



ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

# THE BAYLOR LARIAT

FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2009

## Travelling sessions cater to alumni input

**By Nick Dean**  
**Staff writer**

After several on-campus listening sessions for faculty, administrators, students and staff, the presidential search committees are traveling around the state of Texas in May to hold alumni listening sessions. The first alumni meeting will be held 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday in Houston at Tallowood Baptist Church located at 555 Tallowood Road.

“It’s an opportunity for the alumni to express their priorities and their primary areas of interest for the future of Baylor,” said Baylor alumna and President-Elect of the Baylor Alumni Association Emily George Tinsley. “It should have a positive effect and the committee should be commended that they are

interested in the alumni of Baylor and what they think.” The feedback from the alumni will be the most crucial part, and is the main focus of the sessions said Baylor Alumni Association President David Lacy. “I hope (alumni) speak openly and honestly and tell the Baylor leadership what they are looking for,” Lacy said. The opportunity to provide feedback to the search committee is a commendable chance, Tinsley said. “The search committee is there to serve and they should be commended for going through the trouble or traveling around,” Tinsley said. “It is all about communication and I think (the session) will be a good thing.” Lacy said he is looking for alumni to step up and provide open advice for the committee. The feedback from alumni

could alter the committees presupposed positions or it could provide new insight, Lacy said. “I think it is always good to have alumni being very candid with members of Baylor’s leadership,” he said. “In some respects it could underscore opinions (committee members) already have and in others it could open their eyes to new perspectives.” Alumni attendance is a major concern for Lacy. With a membership of nearly 19,000, the alumni association is aims to have large turnouts at each of the alumni-specific sessions. “We just have to have people show up,” Lacy said. “There will be other listening sessions in other parts of the state, and it is my hope that we would have as much heads-up as possible in order to generate the notice as

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Please see **ALUMNI**, page 6

## Five students set to travel for Fulbright

**By Sommer Ingram**  
**Staff writer**

Five Baylor students have been selected to serve in various countries around the world as Fulbright Scholars. Ashley Killough, Charlie Manzanares, Alex Nix, Aaron Reynolds and Megan Rizos are the recipients of the award.

The Fulbright, a highly competitive program that operates in over 155 countries, provides government-funded grants for graduate research or English teaching abroad assistantships. Scholars are chosen for their academic merit and leadership qualities, and will have the opportunity to conduct research and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns. “As Fulbright representative for Baylor, I was exceedingly proud of all the students whose applications were sent forward,” said Dr. Elizabeth Vardaman, associate dean of the college of arts and sciences. “The students will represent America and the Fulbright program exceedingly well and will build positive relationships within all the communities where they will serve, teach and pursue research.” Baylor had a record number of applicants for the Fulbright program this school year, with a total of 20 students completing the application process which includes writing two essays, getting professor recommendations, becoming proficient at a new language and proposing a project. Killough, a senior from Plano, will be in Armenia working as a

**Come-and-go seminars**  
 Monday and Tuesday 2-5 p.m. 205 Morrison Hall  
 Monday: general award information  
 Tuesday: focused on upper-level awards.



Killough



Reynolds



Nix



Manzanares



Rizos

Please see **SCHOLAR**, page 6



Jacky Reyes/Lariat Staff

### Twist, twirl and swirl

Ballet Folklorico does a traditional Hispanic dance to “La Negra” Thursday night on Fountain Mall for the Fiesta celebration. The event was sponsored by the Hispanic Student Association and featured free Mexican food, live music from Mariachi Las Margaritas, Sigma Alpha Epsilon’s Salsafest, a traditional fashion show and a jalapeño-eating contest.

## Dorm clean-out means donations

**Baylor, Caritas partnership hopes to gather unwanted dorm goods**

**By Sean Doerre**  
**Reporter**

A year of living in a small confined space can produce a large quantity of clutter in a dorm room, but students now have an option to donate this accumulated material rather than shoving it to the curb. Baylor Housekeeping is partnering with Caritas of Waco for a “Take It or Leave It” campaign, as students prepare

to move out of residence halls. From May 6 to 15 students will have the opportunity to donate non-perishable food items, gently used clothing and other items such as carpeting, lumber and medicine to the Caritas organization that provides needy community members with food, clothing, prescription medications and transportation said Vicki Pierce, Baylor housekeeping’s operations manager. Pierce said the program was started six years ago when she realized that quality items were being throw away by students who could not transport the items back home.

“There has to be a way to stop this from happening,” Pierce said. “There needed to be a way to get some of these items that students could not take with them for whatever reason to people that needed it.” Students can deposit their donation items next week in boxes which will be located in the lobby of all Baylor residence halls. The “Take It or Leave It” program is not only for students on campus, as Pierce encourages all students to donate their unused and unwanted items. Once residence halls have been vacated, the housekeep-

ing staff will make a sweep to locate any and all left over items. “Hangers are a great thing to donate, because not many people take their hangers with them,” Pierce said. “Sometimes the girls can’t carry the carpet down the stairs or get it on the elevator and so we will try our best to get it down there.” The donations are taken by Caritas and processed at their distribution warehouse. Next, the items go to one of Caritas’ three resale stores in the area that offer items for a reduced cost to individuals who can

Please see **TRASH**, page 6

## Unity at heart of worship service

**By Brittany McNamara**  
**Reporter**

The worship service, “Lift Up Your Hearts”, invites Baylor students, faculty and staff to unite at 11 a.m. Monday in Truett Chapel. Aside from bringing together the Baylor family, it will be the last speaking engagement for Vice President for Student Life Dr. Samuel “Dub” Oliver. “This is the first time in a good while we’ve tried to do a

campus-wide worship service,” Dr. Burt Burleson, university chaplain said. “It will be a time to come together, be grateful to God and pray for each other and for the world.” The service will consist of prayer, music and a brief sermon on Psalm 33 given by Oliver, Burleson said. He said this is one of the community’s last opportunities to hear Oliver speak on campus before he leaves to become president of East Texas Baptist University.

“We’re excited for him but his absence will be felt in so many ways,” Burleson said. “He’s had such a (connection) to Baylor and our unique culture and has become a respected leader in higher education.” Sponsoring the event is the Spiritual Life office, the provost’s office and the religious affairs committee. Planning for the service began at the beginning of the semester. “We knew we wanted to put

a spiritual wrap on the semester just as finals wrap up the academic semester,” said Dr. Jeter Basden, director of Ministry Guidance and a member of the religious affairs committee. Kathy Hillman, director of special collections for the University Central Libraries and chair of the religious affairs committee, said they didn’t know while planning this event how crucial its timing would



Shanna Taylor/Lariat Staff

Dr. Dub Oliver, vice president for Student Life, and his wife, Susie Oliver, greet McKinney sophomore Varun Joseph at a reception honoring Oliver Thursday afternoon in the McLane Student Life Center.

Please see **UNITE**, page 6

# Year as editor brings renewed appreciation for ethics

I've had a wild year. And, I'd assume, like most students, I'm ready to be done with it. I've been worn thin by all the papers, all the tests, all the ethical conundrums.

Yes, ethical conundrums. While many students don't have to deal with applied ethics on a daily basis, I had to. A moral obligation to consumers isn't something I'm studying from the safety of a lecture hall with the only possible repercussion of a misstep being a less-than-desirable grade. I'm the editor of a newspaper.

I want you, our readers, to know that I didn't make these

ethical decisions lightly. I fully realized the responsibility that fell on my shoulders, and I promise that no ethical decision made this semester was done flippantly or in haste.

Sometimes that meant waiting a day on a major story, even if it meant we couldn't be the ones who broke the story. Accuracy shouldn't be sacrificed for the sake of timeliness.

I don't bring up the pressures of this job to fish for praise or get sympathy. I bring it up because some people thought that this publication, under my leadership, misrepresented the case of the rope tied in the shape of a



**point of view**

BY ANITA PERE

swing, which everyone initially thought was a noose.

When we ran the story about the perceived noose, we had reputable sources such as Baylor Police Chief Jim Doak, Vice President of Student Life Dub Oliver and e-mails from Interim President David Garland, all of whom confirmed that there was

a noose-like knot in a rope hung in a tree on Baylor's campus.

We did the responsible thing by speaking with several university officials and students, which provided balance for our articles on the rope tied in the shape of a noose. At that time, none of us could have foreseen that the supposed noose was in fact a swing. When I got the call about this bizarre turn of events, my jaw literally dropped.

This year has been packed with negative national news coming out of Baylor University. A few staffers here have suggested that they feel a twinge of remorse while gathering or writ-

ing yet another blemishing story about their university. But we have to do it. It's our job. It's our job to inform the Baylor community about what's happening on their campus — good, bad or otherwise. And I have no regrets about printing any of the controversial stories.

That's not to say that all the news has been negative. Jason Smith's second place draft pick, for example, undoubtedly reflected well on our university.

Three students and I went to Washington, D.C. for President Barack Obama's inauguration, which brought non-wire, entergetic reporting from afar to the

pages of the Lariat.

I have no regrets about taking this job. It meant long nights in the library after I got out of work. It meant attempted intimidation by students who thought they had a say in content. It meant smoothing things over when there was a staff conflict. It meant dealing with angry employees and readers.

I can't say that I enjoyed every second of it, but I wouldn't change any part of it.

Anita Pere is a senior journalism major from Broken Arrow, Okla. and the editor of The Baylor Lariat.

## Editorial

# Turbulent 2008-09 highlights growing pains

Our nation elected a new president, and our university fired a president. National news broke on our campus. Other stories and topics garnered a local appeal from students and Wacoans.

As The Lariat's publication this year draws to a close, we'd like to recap what we thought were the year's most noteworthy issues.

### The SAT re-takes

The university sent e-mails to all incoming freshmen last summer and offered them the chance to retake the SAT. And who wouldn't, for a \$300 gift certificate to the bookstore and the opportunity to get more scholarships? Many of our readers considered this absolutely heinous, and we did, too.

While we can't attest to the true intentions of those who devised this plan, we can say that it's best to avoid the appearance of shady deals. We also know that it was unfair.

While freshmen who retook the test got a \$300 gift certificate for four hours of sitting in a desk filling in bubbles, returning students took out loans and worked long hours to pay for their books.

University officials' admittance of a "goof" was no condolence to these students or our university's damaged reputation.

### The football program

Our football team exceeded our expectations under the



new leadership of head coach Art Briles and true freshman quarterback Robert Griffin.

We still lost some big games, but at least we lost by a touchdown or two instead of seven or eight.

This year was a building year, and a great indication of what's to come with Briles at the helm.

And let's not forget that the NFL's second overall draft pick was one of our very own, offensive tackle Jason Smith. We have great hopes for him and wish him the best with the St. Louis Rams.

All of this comes at the same time as the completion of the Hegers Athletics Complex, which will continue to attract athletes to play for Baylor.

We hope the facility attracts star players for many years to come.

### The basketball program

For the first time, the men's basketball team won a game in the National Invitation Tournament. It was their first post-season win since 1956.

The success renewed pride in our men's basketball team. Students, alumni and friends in New York turned out en masse to root for the Bears. If fans treated every game like the NIT games, there'd be no limit to what our team could do.

But let's not forget the Lady Bears. The seniors on the team this year had an outstanding 79 percent winning percentage in their four years. They made it to the Sweet 16, and at the season's end, the Associated Press ranked them at No. 5.

### Racial tension

While reports of what exactly happened on our cam-

pus Election Night 2008 conflict, it's good that the issue of embracing other races came to the forefront. What appeared to be a noose was actually a rope swing, which is innocent enough.

But students gathered at a march and at Frankly Speaking meetings to talk about racism, and many of them thought there were racist undertones on campus.

We're glad that was brought to light. The university also took action, setting up the BMIST (Bias Motivated Incident Support Team) initiative, a support team students can go to when they think they've been discriminated against for any reason.

There hasn't been any word of progress in these areas this semester. While the success of these measures is something hard to quantify, we think

we're off to a good start — that is, if awareness efforts on campus don't dissolve.

### The presidential search

The Board of Regents terminated President John Lilley last summer, which was a positive move for the university, considering Lilley's inability to unite the Baylor family.

But we're disappointed in the model the regents selected for picking a president. Instead of giving faculty, alumni and students representation on the search committee, these groups must voice their opinions on an advisory committee without any actual voting rights in the presidential search.

The regents have established special listening sessions, which we like, but it's still not what the Baylor family asked for.

## 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, label 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.

## Notification

In the story "Students speak out at sessions," (April 24), attribution for a quote from the listening session was fabricated. The quote has been removed from The Lariat's online edition of the story. The editors deeply regret this error.

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.

# Massive drainage issues pooling up around campus areas

It's 9:30 on a Monday morning. My first class is in 40 minutes and I have a choice to make. I could get up, fumble through the lack-of-sleep-induced disorientation to the shower, get dressed, go outside, get in my car, drive to campus, find a place to park, walk to class and then sit there for an hour thinking how I'm really ready for summer vacation to get here. Or I could stay right where I am, in the toasty warm

comfort of my bed, and go right back to sleep.

Now, normally I'm pretty good about going to class. I guess I'm worried that if I miss class I'll miss some critical piece of information or not find out about an impending quiz, but something is different on this morning.

Is that rain I hear? Why yes it is. I go back to sleep.

If I got up, not only would I have to go through the entire



**point of view**

BY JOE HOLLOWAY

"get to class" process, but I would have to go through the whole thing sopping wet.

There drainage around cam-

pus is so bad I would probably have to borrow my cousin's fly-fishing waders just to make it out of the parking garage.

I don't know why there seems to be no place for all the water to go. Some of the "puddles," if one can call them that, collect on cement, which is somewhat understandable.

But even the grassy areas are oversaturated to the point the water simply collects in pools on

the surface. Whether the sprinkler system is overzealous, the soil lacks the ability to absorb water efficiently or Baylor is built on a giant impermeable layer of earth, I also don't know.

If Baylor has the funds to buy up local businesses for new "grassy areas," I have to believe it can afford to fix the ones we currently have or, at the very least, angle some concrete so the water doesn't form a lake around

the buildings that contain my classes.

Until they do, I will have a new choice on rainy days. I could purchase gondola and float about campus after replacing every "Baylor" sign with one that says "New Venice," or I could just roll over and go back to sleep.

Joe Holloway is a senior journalism major from Marshall and a sports writer for The Baylor Lariat.

## The Baylor Lariat

- Editor in chief: Anita Pere\*
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- Multimedia producer: Brian Martinez
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## SUDOKU

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9					8				3

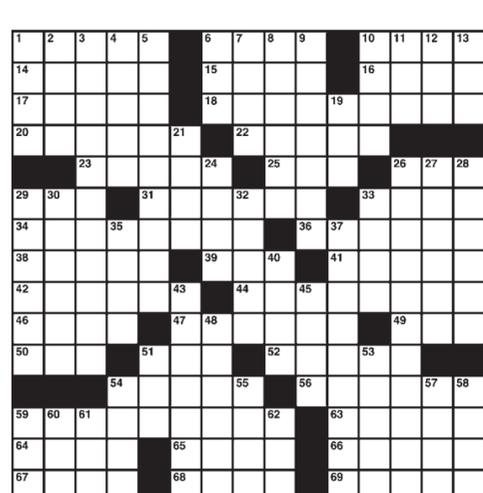
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3X3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats.

## THE Daily Crossword

- Across
- 1 Not loaded
- 6 Guy
- 10 Nuts' opposite?
- 14 Slide subject
- 15 Tuna order
- 16 Ballpark phrase
- 17 Corporate icons
- 18 Communist watering hole?
- 20 Prius automaker
- 22 Fishing for marlin, e.g.
- 23 Long-tongued Congo critter
- 25 Pet name
- 26 MV ÷ V
- 29 French vineyard
- 31 "Turn Me Loose" singer, 1959
- 33 Use up
- 34 Costs of getting high?
- 36 Some National Music Museum treasures
- 38 Deep sleep
- 39 Gen-\_\_
- 41 "\_\_\_ we all?"
- 42 Stressed type
- 44 Blowup in a jam
- 46 Teen movie stereotype
- 47 Ensign's affirmative
- 49 Virgo's mo., maybe
- 50 Roulette bet
- 51 Bile

- Down
- 1 It can be helpful in a pinch
- 2 Melville South Seas novel
- 3 Plead with one's frontier buddy?
- 4 Project Gutenberg offering
- 5 Haile Selassie worshippers' movement
- 6 Monitor, for short
- 7 "I get it, but ..."
- 8 First name in soul
- 9 Image
- 10 Shake alternative
- 11 Sphere
- 12 Permanent U.N. Security Council member
- 13 Neighbor of ESP, in the Olympics

- 19 Dark'ning time
- 21 On \_\_\_ with
- 24 Goat with recurved horns
- 26 Adorable, bottomwise?
- 27 Cowar
- 28 Marching well
- 29 Strip tease?
- 30 Took to the streets
- 32 Department bordering Savoie
- 33 "Roseanne" star
- 35 Choose not to call
- 37 Native of central Spain
- 40 Increased
- 43 Confection created by heating sugar
- 45 Operatic princess
- 48 Violinist Menuhin
- 51 Global currency org.
- 53 Follower of Johnson, and a two-word hint to this crossword's theme
- 54 Exhibit aptly, as confidence
- 55 Working hard
- 57 The "she" in "Of all the gin joints ... she walks into mine"
- 58 Discontinue
- 59 Mason's field
- 60 Letter from Athens
- 61 Mars, for one
- 62 Golf bag item



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

# Crew team working hard despite financial hardships

By Ben Powell  
Reporter

A chill breeze laps the water up against the bank near the Baylor Marina dock. The Brazos River is quiet at 5 a.m., but the silence is soon broken by the sound of boats being dragged across sand and oars being secured into place.

Time to practice. The sun won't rise for another two hours, but Baylor's Rowing Club, or Crew as they are also known, are ready to go.

While most of their classmates are still asleep, eight rowers pull in perfect unison to make their 36-foot long boat fly through the water.

The Brazos, it turns out, is ideal for this little-known sport.

Though not particularly wide enough to support sprint races, the Brazos sits low and twists just enough to nearly eliminate wind as a factor.

"A few years back, I believe it was Rowing News Magazine rated the Brazos specifically, not necessarily just Waco, but the Brazos River as one of the top five rivers for rowing," head coach and rower Cory Osborn said. "We have miles and miles easy that we can row on. For distance season it's perfect, absolutely perfect. In the sprint season it can be tough to get a full-length race in, a full 2000 meters, because we do have to go through bridges, and in sprint season you have lanes."

The Brazos does not freeze during the winter or spring,

so during the second semester Baylor plays host to northern teams who need to practice for

*"We have miles and miles easy that we can row on. For distance season it's perfect, absolutely perfect.."*

Cory Osborn  
head coach

upcoming regattas. This year Wichita State University and conference foes Kan-

sas State University and Colorado University visited Baylor.

"It's always good for us to race different teams to see how they act on the water so we know what we're coming up against because when you are the only boat on the river it's hard to get that experience of racing," said Sunny Nelson, a junior from Canyon Lake. "It was really good for our new members to see that here."

Meets with visiting teams are opportunities the club does not take for granted. Crew is hindered by a lack of funding, which prevents the club from traveling as often as more established teams.

Baylor provided the club with \$3,000 to finance its season, but that amount is far from

sufficient.

Crew has faced financial adversity since it was first chartered, but despite the challenge the club is celebrating its 10-year anniversary as a Baylor club sport.

"We might spend (the money) on repairs, and that might all go into repairs. So the program wouldn't advance at all from that money, it would just be able to maintain just where it's at," Osborn said. "In the fall, we take a long trip up to the head of the Chattahoochee, head race up in Chattanooga, Tennessee. This past semester it costs us \$8,000 in travel costs, so it costs us more to go to that event than Baylor gives us all year."

Houston based Petroleum Wholesale, one of Crew's finan-

cial donors, was forced to suspend their aid to the club due to the recent economic instability, making a planned trip to a regatta in Oklahoma impossible.

The boats used by Crew cost between \$20-30,000 each, and boats are in constant need of repair to keep them in tournament shape.

"We don't want to raise our dues up is the thing, because we're not a huge team, and we've just been rowing again for the past few semesters," Osborn said. "We pay about \$250 per semester, which is the lowest I've actually ever heard of for another club team. The next lowest I believe that I've heard is in the \$400s. It could go up, but we've tried to make that a sort of last resort."



Caity Greig/Lariat staff

## He's just not that into you

Baylor seniors Eric Jensen of Kingwood, John Bridges of Sugarland, Ross VanDyke of Dallas and Josh Sims of Dallas, offer free advice to Bear Trail runners Thursday evening.

# Chrysler files for bankruptcy

By Stephen Manning  
The Associated Press

DETROIT — After months of living on government loans, Chrysler finally succumbed to bankruptcy Thursday, pinning its future on a top-to-bottom reorganization and plans to build cleaner cars through an alliance with Italian automaker Fiat.

The nation's third-largest car manufacturer filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in New York after a group of creditors defied government pressure to wipe out Chrysler's debt.

The company plans to emerge in as little as 30 days as a leaner, more nimble company, probably with Fiat as the majority owner. In return, the federal government agreed to give Chrysler up to \$8 billion in additional aid and to back its warranties.

"It's a partnership that will give Chrysler a chance not only to survive, but to thrive in a global auto industry," President Barack Obama said from the White House.

Chrysler said it will close all its plants starting Monday and they will stay closed until the

company comes out of bankruptcy. At least three Detroit-area factories sent workers home Thursday after suppliers stopped shipping parts over fears they would not be paid.

CEO Robert Nardelli announced he would step down when the bankruptcy is complete and take a post as an adviser with Cerberus Capital Management LP, which will give up its 80 percent ownership of Chrysler under the automaker's plan.

Vice Chairman Tom LaSorda, who once ran the company when it was owned by the German automaker Daimler, said he would retire.

"A lot of us are scared," said Steve Grabowski, 33, who has worked at a Warren, Mich., parts stamping plant for seven years and was sent home Thursday. "We knew something like this was going to happen, but we didn't think it would be so soon."

Chrysler's bankruptcy filing is the latest step in a drastic reordering of the American auto industry, which has been crushed by higher fuel prices, the recession and customer tastes that are moving away

from the gas-guzzling SUVs that were once big money makers.

Lee Iacocca, the retired chairman and CEO who led Chrysler through a government bailout in the late 1970s, said it was a sad day.

"It pains me to see my old company, which has meant so much to America, on the ropes," he said in a written statement. "But Chrysler has been in trouble before, and we got through it, and I believe they can do it again."

The government has sunk about \$25 billion in aid into Chrysler and rival General Motors Corp.

GM faces its own day of reckoning on June 1, a date the administration has set for it to come up with its own restructuring plan. GM has announced thousands of job cuts, plans to idle factories for weeks this summer and has even offered the federal government a majority stake in the company as it races to meet the deadline.

Like at Chrysler, debt may be the stumbling block. GM has asked its unsecured bondholders to exchange \$27 billion of debt for a 10 percent stake in the automaker.

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# Change may take time, but public grows impatient

By Megan Duron  
Reporter

It is true that first impressions are important. On the 100th day of his presidency, President Barack Obama took time Wednesday to address the public and try to encourage a nation reeling in economic woes.

President Obama acknowledged that his next 100 days would test the resilience of the nation even more than the prior 100 days, while the country is still deep in the recession, battling with crises including war and the outbreak of swine flu.

Obama said he was handed some problems upon entering office and that the nation cannot expect immediate improvement.

"The ship of state is an ocean liner; it's not a speedboat," the president said in the address. "If we can move this big battleship a few degrees in a different direction, we may not see all the consequences of that change a week from now or three months from now, but 10 years from

now, or 20 years from now."

Polls indicate, however, that slow progress will not come without consequence as an already weary nation grows impatient. According to current polls, Obama's approval rating has fallen from 70 percent to 64.3 percent since post-inauguration day polls.

Chicago junior Lucy Wenk, a political science major at Baylor, said she has been disappointed in Obama's first 100 days in office.

*"It's been 100 days and he hasn't done anything."*

Lucy Wenk  
Chicago junior

"It's been 100 days and he hasn't done anything," Wenk said. "His plan was to pull out of Iraq, and nothing has changed over there."

While Obama based his entire campaign around change, he said the war will not be over for at least another year.

"Let me say this as plainly as I can," Obama said. "By August 31, 2010, our combat mission in Iraq will end."

According to statistics from Bloomberg on Wednesday, the U.S. economy shrank at a rate of 6.1 percent in the quarter that



Associated Press

President Barack Obama greets guests after meeting with Congressional Armed Services leadership in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, Thursday. The president's has so far spent more than 100 days in office. This time has been marked by an inherited recession and what some Baylor students say is little real change. The president, in a speech commemorating his first 100 days, said improvement would take time.

ended last month.

As more and more businesses close down because of the bad economy, the nation is failing to see the economy stabilize.

Ecnomists argue over whether the president has intervened in the economy enough in the past 100 days to help restructure big banks and help get credit on the move again.

Another action that has stirred some tension for Americans is Obama's effort, or what

they see as a lack of, to bring about real bipartisan politics.

"I would like to see Obama really stick to his idea of transparency in the administration and make more deliberative efforts towards bipartisanship," Cuero senior Karl Taylor said.

While Obama's approval ratings have fallen since his inauguration, his 100-day job approval ratings are still higher than the past two presidents by as much as 8 percent while his presiden-

tial favorability numbers are as much as 13 percent more favorable than President Clinton's.

College Station junior Philip Chapman said he feels that Obama's time in office has been successful so far.

"While I'd like to see Obama work more directly with the economy and put more emphasis on putting an end to the bail-out plans, I think he is doing the best he can with what he's been given," Chapman said.

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**BEAR BRIEFS**

**The NAACP Block Party** will be held from 2 to 8 p.m. today at Fountain Mall. The event will give students a chance to interact with the Waco community and relax before studying for finals.

**Black Glasses**, the 7th annual student film festival will be held from 7 to 11 p.m. today in 101 Castellaw Communications Center. This event is presented by Baylor Film and Digital Media.

**The Wicked Wiz of Oz** will be presented by the McLennan County College Music Theatre ensemble from 7:30 to 9 p.m. today in the Ball Performing Arts Center.

**Pancake Break anyone?** Take a break from studying and come by between 9 and 11 p.m. Tuesday at the Bill Daniel Student Center Food Court and get some free breakfast, including sausage, eggs, biscuits and, of course, pancakes.

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**Park continues to flourish 100 years later**

**By Brittany Hardy**  
Staff writer

Next year, from spring 2010 to 2011, is the 100 year anniversary of William Cameron Park. Three Baylor professors are serving on different committees to help plan the celebration.

In order to enhance the celebration and further demonstrate the experience of the park, Cameron Park officials are asking for the help of the citizens of Waco and McLennan County by contributing their photos, film, postcards and memories.

On May 27, 2010 there will be a special celebration for the

actual 100th birthday of Cameron Park, which was given to the Waco community as a gift from the Cameron family.

"(The celebration) is in still in early planning stages," said Dr. Thomas Charlton, director of The Texas Collection.

Charlton said that the committees are planning for a symphony and fireworks to be a part of the event.

"There are several of us that are on committees," Charlton said. He serves as the chair for the History of Waco committee.

The three Baylor professors who are serving on committees include Charlton, Dr. Michael

Parish and Dr. Stephen Sloan, professors of history.

Some of the committees include the centennial, education and finance committee. Charlton said the City Council of Waco and Wacos Mayor, Virginia DuPuy appoints the committees. Changes are being made to the park during the centennial year and are reason for part of the celebration.

The City of Waco itself is making changes to the park next year that amount to several million dollars, Charlton said.

"They are making some changes at Lover's Leap and several other places along the

river. There are many significant changes in the park itself that are occurring and will be completed at different times during 2010. A landscaping architecture firm in Colorado has done a lot of design work," Charlton said.

Officials from the park hope that Waco citizens will turn in their photos and memories in order to elevate the celebration.

"This ties in with the 100th anniversary of the park and various committees are working on different aspects of the celebration," said Peggy McCarty, program administrator for Cameron Park.

**Worldwide worship sites determined to keep the faithful free of flu**

**By Jay Lindsay**  
The Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — When worshippers clasp hands to "pass the peace" or share the communion cup and offering plates, religious leaders around the country want to be sure they don't also pass on swine flu.

Catholic churches in many dioceses with confirmed cases of the flu will not offer communion wine, and parishioners have been urged to bow or nod instead of offering a handshake.

Imams have been told the Friday communal prayer can be canceled and done privately.

One rabbi is making hand sanitizer available to stave off germs that could be passed when the Torah is touched as it is carried throughout the synagogue.

In San Antonio, the University United Methodist Church ordered more than 3,000 individually wrapped communion wafers and juice packets for this week to avoid having to skip communion, which many Protestant churches serve the first Sunday of the month.

"In a time of fear, we just wanted people to have assurance we were doing everything we could do," said Shauna Forkenbrock, a church spokeswoman.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and state officials have confirmed dozens of cases of swine flu across the country, though just one death in the United States has been reported, in Houston. In most confirmed U.S. cases, the patients are recovering.

But with warnings that the virus is spreading, houses of worship are cutting back on activities that require close contact.

In Miami and Austin, Texas, Roman Catholic officials have cut off serving communion wine, and many others are considering doing the same.

In the Diocese of Dallas, officials are assuring parishioners that "it's not a sin" to miss Mass if you're sick.

The Dallas diocese also is asking parishioners not to be offended if people don't want to shake hands during "the sign of peace," when parishioners traditionally greet one another. It's suggesting a slight bow of the head as a substitute.

Parishioners got similar advice from the Miami archdiocese, and that has been disheartening for Adelina Ramirez, 56, who spent her lunch break on church grounds.

"That part when you go up to the priest, and he offers you the bread and the wine, which stand for everything that is Jesus

Christ, it is such an important part of Mass," she said. "Shaking the hands of whomever is sitting near you and wishing him or her that God be with you is just as important."

The communal Friday noon prayer for Muslims also could be affected if the flu worsens, said Ibrahim Hooper of the Council on American-Islamic Relations.

Islamic scholars consulted by Council on American-Islamic Relations said that the prayer time, when worshippers are often packed shoulder to shoulder, toe to toe, can be canceled, and done privately, in regions where flu cases are confirmed, Hooper said.

Hooper hadn't heard of any cancellations as of Thursday afternoon.

"At least we wanted to make sure that imams or the prayer leaders knew that was an option and that they were informing congregations as the crisis unfolds," he said.

Synagogue worship on Saturdays, when the Torah is removed from the ark and carried around the synagogue, offers chances for germs to spread. Worshippers touch the Torah with their prayer shawl, prayer book or hands. Then, they kiss whatever they used to touch the Torah.

Rabbi John Franken at Tem-

ple Ohabei Shalom outside of Boston said the temple is making hand sanitizers available and posting cautionary signs in the bathroom and Sabbath bulletins. But so far, it has not forbidden touching the Torah or other objects used in common worship.

Rabbi Mayshe Schwartz of The Chai Center in the Boston suburb of Brookline said he didn't want to overreact.

"Unfortunately, more people will probably die this weekend in car accidents of drunk drivers than of swine flu," Schwartz said. "The job is to create calm, not to create fear."

Catholic Bill Spain, who visited St. Anthony Shrine in downtown Boston on Thursday, said he wasn't fazed by the various precautions his church could take.

He said that he won't stop taking communion, or dipping his hand in holy water, but that if he can't shake hands at Mass for a while, so be it.

"So for one week we can just nod. I think that's great," said Spain, 71. "I'm still going to kiss my wife, so there's no problem with us."

Associated Press reporters Nancy Rabinowitz and Russell Contreras in Boston and Damian Grass in Miami contributed to this story.



The Associated Press

Back-dropped by the Dome of the Rock Mosque, in the Al Aqsa Mosque compound, also known to Jews as the Temple Mount, Jewish worshippers participate in the special "Blessing of the Sun" prayer at the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site in April in Jerusalem.

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**UNITE** from page 1

become. Exams are always a difficult time for students and faculty, but with the economic status of the United States and the current swine flu epidemic,

the service has fallen in a crucial time, Hillman said.

"How perfect it is that God gave us this time to unite the Baylor family in worship and prayer," Hillman said.

Allowing both students and faculty to come together and

take part in the service is a unique time, Basden said.

"It will be a time for students and professors to see each other out of the academic classroom and see each other on a spiritual journey," Basden said. "We're all pilgrims together."

**SCHOLAR** from page 1

research intern at the Caucasus Media Institute in the capital city of Yerevan. During her time there, she will be studying the role of the blogosphere in the 2008 U.S. presidential election.

Her interest in Armenia began with a professor, Artyom Tonoyan, who talked a lot about the Armenian Genocide in his class.

"Armenia is the first Christian nation and is in an interesting location because it's a Christian nation surrounded by mostly Muslim nations," Killough said. "Originally I wanted to try to study Armenian-Iranian relations but after doing more research, I decided to look into something fresher."

Killough will be interning at the Chronicle of Higher Education in Washington, D.C., this summer, and hopes to return to the city one day to cover government and policy. She also hopes the Fulbright will lead to opportunities in international journalism.

"This experience will be challenging as I am learning Armenian right now and it's very different from English," Killough said. "I look forward to meeting the people and experiencing the Armenian culture. I've always wanted to be immersed in a non-Western perspective."

Nix, a senior Spanish major from Riesel, will spend the year in Brazil as an English teaching assistant.

"The world is becoming more and more global," she said. "Brazil is an up and coming economic power. Especially since I want to teach in the future, this is a great way to make global contacts and become much more well-rounded."

Nix spent a semester abroad in Spain, so she is already familiar with the Spanish-speaking culture.

"Within a month of being in Madrid, I was looked at as one

of their own citizens. I look forward to fitting in with the Brazilian culture in that same way," she said.

"I feel like there is more poverty in Brazil, and I can have a lot more of an impact there in a lot of regions."

Manzanares, who is a post-baccalaureate student, will spend next year in Spain. Instead of teaching, he will be conducting comparative institutional economic research on the business formations of Spain, Venezuela and the United States.

"This is a life-changing professional opportunity exactly in the field I was hoping to land in with one of the best researchers in this particular field," he said. "For me, on top of being in Spain and interacting with the people and the culture, I'll be working abroad where some of the best research in this field is going on. I couldn't imagine a better opportunity right now."

Since he comes from a Venezuelan family, Manzanares is interested in applying some of the research he does in Spain to developing economies.

"Connecting with different cultures is very important," he said. "I think it's just really important for us to realize there is a world out there besides the one that we know here in Waco and in the United States."

After the Fulbright, Manzanares plans to get a Ph.D. in economics and teach in an economics department or at a law or business school.

Reynolds, a senior from Grapevine, will spend the next academic year in France as an English teaching assistant. Before going to graduate school to get a degree in French, Reynolds wanted to take a year off.

"I thought this would be a good opportunity to use the skills my major has given me, to take the things I've learned here to another level," Reynolds said. "You can only learn so much in a classroom. I think it's really crucial to be able to go

to another culture because you can teach and learn at the same time."

Reynolds proposed to have the older students he will be working with to teach the younger students.

"That way they will gain a better command of the English language," Reynolds said. "I'm really excited about being on the other side of the classroom. There is a lot I think you can learn from teaching. Being immersed in the culture and learning from the people will help me come back here with a greater appreciation."

Rizos, a senior from Lucas, will spend next year in Spain as well as a teaching assistant.

"The most exciting thing for me will be becoming completely fluent in Spanish," she said. "That's going to be crucial for me. I want to be a bilingual speech pathologist, and the only way I can do that is through complete immersion."

In her application, Rizos focused primarily on her future goal to be a bilingual speech pathologist.

"Dean Vardaman said it was very different and that being different hopefully would help," she said. "You want to have a voice and personality in your application, and she helped me structure that."

All of the applicants agree that Vardaman was an instrumental part of this process.

"She is one of the most elegant, thoughtful and witty persons I have ever met, and people should get to know her whether they are applying for the Fulbright or not," Killough said. "This would not have been possible without the nurturing and encouraging support of Baylor's faculty and staff."

For students interested in international programs, Vardaman will be holding come-and-go seminars next Monday and Tuesday afternoons, May 4 and 5, from 2 to 5 p.m. in 205 Morrison Hall.

# Fourteenth Texas prisoner executed for rape, slaying

By Michael Graczyk  
The Associated Press

HUNTSVILLE — A Dallas man was executed Thursday evening for the rape-slaying of a woman abducted while she was trying to make a call at a pay phone 10 years ago.

Derrick Lamone Johnson's mother became emotional as she entered the witness chamber and saw her son strapped to the gurney. In a matter-of-fact voice, Johnson told her, "Don't cry. It's my situation. I got it. Hold tight. It's going to shine on the golden child." After telling her he loved her, Johnson said, "That concludes the statement."

The victim's father and two sisters also were among witnesses. Johnson did not acknowledge them.

Nine minutes after the lethal drugs began to flow, he was pronounced dead at 6:23 p.m.

Johnson, 28, was the 14th Texas prisoner executed this year in the nation's most active death penalty state.

LaTausha Curry, 25, of Dallas, was robbed of less than \$10, was driven away in her car, raped, beaten with a two-by-four and suffocated with her own blouse. Authorities determined the 1999 slaying

was part of a two-week crime spree involving Johnson and a companion that left numerous women robbed or raped from Dallas to south of Waco, some 100 miles away.

Lawyers for Johnson went to the U.S. Supreme Court to block the punishment, contending Johnson was mentally disabled and ineligible for execution under high court guidelines. About an hour before Johnson could be taken to the death chamber, the high court turned down his request for a reprieve and a review of his case.

In their appeals, attorneys argued Johnson's sentence should be commuted to life, that he was the product of a difficult childhood where both his parents were imprisoned for drug convictions, that he was beaten by relatives who raised him, that he had a history of school suspensions and expulsions beginning with the sixth grade and that IQ testing put him within the range of what the courts have defined as mental retardation.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals rejected the argument earlier Thursday, a day after the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals turned Johnson down.

Greg Davis, a former Dal-

las County assistant district attorney who prosecuted Johnson for capital murder, said he remembered the grief of Curry's mother, who died not long after the trial.

"I remember her mother coming in and saying how she lost more than a daughter," Davis said. "She said, 'I lost my best friend.' It did break the mother's heart. I think this case ultimately killed her as well."

Several women who survived attacks from Johnson and a partner, Marcus Maxwell, then 15, testified at Johnson's trial.

Maxwell, who was set to be tried as an adult, took a plea deal and is serving 40 years in prison.

Johnson declined an interview request from The Associated Press but said he was wrongly convicted and complained about his court-appointed defense attorneys on a Web site devoted to death row inmates.

"That's a real shock," Wayne Huff, one of Johnson's trial lawyers, said sarcastically.

"The system is corrupt and there is no 'Justice' if you are of the low class," Johnson wrote. "It is sad that if you are a poor man in the system there is no justice for you."

**TRASH** from page 1

afford the price, Pierce said. For members of the Waco community who are in great need or special circumstances, Caritas offers items at no charge.

"We depend so much on donations in order to be able to provide a low cost shopping venue to people in our community who do not have high incomes," said Buddy Edwards, executive director of Caritas.

This year Caritas is looking

for furniture items including beds, tables, chairs and sofas.

"Those type of items are extremely important," Edwards said. "We use anything and everything. We feel it is a way to recycle items that are no longer going to be used by students."

**ALUMNI** from page 1

early as possible for the future sessions."

The Baylor Alumni Association sent out an e-mail Wednesday notifying alumni association members of the

Houston listening session and providing information on the past listening sessions conducted on campus.

The e-mail also stated that details on future alumni listening sessions have not been released though the association will provide information

as soon as possible.

Lacy hopes the crowd at Tuesday's session will illustrate the alumni's concern with the search in a positive light.

"I hope they show up and I hope they show up in big numbers," Lacy said.

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# Talented Baylor filmmakers showcase work at Black Glasses Film Festival

By Kelli Boesel  
Entertainment editor

Whether it's gasping from fear, rolling on the floor laughing or wiping a tear from one's eye, movies captivate people.

For the aspiring filmmakers of Baylor's film and digital media department, the Black Glasses Student Film Festival is a chance to showcase their hard work and talent to a large and receptive audience.

The festival, which began in 2002, will be 7 p.m. today in 101 Castellow Communications Center. This year's program will screen 13 films, ranging from crime dramas to music videos.

"We have one that is kind of a post-apocalyptic drama that takes place after a large percentage of the human population has been wiped out by a mysterious virus," said Dr. James Kendrick, assistant professor of film and digital media.

The festival is free but space is limited. Kendrick said there is always a good turnout each year.

The submissions this year were particularly strong, Kendrick said. Choosing films to screen out is based on the overall excellence, he said.

"We do try to take into account a range of genres, but really by the end of the day it's really just the quality of the work, not only on a technical level," Kendrick said. "We are also looking for things like good stories that are well told. We are looking for films that have interesting themes and something to say."

Prizes are given for best overall film, best editing, best cinematography, and best actor and actress along with a People's

Choice Award.

A screenplay contest is also part of the festival. Prizes are given to the best three scripts, said Brian Elliot, senior lecturer of film and digital media. He said there were approximately 70 submissions this year.

Kendrick said one of the purposes of Black Glasses is a chance for filmmakers to showcase their work.

"This a good platform for them to show their work, but also get the experience of seeing their work played on the big screen for a large audience and getting those responses — making it a true cinematic event," he said.

Houston senior B.K. Garceau has screened two films in Black Glasses in the past three years. Last year, his short film "Violet" won the People's Choice Award, Best Cinematography and his lead actor won the award for Best Actor.

This year, Garceau's films are "One Day" and a music video of Clairmont's "Dear to the One."

"One Day" is a film about a man, Joshua, who may have accidentally run over his best friend's brother. Out of fear, Joshua takes the body and goes on the run. Cory, the brother, witnessed the death and wants to confront his friend.

Garceau said he was influenced by the French New Wave film movement as well as American gangster films, but wanted to explore the beginning of a criminal's life.

"How does one decide, 'OK, I'm going to be a criminal. I'm going to kill someone. I'm going to keep doing it and I'm going to get used to this,'" he said. "I kind of wanted to explore what if a kid was to start that? How

## Black Glasses Playlist

- "The Payback"  
Jordan Bellamy
- "Boy Feets Girl"  
Hogan Allcorn
- "Something Tastes Fishy" Tyler Ellis
- "Do Not Disturb"  
Shane Bierley
- Clairmont "Dear to the One"  
music video  
B.K. Garceau
- "Desolation"  
Andrew Gerhards
- "One Nation Under God" trailer  
Will Bakke
- "Unrenewable"  
Philip Heinrich
- "One Day"  
B.K. Garceau
- David Crowder\* Band  
Rockumentary  
Jordan Bellamy
- House of Orange  
"Art of the Animal" music video  
Shane Bierley
- "Left of the Dial"  
A.J. Detisch
- "Hipsters"  
David Roark

would he begin? Where would he begin?"

Garceau said he wanted to dive into character development without dialogue. There are only four or five scenes with dialogue in the 19-minute film.

"I just want to see the character develop without dialogue. Just watch them, make it a character portrait," he said.

The music video was a fulfillment of an idea that began over two years ago, Garceau said. After working with the band at his home church and later filming them during the recording process, the idea finally became reality, he said.

Another filmmaker showing a short film and music video at Black Glasses is Keller senior Shane Bierley. His films are "Do Not Disturb" and a House of Orange video of their song "The Art of the Animal."

"Do Not Disturb" is a mockumentary about a regular student who sleeps 12-14 hours every day, which causes problems to both his academic and social life, Bierley said.

"We follow along as his friends attempt to document his life in order to help, which has very mixed results," he said.

Bierley said the message of "Do Not Disturb" is everyone has their little intricacies and it's necessary to accept someone fully in order to truly love them.

On a deeper level, Bierley said he wanted to make both films because he is a storyteller at heart.

"Film presents the most encompassing and exciting medium in which to tell a great story and then have it affect people," he said. "The art of filmmaking is very collaborative and I love working with others to tell stories."

Bierley said at the heart of his films is the audience.

"Sometimes we filmmakers get so caught up in trying to 'say things' with our films that we forget the first rule of filmmaking: entertain the audience," he said. "If you make a film that's not entertaining for anyone watch, why make it at all?"



Ashleigh Schmitz/Reporter

A model walks the runway at Fashion Group International's Dallas Career Day Style symposium in Garland senior Corey Payne's design. Payne won overall best natural fiber prize for her tan coat. The Annual Designer Fashion Show will be 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday in Barfield Drawing Room. Tickets are \$10 for the afternoon show and \$15 for the evening show. Awards will be presented at the evening show. Tickets can be purchased at the Bill Daniel Student Center ticket office.

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# Baylor graduates express themselves through art

By Caley Carmichael  
Reporter

Some days, Austin artist Aaron Sacco can't get a break from work.

But that's not a bad thing. On a recent afternoon — having just finished a five-month street-mural project — Aaron returned home to his studio house, his artist wife Alicia, and a Charles Schwab brokerage firm commercial playing on the television.

His commercial. The one he created. The commercial is just one manifestation of how art has favorably embraced the two Baylor graduates.

And that's a good thing, they say. Aaron is experienced in illustration, fine art, graphic design and murals. Alicia, the owner and creative mind behind Harts 'N Crafts, loves painting, modge podging, inspiring quotes, polka dots and generally all happy things.

"I often joke that Aaron is a 'real' artist and I'm the crafty one," Alicia said.

They are two young Baylor graduates and artists on the rise in the art world.

Brought together by Baylor and their serving jobs at Buzzard Billy's, Aaron and Alicia have embarked on an enduring venture to use creativity and self-expression to love and inspire.

After "inking the blacks" during his Baylor studio art and graphic design studies, Aaron, a 2004 graduate, has been filling his life palette with new color, specializing in highly detailed representational art.

Aaron's first big job was in November last year when he was approached by the Charles Schwab firm and asked to do key-frames for the corporation's commercials.

In this promotional project, Aaron uses novel animations and vector illustration to depict dissatisfied men that urge the viewer to "talk to Chuck."



Caity Greig/Lariat staff

Baylor alumna Alicia Socco, owner of Harts N Crafts near Baylor's campus, handpaints many of the crafts she sells in her store.

Along with his animation and graphic design work, this freelancer also specializes in murals and street art, his most renown being his South Austin Music composition.

Aaron said he considers this 10-foot by 40-foot mural

depicting 30 local Austin musicians to be his most satisfying work.

"It was 100 percent my creation and I got to get my hands dirty," he said. "Plus there was no rush on time and I got to be methodical with my execu-

tion." The endless canvas that the streets have to offer creates an interactive, ever-changing outdoor studio and you're not the only one that gets to enjoy it, Aaron said.

"This mural defines all that Austin is: a city rich in color, music and talent," Austin senior Caroline Fisher said. "Every stroke of the brush intertwines to create one of the most impressive art pieces that I have ever seen."

Aaron attributes much of his success to his professors at Baylor. He offers advice to young, aspiring artists to "become friends with your professors and they will go out of their way to help you succeed."

Aaron said he gets his inspiration from his artistically rich city, life experiences, photographs and even wacky window displays in stores.

"There is so much talent in this town, you see great design everywhere. Surprising color combinations or juxtapositions

of imagery are a visual feast on most notice boards or free magazines," Aaron said.

But more than anything else, Aaron said he receives motivation and insight from his crafty comrade and wife, Alicia.

With a degree in finance and international business, this 2002 Baylor graduate opened Harts 'N Crafts with the goal to promote creativity and self-expression, she said.

This South 8th Street boutique is filled with handmade gifts and other knick knacks.

"I attempt to be cheerful, positive and optimistic with a twist of craziness most of the time and I think this is well reflected in the colors and products we sell," Alicia said.

With acrylic paint splattered in her hair and her hand-painted TOMS snug on her feet, Alicia said with complete sincerity, "nothing is impossible if you want it bad enough. Anything at any place and time can be a door to an opportunity you could have never imagined."

# Theater graduate keeps grounded while living in Hollywood

By Kristina Bateman  
Reporter

Baylor and Hollywood might seem like worlds apart, but Baylor theater graduates are bridging the gap.

Toby Meuli graduated from Baylor with a performing arts degree in 2004 and moved to Los Angeles the same year.

He has performed in guest star spots on "Cold Case" and "Grey's Anatomy." He has also appeared in many commercials for different companies such as Taco Bell, EA Sports and Lay's potato chips.

Meuli said when he first moved to Los Angeles there were very few Baylor Theater graduates living there, but there has been a fairly steady increase.

Steven Pounders, associate professor in the department of theater arts, said Meuli took the initiative in creating an alumni outreach program for the Baylor

Theater in L.A. He said Meuli returns to Waco twice a year and are hosts for workshops on auditioning and theater business with the undergraduates and volunteers himself as a resource for graduating seniors planning to move to L.A.

"I have definitely noticed an increase in Baylor theater alumni in Los Angeles since I moved out here," said Derek Phillips, a 1998 Baylor graduate. "It's like a little Baylor reunion every time you go anywhere."

Phillips currently lives in L.A. after spending six years in New York. He plays Billy Riggins on NBC's "Friday Night Lights" and has had recurring roles on "Grey's Anatomy," "Prison Break," "Numbers," "All My Children," "Guiding Light" and "As The World Turns."

Meuli said the alumni in L.A. keep each other accountable.

"Hollywood can be a really

superficial, fake town," he said. "But when you have people that really know you and know where you come from and what you are about and what you hold near to your heart, you just can't pretend around those people for very long," said Meuli.

Meuli said he gained much in his years in the theater department at Baylor.

"Baylor theater tells you again and again that acting and theater is an art," he said. "It is easy in Hollywood to not look at it as an art, but as something to sell. And while that is an important part of the industry, from my perspective I need to continually remind myself that I am an artist telling stories. Whether I am on the stage in the Baylor theater or I am on set of the No. 1 hit TV show, I am an actor telling a story."

Meuli said the best part of his Baylor theater experience was learning from the faculty who

care about the students as people as well as their growth in theater arts. He said the theater faculty was encouraging and fun to work with.

Many of his professors still keep up with his progress as an actor.

"Toby has always had a drive to improve himself artistically," Pounders said, who taught Meuli as an undergraduate. "He is also proactive about dealing with the practical issues involved in the career of an artist: how to survive while auditioning for acting jobs in an expensive city; how to network with producers, directors, and fellow artists; how to continue fulfilling your creative drive, even when acting jobs are scarce."

While at Baylor, Meuli performed in multiple plays such as Oresteia, Comedy of Errors and Caucasian Chalk Circle. He helped form the Guerilla Troop

while at Baylor and said that experience aided to his current comedy endeavors.

Meuli said that the further he gets away from Baylor, in time and in distance, the more he appreciates it. He said some of the most important things he learned in college were not in classes, but in the overall experience of growing as a person.

He said it is sometimes hard to see the large picture while in college but gives some reflective advice for current students.

"Think about those desires and those beliefs as much as you think about getting the next paper in, or getting to a 'crush' on time," he said. "Take a step back for a minute and say 'Well this stuff is important, it's a blast! But who am I really?' All of the support of the Baylor system, especially the Baylor theater system, will be gone in four years and you will only be left with what is

inside of you and those skills and beliefs and desires that you cultivate over those four years."

Meuli is currently living in North Hollywood and auditioning and looking for jobs as an actor. He and another Baylor theater graduate, DJ, Tijerina, have been developing an online Web series that they plan to act in and sell to a corporation.

The series will be an ensemble-based comedy about a personal training gym in Los Angeles. The ten-minute episodes will direct viewers to sites that have fitness drinks, athletic apparel, or protein bars and hopefully generate sales for that company, he said.

"Everybody is trying to figure out a way to make money with this 'youtube generation,'" Meuli said. "There are a lot of 'internet only' projects happening, but selling it to a corporation is one sure-fire way to make money while doing it."

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# Summer agenda: giant movie blockbusters

By Kelli Boesel  
Entertainment editor

It's that time of year again — summer movie season.

Classes are over, ice cream melts, summer flings begin and summer blockbusters are out in full force. From fan-boy favorites to chick-flicks with the dreamiest of stars, summer offers entertainment for the masses.

Here are a few of films that have made trailer headway and are sure to make a summer splash, both in good and bad ways.

## Star Trek

Trekkies unite! After 10 feature-length films, not counting the multiple TV series, the popular science-fiction franchise is revamped for the 21st century.

With fresh faces in familiar roles, "Star Trek" promises digitalized space scenes jam-packed with action and suspense. Sink or swim? The title alone will give "Star Trek" a life vest, at least for opening weekend.

OPENS: May 8

## X-Men Origins: Wolverine

Everyone's favorite shaggy X-man is back for a fourth film in the Marvel comic series. Introducing a fresh character, Gambit, and revisiting an old one, Sabertooth, "X-Men Origins: Wolverine" will be a mutated hit with the comic crowd. Will the first blockbuster of the sea-



Paramount Pictures

From Left: Anton Yelchin, Chris Pine, Simon Pegg, Karl Urban, John Cho and Zoe Saldana star in "Star Trek." The new re-imagining of the film returns to James T. Kirk and the crew's roots.

son survive its early release? If Hugh Jackman can carry the film, like he arguably did the three others, then it will reach comic-movie standards.

OPENS: Today

## Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince

The most anticipated movie of the summer, Harry Potter is sure to please once again. Imagining the popular second-to-last book in the best-selling series, viewers will get a darker look into the Potter history and future. Will J.K. Rowling's genius carry over into a sixth film? Street-cred alone will make this film a smash, despite

necessary deviations from the book.

OPENS: July 15

## The Ugly Truth

As one for the ladies, the summer romance between Scottish heartthrob Gerard Butler and America's girl-next-door Katherine Heigl is sure to heat up the air-conditioned theaters in "The Ugly Truth." Will Butler and Heigl spice up the box office? Although the storyline is beyond repetitive — neurotic girl meets egotistical, rude guy — the appeal of the duo will surely keep chick-flick lovers satisfied.

OPENS: July 24

## Terminator Salvation

In apocalyptic mode, the end is near for the Terminator franchise. However, "Terminator: Salvation" promises to be smash, with mind-blowing action and deeper interpersonal interaction. Will Terminator survive without the Governator? Christian Bale, America's favorite "Dark Knight," will add much needed freshness and depth to the action series.

OPENS: May 21

## Public Enemies

Johnny Depp seems to do no wrong on the silver screen and "Public Enemies" will elevate

his post-Pirates career. Paired with Christian Bale, Depp will successfully embody a '30s gangster that audiences won't just love, but root for. So, will "Public Enemies" live up to the 1931 classic? If both Depp and Bale are on their dramatic game, there's no doubt.

OPENS: July 1

## Angels & Demons

Tom Hanks returns to star in another movie based on a popular Dan Brown novel. "Angels and Demons" will ride the coattails of controversial "The Da Vinci Code" and make a dent in box offices. Adding amazing cast members Ewan McGregor



Warner Bros. Pictures

Christian Bale stars as John Connor in Warner Bros. Pictures' action/sci-fi feature "Terminator Salvation." In the year 2018, the resistance against the machines has dwindled to small group of brave souls led by Connor.

and Stellan Skarsgård should add an interesting element to the puzzling thriller. Will Hanks save the day once again? If fanatics have no say — yes.

OPENS: May 15

## Up

Disney and Pixar are at it again with their new animation comedy "Up." The movie is sure to be a winner with children and the parents alike, but college students might not see the innocent appeal. Guaranteed to have funny moments, can up be the next "Finding Nemo" or "Wall-e"? It's doubtful, but the child in me continues to hope.

OPENS: May 29

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# Students taking up off-campus 'sport'

By Julie Sessions  
Reporter

In the sports world, there are many ways participants and spectators get their kicks.

For some, it's the quest for World Series domination. For others, it's the Super Bowl.

And for others, it's slip and sliding at "Dia Del 10th Street."

"The best part of Slip n' Sliding is discovering the different ways and angles to slide from one end of the mat to the other," said Matt Hunter, a senior business media major.

Diadeloso has been a way for Baylor faculty, staff and students to celebrate the holiday's literal meaning, "Day of the Bear" for over 75 years. Through a variety of on- and off-campus festivities, students venture to the fun of the outdoors and the warmer weather to enjoy their day off. And for those who venture out to the activities

off campus on 10th Street, this includes the time-honored tradition of the Slip n' Slide.

"We have had the Slip n' Slide in front of our house for the past two years, and it's been so much fun to have all our friends be able to use it," junior finance major Emma Durbec said. "It cost around \$200 to rent for the day, but six people split up the cost and it's definitely worth it."

What all goes this wet and wild sport?

"While speed is an important factor, many are shocked to discover that it is not the most critical," Hunter said. "It is actually imperative that you have minimal surface area, or skin contact, with the slide."

Hundreds turn out every year to the unofficial Diadeloso festivities on 10th Street, and whether it's for company or competition, there's plenty to be said about sliding down a big, yellow slide.

## Weekend sports

### Baseball

@ Texas  
8 p.m. Friday  
Disch-Falk field

vs. Texas  
6:30 p.m. Saturday  
Baylor Ballpark

vs. Texas  
1:30 p.m. Sunday  
Baylor Ballpark

### Softball

vs. Texas A&M  
4 p.m. Sunday  
Gettman Stadium

### Track

@ Texas invitational  
All day Saturday  
Austin

# Knoll's tennis team shafted, but what does he know?

Head coach Matt Knoll has made earning a high seed in the NCAA tournament and ultimately winning the National Championship the goal for the season.

The Baylor men's tennis team is the six-seed in the NCAA Tournament. Anyone who has watched the Bears this season shouldn't be surprised. The team only finished 23-5 with a schedule that featured 16 Top-25 teams.

## SPORTS COLUMN

By BEN POWELL

So how can Baylor question the intelligence of the NCAA?

Shock should come from the knowledge that the NCAA selection committee will not allow Baylor to be host for a first and second round regional, even though it is the highest seed in its section of the bracket. The fact that Baylor is not a host is slap in the face to the team and the University.

I almost choked on my Dr Pepper when I heard the ESPN anchor report the news. I was assuming, as was the entire Baylor tennis program, that the cries of Aussie! Aussie! Aussie! would grace the courts of the Baylor Tennis Center one last time.

Despite being the No. 6 team in the country and winning the Big 12 Conference and the Big 12 Tournament, Baylor will travel to Tulsa, Okla., to play the University of Missouri at Kansas City in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

There are no byes in the single-elimination tournament. Being a host is the only advantage awarded to seeds one through 16, so giving a low-seeded team home-court advantage makes a lot of sense — if you *don't* think about it.

A word of advice to the NCAA selection committee: It is not a good idea to tick off a group of men who can send a 100 mph serve into an area the size of a human head.

But again, how can Baylor question the intelligence of an NCAA selection committee?

The explanation is simple, really. The NCAA upholds a "principle of geographical proximity" when assigning the host for a "nonrevenue championship site."

Buried on the bottom of page 374 of the 2008-09 Division I Manual, the rule states that the NCAA selection committee will pair teams based on their geographic position to each other in order to avoid air travel whenever possible. A team's seeding may be taken into account when establishing pairings if it does not result in unnecessary air travel.

So make teams hold a bake sale to cover expenses. Don't penalize high seed teams for being good and inconveniently located in the Heart of Texas.

According to Baylor Athletic Director Ian McCaw, the selection committee relies on a computer to factor in seeding and travel time for every university to calculate the most efficient tournament scenario. Teams are limited to 400 miles when traveling by bus.

This sounds familiar. In what other sport does the NCAA use computers to hose hard-working teams? Maybe the Texas and Texas Tech football teams know which misguided BCS advocate came up with this system?

The selection committee chose seven-seed UCLA as a host for the first and second rounds, as well they should. UCLA upset then-No. 7 University of Southern California to win the Pac-10 title and posted a 17-4 season record. The NCAA made sure to select opponents that are nowhere close to passing the 400-mile limit. Hawaii, Southern Illinois and Oklahoma State will all travel to Los Angeles to compete.

Just a quick number crunch, with a 1,394-mile plane ride, OSU is the Bruins' closest opponent.

I passed Baylor's Ideas in

Mathematics course, so I think I calculated this right: that is 994 miles off.

But maybe NASA was busy using all the country's supercomputers, or maybe just all the Dells.

But how can Baylor, or I, question the intelligence of an NCAA selection committee?

The committee did have some common sense though. The two-seed University of Mississippi will play Alcorn State University, another Mississippi public university, in the first round. LSU will also compete in the same regional along with Rice University. In order for Rice to avoid unnecessary air travel, LSU (10-11) will be the host. Ole Miss' 24-2 record aside, the committee made the right decision. Rice is an exhausting 574-mile ride from University, Miss. That's a big difference from 1,394.

Fifteen-seed Texas A&M got the worst draw out of the whole tournament. The NCAA Championships hosts will be forced to play its regional in College Station, sleep in their own beds, eat their own food, and be hampered by their fans who rank second in overall average attendance. Oh, and they host all the postregional matches too.

The University of Washington will travel to Austin. Boise State University, that's in Idaho by the way, will travel to 14-seed Alabama. It all makes sense.

But back to Baylor. In UMKC's defense, they do boast a perfect home record. They won both of their home games this season against Creighton University and Northwestern Missouri State.

Baylor, on the other hand probably didn't deserve to be a host anyway. The Bears' win over Ole Miss was most likely a fluke and a perfect conference record coupled with both the Big 12 Conference and Tournament titles is meaningless since they do that nearly every year.

What do they know anyway? Ben Powell is a senior telecommunications major from Elgin.

# Sports editor offers suggestions

In my two and a half years of work at The Lariat sports desk, I've witnessed many great and miraculous victories and heartbreaking defeats. I've seen Baylor make some crafty hires.

However, I also have a "Baylor spot" on my head where I've scratched my head too much, trying to determine why spelling out Baylor was any better than an interlocking BU.

## SPORTS COLUMN

By BRIAN BATEMAN

I've spoken with fans and reporters from all over the Big 12 Conference, Texas and the nation. I've witnessed Oklahoma State's creepy Pistol Pete firing the loudest shotgun blast I've ever heard toward the Baylor sideline, drunk Longhorn students cursing because Baylor actually led for 35 seconds, Lubbock's flying tortillas — and D-batteries, and more "Aggie spirit" than one person ever should see, so I'd say I've got a pretty good idea of the good and bad sports cultures.

But more than anything, I've just sat and thought why things are the way they are in Waco. I'm sure my parents and teachers would have wanted me to study instead, but my pontificating has brought me a few suggestions for Baylor athletics.

So grab a chair, desk or science lab stool and think with me for a few minutes.

1. Katy Perry's music should be banned from Floyd Casey Stadium. Period. Nothing outside of Sing makes me more ashamed to call myself a Baylor student. The only exception would be if it's played in the visiting locker room on loop.

2. Baylor needs to market itself in other cities. One thing

I have never understood is why Baylor refuses to market and recruit for its sports programs outside of McLennan and Bell counties. I want to see Art Briles' chilling eyes gazing over freeways from billboards throughout Big 12 cities. His long-sleeved shirt and interlocking BU cap should be seen from Highway 6 in College Station, Highway 82 in Lubbock and I-35 in Austin.

Several years ago, Oklahoma State University placed a billboard on Valley Mills Drive to attract Perrish Cox, a Waco-University High School senior. It worked. Why don't we steal a few from them? Let's face it, Baylor and Waco aren't going to attract top talent by themselves, so Baylor marketing needs to make up the difference.

3. Tennis needs a pronunciation guide for all tennis matches. I've covered tennis for three years and still have to look at my notes to pronounce Zuzana Chmelarova's or Attila Bucko's names.

4. Baylor needs a pre-game ritual for football. The Southeastern Conference is filled with football traditions. We should take a cue from Ole Miss, where players walk through the Old Grove before every game. Several hours before every home game, the football team should meet in Barfield Drawing room then walk down the steps of the Bill Daniels Student Center to a throng of Baylor fans cheering them before the game. The Golden Wave Marching Band and Spirit squad would play and cheer as the team walks toward busses parked in front of Penland, and just before everyone headed to the stadium, Briles and the captains would lead a roaring Sic 'em Bears cheer.

5. Speaking of traditions, Art Briles has made a point of defeating the Texas trio — Tech, Texas and A&M — both on the field and in recruiting. Why don't we run out of the tunnel with a Texas flag? TCU, Texas and Texas A&M all do it, why shouldn't we? It's certainly better than the yell leaders running in front of the Baylor Line spelling "BAYLRO" or "ABYLOR."

6. Baylor needs to bring back the Amazing Mr. Christopher for halftime at the Ferrell Center. He's the one who danced alongside four other Village People life-size puppets that were connected by wires. While I'm at it, bring back Mavs Man.

We could use a Little League football game during halftime at Floyd Casey, too. Better yet, have the winning All-University intramural flag football teams play a condensed game.

7. Coaches should be the main marketing force. Baylor has high-quality coaches in every sport. You can thank Director of Athletics Ian McCaw for that. Scott Drew, Art Briles, Kim Mulkey, Steve Smith and Matt Knoll are the headliners, but there's not a single coach on any Baylor squad that is incompetent. Why isn't Baylor bragging on them? Players will be in Waco for four years, but these coaches should stay for much longer — and Baylor has the financial ability to keep them here. Call it a long-term marketing investment.

So as I leave The Lariat sports desk for the tumbleweeds of the job market, I hope Baylor — and Baylor fans — take these ideas to heart.

Brian Bateman is a senior journalism and history major from Garland. He is also the sports editor for The Baylor Lariat.



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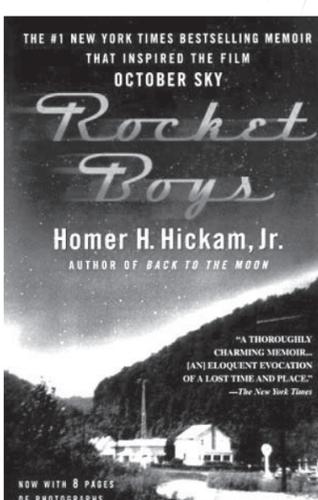
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# Softball prepares for A&M rematch

By Joe Holloway  
Sports writer

The Baylor softball team (36-18, 11-6) will take on Texas A&M University (29-18, 6-8) at 4 p.m. Sunday in Gettnerman Stadium in the Lady Bears' season finale and the second meeting of the two teams this year.

The Lady Bears lost their first meeting with the Aggies 5-4 on April 15 in College Station. Junior catcher Courtney Oberg said the team is especially ready for Sunday's game.

"We're definitely ready for payback because we went down there and it just got away from us," said Oberg, a native of College Station. "We're looking forward to having them come to our house with our crowd. We play well at home so we're very excited about bringing them in and having them here."

Freshman pitcher Whitney Canion (23-14, 1.76 ERA) said the Lady Bears' first game with the Aggies was one of the craziest of the year so far.

"It was a tough game, atmosphere-wise," she said. "The game was just real intense. It was a crazy game but it's motivating to play them again."

The Aledo native added that the game could decide whether the Lady Bears end up in third or fourth place in the Big 12.

"You win, you get third. You lose, you may get fourth. If we take care of our job we'll be

getting third through the tie-breaker," she said, referring to the fact the Lady Bears beat No. 3 seed Texas in both of their games against the Longhorns this year. "It really is a huge game, even though it's the last game. We're going to the Big 12 Tournament and it's a huge game seeding-wise."

The game with the Aggies is a make-up of a game that was supposed to be played Tuesday before rain rolled through Central Texas. When the team takes the field on Sunday it will have been a week since its last game, an 11-8 decision over Kansas.

Head coach Glenn Moore said he thought the extra time off would work to the team's benefit and give Canion time to rest a sore left forearm, her pitching arm, and recuperate further from having an ingrown toenail removed on Tuesday.

"This layoff has been good," he said. "Canion will be ready to go. If we had played on Tuesday she would have been ready to go. She's shown signs of fatigue, which isn't unusual when you throw 100 pitches every game. 37 decisions? That's an awful lot to put on anybody, much less a freshman. Thankfully she's been blessed with some time off."

Canion said it's been the most rest she's gotten all season.

"I haven't really had any," she said. "I think it's been real-



Right-handed pitcher Shaina Brock prepares to release her pitch. The Lady Bears will face Texas A&M University at 4 p.m. Sunday at Gettnerman Stadium. The Aggies won the first game earlier this season.

ly good for my body to see the rest. I was fresh at the beginning of the year and we'll see if I'm back to that."

Despite enjoying a relatively easy week, Canion maintains the game with Texas A&M will be anything but easy.

"They're a great ball club

and they always have been," she said. "They're going to go out and fight. You can't look at their standings. You can't look at their record in the Big 12. Rivals like this always bring their game to play."

"I really want to beat them after the way it went last time."

Oberg said she just hopes this game isn't rained out as well. Sunday is the last day to make up Big 12 games and there's a chance it may rain again.

"It's A&M. We want revenge," she said. "We can't have that if it rains out. We're going to do anything we can to get it in."

# Big 12 Conference honors Ferdon, Burke

By Ben Powell  
Reporter

The Baylor women's golf team didn't finish the season quite the way head coach Sylvia Ferdon would have hoped. The team finished seventh at the Big 12 Tournament in Lubbock. However, the Lady Bears are still alive.

Baylor has been invited to compete in the NCAA West Regional in Tempe, Ariz., on May 7-9. The Lady Bears are the 18-seed in a 21-team field. Arizona State University is the one-seed, and fellow Big 12 universities competing are Texas, Texas A&M and Colorado.

"I've always felt like we were one of the top three schools at the Big 12 so we came up short there," Ferdon said. "Our goals are regionals and our goals are nationals beyond that."

This will be the team's ninth

regional tournament in 10 years.

The Lady Bears were given even more reason to celebrate yesterday when the conference awarded the program two honors.

Ferdon was voted the Big 12 Coach of the Year for the second time in her 15-year career at Baylor by the conference's head coaches. Coming off of a season where Baylor finished last in the Big 12, Ferdon has rallied her young team to put on a late-season push that immediately prior to the Big 12 Tournament resulted in two straight tournament wins.

"That was quite a surprise. I'm very honored. Obviously when you get voted in by your peers it's special," Ferdon said.

Junior Hannah Burke is the team's leader on the golf course. Burke's 75.4 round average earned her one of 11 spots on the All-Big 12 team.

She has been a consistent competitor for Baylor at the team's No. 1 spot.

"She's been great to coach and she's been our leader, so she is deserving of it," Ferdon said.

"She's led our team all the way in scoring this year and she will be our number one spot going off to regional's."

This final effort from the women is being driven by the play of sophomore Jordan Rhodes. The five-foot, two-inch San Antonio native has finished in the top 20 of her past three tournaments and finished second at the University of Cin-

cinnati Spring Invitational in Crystal River, Fla.

The other impact player for the Lady Bears has been freshman Chelsey Cothran. Cothran graduated high school early to enroll in Baylor in January. She produced immediate results for the team and has been a consistent starter since her arrival.

With the end of the season drawing near, the Lady Bears will say goodbye to Natalie Hocott, the program's lone senior. Hocott redshirted her freshman year, and though she has not been in the team's line up recently, Hocott has provided much-needed leadership in the eyes of her coach.

"Natalie has been a great leader. We lacked leadership last year and she stepped in there and took over," Ferdon said. "I really thank her for her leadership because I realize how important that is even in an individual sport."



Ferdon

## Sports briefs

### Women's tennis sends four to NCAA Individuals

Three singles players and one doubles team will head to College Station later this month for a chance at an individual national championship.

Lenka Broosova, Taylor Ormond and Jelena Stanivuk will play singles, while Broosova will join with Csilla Borsanyi in the doubles bracket.

### Hansen, Verrett in running for national awards

Shortstop Shaver Hansen is on the Brooks Wallace Award watch list for the nation's best shortstop, and Logan Verrett is one of 50 players on the College Baseball Foundation National Pitcher of the Year watch list.

Hansen is ranked third nationally among shortstops with 15 home runs. He is hitting .349 with 47 RBIs and a .681 slugging percentage.

Verrett (7-1, 4.31 ERA) has the third-most victories for freshmen in the nation. He has 56 strike outs.

### Tennis times changed

The Baylor women's tennis match against the University of Texas at Arlington has been moved to 2 p.m. Saturday. SMU and Texas A&M will play at 11 a.m. The winners will still play at 2 p.m. Sunday.

-compiled by Brian Bateman

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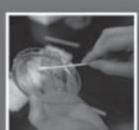
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