

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

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FACULTY SENATE

Faculty senate discusses policy changes

By ADEOLA ARO
 STAFF WRITER

Faculty senators met Tuesday afternoon and briefly discussed a new federal law that would allow students under the age of 17 to get federal funding for college education.

The change in the law could mean that younger students are admitted into a university, according to Dr. Larry Lehr, member of the faculty senate and professor of environmental science.

Senate members briefly discussed what problems may arise from having younger students admitted to the university.

"One issue that we brought up that I thought was interesting was the housing issue," said Dr. Joan Supplee, professor of history and faculty senate member.

Supplee said lowering the age requirement is an important issue to address because it would mean that minors would be living with adults.

Dr. Dennis Myers, chairman of the Faculty Senate, said some faculty members favored younger-than-average students' ability to adapt to the university setting and were impressed with their high level of motivation.

An admission committee will be working with enrollment management to find out what Baylor's policy on the federal law will be.

Also in attendance for the meeting was Baylor's Interim Provost Elizabeth Davis.

Faculty senators discussed topics with Davis concerning requirements and retention of new students, the university's promotion policy for faculty and Baylor's faculty evaluation review.

According to Dr. Ray Cannon, professor of mathematics, senators questioned and addressed concerns about both the promotion and faculty review policies. The senators sought clarification of what the expectations were and how faculty would be evaluated.

Currently faculty members that were eligible for promotion before 2006 are required to obtain a letter of evaluation from outside of the university. According to Supplee, alterations are currently in the works for that aspect of the promotion policy.

"We've been working on a revision to the promotion policy for quite some time, so we are still working on that," Supplee said.

Myers said that no motions were passed at this meeting.

In OPINION

"This is a place rich with culture, with history — territory McDonald's has no business invading."

PAGE 2

Chemical spill clears BSB

Student breaks vial of caustic substance

By LIZ FOREMAN
 EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Baylor Sciences Building was evacuated for more than two hours Tuesday after a hazardous chemical spill that occurred around 3 p.m. in a second-floor chemistry lab.

A female graduate student, whose name has not been released, was handling the contents of a shipping container in lab E253R, when the vial of tert-Butyl isocyanide hit a bench and cracked, spilling less than one milliliter onto the floor and her lab coat, said Lori Fogleman, director of media communications.

The Lariat initially reported on its Web site that the chemical spilled was Cyanide. However, the chemical was tert-Butyl isocyanide, said Dr. Bruce Dobson, a chemistry lecturer who was overseeing work in the lab.

Tert-Butyl isocyanide is an odorous, highly flammable chemical that can be toxic by inhalation, according to the Material Safety Data Sheet provided by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Fogleman said the student was checked at the scene but not treated for any injuries. No one else was injured in the incident. Waco Fire Department and its Hazmat team were called to contain the chemical.

In addition to evacuating the building while the spill was cleaned, Bagby Avenue between University Parks and Second Street was closed.

The Hazmat team acted to contain the toxic chemical by using sand to absorb it, then transferring the contaminated sand into a container, which was put



under a ventilated hood in the research lab to be neutralized, said Rob Barlow, Waco Fire Department acting assistant chief present at the scene.

Once the chemical was placed under the fume hood, the self-ventilated lab was sealed off for the night, said Jill Scoggins, assistant vice president for media communications.

The room has self-contained airflow that does not mix with air outside the room, she said.

The Baylor Sciences Building was re-opened to students, faculty and staff at roughly 5:45 p.m. Tuesday.

"Fortunately we had a researcher who followed procedure and stayed safe," Fogleman said.

After the spill occurred, Fogleman said, the student placed the vial into the fume hood — a vacuum contraption

(Top) Police respond to a chemical spill in the Baylor Sciences Building Tuesday afternoon. The building was closed around 3:00 and was re-opened just before 6 p.m.

(Right) Waco Fire Department Acting Assistant Chief Rob Barlow releases an official statement to the media following the spill of what was confirmed as tert-Butyl isocyanide.

PHOTOS BY JED DEAN



that neutralizes the toxicity of fumes within it — then activated an alarm and called the Baylor Police Department.

Chemistry Professor Dr. David Pennington said that shortly after the accident, the student involved went to his office to ensure that the Department of Risk Management had been notified.

"The student had on protective eyewear, gloves, long pants and closed shoes, Pennington said, "She was fully protected."

Management had been notified.

Chamber extinguishes eternal flame

By LAURA REMSON
 STAFF WRITER



ROUND UP FILE PHOTO

Freshmen guard last year's eternal flame during Homecoming 2008 festivities. The eternal flame tradition will not be conducted in this fashion because of the hospitalization of many over the tradition's history.

In the past few years of homecoming, the guarding of the flame has become a news story in itself. After numerous accidents, Chamber has decided to end the guarding of the flame tradition this year.

In 2005, after recommendations from the Department of Risk Management, the decision was made to move the bonfire from Fountain Mall to the parking lot of the Ferrell Center.

Then, 2006 saw the first in a string of injuries blamed on the flame. Then-junior Justin Brown said he was hit in the face with a lacrosse stick by the freshmen guarding the flame. He was taken to the hospital with a broken nose.

In 2007, the administration

took action to prevent injuries by setting a 2 a.m. cut-off curfew. The flame would be returned to students six hours later, at 8 a.m.

However, in an unexpected turn of events, the guarding was cancelled at 11:30 p.m., when Baylor police put out the flame and notified Baylor Chamber of Commerce. One student dislocated her knee and another suffered a concussion.

Last year, the curfew was once again set to 2 a.m., but fighting put another two people in the hospital. One was a police officer, who dislocated his finger during the commotion.

"It only takes one student," said Houston senior Tanner Vickers, a freshman mass meeting chair of Chamber. "In this case, it was a group of students and it took their actions and that's all it really takes. One person gets hurt, so Baylor PD

asked us to put (the flame) out," After the last few years, Chamber knew that changes would be made; it was only a matter of time.

"Chamber made the decision to change the tradition before being approached by the university — that was members of Student Life, along with Risk Management. It was not a telling, it was more of a sit-down type of discussion," Vickers said. "The university as a whole agreed this is not where we need to be."

After looking into the flame-guarding tradition, Chamber was contacted by upper-level administration and told to re-evaluate this tradition or it would be totally lost.

"The university had approached us and said we cannot see FLAME, pg. 6

Waco mayor confronts America's crisis

By LENA WATERS
 REPORTER

While words like bailout and stimulus have been around for a while, they are now having a direct affect on the Waco community and younger generations.

Waco Mayor Virginia DuPuy hopes to aid students in understanding the current political situation when she speaks at 6 p.m. today in 349 Draper Academic Building. The event is sponsored by the Baylor College Republicans.

DuPuy will focus on how

the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is affecting Waco. It will be a discussion of the bailout and stimulus efforts, said Pasadena junior Matt Hrna, president of Baylor College Republicans.

DuPuy has held the office of mayor since May 2005 and is currently serving her third and final term, which expires May 2010. She received both her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees from Baylor.

Since most government decisions are local, most of the stimulus will be distributed on

a local basis. The Baylor College Republicans hopes students will leave the event with the knowledge of specific examples about how this legislation is affecting Waco.

"We want to give the students an opportunity to come listen to Mayor DuPuy so that they might understand how the bailout influences them directly, at the local level," Hrna said. "Since it is harder for one to grasp the idea of trillions of dollars flowing from Washington, D.C., it makes it easier when one makes the issue local."

The bailout is an issue that draws multiple viewpoints. While it is not known if DuPuy will be taking a position on the issue, student political organizations are offering their opposing perspectives.

"On an issue as large as the politicians in Washington, D.C., indebting us ... currently about \$39,000 per person, it is imperative that we become knowledgeable about the issues and that we stand up for our own futures," Hrna said.

The Baylor Democrats, however, view the legislation as a

move that was necessary for our present financial condition.

"We were in a worst-case scenario," said Galveston senior Oscar Boleman, president of the Baylor Democrats. "The stimulus was an idea that came up and that has brought relief where it was needed. If people were worried about national debt for our generation, we should not have gone into Iraq and Afghanistan."

Through this event, the Baylor College Republicans hope to see MAYOR, pg. 6

Lariat Letters

Director says magazine reflects Baylor well

Sheryn Jones is certainly entitled to her opinion about Baylor Magazine. But I find it hard to understand how a publication that regularly communicates to alumni all the great things happening at Baylor in terms of the quality and character of our students, the new discoveries and teaching excellence of our faculty and the remarkable achievements of our alumni "does an injustice to the heart and soul [of] Baylor."

Our recent issues have shared with over 120,000 alumni and friends of the university – including the parents of current Baylor student – stories about the exciting programs at Baylor, like Line Camp, which introduces students to the historical roots of the university and teaches them to appreciate the tradition and heritage that makes Baylor great; about you, our students, and the amazing work you are doing to address poverty both locally and around the world; about your dedicated professors and their efforts to investigate the causes of addiction; and about countless Baylor alumni who are making a positive impact around the world.

I contend that these kinds of stories reflect powerfully the very heart and soul of Baylor University.

But don't take my word for it. I invite you to judge for yourself. Pick up a Baylor Magazine around campus or visit us online at www.baylormag.com. Spend some time with Baylor Magazine and see if you don't find the true heart and soul of Baylor University.

Randy Morrison
Director of Baylor Magazine

SACRE BLEU!



Lari
top

Fast-food golden arches are poor additions to Louvre

Globalization strikes again. Next month, the familiar golden arches of McDonald's will be found in a rather unconventional place—the Louvre museum in Paris.

The Louvre houses some of the world's most famous and treasured art, from the Mona Lisa to the works of Rembrandt. It has dominated central Paris since the 12th century, first as a residence for royalty, and since 1793 as a museum. This is a place rich with culture, with history — territory McDonald's has no business invading.

Though McDonald's may be viewed as the fast food super giant of the world, it cannot boast of these centuries of history like the Louvre. To take such a place where pieces of ancient civilization are preserved and taint it with greasy, unhealthy Americanized food is unfathomable. Granted, the McDonald's will reside in the food court beneath the actual museum known as the Carrousel du Louvre, but that doesn't change the fact that a corporate giant is sinking its claws into the most visited museum in the world.

The fast food chain is celebrating its 30th anniversary in France and, undoubtedly, jumping at the chance to bring in more revenue. The golden arches have already established their presence in another prominent place in Paris—the Champs Élysées, known as the most

Editorial

beautiful street in the world.

Classy and sophisticated, the Louvre is dedicated to the preservation of thousands of paintings, statues and treasures displayed throughout the palace. McDonald's is showing a lack of respect for the French culture by assuming that our fast food empire is deserving of being held in similar esteem to the high art of the Louvre.

Members of the museum staff have even raised complaints.

"This is the last straw," one art historian told The Daily Telegraph, a United Kingdom publication. "This is the pinnacle of exhausting consumerism, deficient gastronomy and very unpleasant odours in the context of a museum."

Museum spokeswoman Aggy Lerolle said that it is not up to the museum to veto McDonald's arrival since the Carrousel is run by a private company rather than the museum, which is run by the state.

However, the Louvre should have taken a more active stance to preserve its cultural qualities. The McDonald's is meant to represent American cuisine among other world cuisines in the food court. Of all things, Americans shouldn't want McDonald's to be a foreigner's one taste of America.

However, the French are just making McDonald's job even easier. McDonald's is the leading global food service retailer with more than 31,000 local restaurants serving more than 58 million people in 118 countries each day. According to an Associated Press article, France is McDonald's top market outside of the United States.

In 2007, Starbucks closed its location in the Forbidden City, Beijing, after months of controversy. The 587-year-old historical site has served as a home to Chinese emperors and is overflowing with history. Though the palace managers invited the café to become a part of the palace for financial reasons, many Chinese people felt as though its very presence was disrespectful of Chinese culture. The New York Times reported in 2007 that an anchor for Chinese state television led an online protest. The French should take a similar stand against the diminishing of their own culture.

It is a shame that we can no longer visit a cultural venue without seeing America's signature food stamp somewhere in the vicinity. While there's nothing wrong with globalization or bringing cultures together in mutual appreciation, that doesn't mean we should be able to stroll through the Louvre munching on a Big Mac while viewing the Mona Lisa.

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.

Corrections Policy

The Baylor Lariat is committed to ensuring fair and accurate reporting and will correct errors of substance on Page 2. Corrections can be submitted to the editor by sending an e-mail to Lariat_letters@baylor.edu or by calling 254-710-4099.

Garland hopes joining BAA, BOR would enhance harmony

The alumni of Baylor University care deeply about their alma mater. This year's 100th anniversary of Homecoming, which is made possible by the Baylor Chamber of Commerce, will once again provide an opportunity for many generations of graduates to come together in celebration of the special place that is Baylor University.

There is something about Baylor University that inspires deep affection and commitment in those who serve and have been impacted by her.

The leadership of this university works hard every day to make sure that we are doing what is best for Baylor so that graduates who return for the 200th anniversary of Homecoming will have that same sense of affection and commitment.

We believe that our proposal to the Baylor Alumni Association to work together to serve our alumni is in the best interest of Baylor and is in the best interest of our current and future alumni. In order to facilitate an open dialogue and to directly engage alumni, students, faculty and staff in this discussion, we have been enthusiastic about sharing our proposal in a number of our regular communications.

Unfortunately, some have chosen to negatively characterize our offer rather than responding to it on the basis of its merits.

The proposal to unify our alumni outreach efforts was developed after a significant investment of time studying public and private universities nationwide.

In that research we discovered a consistent pattern among alumni programs with strong, direct and formal connections to their university. We also found alumni associations which, in their loyalty to their alma mater, partner actively with university leadership to advance goals and help to prosper university programs and students.

The argument that Baylor's uniqueness requires an alumni association separate from the university to preserve an independent voice for alumni has absolutely no merit. Baylor had strong and active voices of dissent before the Alumni Association became independent in 1980, and it will continue to have and to welcome those voices in the future.

The claim that an external alumni association is the only way to maintain an opportunity for dissent is disproven every day at universities across the nation and among the constituents of

Point of View

BY DR. DAVID GARLAND



Baylor University.

Baylor is unique among outstanding educational institutions because of its decision to be academically rigorous while maintaining a strong commitment to our Baptist heritage as we seek to educate young men and women who can make a difference for Christ in the world.

But that uniqueness is not a reason to fail to provide the kind of comprehensive, high-quality alumni relations program that all

The proposal to unify our alumni outreach efforts was developed after a significant investment of time studying public and private universities nationwide.

Dr. David Garland, Interim President

Baylor alumni deserve.

Baylor's alumni want an alumni relations program that reaches out to them and provides them meaningful opportunities to stay connected to Baylor. Consistent with our pledge to

"fling our green and gold afar, over 90 percent of Baylor alumni have built their homes and established their careers outside of the city of Waco. Baylor alums live in all 50 states and a number of foreign countries. In response to the desire of our alumni to retain their association with Baylor and with fellow graduates, we support an active communications program that reaches out in a variety of manners to alumni worldwide. The Baylor Network has built a strong series of programs based on interests in business and athletics as well as among women and Baylor parents.

Very soon the Network will launch a significant career services Web site for our alumni. These are the sorts of programs that current and future Baylor alumni want and deserve.

I fully believe that it is in the best interest of our 140,000 living graduates to have Baylor's alumni relations program part of the university itself. An organization that represents a fraction of our alumni, is locally focused and supports only a few events annually does not represent best practices and does not meet the needs of Baylor alumni around the globe.

Baylor should speak to all of its alumni with one integrated and strong voice while providing meaningful services to alumni near and far, engaging university graduates in advancing university goals, offering former students opportunities to support financially students and academic programs, and calling forth ambassadors that will represent proudly the university in their circles of influence.

As it is presently structured, the Baylor Alumni Association is a private organization, legally independent of the university. That status separates the BAA from the university and requires us to engage them in ways consistent with other entities legally independent of Baylor. While we will continue to do what is necessary to support their independence, we do not believe that the present model is effectively serving Baylor alumni.

Our proposal is that the current BAA join forces with Baylor's alumni network and communications program to do what is best for Baylor alumni and those who will soon graduate to join them. Together - unified in purpose and focused on the future - Baylor University and the BAA can create the finest and most effective alumni outreach effort in the nation.

Dr. David Garland is Baylor's interim president.

Subscriptions Policy

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.

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Please Recycle This Issue

Baylor alumna recognized for teaching zeal

MELISSA PERRY
REPORTER

It started out as an ordinary school day for kindergarten teacher and 2008 alumna, Hannah Williams.

Williams was prepared for class as usual at Mountainview Elementary School but, little she knew, a surprise was waiting for her.

On Oct. 6, Williams was recognized by the "A Day Made Better Program," presented by OfficeMax and Adopt-A-Classroom.

Teachers spend an average of \$1,000 of their own money on classroom supplies, according to the program's Web site. The goal of the program is to end teacher-funded classrooms.

Not only was Williams recognized for her excellence in teaching, but for her dedication to provide students with the best possible supplies and materials, even if it means spending her own money.

"Whatever kids need, she gets," said Bill Shepard, the principal of Mountainview Elementary. "She is one of those

teachers."

Shepard said he submitted an online nomination and was later contacted by OfficeMax and informed that Williams would be one of 1,000 teachers from around the country to be recognized on that day.

"It's really good for our kids and certainly our campus, and the teacher to recognize someone who puts a lot into their room, not expecting to be reimbursed," Shepard said. "Her room is a really exciting place to be."

For Williams, the classroom should not only be a place of ex-

citement, but one of comfort. She cites her years in Baylor's School of Education as a time of incredible preparation for the task of teaching.

"My Baylor professors stressed classroom management and setup, and making the classroom a safe place," Williams said. "It does take a lot of outside preparation but this is my calling and I want to do the best I can."

Williams says her Baylor professors put their hearts into teaching her and fellow students, which makes her want to do the same for her kindergartners.

"It's about putting your heart into every aspect, not just delivering a lesson," Williams said.

Believing she was headed to the cafeteria to take her class to a program on birds, Williams had no idea all of the kindergarten and first-grade students were waiting to see OfficeMax present her with more than \$1,000 worth of supplies including a printer, camera, staplers, paper clips and a new leather desk chair.

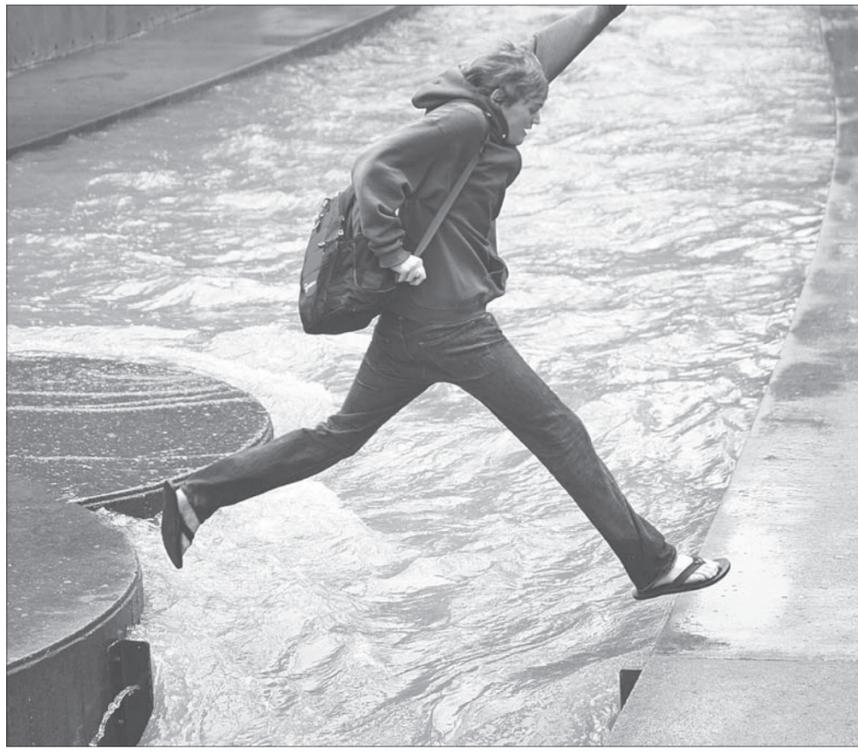
Even after she was brought up on stage, Williams was still unaware of what was going on until she saw her husband and

realized that she was the focus of the special presentation, not birds.

"I had no idea," Williams said. "It was a blessing and it was exciting, but there are so many great teachers here. I would never have expected to get something like that."

Even now, Williams is still shocked that she was chosen to receive such a generous award.

"It was overwhelming; don't like getting up in front of people," Williams said. "I got up there and it was like a dream. It's still kind of surreal."



MATTHEW HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Living life on the edge

San Antonio freshman Jim Croswell leaps over water rapids in the Baylor drainage system as he hurries to class Thursday afternoon.

Business panel stresses social responsibility

By BETHANY MOORE
REPORTER

A socially responsible company is one that works for the betterment of the local community and the world, not only itself, a panel of investment professionals explained to students Tuesday.

The panelists included Rodric

"Consumers have the greatest influence on companies."

Randall Brown
Manager of Comp and Benefits

Cummins, an executive officer of investment services for GuideStone Financial Resources SBC, and Scott J. Budde, the managing director of TIAA-CREF Global Social and Community Investing. Both GuideStone and TIAA-CREF are investment companies that promote conscientious financial investment.

A few ways the panel members' companies are becoming socially responsible is by screening

out companies whose business practices negatively impact the community, promote long-term investment value and invest in the community.

Randall Brown, manager of compensation and benefits at Baylor, explained why it is important for students to understand business ethics and responsibility to others.

"It is important to understand that everyone has the opportunity to influence ethical decisions that companies make regarding labor practices, environmental issues and social and ethical issues," Brown said. "Consumers have the greatest influence on companies with the purchasing decisions that they make on a daily basis. Individual investors and fund managers are able to voice their opinions on companies' decisions during shareholder meetings."

David Stamile, Penland Residence Hall director, attended the panel discussion and said it was a great chance to learn about what companies are doing to help the world through their business practices.

"It raised awareness for so-

cially responsible investing," Stamile said. "Having it on campus showed that these companies and Baylor are all committed to social responsibility."

Budde said that when the company he works for heard about the genocide in Darfur in 2008, it used its power to try to put a stop to the social injustice.

TIAA-CREF pressured several companies to end their business ties with the Sudanese government or take steps to improve conditions in Darfur.

Of the 22 companies targeted, 10 have taken action against the Sudanese government, while others have committed to subsidize projects focused on bringing education, health care and water supplies to the region.

The panel discussion is causing Stamile to look at these companies in a new light.

"I will probably go back home and take a look at the mutual funds these companies offer and select a socially responsible fund," Stamile said.

Staff Writer Adeola Aro contributed to this story.

Navy flirts with putting women on submarines

By PAULINE JELINEK
AND RUSS BYNUM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ST. MARYS, Ga. — Submariners sleep nine to a bunk room. There are four showers and seven toilets for the roughly 140 enlisted men. The passageways on board the vessel are so narrow that crew members can barely squeeze by each other without touching.

And that's on the roomiest submarines.

The Navy is considering allowing women to serve aboard submarines for the first time, 16 years after bringing female sailors onto surface combat ships.

Some sailors and wives warn that putting men and women together in extremely close quarters underwater for weeks at a time is just asking for sexual harassment cases and wrecked marriages. But supporters of the idea say it is a matter of fairness and equal opportunity, and what worked on ships can work

in subs.

"There's just a whole lot less privacy on board a submarine," said retired Navy Capt. Mike McKinnon, commanding officer of the Kings Bay sub base near St. Marys from 2004-07 and a former skipper of the submarine USS Kentucky. "But I think grown adults and professionally minded people can deal with those issues."

Over the past two weeks, top leaders at the Pentagon have said they are considering ending another in the dwindling number of military specialties reserved for men only.

Officials said a decision could come soon, and women could be aboard subs by 2011.

The Navy will have to work through a host of issues first. Would men and women get separate bathrooms and sleeping quarters, as is already done aboard surface ships? Would the process of integrating subs begin with female officers, followed by enlisted women? What would

happen if a woman discovered at sea that she was pregnant?

"If women can be on space shuttles and on surface ships, I think they ought to be able to work on submarines," said Lisa Goins, who retired in February after a 20-year Navy career. She served aboard aircraft carriers and at the prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Kings Bay is the East Coast base for the Navy's Ohio-class submarines, which are armed with Trident nuclear missiles and go on 77-day tours of duty underwater.

The 18 Ohio-class subs would probably be the first to take on women since they are the largest in the undersea fleet, 200 feet longer than the Navy's fast-attack submarines.

Still, at 560 feet, Ohio-class subs are a tight fit for their 160-man crews. Sailors sleep in cramped bunk rooms roughly the size of walk-in closets. The 140 enlisted men share two bathrooms. (The officers have sepa-

rate facilities.)

The passageways and hatches are so narrow that those aboard are always rubbing up against each other — a situation played for laughs in the 1959 Cary Grant comedy "Operation Petticoat," in which a World War II sub rescues a group of stranded Army nurses.

"I completely believe this would put strain on some relationships because there are trust issues," said Jennifer Simmons, whose husband serves on a submarine at Kings Bay. "It's asking for sexual harassment cases left and right. If you're trying to go through a passageway together, guess what — you're going to touch."

The Navy bans "fraternization" between unmarried men and women. Punishment can range from a letter in the offender's file to a court-martial. Navy officials said they had no immediate figures on reports of fraternization aboard its ships.

The rule change that allowed



ASSOCIATED PRESS

An Aug. 22, 2004, photo shows the lack of personal space in passageways and living quarters on submarines. The Navy is considering allowing women to serve aboard submarines for the first time.

women to serve on combat ships was pronounced a success by the Navy long ago. But it was not all smooth sailing.

Officials said the paperwork for changing the policy on submarines

is being drawn up and could be finished by the end of the month or early November, after which it would be sent up the chain of command and then to Defense Secretary Robert Gates for his approval.

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Vaughn, Favreau can't save 'Couple's Retreat'

By ANDREW MUNOZ
CONTRIBUTOR

Eden is the world's greatest adult playground. On Eden East, vacationers enjoy a never-ending party of alcohol, dancing, fine dining, great music and fantastic

MOVIE | REVIEW

beach life, while the resort staff caters to their every whim.

Unfortunately, the majority of "Couple's Retreat" takes place on Eden West, where guests start each day off with "Couple's Skill Building" in the hopes that relationships will be repaired as each couple engages in several activities with the goal of discovering their "power animal."

Eden might be a paradise, but it certainly isn't a vacation.

The movie tells the story of four couples who embark on a vacation to Eden where one couple, Jason and Cynthia (Jason Bateman and Kristen Bell) hope to save their dying marriage while everyone else simply enjoys island life for a week. The movie has a good premise, but it simply comes out choppy.

Instead of flowing properly

and advancing the plot at an even pace, the film often stops in order to snap off another witty one-liner, or toss out one more over-the-top sight gag. Furthermore, a lot of the smaller jokes often fall flat as the characters constantly bicker in an attempt to one up one other.

"Couple's Retreat" is in fact a comedy, but it also attempts to deal with the very serious drama that people in struggling relationships endure.

Jason and Cynthia have been struggling for years to conceive a child, Joey and Lucy (John Favreau and Kristin Davis) have both engaged in numerous affairs after the romance in their marriage died, Shane and Trudy (Faizon Love and Kali Hawk) are dealing with the 20-year age difference between the two of them, while Dave and Ronnie (Vince Vaughn and Malin Akerman) struggle through almost every aspect of their relationship while remaining completely oblivious to the fact.

While the movie will pause and get serious every now and then, it mostly deals with the couples' problems in a comedic fashion in the form of group therapy, which involves feeding sharks, massage therapy and gra-

tuitous amounts of yoga.

In reality, it is Vince Vaughn and John Favreau who save the struggling movie. Their characters' interaction rarely misses a beat, often resulting in the movie's funniest moments. When these two attempt to one-up each other, it actually works and helps move the plot along. It makes one wonder if the movie really needed all four couples.

It really is a shame the movie turned out the way it did because it truly did have so much potential. Filmed in Bora Bora, the cinematography is truly beautiful to look at with its white sand, blue waters and tropical vegetation.

The acting isn't half bad as the majority of the cast performs well and makes the characters believable, but the idea is something most people can get behind.

The main struggle comes from the writing. Instead of slowing it down and thinking things through, it seems like the writers only seemed to care about the movie's high points and biggest laughs.

While those are indeed important aspects, it doesn't really matter when everything in between them is neglected and simply thrown together for the sake of filling up space and screen time.



McCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

Four couples attempt to enjoy a nice meal while vacationing in "Couple's Retreat." Trying to solve all of their marital problems in one trip, they vacation to Bora Bora to take advice from a marital mentor.

When it all comes together and the movie tells its story, it leaves the distinct impression that the point wasn't to tell a story and engage the audience; it feels like the whole thing was an excuse for some real-life friends to go hang out in Bora Bora for a

couple of weeks.

In the end, Vaughn and company provide an acceptable way for any couple to pass an hour and a half of their time. "Couple's Retreat" will deliver some laughs and even wraps itself up in an endearing way, but movies

made with the goal of passing by as "acceptable" rarely leave audiences satisfied. Instead, moviegoers will find themselves lamenting what could have been when the credits roll.

Grade: C

Underoath drummer expands musical horizons

By KIM DOUGLASS
REPORTER

Drummer Aaron Gillespie of Underoath has returned to the music scene with his latest project, The Almost. Though the band's official album, "Monster Monster," doesn't come out un-

ALBUM | REVIEW

til Nov. 3, the group and its label have joined together with Hot Topic to promote the band's limited edition five song EP, which is currently on sale.

The EP resembles the band's past album "Southern Weather" and their last EP "No Gift to Bring." The difference is, rather than Gillespie doing the majority of the work, it is an entire band



PHOTO COURTESY OF EMI MUSIC

The Almost, side project of Underoath drummer Aaron Gillespie, releases their first studio album in November. Their EP is available now from Hot Topic.

effort.

The special edition package will include the full-length version of "Monster Monster" and two compact discs — one of mu-

sic (three album cuts and two b-sides) and a second blank disc to download the full album with a promotional code the day of release from Hot Topic's partner

Web site, ShockHound.com.

On the opening track, "Lonely Wheel," the drum work done during the verse will draw the ears in. Initially there is a complexity before transitioning into a simple beat meant for steering wheel tapping.

Vocally, however, this is not Gillespie's best. At times he sounds like the male version of Paramore's Hayley Williams. Lyrically, this song is pretty much what one would expect with a title like this — boy gives into his indulgences. Is it a girl? Drugs? We don't know.

But one thing that's definitely true is that this song relies way too much on the fact that it's catchy. It has tons of radio appeal and is intended for sing-alongs in the car, but beyond that it doesn't have much else going for it.

"Monster" closes out the EP and with its slower acoustic appeal. This song takes a change from the entire album. Lyrically, the song shows a depth not readily exhibited through the band's other efforts.

The entire song is Gillespie asking an unidentified person to look past the outer appearance and inside to the real person. A pretty classic story line that is saved by the backing guitars, they add the necessary beauty, with their hint of country, they make this song work.

Then just when the song seems like it can get no better, the band takes it up a notch with electric guitars and drums.

However, the song that stands out the most is second track, "Hands." It has a higher energy and shows the true work this band has done to become more profes-

sional with its sound. Though it is comparable to the latest Boys Like Girls song "Love Drunk," it still leaves a notable impact. Also, it finally shows Gillespie's own vocal capabilities, not the mirroring of other singers, which when left on its own is not that bad.

As a whole, this EP shows, musically, that each member has done its own individual part on improving from an adequate group two years ago to one that has every technical aspect. Tighter guitar riffs and less sporadic drum breakdowns are locked down.

They've proven studio workers can only clean up so much, and when a group doesn't know what its doing, it still shows.

In this case, they have gotten it all together in a very small amount of time.

Grade: C+

Reel World Sense: Exploring childhood stories brings meaning

By ASH ANDERSON
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

With the recent release of "Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs" and the upcoming films "Where the Wild Things Are" and "Toy Story 3," it's interesting to notice how Hollywood is turning its attention to movies that explore classic stories that came about when the current generation was in diapers. Or maybe just grew out of them.

Pixar released the trailer for "Toy Story 3" on Monday. Coming out 11 years after the second installment in the series, the latest venture by the animation company dives into subject matter that may hit home for a lot of parents and their now-grown-up children.

Andy, now an adult, is going to be heading off to college and will be leaving his old toys be-

hind. Woody, Buzz, Rex, Ham, Slinky and the Potato Head couple are shown in hysterics over the prospect of never being played with again.

While some will find the prospect of a children's film uninteresting, many will leap at the opportunity to vicariously relive their childhood through the big screen.

The same idea comes alive with the release of "Where the Wild Things Are," a live-action adaptation of Maurice Sendak's 1963 children's book of the same name.

While the book only contains nine sentences, the director attempts to capture the imaginative aspect involved in a parent reading the book to his or her child.

I think that the embracing of these classic stories comes at a time when there is a little too much bad news popping up all around the world.

Maybe Hollywood realizes that during this period of gloom, helping people remember when times were seemingly a lot less complicated will give them a bit of encouragement.

Unfortunately, the realization of these stories is also spawning criticism from outlets concerning a lack of innovation.

Are there not enough original ideas floating around? Are there so few that studios have to take their next big idea from something that already exists?

"Cloudy with a Chance of

Meatballs," while not entirely loyal to the original source material, keeps the spirit of the book intact. The crew behind the film even went the extra mile to add 3D effects to the movie, allowing audiences to really be immersed in the legendary town of Swallow Falls. Sure, it was called "Chewandswallow," but the entire point of the name change was so that younger audiences might understand the pun more easily.

It may be true that many "reimagined" movies have come about because of a lack of creativity, but lumping all movies into that category is simply closed-minded.

Instead of jumping to the conclusion that Hollywood has completely run out of original ideas, I think that all the nay-sayers should realize how much of a treat it is to be able to sit in a the-



McCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

Max Records (Max) and Michael Berry Jr. (The Bull) star in "Where the Wild Things Are," an adaptation of Maurice Sendak's classic children's story.

ater and see your favorite stories come to life.

Does it really matter if the

idea isn't original or if the film expounds upon the critical message conveyed in the book?

FUN TIMES

Find answers at www.baylorlariat.com

McClatchy-Tribune

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Across

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- 6 Witticism
- 10 Highlander
- 14 Cop __: bargain in court
- 15 Healing plant
- 16 Oregon Treaty president
- 17 Trembling
- 18 Having all one's marbles
- 19 Word processing reversal
- 20 Big Southwestern trombones?
- 23 Ending for "ranch"
- 24 Neither Rep. nor Dem.
- 25 Thing
- 27 Madame, in Madrid
- 30 Wide shoe size
- 31 Geese flight pattern
- 32 Actress Greer who received five consecu-

- tive Oscar nominations
- 35 At the ready
- 37 Refined trombones?
- 40 Made on a loom
- 41 Imitation
- 42 Med or law lead-in
- 43 Command ctrs.
- 45 Musical beat
- 49 Wells's "The Island of Dr. ___"
- 51 Fill with wonder
- 53 Jr.'s son
- 54 Continuously-playing trombones?
- 58 Clenched weapon
- 59 Mechanical memorization
- 60 Remark to the audience
- 61 To __: perfectly
- 62 Sporty sunroof
- 63 Baseball card brand
- 64 Wall St.'s "Big Board"
- 65 Clownish
- 66 Shore birds

Down

- 1 Samples a bit of
- 2 Ball
- 3 Loud auto honker of yore
- 4 "___ mouse!"
- 5 Weekly septet
- 6 Argonauts' leader
- 7 Large antelope
- 8 Tune
- 9 Dainty laugh
- 10 Sudden gushing
- 11 Conspires (with)
- 12 Octogenarians, e.g.
- 13 Boxing ref's decision
- 21 Whopper creators
- 22 Lord's Prayer words following "Thy will be done"
- 26 Thus far
- 28 Eye subtly
- 29 Drizzly day chapeau

- 30 Some pass catchers
- 33 Women
- 34 Above, in poems
- 36 Slow-moving, as a river
- 37 Penetrable quality of skin
- 38 Makes a cliché of, say
- 39 Exposed
- 40 Typist's stat.
- 44 Crystalline mineral
- 46 More petite
- 47 Like eggs in an Easter hunt
- 48 Skinflints
- 50 Big name in perfumery
- 51 Dramatist Chekhov
- 52 Tearful
- 55 Letter after theta
- 56 Drift, as an aroma
- 57 Shipwreck site
- 58 Air mover

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9.

Ernest goes to work

Smith establishes himself as go-to guy

By CHRIS DERRETT
SPORTS WRITER

Though Baylor's offense struggled against Oklahoma on Saturday, senior inside receiver Ernest Smith took advantage of the day to record single-game career highs in catching and receiving.

To fans, the six catches for 71 yards was surprising, but head coach Art Briles says he and the Bears know Smith is capable of such a performance on any given Saturday.

"None of that surprised us. We see it every day in practice," Briles said after describing some of Smith's intangibles, including passion and belief. "He's a guy that is an extremely unselfish team player that can rise up."

His passion for football and belief in himself were tested years before Smith

became a collegiate football player. In 2005 he relocated to Tyler because of Hurricane Katrina and provided the John Tyler Lions with a team-leading 21 receptions and 283 yards.

After three years with Baylor football, Smith's unselfishness enabled him to move from outside to inside receiver last spring, a position he had never played in his life.

Moving inside meant having less time to react after the snap and developing an ability to change routes on the fly.

But even that and the inherent possibility of big hits across the middle did not intimidate Smith.

"I consider myself a player, and a player can play any position. And when they told me I was moving inside, I didn't think twice about it," Smith said.

On top of learning a new position, Smith was catching passes Saturday from the fourth quarterback he's

played with in as many years.

Smith has connected with Shawn Bell, Blake Szymanski, Robert Griffin and Nick Florence, who all have different styles that Smith has devoted countless hours to learning.

"It's essential for me to get with a new quarterback on our own time and do work by ourselves," Smith said. "As soon as [Florence] found out he was going to start, throughout that week we worked in the indoor facility and got on the same page."

Smith said that on Saturday, Florence threw some of the most perfect slants Smith had ever seen.

Florence, who started in place of the injured Szymanski, felt synced with Smith during the game's entirety.

"I'm looking at the defense and seeing what they give me and deciding which side is better to work and what's open. [Smith] happened to be the guy that day, and he did a great job,"

Florence said.

With Smith now ranking third on the team in receiving yards and on pace to exceed his 2007 career season high of 21 catches, fans may believe he is establishing himself as dependable.

Smith, however, said he has always seen himself as able to fit the bill.

"Honestly, I've always thought of myself as a go-to guy, even in all my high school sports. I know my ability and I'm confident," Smith said.

Smith is not finished, either. He knows the team will depend on its receiving corps to make plays for the quarterbacks playing in place of the injured Robert Griffin.

His performance on Saturday, though impressive, means nothing against the rest of the Bears' Big 12 opponents.

"Last week's performance was good, but it's dead now," Smith said. "I'm set to a higher standard now to progress this week."



ASSOCIATED PRESS

New Orleans senior Ernest Smith (No. 3) gets tackled out of bounds by Jamell Fleming after making a catch in the third quarter against the University of Oklahoma. Smith had six catches for 71 yards in Saturday's 33-7 loss.

Bradford, McCoy have cordial rivalry

By JEFF LATZKE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

When Heisman Trophy winner Sam Bradford injured his shoulder last month, one of the first people he heard from was Colt McCoy.

And, no, the Texas quarterback wasn't trying to tease his Oklahoma counterpart.

McCoy sent a get-well text message to Bradford the night of Sept. 5 and now says he's happy the Sooners' All-American is healthy again — just in time to make things more difficult for the No. 3-ranked Longhorns (5-0, 2-0 Big 12) on Saturday in the latest installment of the Red River Rivalry.

"I think that probably from a fan's perspective and people outside of the game think that it's crazy that I could be friends with Sam or that Sam could be friends with me, but we are,

and he's a great guy," McCoy said. "We've got a lot in common. But we both understand this is a huge game."

"We're going to go out there and play the best we can. Our friendship is one thing but this game is another."

It's not like Bradford and McCoy don't understand what's at stake when the No. 20-ranked Sooners (3-2, 1-0) and Longhorns meet halfway at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas.

The two have split their two head-to-head meetings so far, and it was only by virtue of a tiebreaker that Bradford's Sooners got to play for the Big 12 and national titles last season instead of McCoy's Longhorns.

Both players grew up around this rivalry, which has escalated over the past decade as its impact on the national championship race has grown.

But, to the chagrin of some die-hard fans and even teammates, the

Bradford and McCoy friendship doesn't quite mesh with the Hatfield and McCoy nature of the rivalry.

"Colt's a great guy and I think him sending me a text message after I got hurt, telling me that he was praying for me, to stay with it and keep my head up, that just says a lot about the type of guy he is," Bradford said.

The opposing quarterbacks got to know each other through the college awards circuit last season, with Bradford winning the Heisman and the Davey O'Brien Award.

McCoy was the Walter Camp Player of the Year. Their friendship then grew over the summer as they roomed together at the Manning quarterback camp.

"We stay in touch," McCoy said. "It's been tough since the season started, we're both really busy with school and football. It's kind of our

life right now. But we do stay in touch a little bit."

Gerald McCoy, the Sooners' standout defensive tackle who's not related to the Texas quarterback, said he cringed at first when he saw the two acting all chummy on TV.

Each of the quarterbacks said they get some ribbing about being friends, but UT head coach Mack Brown respects the two for setting their school's rivalries apart.

"Even though it might be unpopular for some fans and some players," Texas coach Mack Brown said, "the fact that Colt and Sam have tremendous respect for each other and like each other and are friends and can laugh and still compete on Saturday but not go into the game angry and putting down the other team and all that is a great message for sportsmanship."

Griffin has season-ending surgery

Copperas Cove sophomore quarterback Robert Griffin had surgery on his right knee Tuesday morning in Houston. Griffin tore his anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) Sept. 26 against the Northwestern State University Demons when he was tackled on an option run.

As reported by the Waco Tribune-Herald, former Baylor offensive lineman Dr. Mark Adickes performed the surgery.

"It was very successful," head coach Art Briles said in Tuesday's press conference. "Now the rehab and journey to getting back to where he was, and better, is in



Griffin

process."

Griffin waited for the surgery to allow swelling to minimize. Griffin was planning on rehabilitating to see if he could return to the field this season.

However, Griffin decided to go through with the surgery to get back on to the field for 2010.



SARAH GROMAN | LARIAT STAFF

Baylor fans dress up as Gumby, a banana and Chewbacca Saturday night for Baylor's game against Texas A&M. The game broke a single-game attendance record for a volleyball game at the Ferrell Center with 3,022 spectators.

Fans give all for volleyball team

By JESSICA GOODLETT
REPORTER

Capes, green and gold socks, masks and some fierce dance moves — just some of the many things showcased at volleyball matches this season.

There is a new face of fandom cheering the Lady Bears to their now 15-1 record.

In a time when Baylor volleyball is on the rise, snagging its highest ranking in program history at No. 17. One group of students have taken it upon themselves to don the green and gold and bring Baylor Bear energy.

"We support them," DeSoto senior Neil Jordan said. "There have been one or two games where we feel like we really helped them win."

Jordan is a community leader on campus. After having some of the team members live in his building last year, Jordan and his residents have taken it upon themselves to be the backbone of the volleyball team this year.

The group was inspired by the Bear Pit. They like the support that the Bear Pit has for the men's basketball team, and they plan on having that same effect on Bay-

lor's volleyball team.

"We want to start a type of Bear Pit for the volleyball team called the Bearcade," Jordan said.

The group thinks that it is just as crazy as the Bear Pit. The fan base cheers loud and does its best to intimidate the other team.

When Baylor scores, the group yells "Go Baylor," and when the other team is serving, the group is determined to distract them by any means necessary.

"We try to get in their heads however we can, with noise or maybe trying to do something funny, to get them out of their routine," Fort Worth sophomore Justin Thomas said.

The Bearcade thrives off the intensity of the game and each victory. However, its members said they are an important factor even when the team is down.

"We try to create a high energy whenever our Bears need it," El Paso sophomore Colin Brown said.

The players on the team enjoy this new form of support. Cleburne junior and outside hitter Ashlie Christenson said that it's exciting to see this caliber of fans come to the games.

"It's great to see that support,"

Christenson said. "It gives us a lot of confidence."

Christenson also said that the team feeds off their energy, knowing that they have a strong support system. In a way it gets them hyped up.

The group was in accordance when they said they love Baylor, watching volleyball, cheering its team to victory and heckling the other team.

"We try to help our ladies any way we can," Thomas said.

The Bearcade is also open to adding more people. The group sits at the south end of the court. Its members wear Baylor volleyball shirts and green and gold knee-high socks.

One member even wears a cape and a mask. Brown said that anyone is welcome to join — just come sit with them.

However, the group went above and beyond for the match against Texas A&M University, which resulted in a record crowd of 3,022 to view a volleyball game at the Ferrell Center.

The group plans on attending as many games as possible and hopes that its energy will help Baylor win a national championship.

Thinking About Drinking?

Here's what you should know!

If you are under the age of 21 and are caught **consuming alcohol** or in **possession of alcohol** (either on or off the campus), you may face the following sanctions:

Possible Criminal Sanctions:

- Probation with the court
- \$160 fine
- 12 Community Service Hours
- \$45 for Alcohol Education Class

University Sanctions:

- Disciplinary probation for 1 year
- 20 Assigned Community Service Hours
- Alcohol Education Class
- Parents are contacted
- **In some cases, students are suspended!**



FLAME from pg. 1

not have these dangerous events happening," Vickers said. "The flame will be shut down. We cannot, as a university, harbor an environment that is dangerous for students."

Others on campus are cheering the decisions of Chamber and the administration.

"I think it is a very wise decision," said Baylor Police Department Chief Jim Doak. "I salute those in the decision-making process. When you look at the recent history, that makes this a very wise decision."

Vickers said the flame guarding tradition is not about the physical flame itself, but the flame and spirit within the people of Baylor — those on campus and those who have left.

"I think that what we have to always remember is that the real flame, the real spirit — that's

not something that burns out on campus somewhere," Vickers said. "That's not something that can be physically touched. It's not even in the buildings. People are Baylor: It's in our hearts and in our minds."

Vickers also hopes that following this year's homecoming, students will better understand this tradition by understanding the story of the Immortal Ten.

"The flame is not the most important piece, it's just a representation. It was never meant to be 'the' spirit," Vickers said.

The Freshman Mass Meeting was started in 1927 as a memorial service for the Immortal Ten, a group of students who died after their bus was hit by a train on its way to a basketball game in Austin. Vickers doesn't believe that the events of the past few years represent the original memorial

to the Immortal Ten.

"If we could possibly talk to any of the members of the Immortal Ten and say, 'Is this what you wanted? Is this respectful of you and your story, who you are and who you represent for the university?'" Vickers said. "I would think that we would get a resounding no."

Another change to Homecoming this year will be moving the Freshman Mass Meeting to Thursday instead of Wednesday night.

"For a very long time, it was held on Thursday," Vickers said. "So it's not like that is a major change into something that is very foreign for Baylor, when in fact Freshman Mass Meeting traditionally was held on a Thursday for many years."

Haley Gibson, homecoming chair in Chamber this year, antici-

pates the alumni reaction to tradition changes to be favorable.

"I don't really expect any controversy or any major complaints from (the alumni) about guarding the flame because I'm sure that they would agree that Baylor students fighting Baylor students isn't what the tradition used to be about," Gibson said. "It used to be about guarding campus from the rival football team."

At the same time, some students don't share the outlook of Chamber.

"I think it's lame that they don't get to experience the tradition of guarding the flame, but at the same time I understand it was getting a little too violent," said Frisco senior Rusty Drye. "I feel like the tradition could be continued as long as certain steps are taken to ensure the safety of all participants — taking lacrosse

sticks before coming close to the flame, no objects that can cause serious harm to the participants, things like that."

Drye also points out the camaraderie that is built within the freshman class by pulling all-nighters to guard the flame and said it was one of his favorite experiences.

Either way, guarding the flame has left Baylor's campus.

Still, everyone in Chamber has high hopes for this year's events and the campus' reaction.

"If you think about homecoming and what homecoming is, it is a moment for the community of Baylor to come together to enjoy the blessings that God has given us through this great university," Vickers said. "Out fighting on Fountain Mall — if you really think about it, if you are really honest with yourself — having

the student body out fighting the freshmen, and that's what it really was at the end of the day. That isn't what Homecoming is all about."

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MAYOR from pg. 1

improve the Baylor community by raising political awareness of important issues, encouraging political involvement and countering political apathy, according to their Web site.

"Anything done to help inform students about political affairs is great because only good can come from a more informed populous," Boleman said. improve the Baylor community by raising political awareness of important issues, encouraging political involvement and countering political apathy, according to their Web site.

"Anything done to help inform students about political affairs is great because only good can come from a more informed populous," Boleman said.

UCLA student pleads not guilty to attempted murder

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — A UCLA student charged with slashing a classmate's neck during a chemistry lab brought a concealed, six-inch kitchen knife into the class and stabbed the woman five times, police said Tuesday.

Damon Thompson, 20, pleaded not guilty to premeditated attempted murder for the unprovoked attack on a female student standing next to him.

Los Angeles police Detective Alan Behnke said authorities were unable to determine a motive or whether the victim had been chosen at random. The woman, whose name was not released, was in good condition after spending time in intensive care.

Behnke said Thompson was cooperative but declined to speak to police about the incident.

The attack was deemed premeditated because Thompson allegedly brought the knife to the lab, but authorities had not determined how detailed his plans were.

"He hasn't clarified what his motive was," Behnke said.

Several people witnessed the attack, and a teaching assistant and a professor were able to stanch the blood flow by applying pressure to the victim's neck.

Witnesses told police Thompson walked calmly into a student information office and told a staff member he had stabbed someone.

Thompson's bail was increased from \$1 million to \$3 million during his arraignment Tuesday. A call to his public defender, Robin Berkovitz, was not immediately returned.

Police found the knife at the scene of the incident — a lab on the top floor of a building in the heart of the university on the west side of Los Angeles. Behnke said the attack lasted about 15 seconds, with the woman stabbed three times in an arm and hand and once each in the back and neck. Thompson and the victim had no known relationship other than working in the same class.

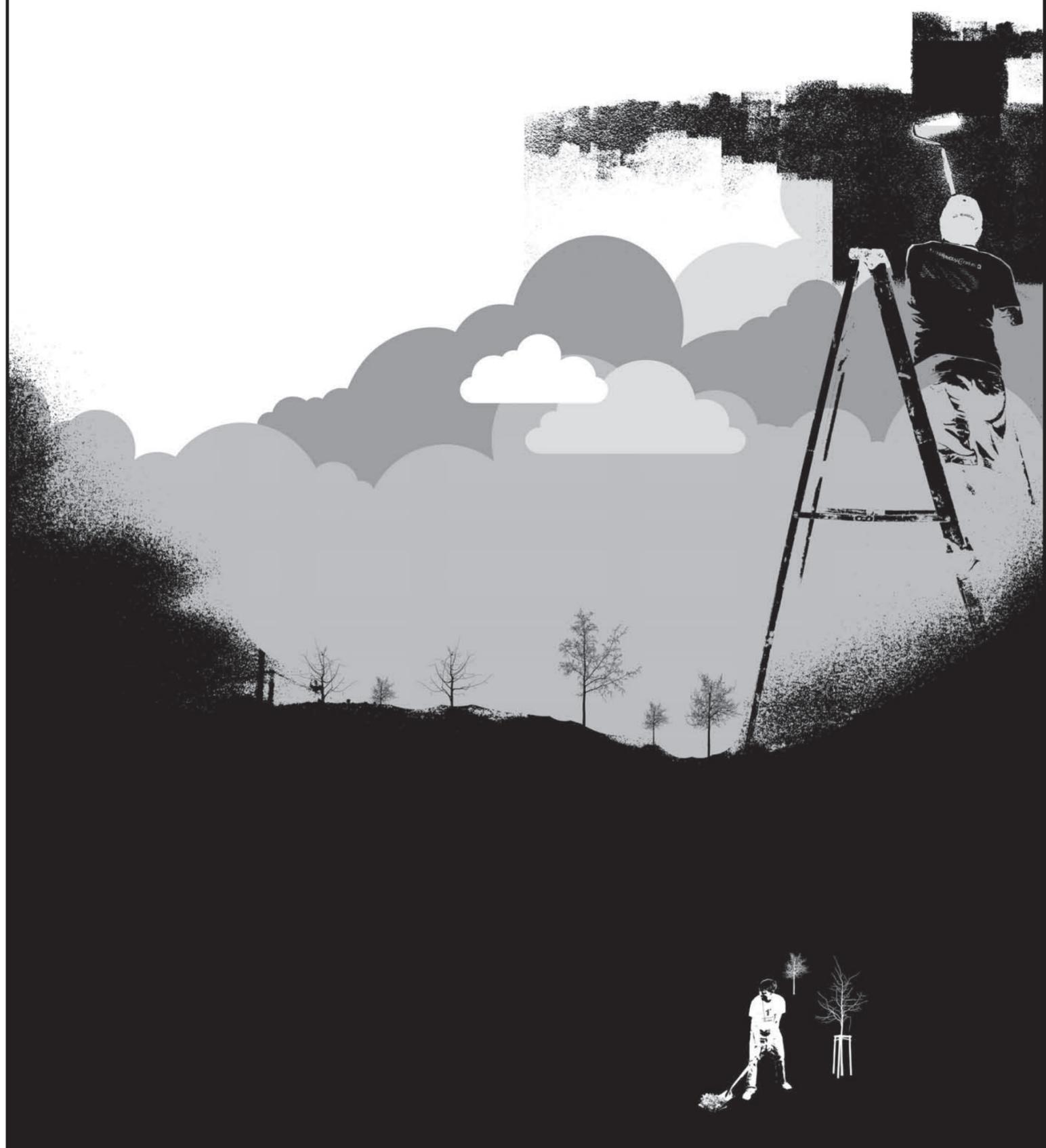
UCLA history professor Stephen Frank told the Los Angeles Times that Thompson wrote several e-mails last year complaining about classmates making offensive comments while he was taking a written exam.

Thompson's relatives have said he is an only child who left his mother's home in Belize two years ago to attend UCLA. He is due back in court Oct. 27.

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