

ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

# THE BAYLOR LARIAT

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2009

## Baylor hires new chief investment officer

By Sommer Ingram  
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, Baylor named Kent Muckel of the Colorado University Foundation as Chief Investment Officer, a spot left vacant in July 2008.

"I think he brings a deep knowledge covering the range of assets and investments in the Baylor endowment," said Dr.

Reagan Ramsower, vice president for finance and administration. "He has a strong background in selecting and hiring asset managers. He has a well-articulated strategic focus and is a good fit culturally for Baylor."

Muckel will join Baylor on May 1 and work with the Baylor Executive Investment Committee, a group of investment pro-

fessionals responsible for monitoring the daily operations of the university endowment.

"In Kent Muckel, Baylor University has found a seasoned professional who will help to ensure Baylor's continued financial strength," Dr. David Garland, interim president and dean of George W. Truett Theological Seminary, stated in a press release Wednesday.

Meetings to fill this position commenced at the beginning of the fall semester.

"A special thanks goes to the search committee," Ramsower said. "They really showed an extraordinary level of diligence in the search. A lot of discussion went into this decision."

Muckel comes to Baylor with 18 years of experience, most recently serving as port-

folio manager at the University of Colorado.

"I think Baylor was the right place for me for many of the same reasons a student would be attracted to this school," Muckel said. "I am supportive of the mission of the university, as well as its educational values. I'm really excited to become a part of this community."

The responsibilities of

a Chief Investment Officer include recommending investment strategies and investment managers for the endowment and advising administrative committees. Muckel will be in charge of a six-person staff and report to Ramsower, who also serves as the chair of the Executive Investment Committee.

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## Football moves games to DFW

Football team to play in new Cowboy's stadium next season

By Brian Bateman  
Sports editor

The Baylor football team will have one less game in Waco this fall.

Baylor and Texas Tech University have agreed to move the next two meetings between the schools to the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex.

"This is a tremendous opportunity for our football program to gain visibility and credibility in front of our fans, alums and friends in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex," head football coach Art Briles said Wednesday in a press release. "Our players and coaches are excited about having the chance to play in the Cowboy's new stadium this fall and at the Cotton Bowl in 2010. This is a good move for our program that will play benefits in many areas, including recruiting."

The 2009 game between the schools were originally scheduled as a Baylor home game, but now will be played in the Cowboy's new stadium in Arlington Nov. 28. Tech will be the host in 2010 at the Cotton Bowl, which will be during the Texas State Fair Oct. 9.

"It was interesting for Baylor to move the (2009) game. It might be a game that will decide if the Bears make a bowl appearance for the first time in a decade," said Todd Wills, publisher of sicemsports.com, a recruiting Web site.

Baylor's last trip to a bowl game was Dec. 31, 1994—a 10-3 loss to Washington State University in San Antonio's Alamo Bowl.

"One of the things we did factor was the analysis of playing here during Thanksgiving weekend when the students weren't on campus... We actually think this is a much better option," Director of Athletics Ian McCaw said.

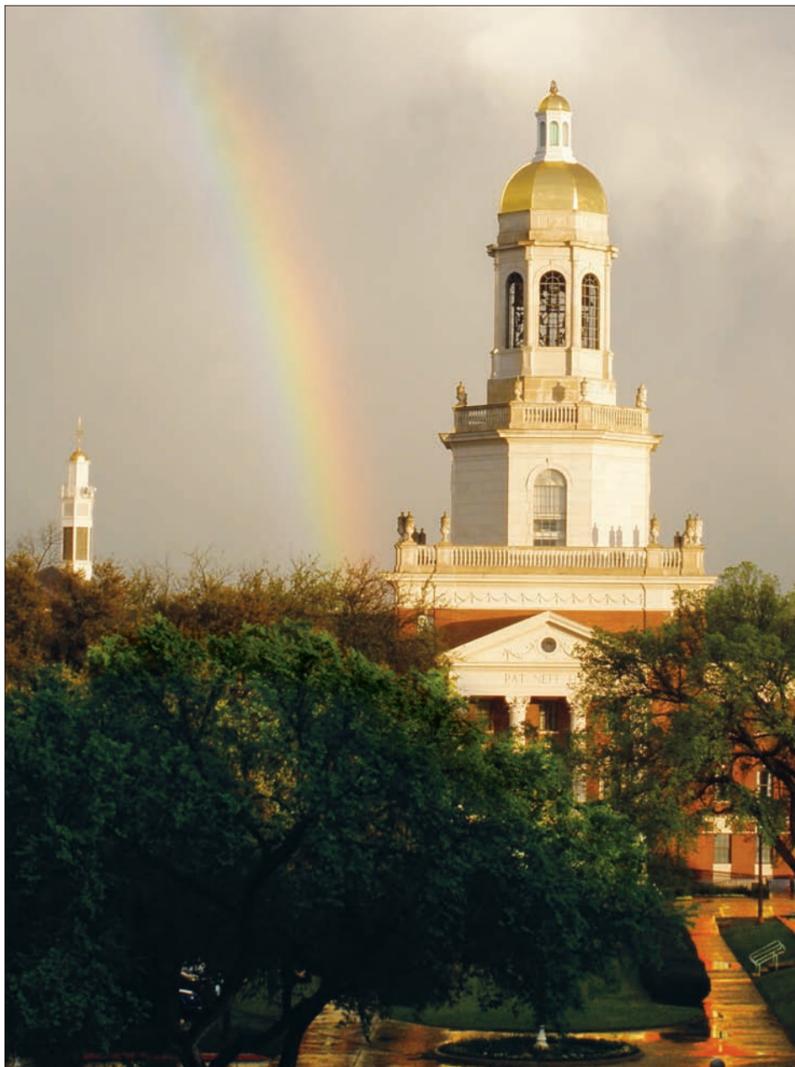
Baylor has approximately 41,000 registered alumni living in the Metroplex.

"We have such a strong alumni base (in the Metroplex)... It's a great way to bring two great games to a large fan base."

Last spring, Baylor and the University of Notre Dame experimented with a game in Dallas, but moved that contest to New Orleans.

"We had originally intended to play Notre Dame in Dallas, but

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Ashleigh Schmitz/Reporter

### Pot of gold

A rainbow forms over Pat Neff Hall Wednesday afternoon after Waco experienced a thunder storm and rain throughout the day. The thunderstorms are forecasted to continue through Thursday and Friday, but are expected to clear by Saturday.

## Bookstore offers software suites at discount price

By Farah Damani  
Reporter

Being a student has its perks. One of these is the special discounts available only to students. Rick Busby, trade department manager for the Baylor Bookstore, said he would encourage students to really take advantage of these discounts before they graduate.

Purchasing software products at retail price can add up. Rick Busby says expenditures can be cut savings up to 90 percent and are available to those who show their student ID card when purchasing these products.

"This message is especially

for graduating seniors. We've had students come in after they've graduated wanting to buy these products for the discounted price, and we just can't give it to them anymore," Busby said.

According to employees at the campus bookstore, these software programs are useful for any student in any major. For example, a design major might need Adobe Photoshop or InDesign while a business major will need the complete Office package and operating system.

"You can save over \$1,900 on just two products [Microsoft Office 2007 Enterprise and Adobe Design Premium]," Busby said.

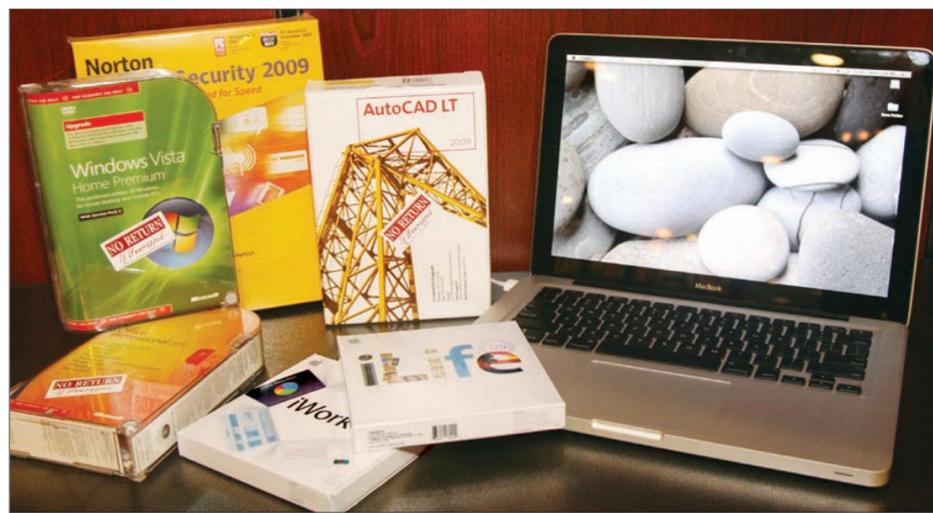


Photo illustration by Jacky Reyes

The Baylor University Bookstore offers discount prices on computer software. Available software includes: Norton products, Adobe design suite software, Microsoft Office and operating system software for PCs and Macs.

Without an academic ID, purchasing those same two products at a retail store could cost up to \$2,300, while students at Baylor only pay \$394.

Baylor bookstore software prices are not only to be compared to retail stores but also other schools that offer dis-

counted student prices.

"If I was to go to McLennan Community College and buy Microsoft Office 2007, it's \$59, and at Baylor it's \$15," said Cody Fabianke, sophomore at MCC. "On top of that, Baylor's version is better because it's Microsoft Office Enterprise,

which includes nine programs while MCC's standard version of Office includes four programs."

According to the employees at campus bookstores, Texas Christian University's book-

Please see PERKS, page 6

## Student talks on Oprah show with gay mom

By Lauren Hollon  
Reporter

Haley is a sophomore history major from Houston. A fairly normal Baylor student, she has an older sister, a younger sister, a father, a mother and a step-mother.

Unlike most Baylor students, though, Haley was interviewed on a national television program. She, her mother and her older sister were featured on The Oprah Winfrey Show. The episode, called "Women Leaving Men for other Women," aired Wednesday afternoon.

"They flew us out the Thursday before spring break and we filmed on Friday," Haley said.

Haley's parents got a divorce when she was 14 years old. They had been married for 24 years.

Her mother, Michelle, took part in a commitment ceremony with her partner, Sharon, almost two years ago.

Women interviewed on yesterday's show had been in happy, heterosexual marriages and realized later—sometimes after a decade or more of marriage—that they were homosexuals.

Please see OPRAH, page 6

## Tanning cause for legislation

By Jessica Gresko  
The Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Miss Florida Teen USA Kayla Collier was 15 when she first visited a tanning salon so the stage lights at a local pageant wouldn't make her fair skin look ghostly white.

Later that year, as she tried on homecoming dresses, her mother noticed what looked like a scab on her back. It turned out to be skin cancer.

And though she can't defini-

tively link the tanning to the cancer, Collier, now 18 and healthy, won't be back under the bulbs. On Wednesday, her voice catching, she asked Sunshine State lawmakers to ban people under 16 from using tanning beds.

"I know teenagers that go every day, every week, twice a day sometimes to tanning beds," said Collier, who wore her sash and a sunshine yellow jacket. "I

Please see JUMP, page 6

# Obama should be held accountable for presidential blunders

There is a time when everyone gets a terrible, yet memorable gift.

For example, I'll never forget the Barbie CD player I received from my great-aunt when I was 15. First of all, it wasn't even a real CD player. It only played three CDs that came with it, which included hit tracks like "Pop Goes the Weasel," "Row Your Boat" and "Skip to my Lou," to name a few. Secondly, I was 15 — nine solid years out of the Barbie phase. Thanks, auntie.

What about the time you accidentally said something really offensive and embarrassing and wished you could travel back in time five seconds and slap a hand over your mouth before your loquaciousness got the best of you. We've all had these moments.

In fact, even President Obama proved he isn't immune to such

blunders. In the past month, Obama was the offender in a gift exchange gone wrong and also made an offensive wisecrack on the Tonight Show in his chitchat with Jay Leno last week.

His gift gaffe happened earlier this month on British Prime Minister Gordon Brown's first visit to see Obama since his inauguration.

Brown arrived at the White House bearing a penholder for Obama made from the wood of the Victorian anti-slave ship HMS Gannet.

This gift was symbolic of diplomacy in that the wood of the HMS Gannet's sister ship, the HMS Resolute, was used to construct the desk in the Oval Office.

Brown also presented Obama with the original commission of the Resolute and the first edition of a biographical series on

## point of view



BY LIZ FOREMAN

Winston Churchill, according to Reuters news service.

Obama in turn, presented Brown with a set of 25 DVDs. The DVD set itself wasn't offensive, after all, it was a set of 25 great American classics.

However, the inappropriateness of the gift was an insult to Brown and the British people. But wait, it gets worse: Brown can't play the DVDs in England thanks to regional-specific coding on electronics, according to USA Today.

Obama's mistake barely made

headlines in America — except on sensational television news — while the British were publicly outraged and embarrassed. This mistake was not only in gift giving, but also in the diplomatic message this sent.

A few weeks later, on Thursday, Obama appeared on The Tonight Show as the first sitting president to appear on a late-night talk show.

To some, his appearance was comforting, showing that he is open and willing to address the American people informally. It showed that Obama was living his campaign promises to be more in tune with "Main Street" America.

However, this experience turned from positive to negative as quickly as it took for Obama to make a wisecrack about his bowling skills being on par with the Special Olympics.

This wasn't just a verbal blunder like those that former President Bush made famous. This was a disrespectful pun that brought into question President Obama's professionalism.

Though blogs and online forums were abuzz about the incident Thursday night, mainstream media failed to give it much attention.

In fact, New York Times writer Helene Cooper disregarded the incident all together in her article recapping Obama's appearance on the show.

Is this a blatant lack of attention on the liberal media's part, trying to further Obama's PR campaign strategy as president? This is likely, considering that the media gave no such breaks to former President George W. Bush during his first term in office.

Newspapers viciously berated

ed Bush for his blunders. His mispronunciation of the word "nuclear" was perhaps the first memorable one for me. In fact, his verbal bloopers even coined their own cute name: "Bushisms." Even so, they were mostly harmless in comparison to President Obama's.

While Bush's initial mistakes made him seem more human, President Obama's have made him seem insensitive and unprofessional.

It would be nice to hear less about Obama's basketball and bowling skills and more about the economy. The media could help by not avoiding his shortcomings.

Liz Foreman is a junior international studies and journalism major from Beaumont and the assistant city editor of The Baylor Lariat.

## Editorial

# Master's degrees in danger of devolving in value

The debate of Intelligent Design versus Evolution rages on in Texas education.

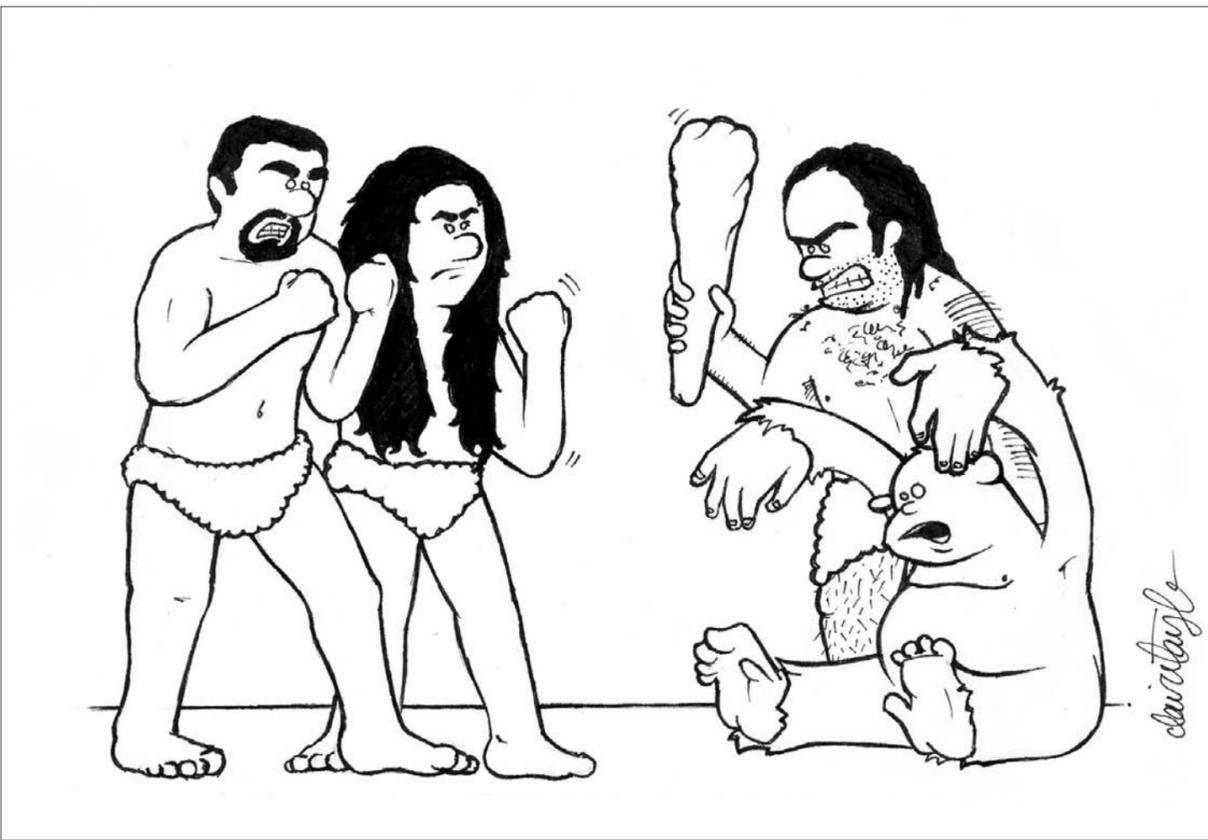
In January, a State Board of Education committee proposed a move away from the "strengths and weaknesses" approach to teaching science in public schools.

It proposed instead a science education based on analyzing and evaluating "scientific explanations using empirical evidence, logical reasoning and experimental and observational testing," the recommendations to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills read.

In the same vein, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board denied The Institute for Creation Research the authority to issue Master of Science degrees in 2007. All Texas colleges and universities must receive a certificate of authority from the board to issue degrees.

State Rep. Leo Berman (R-Tyler) is now proposing a bill that would allow the ICR and other non-profit, private institutions that don't take federal or state funding to grant degrees without the board's approval.

House Bill 2800 is a recipe for disaster. Our state's great



academic reputation, with research universities such as Baylor, the University of Texas and Rice University, would be overshadowed by our lax policy on granting degrees. If approved, it could potentially devalue all Texas degrees and mar Texas as a haven for fly-by-night degree scammers and quasi-schools.

Evidence suggests the ICR is an ill-equipped, sub-par institution. According to a report by Texas Citizens for Science, the ICR home base in Dallas has only one science lab. The school isn't accredited by the Southern Association for Colleges and Schools, the U.S. Education Department's accreditation agency for all schools in Texas.

The bill's passage could also open the door to degree mills

— unregulated organizations that make a profit by awarding degrees to "students" who have done little or no actual work.

The bill appears to be tailored for the ICR specifically; any Texan would be hard pressed to think of another institution HB 2800 would apply to.

It wouldn't apply to most private, non-profit universities, including Baylor, because even private schools receive federal funding for research from organizations such as the National Science Foundation and NASA.

Berman argues that institutions that do not accept state or federal funding should be exempt from the oversight of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. But what Berman doesn't acknowledge

or even seem to realize is that the board's denial of the ICR's request protects the validity of Texas-issued degrees. If a Creationist think-tank can issue master's degrees in science, what would that say about the standard of education in Texas?

Berman has made no secret of his pro-creationism bias. Berman was quoted in a Fox News article as saying, "I don't believe I came from a salamander that crawled out of a swamp millions of years ago. I do believe in creationism. I do believe there are gaps in evolution." The article also states that Berman believes creationism is as scientific as evolutionary theory. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board is undoubtedly a better judge of what constitutes science.

The biology department at Baylor doesn't even subscribe to creationism or intelligent design. The department's statement on evolution states, "Because it is fundamental to the understanding of modern biology, the faculty in the Biology Department at Baylor University, Waco, TX, teach evolution throughout the biology curriculum ... We are a science department, so we do not teach alternative hypotheses or philosophically deduced theories that cannot be tested rigorously."

Whether evolution is better than creationism isn't the debate. We must acknowledge evolution as the basis for modern-day science research. It would be detrimental to the academic reputation of our state to allow HB 2800 to pass.

## 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.

## Letters to the Editor

### Law-abiding Americans have right to bear arms

Thomas Jefferson wrote, "No freeman shall ever be debarred the use of arms." I believe our founding father and third president understood the importance of self-protection, not only from war enemies or our own govern-

ment, but also from the lunatic. The lunatic doesn't care about "gun-free" zones, because they do not abide by the law.

According to the Texas Department of Public Safety (TDPS), only 1.3 percent of all Texans have a concealed carry license (CCL).

Also, out of all of the licenses that were issued last year, only 4.38 percent of those were issued to student-aged citizens (21-24).

If we were to compare apples to apples that would mean that only eight students on Baylor's campus could bear arms if they

felt the need to. This doesn't give the same picture the editorial conveyed last week when it made readers believe that most students on campus would be carrying a firearm.

CCL holders are the safest demographic in the nation. The TDPS states that of the total

crimes committed in 2006, 99.77 percent of them were committed by non-CCL citizens.

There have been 45 shootings on campuses across America, killing 164 people since the University of Texas Massacre in 1966.

I would rather have a last

option of defending my life if the situation occurred. College students are Americans too, and we should be allowed to defend our life inside or outside a fantasy "safe-zone."

Drew Jeffcoat  
BBA Finance '08

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THE SACRAL OF PUZZLES By The Mapham 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

- Across
- 1 Alp top
- 5 Sounding shocked
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- 14 A8 manufacturer
- 15 Decisive refusal
- 16 Double-click, maybe
- 17 In need of irrigation
- 18 Lacking skepticism
- 19 \_\_ dixit
- 20 Ocean delicacy
- 21 Operational headquarters
- 23 She played Ulla in "The Producers"
- 25 Estrangement
- 26 Classy office door adornment
- 33 Lends a hand
- 34 "It's so \_\_!"
- 35 Make up (for)
- 37 Clavell's " \_\_-Pan"
- 38 Ma, for one
- 41 Rx writers
- 42 1943 penny metal
- 44 "Proud Mary" band, for short
- 45 Pond problem
- 46 2006 political best-seller, with "The"
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- 51 Corp. that once owned

- Hertz and Hilton
- 52 Beside one another
- 58 E-mail cackle
- 61 Masseur's stock
- 62 Stag
- 63 Irish Free State successor
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- 65 Andes herd animal
- 66 Pesky biter
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- 2 100 cents
- 3 Part of "The Sound of Music" farewell song
- 4 Little butter?
- 5 Authur Rice
- 6 Transmision component
- 7 Tel \_\_-Yato
- 8 Harsh
- 9 Rain, briefly
- 10 Indicate
- 11 PDA entry
- 12 \_\_-majesty
- 13 Fed. power dept.
- 21 "Illmatic" rapper
- 22 Key of Liszt's Piano Con-

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- 24 Submissions to eds.
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- 27 It's twirled in a rodeo
- 28 PBS's science guy
- 29 IM offerer
- 30 Punish with a fine
- 31 Gin cocktail
- 32 Become, finally
- 36 Salingler dedicatee
- 38 Louisiana Territory explorer
- 39 Needing salt, perhaps
- 40 Sellout initials
- 43 Enters stealthily
- 45 '50s oldies syllable
- 47 Secret doctrine
- 48 Tennyson works
- 49 Eye or ear ending
- 52 Musical conclusion
- 53 Hurries
- 54 Street liners
- 55 Rocker Jett
- 56 "My treat"
- 57 Deterioration
- 59 Like the Sabon vaccine
- 60 Jared of "American Psycho"
- 63 It sometimes needs a boost

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

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# Environmental activists pressure Rep. Chet Edwards

Jenna DeWitt  
Reporter

Chants of "Obama's budget Chet, don't fudge it" filled downtown Waco around Congressman Chet Edwards' local office Wednesday morning as activists gathered to encourage Edwards to vote "yes" on President Barack Obama's budget plan. Titled "A New Era of Responsibility," the plan focuses on health care, education, energy and reducing the deficit according to the president's Office of Management and Budget.

The House of Representatives was scheduled to vote on the bill late last night. Activists raised their signs and voices in hope of influencing that vote to support their causes.

The group included Baylor students involved with the university's Environmental Concern Organization and the Baylor No New Coal Campaign. Other participants included Yoni Levin, a Greenpeace field organizer; Luke Metzger, the legislative director for Environment Texas; and Jesse Romero, a representative from Health Care for America Now.

Levin said he came to Waco from the Austin Greenpeace USA office to speak about reducing global warming and promoting clean energy. He also discussed training in "green" jobs and his organization's longstanding support for alternative energy sources.

boon to Texas," Levin said.

The budget plan Obama is proposing would commit \$33.9 billion to the Department of Energy including support for low-carbon emission coal power and the commercialization of clean energy technologies according to an online version posted on the White House Web site.

Texas Environmental legislative director Luke Metzger acknowledges that though there is significant pressure from large coal and oil companies, energy and global warming will remain top priorities on Obama's list.

"There's already been dozens of these events all over the country," he said. "This budget represents change."

Metzger emphasized his belief in Edwards' history supporting green efforts. "We are urging Congressman Edwards to continue Texas' role as a clean energy leader," he said. "I'm here today to urge him to support President Obama's budget."

Four Baylor students also participated in support of clean energy initiatives and to stand against new coal plants. Paradise Valley, Az., junior Paige Panter said one of her motivations for getting involved is her little brother who has asthma and will be attending Baylor next year.

"Especially in Waco, coal plants will significantly alter the situation. This bill promises to look for a future with no new coal," she said.

She said the Baylor No New Coal Campaign has a strong focus on encouraging energy producers and consumers to be more aware of their energy consumption.

Panter said the group is not one to merely talk about change but to live it out.

"It's great to get the numbers out. Baylor No New Coal Campaign has shifted its emphasis to being energy efficient ourselves and just being more responsible," she said.

Another topic addressed at the gathering was health care. Obama's budget plan includes \$76.8 billion for the Department of Health and Human Services and is projected to increase the federal deficit by \$1.8 billion over the next fiscal year according to an online version posted on the White House Web site.

Health Care for America Now representative Jesse Romero stressed the importance of insured health care and Waco's own low numbers of insured compared to uninsured families.

"The numbers are dramatic. The need for health care is as dramatic as the need for clean air and water," Romero said. "Health care is a right, not a privilege."

He said he believes that Edward's support of Obama's budget would be in the best interests of his constituents.

"Edwards has been a stellar public servant. We are confident," Romero said.



Shanna Taylor/Lariat Staff

## Whirling chain, pouring rain

A Baylor student rides his bicycle in Wednesday's rain. This afternoon, there may be a few isolated thunderstorm developing. The estimated high for today is 70 degrees.

## BEAR BRIEFS

**The Baylor Campus Orchestra** will perform at 7:30 p.m. today in the Jones Concert Hall of the Glenis McCrary Music Building. Also performing will be the St. Petersburg Duo and Baylor University Concert Choir. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call Baylor University School of Music at 710-3991.

**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. today at 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@baylor.edu.

To submit a Bear Brief, e-mail [lariat@baylor.edu](mailto:lariat@baylor.edu)

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# College costs important issue for students' economic welfare

By Jenna Williamson  
Reporter

Secretary of Education Arne Duncan has big ideas to reform America's schools, ones he believes will empower kids, stand behind teachers and help us grow as a nation.

"Ultimately, we will have to educate our way to a better economy," Duncan said in a telephone press conference Wednesday.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act passed earlier

this month will provide immediate funds to create or save hundreds of thousands of teaching jobs, according to the Department of Education Web site.

"In the long-term, the ARRA will strengthen the economy by raising Pell Grants and tuition tax credits to help more young people attend college."

Of the three "buckets" of education that Duncan outlined on Wednesday, early childhood education, K-12, and higher education.

"We are at a time when going

to college has never been more important, but it has also never been more expensive," he said.

He spoke of "dramatically increasing" the number of Pell Grants, Perkins Loans and other forms of aid for students pursuing a higher education. There will be "millions more (students) literally receiving billions of dollars," he said.

States will also be receiving money for higher education. Duncan's plans include dividing \$2.5 billion among the states, in the form of \$500 million per

year over the next 5 years. A major intent of these funds is to increase the number of students graduating from colleges and universities.

"If we can look not only every 18-year-old but every 10-year-old in the eye and guarantee them that if you work hard, the money will be available, I think that's very important," Duncan said.

Dr. Wesley Null, associate professor of curriculum and foundations of education, said he feels the same way.

"President Obama is correct that the future of our nation, in terms of quality of life and economic competitiveness, depends upon the quality of education we provide, and specifically on the quality of our classroom teachers," he said.

"Obama is on the right path when he argues for raising the status of the teaching profession by encouraging the brightest college students to become teachers instead of investment bankers," Null said.

In a world where students are

competing for jobs with people across the globe, a healthy education sector is crucial, he said.

"We need to be responsible and forward thinking, investing in the future," Duncan said.

"That is how we will not only make America more competitive in the 21st century - but ensure that all our sons and daughters have a chance to fulfill their God-given potential and reach for the American dream," he said.

For a full version of this story visit <http://www.baylor.edu/lariat>

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**Where:**

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**Cost:**

\$8 for students/seniors

\$10 for adults

### Acoustic Cafe

**When:** 8 p.m.

**Where:**

Bill Daniel Student Center

**Cost:** Free

### Beall Poetry Festival

reading by Peter Fallon

**When:** 7 p.m.

**Where:**

Armstrong-Browning

Library

**Cost:** Free

# Country artist to rock two-steppin' beats

By Caley Carmichael  
Reporter

Wild West will rope in crowds Friday to see Texas country artist Josh Abbott, of the Josh Abbott Band, in concert.

"This five man show creates a lively dynamic of country, southern rock and progressive sounds," said Austin senior Doug Hines. "It is Texas country music with a heartfelt twist."

Singer, songwriter and guitarist Josh Abbott describes his music as alternative country with flickers of traditionalism within.

Abbott said the band's live show at Wild West will be comprised of mostly originals, as well as covers from various artists such as The Wallflowers, Johnny Cash, John Mayer and Tom Petty.

"When we do our covers we try to take a song that isn't country and add a little flair to it," Abbott said. "Whether it's the electric banjo or guitar or fiddle, we try to make them our own songs."

With song lyrics such as "I surrender to your beauty and seduction," "I want to taste your skin," and "maybe by sunrise we will come to our senses," Abbott

said almost every song has to do with a relationship — whether it is a crush, a strong romance or a breakup.

"Everyone can relate to those songs, whether you have missed someone or hated someone or been jealous of them," he said. "All of our songs evoke many emotions that come to play."

Abbott is the creative mind behind their newest album, "Scapegoat."

"I like the song 'Scapegoat' because it is different than any other song I have written," Abbott said. "It has a very strong minor cord presence with very aggressive lyrics."

In the second verse Abbott said he vents; "Screw you. I'll sing it again. Screw you for the selfish things you did."

"It came from a weird phase in my life when I was just getting out of a relationship," he said.

Georgetown senior Sheridan Rainey said she enjoys listening to "Scapegoat."

"The harmony and insistent style in some of the songs really hit home with me," Rainey said. "I enjoy listening to Josh Abbott when I am in the mood for some good country music."

Josh Abbott said he started



Courtesy Photo

Josh Abbott, a country-rock artist, will be performing at Wild West at 10 p.m. Friday in Waco. The Josh Abbott Band is originally from Lubbock and released its first full-length album in September 2008.

his musical career with a drum set and high ambition. In college he got involved in his church worship band and has not been able to leave the stage since.

The singer/songwriter said he gets his inspiration from Nashville artist and friend Randy Rogers.

"I think we sound similar, (I'm) just not quite as good," Abbott said. "That's a band that we look up to but we still try to come up with our own sound while we are doing it."

Hines said he first heard of Josh Abbott Band about five months ago from lonestarmu-

sic.com and has since heard his music on KVET, an Austin country radio station.

"It is great front porch music that I can relate to easily," he said. "A lot of my friends have the same taste in music as I do and we are all very excited about the concert."

According to Hines, the Josh Abbott Band can take a commonplace day and turn it into an extraordinary one.

"To impress a girl, I would take her out to lunch at Cooper's and head back to the river for an afternoon of fly-fishing," Hines said. "Just as the sun is setting, we would head down to the river bottom and sit on my tailgate and listen to Josh Abbott."

The Josh Abbott Band will perform 10 p.m. Friday at Wild West, at the corner of Franklin Avenue and University Parks Drive.

Doors open at 8 p.m. Tickets are available online or at the door, prices are \$8 for 21 and up, and \$10 for ages 18-20.

Abbott said Baylor students would love the show because his music is an escape.

"It is entertaining and something that you can enjoy two-stepping to," he said.

# Fifteenth annual Beall festival to celebrate contemporary poets

By Jenna DeWitt  
Reporter

Armstrong Browning Library will resound with the words of four professional poets today through Saturday during the 15th annual Beall Poetry Festival.

Nationally acclaimed poets Peter Fallon, C.D. Wright, David Lehman and Donald Hall are this year's participants.

The poets were chosen for their high profile status among contemporaries and to attract diverse audiences to the festival, said Dr. Dianna Vitanza, English department interim-chair.

"Even if students feel they don't know poetry that well, it is an interesting and enlighten-

ing experience," Vitanza said. "Everybody's invited. We really would love to have people from across the campus, university-wide."

The festival, organized by the English department, features a panel discussion with the poets, a poetry reading each evening and the Virginia Beall Ball Lecture in Contemporary Poetry. Lehman will give this year's lecture, named for the festival's founder.

Ball began funding the event in 1994, establishing the John A. and DeLouise McClelland Beall Endowed Fund, named in honor of her parents. Vitanza said Ball personally attended the festival regularly until her death in 2003.

The festival also includes a

student contest, awarding winners cash prizes. The winners of the awards will be announced at 3:30 p.m. today in 101 Carroll Science Building. Students from any major were eligible to submit their work for consideration for one of three fiction awards or one of five poetry awards. Anonymous judging took place throughout March, traditionally by poets honored at past years' festivals.

Guyton, Ga., graduate student Sarah Honeycutt said the student contest is one aspect of the festival she looks the most forward to each year because it "encourages creativity right here on Baylor's campus."

Honeycutt said another attraction of the festival is the original, previously unpub-

lished poem that each participating guest poet is required to submit for an exclusive, limited edition publication sold at the festival. The poetry readings by the poets are another favorite part of the weekend, Honeycutt said.

"It allows many who would not otherwise have this experience to hear poetry read aloud, brought to life by its very authors," she said.

As the two graduate student representatives on this year's planning committee, Honeycutt and Waco graduate student Jeff Bilbro will show the poets around Waco and coordinate two student lunches with the poets, which undergraduate and graduate students were able to sign up for prior to this

week's festival.

Austin graduate student Adrienne Akins said her experience working with other graduate students and faculty to plan the event last year led to unique opportunities.

"It was great to be on the planning committee because you get to have close interaction with the poets," she said. "In fact, I even got to do the introduction for Li-Young Lee, and I took Lee and Gary Snyder (former Beall poet participants) to see the Bear Habitat."

Vitanza emphasized poetry's strong history at Baylor.

Students also said from the festival itself to its home in the Armstrong Browning Library, the art form has maintained a presence on campus through-

out the years despite changes in culture and technology.

"It's no secret that poetry is seriously threatened by the culture of consumption," English doctoral candidate Robert Hamilton said. "But on the other hand, it has been a part of the human experience almost since the dawn of language. Poetry is a shared cultural treasure of monumental significance, and the generous contributions that make the Beall Poetry Festival possible are helping pass that treasure down to future generations and fostering an appreciation for the creativity of the best modern poets."

For the schedule for the 15th annual Beall Poetry Festival visit [baylor.edu/lariat](http://baylor.edu/lariat).



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# Parity now the standard for women's basketball

By Doug Feinberg  
The Associated Press

Goodbye Tennessee. So long Duke. See you next time North Carolina.

Thirty-two games into the NCAA women's basketball tournament and three of the powerhouses have already been bounced. Throw in LSU, which had made the previous five Final Fours and it would be easy to see a transformation under way.

"I just think it points toward the parity in women's basketball with so many different teams doing so well. I think it's a good sign in some ways for basketball that they aren't in the Sweet 16," said Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer, whose team advanced to the Berkeley Regional semifinals. "But there is more talent spread around. I think it's exciting. You're looking at the future of women's basketball. Of course, as long as Stanford's in there, I like it."

Still even with those perennial Final Four teams out of the mix, it might be a little too soon to claim complete equality in the sport.

Sure, all four No. 1 seeds won't be playing in the second weekend for only the second time since 1999 with Duke's loss to Michigan State Tuesday. And eyes, there certainly was a buzz after Ball State knocked out the two-time defending champion Lady Vols.

But let's look at the facts. There is a lot of championship experience left with UConn, Stanford, Baylor and Purdue still playing. Those four teams have combined to win seven of the past 10 national titles. No mid-major team made it to the second weekend as all 16 teams left come from power conferences. The Big 12 and Big East each have four teams, the Pac-10 and Big Ten are sending three. The SEC and ACC only have one representative each.



The Associated Press

Baylor guard Melissa Jones and University of Texas at San Antonio's Ryba Pawlaczyk during Baylor's overtime Sunday. The Roadrunners hail from the Southland Conference. Mid-major conferences are equaling larger conferences' success.

"Three Pac-10 teams in the Sweet 16, I think that's making a pretty good statement that basketball is alive and well in the West," VanDerveer said. "Unfortunately we had to eliminate some West teams to get here," she said, referring to UC Santa Barbara and San Diego State."

Of the major upsets that happened so far in the tournament none is more talked about than Ball State's victory over Tennessee. The shock of it put the women's tournament on the front page the next day.

"I think when you watch teams like Ball State, you can't help but get excited," Rutgers coach C. Vivian Stringer said. "The mid-majors are catching up and you can't predict as much as you did before and it is good for the game because it spurs the interest of everyone across the country."

Now if Connecticut had lost to Vermont in the opener, that would have been something.

Yet the UConn express keeps rolling as the unbeaten Huskies (35-0) have shown no signs of weakness routing both Vermont and Florida in their first two games.

"As much as everyone focuses on Connecticut, there are going to be some great stories coming out of the tournament," Connecticut coach Geno Auriemma said. "The tournament is just become an unbelievable event for these kids. There are no guarantees. We want to get a lot better this week than we were this weekend."

The Huskies are well on their way to completing the fifth undefeated season in the history of the sport. Next up is California on Sunday in the Trenton Regional.

It will be UConn's first tournament game away from home as it has played the first two rounds at Gampel Pavilion. The NCAA tournament decided to go back to 16 host sites this season to try and boost attendance. While those numbers may be up, it forced a few top seeds to play on or very near to opponents home courts.

Seventh-seed Rutgers benefited from playing at home to knock off No. 2 Auburn. Yet Tigers coach Nell Fortner refused to use that as an excuse. The Scarlet Knights had been playing well heading into the NCAAs. They gave UConn its closest game of the season to finish off its Big East schedule in early March. Rutgers then went

on to fall in double overtime to Louisville in the conference tournament quarterfinals.

"That was the best basketball we had seen them play in watching all the games scouting them," Fortner said. "My hats off to them and I fully expect them to get to the Final Four."

It seems as though the Scarlet Knights are finally on the same page after an inconsistent season and may yet make another run to the Final Four. The rollercoaster ride of this season is similar to the 2007 team that lost to Tennessee in the national championship game. That squad was highly ranked in the preseason before struggling early on. They finally put it together, winning the Big East tournament before the NCAA run.

Not all home teams had success in the tournament. LSU saw its streak of 12 straight NCAA tournament victories at home

*"You're looking at the future of women's basketball."*

Tara VanDerveer  
Stanford coach

## Campus response to Tuesday's results

### On the women's win

*"It was really good to see Kim Mulkey out there again with the ladies (Tuesday)."*

Piccola Dorsey, freshman social work major from Fort Hood

*"The (women's) team, they have a tradition of excellence from what I can tell and they obviously want it and they go after it."*

Adriel "AJ" Meditz, senior business administration major from Austin

### On the men's win

*"I think it shows we are up and coming even though we didn't make it to the (NCAA) tournament this year. Definitely we're a viable team and we are kind of justified to make an argument that we should have had an NCAA spot."*

John Coffey, junior history major from Mont Belvieu

## Sports briefs

### Baseball up to No. 8; game postponed

Baseball America announced Monday that the men's baseball team has moved up to the No. 8 spot in the publication's rankings. The 14-5 Bears went 4-1 last week, including consecutive wins over Texas A&M, Texas State, and Texas Tech Universities.

Coach Steve Smith and company are the highest ranked Big 12 Conference team in the new poll, while the University of Texas is ranked

at No. 9, the University of Oklahoma moved to No. 12, Texas A&M moved to 15, and Oklahoma State University rounded out the group at No. 23.

The team's Wednesday showdown with intrastate rival and No. 16 TCU has been rescheduled for 6:30 p.m. tonight.

### Softball showdown with Texas A&M postponed

The softball game that was supposed to take place Wednesday at Gettman Stadium

against rival Texas A&M University has been moved to 6:30 p.m. April 29 due to inclement weather. The team will face the No. 13 University of Missouri Tigers at 2 p.m. on Saturday and at noon on Sunday in their next series.

### Broosova named Big 12 Player of Week

The Big 12 Conference announced Wednesday that junior Lenka Broosova has been named Player of the Week for the second consecutive week after leading the Lady Bears to

three straight wins. The No. 4 Lady Bears took down No. 17 University of Kentucky, the No. 58 University of Nebraska, and Iowa State University in consecutive games, while the Slovakia native fared 3-0 in both singles and doubles.

Broosova has a 12-3 record this season in singles play, which she will look to improve on when the team takes on the University of Colorado at noon on Saturday in Boulder, Colo.

-Compiled by Gordon Voit

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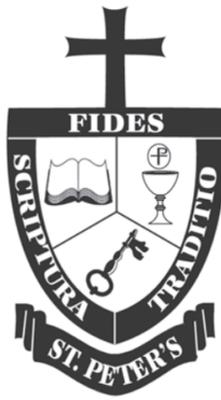
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Shanna Taylor/Lariat staff

## Radio free Baylor

Jacqueline Deavenport makes an announcement on KWBU, the local National Public Radio station, in the Castellaw Communications Center Wednesday evening. After graduating in December, Deavenport became the Internet News Media Communications Coordinator for KWBU.

## DALLAS from page 1

due to complications regarding the Big 12 television contract, we had to move the game to New Orleans," McCaw said. "This was an entirely separate contract. Texas Tech contacted us about moving two games to Dallas at the end of this past

season."

Tickets for the 2009 game will be \$100 for club seats, \$60 for lower bowl seating, \$40 for upper bowl seats and \$25 for Baylor and Texas Tech students.

Baylor will be the designated home team, as it would have been the host for this year's scheduled meeting in Waco.

"They'll get to invite their recruits," Wills said. "I think it's also a big thing from a revenue standpoint to make money. The second thing you're trying to do is get neutral sites to get exposure."

Because of the change in 2010, the Bears will move the Baylor-University of Kansas game to Oct. 2.

## CIO from page 1

"Obviously in today's market asset protection and return on investment are critical factors," Ramsower said. "These are areas Muckel is comfortable with."

Muckel, who is a chartered financial analyst, has extensive experience including service as a senior asset and liability analytics officer with CoBank; a senior investment officer at a Fortune 500 company; and vice

president and senior director for public markets at Denver-based Qwest Communications International, where he was accountable for assets totaling about \$10 billion.

"My main responsibility here will be to work with the committee and managing the endowment to help secure and grow Baylor's financial security," Muckel said. "I hope to be able to protect the endowment in today's economic climate and set it up for growth in the future."

## PERKS from page 1

store offers Microsoft Office 2007 Professional edition for about \$80, while Texas A&M's bookstore sells the same product for \$20. These prices are after the student discount.

Busby says that Baylor is one of the limited schools that offer these savings.

"TSTC (Texas State Technical College) has more students taking computer classes [since it is a technical school], yet they don't have this program that Baylor does," Busby said.

At Best Buy, Microsoft Office 2007 Enterprise is about \$500. TSTC's bookstore offers the same product for \$199 with student discount, while Baylor's bookstore offers the same product for \$15 with student discount.

"These prices you just can't find anywhere else," Busby said.

Students are not the only ones that receive the special discount on these products. Faculty and staff, with their academic ID, can receive the same discounts as students at most schools. While Baylor and A&M offer discounts to faculty and staff, TCU does not.

In August, the Baylor Bookstore became an Apple store and now sells Apple Macbooks as well as software and accessories for both PC's and Macbook's.

One thing to keep in mind is that students are limited to purchasing only one product from each category in the store. This is to be more secure

so that students don't purchase multiple copies and then re-sell them.

If a student wants to purchase another copy of the same product, they can do so online at [efollett.com](http://efollett.com).

It takes users to Baylor's pricing where students can purchase the boxed copy of the software sold at the bookstore.

While the price of the second copy is set higher at around \$80, Busby says the savings are good when compared to retail stores such as Best Buy who sell it for \$499.99.

"If you need a second copy, then I'd advise you to purchase it online because in the store, the second copy is \$199.99," he said.

Students should keep in mind that not all retailers give student discounts on their products.

But places that are sure to have them are on-campus bookstores and most brand name company Web sites, such as Apple.

The prices of these student discounts vary because each university has individual deals with companies.

"I'd say definitely get all the software you can get before you graduate because after when you have to pay full price, you're really gonna regret it," Fabianke said. "Especially for Baylor students because the prices at the bookstore are just ridiculously low."

So seniors who are getting ready to walk the stage in a couple of months should consider making a few purchases using that old Baylor ID card while they still can.

## TAN from page 1

do believe that it did play a part in my skin cancer."

Florida is among 17 states, including Hawaii, considering laws this year that would restrict indoor tanning by minors.

Proposals would ban teens from tanning salons or require them to get notes from parents or doctors.

After the Florida bill passed a Senate committee, Collier's mother, Claire, who had signed the permission form that allowed her daughter to tan, said she hopes the full Legislature will approve it.

"Do you really realize that your daughter or son after just a few times in the tanning bed could have melanoma? I didn't," she said.

Opponents say the tanning beds are safe for teens and their use should be up to parents, not states.

"I gotta tell you, you cannot regulate everything in this world," said Florida Sen. Mike Bennett, a Republican who voted against the bill. "I suppose we could say the same thing and outlaw tanning on the beach."

Persuading teens to stop tanning could be a hard sell. According to one study released in 2002, a quarter of those ages 15 to 18 had used indoor tanning in the past year.

Florida already requires parental approval before minors can use tanning salons. If the new law passes, it would be among the strictest in the nation.

Only one state, Wisconsin, bans teens 16 and under from using tanning beds, though a handful of others California, New York and New Jersey among them ban the under-14 crowd. At least 29 states have some regulations governing tanning by minors.

Even more restrictive proposals in Texas and Vermont would prohibit anyone under 18 from using a tanning bed without a doctor's note.

Texas state Rep. Burt Solomons, a Republican, says it makes sense to ban minors from tanning just like they're prohibited from buying cigarettes because both are known carcinogens. And Democratic Vermont state Rep. Janet Ancel, who introduced her bill after having skin cancer herself, said just requiring parental consent isn't good

enough.

"It isn't healthy for a young person to be in a tanning booth, so allowing it with a parent's consent isn't going to protect them," she said.

Many of the bills being debated in state legislatures this year were promoted by California-based Aim at Melanoma, which supports research and education on the most serious form of skin cancer.

Foundation spokeswoman Samantha Guild, whose sister died of skin cancer in 2003, says the group would like all states to require parental consent for anyone under 18 to use a tanning bed, a position shared by the World Health Organization and American Academy of Dermatology.

According to the National Cancer Institute, the federal government's cancer research agency, approximately 500 people ages 19 and under were diagnosed with melanoma nationwide in 2005, the most recent year for which statistics are available.

That's a small fraction of the estimated new cases reported by the American Cancer Society that year.

## OPRAH from page 1

Haley and her sister had known for a long time that their mother was homosexual, she said. They used to tease her about it when she would comment on a beautiful woman she saw during the day.

"We would say to her, 'Mom, you're such a lesbian,'" Haley said.

Michelle said on the show that she had doubts about her sexuality while she was married. She discussed her attraction to women with her husband, but they were in love, had a great relationship, a strong emotional bond and a healthy sex life.

Haley described the day her mom came out to her. Upon learning that her high school hockey coaches were in a lesbian relationship together, she left practice upset and crying. She said to her mother, "I can't believe they're lying to their daughter and to everyone else."

"When I said that to her, it was like a lightning bolt struck,"

Haley said. Michelle told her daughter right then that she was homosexual.

She and her sisters were upset, she said, but not about their mother's homosexuality.

"It was the divorce that upset me," Haley said.

Haley said her dad's side of the family is deeply southern Baptist.

"They said that she was dead to them, that she ruined their lives and she was dead to them," Haley said.

Haley said she's had no problems reconciling her Christian faith, her southern Baptist upbringing and her mother's homosexuality.

"Jesus never said a word about sex in the Bible," she said.

Haley said she has never been teased about her mother, but that some people don't quite know what to think of their family.

When Haley was in high school, her mom invited a neighboring Baptist family over for a housewarming dinner.

"She immediately told them she was gay. It's just what she

does because she's trying to live her truth, so they knew," Haley said.

She said they seemed confused when they saw decorative crosses and a painting with a verse from the book of Ruth adorning the walls.

When everyone sat down to dinner, Michelle announced that they were going to say a blessing for the meal.

"As soon as the neighbors heard that my mom wanted to pray, they had these looks on their faces like, 'A lesbian can pray? A lesbian can be a Christian?'" Haley said.

"That just proves to me and other people that just because my mom's a lesbian doesn't mean she can't be a devout Christian, because she is. She's a good person and she's a good Christian," Haley said.

Haley said her experience with her mom has made her a stronger person.

"I know that I don't have the right to judge anyone. The only judging factor in this world is God, and I'm not him," she said.

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