

ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2008

Baylor looks to push past Purdue



Associated Press

Baylor head coach Scott Drew does five push-ups Wednesday at center court after a successful team practice at the Verizon Center in Washington D.C. in preparation for the NCAA first round West Regional basketball game. Looking on are Baylor players Curtis Jerrells, center, and Fred Ellis, right.

By Will Parchman
Sports editor

Now that the celebratory confetti's been swept away and the send-off celebrations are over, Baylor men's basketball is finally ready to step on the court.

With No. 11-seeded Baylor's NCAA Tournament match-up today against Purdue University at 1:50 p.m. in Washington D.C.'s Verizon Center — Baylor's first such pairing since 1988 — the team said it's more than ready to put the speculation to rest and decide the outcome on the hardwood.

"Now it's getting ready for the game and that's what coaches love to do," head coach Scott Drew said.

Baylor's last week has been a whirlwind of activity. On March 13, the team lost a double-overtime decision to the University of Colorado in the Big 12 Tournament, placing them atop the NCAA Tournament bubble. After being the last name called on

Selection Sunday, the team has tried furiously to scout Purdue, travel to the east coast and acclimate to the notion that they're actually playing an NCAA Tournament game today.

"I really enjoy that fast pace," senior guard Aaron Bruce said. "Go somewhere, practice, prepare, have a quick turnaround and do it all again. That's outstanding I think. That's the way it is in professional leagues ... It really tests a team's preparation skills and tests the full spectrum of what it takes to be an excellent team."

The Boilermakers rely on their guard-play to power the rest of their offense, something Baylor can relate with well. Guards E'Twaun Moore, Scott Martin and Keaton Grant lead Purdue in minutes played and represent three of the team's top four scorers. The team was just three-tenths of a percentage point from leading the Big 10 in 3-point percentage and was third in scoring offense.

If Drew puts five guards on the court as he did against the University of Colorado in the Big 12 Tournament, all 10 players on the court at one point could be guards.

"It's a great match-up from the standpoint that their strength is in the perimeter, they have great guard play, they have more size and length in their guards, they rely on the 3-point shot like we do," Drew said. "So it will be a very exciting game to watch."

Purdue's defensive set is deliberate and hounding, not unlike Washington State University, a team Baylor's faced already this year. Purdue ranked second in the Big 10 in steals and first in turnover margin, a full point ahead of second-place Minnesota.

The Boilermakers also don't score a ton of points, preferring instead to keep point totals into the 50s and 60s.

Baylor's high-octane offense will look to stretch that advantage.

Please see **BEARS**, page 6

ELG to attend Dallas film festival

By Shannon Daily
Staff writer

This semester the Film and Global Culture Engaged Learning Group will be taking a unique approach to studying filmmaking.

In addition to participating in a semester-long film production simulation, the group of more than 40 students will be attending the American Film Institute festival in Dallas.

The festival takes place March 27 through April 6 and hosts filmmakers from all over the world. These filmmakers work in areas from production to marketing and distribution.

"The festival kind of runs the gamut," said Christopher Hansen, an assistant professor of communications and one of the group's faculty leaders.

The students will be given passes they can individually use for the entire week of the festival and will take a group trip to Dallas for the first weekend.

One aspect of the festival the students will focus on is the cultural similarities and differences shown in the films.

"I think when they go to the festival, they'll see common themes

reflected — connections between the films from different cultures. It will be a wonderful venue for students to be exposed to this kind of thing," said Dr. Xin Wang, an assistant professor in the Baylor Interdisciplinary Core and another ELG faculty leader.

Wang said it's important to him that his students understand they live in a global community.

"We need for Baylor to help students, these students who are going to be future leaders, understand that they have to plug into society. We have a larger context outside of Baylor, and Texas and even the United States," he said.

The Dallas festival packs its schedule with independent films as well as panel discussions meant to inform viewers about different aspects of the filmmaking process.

At last year's festival, Hansen was a panel member for a discussion on filmmaking in Texas.

"It was filmmakers from Texas, or who had shot in Texas, or both, and just kind of how they made everything work," Hansen said.

These kinds of discussions will mirror the simulation the students are participating in.

Please see **ELG**, page 6

Economy hinders student loan options

By Anita Pere
Staff writer

College students may need an alternative to alternative education loans next school year.

Once easy to get, the availability of private or alternative education loans may be hindered by more stringent regulations on lending, prompted by the unstable economy.

A student with a less-than-perfect credit history could get a high-interest loan from a private lender in past years, but this may not be the case now, said Mark Kantrowitz, publisher of finaid.org.

The Project on Student Debt identified the mortgage market as the culprit of student loan worries in their article, "The Real Story on Student Loans and the Credit Squeeze."

"Mostly because of problems in the mortgage market, there has been a decline in the number of investors willing to purchase some types of financial instrument," the article reads. "Some student loan companies have been using these methods of financing to raise money to make student loans. With the unexpected loss of financing, these companies will need to either get out of the student loan market or revamp their financing methods."

But the good news is that experts

agree the credit crunch is the lenders', not the students', problem.

At a United States Senate hearing March 12, Sen. Edward Kennedy, head of the Senate Education Committee, said the credit crunch is primarily impacting banks and other lenders, as many financial lenders can no longer afford to lend educational loans.

This week manufactures and Traders Trust Company, The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and the Twin City Federal Bank all announced this week a halt on college lending, Kantrowitz said.

Kennedy warned that students might have to choose different lenders for Federal Stafford Loans also, as many banks can't afford to lend these types of loans.

Kantrowitz supported Kennedy's stance that the economy is more severely affecting the lenders and not students.

Kantrowitz also said the diminishing competition of loan lenders shouldn't be a huge concern to students now, but may be next year. "Choices are going to be much more limited...I'm much more concerned about lenders leaving a year from now," he said.

Bob Shireman, president of The

Please see **LOAN**, page 6



Associated Press

President Bush shakes hands with members of the military after delivering remarks on the "Global War on Terror" Wednesday at the Pentagon in Washington.

Bush defends high cost of Iraq War

By Ben Feller
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush defiantly defended the Iraq war Wednesday as U.S. troops began a sixth year of combat in the long and costly conflict that has dominated his presidency. Bush conceded the war has been harder and more expensive than anticipated but insisted it has all been necessary to keep Americans safe.

Protesters marked the anniversary of the U.S. invasion with demonstrations near the White House and in other cities, though they seemed to lack the fervor of those that preceded the war.

Bush, in a speech at the Pentagon, offered some of his boldest assessments of progress and said the war's legacy is absolute: "The

world is better, and the United States of America is safer."

A war-weary country isn't nearly so convinced.

The majority of people think the invasion was a mistake, polls show. However, Americans are more split about how the war is going and when U.S. troops should be pulled home, as reduced violence in Iraq has begun to influence the public view.

Almost 4,000 U.S. military members have died, and more than 29,000 have been wounded. The cost is \$500 billion and counting.

"No one would argue that this war has not come at a high cost in lives and treasure," Bush said. "But those costs are necessary when we consider the cost of a strategic victory for our enemies

in Iraq."

The U.S. has about 158,000 troops in Iraq, and that number is expected to drop to 140,000 by summer. But Bush signaled anew that he will not pull more troops home as long as his commanders worry that doing so will imperil recently improved conditions in Iraq.

"Having come so far, and achieved so much, we're not going to let this happen," Bush said.

Demonstrators converged in the nation's capital, other big cities like Miami and San Francisco, and in smaller towns in Vermont and Ohio to urge an end to the war. Police arrested more than 30 people who blocked the Internal Revenue Service building.

Please see **IRAQ**, page 6



Alex Song/Lariat staff

Cedar Park senior and Brooks CL James Nortey was accepted to Harvard Law School.

Brooks CL accepted to Harvard Law

By Sommer Ingram
Staff Writer

Cedar Park senior James Nortey stood motionless outside the boys' entrance to Brooks College, his cell phone glued to his ear.

He played the voicemail again, this time on speakerphone.

He'd heard right the first time. The assistant dean of admissions at Harvard Law School was calling to inform him of his admittance to the school.

"My initial feeling was disbelief — it felt so surreal," Nortey said. "I played the message over and over. I didn't tell anyone at first, for a few days at least. Then I told my parents, and eventually my friends one by one. It's definitely a blessing."

Nortey said that because he's never been very good at standardized testing, his score on the LSATs, the standard law school admission test, weren't "Harvard good." But the application for law school allowed him to explain why he should be accepted in spite of that.

"The key is to read between the lines," he said. "My argument to them was that if they wanted to see how effective I'd be at their school, to judge me by my GPA, not my LSAT scores. And I guess it worked."

Nortey has been on the university's Dean's List since his freshmen year.

Nortey's parents are natives of Ghana, West Africa, so the influences of that culture had a rippling effect across his childhood. He included a statement about

Please see **HARVARD**, page 6

Penland card swiper offers example, warm smile

I enjoy those moments that put life into perspective. You know, those “Wow!” moments while listening to someone else’s story that make you realize your own situation is golden by comparison. As a journalist, I’ve had my share of “Aha!” moments to learn from. Moments that reveal the true heart of a person, despite the adversity and obstacles that they have encountered. Let’s take Pearl Hernandez, the Penland cafeteria “card swiper,” as an example. I can’t begin to count the number of times Pearl has taken the frown I wore as a result of a bad exam grade in neuroscience

and turned it downside up. Maybe it’s the short, curly hair that looks just like my mom’s. Maybe it’s her radiating smile. Maybe it’s the daily questions, asked in sincere curiosity, that demonstrate how much she cares. Whatever it is, Pearl has the ability to make me feel loved and cared for. For those few minutes between card swipes and other students greeting her as we converse, she poses as my surrogate motherly figure. She has done this for many other students over the past nine years. Proof: within a 20-minute



point of view

BY ERIKA PEDROZA

interview during her break, Pearl received several hello’s and a couple of students even went out of their way to walk to where we were to give her a hug. In addition, her collection of notes of gratitude and invitations to weddings and graduations also attest to this. Furthermore, when mentioning my interest in writing

a column about Pearl, almost everyone reacted in the same way – with enlarged eyes, a widespread smile and a remark along the lines of “I love Pearl!” Unbeknownst to many, her comforting words and glistening smile hide the physical pain of a bone deficiency disorder and mask the emotional scars of the tragic loss of her mother in a car accident and a nephew in a stabbing. But you wouldn’t know that by the shining personality that greets you before you continue on to fulfill your appetite. Her happy-go-lucky attitude masks her worries and sorrows, for she feels “you will always

make it through and there’s no need to dwell on the bad.” The bone deficiency disorder she combats does tire her and cause her pain. But she places faith in God and in the medication she takes to relieve the pain. Despite the grieving from the tragic deaths of her relatives, she understands “it’s all up to God, for he is the one that puts the finger on us when he wants us.” My petty stresses over grades, missing my loved ones back home and whatever drawbacks I struggle with not only seem minute as opposed to the burdens she laments, but her attitude and perspective con-

vinces me the troubles I juggle will soon pass. Instead of falling into the negativity of the drawbacks with which she struggles, Pearl uses her hardships as the driving force behind the optimistic way she treats the diners at Penland’s dining hall. “Everyone comes in with different moods. You never know what’s going on behind their smiles, but I just try to make everyone smile,” Hernandez said. And that’s why we all love her. Thank you, Pearl. Erika Pedroza is a sophomore journalism major from Decatur, Texas.

Editorial

Too few PawPrints to go around

If you never use a campus printer or always take a light course load, you’re probably safe. However, if you’re like the rest of the student body, chances are you’ve seen this little pop-up at least once in your student career: “You have exceeded your PawPrints allowance. Additional pages will be 7 cents per page for black and white printing and 28 cents for color printing.” Undergraduates are allotted 400 pages per semester, while graduate students get 200 more pages, bringing their total to 600 pages. Unused pages are not carried over into the next semester, so any leftovers simply disappear after finals. This means that, up to a point, it makes little sense to conserve your PawPrints, since you can’t save them for the next semester. 400 to 600 pages may sound like a lot of pages, but it can add up quickly. Undergraduate students taking a graduate class know how rapidly weekly reading assignments can eat into one’s printing allowance. Additionally, many professors try to cut back on textbook costs by assigning Blackboard or e-mailed handouts to their students. While saving money on textbooks is a good thing, printing 20 or 30 pages per class period can sure whittle away at those PawPrints. And of course, those students who are required to write an undergraduate thesis wind up running through their allotted pages like there’s no tomorrow. The most frustrating thing about this system is that, inevitably, there will be one or more semesters where a student has 100 or so pages left over by the end of the semester. Then, the next semester, the same person will



run far over their page allowance, mostly due to a heavier course load. Sure, 7 cents per page (28 cents for color) may not seem like that much, but it can add up quickly – and between the cost of tuition and the student fee, who wants to pay even more money in order to go to Baylor? While the duplex printing available helps cut down on the number of pages used, many professors want assignments to be single-sided, not double-sided. This means that duplex printing works fine for handouts, but term papers and other large projects still eat into the PawPrints allowance. One solution to this problem

would be to allot PawPrints pages by class, rather than by undergraduate or graduate classification. It makes sense for a student taking several human performance classes to have fewer pages per semester than a student taking all upper-level English or writing classes. Students taking thesis hours or graduate classes could have the extra pages they need, while students who don’t need as many pages that semester wouldn’t miss them. Another option would be to allow professors to estimate the number of PawPrint pages their class will require, or get permission for students in their class to have extra pages allotted to

them if the class will require a lot of printing. It might also make sense for PawPrints to roll over into the next semester. That way, any unused pages could stay with students until their graduation. This would solve the abovementioned problem of some semesters ending with leftover pages to spare. While running out of PawPrints may not be a catastrophe, it is something that will most likely happen to almost every Baylor student at some point during their college career. With a few minor adjustments, the system could be changed to become more efficient for everyone.

Opinion policy

The Baylor Lariat welcomes reader viewpoints through letters to the editor and guest columns. Opinions expressed in the Lariat are not necessarily those of the Baylor administration, the Baylor Board of Regents or the Student Publications Board. Letters to the editor should include the writer’s name, major, graduation year, phone number and student identification number. Non-student writers should include their address. Letters that focus on an issue affecting students or faculty may be considered for a guest column at the editor’s discretion. All submissions become the property of The Baylor Lariat. The Lariat reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, length, libel and style. Letters should be e-mailed to Lariat_Letters@baylor.edu or mailed to The Baylor Lariat, One Bear Place #97330, Waco, TX 76798-7330.

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. A subscription to the Lariat costs \$45 for two semesters. Send check or money order to One Bear Place #97330, Waco, TX, 76798-7330 or e-mail Lariat_ads@baylor.edu. Visa, Discover and MasterCard payments may be phoned to 254-710-2662. Postmaster: Please send address changes to above address.

Letters to the editor

Re-vote fair and necessary

The March 17 editorial “Primary re-vote unfair” missed the essential issue in the debate of whether a re-vote should be held in Florida and Michigan. I am from Florida and I faithfully sent in my absentee ballot for their primary election on Jan. 29, a primary that now will not matter and which has made Florida (once again) the laughingstock of the nation. Forget the idea that a primary re-vote is unfair. What is unfair is that individual citizens’ votes (like mine)

are not being counted in a primary race in which we have a right to participate. It is not our fault that the primary date was moved up to Jan. 29. In fact, it’s not really even the Florida Democratic Party’s fault either. They only wanted it moved up to Feb. 5, which would have complied with Democratic National Convention’s rules. But, because our state legislature is controlled by Republicans who found it more convenient to hold the primary on Jan. 29 (and because the legislature funds the electoral process),

this pushed the Democrats out of bounds with the Democratic National Convention’s regulations. This matter should have been resolved in the interest of the voters, not of party officials, politicians, or the two candidates. The Baylor Lariat’s editorial ignored the fact that it is the voters who are hurt by the Democratic National Convention’s denial of Florida delegates – not the party or the state government, who are responsible for the error. This is one of the most important and exciting primary

votes in a century, and instead it has left Florida Democrats feeling disenfranchised, left out and simply ignored – by their party and by their candidates. This neglect not only affects the primary vote now but also the general election later. Democratic voters in Florida feel as though their votes don’t count, their voices aren’t heard, and their candidates are not speaking about issues concerning their state. It greatly disappoints me that a compromise will not be reached before the convention. This should have been

addressed back in January and February when ample time and money could have been secured to allow for a fair re-vote in Florida. I can only hope that Florida Democrats will be able to pull themselves together before November.

Shawn Warner
Linguistics 2008

Women: stay out of combat

I am a woman. I am proud of this. But there is a very important issue in this country that needs to

be addressed: women in combat. I do not agree with The Baylor Lariat’s comments (March 19, “Women’s role in war still debated”) for many reasons. God made men and women differently. Fact: men are stronger, and more battle-minded. While I believe that women deserve respect and equality, I have to say, “Choose your battles wisely, ladies, and leave warfare combat to the men.”

Laura Strickland
Family & Consumer Sciences 2008

The Baylor Lariat

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MEDIUM

52

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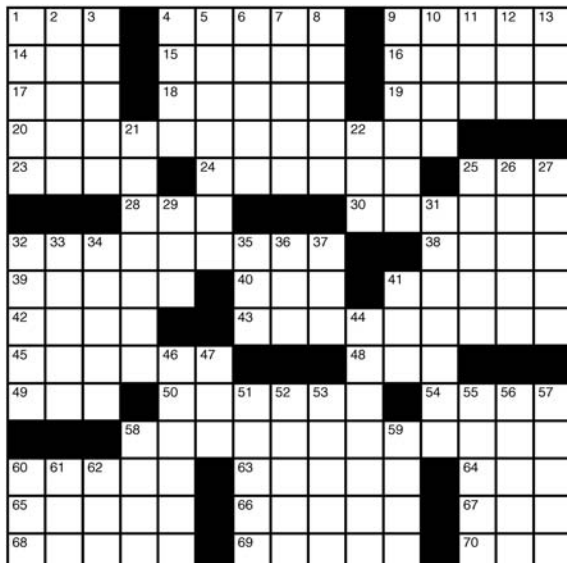
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- 40 Part 2 of sobriquet
- 41 Israeli seaport
- 42 View quickly
- 43 End of sobriquet
- 45 Execrable
- 48 Concur silently
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- 50 Wayside shelter
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- 63 Lift and toss
- 64 Head for Vegas?
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DOWN

- 1 Writer Jong
- 2 Aired again
- 3 Prevent
- 4 Cartoon Bunny
- 5 Leading
- 6 European river
- 7 Billy and Zola
- 8 Biblical land
- 9 Laconian city
- 10 Ruffian
- 11 Egt.-Syr., once
- 12 Govt. advisory grp.
- 13 Turn right!

- 21 Tripoli populace
- 22 Einstein birthplace
- 25 French school
- 26 Of the lungs
- 27 Editorial marks
- 29 Caviar
- 31 Hit the road
- 32 Portland’s bay
- 33 Ear bone
- 34 Winter Palace rulers
- 35 One of Ted’s stations
- 36 Royal address, in brief
- 37 Psyche part
- 41 “Xanadu” grp.
- 44 Lonely
- 46 Also know as F
- 47 Printer letters
- 51 God’s blood
- 52 Billy Blanks workout
- 53 Another time
- 55 Clobbers
- 56 Missouri River port
- 57 German city
- 58 Tasty mollusk
- 59 Chilean currency
- 60 Sixteen hundred
- 61 Tin Man’s cure-all
- 62 Lennon’s Yoko



By Willy A. Wiseman
New York, NY

3/20/08

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

BEAR BRIEFS

The Baylor Crew will be hosting a regatta at 4 p.m. Saturday at Cameron Park East. For more information contact Cory_Osburn@baylor.edu.

The Department of Multicultural Activities will hold a Women's Health Day from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday in the Bill Daniel Student Center. Both the Baylor Student Life Center staff and Hillcrest Hospital staff will be providing basic health information, such as body fat percentages and blood pressure screenings. For more information please contact Julie_Smith@baylor.edu or 710-7982.

The Round Up is asking for mission trip pictures. Please include the name of people in the photo, where you are, the group you are with, and a brief description of what is going on. Send photos to Heather_Fogt@baylor.edu.

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Run-off election to decide constable, commissioner

Victoria Mgbemena
Staff Writer

A joint run-off election will be held April 8 for the positions of Democratic Railroad Commissioner and Republican Constable for McLennan County Precinct 5.

The elections will take place from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at locations citywide, including the Wiethorn Visitor's Center.

Republicans Scott Geiger and Stan Hickey will run against each other for the office of Constable for Precinct 5. Democrats Dale Henry and Mark Thompson will run against each other for the Texas Railroad Commissioner seat.

Henry has served as city manager for the cities of Lampasas and Hamilton, as well as county commissioner for Mills County. His initiatives include the Texas First Campaign Finance Reform, which would prohibit the railroad commissioners from taking from the industries under their regulation and fairness for smaller, family owned

industries.

Henry campaign director Vince Leibowitz said Henry's goal is to put Texan's first.

"For too long the Texas railroad commission has put off initiatives to protect Texans and the environment," Leibowitz said. "Dale wants to address issues like the saltwater injection wells which are contaminating the state's fresh water supply. The Railroad Commission continues to stamp hundreds of permits for the construction of these wells, and Dale wants to protect the people and environment by stopping this practice."

Thompson, a disabilities rights advocate and therapist for blind children and adults, has served as an Austin police officer for eight years.

On his campaign Web site, Thompson calls for a stop to the peddlers who drown out the voice of Texans.

Thompson also mentioned his efforts to fight for safe pipeline connections for Texas homes as his goal for an honest government.

Geiger has been serving as

constable for Precinct 5 since his appointment to the position in 2005 when his predecessor Larry Connelly stepped down from the position. Hickey, a law enforcement officer, claimed 45 percent of overall votes over Geiger's 40 percent in McLennan County at the primary elections on March 4.

Geiger said that his years of experience in law enforcement and as Constable qualify him as the best candidate for the position.

"The main thing is that I have experience under my belt," Geiger said. "What it boils down to is that (Hickey) has only been in law enforcement for over a year, compared to my 23 years, and I have been serving for over the past two and a half years as constable."

Geiger said he attributes his success in part to initiatives he has taken for the county. He hopes to get his voters to the polls by emphasizing his experience over Hickey's experience.

Hickey could not be reached for comment after attempts were made.



Alex Song/Lariat staff

Here's Bunny!

The Easter Bunny made an appearance Tuesday afternoon for the Easter egg hunt at Founders Mall.

Mayans and guerillas part of field work

By Elizabeth Herring
Reporter

Working with local guerilla groups in the Usumacinta River region in Guatemala was a normal part of daily life in the anthropology field for Dr. Andrew Scherer.

Scherer, an assistant professor of physical anthropology, will be discussing his experiences working with the Maya from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. today in the 116 Draper Academic Building.

His lecture is entitled "Guerillas, Looters, Narcotraffickers, and United Fruit Archaeology: Modern Politics in the Study of the Ancient Maya".

Scherer is a biological anthro-

pologist and archeologist whose study is focused on ancient Maya burials and human skeletal remains.

His lecture will focus on the challenges he faced while working in the Usumacinta River region because of the political unrest.

This region is along the border of the Mexican state of Chiapas and Guatemala.

Students need to "think about politics and think how our own (anthropology) work has a positive and negative affect on the regions where we work," Scherer said.

He said he it is important for students who want to do field work to know about obstacles that other researchers have faced

to help them gain perspective.

He said he does not want them to try to "navigate the international waters" without being aware that there will be challenges.

Dr. Sara Alexander, the chair of the anthropology, forensic science and archaeology department, said that field work is a very important part of studying anthropology.

"Field work is the primary means that anthropologists use to gather data," Alexander said.

It is important to go to a place and learn first hand about the people, the culture, and the life they live there, Alexander said.

"I would hope [the lecture] would help give [students] a better understanding of our world

and how it works," Alexander said.

The region Dr. Scherer will be discussing has had a volatile political and economic past.

When a location is politically unstable, it impacts what can be learned there, Alexander said.

Dr. Long, a professor of Russian, is the facilitator for the lecture series.

He said that many Baylor faculty and visiting guests are very knowledgeable experts on different world issues.

The different lectures give students an opportunity to learn about their different fields of study, Long said.

"They're issues and topics you won't get in the news," Long said.

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Lady Bears to meet first NCAA opponent Saturday

By Brian Bateman
Sports writer

For the seventh time in head coach Kim Mulkey's Baylor career, the Lady Bears are heading to the NCAA tournament. It's also the third time in that span Baylor will be playing in Albuquerque, N.M.

"We just seem to need a rental house," Mulkey said. "We love Albuquerque, but we'd like to see a different part of the country."

Since dropping a Big 12 tournament quarterfinal game to the University of Texas Longhorns, the Lady Bears have been preparing for the tournament.

"We're getting a lot done in a short period of time," Mulkey said. Without tape of opponents, it was hard to get much done on the first day, she said.

However, preparing for the NCAA tournament is much more important to senior Angela Tisdale, who will be playing her last college game sometime in the next three weeks.

"The NCAA tourney is much more exciting than the Big 12 (tourney)," she said. "Either way it will be emotional because it will be my last game."

Baylor will meet their oppo-

nent, the Fresno State University Bulldogs, at 1 p.m. Saturday at "The Pit" on the University of New Mexico's campus.

The Bulldogs (20-10) ended a 43-year hiatus from the tournament by defeating New Mexico State University in the Western Athletic Conference championship game.

Although coming in a No. 14 seed, the Bulldogs have the ability to score from anywhere on the court.

"You better be able to defend the three," Mulkey said of their .348 shooting percentage beyond the arc.

Freshman guard Jalessa Ross averages 12.8 points per game while shooting .433 from the 3-point line. Also, freshman guard/forward Hayley Munro is draining 3-pointers at a .414 clip.

"Whenever you're playing somebody, you've got to take away their strengths," junior forward Jessica Morrow. "We're just going to have to play good, solid defense."

While 3-pointers are the Bulldogs' bread and butter, the Lady Bears can't forget about the post presence of Tierre Wilson, who averages 15.4 points per game.

"I don't think she's coming

out of the paint much," Mulkey said. "They're a very good passing team."

Both Baylor and Fresno State have played the University of California, Oklahoma State University and Saint Mary's University. The Lady Bears posted a 2-2 record against these opponents, dropping two games to the Cowgirls. The Bulldogs dropped all three of their contests.

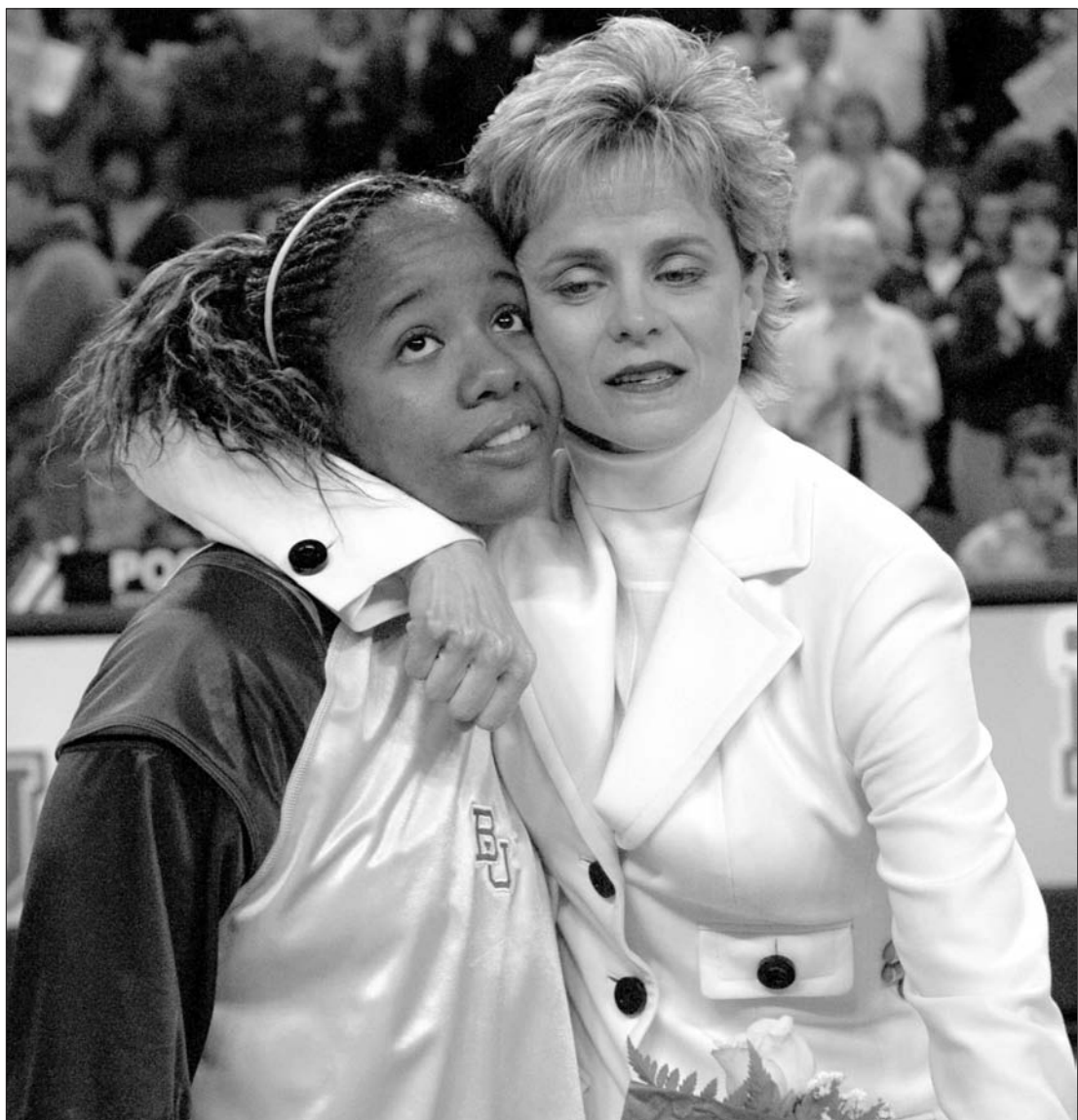
However, Mulkey's squad isn't concentrating solely on the Saturday contest. While the team and the coach are planning for the Bulldogs, the assistants are planning for both the University of Wyoming (24-6) and the University of Pittsburgh (22-9).

"You have to," Mulkey said. "You can't overlook the opponent, but you have to be ready for the next game."

The Lady Bears will only have one day between games should they win, which leaves very little time for a complete game plan.

"We just have to play the second half like we've been playing the first halves," Mulkey said.

Baylor fans are encouraged to meet the team for a send-off celebration at 4:30 p.m. today at the Waco Regional Airport just left of the Texas Aero terminal.



Alex Song/Lariat staff

Women's basketball head coach Kim Mulkey hugs senior point guard Angela Tisdale after her last home game against Oklahoma State University on March 6. Baylor lost, 72-68.

Softball drops Big 12 opener, 7-0, against Texas A&M

By Justin Baer
Sports writer

The last time the No. 7 Lady Bears (17-7, 0-1) and Texas A&M University Aggies faced each other, they were in Oklahoma City in an elimination game in the Women's College World Series. The Lady Bears prevailed 7-4, which left the most bitter of tastes in the mouths of the girls from College Station.

Wednesday night, the Aggies got at least some redemption for last year's season-ending loss

against Baylor.

The No. 15 Aggies (29-6, 1-0) scored five runs in the first inning en route to a 7-0 shutout over the Lady Bears in the Big 12 conference opener Wednesday night at the Aggie Athletic Complex in College Station.

"There is a lot more potential and talent on this team than what we got out of them," Baylor head coach Glenn Moore said. "We didn't do a good job of playing the game all around, from the mental aspect to the physical aspect and of course in the

circle."

Baylor starting pitcher Britany Turner walked the first three batters she faced before handing the reigns to Kirsten Shortridge.

Shortridge allowed consecutive hits to Jamie Hinshaw and Erin Glasco to give Texas A&M the early 3-0 lead.

After a sac fly from Natalie Villareal, the Aggies scored their final run of the inning when Kelsey Reynolds, who finished the night 3-for-3 with 3 RBI, singled up the middle.

"I am at a little bit of a loss here," Moore said of his girls, who seemed to be rattled from the standing-room only crowd. "But I have to prepare them for this type of environment more than I did. I am going to try to get them ready to play in the Big 12 because this team is not ready to play in the Big 12."

The deficit was even more of a daunting task to face, considering the Lady Bears were facing All-American pitcher Megan Gibson Wednesday night.

The Spring senior allowed

only four Baylor hits, two off the bat of senior Jordan Daniels, while striking out seven.

But the Lady Bears have battled Gibson several times before, and with the experience of facing her, sophomore Courtney Oberg says there is really no excuse for the dismal performance in Baylor's first defeat in College Station since 2005.

"I can't take anything away from her, because she pitched a great game," said Oberg, who graduated from nearby A&M Consolidated High School. "Our

expectations in that first inning were that we went to the World Series last year and scored seven runs off of her."

The Lady Bears return to Waco after a 19-day absence as the Iowa State University Cyclones come to town for a two-game series starting Friday. As Oberg said, fans can anticipate a much different team than what was displayed on the field in College Station.

"We do expect to turn it around and we are going to start making adjustments."

Track to start outdoor season with Dr Pepper Invitational

By Joe Holloway
Reporter

The men's and women's track teams will host the Dr Pepper Invitational at the Hart-Patterson Track and Field Complex Saturday.

Both teams are looking to build on last week's successes in the 2008 NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships, where the two teams combined to win 11 All-American honors and the men brought home their third-straight national championship in the 4x400 meter relay with a time that ranks as the fastest in

the world this year.

"We had a good ending to a long indoor season," head coach Todd Harbour said. "It was overall a good week."

Winning the relay proved to be more difficult this year than in years past as several of the athletes on the men's team have been plagued by injuries.

"To be able to accomplish that with guys banged up a little bit...that was an amazing accomplishment," Harbour said.

Sophomore LeJerald Betters, who garnered All-American honors for his performance in the 4x400 meter, is still soaking

in the national championship.

"I'm still in awe because we lost one of our great runners," he said. "But then if we can't win without him we don't deserve to win."

However, with the Dr Pepper Invitational coming this weekend, he won't be able to soak much longer.

"We don't have time to ponder on it or reflect on it because we start outdoor this week," Harbour said. "Outdoors is true track and field; indoors is its cousin."

Harbour also said that this meet had mixed purposes.

"A lot of our athletes who didn't compete at nationals are ready to go," he said. "Some of the ones who ran last week, we're going to give them a little bit of a break and kind of ease them back into the outdoor season."

Among the athletes who Harbour described as "chomping at the bit" is junior Erin Bedell, who missed last year's outdoor track season with a case of mono.

"I think it's big in that it's my first track meet back," she said. "I'm really looking forward to it."

However, she also said that it

won't completely devastate her if she doesn't perform quite as well as she was before she was redshirted due to illness.

"I think it's going to be a good test of my fitness level," she said. "I'm just hoping to get out here and gradually work back into it throughout the meets and hopefully perform well for the team."

Betters said that he is looking forward to the meet, despite running in last week's competition.

"I still feel a little beat up from last week," he said. "We're trying to put on a show for the crowd if we can."

According to Betters, the team has to start running now if they hope to peak at the right time.

"We have to get these times in now," he said. "We can't start two or three weeks from now because it might be too late by the time our bodies want to hit full gear."

Overall Harbour believes that it's going to be a good week for the teams.

"We're going to try to run some fast times, throw far, jump far and jump high," he said. "We're looking forward to a good opener."

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Courtesy photo
Local indie rock band The Tastydactyls will perform two shows this weekend in Waco in connection with the release of their first album, *Waking the Giants*.

‘Yael Naim’ soothes through soft sound

By Amanda Robison
Entertainment editor

It’s no secret that Apple commercials have changed the career courses of a few new artists lately, and you can add one more to the list.

Yael Naim is an Israeli singer/songwriter with a pure sound that resonates a relaxing tone throughout her self-titled debut album.

ALBUMREVIEW

After spending much of her childhood in France, the French influence on her sound is obvious. Naim manages to produce an uncomplicated, no-frills sound that actually does sound feminine and frilly.

Her ode to France begins on the first track, “Paris,” with only light guitar and a few keyboard accent notes accompanying Naim’s vocals.

“New Soul” is the most recognizable track from the album

after appearing on the Apple commercials and nearly instantly shooting up on the iTunes Top Songs charts.

But the song actually proves to be an inaccurate reflection of the rest of the album, with a more upbeat rhythm, horns and some peppy cymbals as she sings her “la la la la”s.

The rest of the tracks are slower and somewhat more somber.

Naim sings her words in multiple languages that seem to float along through time and space so effortlessly that the music cannot be anything but enjoyable.

It is music for a rainy day or a carefree day in the park. With such a light and airy feel, it’s no wonder Apple chose Naim to be the voice of the Macbook Air.

Naim brings the sweetest version of “Toxic” you’ll ever hear, completely defying the sexed-up Britney version.

She lends a simple sweetness that seems to nullify the toxicity completely and instead pro-

By Clarissa Nash
Contributor

The Tastydactyls, a local indie rock band, will host an album release party Saturday in Waco to launch its new album, *Waking the Giants*.

Golinda junior Austun Ables is featured on the drums and vocals, Blake Rawlings on lead vocals, guitar and accordion, Kyle Randolph on the keyboard, harmonica synthesizer and vocals and Blake Northern on bass.

The Tastydactyls are no strangers to Waco’s music scene. The band has opened and headlined numerous shows with other local bands, including James Callihan, Elliot Fitzgerald and Ethan Durelle. The band also toured Ireland playing shows last summer.

While The Tastydactyls has gained notoriety in Waco, *Waking the Giants* is the band’s first LP. Consisting of nine songs, the album is self-produced by the members, with mutual writing collaboration.

“We recorded the entire album in a bedroom,” Randolph said, “with the exception of drums.”

Waking the Giants is not an album that can be put into any category. The band members said they pulled ideas from some of their favorite artists, including Bloc Party, Modest Mouse, Wolf Parade and Franz Ferdinand. In the end, the band calls their music a mix of “Southern rock/dance” and “nerd rock.”

“(The album) pulls from every genre, except polka and salsa,” Randolph said.

What’s to be expected when

listening to *Waking the Giants*?

“We like to make people dance,” Ables said.

Indeed, the album makes you dance. It’s jam-packed with soaring energy. The synthesizers add the sounds of the ’80s without losing the band’s original sound.

“Push It,” which Randolph said is his favorite track to play live, is full of roaring guitar and heavy drums.

“Touche” will not only make you dance, but its repetitive line, “I can’t believe this” will have you singing along as well. You also can hear the use of a synthesizer, making “Touche” a stand-out song on the album. The title track and “Zombies” are also stand-out tracks.

Waking the Giants offers an all-new flair that many listeners will enjoy listening to.

With high-energy rhythms, beats and eccentric lyrics mixed with alternative rock and ’80s pop, The Tastydactyls are sure to gain fans and recognition from the music scene.

There is even a chance to hear the entire album live before the album release party, when the band holds a listening party at 8:20 p.m. Friday at Beatnix. The Tastydactyls will play an acoustic show with Caleb Lee. Admission for the listening party is free plus a chance to win a free copy of *Waking the Giants*.

The Tastydactyls will have the album release party at 8 p.m. Saturday at the Jubilee Theatre on 15th and Concord Streets, with bands James Callihan and Veloura.

Admission is \$5 at the door and CDs and T-shirts will be on sale for \$10 each.



Courtesy of Tot ou Tard

Monologues hit Hippodrome tonight

By Jade Ortego
Reporter

“Everyone loves it or hates it,” said Kathy Coleman, performer, of *The Vagina Monologues*, playing tonight at the Waco Hippodrome.

The Vagina Monologues, which will be performed for the fifth time in Waco, is a play composed of a varying number of monologues that relate to females. It portrays significant events in women’s lives like birth, sex, menstruation and rape, among others. Female empowerment is the recurring theme, and local women will perform the scripted parts.

The performance has been controversial, sometimes lauded as a feminist achievement and sometimes opposed as harmful and anti-sex. The portrayal of men in the production has been called excessively negative; the play was written by Eve Ensler to raise awareness of violence against women by men. The title has been called crude, and the word “vagina” was once changed to a slang word on a marquee in Florida at the request of a passing driver.

“I wish Baylor, MCC and the high schools would support us a little more,” said Coleman, who is a coordinator of this year’s production. “But I understand. This demographic is very sensitive.”

Coleman said last year some audience members left during intermission.

“A lot of people are shocked ... I don’t think it’s crude, it’s just about our bodies,” she said.

The monologue Coleman performs is controversial as “it has a lot of cursing and moaning,” she said.

The performance is supposed to be funny, sad and informative at different points.

“Some make you laugh, some make you cry and some you say, ‘Oh, that’s so true.’ It also has interesting facts,” Coleman said. One monologue discusses the mainly African practice of female genital mutilation, a concept people may not have heard of.

“I like to see expressionist femininity, concepts of female sex and gender explored in art,” said Alberquerque senior Gigi Le. “I went to see it last year and I really got a lot out of it.”

Each year, new topical monologues are added.

“I like that every year they focus on a new issue that is relevant to women, and I’m looking forward to what they do this year,” Le said. This year’s new monologue concerns the plight of women in New Orleans.

Coleman said she encourages both women and men to go.

“We can all come together to support this cause,” she said.

Galveston junior Oscar Boleman said he is taking his girlfriend to the performance.

“I’ve seen it before and really enjoyed it,” he said. “I thought it was a great production and I want to see how local people perform it.”

The majority of the proceeds will go to the Family Abuse Center in Waco, and 10 percent will go to a woman’s group in New Orleans to help victims of Hurricane Katrina.

The cast will have a bake sale and sell coffee and tea during the production. Art by local female artists also will be on display.

The Vagina Monologues will begin at 7 p.m. today at the Hippodrome.

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IRAQ from page 1

ing in Washington, and protesters blocked downtown intersections several times.

However, the demonstrators numbered in the hundreds rather than the thousands organizers had hoped for.

Even as his time and power wane, Bush made clear he will

prosecute the war as he deems fit till the end of his presidency.

In the campaign to replace him, Democratic Sens. Barack Obama and Hillary Rodham Clinton pledged to end the war, but squabbled Wednesday over who could do it best.

Democrats in Congress assailed Bush for failed, tired leadership and questioned why he did not push Iraq's leaders to

live up to promises.

"All the president seems able to offer Americans is more of the same perpetual disregard for the costs and consequences of stubbornly staying the course in Iraq," said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev.

Bush starkly described the costs of trying to end the war too quickly.

From his perspective, retreat

would lead to chaos in Iraq, embolden al-Qaida to pursue an attack on America and encourage Iran to develop nuclear weapons.

"To allow this to happen would be to ignore the lessons of September the 11th and make it more likely that America would suffer another attack like the one we experienced that day," Bush said.

HARVARD from page 1

diversity, as well as a statement about his home environment in his Harvard application.

"I wasn't raised in the typical black setting around other black males — everything I grew up learning and believing was slightly different," he said. "In Ghana, the most important thing is building up a family network, and that can extend to the whole society. You learn that everyone you meet isn't isolated from you, that you are all a part of the same community."

In America, Nortey said he often finds the opposite attitude, but that he will use experiences from his childhood to strengthen his character and carry him along his career path. His role models range from presidential hopeful Barack Obama to costumed superheroes that swing from skyscraper to skyscraper in New York City. Nortey grew up with cartoons, and Spiderman was one of his most treasured idols.

"I was raised on cartoons, as corny as this may be," Nortey said. "But those cartoons taught me sacrifice, they taught me heroism, they taught me honor. I included this information in my application as well, and I think my willingness to be so open about myself, my determination to show how I can add some-

thing new to their law school, is what sold them."

Dr. Todd Buras, assistant professor of philosophy, said Nortey is a unique student and will be an incomparable addition to Harvard.

"James is the sort of student I had to work hard to challenge," he said. "He is so sharp and so diligent that he makes academic success look easy. I suspect this will always be true of him, at Harvard Law and beyond."

Law has been a part of Nortey's career goal for an extended period of time. Initially, he wanted to be a judge, but has altered his plans over the years. A summer internship in Washington, D.C. with the Federal Bureau of Investigation prompted him to go in a different direction than he initially intended.

"Working with the FBI, I got to thinking that I could be on the side of prosecuting these criminals," he said. "I got all these ideas and was inspired by everyone's stories, so it definitely solidified my decision to go into law and kind of pushed me to go even further."

"My main goal now is to be a United States federal prosecutor."

Nortey was a part of the Institution for Responsible Citizenship, a highly competitive program for African American males who desire to develop leadership skills in their chosen career field.

During the internship, Nortey attended seminars and met with prominent American leaders such as Clarence Thomas and Chief Justice John Roberts.

"I discovered that all of these people I'd met had a mix of good luck, hard work and blessing, so I realized I'd better get myself in gear," Nortey said. "This experience pushed me to do all of the things I need to do to get to where they are."

Nortey became involved with student government through a friend who recommended it to him. He currently serves as the chief justice of the student court.

"It all starts and ends with me," he said. "A leader has to have a vision, be able to motivate his followers, and follow through to execute the plan. All of these steps are so pivotal, and if you are missing any one of these things then your organization is in trouble."

All of these skills are necessary ingredients in the making of a good lawyer, Nortey said.

"Being chief justice has taught me how to listen and communicate," he said. "When there is a breakdown of communication within your group, everything goes wrong. Another essential thing I learned is compromise, because you can't always get your way at the end of the day, Chief Justice or not. I think both of these things very much correlate to my future."

Nortey, a philosophy and criminal justice double major, also participates in Model United Nations. Professor Lauren Redman, lecturer of political science, is in charge of the group.

"James is amazing on so many levels," she said. "People look up to him and want to be better because of his influence. I think he is one of the finest students I've ever worked with anywhere, and I have no doubt that he will succeed."

Despite the obvious parallels between student court, Model UN and his future career, Nortey said there is another experience that tops those.

"Being a community leader in Brooks has been an indescribable experience," he said. "I take 30 insecure freshmen boys and bring them together. I want every guy to know I challenged him, I mentored him and I loved him, because your freshman experience on campus either makes you or breaks you."

Nortey hopes to pass on to his residents the same lesson he learned from his time at Baylor: people are the most important part of the college experience.

"Being a CL is a rare blessing to give to others," he said. "With great power comes great responsibility — the blessings we have are given to us to bless other people. So I guess my legacy when I leave this place is the impression I leave upon my guys."

LOAN from page 1

Institute for College Access and Success, and Kantrowitz recommended students fully exhaust all possibilities for receiving federal aid before turning to alternative loans. Students sometimes do not fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) because they think they won't be eligible for aid or because applying for alternative loans is easier.

Kennedy estimated 40 to 60 percent of students haven't taken full advantage of federal options for financing college.

The Web site for "The Project on Student Debt" unveiled a way students can get extra Stafford loans so they don't need to go to private lenders.

"If your parents have serious credit problems and can't get a (federal) PLUS loan, the financial aid officials at your school can double your eligibility for

federal students loans," allowing students to borrow up to \$46,000 in Stafford loans, reads the Web site.

Kantrowitz encouraged students to tell their financial aid officers if they still cannot get the loans they need. Financial aid officers can sign the college up for the Direct Loan program, in which money for college loans comes straight from the Federal Reserve.

For recent college graduates, interest rates on Federal Consolidation Loans are adjusted every July based on Federal Reserve figures. Kantrowitz projects that this July, Federal Consolidation Loan rates will fall from 7.25 percent to 3.5 percent or lower.

"It's going to be largest decrease in the history of the student loan program," Kantrowitz said. "If anything, I'm being very conservative (with my prediction). Over the past 10 years, I've never been wrong with any of my predictions."

ELG from page 1

"They're using an actual unproduced screenplay and taking it from production to the market. Some will be on the creative side, some will be in charge of marketing, some will be in charge of international distribution and so on," said Dr. James Kendrick, an assistant professor of film and digital media, and the third ELG faculty leader.

Through this the students will experience the different levels of producing a film and get a better understanding of "why we see the types of films we do," Kendrick said.

Also, the students will get a

chance to look at how artistic decisions are made in a business setting, Hansen said.

But the process of making and producing a film is only the focus of this semester. The ELG began last August and will finish this coming fall, finishing out the three semesters it was designed to last.

During the first semester, the students looked more at how to study film as an art form, examining the different components that make up a film, such as narration and photography. The third semester is centered on the cultural aspect of film — both film's impact on the world around it and a specific culture's impact on film.

BEARS from page 1

tage. The Bears are 13-2 when scoring more than 80 points in regulation this year, and the team has posted triple-digit scores six times. Even in non-conference play, Purdue failed to score more than 84 points in a game all season.

"The Big 10 plays such a slow style and that might slow them down a little more," Drew said. "We'd like to see the game in the 90s and 100s. If they want to get it there that's great for us."

Baylor's become a trendy upset pick for the professional pundits. ESPN analysts Digger Phelps and Hubert Davis both picked Baylor to upset the sixth

seeded Boilermakers in the first round, while Phelps has Baylor toppling third-seeded Xavier to punch a ticket for the Sweet 16. ESPN.com writer Mary Buckheit even has Baylor in the Elite 8.

Those are mere opinions, of course, but Baylor's play on the court — not necessarily the story off it — has caught the attention of just about everybody.

Baylor may be walking into this experience blind, but Drew's experience could provide an ample buffer. This will be his first March Madness as a head coach, but he's been through six as an assistant to his father Homer Drew at Valparaiso University.

"It's a great opportunity for Baylor to be put out in the national spotlight," Drew said.

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