





# Increasing national debt positioned to drown next generation

Do you hear that? It's the sound of the government's debt rising to the necks of American tax payers. We are beginning to drown in our national debt. Many people don't understand the implications of our debt, but it will drastically impact the lives of all Americans in the near future. If you think your Baylor education cost a good deal of money, you also get to add an additional \$35,000. That's your share of our government's debt. Oh, and by the way, that number is rising every day. The National Center for Policy Analysis projects that by 2012, the government will not have the tax revenue to perform 10 percent of what it is doing now. By 2030, the government will have only enough taxes to perform 50 percent of what it's doing now. In 2050, when we

get ready to retire, the government will no longer be able to afford anything but paying back debt to foreign countries. This means that Social Security and Medicare very likely will be gone, even though we have paid into it for our entire lives. Our economy is beginning to show the early signs of a catastrophic meltdown. Many argue that Rome, the longest-lasting Republic, fell from economic and monetary abuse. Imagine an America that can't defend itself from foreign invasions and is controlled by its debtors. An example might help. Let's say that you owe \$1,000 on your Visa credit card. Up to this point, they've been happy to collect your low monthly payment of \$15. What would happen if Visa told you that they needed the

point  
of  
view



BY MICHAEL JONES

\$1,000 debt paid back immediately? You wouldn't be able to pay it. You would, in essence, be bankrupt. In 2007, China gave us a chilling preview of the consequences of our debt. It threatened to liquidate, or redeem, \$1.3 trillion in United States debt to protect the existing trade agreements. This action would have destroyed the value of the dollar and would have placed the U.S. in a very tight corner. The United States would need to print more money to meet this obligation. This mas-

sive amount of money being printed would sharply decrease how much each dollar is worth. Our currency would become Monopoly money. The world's strongest nation crippled without a shot fired. Baylor students, we must act now. In addition to the government spending significantly more money than it is bringing in, Social Security and Medicare are future obligations that will break our economic system. Our representatives in Congress need to tighten their belts and so do we. The "bridges to nowhere" must come to an end. Rampant inflation, lower standards of living and little prosperity is the future for our generation if we don't take a stand. So, what can you do? Plenty. The first step is to educate yourself. These concepts are not difficult to understand, and

there has recently been a flurry of books published that break down economic concepts in layman's terms. The second step is to elect officials that will limit the amount of money the government spends each year. Too many senators and representatives are concerned with advancing their agenda rather than protecting the interests of younger generations. America can no longer stand to spend money without restraint. Congress should revive the "pay as you go" system that expired in 2002. Under the "pay as you go" system, each dollar spent is backed by tax revenue being collected. Another step that you should take is to create a budget for yourself, and live within your means. We must become a genera-

tion and a society that saves and invests wisely. Keep yourself out of debt. In addition, we should change the laws so that members of Congress can only serve one term, thus eliminating the influence of lobbyists and special interest groups. Another very effective measure would be to allow the president a "line item veto" so that he/she could mark through pork barrel provisions and allow an otherwise good law to go on the books. It would save us hundreds of billions of dollars. I hope that this message doesn't fall on deaf ears. The day of financial reckoning is near. The future of America is on our shoulders. Michael Jones is a junior accounting major from Georgetown.

## Editorial

# Turn the page: People need to move past Bush jokes

With a nickname like "Dub-yah," how could he be taken seriously? Former President George W. Bush has endured a lot during his two terms as president. Not only did he lead the country through some of the most devastating times, but he was also unscrupulously mocked and mimicked along the way. Now he is ready to write about it. Bush announced at his first speaking engagement since leaving office in January that he is planning to write a book. The book, tentatively titled "Decision Points," will be published in 2010. It will cover 12 personal and presidential decisions the former president faced while in office. Topics include his decision to run for president, the Sept. 11 attacks, the response to Hurricane Katrina and his decision to stop drinking. Like many decisions Bush made during his presidency, the announcement has elicited a strong response from online newsreaders. Comments left on a Waco Tribune-Herald article about the book echoed the same

degree of mockery Bush faced while in office. "Will it be a picture book?" read one post. "Will crayons cost extra?" another reader commented. "I heard that it will be written like a choose-your-own adventure book," one poster wrote. "(It) will have many fun scratch-and-sniff photos." Granted, someone who asks the question "Is our children learning?" like Bush infamously did, does ask for some type of criticism. But the fact is that Bush led this country for two terms and he was elected by the American public to do so. With Bush out of office, hurling insults isn't going to change anything, so why do it? To some, Bush's years in office can be summed up with war, pretzels, a Texas ranch, Hurricane Katrina and, of course, Sept. 11. His approval ratings soared to 90 percent in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks and dove to a record low of about 30 percent in the final months of his presidency. But one thing separates Bush from all the rest: He has to be the most disrespected



president in history. Not only was he the butt of many jokes during his eight years, but still continues to be the punch line even though he isn't in office anymore. He is writing a book, not going back into office. It's time for America to move on from the Bush years. He follows in the footsteps of several presidents before him in writing a book, so why is it such a big deal? If Paris Hilton and Miley Cyrus can write books without

catching flak, then why can't Bush? The book may provide some insight into the tough role of being the president. Bush seems to be opening up about his time and is willing to share with the public insight to some of his toughest times. Whether he should be writing a book shouldn't be a debate. The fact is that Bush is sharing a huge part of his life and that, at the very least, deserves respect. Anyone can point the finger

and place the blame, but only 43 (although Grover Cleveland is both the 22nd and 24th president, he is only one person) people truly know what it's like to be the president of the United States. Bush has stories to tell and maybe they will provide a better understanding of why he did the things he did. Despite what some people think, the book will be read and ridiculing someone incessantly isn't going to change the past.

## 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 the fair and accurate reporting and will correct errors of substance on Page 2. Corrections can be submitted to the editor by sending an e-mail to Lariat\_letters@baylor.edu or by calling 254-710-4099. A subscription to the Lariat costs \$45 for two semesters. Send check or money order to One Bear Place #97330, Waco, TX, 76798-7330 or e-mail Lariat\_ads@baylor.edu. Visa, Discover and MasterCard payments may be phoned to 254-710-2662. Postmaster: Please send address changes to above address.

# 'Baylor Experience' transcends generic notion of university traditions

"The Baylor Experience" is a phrase that has been thrown at incoming students in many different fashions. We hear from Campus Living and Learning how having a new roommate is a part of this experience, how attending line camp is part of the experience, and how joining an organization will add to this "Baylor Experience." What makes a Baylor Experience different from the common college experience? What makes Baylor University a special place? A Baylor education has a deeper meaning. It has roots that are covered by grace and founders that were guided by God. The quintessential difference between a college experience and a Baylor Experience is the history, the involvement of the

faculty and the environment worthy enough to grant personal discovery. The Baylor Experience can mean a plethora of ideas. It could be stepping out into new territory and discovering new talents. It could be experimenting with different classes to uncover direction of life. Though none of these things compare to what an actual Baylor experience can be. As Dr. Samuel Brooks once said, Baylor students are the "new trustees" of the university, and in that we should all take pride. The duty of the class of 2012 comes with responsibility to nurture the history and meaning behind one of the first chartered schools in Texas and to protect the legacy of our Green

point  
of  
view



BY NICK DEAN

and Gold, while at the same time uncovering our own ways to leave a mark in the community we live in. Our ability to both treasure the past and venture toward the future is a special privilege. A "Baylor Experience" cannot be defined and molded into an exact cookie-cutter experience because the school promotes individual adventure. Part of my challenge to the class of 2012 is to holistically utilize these


resources and begin discovering the purpose behind life. Do not simply acknowledge the treasurers hidden within Baylor University – engage in becoming a part of the riches. We can be challenged to nothing more than the pursuit of personal discovery while developing professional skills in the academic realm. Academics shouldn't be secondary, but rather, education should be all-encompassing. Mark Twain has been quoted an almost sickening number of times as having said, "I have never let my schooling interfere with my education." The truth behind the statement isn't centered on stifling academic work. It is centered on promoting actual, legitimate education beyond curricular

content. When I began my college career at Baylor University in August 2008, I came knowing that I wanted to thoroughly enjoy my time at college, but I also wanted to learn more than the basics. I wanted to develop my stances on controversial issues and become a citizen that stood on a foundation well-researched research beliefs. I soon came to realize that I was taking the wrong angle with my goals. Rather than finding my opinions of "hot topics," I should have focused on developing a personal character that enhanced the way I viewed social issues. My hope for the class of 2012 is that we build friendships, communities, and traditions that are eternal and break out of

the "Baylor Bubble." Waco is the 19th poorest city in the nation; that is a blessing in horrid disguise for the students of Baylor. We are directly in the middle of one of the greatest mission fields. Through intentional involvement within the Waco community, we have potential to build relationships within the community while constructing our own "Baylor experience." Through growth and adventure, my classmates and I will find true identity, leading to overall character. That pursuit is the essence of the Baylor experience. Nick Dean is a freshman professional writing and journalism major from Taylor and a staff writer for The Baylor Lariat.

## The Baylor Lariat

Editor in chief  
City editor  
News editor  
Entertainment editor  
Multimedia producer  
Asst. city editor  
Editorial cartoonist  
Sports editor  
Sports writers  
Staff writers  
Copy desk chief  
Copy editors  
Photo editor  
Photographers  
Web editor  
Advertising sales  
Delivery



THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephem Group

			9					6
6		4				5		
	8	9	6			2		
	7				9	1		
9		6				8		2
		1	7				9	
		8			4	3	1	
		7			4			8
4					2			

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

Newsroom: 710-1711  
Advertising: 710-3407  
Sports: 710-6357  
Entertainment: 710-7228  
Editor: 710-4099

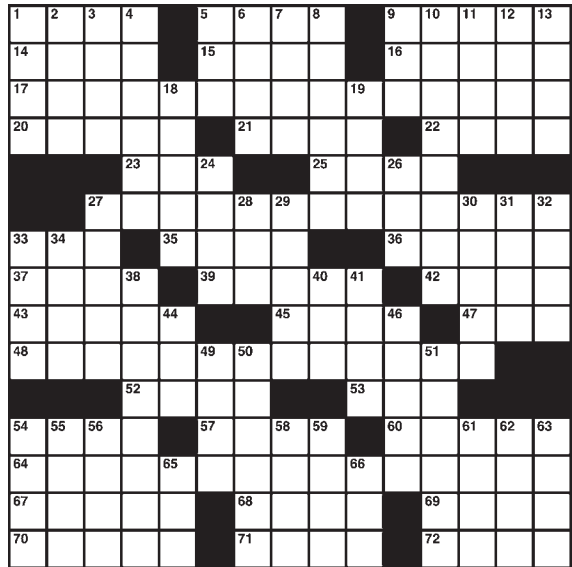
Lariat@baylor.edu

## THE Daily Crossword

Across  
1 Blue or brown follower  
5 Rubik creation  
9 Dalmatian marks  
14 City north of Carson City  
15 Jet-black gem  
16 It's prohibited  
17 Valley girl's "lckl!"  
20 Senator Hatch  
21 Wagon pullers  
22 Hard to hold  
23 Donizetti aria "Regnava silenzio"  
25 Storyteller  
27 Cliché framed above many a hearth  
33 Finance major's deg.  
35 When repeated twice, "et cetera"  
36 Regal home  
37 Latticework piece  
39 Fish order  
42 Eye drop  
43 Sweater synthetic  
45 Unheeding  
47 "Washboard" muscles  
48 Spaceflight management center  
52 Proximate  
53 007 creator Fleming  
54 Eager

57 Realize  
60 Jacket type worn by several Bond villains  
64 Yellow-skinned apple  
67 "A cat must have three different names" poet  
68 Savings choices  
69 Give sparingly  
70 Play area?  
71 Voice quality  
72 Impressionist  
Down  
1 As a result  
2 Century unit  
3 Caltech sr.'s goal, often  
4 Rectangular game piece  
5 Holy animal?  
6 Mile or meter  
7 Eight bits  
8 Breathe out  
9 MA and PA  
10 School play prop  
11 Philharmonic reed  
12 Kit thing  
13 Discman maker  
18 Foe  
19 Yves's girlfriend  
24 Table section  
26 Bank feature

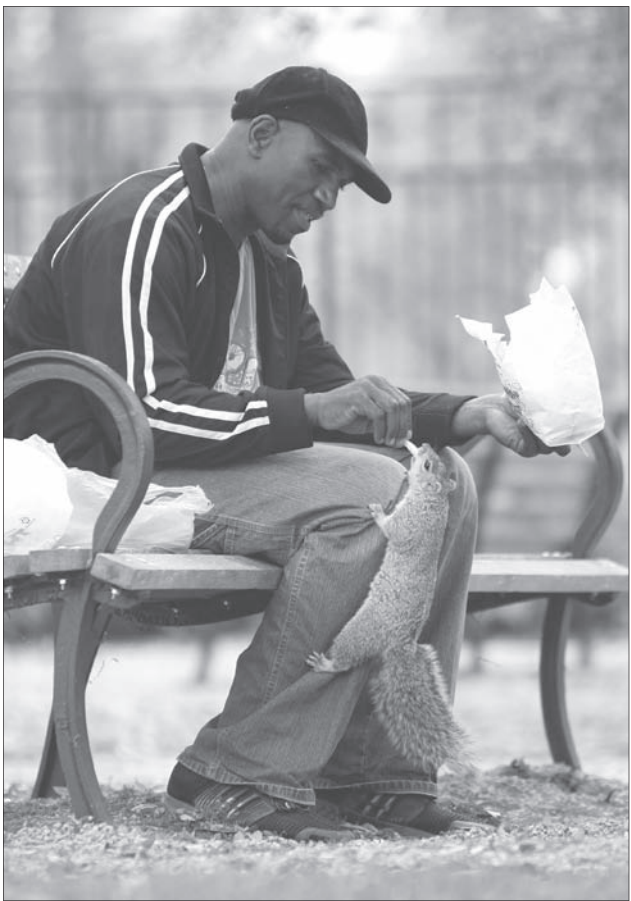
27 "They'll Do It Every Time" cartoonist Jimmy  
28 Star Wars letters  
29 Hard-to-find guy of kids' books  
30 "Love Story" costar  
31 Land where Moses died  
32 Goofs  
33 Internet opinion piece  
34 2008 Libertarian presidential candidate  
38 Elvis classic  
40 Tennyson's twilight  
41 Jacques of "Mon Oncle"  
42 22.5 deg.  
46 Old French capital?  
49 Put in stitches  
50 Recognition  
51 New York tribe  
54 Grows up  
55 Electrical unit  
56 Hip bones  
58 Prefix with sol  
59 Blueprint  
61 Slam dunk site  
62 Govern, or word that can follow the first word of the four longest puzzle answers  
63 Rehab admission  
65 When the French fry?  
66 Expert ending?



For today's crossword and sudoku answers, visit [www.baylor.edu/Lariat](http://www.baylor.edu/Lariat)

The Baylor Lariat is owned by Baylor University and overseen by the Student Publications Board. The entire content of The Baylor Lariat is protected under the Federal Copyright Act. Reproduction of any portion of any issue by any means, mechanical or otherwise, is not permitted without the expressed written consent of Baylor University.





Associated Press

## Feed the squirrels

Chris Jones feeds a cookie to a squirrel Tuesday in Hermann Park in Houston.

# Conference educates faculty on disabled student assistance

By Megan Duron  
Reporter

The Office of Access and Learning Accommodations held its first Bear the Difference conference Tuesday to educate students and faculty about the various opportunities the organization offers for students with disabilities.

The conference, will be from 2:30 to 6 p.m. today, in Draper Academic Building.

“The goal was to educate faculty, staff and students about various types of disabilities, the services that OALA provides and why, and give the opportunity for participants to experience the life of someone with a disability,” said Kristen Mainor, a second-year graduate student. Mainor works as a graduate assistant at the Office of Access and Learning Accommodations.

According to their Web site, OALA works with Baylor to collaborate with faculty and administration to determine how students will meet academic requirements, help pro-

vide information to parents, students, faculty and staff, and review documentation which will allow appropriate accommodations for individual students with physical or learning disabilities.

The organization teams up with various resources such as Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, National Institute of Mental Health, Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic and the National Center for Learning Disabilities.

As one of the key organizers for the event, Mainor said OALA really wanted to allow students the opportunities they deserve and give faculty the knowledge to make this available.

The event includes testimonials from students along with guest speakers who are knowledgeable on the topic. Activities allow participants to experience the hardships someone with a disability goes through on a daily basis.

Lacy Lynch, award-winning actress/playwright and literary agent, will be a keynote speaker

addressing these topics.

Ashton Johnson, Dallas first-year graduate student, is one of the students who helped to make the event happen. Johnson said he has his own hopes for the response Bear the Difference will yield.

“Personally, I really wanted the faculty to be educated on our office,” Johnson said. “A lot of faculty don’t know about OALA until they’ve had to encounter it by having a student who was in our program. A lot of them don’t know about it, they don’t know the rules, they’re not sure what they can and can’t do.”

OALA works with students on an individual basis, providing services which are disability specific. These services include classroom and testing accommodations, mentoring and time management assistance.

Through Bear the Difference, faculty and students are informed of these services and the students are able to take advantage of them.

Cleburne junior Jordan Hannah said the plan is to make Bear the Difference a yearly event.

# Showcase features current, upcoming technology

By Buddy Steele  
Reporter

As a major university, it is important for Baylor to stay on the cutting edge in terms of possibilities and technological advancements. Baylor will hold its annual Educational Technology Showcase from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. today in the Allbritton Foyer of Moody Memorial Library.

“The Educational Technology Showcase started three years ago as a way for faculty to showcase how they are using technology in their teaching and learning, specifically for an audience of faculty members,” said John D. Lowe, senior academic consultant for the Baylor University Electronic Library.

“Along with that, though, there are various areas in the library and the electronic library and ITS also, who took part in the educational showcase to kind of show off some of the technology services that are available that faculty may not know are available.”

The event will include numerous speakers who will present on topics including BearSpace, long-distance learning, the use of electronic resources to save paper and the new Blackboard 9, just to name a few.

“It’s going to be kind of the official unveiling of the new Blackboard,” Lowe said. “This is going to be a preview where faculty can get their first look at what Blackboard is going to look like in the fall, and (it will)

be fairly different,” he said. The other thing is there are going to be a lot of really interesting presentations from our faculty.”

Though the showcase started as something geared strictly toward faculty members, it has caught on as a fun and informative event for anyone to attend, Lowe said. Students are encouraged to come by and listen to the presentations and even register to win one of the many door prizes, ranging from goodie bags and gift cards up to iPods, a Dell Inspiron Mini Laptop and a Nintendo DS.

The showcase will finish with a presentation by keynote speaker Dr. Bryan Alexander, director of research at the National Institute for Technology and Liberal Education, based out of Ann

Arbor, Mich., and Georgetown. Alexander will also give a workshop on digital storytelling from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Thursday in 105 Jesse H. Jones Library.

Dr. Alexander works with emerging technologies in education, but the emerging technologies aren’t ‘educational’ technologies.

They are often technologies that are being used in communications, gaming or popular culture, and he has an eye out to how they could be used within an educational setting,” said Dr. Gardner Campbell, director of the Academy for Teaching and Learning and associate professor of literature and media in the Baylor Honors College. “He’ll be talking about Web 2.0, which is a pattern of changing behavior

on the World Wide Web.”

This will be the first time a keynote speaker will be present at the Educational Technology Showcase.

“I think any student would benefit from hearing what Dr. Alexander says in his keynote presentation because his research is so extensive, he is going to bring up things that no one in that room would have thought about,” Campbell said. “He will have surprises for even the most experienced person in the room and he will have surprises for students who are in this culture a lot, much more so than most faculty. I think there will be things there that will open students’ eyes, as well, and hopefully spark some imagination.”

## BEAR BRIEFS

**Want to be a Welcome Week leader?** The Department of New Student Programs is hiring student leaders for Welcome Week 2009. To apply visit [www.baylor.edu/nsp/wwstaff](http://www.baylor.edu/nsp/wwstaff). Applications are due today.

**The Department of Multicultural Activities** will partner with Alpha Chi Omega to present Take Back the Night: Break the Silence from 8 to 11 p.m. Thursday on Fountain Mall. The event aims to raise awareness about rape and dating violence with keynote speaker Tara Brewster and a candlelight vigil. For more information, contact Julie Smith in the Department of Multicultural Activities at [Julie\\_Smith@baylor.edu](mailto:Julie_Smith@baylor.edu).

**The George W. Truett Theological Seminary** will hold An Invitation to ‘Missions: A Conversation with Dr. Mike Stroope About Your Place in Missions’ from 7 to 8:15 p.m. Thursday in the George W. Truett Theological Seminary Great Hall. Students will be able to discuss their place in missions with Dr. Stroope and other fellow students.


**The Baylor Campus Orchestra** will perform at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the Jones Concert Hall of the Glennis McCrary Music Building. Also performing will be the St. Petersburg Duo and Baylor University Concert Choir. The concert will include compositions by Italian composer Pietro Mascagni, Randall Thompson and Russian composer Alfred Schnittke. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call Baylor University School of Music at 710-3991.

To submit a bear brief, e-mail [Lariat@baylor.edu](mailto:Lariat@baylor.edu).

## CONTACT US

Editor	710-4099
Newsroom	710-1712
Sports	710-6357
Entertainment	710-7228
Advertising	710-3407

UNIVERSITY &  
DISTINGUISHED  
PROFESSORS  
LECTURE SERIES




## The Holocaust

What Can We Say  
About God - *After*

**Dr. Marc Ellis**  
3:30-5 p.m.  
Wednesday, March 25

Paul Powell Chapel  
Truett Seminary

Presented by the Office of the Provost  
We are pleased to announce the Spring 2009 lecture.  
Our intent is to make available for conversation with students,  
faculty, staff, and citizens, our University and Distinguished  
professors in the context of their cutting-edge work.

 **BAYLOR**  
UNIVERSITY

 **BAYLOR**  
UNIVERSITY



## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN MISSIONS?

If so, you’re invited to

### “AN INVITATION TO MISSION: A Conversation with Dr. Mike Stroope About Your Place in Missions”



**Dr. Stroope** served in the mission field for 21 years and continues to serve today. He currently teaches Christian Missions at Truett Seminary.

A dessert reception will follow. All students interested in missions are invited to attend.

## THURSDAY, MARCH 26 AT 7 P.M.

Piper Great Hall, Truett Seminary Campus

 **TRUETT**  
SEMINARY  
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY



# Austin festival boasts talent of all kinds

By Kelli Boesel  
Entertainment editor

For five days in mid-March, music from all around the world invades Austin at one of the largest music festivals and conferences in the industry.

## FESTIVALREVIEW

According to the Associated Press, the 23rd annual South by Southwest festival features 1,900 bands playing on more than 80 stages, including names like Kanye West and Metallica and indie music heavy-weights, The Decemberists, the Hold Steady, M. Ward and Andrew Bird.

Along with the big-name players, SXSW is also a place to be discovered. Music bursts from every venue, spilling out onto the streets.

Along with people attending concerts, street musicians dole out free CDs and T-shirts struggling to get heard. A marching band wearing crazy costumes walks up and down the street to attract people to its show.

People wearing cardboard “free hug” signs are looking to get a little affection from the mass of people.

Fliers, key chains and stickers line the streets after being carelessly discarded by their owners. You can’t walk a step without having some kind of pamphlet shoved in your face.

The majority of shows take place on Sixth Street, spanning from Red River Street to Congress Avenue.

The streets are filled with

people waiting in line for a show or satisfying cravings for bratwurst, funnel cakes and even cupcakes at vendor trucks parked every few feet.

The majority of the action is centered downtown, but SXSW is spread all over the city.

Although the Austin economy might enjoy the large crowds and the span of the festival, Ashley Sullivan, a Georgetown resident and festival attendee, said some of her friends wish for a smaller, more exclusive experience.

“Some of my friends have told me that they are having fun but they feel like every year (SXSW) becomes too publicized,” she said. “They miss the low-key aspect of it.”

Waco resident and festival attendee Chris Burch said the festival’s span can be both negative and positive.

“It’s really spread out, so that can cause problems, but it can be interesting too,” he said. “You do a lot of walking – my feet are very tired; but it’s cool to wander back and forth and see so many great bands.”

Most of the venues are on the west side of Interstate 35 but there are the occasional trips to the east side.

One venue, Club 1808, is a long walk or a significant cab ride from downtown.

Distance from downtown is not the only thing that varies at SXSW. Some venues like Waterloo Park or Auditorium Shores Stage at Lady Bird Lake can hold thousands of people, where other venues can barely squeeze

20 people in an enclosed space.

The unique quality of some of the smaller venues, like Club 1808, is the proximity of the crowd to the bands. At a Wavves show, a two-man pop band from California, the band’s set was interrupted when a fan got on stage and took the mike from Nathan Williams. This unexpected interruption made that particular Wavves show one of a kind.

This type of spontaneity is something to expect from SXSW. While walking down the street, I jumped into a venue for the last two songs of a Fastball performance.

SXSW may be all about the music for the fans, but it’s a marathon for the performers. The Vivian Girls, a punk band from Brooklyn, New York, said they played 18 shows in three days.

Burch said he likes to see the effort every band puts into its show.

“When we saw Preacher Pete, a really good underground hip-hop artist, it was his third show that day,” Burch said. “He was losing his voice by the end of the set but he was still giving it everything he had.”

Bands push beyond their physical boundaries, giving fans something to remember from their show.

One highlight for me was Sebastien Grainger and The Mountains, a rock band from Ontario. The band really made an effort to be involved with the audience’s listening experience and every song was jam-packed with energy.

Playing only three shows over the festival, guitarist and lead vocalist Grainger said he preferred it that way.

“I kind of wanted to play a ton (of shows) but you get really stressed out when you play too much in one of those situations,” he said.

During the Saturday performances at Club de Ville, the guitarist and keyboardist’s girlfriend ribbon danced during the show while Grainger played and sang from the audience to end the performance.

Grainger said that kind of interaction with the audience doesn’t always happen, but he likes including his audience in the live experience of his shows.

“There’s a line between entertainment and including someone in an experience,” he said. “It’s not huge to stand there, in the audience, singing; but it shatters the line between audience and the performer. It’s not always possible and it’s not always fun or cool to do. But, when things like that happen, they are a lot of fun for myself and the people involved.”

Everyone in the Club de Ville audience of Grainger’s show couldn’t keep from moving to the band’s up-tempo melodies.

Overall, Grainger said he felt the band’s reception from SXSW was a good one.

SXSW brings together great bands, mediocre acts and crazy characters from all over world. I can’t wait to see who shows up next year.



Kelli Boesel/Lariat staff

Sebastien Grainger plays Saturday during the Hot Freaks! Party at Club de Ville during South by Southwest in Austin. Sebastien Grainger & The Mountains are a no frills rock and roll band from Ontario, Canada. South by Southwest showcased over 1900 acts over five days.

# Fourth place trumpet ensemble to play Dean’s Honor Concert

By Kristina Bateman  
Reporter

While many students were hitting the beach or skiing the slopes during their week of spring break, six Baylor musicians traveled to Virginia to claim fourth place in the National Trumpet Competition.

This was the first year a trumpet ensemble from the Baylor School of Music entered this annual competition that was held at George Mason University from March 12 through 15.

The trumpet professor who leads the group is Wiff Rudd, joined by students Ross Ahlhorn, Simon Bosch, Adam Gautille, Sarah Harris, Brian Martinez and Chelsea Orr.

The performers of the Dean’s Honor Concert are selected by the faculty and represent the best student soloists and ensembles in the school on the same evening, said the Dean of the School of Music William V. May.

“It is designed to recognize the people who have risen to the top around the school of music and honor them by placing them

on this concert,” May said. “It also gives them a very nice entry in their résumé.”

Cypress senior Ross Ahlhorn, who has played the concert twice before, said besides performing in front of an intimidating audience of familiar faces, the concert is an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

“It is a really positive atmosphere,” he said. “The whole idea behind the honor concert is to bring together all different facets of the School of Music. It is not very often that I will hear a string quartet or hear a lot of the amazing vocalists we have here and so it is nice to get the best of each individual section of the School of Music together and hear what is going on.”

The trumpet ensemble was selected to play in the concert even before they competed in the trumpet competition, May said.

“We were delighted that they made the final six and really didn’t care beyond that what place they came in,” he said. “We were just thrilled by the fact that this was the first time Baylor has entered (the ensemble por-

tion of) this competition and for them to make the finals like this was particularly delightful news to me.”

To enter the National Trumpet Competition, students had to submit a recording of their music in mid-December and contend with around 60 other groups from around the nation. The top 30 groups were asked to play live at the competition and only six of those advanced to the final round.

“The other participants where from schools like Juilliard, Northwestern University, Boston University – all of which have very fine music schools,” May said. “We like the idea that we can compete on the same level as those folks. It is like our basketball team making it to the final four in the trumpet world.”

The trip was funded by donations given from external contributors of the Baylor Brass Excellence Fund, May said.

The six students not only competed in the competition, but also attended various master classes, recitals and lectures.

Coppell junior Adam Gautille said there was a wide range of

master classes teaching things like preparing for competitions, learning the business aspect of music and how to start a career as a professional trumpet player. Gautille said one of the highlights was the performance by Wayne Bergeron, who is highly acclaimed in the trumpet world for his work on soundtracks for movies and television.

Ahlhorn said there were a couple factors might have set their ensemble apart from others at the competition.

“We have an amazing trumpet teacher here at Baylor, Wiff Rudd, and the piece that we played was just completely different than many of the other pieces that were played,” Ahlhorn said. “A lot of it was the standard trumpet ensemble repertoires, very harsh sounding, where as this piece that we played was very romantic, very musical, very lyric I guess you could say. That really helped us stand out quite a bit.”

Ahlhorn said Adam Gautille and Professor Rudd both played major roles in getting the group so far in the competition.

Gautille rearranged the piece

used by the group because it was not originally written to be performed by six musicians. Professor Rudd volunteered his time to directing the group, Ahlhorn said.

“(Rudd) has just been incredibly helpful with rehearsing and looking over Adam’s work with the transcription itself and making sure everything is right,” Ahlhorn said. “He really took it to heart and was really, really proud of us once we told him that we at least made finals and then placed in finals.”

Gautille said he took it upon himself to rearrange a piece of music because there would most likely be repeats of different songs at the competition and the group wanted to play something that had never been played before.

“It took quite a long time,” Gautille said. “Mostly it was me sitting down during the Cowboy’s games and watching the Cowboy’s game just doing this because it’s kind of this monotonous work just trying to fit parts in and so it for sure took probably almost all of football season.”

The piece performed was a Sextet in E Flat Minor by Oskar Böhme and the arrangement of the piece was dedicated to Michael Ewald, Rudd’s teacher and close friend who recently died.

Ahlhorn said the ensemble has taken a short break in rehearsing this piece so it does not get old, but will soon begin practice for their next performance in the Dean’s Honor Concert.

“I’m just very proud of the students involved because the schools with which they competed all have doctoral programs,” May said. “I’m sure that (the Baylor ensemble) had students that were working on doctorates in trumpet competing against them and that makes me even prouder of our folks, most of whom were undergraduates.”

The Baylor School of Music will hold the Dean’s Honor Concert at 7:30 p.m. Monday in Roxy Grove Hall for the trumpet ensemble as well as other students who excelled in their area of performance this past year. Admission to the concert is free.

## TOP BLOCKBUSTER RENTALS

1. ROLE MODELS
2. TWILIGHT
3. TRANSPORTER 3
4. THE PUNISHER 2: WAR ZONE
5. AUSTRALIA
6. MILK
7. IN THE ELECTRIC MIST
8. BOLT
9. RACHEL GETTING MARRIED
10. BODY OF LIES

## TOP BLOCKBUSTER SALES

1. TWILIGHT
2. BOLT
3. ROLE MODELS
4. BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA
5. MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA
6. THE PUNISHER 2: WAR ZONE
7. PINOCCHIO
8. TRANSPORTER 3
9. BARBIE PRESENTS THUMBELINA
10. FEAR AND LOATHING IN LAS VEGAS

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

**PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ABORTION?**

- Pregnancy Testing
- Ultrasound Verification
- Abortion & Adoption Counseling

**CARE NET**

Pregnancy Center of Central Texas

Medical Services      Pregnancy Care

1818 Columbus Ave.      4700 West Waco Dr.

Waco, Texas 76710      Waco, Texas 76710

**254-772-6175      254-772-8270**

[www.pregnancycare.org](http://www.pregnancycare.org)

**Fast, Convenient, Confidential**

24 HOUR / TOLL FREE  
**1-800-395-HELP (4357)**

**Beverage cart & hospitality positions available at local golf course.**

**Make great money for having fun in the sun.**

**Must be outgoing, dependable & attractive.**

*Weekends and summer availability a must.*

*Call for interview 254-876-2837*

**University Rentals**

**754-1436 \* 1111 Speight \* 752-5691**

**ALL BILLS PAID! FURNISHED!**

**1 BR FROM \$440 \* 2 BR FROM \$700**

**GREAT SELECTIONS!**

Baylor Arms \* Casa Linda  
Casa Royale \* Tree House  
University Plaza  
University Terrace  
Houses \* Duplex Apts

**MON-FRI 9-6, SAT 10-4, SUN 2-4**

**SUPPORTING YOUR COUNTRY IS STRONG. SERVING YOUR COUNTRY IS ARMY STRONG.**

**There's strong. Then there's Army Strong. As a Soldier in the U.S. Army, you'll learn to be a leader, tackle new challenges and stand proud. To find out more, visit your local recruiter, [goarmy.com](http://goarmy.com) or call 1-800-USA-ARMY.**

**Now offering up to \$40,000 in enlistment bonuses or up to \$80,000 for college. Stop by the Army booth or contact your Army recruiter at 254-776-1546 or [4C5P@usarec.army.mil](mailto:4C5P@usarec.army.mil), or stop by 1200 Richland Drive.**

©2009. Paid for by the United States Army. All rights reserved.



# Tiger’s missed free throws send Bears to New York

By John Zenor  
The Associated Press

AUBURN, Ala. — The Baylor Bears made big baskets, grabbed timely rebounds and dodged a few bullets.

Apparently, they’re getting the postseason formula down pretty well.

Curtis Jerrells rebounded a missed free throw then made 1-of-2 from the line with 6.9 seconds left and Auburn couldn’t convert two late chances to tie or pull ahead, helping the Bears advance to the semifinals of the NIT with a 74-72 win Tuesday night.

Kevin Rogers added 19 points and nine rebounds to help the Bears (23-14) extend their improbable run after finishing ninth in the Big 12 Conference and going 59 years without a postseason win.

They started the string with a league tournament that included upsets of Kansas and Texas.

“I think it shows great character,” Jerrells said. “We didn’t have the kind of season we wanted during the conference season, but we pulled together. We found the energy to go into the conference tournament, do some damage, and then just continue on from there.”

The Tigers (24-12), who matched the second-best win total in program history, had two chances in the final seconds

to at least tie it.

Trailing 73-72, Auburn forced a turnover on the inbound pass with 16 seconds left. “I should probably have come up with a better play,” Baylor coach Scott Drew quipped.

DeWayne Reed attempted a leaner and was fouled, but missed both free throws and Jerrells rebounded the second.

“I came up to the line and missed two free throws that could have tied the game or you win it,” Reed said. “It hurts bad.”

Rasheem Barrett’s 3-point try bounced off the the rim at the buzzer.

“I had a wide-open look and just hit back rim,” Barrett said. “I just didn’t knock it down.

“I was taking whatever they were going to give me. To tell the truth, it looked good. It looked real good. When it hit back rim, I knew it was over.”

Baylor will play the St. Mary’s-San Diego State winner next Tuesday in New York, their first game at Madison Square Garden since the 1950 NCAA Final Four.

Kevin Rogers had 15 points and 12 rebounds for the Bears, who shot 51 percent. Jerrells added 16 points and eight assists against only one turnover.

Tweety Carter had 13 points and made three 3-pointers. Jerrells, Rogers and Henry Dugat took over as Baylor’s winningest

senior class with No. 63.

“They’ve done a great job of leading the team,” Drew said. “I’m so happy they’re playing their best basketball at the end of their career so they can have great memories toward the end.”

The Bears hadn’t won multiple postseason games since finishing as NCAA runner-up to Kentucky in 1948.

Barrett led Auburn with 16 points and had hit three of four 3s before his final miss, including one with 19 seconds left to make it a one-point game. Reed scored 13 while Korvotney Barber had 11 points and 13 rebounds.

“We battled and there were a couple of turnovers at the end and a couple of key plays to get back into the game and take the lead,” Auburn coach Jeff Lebo said. “We just weren’t able to finish it off.

“We’ve had an unbelievable year and I am really proud of them and what they have accomplished.”

The Tigers rallied from a seven-point deficit in the final 2 minutes on back-to-back 3-pointers, trying to extend their first postseason since 2003. Tay Waller hit the first from the right wing with 1:05 left to make it 73-69.

The Bears then managed to use most of the shot-clock but Jerrells tried an off-balance 3-pointer with 29 seconds left.



The Associated Press

Baylor guard Curtis Jerrells rebounds the second of two missed free throws at the end of the Baylor/Auburn basketball game Tuesday night in Auburn, Ala. The Tigers trailed 73-72 and were at the line, but couldn’t convert the free points. Baylor led by eight with less than two minutes remaining and held on for a 74-72 win.

Barrett fired away a 3-pointer 10 seconds later.

“Both teams wanted to go to New York and both teams

wanted to keep playing,” Drew said. “Both teams have great upperclassman leadership, so we knew it would come down to

the end. We’d prefer it not to get that close at the end, but credit to our guys for getting a stop and the rebound.”

# Camaraderie another weapon in club volleyball’s arsenal

By Julie Sessions  
Reporter

There’s something to be said about camaraderie and great chemistry when it comes to top-tiered team sports.

In football, players rely on teammates to block, kick and pass the ball down the field in enough time to score the winning touchdown on the last fourth down. In baseball and softball, it’s the precise combination of fast pitching and strong hitting that brings the runner on third home in the bottom of the ninth.

And in soccer, it’s the ability to read the opposing goalie’s mind and anticipate his next move before he can block the game-ending kick that puts your team on top.

All these sports entail a high level of individual and team performance that set the tone for camaraderie amongst its players, but if it weren’t for great team chemistry, virtually all of these winning efforts would come up fruitless.

And in the sport of volleyball, specifically Baylor women’s club volleyball team, it’s all about utilizing team chemistry to bring home the gold.

“We don’t have attitudes on our team, and we don’t have someone setting a negative tone for everyone else,” graduate student outside hitter Adetokunbo Faleti said. “We are constantly encouraging each other in practice and tournaments ... and that’s what makes our team so special. We love each other on and off the court and push each other to succeed.”

Faleti, like her fellow teammates, has been playing volleyball for years and understands firsthand how crucial a coopera-

tive team effort drives an individual’s athletic performance. Having played on the women’s varsity team at Washington State in Pullman, Wash., before coming to Baylor for her masters in social work, she said she views the competitive, yet surprisingly laid-back, environment club volleyball provides as something unique.

“Everyone knows that Texas breeds volleyball players and the Big 12 is a competitive conference,” the Arlington native said. “You want to do everything you can to win, but on a club level things are less pressured. We still go out there and perform to the best of our ability, but we’re mostly having a lot of fun doing it and I think that’s what makes us perform even better.”

Having just returned home from a trip to Las Vegas, Nev., to compete in the Las Vegas Open, the top women’s club volleyball team at Baylor went 5-1 and finished 3rd overall in the tournament. Known as the Green team and having been top-seeded in this particular tournament out of 34 schools, they defeated club teams from the University of Southern California, Chico State and the University of California at Santa Barbara. Baylor’s second women’s club volleyball team, known as the Gold team, lost a tie-breaker to compete in the final bracket with other top teams on Friday, but beat USC and Stanford on Saturday to finish 19th overall.

“I’ve coached for 10 years now, here at Baylor and other schools, and probably 15 or 16 different teams in my career,” said head coach and graduate assistant Jeremiah Tiffin. “This team by far gives more than any I’ve ever coached before, and we always go into a tournament

like this one in Vegas hoping for a great finish.”

The past four seasons, the Green team has finished 9th, 5th, 3rd, and 5th in the nation in Division 1, the top classification. Currently, they are ranked No. 4 nationally and have gone 22-2 for the year and 14-0 this semester alone; an achievement that because of great chemistry and camaraderie, players like senior setter Whitney Donaldson stand by whole-heartedly.

“Playing this year, in partic-

ular, has been more fun, and I never see going to practice as an obligation or something I have to do,” the Houston marketing major said. “We have a good team and all get along really well here because no one’s catty. Coming to practice and going to the tournaments is something we all want to do and all look forward to coming to ... we just all genuinely want to be here.”

In this and previous seasons, the Green and Gold teams typically play the same four schools



Courtesy photo by Jeremiah Tiffin

Members of the Baylor club volleyball team huddle before a match. The Lady Bears recently competed in the Las Vegas Open and went 5-1 at the tournament.

senior speech communication major Jennifer Kirkham said. “You stay healthy and exercised as much as you can, but nothing’s like the real deal of good competition ... nationals is really important to us this year.”

Nationals which is once again bound to include major Baylor rivals like the University of Texas, Texas A&M and the University of Oklahoma.

“We want to do well against schools like A&M, but we don’t like being a showy team that yells in our competitors faces when we score. That’s just not our style,” Donaldson said. “We cheer amongst ourselves and like to have fun, and I think it’s that attitude that sets us apart and gets us winning because we want to ... not because we have to.”

Whether it’s the unique poise they set on the court or constant ability to strengthen friendships off of it, there’s a reason why the rest of the Baylor women’s club volleyball team looks up to these outstanding players. They’re the poster children for camaraderie and team chemistry for club sports at Baylor and in the Big 12, and their motivation to succeed is nothing short of the desire to leave something more behind than just a winning legacy.

“This is the most self-motivated team we’ve ever had ... and girls like these — Adetokunbo, Whitney and Jennifer — set a presence,” Tiffin said. “They aren’t necessarily the leaders of the team just because they are older ... but we’ve had teams before where the chemistry is not there and these girls overall have it. Coaches talk about having those teams that you dream for, and this is that team. This is that dream team.”

## Wondering about men’s tennis?

The Baylor men’s tennis team defeated their highest ranked opponent of the season the No. 2 University of Stanford 4-3 yesterday at the

Baylor Tennis Center.

Freshman Maros Horny clinched the match to earn Matt Knoll his 300th win as head coach of the Bears.

Check online for reporter Ben Powell’s full story at:

[www.baylor.edu/lariat](http://www.baylor.edu/lariat)

## CLASSIFIED

CALL TODAY! (254) 710-3407

### HOUSING

Large one bedroom. Washer, dryer included. \$350 month. 1924 S. 11th. 717-3981. Available Now.

HOUSE FOR LEASE. Walk to Class. 3 BR, 2 Bath, Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Washer/Dryer. 1823 S. 7th Street. \$1200 / \$1200. Call 754-4834.

Houses for rent for 09/10 very close to campus. 3B/2B at \$1,350, 3B/2B at \$1200 and 2B/1B at \$900. Call Brothers Management at 753-5355 for info.

2 BR/ 1 Bath Units -- Sign now and get 1/2 off your summer rent! Cypress Point Apartments, 1817 S. 7th Street. Rent: \$550/ month. Call 754-4834

WALK TO CLASS! Sign before 3/31/09 and get 1/2 off your Summer 2009 rent! 1 BR and 2 BR units available! Cypress Point Apartments, Knotty Pine Apartments, and Driftwood Apartments. Rent starting at \$350. Call 754-4834.

New Brick Duplexes on Bagby, 4 BR, 2 Bth; \$1100.00 per month 1-254-749-2067

4BR/2BA large brick duplex apartments. 4-6 tenants. Days: 315-3827, evenings 799-8480. House for Lease: 5 BR, 2.5 bath, washer/dryer furnished, convenient to Baylor Campus. Rent: \$1200/mo Call 754-4834

6BR/2BA house. Days: 315-3827, evenings 799-8480.

### EMPLOYMENT

Special Events Coordinator Position. To apply go to [www.SpeeglevilleCreekClubhouse.com](http://www.SpeeglevilleCreekClubhouse.com) or call Larry 254-744-9901 For hire: Medical Student to conduct experiment on cholesterol-reducing method. Call 512-799-0516.

NOW HIRING!!! Lariat advertising department wants highly motivated, sales oriented students for Advertising Sales Representatives. Preference will be given to students looking to stay until the fall. visit [www.baylor.edu/student\\_employment](http://www.baylor.edu/student_employment)

Place your classified ad today! Call (254) 710-3407

LEADERSHIP

EXCELLENCE

UP TO \$20,000 SIGN-ON BONUS

UP TO 100% TUITION ASSISTANCE

PAY FOR COLLEGE

PAID TRAINING

WORK 2 DAYS A MONTH

MONTHLY PAYCHECKS

TEXAS NATIONAL GUARD

www.1-800-GO-GUARD.com



# Man arrested in nightclub stabbing

By Nick Dean  
Staff writer

A man was arrested Saturday in the Club Legacy stabbing that occurred in the early morning of March 15. after detectives investigated a stabbing that wounded Jemar Perot at Club Legacy in the early morning hours of March 15.

Bobby Hart, 27, was charged with aggravated assault and taken to McLennan County Jail. Hart was released Sunday after posting a \$25,000 bond.

Jemar Perot, a 23-year-old Robinson resident, was stabbed several times at Club Legacy, a Waco club 2.5 miles from the Baylor campus.

Officers witnessed a fight in progress that night, but due to crowd disturbances the officers weren't able to apprehend the stabber before he fled the scene.

According to witnesses, the incident started as a verbal argument inside the club earlier that Saturday night.

Officers arrived at Club

Legacy's parking lot around 2 a.m., wherethey observed a fight in progress.

An unruly, large crowd caused paramedics from the East Texas Medical Center a large amount of time to reach the victim. The



Hart

large crowd was eventually disbanded because of officers and the use of Freeze Plus P Pepper Spray Tear Gas.

Perot was transported to Hillcrest Hospital by the ETMC with life-threatening injuries and has since been released.

According to Waco Police spokesman Steve Anderson, detectives began an investigation after the early-morning brawl.

No further details concerning the arrest were released from the Waco Police department.

## BEARS from page 1

the gym to get that pass but she leapt enough to tip it and get it back into her hands," Mulkey said of the play. "It was huge. She worked really hard and she happened to get it. It was a big defensive stop."

After the game, Jones weighed in on why she thought Baylor was able to pull out so many close games.

"I think we just have a bunch of fighters on our team," she said. "We can go through so much and everyone has god each other's backs. Everyone wants the same goal."

Griffin said it was good to

"We have a bunch of fighters on our team."

Melissa Jones  
guard

be able to send the seniors back to the Sweet 16 for the first time since they were freshman.

"It's the seniors' last run," she said. "It means a lot for us to come out and get this win for the seniors."

One senior who caused the crowd to hold its collective breath was post Rachel Allison. She went down a little under 16 minutes into the second half, clutching her left

## FOOD from page 1

in an article for the Financial Post that the poor economic year is looking good for the company so far.

"2009 is off to a good start for McDonald's as our Plan to Win is working in every area of the world," Skinner said of the strategic menu pricing, which is the current recession. "McDonald's continues to appeal to customers as we offer high quality, affordable meal options and unparalleled convenience."

Wendy's is no stranger to the value menu success either, with company-operated sales up 3.6 percent since the previous year, according to The

Columbus Dispatch.

Wendy's president and CEO Roland Smith said in the Columbus Dispatch that the success is a result of an increased focus on its value menu as well as the 99-cent value trio of sandwiches.

"We are pleased with the progress at Wendy's and confident in our plans to revitalize this great brand," Smith said. "While it is early in our journey, our fourth-quarter sales were encouraging and we're building momentum."

McAllen junior Brooke Yancy said as a college student, she appreciates the low prices.

"The recession is directly affecting college students because of the low prices at places like Wendy's and KFC,"

Yancy said. "I like Wendy's 99-cent chicken nuggets because they are inexpensive and delicious."

As appealing as a cheap meal can be, nutrition shouldn't be thrown out the window. Experts fear that people will compromise their health in order to save a buck. Items that are relatively expensive, such as fresh fish, fruit, vegetables and whole grains, will be passed over in favor of cheaper options high in sugar and saturated fats.

Anita Nash, a Ph.D. Candidate at the University of Texas Medical Branch who is currently working on her degree in Preventative Medicine and Community Health, said it is easy to consume more calories than is realized when eating at

## SEARCH from page 1

ing sessions, Baylor has also announced that Baker and Associates will assist in the national search for Baylor's next president. The academic executive search company has provided executive search services to universities including Cornell, Georgetown, Harvard, Rice, Texas A&M, Tulane, Wake Forest and Yale.

"Given Baylor's mission, commitment to academic excellence and also our commitment to Christianity, the firm will hopefully scour the nation and find the right person to serve as our president," Fonville said in reference to Baker and Associates.

a fast food restaurant.

"A typical 'value meal' can have anywhere from 1,000 to 1,200 calories, even before it's 'super-sized.' This means that a person can easily get more than half of a total day's caloric need in one fast food meal," Nash said. "Fast food items can also be very high in total fat, saturated fat, and sodium, which contribute to elevated cholesterol and blood pressure levels."

So while an inexpensive meal is hard to pass up, keep nutrition in mind. Many fast food restaurants include healthy items at an equally low price. Nash offered many helpful tips for those strapped for cash and with fast food is their only option.



Associated Press

President Barack Obama speaks at a news conference in the East Room of the White House in Washington, Tuesday, March 24, 2009

# Obama claims gains in economy

By Jennifer Loven  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama claimed early progress Tuesday night in his aggressive campaign to lead the nation out of economic chaos and declared that despite obstacles ahead, "we're moving in the right direction."

At the second prime-time news conference of his presidency, Obama also toned down his criticism of bonuses to executives at bailed-out AIG, and shot back at Republican critics of his budget.

In office for 64 tumultuous days, Obama cast his budget, now under review in Congress, as essential if the economy is to recover.

The tax and spending plan "is inseparable from this recovery because it is what lays the foundation for a secure and lasting prosperity," he said.

The president also defended the U.S. dollar in the wake of China's suggestion for a universal currency, saying: "The dollar is extraordinarily strong right now," and "I don't believe that there is a need for a global currency."

The news conference, lasting 55 minutes, came at a pivotal, early moment in Obama's young presidency.

Democrats in Congress are readying budget proposals that will largely determine how much of his first-term agenda will be passed, Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner is churning out near-daily proposals to solve the nation's economic crisis and the administration is struggling with public and congressional outrage over bonuses paid to executives of bailed-out AIG.

Additionally, Obama departs next week for his first European trip as commander in chief, with the global economy a major focus.

Flexible on some points, Obama was unyielding on others. Pressed on why he seemed to delay before condemning the AIG bonuses, Obama said, "It took us a couple of days because I like to know what I'm talking about before I speak."

The news conference was dominated by questions about the economy. Obama defended the steps his administration has taken to counter the recession and an unprecedented credit crisis. He said teachers and others have jobs today because of the economic stimulus measure that Congress passed, and the nation is "beginning to see signs of increased sales and stabilized housing prices for the first time in a long time."

He said full-fledged recovery is months away, and he added, "It will take patience."

At the same time, he said, "we're in a better place because of the decisions that we made."

Obama put in a plug for the request Geithner made to Congress earlier in the day for extraordinary authority to take over failing companies like American International Group Inc., much as the Fed-

eral Deposit Insurance Corp. now does for banks.

"It is precisely because of the lack of this authority" that AIG's problems threatened to bring down the entire U.S. economy, he said. Top Democrats in Congress reacted positively to the proposal, although it is not clear when legislation might be considered.

Obama has been vocal in his unhappiness over the \$165 million in retention bonuses paid to executives at AIG, although his favorable reference to business men and women seeking profits was a new twist.

"Bankers and executives on Wall Street need to realize that enriching themselves on the taxpayers' dime is inexcusable, that the days of outsized rewards and reckless speculation that puts us all at risk have to be over," he said.

"At the same time, the rest of us can't afford to demonize every investor or entrepreneur who seeks to make a profit. That drive is what has always fueled our prosperity, and it is what will ultimately get these banks lending and our economy moving once more," he said.

On other issues, Obama:

Said the American people are assessing his ability as chief executive based on his skills and work, not the color of his skin.

He said there was justifiable pride in January, when he was inaugurated as the first black president.

Strongly defended his proposal to raise taxes on the wealthy by reducing the value of the deductions they may take for items such as home mortgages or charitable donations. It's a "realistic way for us to raise some revenue from people who benefited enormously over the last several years. Its not going to cripple them. They will still be well-to-do," he said.

Called his decision to expand federal support of embryonic stem cell research the "right thing to do and the ethical thing to do." He said he wrestled with the ethics of the decision but is hopeful that the science will lead to help for people with debilitating diseases.

Said the recent elections in Israel would not make it easier to create a stable environment with side-by-side Israeli and Palestinian states.

The president opened the news conference with a prepared statement read from a screen, turning the event's opening moments into a brief speech delivered to a nationwide TV audience in addition to the roomful of reporters.

He said his administration was taking steps to make sure banks have money to lend "even if the economy gets worse."

Obama said he did not feel the government should call on Americans to make sacrifices beyond those imposed by the recession and credit crisis. "Folks are sacrificing left and right ... across the board, people are making adjustments large and small," he said.

# Looking for Something New and Exciting?

JOIN US!

## The Baylor Lariat is NOW HIRING!

Download your application at [www.baylor.edu/lariat](http://www.baylor.edu/lariat)

Return completed applications to 232 Castellaw