Americans who are in danger of losing their homes.

There was no recovery yet for beleaguered automakers, who were back in Washington for more bailout billions. General Motors Corp. said it was closing plants, Chrysler LLC said it was cutting vehicle models and both said they were getting rid of thousands more jobs as they made their restructuring cases for \$5 billion more for Chrysler and as much as \$16.6 billion more for GM. The United Auto Workers union said it had agreed to tentative concessions that could help Detroit's struggling Big Three.

Anything but reassured,

Wall Street dove ever lower. The Dow Jones industrials fell 297.81 points, closing less than a point above their lowest level in five and a half years.

Obama focused on the \$787 billion stimulus plan, an ambitious package of federal spending and tax cuts designed to revive the economy and save millions of jobs. Most wage-earners will soon see the first paycheck evidence of tax breaks that will total \$400 for individuals and \$800 for couples.

The stimulus package was a huge victory for Obama less than one month into his presidency. But he struck a sober tone and lowered expectations for an immediate turnaround in the severe recession that is well into its second year.

"None of this will be easy," he said. "The road to recovery will not be straight. We will make progress, and there may be some slippage along the way."

Please see PLAN, page 6

Editorial

Computers can't replace in-class learning

Americans rely on computers for everything. We use them to communicate and increasingly to learn new material. Computer-based education is growing in popularity, for both children and adults alike.

But imparting knowledge can't be done solely by machines; it should only supplement face-to-face interaction. Ask anyone who's taken an online course — learning without the regular guidance and feedback of an instructor is frustrating.

A student can gather much more from a lesson if it's communicated by a teacher knowledgeable in the subject matter. This is true in both higher education and early childhood education.

Face-to-face interaction has been dwindling for some time. ATMs and e-mails sent across rooms are efficient and quick. But learning is a process that can't be demeaned by rushing. What's worrisome about learning from machines is that computer-assisted learning may eventually lead to a greater reliance on computer-based education, like in the case of

online classes for adults.

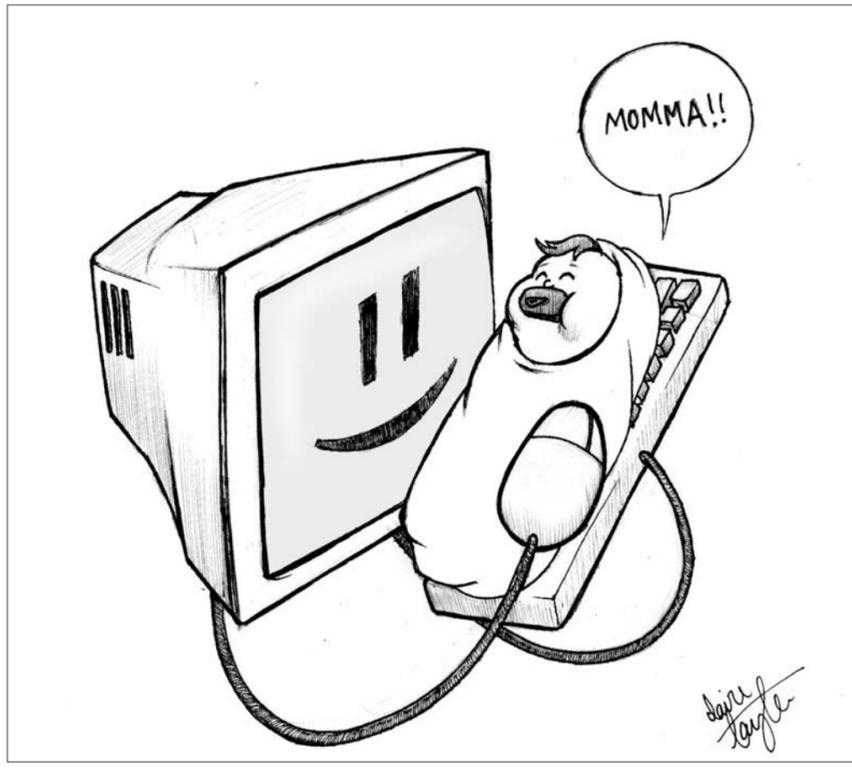
Baylor doesn't offer online classes because the community setting of a university and face-to-face learning would be sacrificed.

James Benninghof, vice provost for academic affairs and policy, said in a October 2006 Lariat article that he doesn't expect Baylor to offer online classes.

"I do think a factor in why these courses haven't developed is because of Baylor's historical valuing of having an in-class experience where you have inner change among the various students in the class in real time," Benninghof said.

It's good that Baylor values classroom learning and isn't willing to cut corners in this regard.

Even so, online classes are wildly popular. According to the paper "Staying the Course: Online Education in the United States," which was published November 2008 by two researchers at Babson College, 3.9 million students were enrolled in online classes during the fall 2007 semester. This means that 20 percent



of all college students took an online class that semester. Although young children aren't taking structured classes online, learning online geared toward children is on the rise.

Several reading Web sites kids can use by themselves have sprung up over the last few years. Sites like Starfall and One More Story feature children's books, poems and riddles that kids can read themselves.

There are also a slew of children's sites that provide fun educational games. Edu-

negative connotations. TV and the Internet shouldn't be a lone method of education for children or adults.

While online resources and TV are good supplements, personal interaction with children shouldn't be scrapped in exchange for time with machines. TV time and computer time should be considered play, even if children might be learning. We can rely on computers to perform some jobs, but educating children and adults shouldn't be one of them.

point of view

Texas weather a changing constant

Texas weather is the reason I check the forecast every morning before getting dressed. It is the reason I pay attention to the daily humidity percentage even when there is absolutely no chance of rain anytime this month. It is the reason females have an unnecessary number of hair products lining the shelves or cupboards in their bathrooms.

If at any given time you were to open the cabinet under my sink you would find leave-in conditioner, hair spray, curling gel, volumizing mousse and silkening gloss. It goes without saying that all of these things under my sink have a very important mission. Each has its own way of treating the weather's stress.

Any female with the same products knows that some are used to battle static electricity, some for rainy days, others for intense heat, wind or humidity and the rest for anything I didn't already mention. My point is that Texas weather is a potent adversary, one that cannot be trusted. And I have the necessary protection against it — anyone who doesn't should be shaking in their leopard-print wellies.

There was a time, however, when I did not have to worry about the weather changing everyday. I lived in a state with four distinct seasons, not one and a half. We got snow in January and February, not the night before spring break. The colors of the leaves changed in October, not December. I am pretty sure I only needed one or two hair products, not five or six.

I remember right before I moved to Texas hearing people say things like "Texas weather is God's sense of humor" or "If you don't like the weather in Texas one day, just wait until tomorrow." My own little mantra is "blame it on Texas weather."

I find it easy to blame lots of things on Texas weather; it's my perennial scapegoat. I don't want to get out of bed for class, darn Texas weather. I bombed that pop quiz, stupid Texas weather. I could even blame the "Freshman 15" on Texas weather just to make myself feel better. While these may be trivial items to blame on the weather, for some things the blame is deserved. My alarm failed me because the storm knocked out the power in the middle of the night. Totally the weather's fault. I was late for class because of the ice on my car — now that one is 100% blamable on the weather, unless of course class was cancelled to avoid such mishaps.

If you want to get all logical about it, Texas has the most variations acting upon it of any state and its resulting weather. North Texas is the bottom part of tornado alley, the Gulf Coast is subject to hurricane season every year, West Texas is dry as a bone nine days out of ten and sometimes I would rather go back to living in a state with four distinct seasons.

Like all things, however, I have learned to live with Texas weather. We have a love-hate relationship. It keeps me guessing. Some things will never change, but Texas weather is the one constant I can count on to change.

Ashleigh Schmitz is a sophomore journalism major from Colleyville.



BY ASHLEIGH SCHMITZ

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Letters to the editor

New group leaves more void, less God

Adam Moore, adviser for the College of Arts and Sciences at Baylor, has started this initiative he calls the "Void Collective."

The faith collective, according to Moore, is a place for those on the fringes of belief, a church that's not a church, a truly open and non-evangelical space, a space that's not dominated by any one person. The idea is a twist on Blaise Pascal's concept of the God-shaped hole within each man.

Moore claims that, as man reaches closer to God, he realizes the growing immensity of the void. Thus the proper solution is always to continue questioning and expanding one's understanding of the void. He emphasizes that this is a "space," not a "church." They, in fact, will hold their first meeting at a bar.

I can't help but wonder what lies at the heart of this. I am reminded of the man on the bus in C.S. Lewis's "The Great Divorce," who wants to ask all the questions but know no answers. He presumes that true scholasticism is in having all the questions, and expecting only a few of the answers.

To borrow G. K. Chesterton's turn of phrase, he wants to get the heavens in his head (or perhaps, even this "void"). However, this is far from natural, far from orthodox, and far from healthy.

Leo Strauss's article "The Three Waves of Modernity" recaps three movements of modern thought stemming from Machiavelli, Rousseau and Nietzsche. The consequence of Nietzsche's wave of modernity (arguably, the last influential wave of modernity) still reverberates in the world — a modern world that has killed God, lost meaning and must struggle with a void created by the collapse of the facade of modernism. That void is nihilism.

For Nietzsche, the only way to deal with nihilism was to court it and overcome it by the violent power of the Übermensch. It seems like, far from finding a true and abiding faith, that Moore is seeking this fatal courtship with nihilism

in the name of God.

The Void initiative sought to remove all foundations (a church, a creed, a doctrine, a statement of faith) and hang the Void from a single sky hook: question. Skepticism is the presumed cure. It will be the match that shows us how large the void is, and that void is the God who swallowed us. This is the presumptuous modern mistake. Man has no tradition, he has built his own system of belief (or, unbelief). He seeks to ask questions and find no answers. And he conceives that mysterious and forbidding abyss in which he is sinking is God Himself. That is as sure a sign of perdition as any — calling the cave God.

To borrow more than a few pages from Chesterton, Christian faith is not radical because it seeks to "be more inclusive, open, and non-evangelical." I can assure you that many things in this world are "inclusive, open and non-evangelical" — frivolous sorority mixers, knitting circles, driving ranges and checkers games. No, the truly radical nature of Christianity is the audacity to claim itself as truth.

Moore's hedging away from calling anything truth is the great modern cowardice — if we simply avoid truth, everyone will like us. Jesus did not call Himself a possibility; He is "the Way, the Truth, the Light — no one comes to the Father except through me." He is the Word made Flesh. He is of one being with the Father. He is Reason (logos).

What is the great miracle of Christ's salvation but that (rather than God consuming us in an ever-expanding void) Jesus' body was given over to us? We, in fact, are not the benighted and small creatures slithering about blindly in the void that is God. In fact, God humbled Himself, made Himself small, and dwelt within us through the sacrifice of His Son and sending of His Holy Spirit.

So what will "seekers" find at the Void? Naturally — more of the Void. And less of God.

Jacob Garcia
 BME Music Education, '11

Support of women's sport lacking at BU

Support and respect for our athletic programs and the student athletes should come not only from the student body but also from the university and its leaders as a whole. As a tradition that has been a part of Baylor for decades, the top of the Pat Neff building is lit green after a Baylor victory in order to celebrate and show campus wide support for our athletes and their coaches. Unfortunately, this act of support and respect is not always shown for some of our athletic teams.

The nationally ranked No. 7 Lady Bears beat Oklahoma State on Wednesday at around 9:00 p.m. and Pat Neff proudly burned green. An hour later the men lost a hard fought game to the University of Oklahoma. The light was immediately extinguished for the remainder of the night. Does campus support for our athletes not include the women's team? Why is Baylor highlighting a loss when we could continue to celebrate a significant win?

Throughout the last several years, Baylor's athletic program has often been unfairly looked down on and considered to be at the bottom of the Big 12 Conference. On nights such as last Wednesday, Baylor is given the opportunity to proudly show the Waco community the success of one of its athletic teams, but they are choosing instead to ignore it and broadcast a loss. Some believe that this is because the university does not want to announce a victory when there was a loss that night, but I believe that if the situation had been the other way around, there would not have been a second thought of whether or not to "light the campus green."

Baylor should take advantage of a team's success and proudly support them when they win a game. The Lady Bears give Baylor national recognition every time they win a basketball game, and university officials should recognize them in return.

Emily Anne Moore
 Journalism, '12

SUDOKU

THE SACRED OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

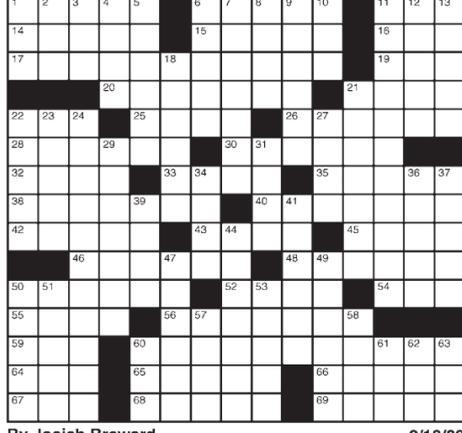
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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3X3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats.

THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS**
- 1 Arthur Marx's stage name
- 6 Jazz pianist Jankowski
- 11 Holy cow!
- 14 French water-bottler
- 15 City southeast of Rome
- 16 Here, in Le Havre
- 17 Show
- 19 Born in Boulogne
- 20 Bishop's district
- 21 & others
- 22 Angel dust: abbr.
- 25 Willie Wonka's creator
- 26 Climb
- 28 Gadabout
- 30 Hope/Crosby co-star
- 32 Athletic org.
- 33 Tab's target
- 35 Took care of
- 38 Acorn producer
- 40 Game bird
- 42 Bind again
- 43 Lt. subordinates
- 45 Gallery display
- 46 More vacuous
- 48 ___ Beach, S.C.
- 50 Cartwright or Down
- 52 Succulent herb
- 54 CPA's approx.
- 55 Architect Mies van der ___
- 56 Jellyfish
- 59 U.S. dance grp.
- 60 Slow
- 64 ___ Paese cheese
- 65 Pipe material
- 66 Roofing material
- 67 Not forthright
- 68 Cordage fibers
- 69 Streisand movie
- DOWN**
- 1 Playboy's founder, fondly
- 2 Fauna starter?
- 3 ___ Tin Tin
- 4 Picked up the tab
- 5 Football kick
- 6 Rabbit residence
- 7 The Moor of Venice
- 8 Journalist Jacob August
- 9 Piercing cry
- 10 Abe Lincoln's boy
- 11 Snow
- 12 Watery expanse
- 13 Handle capably
- 18 Husky-voiced
- 21 Quito's country
- 22 "The Silver Streak" co-star
- 23 Comet heads
- 24 Stow
- 27 Only fair
- 29 Afternoon show
- 31 Element fig.
- 34 ___-majesty
- 36 Spills the beans
- 37 Start
- 39 Factual
- 41 Pass through a mem brane
- 44 Occurring in small stages
- 47 Dubbers
- 49 Like bad bread
- 50 Saudis, e.g.
- 51 Inventor of dynamite
- 53 Ill-gotten profit
- 57 Revise a manuscript
- 58 "Pursuit of the Graf ___"
- 60 Slugger's stat
- 61 Sea eagle
- 62 Tolkien's tree
- 63 Dolores ___ Rio



By Josiah Breward
 Scranton, PA 2/18/09

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

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Law students move to nationals

By Jenna Williamson
Reporter

Baylor's law school has earned some new bragging rights.

At the mock trial regional competition, the two teams representing Baylor won first and second place, defeating law schools all over Texas and Louisiana.

"It makes me feel good about the school itself," said Joel Bailey, one of four law students who went to the regional competition in New Orleans. "It gives me pride."

Bailey was on a team with Eric Policastro, while Kendall Cockrell and Tim Goines made up the other team. These four students will be packing their bags soon, because the top two teams in the regional competition advance to the National Trial Competition finals in San Antonio.

"It's a big accomplishment for all of us," Bailey said.

The law students are especially excited about the victory

because of the competitiveness they faced at the regional level. "It's hard getting out of our region," Policastro said. He noted that in Texas and Louisiana, "there are a ton of great law schools." The last time Baylor had two teams move on to national finals was in 2002.

The mock trial teams are coached by adjunct professor Robert Little and Gerald Powell, the Abner V. McCall Professor of Evidence Law. Crystal Y'Barbo, a Baylor law student, was evidence coach for the teams.

"We had some awesome coaching," Policastro said. "(Our coaches) spent a ton of time with us."

To Powell, the dedication of the students he coached is the reason Baylor placed so highly at the regional level. "It is a tremendous testament first to the students' ability. They did an outstanding job," he said.

For the regional competition, the teams were given a fabricated case in which a professional bowler was being tried

for dog fighting. The teams had to prepare both prosecution and defense, and their roles were switched throughout the tournament.

Through participating in the mock trial tournament, Bailey recognizes how much work goes into preparing a trial. "We worked on this for weeks, even months, and we were still on a time crunch," he said. After the competition is over, he recognizes that the experience "will be worth it in the long run," Bailey said.

For Policastro, participating in the mock trial competitions has reaffirmed his ambitions in law.

"Being a trial lawyer is something I've always wanted to do," he said. "It's why I came to Baylor."

Baylor's teams are busy preparing new cases for the National Trial Competition finals, which will be held March 25 to 28. The National Trial Competition is sponsored by the American College of Trial Lawyers.



Shanna Taylor/Lariat Staff

Moseying in Mayborn

A Western Ornate Box Turtle surveys his domain in the Vertebrates exhibit Tuesday at the Mayborn Museum Complex.

Academy for Teaching and Learning seminars help 2012 vision

By Shauna Harris
Reporter

Baylor University has taken a new step toward attaining its Baylor 2012 goal of becoming a top-tier research institution. The Academy for Teaching and Learning assumed administrative responsibility of Seminars for Excellence in Teaching in an effort to further strengthen Baylor's teachers and teaching assistants.

The collaboration is part of the attempt to create a community in which teaching, learning and conversation thrive among Baylor students and educators, said Doug Rogers, associate dean for student and information services and co-chair of the Academy for Teaching and Learning proposal committee.

The seminars began as a program exclusively intended for graduate students. It then expanded to include faculty and staff and has now begun working with the recently established Academy for Teaching and Learning to focus and double its

efforts of fostering and fortifying teaching and learning, said Gardner Campbell, director of the Academy for Teaching and Learning.

"It is an opportunity to try and create some synergy among all of the efforts on campus to support outstanding teaching," Rogers said. "It is a way of demonstrating that Baylor continues to be committed to high-quality teaching as we work to become a world-class research institution."

The 2012 vision of "moving Baylor into the upper echelons of higher education" mirrors the objectives of the academy and seminars. These programs concentrate on enhancing the professional development of Baylor faculty and students, Campbell said.

He said it also encourages the scholarship of teaching and learning by using on-campus resources and promoting innovative communication with other learning centers domestically and internationally.

The Seminars for Excellence

in Teaching is a program that was founded in 2005 and was formerly known as the Teaching Assistant Preparation Program. According to Laine Scales, associate dean of the Baylor Univer-

"It's all about conversation and helping each other learn and grow."

Gardner Campbell
director of the Academy
for Teaching and Learning

sity Graduate School, graduate teaching assistants were required to attend five hours of core seminars discussing how to create and sustain an effective learning environment and how to become an exceptional teacher. The teaching assistants were then expected to attend a one-hour professional development seminar each semester they taught.

"It was created by the graduate school to fulfill a need for professional preparation for our

graduate students serving as teachers of record," she said.

In 2006, however, after encouragement and interest from teachers and faculty across campus, the Teaching Assistant Preparation Program became Seminars for Excellence in Teaching and was opened to all Baylor educators, part-time, full-time and provisional, Rogers said.

"It was so successful and popular that other folks wanted to participate, so the concept spread to other individuals that were teaching," Rogers said.

At that time, Scales said she appealed to the School of Education concerning a strategic proposal to found the Academy for Teaching and Learning with which Rogers joined and became co-chair of the academy proposal committee.

In fall 2007, the Strategic Planning Council approved the academy.

Campbell said he believes that through the partnership of these programs, not only can students learn from faculty and

staff but faculty and staff will be able to learn from the students as well.

"It's all about conversation and helping each other learn and grow," Campbell said. "We're focused on shared inquiry and transformative conversation because we grow best in conversation with each other."

Campbell said he is delighted to be a part of the team and is eager to see the effects of the collaboration between the Academy for Teaching and Learning and Seminars for Excellence in Teaching.

"It is a model of Baylor enthusiasm and the magic of the communication and conversation that is here," Campbell said. "I hope it will lift us all up and be a source of hope and inspiration for all of Baylor."

Though no one knows the exact outcome this partnership will produce, Campbell said he is optimistic.

"It's hard to say exactly what its impact will be but Baylor definitely has exciting times ahead," he said.

BEAR BRIEFS

The Baylor University Concert Jazz Ensemble will perform at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in Jones Concert Hall in the Glennis McCrary Music Building. The concert is free and open to the public. For more information, call the School of Music at (254) 710-3991.

Baylor Photography League will meet at 7 p.m. Friday in 160 Hooper-Schaefer Fine Arts Center. Students of all majors are invited to participate. For more information, e-mail Tanya_Velazquez@baylor.edu.

Bears For Life will be holding Texas Students For Life's 2nd Annual Conference from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday on the Fifth Floor of Cashion Academic Center. The registration fee is \$10 for Baylor students and free for Baylor faculty. Breakfast and lunch are included. For more information e-mail Rachana_Chhin@baylor.edu.

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

Healthy?

Generations of men and women have helped test investigational medications by participating in clinical research studies. You could help too.

To qualify for research study 7312-134 involving an investigational medication you must be:

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Students commit hours to 'Sing' great

By Megan Duron
Reporter

Going on its 56th year at Baylor, All-University-Sing has become a highly-anticipated tradition each spring. Everyone loves to see the final production, but few understand the sweat, tears and pain that create it.

From the birth of an act to the final stretch before Club Night, Sing requires a huge commitment from everyone involved.

As a Sing chair for Pi Kappa Phi, Kilgore sophomore Jed Dean puts forth more time and effort than a part-time job.

"Sing probably takes the largest time commitment in the spring semester before the show," he said. "Between going to practice every night and doing all of the behind the scenes work, I typically spend at least 20 to 30 hours a week on Sing."

Wilmington, Del., senior Tabitha Rosebaum is the administrative chair for Sing Alliance, which includes administrative duties such as taking attendance and roster maintenance.

"This is my fourth year in Sing - equaling 4 Sing acts, 2 Pigskins and 2 years as a chair," Rosebaum said. "I spend most of my 'free' time either in practice or doing something for Sing."

Chairs are involved in every aspect of Sing, from the birth of a theme to the final performance.

The process of Sing begins long before the groups hit the stage; first, a theme for the act must be chosen.

Any song on television or the radio can be developed into a Sing act, Dean said. As long as a song hasn't been used by another Sing act in the past, it can be submitted for consideration, he said.

"When it comes time to start working on next year's theme (a few weeks after this year's Sing is over), the chairs bring their ideas together and pick and mold an act into a theme that everyone likes," Dean said.

Once an act is chosen by the Sing chairs, it must be submitted for approval to the Coordinator of Student Productions, Keith Frazee.



Ryan Brinson/Round Up Staff

Members of Delta Delta Delta learn the choreography for their 2009 Sing act. Last year the sorority had a Christmas theme.

After a theme has been approved, a choreographer begins to choreograph the show. The Sing chairs direct the choreographer, giving them instructions on what they are looking for in their act, Dean said.

Beginning the fall semester, the backdrop for the spring performance is created. A backdrop artist can be hired, which can cost as much as \$900 for a sketch, or the backdrop can be sketched in-house for free.

Pi Kappa Phi decided to outsource for the sketch, Dean said, but painted the backdrop on their own, which cost \$100. Also during the fall semester, the costumes are designed by the Sing chairs and some groups begin creating them, Dean said.

"During Christmas break I went to Dallas to learn all of our choreography, then to Austin (to a fraternity brother's house) to build the set, and then finally back to Waco a week early to begin painting the backdrop," Dean said.

Although Sing chairs have a huge time commitment to Sing, members participating still have a grueling responsibility as well. Practices are allowed to be held for a maximum of 14 hours each week, eight hours Monday

through Friday and six hours Saturday and Sunday. On average, each group will practice around 10 hours a week.

Plano senior Daniel Jeter is a member of the Pi Kappa Phi Sing group. Juggling a heavy academic schedule and Sing has proved difficult, he said, but it's something he wouldn't dream of giving up.

"Sing is definitely a huge time commitment," Jeter said. "Even though we're only supposed to practice around eight hours during the school week at most, it definitely seems like more. During Sing you really only have time for school and Sing and nothing else, but it is definitely worth it in the end."

On top of managing school and Sing, members must maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.5, as well as be considered "a member in good standing" within their organization. While most groups involved are a part of the Panhellenic system, Sing is open to any student organization, Frazee said.

Rosebaum said she offers advice to Sing Alliance members struggling to juggle school with Sing.

"I'd tell members of Sing to always have some kind of

homework with them," she said. "You'd be amazed at how much you can get done in the odd moments between other things in life. Sing is a lot more fun when you can enjoy practice instead of always being stressed out by other work."

Performances of Sing will be held at 6:30 p.m. February 19 to 21 and 26 to 28 at Waco Hall.

Tickets are still available online or at the Student Union Building, ranging from \$16 to \$20.

"It is the success of your organization that pushes you to spend time and effort in putting together a great act, because Sing performances can often give Baylor, as a whole, an idea as to the commitment, drive and success of your organization," Dean said. "Sing is the largest, non-professional, musical production in the world, and it forces you to be very devoted while adhering to your other obligations."



Director Ross Katz and star Kevin Bacon talk on the set of "Taking Chance," a new film on HBO.

Respect for war dead shown in HBO film

By Hal Boedeker
The Orlando Sentinel (MCT)

Concise and deeply moving, "Taking Chance" tells a true story that has been repeated often but rarely depicted.

The HBO movie, which premieres at 8 p.m. EST Saturday, explains how the military treats war dead with great care and respect. The film also dramatizes how the public often responds to military sacrifices: Airline workers and passengers pause to pay tribute. Drivers put on their lights. Children watch with awe.

"Taking Chance" presents these scenes with simplicity and understatement. Running only 78 minutes, the film doesn't linger over emotional moments. There's no need to embellish when a tearful reservations worker thanks a Marine for his service or a flight attendant gives a small cross to show her regard.

That restraint deepens this tribute to Lance Cpl. Chance Phelps, a 19-year-old Marine who was killed in Iraq in 2004. The movie is based on Lt. Col.

Michael Strobl's journal of how he escorted Phelps' body home to Wyoming.

Strobl and director Ross Katz wrote the screenplay. They make a couple of missteps. They invent a scene of Strobl watching Phelps' remains overnight in an airport cargo area. They also let Strobl open up about his guilt about not fighting in Iraq - taking the focus off Phelps - but an old veteran (Tom Aldredge) bluntly answers Strobl.

Otherwise, as Strobl, lean Kevin Bacon looks every inch a Marine and responds with a disciplined, poignant performance. Most effective in the brief supporting roles are Tom Wopat and Ann Dowd as Phelps' parents, Gordon Clapp as an airline pilot and Julie W.

The movie mostly steers clear of politics, although a driver wonders aloud what we're doing in Iraq. Mainly, "Taking Chance" educates the public on the humbling, difficult process of escorting the bodies home.

It's not an easy lesson, but it's powerfully worthwhile. The movie ends with photos and home movies of Phelps.

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No. 18 Houston Cougars next on plate for 5-2 Lady Bears



Stephen Green/Lariat Staff

The Baylor Lady Bears gather during a game against the Stephen F. Austin State University Lady Jacks Sunday. Baylor will face No. 18 University of Houston at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. at Cougar Field today.

By Nick Dean
Sports writer

After a vigorous tournament weekend, the Lady Bears are headed to face the Cougars Wednesday in a doubleheader in Houston.

No. 18 University of Houston (4-3) competed in the Marriott Houston Classic this past weekend. The Cougars' first game of the tournament against the Cowgirls of Oklahoma State

University was cancelled due to rain.

In their second game of the tournament, the University of Houston played Texas State University and took a loss, 2-0. Their inability to score gave the Cougars their first shutout of the season. The Cougars hadn't been shut out since the final game of the Super Regional on May 24, 2008.

Baylor (6-2) kept the Gettman Classic trophy in Waco this year with a perfect 5-0 record in the tournament.

In the tournament, the Bears scored 32 runs.

"We had a goal set at 30 runs," freshman left-handed pitcher Whitney Canion said. "Every game we fought hard."

The 2008 season brought the Cougars and the Lady Bears together in a doubleheader in Houston. The Lady Bears lost both games 8-3 and 7-3.

With the past behind them, the Lady Bears are looking to regain strength and respect. Whitney Canion may be just what the Lady Bears need to topple the Cougars. The talent she demonstrated this weekend proved her leadership. "She had

to deal with a difficult zone," head coach Glenn Moore said. "She took control and she didn't falter in that situation at all."

Canion was announced Big 12 Pitcher of the Week Tuesday. This announcement marked the first time in history a Lady Bear has held this honor for two consecutive weeks.

"She is a phenomenal pitcher, athlete and friend," senior first baseman Alex Colyer said. "Our pitching staff learns a lot from her."

Canion has pitched 37.2 of the 52 total innings played by the Lady Bears this season. She is personally responsible for 55 of the 60 total strikeouts by Baylor.

Other than the new players on the field, the Lady Bears have focused on many areas of improvement. Hitting seems to be the top priority.

"We need to hit more home runs than we did last year," Colyer said. "We are trying to step it up, trying to do more"

The Lady Bears will face the Cougars at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Wednesday in hopes of continuing their five-game winning streak.

Baylor needs NCAA title for gymnastics

By Joe Holloway
Sports Writer

There are 16 girls on the senior U.S. women's gymnastics team. Of those 16, three, Chelsea Davis, Alaina Johnson and Nastia Liukin, are from Texas.

With the state being such a fertile ground for gymnastics, senior KayLynne Beck, captain of the Baylor club gymnastics team, said she wonders why universities in Texas haven't jumped at the chance to have an actual NCAA team.

"Nobody in Texas has an NCAA team, which is a problem," she said. "There's always a girl in the Olympics from Texas. There's always a girl from any other NCAA team from Texas."

Baylor, Beck said, would be the perfect setting for such a team.

"Think about it," she said. "If Baylor brought an NCAA team here then everybody from Texas would just stay and compete for Baylor."

The closest college with an NCAA team is the University of Oklahoma in Norman.

Sophomore Kelly James, vice president of the team, said that one of the club's best gymnasts, junior Julie Kramer, actually left Baylor recently to go compete for the Sooners.

"She's a really good person

who was a big asset to our team," James said.

"I think that's an awesome chance for her to go and compete with an NCAA team but it just sucks for us."

James said that players leaving wasn't a huge problem for the team yet but that it could become one in the future.

Anyone interested in watching the team compete will get a chance on March 21 when it hosts a meet in Texas Dynasty Gymnasium.

Last year Baylor hosted the state competition in the McLane Student Life Center.

"That was a big deal because we had to get all the equipment and set up," James said. "The Baylor meet is going to be so much fun. This year is going to be lower key, happier, and we'll probably just have a girls' meet."

The reason for just having a women's meet, Beck said, is that there are no gyms in Waco that have the right equipment for men.

On the other hand, any women who might wish to compete with the team can come to one of the team's practices to try it out and Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Some prior experience, however, is required.



Shanna Taylor/Lariat staff

Burleson senior KayLynne Beck works out on the uneven bars during a Baylor's Club Gymnastics team practice Tuesday at Texas Dynasty Cheer and Gymnastics gym in Waco.

"It's a liability to just have girls who want to learn how to do stuff," Beck explained. "We prefer level five or up because we compete at level nine."

James said those without dedication need not apply.

"We can't just start you from ground zero," she said. "If you've been doing it, we'd love to have people come in, but you have to work hard. I think that's frustrating for some people because they expect to come in and us

coach them."

Practicing three hours a day, four days a week seems time consuming, but James is proof it can be done with dedication.

"I'm in a sorority too, so that's been kind of hard going from gymnastics to Sing, still doing school and stuff," she said before adding that she wouldn't have it any other way. "If I don't go it's like 'oh my gosh, I have too much free time. What do I do?'"

Jerry Jones avoids questions about T.O.

By Jaime Aron
The Associated Press

ARLINGTON — Cowboys owner Jerry Jones went on and on Tuesday emphasizing he hasn't decided whether to keep or cut Terrell Owens.

Then, long after the subject was seemingly put to rest, Jones brought it up again — with a pretty obvious hint that T.O. is staying.

"You and I both know that the one that you're asking about all the time, if I gave you the answer that you want to hear, then you would've already had it. So the fact you don't have it ought to tell you something. It really should," Jones said.

The response came in the final minute of a roughly 45-minute news conference called to announce that George Strait will headline the first-ever event at the team's new \$1.1 billion stadium.

But since this was the first time Jones addressed a large group of reporters since the Cowboys' season-ending loss at Philadelphia back in late December, far more topics came up.

The subject changed from music to football with a question about whether Owens will

be on the roster when Strait takes the stage June 6. Jones was ready with the explanation that "we're evaluating our entire roster."

"There are several decisions on our roster we have to look at," Jones said. "This is the time of year we do that. I'm not trying to be trite, but as you all know we're evaluating players in college, we're evaluating free agents and we're evaluating our own roster. This is an ongoing thing, not any different than this time last year. ... Our roster is our roster. Changes to that are pure, pure speculation."

When told he could end all speculation by saying Owens is staying, Jones said he wouldn't answer "because we're not talking about the roster; he's part of the roster."

"We've got a lot of things we want to look at. Not just Terrell, but several positions on the team — backup quarterback and some other areas," Jones said. "So, again, it's not that it's easy or hard. It's just that I'm not doing it."

Also during the news conference, Jones said coach Wade Phillips will be his own defensive coordinator in 2009, replacing Brian Stewart, who was fired.

Sports briefs

Big 12 coaches rank BU No. 3 in Big 12

The Big 12 coaches ranked the Bears at No. 3, tied with Oklahoma State University with 59 votes. The Bears' 2008 record of 32-26 and 11-16 in the Big 12 set the Bears at No. 3 for the second consecutive year.

Texas A&M University, ranked at No. 1, are the defending Big 12 champs and received nine out of the possible 10 first place votes.

Canion makes history as Big 12 player of week

The Big 12 Conference named freshman left-handed pitcher Whitney Canion the Big 12 Pitcher of the Week Tuesday. This is her second time in two weeks of softball season to win the award.

Volz a prospect for Golden Spikes Award

Baylor junior pitcher Kendall Volz was named on the initial watch list for the 2009 Gold Spikes Award. The Award is annually given by USA Baseball to the nation's top collegiate player. Volz was 3-6 with a 4.20 ERA and had 12 starts last season. He averaged a record 10.83 strikeouts per nine innings.

compiled by Nick Dean

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FRAUD from page 1

Houston and Antigua.

The SEC, which has come under heavy criticism for missing early warning signs of Madoff's alleged fraud scheme, said Stanford used a tight circle of family and friends to operate a network through an Antigua-based company to push the investments on buyers, all the while promising "improbable and unsubstantiated high interest rates."

In addition to Stanford himself, the civil lawsuit filed in federal court in Dallas names as defendants James Davis, the chief financial officer of Stanford International Bank, an Antigua-based company that was one of the three whose assets were frozen, as well as Laura Pendergest-Holt, the chief investment officer of Stanford Financial Group, a Houston-based financial advisory firm.

While not named in the SEC's

civil complaint, regulators said Stanford was aided in running the Antigua-based operation by his father, who lives in Mexia, Texas, and another Mexia resident with a background in cattle ranching and car sales.

Davis, who was named in the lawsuit, was Stanford's college roommate.

In Dallas, district court judge Reed O'Connor appointed a receiver to handle the frozen assets.

A receiver was also appointed in the Madoff case to oversee the liquidation of that firm and to help investors recoup money. Madoff, who is under house arrest in his Manhattan apartment, is accused of orchestrating a giant \$50 billion Ponzi scheme.

James Dunlap, an Atlanta-based securities lawyer, said Stanford customers he has been advising have been told they can't their money out of the firm, with some being told there is an

indefinite hold on withdrawals.

Dunlap said his firm is still trying to understand the scope of the alleged fraud and how to pursue remedies for his clients, which include customers in the United States, Latin America and Australia.

"At this point I can't say where the money is," Dunlap said.

Stanford, 58, is one of the most prominent businessmen in the Caribbean, with investment advisers around the world helping him grow a personal fortune estimated at \$2.2 billion by Forbes magazine.

Last year Stanford shook up the staid world of professional cricket by bankrolling the purse in a \$20 million winner-take-all match in Antigua between England and a West Indies select team.

The England and Wales Cricket Board said it has suspended negotiations for a new sponsorship deal with Stanford amid the allegations.

PLAN from page 1

Still, he declared, "We have begun the essential work of keeping the American dream alive in our time."

Underscoring energy-related investments in the new law, Obama and Vice President Joe Biden flew separately to Denver where the president signed it at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science before roughly 250 people including alternative energy business leaders.

Earlier, the pair examined solar panels on the museum's roof.

On Wednesday, Obama will outline another big piece of his recovery effort, a \$50 billion plan to help stem foreclosures, in Arizona, one of the states hardest hit by the mortgage defaults that are at the center of the nation's economic woes.

Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner mentioned the housing program last week as he rolled out a wide-ranging financial-sector rescue plan that could send \$2 trillion coursing through the financial system.

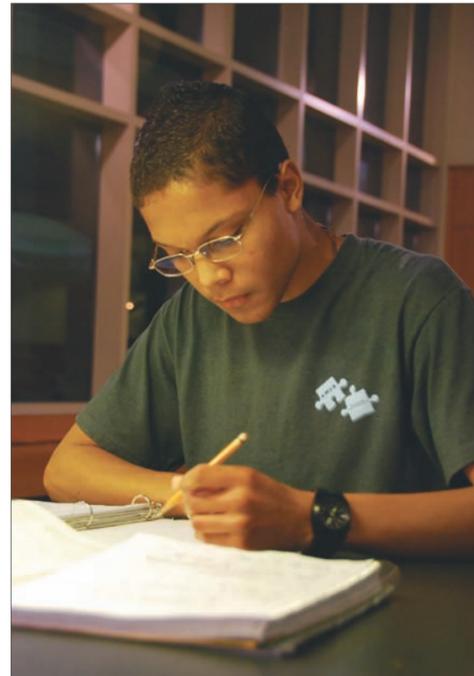
Obama is expected to detail how the administration plans to prod the mortgage industry to do more in modifying the terms of home loans so borrowers have lower monthly payments.

More than 2.3 million homeowners coast-to-coast faced foreclosure proceedings last year, an 81 percent increase from 2007.

Analysts say that number could soar as high as 10 million in the coming years, depending on the severity of

the recession.

In Denver, Obama said the stimulus package had received broad support in Washington and elsewhere, though Democrats pushed it to passage with only three Republican votes in the Senate and none in the House.



Stephen Green/Lariat Staff

Sharp and on point

Dallas freshman Rafael Gutierrez studies in the atrium of the Baylor Sciences Building on Tuesday evening.

ALERT from page 1

Tuesday.

Doak said that if there was something going on, the department would want the students to know about it and said he was disappointed in the way the media had handled the story.

"I'd like to point out that no crime has occurred that we are aware of and that we continue to patrol the outlying areas of the campus as we customarily have been doing," he said.

Doak said that the Baylor police are not in the business of reporting what might be happening, but what is actually happening.

However, he said, if there was an assault or abduction issue

there would be many ways for the Baylor police to communicate that knowledge; through e-mails, The Lariat, text messages or other options.

Williams said the man from the postal service informed him that he had already reported the incident to the police. Williams said he alerted the Baylor area, as part of his job as the president of the Baylor Neighborhood Association. Williams said he wanted people to simply keep a look out for the vehicle in question.

"My main concern is that we need to be more aware — make sure everyone is aware and not doing something they (don't have any) business doing," Williams said.

Williams said he was shocked when told that no female Baylor students had reported anything and said he was simply reporting what he had been told and shown in the pictures of the vehicle.

Williams said he did not realize he was going to be quoted for television initially and that he was led to believe it was something they were still looking into.

Doak said that when Channel 25 contacted the Baylor Police, he informed them that the department takes all reports seriously and are indeed patrolling the area, but that no students had reported any incidents on campus.

to struggle with motivation and want to give up.

Dawes recalled the heavy training regiment of a gymnast.

"You need to work all the time, not just when you want to work, when you come in and your body feels good and you're all energetic and ready to go, it's those days where you just don't want to be there, your eyes are half open and you're tired, your body's aching, no one else shows up to practice," she said.

Dallas sophomore Kayla Barrett said she has always admired Dawes.

"I just thought her speech was really inspirational because she was always an idol to me," she said. "When I was young I was a gymnast as well, so this was just inspirational because I got to see her and to know that she has trouble, ups and downs too, very inspirational."

Jones librarian Ethel Walton said she found Dawes' speech very encouraging.

"We thought that was phenomenal," she said. "It's not the success, it's the journey that makes the difference."

Dawes continues to speak to vast audiences around the world, from high school students to corporate executives. Dawes said she has made it her life goal to encourage others.

"I think I just want to be known as a person that tried to touch people in a positive way, either through my words or through my actions," she said.

DAWES from page 1

the nearly sold out crowd in attendance at the banquet. Her speech revolved around the acronym "ENVISION" which stands for: Experience/Explore, Need, Values, Inner-drive, Setbacks, Inspire, Opportunity and Never give up.

Dawes spoke with great confidence as she recalled the endurance it took to train for the United States Olympic

team at three different Olympic Games and the personal self-confidence issue she struggled with as a young girl.

When she was younger, Dawes claims she was ridiculed for her size, muscles and squeaky voice.

"Addressing self-esteem issues in young girls has been a passion of mine," Dawes said.

Dawes, who competed in her final Olympic Games at age 23 and was deemed the "grandma" of her team, knows what it's like



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