

ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

## THE BAYLOR LARIAT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2006

## Senate briefed on Baylor's fiscal future

## Higher endowment doesn't offer relief on tuition increases

By Van Darden  
Staff writer

Reagan Ramsower, vice president for finance and administration, addressed the Student Senate Thursday, breaking down and explaining his department's recommendation to raise tuition by 8 percent during last week's board of regents meeting.

Ramsower said his office is responsible for assisting the re-

gents and administration decide on tuition issues by working with annual budgeting and financial statements and looking at enrollment figures.

"The process of recommending any change in tuition is built around a financial model that looks across every budget in every department and forecasts a plan," Ramsower said.

Ramsower called the plan a "baseline model" that looks at what expenditures are needed to keep the university operating the same as it does currently.

"Next year, to operate just as we are now, not adding any new

faculty or any new staff or building any new buildings, and given a steady state on capital plus inflation, it takes a 3.5 percent increase to stay the same," Ramsower said.



Lilley

Ramsower said faculty salaries, which take up the bulk of students' tuition at most private

universities around the nation, including Baylor, have risen to offset rising rates in the higher education consumer price index. The index is the average of price of a specified set of goods and services purchased by consumers in the realm of higher education.

"We look at revenue we can count on, not dream endowments we hope to get, and try to make that match with what the projected costs of operating the university will be," Ramsower said. "But one of the major variables in that equation is tuition."

Ramsower said his department's conservative estimate regarding incoming revenue is a 5 percent growth in giving.

"But we're not going to go out on a limb to make a budget," he said. "It's reasonable to assume our endowment will grow as much as 8 percent."

When asked about whether current endowment levels would help alleviate the financial strain placed on families, Ramsower responded that Baylor's endowment stands at around \$900 million and that everything his department does is designed to help offset increased tuition and

need-based scholarships.

"We're doing everything we can to raise endowment money and create proposals to excite people into donating money," he said.

Ramsower cited President John Lilley's "culture of philanthropy" and the priority Lilley's administration places on development as a positive sign of Baylor's commitment to raising endowment levels.

Lilley tempered Ramsower's comment, saying the Baylor 2012's imperative XII is to have

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Melea Burke/Lariat staff

## Rallying the troops

Students sic 'em Thursday at UpRoar in preparation for Saturday's game against Texas A&M. An unusually high demand for tickets has caused the south end zone to be uncovered for additional student and general admission seating. Tickets for the end zone cost \$35 and will be available at 9 a.m. Saturday at Floyd Casey Stadium.

## Shortened remarks frustrate officers

Regents, student government make amends over presentation

By Van Darden  
Staff writer

Following last week's board of regents meeting, student body President Mark Laymon, Internal Vice President Travis Plummer and External Vice President Allan Marshall shared concerns that recent board restructuring has diminished their effectiveness as student body representatives.

"I don't feel we were able to represent the student body as well as we could," Laymon said, citing a significant decrease in the amount of time allotted for student affairs.

In the past, both the student life committee and the academic affairs committee presented separately to the board.

Now with many regents' terms expiring and the board itself shrinking, many committees are combining. Two committees now share the same time previously allotted for one.

"In the past, student body officers were able to sit in on the student life committee so the regents could ask us questions and get our opinions," Laymon said. "This time, we had barely 10 or 15 minutes to go in and give an update."

Regent Minette Pratt said she regrets the student body officers felt slighted in any way.

"Because we have dramatically changed our schedule and because the academic affairs committee had an unusually full schedule, we had to deal with matters that were to be presented to the full board and we had to give those issues the full time," Pratt said. "There were things presented at the last meeting and those issues had to be dealt with, which left very little time for the student affairs committee."

Laymon said that in the past, student life committee meetings could last up to two hours, during which questions or conversations not initially proposed by student body officers could be addressed with direct student body officer input.

"I think the time they allotted us was a poor

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## Group seeks changes in loan program

By Kris Firth  
Reporter

With Baylor tuition increasing the past three years, some students look for outside assistance to fund their education. But don't expect better loans from the government. At least, not yet.

For the last five years, government loans haven't increased while the cost of a college education, which is considered a necessity for success in the professional work force, has become increasingly more expensive.

So now, students across the

country are taking action.

A coalition that includes College Parents of America, the United States Student Association and the State PIRGs (Public Interest Research Groups) is petitioning the Department of Education to reform the rules around loan payment, said Luke Swarthout, a lobbyist for the PIRGs Higher Education Project.

In the past decade, there has been a huge increase in student loans, Swarthout said. In 1993, 46 percent of four-year students took out loans for college. In 2004, that number increased to 66 percent.

Simultaneously, the average debt

for a student in 1993 was \$9,300. By 2004, the debt more than doubled to an average of \$19,200.

"All the while, though, federal funding has gone up and down," Swarthout said. "The cuts in federal funding have cost college students thousands of dollars in debt."

Rather than addressing the challenges of rising student debt, Congress cut \$12 billion out of the student loan programs earlier this year, Swarthout said.

Students are lobbying for five changes in the Department of Education's loan program, Swarthout said.

These changes include limiting student loan payments to 15 percent of any income above 150 percent of the poverty level after graduation, Swarthout said, instead of the standard set rate repayment option, which ignores varying salaries.

Along with limiting loan payments, the coalition is requesting protection from high-interest charges when borrowers face hardship situations, cancellation of remaining debts when borrowers have made regular payments for 20 years and simplifying the applica-

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## President approves 700-mile border fence

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush wanted an exchange of workers with Mexico to bring order to the border but wound up signing a law Thursday that approves partitioning 700 miles of the United States from its southern neighbor.

The administration once talked of "orderly migration" workers entering the United States and returning to Mexico or other countries when their jobs were finished. But political realities have replaced phrases like that with "border security" and plans for fences, surveillance cameras, unmanned aerial vehicles and watch towers.

Bush still wants a guest-worker program. But the toughest resistance to that idea has come from his own Republican

Party, and has intensified as the midterm elections have drawn near.

His White House signing ceremony for the new fence law, just 12 days before the Nov. 7 elections, gave Republicans something to point to as they try to convince voters their party would do a better job of cracking down on illegal immigrants and keeping criminals and terrorists out.

"We're modernizing the southern border of the United States so we can assure the American people we're doing our job of securing the border," Bush said.

The new law also gives the Department of Homeland Security up to 18 months to achieve "operational control" of the border, defined as preventing all illegal entries into the U.S. by land or water.

Please see FENCE, page 3

Associated Press  
National Guardsman Jeremiah Steele stands Oct. 19 across from the U.S. border with Mexico east of Nogales, Ariz.

## Holy month sees rise in U.S. troop fatalities

By Christopher Bodeen  
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — American troop deaths in Iraq hit their highest monthly total in a year on Thursday but as U.S. forces clamped down on the capital militants struck in a city to the north, where 30 police and gunmen were killed in a series of shootouts.

The latest U.S. deaths — a Navy sailor and four Marines — all were killed Wednesday in volatile Anbar province, west of Baghdad and a hotbed of the Sunni resistance to U.S. forces and their Iraqi government allies. At least 96 U.S. troops have died so far this month, equaling the level for the whole of

October 2005 — a factor in rising anti-war sentiment in the United States that has prompted calls for President Bush to change strategy.

However, U.S. officials have linked October's higher death toll to a historical spike in violence during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, additional U.S. military vulnerability because of the security drive in Baghdad and the coming American midterm elections.

Ramadan ended on Sunday for Sunnis and Monday for Shiites. Since then, murders in parts of Baghdad where security forces have established a firm presence have fallen by 10-20 percent, Caldwell said at a weekly news briefing.

# Critics don't phase Bell after victory, not that he'd say so

Shawn Bell strode into the press conference that day like he'd just won the lottery. In some strange, far-off way, he had.

Bell had just captained his team to a miraculous one-point win over the Kansas Jayhawks, and it showed in his face. It showed in the way he carried himself, still in his dirty No. 11 jersey, still in his armbands. Still with that play-calling wristband that helped guide the Baylor Bears to their best start in Big 12 history.

But no matter how hard the tight-knit and calloused reporting crew lambasted the fifth-year senior, he wouldn't crack. He wouldn't say what we all

wanted him to, what we all expected him to.

He kept talking about his mistakes. He wouldn't quit about how his teammates bailed him out of the situations that he had put them in.

"To pull out a win like that feels good, but for some reason, I can't stop thinking about those two turnovers," Bell said with a half-smile, referencing his two interceptions.

He couldn't stop gushing about his teammates. The offensive line, his receivers, the defense's second half — nobody was safe. As he usually does, he talked about the bond he and receiver Trent Shelton share, which has been growing since



## sports take

BY WILL PARCHMAN

the two met five years ago as redshirt freshmen on the scout team. Shelton had 100 receiving yards in that miraculous fourth quarter, and Bell could only talk about the great catches, never the great throws.

When it was brought to his attention that he had just broken five school records in one game, he said he hadn't heard the news. He said he didn't care.

He said all that mattered was the win, and achieving it in front of his friends and family.

Even when he was pressed about Baylor fans, namely students, leaving the game in relative droves following that second interception of his, he wouldn't budge. Not an inch.

He just said, "We take pride in this team. We just believe in ourselves," and then looked up at us reporters as if to defiantly say, "That all you got?"

I'll admit the hawk in me was a little disappointed.

What reporter doesn't want to say he witnessed the great meltdown of the fifth-year senior when confronted with a particularly tough question

about a pretty touchy subject? And in terms of touchy subjects, this one had third-degree sunburn.

But not Bell. Not this day, not ever.

What became abundantly clear to me through all of this was that Bell has done a lot of growing up out there on that Baylor field. He has faced critics for his entire career. People have been at his back telling him he can't do what he has eventually gone out and done. That likely won't end here. It will probably see him out of his Baylor career.

He doesn't seem to care about any of that.

He'll just keep quietly striking the lottery and help us be-

lieve in this program all over again.

And if all this leads to a bowl, fantastic. That is one more thing you can add to the laundry list of things he has done here.

But if not, and he leaves this campus amid yet another bowl-less season, just short once again, I hope the educated Baylor fan base can see through the obvious to the core of Bell's career. It is what he was trying to tell us in his press conference that day.

Even though he'll never tell you so, this is his team. And his team still has some more winning to do.

Will Parchman is a junior journalism major from Austin.



## Letters to the editor

### Brooks different, not divisive

Two weeks ago, I spent a considerable amount of my time polishing an essay for my application to Brooks College for next year. So, after I read the recent article "Brooks accused of elitism" on Oct. 20, I felt compelled to send in my opinion. This is a serious concern that closely involves the future of this university, and I feel that continuing discussion can resolve conflicts and illuminate the path to an understanding of the concept of Brooks College.

The opening paragraphs of the article give the impression that since it is called a "college," Brooks will be an egregiously distinct island, set apart from the rest of our university. As with all language, care should be used to ensure that the reader understands what is being discussed. The University of Cambridge contains 31 "Colleges," which are responsible for both housing and teaching students. With this in mind, it is very correct to observe that the British higher education system is much different from what we are familiar with in America. However, a few prestigious universities in America have implemented this "college system" into their housing arrangements. Harvard College has 12 "houses" where students can live, and Rice University has eight residential "colleges."

I must venture to suggest that while Brooks varies from the dorms we now live in, only in the approach that it will take to community living, the elitism or prejudice that Brooks may unfortunately engender is created only by those suspicious of its purpose.

Penland Hall is a residential building with an additional facility (a.k.a., a dining hall). What Brooks will have that Penland does not is a handful more of facilities (a chapel and a library) and an environment that creates a community that is even more tightly knit than that of a dorm. Only students who apply specifically to Brooks can be housed there, and thus, only students who are responsible, interested and motivated enough to take the initiative to fill out a separate housing application will be members of this community. Brooks College is merely a way to create an even tighter living community, where truly solid relationships can be built with fellow students. I do not intend to imply that solid relationships cannot be built in a dorm — merely that a residential college offers still more opportunities to do so.

Concern was mentioned over the fact that Brooks College will have its own creed. From my early elementary days through my freshman year in high school, I was a loyal Boy Scout. The Boy Scouts of America is one of the noblest institutions I have ever known. Even though I say that I "was" a Scout, no one ever fully leaves his Scouting life behind. I can almost guarantee that any Scout I

might find at Baylor would be able to recite the 12 points of the Scout Law or maybe the Scout Oath with me. Even non-Scouts are familiar with the Scout Motto — "Be prepared." Is it an evil for Brooks College to have a similar sort of oath? I do understand from where the concern arises, though the term "creed" suggests the "Apostles' Creed" or "Nicene Creed" in many minds on campus, and while this may merely be because of poor word choice, I see no harm in allowing Brooks to draw up a pledge of respect, honor and loyalty.

Regardless of what the Web site says or what readers think it implies, I must assure you that I am accepted into Brooks College. I will not consider myself any "better" than my peers who live in Martin or Baylor Plaza. Rather, I will consider myself fortunate to be able to be a part of a brand new living and learning community. My first loyalty and higher respect will always be to Baylor University and the morals which it embodies.

Anson Jablinski  
Instrumental music education 2010

### Adopt most deserving children

Saying that adopting orphans abroad neglects U.S. orphans is like saying donating money to the Red Cross neglects your local charity ("Adopting abroad neglects U.S. orphans," Wednesday). There's only so much money to go around, so how do you determine which organization is most "deserving" of your dollars?

The truth is, there are a nearly unlimited supply of orphaned children and a limited number of people adopting them. The question is who needs adopting most? The editorial states that "children who remain in foster care or group homes in America are four times more likely to develop serious psychiatric disorders, and in 30 percent of these cases, the child receives no treatment for it." This is probably much better than orphanages in Russia or China. How many orphans there receive any treatment at all?

At least children here will be well fed and have an opportunity to succeed. Orphans in foreign countries are frequently malnourished, subjected to conditions far worse than U.S. orphanages and are so disadvantaged that it's unlikely they'll ever catch up with the rest of society.

My youngest sister was adopted from Russia, so I've seen the way orphans there live. When we adopted her at just over the age of 1, she could not speak, sit up or crawl. She was so malnourished that half of her baby teeth had to be pulled or never appeared at all. All in all, she had much less chance of having a full, productive life than an American orphan. So why not adopt those who need it most?

Nathaniel Barrett  
Accounting/international business 2008

## Editorial

# Scarf choice belongs to women

The principle of modesty is of great importance to Muslim women across the world. The traditionally worn headscarf, or hijab, follows Islamic religious beliefs stressing modest attire.

This piece of clothing has come under scrutiny in Great Britain last week after Prime Minister Tony Blair said Tuesday that the headscarves are a sign of "separation," and Muslims should cease to wear the scarves in order to "improve the quality of their lives."

The increased alienation of British Muslim women follows last year's London transit suicide bombing at the hands of four British Muslims, and one female whose attempt was foiled, that killed 52 commuters.

While Great Britain is an ocean away from the United States, it's worrisome that Blair, an ally of President Bush, would make such comments about a religious group's behavior.

This suggestion is outrageous — Blair is asking women of the Muslim faith to abandon their headscarves, a tradition rooted in their religious beliefs, in order to integrate into British society.

Blair's statement concerning the attire of Muslim women follows a request made by Jack Straw, Leader of the House of Commons, who asked that Muslim women visiting his office should remove their veils.

"(The veil) is a mark of separation, and that's why it makes other people from outside the community feel uncomfortable," Blair said Oct. 17.

The decision to follow the religious Muslim tradition of wearing a hijab shouldn't be molded by the suggestion of a British man who's not of the Muslim faith.

The decision to wear such a headscarf should be determined by British Muslim women. They are the ones who may be undertaking stereotypes

and possible violence in reaction to their attire.

And they are the ones who fully understand why the scarves are worn and what the attire symbolizes to other people sharing their same faith.

In response to Blair saying the headscarves make the "community feel uncomfortable," it's ridiculous to place the blame of these uncomfortable feelings on the shoulders of Muslim women. If British people truly have a problem with the presentation of British Muslim women, then they should take it upon themselves to understand why women feel obligated to wear such attire.

With a more rounded understanding of the traditions related to the headscarves, British people may feel less uncomfortable and more accepting of people who choose to exercise their right of expression and dress differently than the majority.

## su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocorn

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HARD

# 9

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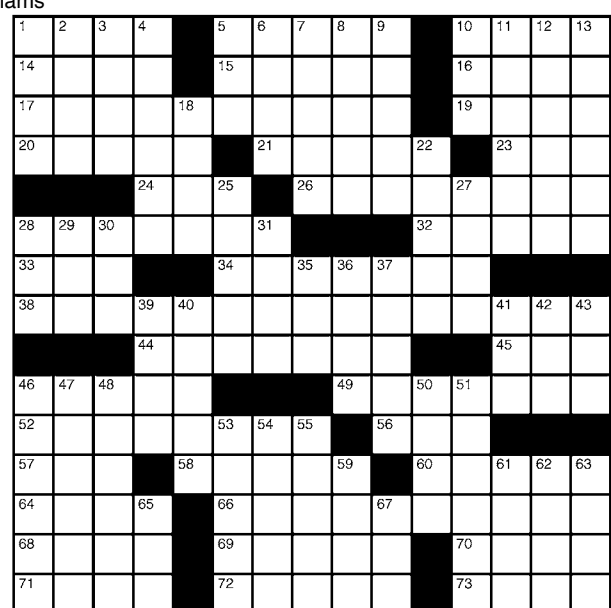
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## THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS**
- 1 Brine-cured cheese
  - 5 Number one
  - 10 Declared
  - 14 Swear to
  - 15 Tense situation
  - 16 Ex-Yankee Martinez
  - 17 Hack
  - 19 Language of Pakistan
  - 20 Fur-trade pioneer
  - 21 Scarches
  - 23 Band booking
  - 24 Big \_\_, CA
  - 26 Hack
  - 28 Gymnast
  - 32 Pester
  - 33 Bishopric
  - 34 Preschoolers' center
  - 38 Hack
  - 44 Added bubbles
  - 45 Lennon's lover
  - 46 Pickpocketed
  - 49 Returns into custody
  - 52 Hack
  - 56 Puppy bite
  - 57 Internet add.
  - 58 Strongboxes
  - 60 Use credit
  - 64 Engrave with acid
- DOWN**
- 1 \_\_ morgana (mirage)
  - 2 Le Gallienne and Gabor
  - 3 Printed matter
  - 4 Melodic passage
  - 5 HST's predecessor
  - 6 Writer Murdoch
  - 7 Spoke wildly
  - 8 Cover with goo
  - 9 Hang around
  - 10 R-V contents
  - 11 Pneumatic shooter
  - 12 Deep blue
  - 13 Soft and heavy
  - 18 Beat up
  - 22 Say "Boo!" to
  - 25 Speed checker
  - 27 SSS designation
  - 28 Dunderhead
  - 29 Company VIP

- 30 Gridiron zebra
- 31 Scarlett's home
- 35 Still
- 36 Talkative trucker
- 37 Shakespearean forest
- 39 Fine-grained mineral
- 40 Calendar parts
- 41 Heyerdahl's \_\_-Tiki
- 42 Ill. neighbor
- 43 Figs.
- 46 Shriill sound
- 47 Snapping reptile
- 48 Container with a spout
- 50 \_\_en scene
- 51 Tack on
- 53 Made chitchat
- 54 Old enough
- 55 Ice masses
- 59 Location of Mt. Rushmore
- 61 "The Time Machine" people
- 62 Campbell of "Scream"
- 63 Confound it!
- 65 Broadway smas
- 67 Timecard abbr.



By John Underwood  
New York, NY  
For today's crossword and sudoku answers, visit www.baylor.edu/Lariat

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# Best-seller claims news content destroys empathy

By Lindsey Grewe  
Reporter

Best-selling author Azar Nafisi held nothing back when she declared her opinion on one of our country's most controversial issues.

"I definitely think Suri Cruise looks more like Katie Holmes," Nafisi said.

In front of an attentive audience of Baylor students and faculty on the fifth floor of Cashion Academic Center, Nafisi found a way to connect the Hollywood rumor mill and radical Islam during an hour-long lecture.

Though having an opinion about Suri Cruise is important in our world, Nafisi said, discussing Hollywood gossip in the same breath as war-torn nations is not.

"It is not a good thing when all information is put onto the same level," Nafisi said.

"We have become a culture

that is no longer about knowledge, but is about information. We get it the easy way, and without having to work for it we no longer have to put thought into any information put in front of us."

"I think she's right," said Marilyn Rajaratnam, a Ridgcrest, Calif., freshman. "Your mind needs to be open."

For Nafisi, who was expelled from the University of Tehran for not wearing a veil and has seen in her lifetime the country she loves robbed by Islamic extremists, a society no longer willing to seek out knowledge is a dangerous one.

A society locked into a "sleeping consciousness" loses its ability to empathize, she said.

"Without empathy, without connection, there is no humanity," Nafisi said.

Empathy and the dangers of a world without it was at the core of Nafisi's discussion. A culture

lacking the ability to step into another person's shoes, a culture that welcomes ignorance, reduces those they perceive as different to subhuman, she said.

Her voice filled with passion when she spoke of the dual prejudices facing Iran following the Islamic revolution of the '70s. From both internal and external forces, Iran's culture has been erased and downgraded into being based solely upon fundamental Islam. Countries outside the Middle East now consider Iran's culture one where those who go against the Islamic beliefs are punished by stoning, Nafisi said.

"If that is truly our culture, then one could say burning witches, slavery, segregation is part of this country's culture," she said. "The Inquisition and Hitler are Europe's culture."

Inside Iran, Nafisi said she saw the totalitarian government

rewriting its history to justify their present actions.

"What we call fundamentalism is an ideology," Nafisi said. "The Muslim faith has been confiscated. No country has the authority to tell a person how to connect with their god. Radical Islam is not a religion, but a political action."

The changes in Iran opened Nafisi's eyes to the power of reading. When she returned after years of studying abroad to a dramatically changed nation, it was the books she read that allowed her country to still exist in some small way. Years later, Nafisi taught a class in her home on Thursday nights, giving Muslim girls an opportunity to take off their veils and escape to a different world before returning to a reality that degraded them.

It was the experience of freedom the girls felt when reading *Lolita* that inspired Nafisi to write *Reading Lolita in Tehran: A*



Kristina Bateman/Lariat staff

Azar Nafisi, best-selling author of *Reading Lolita in Tehran: A Memoir in Books*, speaks Thursday about her experiences in Iran and the United States.

*Memoir in Books*, a book discussing the impact of the Islamic revolution on Iran. The book spent 117 weeks on the New York Times bestseller list.

Nafisi said the United States is a country that sees the celebrity gossip and images of rape and death as equally vital news

information. She discussed how laziness in collecting knowledge is bringing forth a decline of reading that is destroying the ability to empathize.

In that sense, Iran and the United States are more similar in Nafisi's eyes than either nation would like to think.

## REGENTS from page 1

representation of the way regents feel about students," Plummer said.

Laymon and Plummer said the student body officers had time to address three issues: a brief report by Marshall on the community summit he organized last month, the regents' current policy of restricting religious student organizations on campus to Baptists only and the possibility of installing a permanent student representative on the board, similar to the policy held by the University of Texas'

board of regents.

"If it's really going to be that we don't have even representation on the student life committee at the very least, we should be pushing for a permanent student regent," Plummer said.

Laymon said he was afraid the student government's presentation was hindered by the abbreviated time.

"We have a special obligation to report problems and concerns of the student body and we weren't given enough time to do so," Marshall said.

Provost Randall O'Brien said he agreed that the regents and

the administration are concerned about students' views about all matters pertaining to university life.

"What happened in the meeting was in no way an indication of a lack of interest by the regents in student affairs," O'Brien said.

"It was a problem of logistics that resulted in the student officers feeling rushed."

O'Brien added many faculty members who were also slated to give presentations had their time significantly reduced.

"Everybody," O'Brien said, "faculty, the administration and

the regents alike, feel that we need to make adjustments so that beginning with February's meeting, we will have a place for those who present so that they feel they are received with all due consideration for their petitions."

Dr. Dub Oliver, vice president for student life, said the regents care very much about the student body officers' role and want to hear from them about their concerns.

"Each of us is learning how to adapt and facilitate the new committee structure," Oliver said.

"We want to have an efficient meeting and yet have an opportunity to discuss problems and issues thoroughly."

Pratt agreed. "We want students to know that we want what's best for them," she said. "We are working with a new schedule and that is the result of reorganizing the whole board and as we have combined two important committees we think we have made great progress with one and, unfortunately, had to rush the other one."

Pratt said the board of regents has Baylor students at

the "top, bottom and middle" of their hearts.

"I guarantee things are going to be different," she said. "It was an extraordinary day that won't be repeated."

"We hope this won't affect students' attitudes toward the board and we want them to have the most wonderful experience possible at Baylor and we're dedicated to fulfilling that."

The three officers said they were satisfied with the explanation and look forward to positive interaction between the student body and the board of regents in the future.

## SENATE from page 1

a 2 billion dollar endowment by 2012.

"We need to be adding \$200 million a year, not \$15 million," he said. "Development is where we're farthest behind in 2012 and that's why development is what we're focusing on the most."

Ramsower said the increase in tuition reflected a desire to

see Baylor maintain its high standards.

"Our goal is create a financial scenario that stays the same," Ramsower said. "We deal with requests from every department, from Student Life and from others, who have desires and dreams for things to go over and beyond where we are financially and we have to budget those desires into our proposal. All of that goes together and

so our recommendation was to increase tuition."

Ramsower put the tuition increase in perspective.

"Relative to other schools, just comparing tuition and required fees, we're lower than other private schools like Southern Methodist University, Texas Christian University, Wake Forest and Vanderbilt," Ramsower said.

Ramsower said the increase

in tuition coincides with an increase in tuition discounts. "Those middle-income families attending Baylor with need have had some level of reduction in tuition," Ramsower said.

But Ramsower said there is currently no plan to raise need-based scholarships to match rising tuition costs for existing students.

"Current students have access to existing scholarships

doled out from within departments," he said.

But Ramsower said they're not unaware of concerns over the current levels of available need-based scholarships.

El Paso freshman Hayley Gibson said she thinks Ramsower's department didn't give enough thought to students who are already on financial aid.

"I don't think he minded so much that people with lower

incomes would be unable to attend Baylor because there will always be people who can afford to come to Baylor and they'll still get their money."

But Houston junior Joshua Sanders said he understands that with costs rising nationwide, a tuition increase should reflect that.

"But I don't think you have to increase tuition to increase alumni support," Sanders said.



Associated Press

Jeff Reed, co owner of Pepe's on the River, looks out along the Rio Grande River from his business Wednesday.

## LOANS from page 1

tion process for hardship deferrals and other repayment options, Swarthout said.

These issues are of high concern for any college student who has taken out a loan, he said.

As a non profit, non partisan lobbyist for State PIRGs in Washington, D.C., Swarthout said he's responsible for testifying in front of the Department of Education to demand increased federal funding and lower student costs.

Currently, federal college loans are more accessible for lower-income families, but the

United States Student Association is pushing for an increase in federal grant aid for lower and middle-income students, Rebecca Thompson, USSA legislative director, said.

"It existed before and it can exist again, where the federal government makes college an option for all students," Thompson said.

The student association also works with coalition partners, such as book publishers, to lower fees outside of college tuition.

Some students have to take out loans just for books.

"We're trying to change that," Thompson said.

At Baylor, the recent announcement that tuition will increase 8 percent for the '07-'08 academic year made an impact on many students, including Indianapolis, Ind., sophomore Micah Millet.

Millet, who has high traveling and living costs, said the increase is unnecessary.

"If they are going to increase the tuition, I want to know what it can do for me," Millet said. "Not just the booster club for athletes and new sports facilities."

By increasing tuition, Millet said, he thinks Baylor is catering to a limited group of students.

"Eventually, it's going to be the survival of the richest," Millet said.

This winter, the Department of Education will be finalizing two new grant programs and reviewing the proposed changes made by the student coalitions, Swarthout said.

Students around the country can submit their comments on the Department of Education's Web site, Studentdebtalert.org. The deadline to submit comments is November 8.

"If students take action, the government will have to listen," Swarthout said.

"It will make the difference."

## FENCE from page 1

The bill didn't come with any new funding, and the \$1.2 billion that Congress previously approved is not enough to build the full 700 miles of proposed double-layer fence.

A 14-mile stretch under construction in the San Diego area is estimated to cost \$126.5 million. Costs differ depending on terrain, environmental issues and whether private property is involved.

Sen. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., said Congress will add more money each year to erect the fence.

"Within about three years, we should have about 370 miles," said Kyl, whose state would be virtually sealed from Mexico through fencing and other barriers.

Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Ralph Basham said the fence could take many forms, from chain link to solid wall, depending on where it is placed.

The shape will be determined with the help of Boeing Co., which was awarded a \$67 million contract to install a high-tech "virtual fence" along 28 miles in Arizona.

"There is a will to get operational control of the borders and I believe they (lawmakers) are serious about this," Basham said. "It's going to mean Congress is going to have to stay serious about this and continue to fund it."

The proposed fence has some south Texas residents concerned about their land and livelihood.

Jeff Reed offers outdoor dining on the Rio Grande at his "Pepe's on the River" restaurant. But as President Bush signed a

law for border fencing Thursday, he had reason to wonder, will his restaurant soon be "Pepe's on the Fence?"

Down river in Brownsville, farmer Fermin Leal considered his jalapeno and lima bean fields running to river's edge and wondered if the government intended to cut through his crops, run irrigation pipes under the fence, or buy him out.

"Most of our land goes up to what's supposed to be the border, and yes, we need access to river water," Leal said.

The law is intended to help secure the border from illegal immigration, drug smuggling, and terrorism.

Republicans in Congress see it as their most significant accomplishment on the immigration issue.

But up and down Texas' watern boundary with Mexico, reaction has ranged from anger and worry to humor about something that locals say doesn't seem thought out.

Landowners, sick of illegal immigrants cutting their fences, stealing and trespassing, tired of worrying about smugglers of humans and drugs endangering their families, demanded that Congress tighten the border.

But not, they say, with a double layer, \$6 billion fence cutting through their land and keeping them, not to mention livestock and wildlife, from the life-sustaining river.

"It's not going to work in Texas," said former Minuteman border-watcher Michael Vickers, who owns a cattle ranch on the border.

"Who wants to close off the river to Mexico? The river is the lifeblood for a lot of cities."

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Jon Schroeder/Lariat staff

Dominique Ziegler makes a crucial catch during the third overtime of the Bears' game against Colorado on Oct. 7. In 2004, Ziegler had career highs with 12 catches and 121 receiving yards against the Aggies in the Bears' 35-34 upset.

# Bears vie for 2nd in South

By Will Parchman  
Sports writer

When one team dominates a series as Texas A&M has against Baylor in the past two decades, it can hardly be called a rivalry.

But with both teams jockeying for position in a competitive Big 12 South, Baylor (4-4, 3-1) and Texas A&M (7-1, 3-1) will face off at 6:05 p.m. Saturday at Floyd Casey Stadium.

For the first time in recent memory, both teams have the same Big 12 record, 3-1, and the winner will gain sole possession of second place in the division.

Head Coach Guy Morriss said every late-season game is important, but playing Texas A&M is somewhat different.

"Our kids seem to get themselves up for it," Morriss said. "We treat it as kind of a special rivalry and the guys seem to get really juiced up."

The Bears have gone a long way in rebuilding the traditional rivalry. Baylor's last two contests against the Aggies, one an overtime win and the other an overtime loss, have legitimized Baylor's hopes against Texas A&M this season.

"We consider them as one of, if not the toughest, opponent we're going to face," defensive coordinator Bill Bradley said. "You should get fired up for every game, but this is a special game, the way it's fallen the past couple of games. Our guys don't feel intimidated by them but they understand that, in particular this year, they are a really good football team."

The true backbone of the Aggies' success this season has been their highly effective rushing attack, which leads the Big 12 with 203.9 rushing yards per game.

Texas A&M's sophomore quarterback Stephen McGee has done an effective job of powering the Aggies' option running game. Running backs Mike Goodson, Courtney Lewis and 270-pound power back Jorvorskie Lane have complemented each other well enough to allow McGee, not known for his strong throwing arm, to pass just 204 times this season.

By comparison, Shawn Bell has thrown 363 times in the Bears' new pass-oriented offense.

"They are a good team," defensive end Geoff Nelson said. "I saw earlier that they are ranked

## Weekly Big 12 picks



Game	Youngblood	Parchman	McGuire	Daniel
A&M @ Baylor	BU 31-30	BU 38-24	BU 37-36	BU 42-35
Texas @ Texas Tech	UT 42-17	UT 35-21	UT 41-31	UT 59-38
Oklahoma @ Missouri	MU 28-21	MU 28-27	OU 28-24	MU 33-17
Nebraska @ Oklahoma State	NU 41-21	NU 28-14	NU 42-21	OSU 34-27
Colorado @ Kansas	KU 34-24	KU 31-21	KU 17-10	KU 27-13
Iowa State @ Kansas State	ISU 24-17	ISU 20-17	ISU 31-10	ISU 30-27
Last week's record	4-2	5-1	6-0	3-3
Overall record	35-13	37-11	38-10	30-18

ninth in the nation in rush offense. So we are going to have some challenges, but that is what we are here for — to play football and in this situation to stop that rushing attack."

In Lane's second season he has emerged as a legitimate goal line threat, scoring 16 touchdowns for the Aggies this year. Most of his touches have come in short-yardage situations inside the 10-yard line where he typically does the most damage.

Even with his propensity to barrel over defenders around the end zone, Lane proved two weeks ago in the Aggies upset of No. 19 Missouri that he can be successful as a feature back as well. He had 28 carries for 127 yards in Texas A&M's 25-19 win over the Tigers.

The Baylor defense will attempt to stop the Aggies' four-headed rushing attack, but it's ranked last in the Big 12 with 150.4 rushing yards allowed per game. That includes a dismal showing against Kansas on Saturday in which they allowed 284 yards rushing, the bulk of which came in the first half.

Even with all of the match-ups swirling around their heads, the players and coaches said they're acutely aware that this week isn't just another game on the schedule: This is Texas A&M.

# Lady Bears take on No. 16 Tigers

By David Kaye  
Reporter

The Baylor volleyball team hopes to snap an eight-match losing streak when it takes on the 16th-ranked Missouri Tigers at 7 p.m. today at the Ferrell Special Events Center.

The Bears started the season 13-2, 2-1 in Big 12 play before losing Sept. 27 to the Tigers in Columbia. That match started a downward spiral that has seen Baylor fall to 2-9 in Big 12 play.

"We beat them in games two and three, and in game four we were up 22-15," head Coach Jim Barnes said. "We really let them off the hook in that match."

In the first meeting with Missouri, freshman setter Taylor Barnes set a school record with 11 service aces.

"She's a streaky server. When she gets a good rhythm with her serve, she's extremely aggressive with it," Barnes said. "That night she was. She just got on a roll and hit the ball as hard as I've ever seen her hit it. She really rattled them for a while."

Taylor Barnes said the losing streak has been a learning experience, but the Bears aren't satisfied with playing close.

"We're going to be a lot more mentally tough from now on. That's going to help us in the future," she said. "We just have to come in strong and put it all out on the court. We're tired of this losing streak, and something needs to change."

Senior middle blocker Desiree Guilliard-Young said



Melea Burke/Lariat staff

Freshman Anna Breyfogle and senior Nicole LeBlanc combine to block an Iowa State hit on Oct. 21. Both have been major contributors to the team this season, though Baylor is currently sporting an 0-8 streak.

Baylor has enough talent to compete with anyone in the Big 12, but it's a young team that's still learning how to finish off tough opponents.

"That's going to come with experience and maturity. We have everything we need on this team to get things done," Guilliard-Young said. "It's more of a focus issue than a skill issue."

Despite the Bears' 2-9 conference record, Jim Barnes still believes the team can achieve its ultimate goal — a berth in the NCAA tournament.

"We still have 10 conference games left, so it can be attained,"

he said. Between Taylor Barnes, Anna Breyfogle, Katie Sanders and Lauren Keeton, the Bears have four true freshmen in their playing rotation.

"We're the youngest team in the conference, so we're still learning how to win matches at this point," Jim Barnes said. The match, which was originally scheduled for Saturday, was moved to tonight to eliminate scheduling conflicts.

With the Baylor football game against Texas A&M scheduled for 6:05 p.m. on Saturday, tonight was determined to be a better option.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Bears to compete in Big 12 Championships

The Baylor cross country teams head to Lawrence, Kan., to compete in the Big 12 Cross Country Championships at 10 a.m. today. The women's team heads into the meet ranked 30th nationally and third in the Big 12, according to the USTFCCA Division I Women's Cross Country Poll. Last year, the women finished third at the Big 12 Championships, while the men finished 12th.

### Soccer ends regular season

The Baylor soccer team closes out its regular season tonight against Texas Tech University at 7 p.m. today in Lubbock. The team (6-10-1) has already received a

berth to the Big 12 tournament on Wednesday in San Antonio, but it looks to finish its season on a high note against the Lady Raiders. A win would give Baylor the No. 7 seed in the Big 12 going into the conference championships.

### Capacity crowd lifts tarp off south endzone

With a near-capacity crowd expected for the Baylor-Texas A&M game on Saturday, the Baylor administration has made the decision to lift the tarp in the south endzone of Floyd Casey Stadium to accommodate all of the students who have shown interest in attending the game. By noon Thursday, students had picked up about 11,000 tickets, nearly all of their allotment of for the contest. The south endzone tickets that aren't taken by students will be sold to the public for \$35 each on Saturday.

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# Bands battle in annual competition

Place2BU, Kappa Delta host contest for five student bands

By Tommy Stone  
Reporter

Baylor's finest musicians will compete against each other tonight in the Battle of the Bands competition, with a chance to win cash prizes and the title of the best musical group on campus.

Kappa Delta and Place2BU, organizers of the annual event, chose five bands to compete in front of a panel of Student Activities faculty and two pro-

fessional disc jockeys from the radio station KBRQ-FM, "The Bear" 102.5.

The bands are Autumn Lights, Hello Racecar, The Seth Philpott Band, The Colby Ampersand Band and The Jordan Bellamy Band.

With friends coming in town for the big game on Saturday, the event provides "a good thing to do this Friday night," said Dan Long, graduate assistant for campus programming. "There is a good mix of music, not all acoustic, general music."

The three top scoring bands will win cash prizes. First place will receive \$750, and the next two places receive \$500 and

\$250, respectively.

Autumn Lights, one of the bands competing, differs from other performers because it is composed of a variety of instruments with no vocals.

"The bands this year are great. With a rock feel to them, everyone will be really impressed," said Rebecca LaFlure, a Tyler junior and Kappa Delta member.

Admission is free and raffle tickets will be passed out during the event for the chance to win an electric guitar.

Winners of both the electric guitar and competition will be announced after the performances.

Battle of the Bands has become a hot ticket for Baylor students with more than 1,000 people attending last year, Long said.

All attendees can expect "lots of good music, free food and cool prizes," LaFlure said.

Audience members will receive candy, keychains and guitar pics. Vintage T-shirts will be on sale for \$10.

"I've seen some of the bands before, at After Dark or other things, and they were pretty good," Heather Hampton, a Columbus, Mo. senior, said.

The event will begin at 8 p.m. today in the Bill Daniel Student Center bowl.



Courtesy photo

The Winters, a band composed of Baylor students, competed last year in Kappa Delta and Place2BU's Battle of the Bands competition.

# Christian, rock collide during post-game show

By Carlee Besier  
Reporter

The folks at Common Grounds are inviting everyone over Saturday night to celebrate with coffee and live music after the Baylor-A&M football game.

Christian rock/alternative band The Following is traveling from Nashville, Tenn., to perform at Common Grounds' back yard for a post-game show.

The concert begins at 10 p.m. with Baylor Rising Artists Network's Seth Philpott, with a \$5 cover charge at the door.

The Following has been together for almost two years and is composed of two sets of brothers: Caleb Chapman, 17, and Will Chapman, 15, and D.J. Lipscomb, 18, and Dale Lipscomb, 16.

"They're really talented for how old they are," said Patrick Dodd, San Diego, Calif., junior and longtime friend of the Chapmans. "People will be surprised when they come this weekend."

Caleb and Will's older sister, Emily, is a Franklin, Tenn., junior and friend of Jill Mashburn, owner of Common Grounds.

"I played my brother's music for her last year. And when I came back this fall, she said she really wanted them to come play," Emily said.

She said The Following's songs don't sound like typical contemporary Christian music.

"They might come off as your run-of-the-mill Christian band, but they can definitely stand on their own," said Colton Cline, a Franklin, Tenn.,



Courtesy photo

Members of The Following include, from left, Will Chapman, Caleb Chapman, Dale Lipscomb and D.J. Lipscomb

freshman. "They'll bring in that audience but also those fans of harder rock music," he said.

Emily said the band has been looked at by several record labels and recently opened for Hawk Nelson and Run Kid, Run at Rockettown in Nashville. Will, the drummer, is endorsed by Risen Drums. Emily said endorsement is based on talent, and it's difficult to get a company endorsement without being signed by a record label.

"And the fact that he is endorsed at 15 years old really shows his talent," she said.

The opening act, Philpott, a China Spring senior, said he's been playing music for 12 years but only been writing and singing for the past four. He's been an active participant with the network, performing in After Dark, at Welcome Week functions and the Acoustic Café. He'll also perform today with his band at Kappa Delta and Place 2BU's Battle of the Bands.

Philpott described his music as a mix of rock and blues. He said he writes his music from his own life experiences so it's something to which people can relate. He also said he hopes that after listening to his music, it motivates them "to be better people."

# Asian, Filipino students mix culture, Halloween

By Grace Maalouf  
Reporter

Candy corn and chocolate bars are standard fare for Halloween. But in honor of the upcoming holiday, students will have the chance Monday to try something completely different.

The Asian Student Association and the Filipino Student Association are coming together to host Halo-Halloween, a party featuring a traditional Filipino dessert called halo-halo.

"Halo-halo is a Filipino shaved ice dessert (topped with) different things like ice cream, fruits and different jellies," said Houston sophomore Albert Ho, president of the Asian Student Association.

The idea for the party arose when Richardson senior Lisa Pimentel traveled to the Philippines over the summer, and fellow group members saw a picture of the dessert.

"The fun of it is to go through and mix it all into one concoction, and then eat it," said Pimentel, a member of the Asian Student Association.

Ana Baladad, a Mesquite sophomore and president of the Filipino Student Association,

said toppings for the dessert at the party will include tapioca, coconut strings, jack fruit and ube, a potato-like vegetable that's mashed and sweetened with milk and sugar.

"A lot of people don't know about halo-halo, especially outside of the Baylor community," Ho said.

Baladad said the party will be a good chance to introduce students to Filipino culture, especially aspects with which they aren't acquainted.

"A lot of students know about (Filipino) dance because FSA performs, and this will give them another perspective of Filipino culture," she said.

The party also will feature a costume competition, raffle, Filipino food and traditional Halloween games such as bobbing for apples.

Ho said the party will be a good chance to bring organizations together.

"There'll be more unity, more mingling between the groups," Ho said. "My ultimate goal is to get all organizations on campus to have some kind of unified collaboration with each other."

Halo-Halloween begins at 7 p.m. Monday in the Bill Daniel Student Center food court.

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