

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

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A&E PAGE 5

It's the end of the world...
because top-notch '2012' actors
don't predict moviegoers' needs

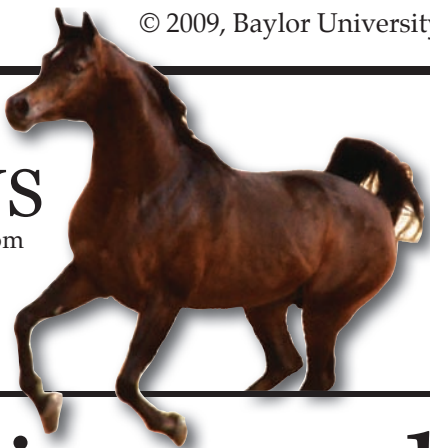
SPORTS PAGE 6

Football looks to future
Bears need two more wins
for bowl position

PROFILE PROJECT APERTURES ON ARABIANS

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A student turns to his camera to
help a horse farm



Controversial church largely ignored

Kansas church protests just off campus, labeling students as rebels and perverts

By BETHANY MOORE
REPORTER

The Bear Trail was filled with more than exercising students and their pets on Nov. 10, when the Westboro Baptist Church held a protest criticizing Baylor for what it considers non-Christian teaching.

Baylor hardly noticed. From 2 to 2:20 p.m. Nov. 10, on the corner of Bagby Ave. and University Parks Dr., four men from the church in Topeka, Kan.,

were protesting and displaying 12 signs, some of which read, "America is Doomed," "You Will Eat Your Babies," "God is Your Enemy," and "Obama is the Anti-Christ," among others.

The church, which many consider extremist, is famous for its controversial signs and protests held at soldiers' funerals and other events across the nation. The members were on their way back from protesting the Fort Hood shooting memorial in Killeen, where they proudly declared, "Thank God for Dead Soldiers" and "God Sent The Shooter."

At Fort Hood, the protesters were blocked and counteracted as soldiers and their families

made their own signs, which stated, "We Love and Support Our Troops."

The protest at Baylor lasted 20 minutes and didn't draw much attention besides the random honk, middle finger and exclamation of, "Are you kidding me?"

Shirley Roper, the daughter of the church's pastor Fred Phelps, said they held the protest to warn students that they are leading sinful lives and will be punished for it.

"You live among wild rebels and tattoo-laden perverts and taught that God is a liar," Roper said. "Your moral compass is broken."

Capt. Danny Knight of Bay-

lor Police said the church sent a fax to the campus police and to the City of Waco notifying them of the protest and the legally permissible location they would be at.

"I don't think they got the results they were expecting," Knight said. "There was no big crowd and only about four protesters. I think it was just a convenient stop on their way back from Fort Hood."

Before the protest, the church sent out a press release to gain support, which said that the picket was against "fag-infested Baylor University in religious protest and warning."

see PROTEST, pg. 8



COURTESY OF MEGAN PHELPS-ROPER

Ben Phelps, a member of Westboro Baptist Church, protests just off Baylor campus on his way back from Killeen to Kansas, where the church is located. The church, famous for its controversial signs and protests, was in Texas protesting at Fort Hood memorial, where members held signs proclaiming such sentiments as "Thank God for Dead Soldiers."



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Up, Up and Away

Guests at NASA's Kennedy Space Center view the launch of space shuttle Atlantis in Cape Canaveral, Fla., on Monday as the shuttle Atlantis and its six-member crew began an 11-day mission to the International Space Station. The shuttle will transport spare hardware to the outpost and return a station crew member who has spent more than two months in space.

China, Obama disagree on freedom

Chinese censors block Obama's call to free the Web

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIJING — President Barack Obama prodded China about Internet censorship and free speech, but the message was not widely heard in China, where his words were blocked online and shown on only one regional television channel.

China has more than 250 million Internet users and employs some of the world's tightest controls over what they see. The country is often criticized for its so-called "Great Firewall of China" — technology designed to prevent unwanted traffic from entering or leaving a network.

During his town hall meeting in Shanghai on Monday, Obama responded at length to a question about the firewall — remarks that were later played down in the Chinese media and scrubbed from some Chinese Web sites.

"I'm a big supporter of non-censorship," Obama said. "I recognize that different countries have different traditions. I can tell you that in the United States, the fact that we have free Internet — or unrestricted Internet



ASSOCIATED PRESS

President Barack Obama greets audience members after he spoke and took questions at a town hall-style event with Chinese youth Monday at the Museum of Science and Technology in Shanghai.

access — is a source of strength, and I think should be encouraged."

Obama may have been hoping to set a personal example for China's leaders when he said he believes that free discussion, including criticism that may be annoying to him, makes him "a better leader because it forces me to hear opinions that I don't want to hear."

One prolific blogger who

goes by the name of Hecaitou said that a transcript of the exchange posted on the portal NetEase was taken down by censors after just 27 minutes. A full Chinese-language transcript of the event was later posted on the official Xinhua News Agency Web site but required four clicks to locate the relevant section.

Only local Shanghai TV carried the event live. It was streamed on two popular In-

ternet portals and on the White House's Web site, which is not censored, though both the video and audio feeds were choppy and delayed inside China.

The People's Daily online briefly summarized Obama as telling the crowd that the Internet has "enormous power in assisting information dissemination," but made no mention of

see INTERNET, pg. 8

BAA not invited to graduation

By ADEOLA ARO
STAFF WRITER

Baylor University administration has removed the Baylor Alumni Association from all commencement activities at the university's graduation ceremony in December.

Karla Leeper, chief of staff for the interim president and the university liaison with the alumni association, informed the BAA on Wednesday that the organization would not be presenting awards, giving the charge to recent graduates at the end of the ceremony, or holding the reception tent outside of the Ferrell Center.

The phone call to Jeff Kilgore, executive vice president and CEO of the Baylor Alumni Association, came two weeks after the university formally withdrew its Sept. 19 proposal to the BAA asking them to give up their independent status and formally join with the university.

Kilgore said Leeper cited no particular reason for the removal from the ceremony.

However, university spokesperson Lori Fogleman said that the university has been exam-

ining commencement exercises and has been making changes.

"The university believes that commencement really isn't the appropriate venue to present awards that aren't student-based and that aren't related to a graduation ceremony," said Fogleman, director of media relations.

Kilgore was scheduled to give the charge to recent graduates, which welcomes them to the alumni association, and inform them of the free one-year membership.

Fogleman said alumni are still welcome to be a part of the graduation ceremonies, but that the details of their role is unknown at the moment.

"We do need to have an alumni welcome. How we will do that, we don't know right now," Fogleman said.

Fogleman also noted that the Baylor Network, which includes anyone with a relationship to Baylor, will not substitute for the alumni association's role in commencement.

"They don't serve the same purpose," she said. "The Baylor Network provides opportunity

see BAA, pg. 8

Obama urges delay of Fort Hood probe

By PHILLIP ELLIOTT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Saturday urged Congress to hold off on any investigation of the Fort Hood rampage until federal law enforcement and military authorities have completed their probes into the Nov. 5 shootings at the Texas Army post, which left 13 people dead.

On an eight-day Asia trip, Obama turned his attention home and pleaded for lawmakers to "resist the temptation to turn this tragic event into the political theater." He said those who died on the nation's largest Army post deserve justice, not political stagecraft.

"The stakes are far too high," Obama said in a video and Internet address released by the White House while the president was flying from Tokyo to Singapore, where Pacific Rim countries were meeting.

Army psychiatrist Maj.

Nidal Malik Hasan, 39, was charged Thursday with the shooting spree at Fort Hood. Army investigators have said Hasan is the only suspect and could face additional charges.

Obama already had ordered a review of all intelligence related to Hasan and whether the information was properly shared and acted upon within government agencies. Several members of Congress, particularly Michigan Rep. Peter Hoekstra, the top Republican on the House Intelligence Committee, have also called for a full examination of what agencies knew about Hasan's contacts with a radical Muslim cleric in Yemen and others of concern to the U.S.

Hoekstra confirmed this week that government officials knew of about 10 to 20 e-mails between Hasan and the radical imam, beginning in December 2008.

see FORT HOOD, pg. 8

Lariat Letters

Students, faculty must lose intolerance for truly academic environment

I was very disappointed when I read Chris Roland’s letter [on Nov. 10] to the Lariat regarding the story from Nov. 6 about the Baylor Democrats and their petitions for change on campus, particularly regarding open dialogue about LGBT rights.

It is clear to me (as it should be to anyone else who read his letter) that Chris has little understanding of the issues he addressed and some of the points he tried to make are, frankly, just silly.

A student organization actively working toward real change on campus is quite admirable and should not be discounted.

Dismissing these issues as unimportant is not in the spirit of academia and education, but rather in the spirit of intolerance and elitism.

It is unfortunate and somewhat embarrassing that a senior student at Baylor would adopt such an attitude.

In response to Chris’ criticism of the homecoming queen petition, I would challenge him to define “poise” in the context of the competition as it appears in the criteria for a homecoming queen.

Also, I am not sure why President Obama is being brought up, but Chris’ commentary on last year’s election seems childish and bitter. Undermining the presidential election process to make a point seems like a poor choice to me.

What I found most offensive about his letter was the commentary on homosexuality, namely the line asserting that “seeking a group in support of homosexuality is sort of like seeking to form a group in support of lust.”

This sentence is so incredibly misguided it hardly bears dissecting.

Chris seems to be under the impression that the Baylor Democrats are actively trying to create a student organization dedicated to helping homosexuals meet, date and provide them with a place to commit homosexual acts, all under a Baylor charter and all on the Baylor campus.

I suppose when one invents his own scenario, he can make it seem pretty awful. However, this is not the case.

Homosexuals on campus face pressure from students, faculty and the administration, being treated like second-class students who are not really welcome at Baylor.

BU Dems want this to change by providing students who identify themselves as homosexuals to find strength and support in a safe environment.

Alienating students based on their sexual preference is certainly not conducive to the academic environment. I would hope that the Baylor administration would value the well-being of its students and the quality of the education they received over their own religious values.

I hope Chris can one day realize the damage he does to his fellow students by calling them sinners and writing letters to the Lariat declaring that they are not welcome at Baylor.

If Chris does not “hate gay people” as he claims, I would certainly not like to see how he treats people he actually does hate.

The Baylor Democrats are not asking the entire university to “support sin.”

Not all Christians universally declare homosexuality to be a sin. It is an issue that is widely disputed and to make a ruling based on religious values that have yet to agree on the issue is, well, silly.

My faith is in the administration’s ability to place students first — all students.

Alex McElroy
Waco freshman

Subscriptions Policy

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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.



Fed changes overdraft fees; college students rejoice

Editorial

The Federal Reserve announced on Thursday that banks will now be required to receive informed consent from customers in order to charge overdraft fees on ATM and debit cards.

As it stands, banks are allowed to charge a nominal fee each time a customer uses his or her checking card and there are not sufficient funds in their account to cover the purchase, whether the amount in question is 10 cents or \$10 over the limit.

Beginning on July 1, 2010 for new accounts and Aug. 15 for existing customers, the Fed will put a ban on overdraft fees if they have not been previously agreed upon by the cardholder.

This decision coming in the wake of the worst recession since The Great Depression shows that the Fed values more than simple business decision of penalizing customers for overdrawing their account – it is instead putting the quality of life of the American people at the forefront of its decision-making.

Overdraft fees raked in close to \$24 billion in 2008 thanks to more than 50 million Americans overdrawing their checking account at least once.

Half that number overdrew their account a whopping five times or more, and there is currently no warning that banks must give customers when they have incurred an overdraft.

There is also a disturbing lack of cap on the number of overdraft fees one person may receive in a 24-hour period.

The changes that these new regulations would bring about, such as reduced pressure to monitor accounts so closely, are welcome additions in a time when using cash for purchases is becoming increasingly uncommon, especially for college students.

Using a debit card is often more convenient than using paper money – there are no bills or coins to deal with and most jobs (and parents) deposit money directly into a student’s banking account.

Reducing banking penalties such as overdraft fees gives customers more reason to trust their money to an individual banking branch instead of hiding it under a mattress.

All of the trouble is not going to go away, however. Recurring payments that have been set up to auto-draft – which siphon money out of accounts on a monthly basis for rent, bills, etc. – are still able to put overdraft penalties on accounts. If customers want to avoid such pains, they will have to manually stop the recurring payments.

Baylor students may want to consider this when signing up for rent and billing options.

Overdraft fees have become a real frustration for many college students and society as a whole. They can pop up at any time, anywhere, because of any small amount. We are glad that the Fed is finally doing something about it.

Fortunately, informed consent, which has fallen upon deaf ears for many years, has finally permeated the system to the point where reform is being enacted.

No individual should be penalized for being unaware of the exact amount of money in his or her checking account at any given time, and the impending changes to overdraft fee policies are a step in the right direction.

Fasting shifts focus from outside world to spiritual disciplines

Before I sat down to write, I cleaned out my refrigerator for the upcoming nativity fast, which began Sunday.

My husband watched as I separated the food I can eat for fast from the food that he can eat. “All you did was put all of the food to one side,” he told me.

When Orthodox Christians fast for Advent, we spend the 40 days before Christmas eliminating eggs, all dairy products, oil, wine and animal products from our diet.

During the first half of the fast, fish is permitted, but it is eliminated during the second half. The fast is concluded by a day of relying solely on water before the celebration of Nativity, Christmas Day, which we, but not all Orthodox, celebrate on Dec. 25.

Whenever I talk to those outside of the Orthodox religion about fasting, I always get the same question, “What do you eat then?” We rely on simple foods during fasting periods, such as vegetables and rice.

Food is such a big focus in our lives, and with so many different options of food available, it is easy to be looking forward to eating a certain meal during the day.

Abstaining from certain food products is only the external part of the fasting period. By substituting the time that one usually spends preparing more complicated food with time for prayer

Point of View

BY OLGA BALL



and other spiritual disciplines, one can spend time reflecting on what is really important. In my house, we usually eliminate using the Internet and listening to music to provide even more time for reflection.

No one is going to force you to fast in the Orthodox Church. I have heard priests reiterate over and over that one should not fast if one is going to complain about fasting. Those pregnant or sick have been told to use caution if they desire to fast.

My younger brother fasts solely from candy and video games, the two things most important to him.

Fasting is much more about your frame of mind than about what kind of food you intake daily.

When I was younger, I would hear my church friends complaining about having to abstain from

cake at a friend’s birthday party or not being able to eat the Christmas candy that they received as a gift.

If one is always complaining about the fast, one is straying away from the reason the fast is important in the first place.

At the end of fast, every food seems new and unique, a gift from God. At the end of fast, we celebrate Nativity, the birth of our Lord.

In the Orthodox Church, we greet each other by the first saying, “Christ is born!” and the other responding, “Glorify Him!”

By fasting and reflecting during the 40 days before Christmas, it helps us understand what this really means.

Fasting does not have to be solely used for religion. I feel that fasting should be an important part of our lives.

I attempt to fast from Facebook and television during the week to focus and reflect on what is more important — school.

Using fasting as a way to eliminate distracting behavior can lead you to reflect on what is truly important in your life. The spirit of fasting is not about starving yourself but using discipline to reflect on an aspect of your life.

Olga Ball is a Plano junior majoring in political science and public relations and a reporter for the Baylor Lariat.

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THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Party in the U.S.A.

Francisco Cumpian celebrates his new U.S. citizenship after being sworn in during a naturalization ceremony Monday in El Paso. The new citizens come from 34 different countries. Nine military members were part of the group. Cumpian was born in Mexico.

By JENNA THOMPSON
REPORTER

Students and faculty will have the opportunity to celebrate a day of service at the Steppin' Out Block Party Saturday, where music, food and games will be used to unite the Waco community.

Everyone is welcome and the community mixer will take place at Dewey Park after Steppin' Out, a service event held twice a year in which various student groups, faculty and students participate in restoration projects around Waco.

"Steppin' Out is more than just one day," said Waco senior Cole Chandler, a member of the

Steppin' Out steering committee. "We want it to be about promoting this lifestyle of service."

The goal of Steppin' Out is to promote awareness, interaction and collaboration between Baylor and the Waco community, according to the Student Activities Web site.

This community mixer is a way to further this interaction.

"The block party is an opportunity to relate to the people around us," Chandler said.

Members of the Steppin' Out steering committee seek to encourage interaction between people of all social classes and get Baylor students out into the community.

"We are in a bubble," Chan-

dlar said. "The block party will combine all these groups of people in the same place."

Jimmy Dorrell, pastor of Church Under the Bridge and executive director of Mission Waco, talked to some of the members of the Steppin' Out steering committee and gave advice about the event.

"They get it. There's this sense of excitement," Dorrell said. "It's about first-level experiences. It's a short impact, but an important one."

Steppin' Out has been occurring for about 24 years, but additional initiatives, such as the community mixer, are fairly new developments.

According to the Student Ac-

tivities Web site, since the first event in 1985, Steppin' Out has yielded 425,000 hours of labor from the Baylor community.

This event is the largest collegiate community service event in the nation.

Steppin' Out projects span Waco from the shores of the Brazos to the beaches of Lake Waco and activities include painting, trash cleanup and beautification projects.

Steppin' Out will be held again on March 27.

The community mixer for this year's Steppin' Out will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday at Dewey Park, located on Waco Drive between Sixth and Ninth streets.

NC searchers find body of missing 5-year-old girl

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SANFORD, N.C. — For a week, authorities feverishly searched for a 5-year-old girl across central North Carolina, only to find her body Monday off a rural road following accusations the girl's mother offered her for sex.

The investigation into the disappearance of Shaniya Davis yielded the arrest of her mother and two other men, though one man was later released.

Searchers found Shaniya dumped into the woods 30 miles from her hometown of Fayetteville. Hundreds of volunteers hoping to find her alive left the site of the search dejected, unable to bring Shaniya home to an emotional father, her 7-year-old brother and the dolls she loved to play with.

"I still feel kind of sick to my stomach," said Angela Jackson, 27, from nearby Sanford, who has a two-month-old daughter but searched for consecutive days.

Particularly disturbing were the accusations lodged against Shaniya's mother, 25-year-old Antoinette Davis. Police charged Davis with human trafficking and felony child abuse, saying Shaniya was offered for prostitution.

Shaniya's sister, Brenda Davis, 20, said she does not believe the charges.

"I don't believe she could hurt her children," said Brenda Davis, who spoke with her sister at the jail Sunday. Davis' aunt, Yvonne Mitchell, said the mother had two jobs and would never harm the child.

Authorities also charged Mario Andrette McNeill, 29, with kidnapping after they said surveillance footage from a Sanford hotel showed him carrying Shaniya. Authorities said McNeill admitted taking the girl, though his attorney said he will plead not guilty.

Fayetteville police spokeswoman Theresa Chance declined to talk about additional charges. She also

wouldn't comment on a cause of death or the condition of Shaniya's body, except to say that state investigators planned to retrieve it about 100 feet off the road.

Davis reported Shaniya missing from a mobile home park Tuesday.

Authorities first arrested Clarence Coe, but charges against him were dropped a day later when investigators tracked down McNeill after receiving a tip from a hotel employee.

Additional information led investigators to a search site near Sanford on Sunday. They continued searching Monday, scouring miles of landscape, roads, ravines and fields on four-wheelers and with helicopters.

"We were hoping that someone could carry her home," said Syd Severe, 42, who came from Raleigh to help with the search.

A cluster of emergency vehicles and law enforcement gathered where Shaniya's body was found. Authorities blocked

access to the road, a rural area popular with hunters that is less than a mile from a lakeside community.

On Monday night, dozens of people attended a vigil at a Baptist church about two miles from where the body was found.

Shaniya's father, Bradley Lockhart, said he raised his daughter for several years but last month decided to let her stay with her mother. He had pleaded for her safe return.

Lockhart told The Associated Press on Saturday that he and Davis never argued about him raising Shaniya, and Cumberland County courts had no record of a custody dispute. He described his relationship with Davis as a "one-night stand" and said he did not know McNeill.

"I should've never let her go over there," he said Saturday night. A friend at Lockhart's home Monday afternoon said Lockhart did not want to speak with reporters.

Fellows gives pre-meds post-graduation flexibility

By OLGA GLADTSKOV BALL
REPORTER

The Baylor Business Fellows major allows students flexibility to decide what they want to do with their four years at Baylor.

Dr. Allen Seward, director of the Business Fellows, stressed "the flexibility of the program to match interests of students. Seward said that about one-third of Business Fellows are pre-med students.

"Fellows is a way to include business in your program," Seward said.

He promotes majoring in Business Fellows as part of the pre-med track for two reasons: Most people either end up in a private practice or a hospital. Seward said working at a private practice is like running your own business.

"The goal with Fellows is not to make decisions themselves but to be able to communicate with people such as tax consultants," Seward said.

Seward said that if one decides to go on the hospital route, one will sooner or later be on a board for a hospital or a non-

"The goal of Fellows is not to make decisions themselves."

Dr. Allen Seward
Director of the Business Fellows

profit organization.

"Making decisions for what you buy and what your mix of services are fundamentally business decisions," Seward said.

Seward considers Business Fellows the best way to get business with a pre-med program because the classes offered by the program are more analytical than those offered by the minor.

"It allows a higher level of courses than the minor and it takes away the need for summers like the regular BBA," Seward said.

Sally Odegaard, coordinator of Business Fellows, conducted a survey during the summer to find out information about the Fellows.

According to a survey, 50 per-

cent of Business Fellows double major in economics, 40 percent double major in finance and 30 percent double major in accounting.

Seward said the pre-med students usually double major in economics.

"The majors include everything in the business school — we have someone in every area," Seward said.

Chris Lane, a senior from Memphis, Tenn., is a double major in Business Fellows and media business.

"I picked Business Fellows because of the flexibility that it offered," Lane said, "They tell you exactly what they want from you instead of trying to put you in a certain direction."

Lane focuses on music because it's what he wants to do with his life — he plays drums in worship bands and metal bands. Lane likes to be able to write original music.

"The exhilaration of writing far out ways what is already written," Lane said.

Business Fellows allows Lane to pick his own direction in classes, particularly with his love of music.

BEAR BRIEFS

Mortar Board's Reading Is Leading Book Drive will take place this Monday to Friday at various locations on campus. You may drop off your donations of any used or new children's books in the Mortar Board book drive boxes. Books will be given to a variety of locations in the Waco community.

The Peace Corps information table will be available from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the first Floor of the Bill Daniel Student Center. A Peace Corps Information Session will take place from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at 201B Poage Library. A free movie, "Big Man Japan"

(Japanese) will be shown at 7 p.m. in the Den of the Bill Daniel Student Center.

Tickets for AsianFest Banquet will be on sale for \$10 for students and \$15 for general admission from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. today, Thursday and Friday at the Bill Daniel Student Center. AsianFest will be held at 7 p.m. Saturday on the fifth Floor of Cashion Academic Center. The free culture show will be held at 7 p.m. Friday at the Bill Daniel Student Center Bowl.

Baylor University Medical Ethics Discussion Society's last meeting will be held at 6 p.m. today at the Ken and Celia Carlile Atrium. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Student Government is holding a Diversity Day forum for multicultural student organization leaders at 7 p.m. today in the Bill Daniel Student Center. The organization will be discussing a wide range of topics and how Student Government can better assist students. Refreshments will be served.

To submit a bear brief, e-mail Lariat@baylor.edu.

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Local church tries to bring the world home

ALYSSA MENDEZ
REPORTER

In an effort to raise awareness about God's work globally, First Baptist Church of Woodway will hold a Global Celebration this week.

Global Celebration will provide opportunities to pray, worship, have fellowship and learn about the cultures of the world and view Christianity from a global perspective.

"The goal has been to help our church connect with what's going on in the rest of the world, in particular what our people are doing in the rest of the world," said Brett Gibson, associate pastor of international missions at Woodway.

Rather than focusing on the work being done by Woodway's missionaries, who live all over the world, Woodway is bringing in Christians who come from different backgrounds.

"It's mostly a time for formation and education," Gibson said. "We're not really asking people to do something. We're just trying to raise awareness about what's going on in the world."

Woodway kicked off the celebration Sunday, when well-known Christian speaker Afshin Ziafat shared his story about converting to Christianity after living the majority of his life as a Muslim.

Throughout the week, there will be a prayer room available in the church's sanctuary, which will facilitate prayer for the glob-

al church and the lost people of the world.

From 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, a group of graduate students from Dallas, who study ethnomusicology, will lead a night of worship using worship songs that are indigenous to dif-

ferent countries. Ethnomusicology is the study of various cultures' musical traditions.

Church Under the Bridge during the global bazar to give people the opportunity to experience church in a different way.

"This event is at the heart of what we're hoping comes out of this week," Gibson said. "That is, we as a church and we as people

"We have the opportunity to hear their stories, their personal stories, and their impressions about what it looks like to be the church in different parts of the world."

Brett Gibson
Associate Pastor of International Missions at Woodway

ferent countries. Ethnomusicology is the study of various cultures' musical traditions.

"Everything doesn't have to look like the church in America. It can still be the church," said Michelle Telg, who has helped coordinate the different events happening this week.

A global bazaar, which will have tables representing churches, music, food and activities from different countries, will follow worship.

Doris King, director of local missions at Woodway, has invited different local ministries such as The World Hunger Farm and Church Under the Bridge to participate in Wednesday night's events.

There will be a replica of

to hear from a missionary doing work in East Asia. This event includes a catered Chinese lunch and the cost is \$5.

From 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, there will be a women's educational trip to a Hindu temple in Austin and lunch at an Indian restaurant. The excursion will cost about \$25.

Also Saturday is a session on keeping healthy on the mission field from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The week will come to a close with the Harvest Dinner from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Sunday.

The church will provide ham, turkey, rolls, iced tea and coffee. Participants are encouraged to bring deserts and side dishes. Children from pre-kindergarten through sixth grade will have their own Harvest Dinner together.

"I hope people would realize and know for sure that each of us is called to missions," King said.

"Our sweet Lord is waiting for us to go and be a part in our community, be a part in the United States and be a part across the seas."

Registration information can be found on the Web site at www.fbcwoodway.org. All events except for the session on keeping healthy in the mission field will take place at 101 Ritchie Road, in Woodway.

The session about health on mission trips will take place at 13000 Woodway Drive, Woodway.

The events will be open to the public all week long.



SARAH GROMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Venitha Rajaratnam, a Waco native, has been a member of the First Baptist Church of Woodway for more than seven years and has attended the Global Celebration week every year. The setup is located in the left wing of the sanctuary and will be open to the public all week long.

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‘2012’ delivers realistic special effects, little plot

By **ASH ANDERSON**
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Roland Emmerich’s latest film, “2012,” has been out four days and has already come under harsh scrutiny from religious groups, calling the apocalyptic mayhem anything but factual.

MOVIE | REVIEW

Given the fact that the entire movie is based upon the prediction that the world will come to an end on Dec. 21, 2012, because the Mayan calendar ends on that day, many of the catastrophes presented in the film are so farfetched and preposterous that you’ll wonder how anyone would believe such a prophecy. Marketing for the movie began over a year ago, with the first teaser trailer appearing in theaters earlier November 2008. Imploring patrons to find out “what 2012 was really about,”



McCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

Jackson Curtis (John Cusack) and Charlie Frost (Woody Harrelson) are characters in “2012,” a film chronicling the catastrophes following Dec. 21, 2012, the last day of the Mayan calendar. Curtis is a limo driver that attempts to get his family out of Los Angeles and Frost is a hermit who predicts the end of the world.

the production company behind the film began pushing fake Web sites that had to do with prepar-

ing for the worst — stocking food supplies, getting affairs in order, and even registering for a lottery

that would ensure people’s safety by housing them in an ark-like craft.

While it’s obvious that people don’t go to see these movies for anything but the special effects, would it really kill Hollywood to make a disaster movie with decent acting? It’s almost as if top-notch actors lose all talent when a movie like this comes out.

John Cusack, Danny Glover, Oliver Platt, Thandie Newton, Woody Harrelson and Amanda Peet — all top-notch actors — give monotonous performances for a movie with the budget and star power to have been so much better.

It still opened at a whopping \$65 million and was ahead of box office and studio predictions, finishing the weekend as the top movie. In case you haven’t figured it out by now, the movie uses the prediction of a global apocalypse as one big plot device in order to show gratuitous amounts of what is now infamously known as “disaster porn.”

The Los Angeles coastline falling into the Pacific Ocean, the Vatican being annihilated by

a tsunami and the San Andreas fault splitting in half are just a few of the pulse-pounding events that litter the film.

Of course, hardly any of the science that’s given to support the events actually make sense. I can only imagine that the film would have been more enjoyable had attempts not been made to justify the events that were happening.

I would most certainly have gone to see a film that showed some of the most sacred landmarks and cityscapes being destroyed simply because I like watching things go boom.

Trying to rationalize what is happening on the screen with useless physics and geology just makes my brain hurt. I went to see stuff get “blowed up.”

The sad truth is that this movie was bound to perform well because of the success of Emmerich’s previous film, “The Day After Tomorrow.” It doesn’t matter how dumb it is.

Grade: C

Reel World Sense: Remaking classic films taints originals

By **GLENN GARVIN**
McCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

The list of Stuff From The 1960s That Doesn’t Need To Be Relived just keeps getting longer: Beehive hairdos. Frankie and Annette movies. The Bay of Pigs. Fallout shelters. The Cowsills.

And now the latest entry, “The Prisoner.” Though it would eventually be hugely influential, the original 1968 version went almost unwatched. AMC’s new remake is merely unwatchable.

Dismal and disoriented, under-plotted and over-allegorized, the six-hour “Prisoner” miniseries that debuts on AMC Sunday night at 8 EST (it continues in the same time slot on Monday and today) is an exercise in full-tilt dramatic tedium that will appall anybody who remembers the original and bewilder anyone

who doesn’t: What was the big deal about THAT?

A British import that lasted just 17 episodes as a CBS summer replacement show, the original “Prisoner” was a parable of Cold War exhaustion that crossbred Kafka and Orwell. Patrick McGoochan played a British intelligence agent who quit his job, only to be kidnapped and plunked down in a village full of ex-spies whose names had been replaced with numbers.

Alternating between subterfuge and threats, the village’s bosses constantly tried to learn the secrets of McGoochan’s character, now known only as No. 6. But it was never known whether his captors were the enemy or his own bosses, testing him: One of “The Prisoner’s” central conceits was the governments on both sides of the Cold War had grown

to resemble one another in their disregard for individual liberties.

The rights of the individual against a collective, faceless bureaucracy — be it composed of Marxist apparatchiks or computerized Western technocrats — was always at the heart of “The Prisoner.” No. 6’s refrain under interrogation from his captors — “I will not be pushed, briefed, debriefed, stamped, indexed or numbered” — mockingly echoed the warning on the ubiquitous IBM punch cards with which the government tracked everything from Social Security checks to school attendance: “Do not fold, spindle or mutilate.”

“The Prisoner’s” anarchist politics and surrealist style were heady stuff in the “Leave It to Beaver” universe of 1960s television — much too heady for most of the adult audience of the day.

But as its teenage fans grew up and began making their own TV shows and movies, “The Prisoner’s” resonance was clear. From the bizarre little town of “Twin Peaks” to the homogenized TV-stage world of “The Truman Show” to the mysterious island of “Lost,” the echoes of “The Prisoner” were unmistakable.

Even the Syfy channel’s “Battlestar Galactica” offered a tip of its space helmet: The show’s sultry robot assassin was known only by her factory model number, 6.

But if some elements of “The Prisoner” have proven timeless, AMC’s miniseries proves conclusively that others aren’t. In an age when half of America wants nothing more from life than to appear on a reality show and the other half wants nothing more than to watch, “The Prisoner’s” concerns

that we’re living in a fishbowl world (the village school even offers the kiddies a class in surveillance in which they get extra credit for spying on their parents) seem quaint at best.

Yet the real havoc wreaked on “The Prisoner” results from British playwright Bill Gallagher’s attempts at modernization in his screenplay. Gallagher has turned the village from a political gulag into something that seems suspiciously like a computer virtual-reality game. It’s populated not by ex-spies trying to come in from the cold, but random people with no memory of life before they appeared in the village _ or even that a broader world exists. (“There is no OUT — there is only IN,” says one of the villagers.)

The few — including this version of No. 6, played by “The Passion of the Christ’s” Jim Caviezel

— who hold fleeting memories of another existence are labeled “dreamers” and subjected to ruthless attempts at first therapy and then extinction, as if they were malfunctioning avatars in a game of “The Sims.”

This foray into existentialism is not entirely a deviation from the original version of “The Prisoner.”

Unfortunately, it emphasizes the show’s dizzy surrealist elements at the expense of its storytelling. Reeling between doppel-gangers and alt-selves, flashbacks and flashforwards, dreams and hallucinations, “The Prisoner” collapses under the weight of its own metaphors.

Confides one dazed character to No. 6: “I don’t even know if what I just told you is true or not.” Either way, it doesn’t matter.

FUN TIMES

Answers at www.baylorlariat.com — McClatchy-Tribune

- Across
1 Sirs' counterparts
6 "Fernando" singers
10 Endure
14 Have ___ on one's shoulder
15 Defeat soundly
16 Sailor's patron saint
17 Another name for Farsi
18 *Undeveloped home site
20 Slangy "Don't lose any sleep over it"
22 Overdo it on stage
23 W. Hemisphere gp. formed to defend against communism
24 Made changes to
26 *1977 Triple Crown winner
31 Tell-all news story
32 One just hanging out
37 Antiquing substance
38 Heartache
39 Pouty expression
40 Evade
43 A ___: valid independent of experience, in logic
45 *2,240-pound unit
47 Handyman's nickname
51 Poetic dusk
52 Windy City airport
53 At risk
58 *Huck Finn conveyance
61 Neighbor of Florida's St. Petersburg
62 Shortly, to Shakespeare
63 Vaulted church part
64 Writer Nin
65 Wisdom of the elders
66 Cattle rancher's tool
67 The answer to each starred clue ends in a big one

- Down
1 Everystreet
2 Prefix with bat or phobia
3 Obsessed fictional whaler
4 Revealing skirt
5 Urn taps
6 Give counsel to
7 Highlands hillside

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9 Lawyers' org.
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11 "It's ___ nothing!"
12 Hit, biblical-style
13 Schlepped
19 Meas. of a package's contents
21 It's not quite a hurricane
24 Medicinal plant
25 Luau memento
26 Aegean and Bering
27 Military vet
28 Imitated
29 Ripped
30 Hillside
33 Jannings of old films
34 Underlying cause
35 Continental currency
36 Harness lead
38 Cried

- 41 Philly cager
42 1979 meltdown site, briefly
43 Like the Piper's clothes
44 Drank on credit
46 Like many a tux
47 Story's lesson
48 Horned safari beast
49 Party gift
50 "I'll see you in my dreams" girl of song
53 Should that be the case
54 When repeated, Mork's sign-off
55 FBI agent
56 Grand in scope
57 Impulsive
59 Knock
60 Month after Mar.

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Football still clinging to bowl hopes

With two games remaining, Bears must finish season perfect to compete in bowl

By KEVIN TAMER
SPORTS WRITER

After taking a 47-14 beating from the University of Texas in its home finale Saturday, the Baylor football team may be down, but it certainly is not out.

With the loss to the Longhorns, the Bears sit at a 4-6 overall record, but their bowl hopes are still alive if they can manage to win their two remaining games on the road against Texas A&M University and Texas Tech University.

Despite losing in his last game at Floyd Casey Stadium, senior safety Jordan Lake still remains optimistic for the rest of the season.

"Definitely didn't want to go out this way," Lake said. "But you can't hang your head, because we still have a chance to go to a bowl game. That's what our plan is. We have to come back, shake this one off and get ready for a big game at Texas A&M next week. That's all we're focused on."

The Bears hoped to build off the Nov. 7 win against the University of Missouri, as the offense accumulated 465 total yards and Garland freshman Nick Florence threw for a school record of 427 yards and three touchdowns.

However, the Bears could not get anything going offensively against Texas as they were held to 57 total yards in the first quarter and went backwards in the second quarter, losing 20 yards.

The Bears' first possession looked promising as they drove the ball down to Texas' four-yard line, but the drive came to a stop as Florence threw an interception to Aaron Williams in the end zone.

The Bears' offense spiraled downhill from there, as it failed to put points on the board until

the fourth quarter.

Allen senior J.D. Walton believes his team's inability to bounce back from adversity kept the Bears from staying in the contest.

"We have to be a better football team than that. We can't go down after the first drive if stuff doesn't happen the way we want it to. We have to bounce back second drive," said Walton, a Rimington Award candidate. "We just weren't executing in the first half."

The defense was also unable to find an answer for Texas, as the Longhorns offense put up 40 points in the first half.

Colt McCoy threw for 181 yards and found Jordan Shipley for two touchdowns before being replaced by freshman Garrett Gilbert in the third quarter.

San Antonio senior linebacker Joe Pawelek was disappointed by his team's performance and understands the priority of fixing Baylor's mistakes in order to keep its bowl hopes intact.

"We see the urgency here. Seeing that there is two left, and we have got to go get those two," Pawelek said. "There's no time to sit and pout about it. We aren't excited about the performance that we had, especially in the first-half."

"We need to come in and learn from our mistakes and be ready to play next Saturday," Pawelek said.

Despite throwing three interceptions, quarterback Florence threw for 240 yards and the Bears eventually got things going in the fourth quarter as they scored on back-to-back drives. Florence was proud of his team's resilience and believes it can build off its fourth quarter performance.

"We are going to go out there and fight. We are never going to quit; the fight never dies inside of us," Florence said. "No matter what the score is, we are going to fight until the end. What happened out there is over. It's the past. We are going to move forward and look at Texas A&M."



SARAH GROMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lake Charles, La., junior strong safety Byron Landor lunges to tackle University of Texas wide receiver Jordan Shipley (No. 8) in Saturday's 47-14 loss against the Longhorns. Landor finished with six tackles while Shipley had six catches for 46 yards and two touchdowns.

Sports Briefs

Dunn captures Big 12 honor

LaceDarius Dunn received his first player honor since his rookie year by being named the Phillips 66 Big 12 Player of the Week for the week of Nov. 9 to 15.

The Bears started the 2009-2010 season with a win against Norfolk State University on Friday night. Dunn recorded a game-high 32 points in the 86-58 victory. That game marked the third 30-point game of his career. Dunn also scored 29 points Sunday against Hartford.

Cross country advances to NCAA Championships

The women's cross country team placed second at the NCAA South Central Regional on Saturday and earned a spot in the NCAA Championships for the seventh straight year.

The Bears also had five members place in the top 15 places. All-American Plano senior Erin Bedell led the Bears, finishing in third place. Bedell shredded the 6,000-meter course in 21 minutes and 1.9 seconds. Austin sophomore Cate Westenhover finished the course in 10th place at 21:22.8 and earned her first all-region honor.

West Palm Beach, Fla., senior Danielle Bradley finished 12th (21:26.5), Spring senior Nichole Jones finished 14th (21:32.6) and Barnesville, Ohio, freshman Stephanie Morgan finished 15th (21:33.1). All three earned all-region honors as well.

Women's tennis welcomes top Division II talent

Women's tennis landed a top-notch recruit for the fall 2010 season. Two-time Intercollegiate Tennis Association Division II champion Sona Novakova signed to play for head coach Joey Scrivano beginning next fall.

Novakova, a Slapanice, Czech Republic, native, is currently a sophomore at Armstrong Atlantic State University. She accumulated 51-6 record in singles play during the past two seasons. Novakova won back-to-back ITA D-II singles titles.

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Bears complete three-game marathon unscathed



SHANNA TAYLOR | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

No. 13 forward/center Ekpe Udoh runs into some resistance when going up for a shot during the first half against Southern University Monday in the Ferrell Center. Baylor won the game 61-45.

By JUSTIN BAER
SPORTS EDITOR

Baylor's defense limited Southern University to 28 percent shooting, and the Bears finished a grueling stretch as they defeated the Jaguars 61-45 Monday night at the Ferrell Center.

Baylor endured a taxing three-game mark in a four-day time span but was able to hold an opponent to its lowest scoring amount in the Scott Drew coaching era.

While the players admitted to feeling the effects of the schedule, Drew proclaimed the marathon only prepares the Bears for a similar schedule to be faced in the upcoming Old Spice Classic.

"It was a great experience for us to prepare us for Old Spice," Drew said. "Now we will know what it will be like playing in that third game in four days."

Facing an athletic Southern squad, the Bears' endurance was tested from the beginning of the game, as the Jaguars ran a high-octane offense similar to teams of Baylor's past.

But the Bears withstood the challenge and contained the Jaguars' offensive threats throughout the duration of the game. Freshman point guard A.J. Walton was responsible alone for creating five turnovers, three of which came in the first half.

"Defensively, A.J. is very good and very active," Drew said. "He has played a lot of

minutes in three games now, and he has done a really good job of being put in that position."

LaceDarius Dunn led the Bears with 13 points and was one of 11 Baylor players to reach the scoreboard.

Shooting 38 percent from the floor, the Bears struggled to find consistency on the offensive side, but Drew said he was encouraged with the resilience displayed on the other end of the floor.

The Bears used a mixture of players in the game's infant moments to jump on top of the Jaguars. Quincy Acy, Anthony Jones, Ekpe Udoh, Dunn and Walton were all factors of a 13-point scoring run that gave the Bears a 25-10 lead with 9:51 remaining in the first half.

Baylor's hovering defense yielded 19 points off turnovers in the first 20 minutes and contributed to the Bears' 43-21 lead at the half.

Walton's quick hands ensued in the second half, as he stole a pass from Norm Nixon and laced a bounce pass to Dunn. Dunn missed an uncontested layup, but Walton rebounded the shot and put it back up for two to give Baylor a 45-25 lead with three minutes into half.

Later, with 7:58 left in the game, Walton swiped a pass from Jameel Grace then took it the length of the floor for the layup, accounting for two of the Bears' 18 second-half points.

"We were shooting poor on the offensive end," Walton said. "Coach was telling me, 'It

starts with you on the defensive end.' With Tweety sitting out, I have to be the leader."

For the remainder of the half, Baylor's offense was virtually nonexistent, as the Bears shot an abysmal 26 percent from the floor in the final 20 minutes.

But Baylor didn't retract from its defensive efforts and swarmed Southern, forcing difficult shots and multiple shot-clock violations.

"It's tough you have to take it to your body," Dunn said. "Playing three games in four days—it's not easy to get wins like that."

During the weekend, Udoh tossed in a game-winning shot as time expired to give the Bears a 71-69 victory Sunday afternoon over Hartford University at the Ferrell Center.

Udoh was heavily contested by two defenders as the clock wound down, but he threw up a shot, and it circled around the rim, then dropped in to send the crowd into a frenzy.

"When I shot it, I thought I missed it," Udoh said. "When I made it I didn't know what to do. It was good. I can't even explain it in words."

Friday night's season-opening victory came in an easier variety, as the Bears handled Norfolk State University 86-58. Just about everything plausible went Dunn's way as he finished with a game-high 32 points, 25 of which came in the first half.

Baylor returns to the court Sunday when it plays host to Hardin-Simmons University. The first tip is set for 4:30 p.m.

Stay updated with men's basketball games online at lariatsports.wordpress.com

Women's basketball suffers opening loss against Lady Vols

By CHRIS DERRETT
SPORTS WRITER

Unlike most of the Top 25 teams who opened their seasons at home against lesser opponents, the Lady Bears took a road trip to play one of women's basketball's most storied programs.

Baylor's 74-65 loss to the University of Tennessee was not necessarily how the team wanted to begin, but the game did reaffirm head coach Kim Mulkey's preseason thoughts about her talented, youthful team.

The Lady Bears erased an early 10-3 deficit to enter the locker room ahead, 26-24, but after falling behind, 28-26, they never regained the lead. Mulkey said she was proud of her young team's play in a hostile environment, although the team made many mistakes. Most of them, Mulkey said, occurred defensively.

"You bring it to their attention, so that they will learn," Mulkey said about her freshmen's mis-

takes. "In high school, you can do those things. At this level, every possession on both ends of the floor is so valuable."

The freshmen provided 36 of the team's points. Brittney Griner, Baylor's 6-foot-8 post, netted 15 points and four blocks but committed her fourth personal foul with 17:59 remaining in the second half. Playing almost an entire half against a cautious Griner, Tennessee made 45.7 percent of its field goals in the second half, compared to 28.9 percent in the first.

Still, Tennessee head coach Pat Summitt said Griner's presence challenged the Lady Vols.

"It was huge. Look what happened to us. You had two of the best posts in the country, and they both got into foul trouble," Summitt said.

Summitt added that for the first time in 36 years, her team started in a zone and remained in it for the entire game.

"Have you ever watched a

game where Pat Summitt only played two possessions of man-to-man defense? That's respect. That's an intelligent coach. That's why she's won over 1,000 games," Mulkey said.

The more experienced junior Melissa Jones and senior Morghan Medlock combined for 31 points. Jones was five of 13 from the field and one of seven beyond the arc but made all 10 free throw attempts.

As one of the few players with significant experience, Jones embraced her leadership role on Sunday.

"It's just a good experience. The freshmen will get better with time," Jones said. "As the season continues we'll be a great basketball team when we put it all together."

The Lady Bears take on the visiting Tennessee Tech Golden Eagles. Even younger than Baylor, the Eagles have six freshmen, five sophomores and no juniors or seniors.

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BAA from pg. 1

for all constituency to connect ... If you have a connection to Baylor, you don't have to join it."

Fogleman also cited the last paragraph of the Sept. 19 proposal, which reads, "We recognize you may wish to maintain separate status and go in a different direction. If so, we will continue to assist you in maintaining your independence, which is virtually unique among private university alumni associations."

Fogleman said, "We are making adjustments that reflect the independent status of the alumni association. We continue to support them in their independence."

Alumna Melissa Rogers was to be presented with the Abner McCall Religious Liberty Award, and former Austin Mayor and current state Sen. Kirk Watson was to be honored with the Price Daniel Public Service Award.

"I thought it was a very effective venue," Kilgore said, "in that there was a lot of interest and Baylor people there. We just have to find other ways to do it."

Kilgore said the conversation between him and Leeper was very cordial, and that he does not believe it has much to do with the BAA's independence.

"Karla and I have been friends for a while," Kilgore said. "There are a lot of people in difficult position as a result of some of this effort. I respect her; she has a job to do."

The BAA will continue to keep its members informed, Kilgore said, as well as work well under the new conditions.

"Graduation, in my opinion," Kilgore said, "is the most exciting day in the life of the university. Unfortunately, this decision makes it difficult for us to do our job as the alumni association for Baylor, but we fully intended, in other ways (to continue) welcoming our new graduates (and) serving our faculty with a place to say good-bye to our students and their families and honoring our award recipients."

FORT HOOD from pg. 1

A joint terrorism task force overseen by the FBI learned late last year of Hasan's repeated contact with the cleric, who encouraged Muslims to kill U.S. troops in Iraq. The FBI said the task force did not refer early information about Hasan to superiors because it concluded he wasn't linked to terrorism.

Lawmakers, however, already have announced they want their own investigations and were frustrated with what they view as a less-than-forthcoming administration.

Rep. Howard McKeon, R-Calif., said he wanted to go ahead with an investigation from the House Armed Services Committee, where he is the top Republican. He said he wanted an investigation that wouldn't compromise law enforcement or military investigations that were continuing on separate tracks.

In the Senate, Sen. Joe Lieberman, a Connecticut independent, said his Homeland Security Committee was opening an investigation. On Saturday, he and Sen. Susan Collins, the ranking Republican on the committee, said the panel still planned to meet Thursday to begin the first congressional hearings and hoped for cooperation from the administration.

"We very much agree with President Obama's sentiments that the full story behind the murderous act at Fort Hood must be told," the senators said in a joint statement.

"Our goal, and the purpose of this inquiry, is to make as certain as possible that no such attack ever occurs again on an American military base. We will focus on national and homeland security and will not compromise the criminal case being conducted by law enforcement."

Obama said he was not opposed to hearings — eventually. But he strongly pressed lawmakers to hold off until the probes now under way are completed.

"There is an ongoing investigation into this terrible tragedy," Obama said. "That investigation will look at the motives of the alleged gunman, including his views and contacts."

"We must compile every piece of information that was known about the gunman, and we must learn what was done with that information. Once we have those facts, we must act upon them."

INTERNET from pg. 1

his comments on censorship.

Yang Hengjun, 45, a blogger and novelist based in the southern city of Guangzhou, said he was impressed by Obama's frank admission that some free speech irks him, and by U.S. laws that are intended to keep the government from censoring criticism.

"You see, freedom of speech in America is not given to the people by the president but is something that the people use to supervise their government and president, to protect themselves," Yang wrote in an essay titled "Why do I Blog? Obama has answered that question." Posted online late Monday, links to the essay were spread via Twitter.

Because Twitter is blocked in China, Yang and others use proxy servers to get around the controls.

PROTEST from pg. 1

Megan Phelps-Roper, granddaughter of Phelps, had a different opinion than campus police and said the picket went well.

"I spoke to two cross-country runners who asked, 'Didn't Jesus love everyone?'" Phelps-Roper said. "They didn't know the Bible well enough and don't understand predestination. God chooses who he loves and who he hates. You can't say, 'I accepted God as my savior,' because God has to choose you."

Since the late '90s, the church has caught media attention because to the once-a-week protest it holds all over the country, notifying Americans that they are going to hell.

Phelps began the protest in response to former president Bill Clinton's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy concerning homosexuals

in the military.

Dr. Christopher Bader, associate professor of sociology, has spent time at Westboro Baptist Church and is studying it for a book he is in the midst of writing on the extremist church.

"They believe, according to Pastor Phelps, that they are the only people going to heaven," Bader said. "They think everyone else is going to hell and it is their mission to tell them of God's wrath."

Bader also said Baylor was on the church's way back home to Kansas and that they usually try to picket as many places as they can.

"They enjoy the attention and criticism they receive at the protests," Bader said. "They like going to religious schools to show them specifically that they are wrong and God hates them."

The church continuously trav-

els the nation to high schools, colleges, other churches, abortion clinics and mainly soldiers' funerals to preach the message of Phelps.

Many people have left the group since their extreme turn in the '90s, dwindling the congregation to around 100 members who are mostly related, Bader said.

Church members are only allowed to marry within the congregation, therefore most of the young women are single and there is little reproduction or growth within the community, Bader said. Few leave and enter the community, so it can't last forever.

2009 alumnus Stephen Hinson went with Bader to study the group and said members are brainwashed by Pastor Phelps' theology.

"We spent the whole weekend with them and after studying them I found that they just take

the Bible and twist it," Hinson said. "They know that the more outrageous they are the more attention they will get. They have this shed just full of outrageous attention-seeking signs."

Bader said the church members live in a tightly located group of houses around the church and besides their theology, lead fairly, normal lives.

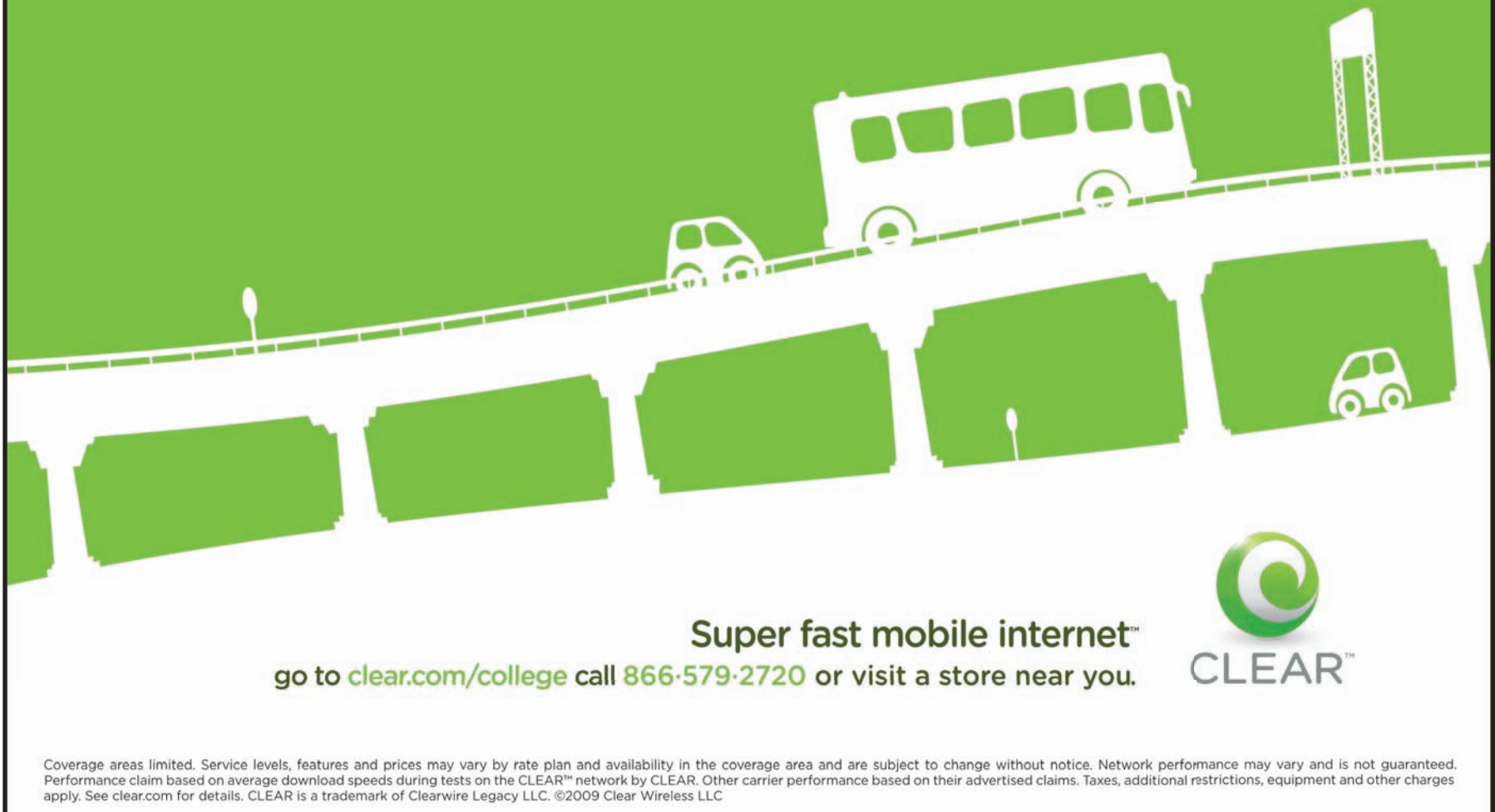
"Most of them have jobs and most of them attended or are attending college," Bader said. "I even saw some of the girls reading the 'Twilight' books."

One advantage the church has over other protesters is the many lawyers in the congregation.

"They always follow the rules and laws of the place that they are in so they can't be sued," Bader said. "They always win lawsuits against them and actually make good money from them. Essentially the people against them

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