

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

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BU prof talks on drugs at Harvard

By CAROLINE SCHOLES
REPORTER

Law professor Mark Osler argued over the laws regarding the prosecution of cocaine charges Tuesday at Harvard University.

Osler was invited by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to speak to Harvard students.

Osler has taken a stand against crack cocaine laws that are harsher on sentencing against crack-cocaine as compared to powder cocaine.

"One of the things I've done is challenge the crack-cocaine laws," Osler said.

Osler began taking on the crack-cocaine sentencing after he was a federal prosecutor. He began teaching and writing articles.

"Over time I began to think there's injustice in the law because crack-cocaine crimes are punished very harshly compared to powder-cocaine, which is a racial injustice," Osler said. "It's a racial issue because most of the street sellers are African-American."

When cocaine enters the United States, it enters as powder, but when it is sold on the streets it is turned into crack.

Once a law is in effect, such as the 100-to-1 law, it is very difficult to change.

The 100-to-1 law has no minimum sentencing for powder cocaine while the sentencing for

see DRUGS, pg. 10



Osler



JED DEAN | PHOTO EDITOR

A Pie in the Face is Better Than Mace

Inverness, Ill sophomore TJ Bode gets pied in the face by Bellaire junior Sterling Parker at the annual event Pies for Push, hosted by the fraternity of Pi Kappa Phi. This year Pies for Push brought in over 41 contest entries and featured musical artists from within the fraternity that played while students ate the cakes and pies entered by the participants.

Women and higher education

Civil rights commission investigates accusations of gender discrimination

By ADEOLA ARO
STAFF WRITER

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is beginning to examine whether universities are discriminating against women in admissions practices, as the number of women enrolled in college is steadily increasing across the nation.

The federal government prohibits sex discrimination in higher education under Title IX; however, Title IX does not prohibit sex discrimination in admissions by private, non-professional, undergraduate schools, meaning Baylor will not be examined.

The investigation began after Gail Heriot, a law professor at the University of San Diego, drafted a proposal which stated

that there have been accusations that "women applicants are being discriminated against in order to prevent the schools from becoming 'too female.'"

According to the proposal drafted by Heriot, approximately 58 percent of bachelor's degrees and 60 percent of master's degrees go to women.

Baylor has a higher ratio of women to men, according to the institute of research and testing. For the 2009-2010 school year, 59 percent of undergraduates are female and 41 percent are male.

After Heriot's proposal, the commission decided to conduct a study of various selective liberal arts schools and the enrollment of women. The study is limited to schools within a 100-mile radius from Washington, D.C., where the

commission meets. The commission plans on posing a series of questions to these schools such as how can male student's be recruited such that sex discrimination is unnecessary for schools that perceive a need to maintain a certain gender balance?

The study looks at admission practices to see if schools are giving preferences to males.

Kevin Dougherty, assistant professor of sociology, said women are more likely to be found in the higher education realm.

"Some universities today are exploring ways to increase male enrollment, such as small universities adding a football program," Dougherty said.

Applications reached an all-time high this school year, with more than 25,000 men and

women sending applications. Sixty percent of the applications received were from females.

Dr. Kathleen Morley, director of the institute of research and testing at Baylor, said that number is typical.

"It has been rendering between 60-63 percent over the last couple of years," Morley said.

At Texas Christian University, the trend has followed the same path as Baylor. Females accounted for 58 percent of the total undergraduate population while at Southern Methodist University females account for only 53 percent of the population for 2009-2010.

"Having equal gender balance is something we strive for," said Jennifer Carron, director of

see WOMEN, pg. 10

Baylor athletes remain at top of class

TRENT GOLDSTON
STAFF WRITER

Baylor has been in the top four schools for graduation rates of student athletes since the Big 12 was created Bart Byrd, Baylor's associate athletic director for student athlete services said.

The NCAA recently reported that Baylor's graduation success is still setting a high standard.

Graduation rates for Division I athletes has reached an all-time high, tallying 79 percent graduating within six years of enrollment, according to data released Tuesday by the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

The study showed that the graduation rates for athletes entering college from 1999 to 2002 have risen across the board, although sports like men's basketball and football still are lagging behind.

According to the study, the graduation success rate (GSR) of Baylor athletes was good when compared with other schools.

The GSR for baseball players was reported at 73 percent, 70 percent for football and men's basketball at 36 percent.

The University of Texas at Austin had a 37 percent GSR for baseball, 49 percent for football and 47 percent for men's basketball.

Byrd said Baylor has always put a strong emphasis on the academic careers of its athletes.

"We have a program here we feel is very successful," Byrd said. "We do things a little differently than some other schools do."

Other male student athletes at Baylor also had relatively high GSR rates.

see GSR, pg. 10

Senate's health care bill bottom line: \$849 billion

By DAVID ESPO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The political stakes enormous, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid launched long-awaited health care legislation Wednesday estimated to extend coverage to 94 percent of eligible Americans at a cost of \$849 billion.

Initial maneuvering on the Senate floor was expected later in the week on the measure, bitterly opposed by Republicans eager to deny President Barack Obama a victory on his top domestic priority.

Officials have said the mea-

sure would require most Americans to carry health insurance and would mandate large companies to provide coverage to their workers, as well as ban insurance company practices such as denying coverage on the basis of pre-existing medical conditions.

As rank-and-file Democrats gathered to learn details of the measure, a senior Democratic leadership aide said the Congressional Budget Office had estimated it would spread coverage to 31 million Americans who currently lack it while still reducing federal deficits by a total of \$127 billion over 10 years.

The aide also cited a CBO estimate that the bill would achieve cuts of \$1 trillion over a decade in projected health care costs. The estimate of 94 percent coverage was less than the 96 percent estimated for legislation the House passed earlier this month, but no precise comparisons were possible without as-yet-unreleased CBO documentation.

The aide spoke on condition of anonymity, saying rank-and-file senators had not yet learned of the details.

Aides have said previously much of the bill would be financed by cuts in projected

Medicare payments. Reid has also had under consideration higher payroll taxes for upper wage earners, but there was no word on whether he had decided to incorporate that provision into the measure he crafted.

At its core, the bill would set up new insurance marketplaces — called exchanges — primarily for those who now have a hard time getting or keeping coverage. Subsidies would be available to help defray the cost of coverage for people with lower incomes.

Reid announced two weeks

see HEALTH, pg. 10



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sens. Richard Durbin, left, Al Franken, Charles Schumer, Mark Begich, Tom Harkin, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, are all smiles Wednesday during a news conference on health care legislation on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Source says ex-official will head Fort Hood review

By LOLITA BALDOR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Robert Gates has tapped a former senior defense official to lead a broad Pentagon review of the circumstances surrounding the Fort Hood shootings. The Associated Press has learned.

Gates will announce Thursday that it will be a single, coordinated review, and will call for a quick, short-term report, followed by a longer, more extensive study, according to an

administration official.

Components of the wide-ranging probe could include self-examinations by the Army and the military's medical community, and likely look at personnel policies and the availability of mental health services for troubled troops.

It would go well beyond the specific case of Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan, the Army psychiatrist accused of killing 13 people and wounding more than 30 in the shootings at the Texas military post on Nov. 5.

The official spoke on condi-

tion of anonymity because announcements have not yet been made. The identity of the former official leading the review was not revealed.

Details were still being worked out Wednesday night, but the review would mirror other department inquiries during Gates' tenure, including a probe of the Air Force's handling of nuclear materials.

President Barack Obama already has ordered a review of all intelligence related to Hasan, including his contacts with a radical Islamic cleric overseas and

concerns about the major voiced by some medical colleagues, and whether the information was properly shared and acted upon within government agencies.

At a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing Wednesday, Attorney General Eric Holder said he was disturbed to learn that the Hasan had communicated the radical Islamic cleric.

Investigators have said e-mails between Hasan and the imam, Anwar al-Awlaki, did not advocate or threaten violence. After the shootings, al-Awlaki's Web site praised Hasan as a

hero. Holder said investigators still were gathering evidence in the case.

At the hearing, Holder was asked what he would do to prevent such an occurrence in the future.

"I think what we have to do is understand exactly what happened that led to that tragedy," Holder said. "Were their flags that were missed? Were there miscommunications or was there a lack of communication? And once we have a handle on that, I think that we can propose and work with this committee

on ways in which we can prevent such a tragedy from occurring again."

"I will say that on the basis of what I know so far, it is disturbing to know that there was this interaction between Hasan and — and other people that is, I find, disturbing," Holder said.

As Congress prepared to open oversight hearings into the massacre, Rep. James Langevin, D-R.I., said Wednesday there was no suggestion that Hasan was working with others. "All

see HOOD, pg. 10

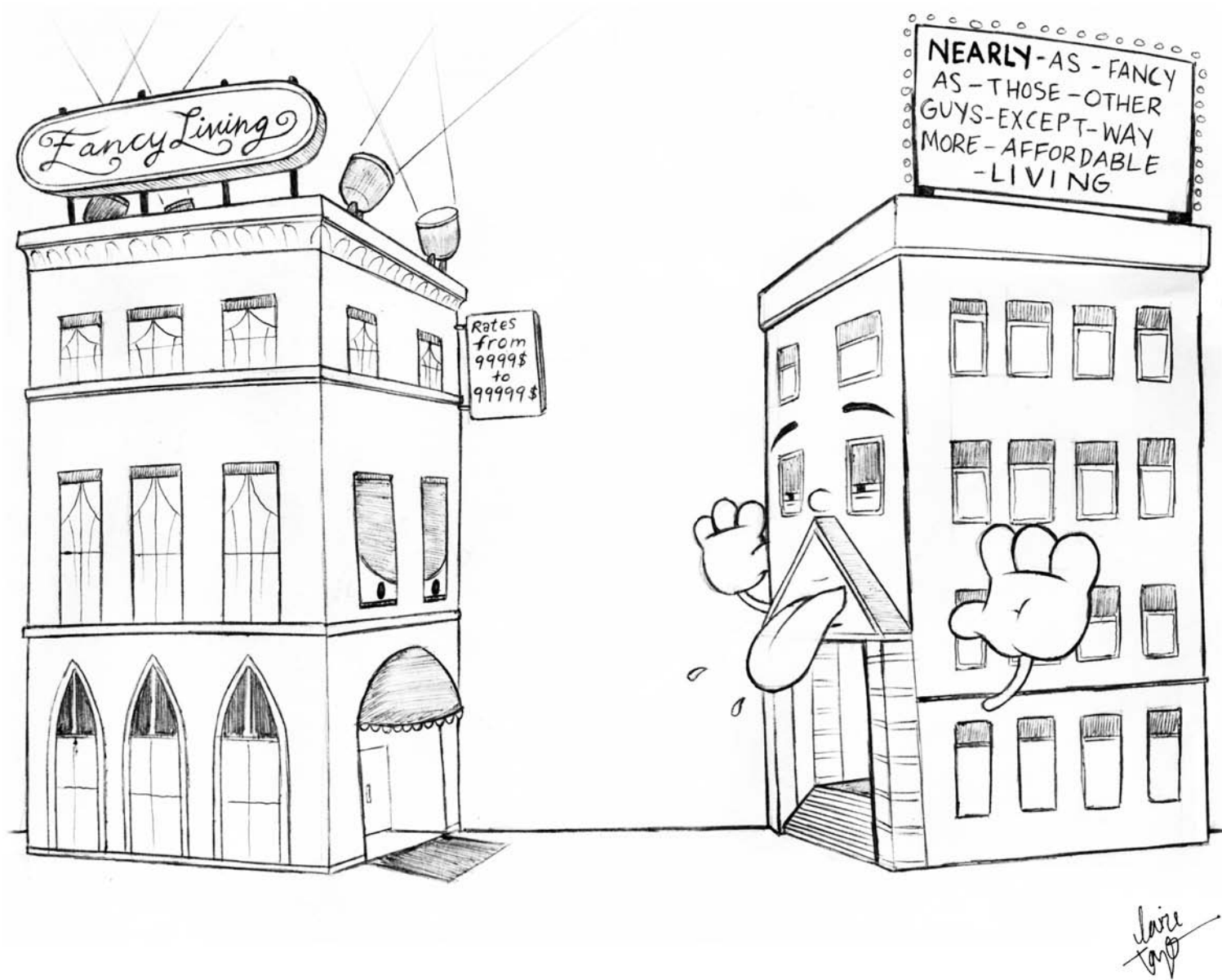
Lariat Letters

All men have inalienable rights

While I believe Ms. Acklen raised some good points concerning the trial of the 9/11 suspects, ["Sept. 11 terrorists should be handled differently," written by Jessica Acklen, Tuesday] I was disturbed that she questioned whether these men "deserve" rights. One of the concepts underlying the writing of the Constitution was that all human beings, regardless of citizenship, were endowed with inalienable rights.

This means that the idea of "deserving" should not even enter into the conversation. We cannot dehumanize people or strip them of rights because they have hurt us. These men should be tried and — if convicted — punished, but we must try them according to our laws, morals and ideals. If we do not, then we have lost our foundation and ourselves.

Mike Toczyski
Pittsburgh, Penn. Truett student



New Waco lofts enhance community by blending urban living, cheap prices

Urban living in Waco has long been a pricey endeavor. Many downtown lofts run for up to \$1,000 per month.

That will change, however, with the impending addition of low-income lofts in downtown Waco. The new lofts will run for \$200 to \$600 per month, based on the number of bedrooms and the income of occupants. With this ground-breaking addition, the lofts — and downtown Waco as a whole — will be opened to a much broader audience, especially to lower- and middle-income Waco residents and students, who may not otherwise be able to afford the high-class living.

Tenants are expected to be able to move in beginning in January. However, the project is a result of about five years of rigorous planning and hard work.

The lofts, named The Historic Lofts at Waco High, will blend the culture of Waco and incorporate varied types of community.

They are precisely the kind of additions this city needs. By finally allowing these lofts to be

Editorial

more financially accessible, The Historic Lofts at Waco High will attract men and women from all economic levels.

Waco High is about 100 years old. The school and its adjacent buildings make up 104 loft apartments. One resident of the lofts cannot make more than \$21,168 per year to qualify for occupancy.

The \$12 million dollar project that is The Historic Lofts at Waco High will bring about 750 new residents — who most likely would not previously have been able to afford the lofts — to downtown Waco.

We hope that there will be more additions to the community that cater to the middle-incomers, who make up the largest sect of the community, and aid in fostering environments in which the entire community may partake.

It is additions like this one that encourage a highly engaged populace. For us and for many

Waco residents, this inclusion is important and welcome.

Chris McGowen, director of urban development for the Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce, told the Waco Tribune-Herald last Thursday that gearing housing toward middle-incomers was a step to begin enhancing urban development, because the group makes up the largest percent of the community.

The Historic Lofts at Waco High will not only blend the ritzy and the inexpensive, but the old and the new, by including high ceilings, exposed brick and duct work, chalk trays from the numerous chalkboards in the classrooms and 6-foot-tall windows. The gymnasium has been converted into town homes, but a portion of the original basketball court floor remains.

These lofts allow for growth and bonding in the community. Their addition will benefit the largest portion of the Waco population, thus positively affecting the entire community.

Subscriptions Policy

A subscription to the Lariat costs \$45 for two semesters. Send check or money order to One Bear Place #97330, Waco, TX, 76798-7330 or e-mail Lariat_ads@baylor.edu. Visa, Discover and MasterCard payments may be phoned to 254-710-4562. Postmaster: Please send address changes to above address.

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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.

Views on life, death bring humanity to forefront

They killed a killer last week.

I kept waiting to feel something when news came that John Allen Muhammad had been executed in Virginia. As a staunch opponent of capital punishment, I wanted some nugget of remorse at the knowledge that the government had taken his life.

But Muhammad's 2002 sniper attacks hit close to home. He terrorized millions of people in the greater Washington area, where I live, made us fear to gas up our cars, walk in parking lots, wait on buses, made my grandson scared to go trick-or-treating, even wounded a friend of my youngest son.

So I could not manage remorse. Indeed, what I felt was an unsettling, appalling satisfaction that Muhammad is no longer in the world. I still remember the last time an execution caused my emotions to so thoroughly misalign with my convictions: it was in 2001, when Timothy McVeigh was put to death.

When I argue against the death penalty, I tend to lean on a few salient points: it is far costlier than life imprisonment; it is biased by class, race and gender; it is irreversible in the event of error. I use those arguments because there is ample

Point of View



BY LEONARD PITTS

statistical evidence to back them up, and because they are irrefutable.

But I have one other problem with the death penalty: it's wrong. It debases us. The power of life and death is too awesome to be left in human hands. And here, I know, the abortion opponent wonders how I can square that with support for abortion rights. The answer is simple: I can't.

Like, I suspect, most pro-choice people, my support for abortion rights hinges upon a visceral rejection of the idea that government can compel a woman to bear a child that she, for whatever reason — rape, incest, deformity, poverty — chooses

not to. I suspect I am also like most pro-choice people in being squishy and irresolute about the fact that a human life hangs in the balance of that decision. I suspect we find it easier to think of it as a potential human, not a real one — an oops without a name.

None of this, by the way, is tendered as apology or even justification. Rather, it is simply to observe that where the awesome power of life and death are concerned, "most" of us are guilty of inconsistency.

The classic liberal position, after all, opposes capital punishment and supports abortion rights, the latter often rationalized along the lines of the fractured logic above.

The classic conservative position, meanwhile, opposes abortion rights and supports the death penalty, glossing over with equally fractured logic the fact that innocents will be (indeed, "have been") executed.

With the exception of the Catholic Church, then, and a few other outposts of religiosity, none of us is consistent on these issues of life and death, all of us ignoring truths that indict our deep convictions, striking bargains with conscience in the name of a good night's sleep.

Into that irresolution falls the execution of John Allen Muhammad.

And what am I to say? I hate the death penalty, but this guy's rampage touched my life, frightened my children, so I'm OK with it? What kind of sense does that make?

None, of course. It is, if anything, just proof of my humanity — and all the contradictions attendant thereto. It is our nature to seek certitude and resolution, but life is messy and untidy, doesn't always fit neatly into the boxes we build for it.

There are days when being staunch offers no clarity, days when certitudes feel like platitudes and you can no more grab resolution than you can grab smoke.

From our trenches of fixed opinion, we thunder at one another so readily that it is disconcerting when you are forced to wander the gray places between, to acknowledge complexities our certainties don't always allow us to see. It can give you pause.

I submit that's not the worst thing in the world.

Leonard Pitts Jr. is a columnist for the Miami Herald.

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.

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Please Recycle This Issue

FDA to evaluate combinations of alcohol, caffeine

BY MEGAN KEYSER
STAFF WRITER

The FDA is evaluating the legality of adding caffeine to alcoholic beverages and asked manufacturers companies Friday to provide their research and reasons for believing caffeinated alcoholic beverages are safe Friday.

"The agency has asked nearly 30 manufacturers of caffeinated alcoholic beverages to provide FDA, within 30 days, the data necessary to demonstrate that caffeine can be safely and lawfully added to alcoholic beverages," said Dr. Joshua Sharfstein, FDA principle deputy commissioner, in a Friday FDA media briefing.

Since the FDA has not confirmed the safety of adding caffeine to alcoholic beverages, Sharfstein said the administration wants to understand why it could be considered safe and determine what regulations are necessary.

"The agency has not approved caffeine for use in alcoholic beverages and FDA is not aware of the basis on which manufacturers may have concluded that the use of caffeine added to alcoholic beverages is 'generally recognized as safe,'" Sharfstein said.

Sharfstein said.

Although various things triggered the FDA's investigation of the safety of caffeine and alcohol, FDA spokesperson Siobhan DeLancey said letters from numerous attorneys general expressing concerns of beverage safety played a big part.

A group of university research professors explained their research findings regarding the safety of caffeine in alcoholic beverages in a letter to the attorneys general at Connecticut, Utah and Guam.

"We have studied and conducted research in this area, and based on our findings and our comprehensive review of the scientific literature on this topic, we conclude that there is no evidence to support the claim that caffeine is 'generally recognized as safe' for use in alcoholic beverages," the research team said in the letter.

In addition to the attorney general's letter, Sharfstein said the FDA's request and intentions for information from manufacturers of caffeine-containing alcoholic beverages are based on the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act.

"According to this act, a substance added intentionally to

food, such as, in this case, caffeine in alcoholic beverages, is deemed unsafe and is unlawful unless its particular use has received pre-market approval as a food additive, it is prior sanctioned or it is 'generally recognized as safe,'" Sharfstein said.

"The caffeine dilates your blood vessels."

Dr. Alton Hassell
Senior chemistry lecturer

Sharfstein said.

Three studies of energy drink and alcohol consumption patterns among college students cited in the letter to the attorneys general showed that college-age use of caffeine and alcohol together is increasing. Although this is an important issue, DeLancey said, the FDA is currently looking at it in broader terms.

"We know that these are attractive for college students and underage drinkers," DeLancey said. "There have been studies that indicate that high school or underage might be attracted to them, but that's not the only thing. It's more of a general caffeine plus alcohol being the im-

portant issue."

Because of the biological effects of caffeine and alcohol, the combination of the two has its risks. Dr. Alton Hassell, senior chemistry lecturer, explained how caffeine can affect the way alcohol affects the body.

"Very often, chemicals that affect the body, when they are combined, can have a synergistic effect," Hassell said. "This means the effect of two chemicals is greater than the sum of the individual affects."

Hassell said caffeine can also cause alcohol to affect the body quicker than if alcohol is ingested alone.

"The caffeine dilates your blood vessels," Hassell said. "It could cause a quicker or stronger reaction. All the things alcohol does to you could be greater due to dilated blood vessels."

Although the FDA is looking into the safety of caffeinated alcoholic beverages, DeLancey said that is all it is at this point: a deeper look at the issue.

"I think it's premature to think it's working toward a ban," DeLancey said. "This is only a notification that we want to look more closely at these products and that they may be problematic."

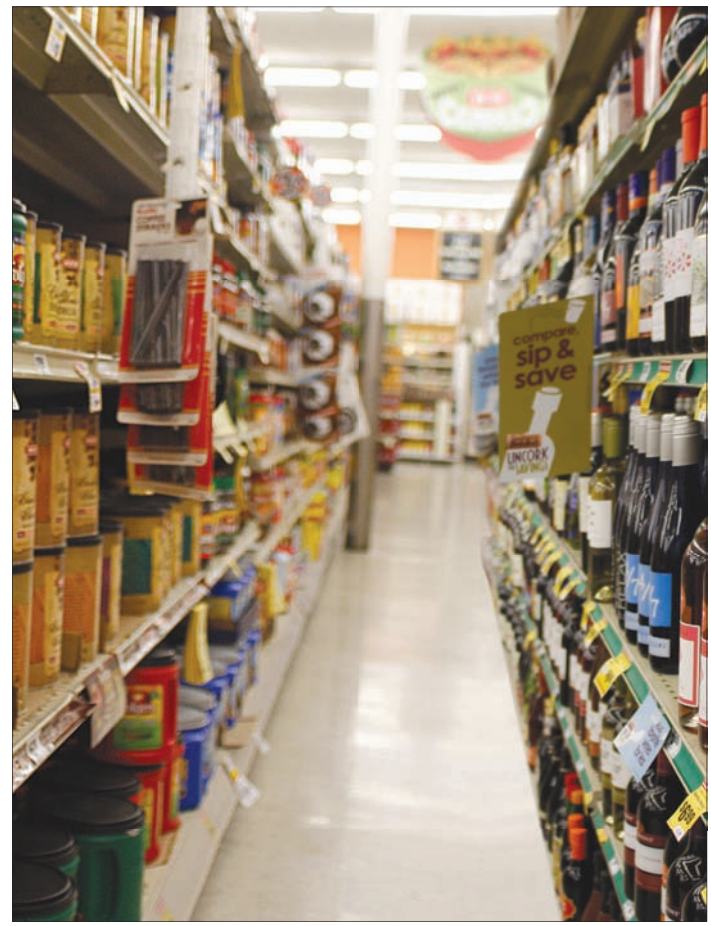


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SHANNA TAYLOR
The FDA is evaluating whether to approve the addition of caffeine to alcoholic beverages.

Baylor Religious Hour presents 'Cocoa, Christmas and Carols'

BY LAURA PATTON
REPORTER

For the second year in a row, the Baylor Religious Hour Choir is presenting "Cocoa, Christmas and Carols" at Christmas on Fifth Street. The choir presents Meredith Andrews, a Christian recording artist and worship leader, as headliner for the Dec. 3 performance.

This year, there will be a mix of solo and group singing. The choir is taking advantage of the opportunity to perform some songs with Andrews, although

she will be singing solo some songs.

Mike Riemer, the associate director of Student Activities, approached the choir about becoming involved in Christmas on Fifth Street, said Sarah Leyda, a member of the choir who works in Student Activities. Leyda is coordinating the event for the choir.

"Last year, [Riemer] came to us to partner with Student Activities and run the Cocoa, Christmas, and Carols event," Leyda said.

Along with setting up the

event and making sure everything was set logistically, the choir opened for last year's performer, Selah.

"Riemer had a vision of an indoor, family-oriented concert for faculty, staff and families. We used the opportunity as a fundraiser for last year's mission trip. It was a great fundraiser, but it did more to make our presence known on campus."

The choir sold shirts to raise money, as the actual concert is free to all. This year, the concert will not be used as a fundraiser. Attendees will have to go to

purchase poinsettias along the stage. Proceeds will go towards this year's mission trip to Nicaragua, but the goal of the concert is not to make money.

"We wanted to make it more of a worship concert," said Kaylyn Hewitt, Rowlett junior. Hewitt is a choir member. "We thought about making ornaments to sell, but we didn't want it to be about money."

Throughout the semester, the choir has been trying to bring more worship opportunities to campus. The choir sees Christmas on Fifth Street as a great

way to make its presence more prevalent on campus, Amarillo junior Chad Thompson said.

"This year's concert is more to just minister to the family community of Waco, as well as faculty and staff and their families," Thompson said.

Student government has provided most of the funding for Andrews' concert.

"We really appreciate what they've done for us this year," Leyda said. "We got what we asked for, and they have been a huge help."

Andrews will be coming from

"A New Hallelujah" tour with Michael W. Smith. Leyda met Meredith Andrews in Nashville last summer when she interned at Word Records, Andrews' label. Andrews got her start as a worship leader at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va., and has a heart for college ministry, Leyda said.

"After meeting with her, I thought she'd be a perfect fit for Baylor and Christmas on Fifth Street," Leyda said. "We're getting back to the root of our mission statement this year — to minister to the community."



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Search engine leaps beyond common abilities

By JENNA THOMPSON
REPORTER

The Baylor community has been exploring the use of Wolfram Alpha, a computational knowledge engine with more than 10 trillion pieces of data. Wolfram Alpha was launched on the Internet on May 15, and since then, users have been taking advantage of this Web site by entering any kind of question or topic and receiving answers and breakdowns of data in return.

Wolfram Alpha is different from other search engines, like Google, because it does not search for other articles or Web sites. Wolfram Alpha uses a series of algorithms and data to formulate specific answers to questions asked about any subject, from geography to math.

For example, if someone were to type a country's name into Google's search engine, it would pull up article and Web sites that

mention that country. If a person were to type a country's name into Wolfram Alpha's search engine, it would pull up factual information about that country such as population size and geographical information.

"As opposed to a search engine, we like to actually search for information that has already been put into our databases," said Said Hamideh, member of the Academic Outreach Team with Wolfram Alpha. "We use that to compute information to answer the question."

Wolfram Alpha is a Web site that is open to all people, and free for noncommercial purposes.

Wolfram Alpha's long-term goal is to make all book knowledge immediately computable and therefore accessible to everyone, according to the Wolfram Alpha Web site. The developers seek to make it a source that can be relied on by anyone for definitive answers to factual queries.

Ellen Filgo, a Baylor e-learning librarian, wrote about Wolfram Alpha on her Baylor Library 411 blog, highlighting its versatility.

"They also list ways to help you with engineering, calculus, and even spring break plans and battling the freshman 15. I'd encourage you to check out Wolfram Alpha and see for yourself what kind of computational power it has," Filgo wrote in her blog.

Wolfram Alpha is a constantly expanding Web site, and the creators believe it will have an effect on the way students study.

"We are such a new service, but at the same time we believe that this is going to change the game in academia," Hamideh said. "The goal [for the site] is to become comprehensive."

Users compare the Web site to Google or other question-answer sites that students use to find information.

"I remember when it first debuted, people called it a 'Google-

"Technology makes it easier to cheat, but it also makes it easier to learn; it's a double-edged sword."

Catherine Gibson
Bedford junior

killer," Filgo said. "But it's not as much about search; it's about interpreting data."

Some questions and concerns have been raised in the academic world concerning the implications of students abusing such a database. If a user enters a chemical equation or a math problem into the Web site, the answer is produced.

However, the steps to finding the answer are displayed on the site as well, serving as a teaching tool.

"I suppose a student could just literally copy and paste. That's what makes educators nervous," Hamideh said. "It began to be an issue when the calculator was invented, but teachers adjusted by incorporating calculators into the classroom. For students who don't cheat, the tool is great because it helps students to check their proof quicker and visualize concepts."

Students have similar thoughts on the knowledge engine and its uses for studies.

"I can understand where the professors are coming from, but if a student is going to cheat, they're going to do it one way or another," said Bedford junior Catherine Gibson, a user of Wolfram Alpha. "Technology makes it easier to cheat, but it also makes it easier to learn; it's a double-edged sword."

The information on Wolfram Alpha is collected from cited sources, including data that was

purchased by the company from databases.

The Web site was built with Mathematica, a program that provides its base code.

Mathematica itself has been developed by the same company over the past 20 years, and Wolfram Alpha relies on supercomputer-class compute clusters, according to the Wolfram Alpha Web site.

"I've seen a lot of people that are very positive about it," Hamideh said. "We are aggressively trying to expand into new areas. Eventually it won't just be hard sciences. It will include information on books, documents and letters."

Regardless of the way in which it is used, sources agree that Wolfram Alpha is a powerful tool.

"It would be really helpful if you can't get a tutor," Gibson said. "It's not just giving you the answers; it helps you find out how it got there."

New Lutheran body to form after gay pastor vote

By PATRICK CONDON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW BRIGHTON, Minn. — The split over gay clergy within the country's largest Lutheran denomination has prompted a conservative faction to begin forming a new Lutheran church body separate from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Leaders of Lutheran CORE said Wednesday that a working group would immediately begin drafting a constitution and taking other steps to form the denomination, with hopes to have it off the ground by next August.

"There are many people within the ELCA who are very unhappy with what has happened," said the Rev. Paul Spring, chairman of Lutheran CORE and a retired ELCA bishop from State College, Pa.

At its annual convention in Minneapolis in August, ELCA

delegates voted to lift a ban that had prohibited sexually active gay and lesbian pastors from serving as clergy. The new policy, expected to take effect in April, will allow such individuals to lead ELCA churches as long as they can show that they are in committed, lifelong relationships.

Opponents, led by Lutheran CORE, said that decision is in direct contradiction to Scripture.

At a September convention, Lutheran CORE members voted to spend a year considering whether to form a new Lutheran denomination. However, its leaders said Wednesday that a heavy volume of requests for an alternative from disenfranchised congregations and churchgoers prompted them to hasten the process.

John Brooks, spokesman at the ELCA's Chicago-based headquarters, said Lutheran CORE's move was not unexpected.

He expressed hope that

"While this is of course a wrenching decision, there is also a sense of hope in refocusing on our true mission, which is evangelizing the Luteheran faith."

Ryan Schwarz
Lutheran CORE member

church members would ultimately opt to stay in the denomination as it strives to be "a place for all people despite any differences we might have on any issues."

Neither Brooks nor Lutheran CORE leaders would guess what kind of numbers a new denomination might attract. Lutheran CORE leaders believe there is deep opposition to the new policy among rank-and-file churchgoers, but said some may not be willing to actually depart the ELCA over it.

Brooks said the ELCA has not seen significant departures yet, but he cautioned it's too soon after the August decision to read much into that.

So far, he said, five congregations nationwide have voted to leave the ELCA.

More have started the process, with 87 taking a first vote to leave the denomination. Of those, 28 did not achieve the two-thirds vote necessary to leave the ELCA. In all, there are 10,300 ELCA churches in the country with about 4.7 million

members.

If a congregation passes the two-thirds bar on its first vote, it must then wait 90 days before taking a second, final vote that also requires a two-thirds majority.

Other Christian denominations have seen factions split off over the gay clergy debate. In 2003, the 2 million-member Episcopal Church consecrated its first openly gay bishop, a move that alienated American Episcopalians from its worldwide parent, the Anglican Communion.

The divide has led to the formation of the more conservative Anglican Church in North America, which claims 100,000 members.

Lutheran CORE has also urged supportive congregations to stop paying so-called mission support funds that help supplement the ELCA's operating budget.

Last weekend, ELCA leaders

reduced their 2010 operating budget by \$7.7 million, a move Brooks said was motivated mainly by the U.S. economy but also in part by an expected drop in the mission funds.

Ryan Schwarz, a Lutheran CORE member from Washington, D.C., is charged with leading the organizing effort for the new denomination.

He said a committee would begin work immediately on drafting a constitution, building a budget and other steps needed to form the yet-unnamed denomination. They hope to have it ready to go by next August, he said.

"Many of us have spent years now struggling to call the ELCA to remain faithful to the Orthodox Christianity of the last 2,000 years," Schwarz said. "While this is of course a wrenching decision, there is also a sense of hope in refocusing on our true mission, which is evangelizing the Lutheran faith."

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Students cash in on geocaches around campus

By LAURA REMSON
STAFF WRITER

There are canisters hiding all over campus. Most are small, the size of a thimble. Others are larger, as big as toolboxes.

Don't be alarmed, they aren't harmful. It's geocaching, a game of high-tech treasure hunting between the searcher and the world. The hidden containers are called geocaches.

The rules are simple: look up a geocache on the official Web site, plug the coordinates into your GPS and follow the directions. When searchers find the geocaches, often there is a small piece of paper where previous finders can write their name and the date.

Geocaches are usually magnetic and therefore attached to metal, making them easier to find.

"Some of [the capsules] have trinkets in them," said Mary Ann Jennings, a human performance professor at Baylor. "People that find them even have their own personal trinkets that they

leave."

Jennings explained that she once found a coupon for a flower arrangement from a local florist. She didn't take it, though.

"You're supposed to leave something with equal value," Jennings said.

After finding a geocache, searchers can log their found locations on the geocache Web site.

The official geocaching Web site estimates that there are 943,109 active geocaches around the world. Within one mile of Baylor University there are 33 active caches, with about 20 of them on campus.

Jennings remembers when Escambia County in Florida, where she used to live, set up a geocache hunt through the area. After searchers received the first clue from registration, the second clue would be revealed, for 12 total.

There was even one on an Indian reservation, Jennings said.

The first 100 who found all the geocaches received a commemorative gold coin.

Jennings doesn't remember

when she first heard about geocaching.

"I had just seen bits and pieces of it, then I researched more about it," Jennings said.

This was about five years ago. Since then, she talks about them each semester, although Jennings hasn't found many herself.

Each of her backpacking and camping students learns how to use a GPS and, in turn, learns to find geocaching capsules.

Houston senior Ainee Johnson, who is in backpacking and camping this semester, was in the group that found two geocaches on campus a few weeks ago during class. She said finding the capsules is exciting.

"It's just a whole network that I didn't know existed," Johnson said. "It's a unique hobby."

Abby Worland, a senior from Los Alamos, N.M., also found geocaches through Jennings' class. More than anything, for Worland, there is a sense of adventure in finding the geocaches.

"I like the idea of having se-

crets hidden under your nose and being able to discover them," Worland said. "It's like a secret society of geocachers. I'm happy to be a member now."

With Thanksgiving next week, Worland plans to travel home and spend some time geocaching.

"Now that I've done geocaching at Baylor, I'm excited to go home to Los Alamos and find the geocaches there," Worland said. "It's that idea of if I go home and find geocaches, I find out something new about a place that I'm familiar with."

The two geocaches that Worland has found so far are the small magnetic capsules.

"I want to find one of the big geocaches, not the capsules, and leave something for the next person," Worland said.

Worland jokes that it would be incredible for a boyfriend to hide a diamond wedding ring in a geocache for his fiancée to find.

For information on geocaching, including the official rules, visit www.geocaching.com.



SARAH GROMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

This is one of more than 900,000 geocaches scattered across the world. Some are as small as the capsule and others are large boxes. This particular geocache with paper inside has names dating back to August of this year.

Navy finds lax behavior on sub in collision

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GROTON, Conn. — The crew of a U.S. submarine made dozens of errors before the vessel collided with an American warship in the Persian Gulf, an accident that exposed lax leaders who tolerated sleeping, slouching and a radio room rigged with music speakers, a Navy review found.

Navy investigators placed blame for the March collision on the submarine's "ineffective and negligent command leadership," including what they called a lack of standards and failure to adequately prepare for navigating the busy Strait of Hormuz.

The Navy Times newspaper first reported the findings Sunday after obtaining a heavily redacted copy of the Navy's report through a Freedom of Information Act request.

A Connecticut newspaper, The Day of New London, made a similar request and reported the findings Wednesday.

The USS Hartford, a nuclear-powered submarine based in Groton, Conn., collided with the USS New Orleans, a San Diego-based Navy amphibious ship, on March 20 in the narrow, heavily traveled strait at the mouth of the Persian Gulf.

The New Orleans' fuel tank was ruptured and 15 sailors on the Hartford sustained minor injuries.

The collision caused \$2.3 million in damage to the New Orleans, and the cost so far of repairs to the Hartford is \$102.6 million.

The commanding officer was relieved of his duties and the sub's chief of the boat, an adviser to the commanding officer, was reassigned. Several crew members were punished.

The report said the crew of the New

Orleans bears no fault, and that crew members aboard the USS Hartford made numerous errors in the hour before the collision.

"Correction of any one of nearly 30

tinely observed informal behavior by sailors operating the submarine, but did not immediately correct it, investigators found.

Those piloting the sub would often

"Correction of any one of nearly 30 tactical and watch-stander errors, or adherence to standard procedures, could have prevented this collision."

Adm. John C. Harvey Jr.
Commander of U.S. Fleet Forces Command

tactical and watchstander errors, or adherence to standard procedures, could have prevented this collision," Adm. John C. Harvey Jr., commander of U.S. Fleet Forces Command, wrote in endorsing the investigation's findings.

The submarine had five known "sleepers," or sailors who would routinely nod off on watch, but no disciplinary action was taken, the report states.

Two of the five sailors were working during the collision, but investigators found no evidence they were asleep.

During the hour before the collision, investigators say, sonar operators in charge of monitoring nearby ships were chatting informally; the supervisor left his station; the navigator was taking an exam while listening to his iPod; and the officer in command did not check the periscope.

The lax behavior that day wasn't unusual, according to the report. The Hartford's command leadership rou-

slouch in their seats with one hand on the controls, and sometimes take their shoes off, sonar operators and radio-men were missing from their stations for extended periods, and speakers were added to the radio room to listen to music during work.

"This appearance of a lack of standards, and of a general reticence to hold personnel accountable to standards, did not inspire either the questioning attitude or the forceful watch team backup" that could have helped avoid the collision, the report said.

The Hartford's commanding officer, Cmdr. Ryan Brookhart, was relieved of his duties after the accident. He could not immediately be located for comment Wednesday.

Commander Patrick McNally, a Norfolk, Va.-based spokesman for the Navy's Submarine Force, said lessons from the accident are now part of training.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Time stands still

Artist Susie Chisholm, left, and Nancy Mercer Gerard, niece of Johnny Mercer, stand next to the life-size sculpture of the Savannah native and world-famous lyricist following its unveiling Wednesday at Ellis Square in Savannah, Ga.

BEAR BRIEFS

The Global Living and Learning Interactive tea ceremony will be held at 8 p.m. today in the Brooks Flats Lobby. Guests will be given the opportunity to experiment with different combinations of tea leaves by creating their own blends. This event is open to the public.

The All University Thanksgiving Dinner will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. today at Fountain Mall. Students should bring their student ID for free food. Monetary donations will benefit the United Way in the Waco community. This event is sponsored by Student Government.

"Eaten Alive" will be sponsored by The Division of Student Life Body IQ Team and Pi Phi from 7:30 to 9 p.m. today at Waco Hall. Eaten Alive, performed by Eva van Dok, is a one-woman theater piece that presents the lives of five women in different stages of life, all of whom suffer from different eating disorders. This piece has truly saved lives. This event is free and open to the public.

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

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Uproar's Greenway has big plans, vision for music

BY LINCOLN FAULKNER
CONTRIBUTOR

Sometimes when a song is powerful enough, it transcends the songwriter when the name of the song becomes more famous than the writer's.

Uproar Records' artist and George W. Truett Theological Seminary student Drew Greenway said he dreams that his music will continue being played in future generations whether or not his name is recognized like those of the great hymn writers.

"Everybody knows the song 'It Is Well' or 'Come Thou Fount,' but a lot of people don't know who wrote them," he said. "Those songs have been passed down from person to person, and that to me is legit."

Greenway said being asked by others to play his music at their churches after performing is the greatest form of compliment.

Greenway said when he writes he is showing the world his heart by sharing his faith, his life and his love.

"[Writing] is one of the most vulnerable things you can do because you're basically showing the world, or whoever is listening, your innermost thoughts," he said. "If you are true to yourself, I think that can be a good thing."

At an early age, Greenway knew he wanted to be a songwriter.

His father is a music minister and mother is a piano teacher, so he was always involved in music either playing in the church or taking piano lessons.

In the third grade Greenway began his songwriting career recording himself singing the first song he wrote.

He began writing songs again for his high school youth group in Stuttgart, Ark., after he learned to play guitar by mim-

icking what he heard played by his favorite Seattle/Grunge rock bands like Smashing Pumpkins in the seventh grade.

Eventually, Greenway began leading worship at his church and sometimes traveled long distances with his band to play at other churches and events.

"I realized during all those things that was what I was called to do," Greenway said. "Personally I feel called to do music in the church, and that's where that was born out of, getting opportunities to play."

At first, Greenway thought his progress in the industry would happen organically, believing his success would happen by chance, but after careful consideration he knew he would have to be more proactive to grow.

Playing in the church also gave him the chance to play at retreats and Discipleship Now camps where he grew as a musician, he said.

After graduating high school, Greenway enrolled in Ouachita Baptist University's School of Fine Arts' vocal studies program — a two-time recipient of the National Association of Teachers of Singing foundation award for vocal excellence — where he was classically trained in opera, sang arias and requiems, and traveled with a choir to China and Germany.

Greenway recalled hating the major at the time, but now understands how paramount it was to his growth.

"In hindsight it was such a crucial time for me developmentally," he said. "Now when I'm writing songs I know the theory behind things."

Greenway continued to lead worship during college and embrace more diversity in his music until he graduated in 2006, the same year he became engaged to Paige Greenway, who he said

shares his dreams in music and writes and performs with him as well.

"[Paige] really is a big part of what I do," he said. "I write a lot of the songs and then she comes in and sings harmony or we work together and decide where we should go with the song."

The two married and moved to Waco after Greenway was offered a job leading worship at Harris Creek Baptist Church.

While performing at Harris Creek, Greenway felt called to enroll at Truett in order to perfect his craft, he said.

"The reasoning for me doing that was as a worship leader it's one thing to know music but it's another thing to be involved in the theology behind the music," Greenway said. "Being in Truett has helped me as a songwriter just to write more profound thoughts that stay out of the surface level of writing and go deeper into Orthodox Christianity, and having things that are meaningful for people to sing."

Enrolling at Baylor gave him the chance to audition for Uproar, which he says has been beneficial to him by pushing him to network and promote himself.

Greenway's manager and Little Rock, Ark., junior Clint Washington recalled the initial impact Greenway's songwriting had on him.

"When I first heard him sing and play his songs outside of his interview tapes, I was pretty excited," Washington said. "The level of intensity and drive to perform his music for not only his fans but also for his God is amazing. You can tell by the way he stresses his words that he has an incredible passion for his music and his faith."

Greenway is also excited to record next semester for the label's annual compilation album, which will feature two songs from each artist.



COURTESY OF UPROAR RECORDS

Drew Greenway, one of the music artists signed to Baylor's student-run record label, Uproar Records, will perform at at 8:30 p.m. Sunday Common Grounds for the "Operation Rehydration" performance. Other Uproar artists will begin performing at 7 p.m.

"It's admirable how outspoken he is with his faith, tying in his music with the most important thing in his life, his relationship with God," Chicopee, Mass., junior Chalaine Scott said. "He connected his passion for music with his passion for love, loving God and loving his wife who sang beside him on stage, which I thought was really neat."

One song Greenway knows will be on the record is called "Drifting," a song inspired by his wife's attempts to find her role in life.

"A lot of people are that way, just trying to figure out where they fit, and are just kind of drifting through life," he said. "It's got more like an alternative country feel, which is kind of not what I do normally."

Greenway said he doesn't

know where songwriting will lead him in the future, but wherever it may be, he has the passion to follow it.

"I feel like I've been given a gift to write songs and a desire to write songs and a desire to perform those songs," he said. "I'm totally pumped about it and my wife is right alongside me, and that's something we've decided together."

Fans of Greenway can hear him play for the nonprofit organization Operation Rehydration at 8:30 p.m. Sunday at Common Grounds. Other Uproar artists will begin performing at 7 p.m.

For more information on Uproar artists and events, go to uproarrecords.com.

Tickets for the Operation Rehydration performance are on sale now at Common Grounds.

Lecturer gives spinach dip recipe

BY CAROLINE SCHOLES
REPORTER

This easy Spinach Artichoke dip recipe was contributed by communications lecturer Lacy McNamee.

Spinach Artichoke Dip

- 1 8oz. package cream cheese, onion and chive flavor
- 1 c. mozzarella cheese, shredded
- 1/4 c. parmesan cheese, shredded
- 1/2 tsp. garlic powder (to taste)
- 1/2 tsp. pepper
- 1 14oz can drained, chopped artichokes
- 1 pkg. fresh spinach (remove stems)

Mix ingredients in 8-by-8 square or circle microwaveable dish.

Microwave on regular setting, stirring every minute until creamy and blended.

Serve warm.

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Switchfoot finds itself in creation of new album

By **TAYLOR HARRIS**
CONTRIBUTOR

"I was blown away by how open the band was to trying new things," said "Hello Hurricane" producer Mike Elizondo.

"Hello Hurricane" is Switchfoot's newest album.

"They were constantly wanting to make things feel and sound different than what they had done in the past," Elizondo said. "After all of the amazing records they have done, they were still searching for new ways to experiment."

These ideas are ones that are now racking up rave reviews for the worldwide powerhouse band Switchfoot.

This surfing quintet of rockers dropped their former label



COURTESY OF ATLANTIC RECORDS

Switchfoot performed on Wednesday at The Parish in Austin to promote their new album, "Hello Hurricane." The album is on sale now.

and created their own, built a home-recording studio, tracked more than 80 songs and welcomed an annual charity event for StandUp for Kids. Truly gaining its independence has helped Switchfoot distribute beliefs and creativity that they had only dreamed about once.

"Hello Hurricane" acknowledges the storms that tear through our lives. This album is an attempt to respond to those storms with an element of hope, trying to understand what it means to be hopeful in a world that keeps on spinning, power vocalist Jon Foreman said.

The gang has been able to reinvent itself and stir up previously untouched waters. Older Switchfoot songs can almost

be viewed as commercial compared to the deeply moving anthems on "Hello Hurricane."

Foreman used a quote by Holocaust survivor Viktor Frankl in his cut-by-cut of "Hello Hurricane."

"Everything can be taken from a man but ... the last of the human freedoms — to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one's own way."

With its latest album release, Switchfoot has chosen its own way, and the group declares its new freedom track after track.

Switchfoot guitarist Drew Shirley said the dozens of eligible songs dwindled down to only 12.

"Basically how we picked the songs was [we decided] which

ones we wanted to die singing, which ones we wanted to sing every night," Shirley said. "And, if it's not making you cry, then why are you making it? It was the songs that were most honest — the songs that for us carried the most soul."

Lyrics like "you can't silence my love," are belted out by Foreman in the title-track "Hello Hurricane."

Switchfoot has the opportunity to inspire the world through its love of music and God. And with its new album comes another highly touted tour.

Switchfoot will be visiting Texas this week to give performances in Dallas, Austin and Houston.

For more info, visit www.switchfoot.com.

'The Gift of Thanks': When gratitude itself can be a gift

By **DWIGHT GARNER**
THE NEW YORK TIMES

"It is a fact of life that people give dinner parties, and when they invite you, you have to turn around and invite them back," Laurie Colwin wrote in her bite-size masterpiece, "Home Cooking," published in 1988. "Often they retaliate by inviting you again, and you must then extend another invitation. Back and forth you go, like Ping-Pong balls, and what you end up with is called social life."

BOOK | REVIEW

Colwin wasn't complaining, exactly. She liked dinner parties. But she would also have liked Margaret Visser's observation, in her new book, "The Gift of Thanks," that the word "host" is related through Indo-European roots to the words "hostile" and "hostage." Dinner parties are

complicated things, where obligation and gratitude collide and overlap — and sometimes crash and burn.

Visser writes with as much scholarly wit about dinner and dinner parties as any writer alive. She was a foodie before everyone was, and the author of the authoritative books "Much Depends on Dinner" (1988) and "The Rituals of Dinner" (1991), each of which is as crisp and tasty as the day it was published.

The not-very-promising title of Visser's new book, "The Gift of Thanks: The Roots and Rituals of Gratitude," and the fact that it is being issued in November, will make some readers think it's another snoozy, belt-loosening tour of America's Thanksgiving traditions, from the Pilgrims to whether it's the L-tryptophan in turkey that makes you want to crawl under the table and take a nap on the carpet after eating.

It's not that at all. Instead "The Gift of Thanks" is a scholarly, many-angled examination of what

gratitude is and how it functions in our lives. Gratitude is a moral emotion of sorts, Visser writes, one that is more complicated and more vital than we think.

English speakers are obsessed with the terms "thanks" or "thank you." We often say these words more than 100 times a day, she writes, in a flurry that many other cultures find baffling.

The notion that we should thank others is not hard-wired into our brains, but learned from our parents. For a child, she writes, "the first unprompted 'thank you' is momentous enough to count as a kind of initiation into a new level of human consciousness." In people suffering from Alzheimer's disease, little words like "thanks," she notes, "often survive the shipwreck of all other memories."

Visser is deft and funny about how, in our afraid-to-offend-anyone society, thanking has taken the place of commanding, as in: "Thank you for not smoking." She's good on how a series of "thanks" and "thank yous" are

signals that a telephone conversation is coming to an end.

Visser acknowledges that simple politeness is the grease that keeps society running and, conversely, how much hostility can build up among people when words like "thanks" are not spoken.

In Dante's "Inferno," she observes, "at the bottommost circle of hell, the ungrateful are punished by being eternally frozen in the postures of deference they had failed to perform during their lifetimes: trapped rigid in enveloping ice, they stand erect or upside down, lie prone, or bow face to feet."

In "The Gift of Thanks," however, Visser is most interested in the kind of gratitude that is not compulsory or self-interested. She writes about the humility required to be genuinely grateful, and the essential ability to climb out of one's own head.

"Gratitude is always a matter of paying attention," she writes, of "deliberately beholding and

appreciating the other."

Gratitude is, fundamentally, about not taking things for granted, a kind of worldview. "Gratitude arises from a specific circumstance — being given a gift or done a favor — but depends less upon that," Visser writes, "than on the receiver's whole life, her character, upbringing, maturity, experience, relationships with others, and also on her ideals, including her idea of the sort of person she is or would like to be."

Giving and receiving create "alternating superiors and inferiors," she notes, and it's a fluid and shifting way of being that not everyone is comfortable with. As Ralph Waldo Emerson put it: "We wish to be self-sustained. We do not quite forgive a giver. The hand that feeds us is in some danger of being bitten."

Margaret Visser being Margaret Visser, she does swing back around, in "The Gift of Thanks," to food. "Children in our culture learn manners at the dining table, and not manners only," she writes.

Our ability to feel and express gratitude gets its start there.

She has a few tart things to say about dinner parties. Failing to respond to an invitation is itself a response, she points out, "and a hostile one." She adds: "Invitations should be extended to hosts fairly soon after dinner parties have taken place, and people invited must come unless they offer excellent excuses."

On the other hand, you can't invite someone back too quickly. "Instant return has a whiff of payment about it, of reluctance to accept a moral debt," she writes, adding, "One is supposed to savor the gift, think about it, spend time remembering the person who gave it."

At 393 dense pages of text, "The Gift of Thanks" is too much of a good thing, a bit more of a gift than you desire. I'm not sorry to have spent a few hours with Visser's new book. But will I wrap up copies for friends, or want to read it again? To that, at least — thanks, but no thanks.

FUN TIMES

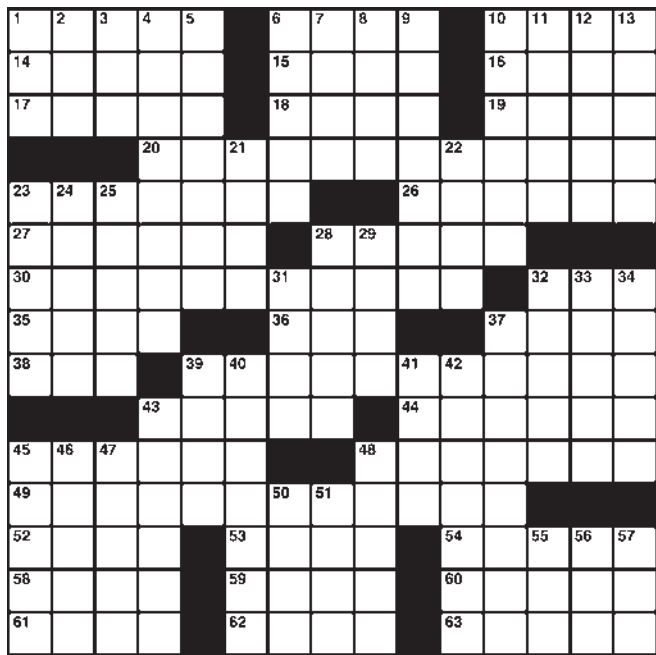
Answers at www.baylorlariat.com — McClatchy-Tribune

Across

- 1 Choir member
- 6 Quite
- 10 Ending with slug or gab
- 14 Make amends
- 15 Faulkner's "As ___ Dying"
- 16 Pearl Harbor site
- 17 Blazed furiously
- 18 Common nickname for a doter
- 19 66 and others: Abbr.
- 20 Weightlifting event
- 23 Ben-Gurion, e.g.
- 26 "It's ___ business"
- 27 Kind of biological network
- 28 Sea
- 30 Golf course pest
- 32 Corp. money manager
- 35 Fighting
- 36 Gallery hanging
- 37 Hang onto
- 38 ID with hyphens
- 39 Spinning toy manipulated with sticks
- 43 River in Lyons
- 44 Belfast's province
- 45 Early Ford success
- 48 Actors, often
- 49 Honest info
- 52 Road sign silhouette
- 53 Debt indicators
- 54 Ticked off
- 58 Like some vaccines
- 59 Dresden's river
- 60 Landlocked African country
- 61 A handful of
- 62 Navy commando
- 63 Gothic house feature

Down

- 1 La Brea goo
- 2 Seventh Greek letter
- 3 Christmas quaff
- 4 200 milligrams, to a jeweler
- 5 Original primer used to paint the Golden Gate Bridge
- 6 Source of the Law

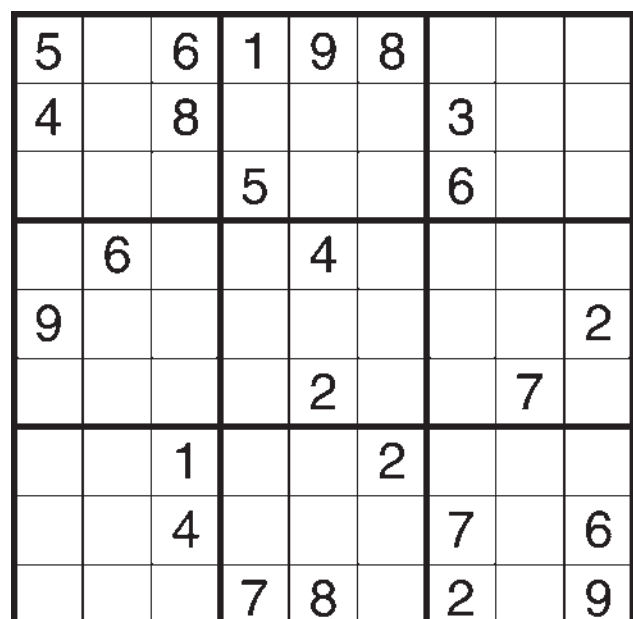


- 7 ___ Bator, Mongolia
- 8 Where Jesus turned water to wine
- 9 Cape Cod site of a JFK museum
- 10 How some jump?
- 11 Corroded
- 12 Sex researcher Hite
- 13 Mammoth features
- 21 Contemporary of Dizzy and Billie
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- 31 Come out ahead
- 32 British actor Robert, the original Colonel Pickering in "My Fair Lady"
- 33 Candidate's handout
- 34 Trash emanations
- 37 Common crowd reaction in monster films
- 39 Colombian city
- 40 Some heroes
- 41 Sport for 300-pounders
- 42 Like lovers skipping church?
- 43 Pharmaceutical giant that developed Celebrex
- 45 Windows predecessor
- 46 Alamogordo's county
- 47 Nightmare, e.g.
- 48 Ill-fated Ford
- 50 Putter's target
- 51 Very big wind
- 55 Soviet spy org.
- 56 Snake-like fish
- 57 Hip-hop Dr.

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Tamer's 12: Big 12 North unproven

By KEVIN TAMER
SPORTS WRITER

1. Texas

The Longhorns continued to prove why they are the best team in the Big 12 as they easily rolled past Baylor 47-14.

Colt McCoy threw for 181 yards and hooked up with Jordan Shipley twice to get his 42nd career win, tying David Greene's NCAA record for most wins by a starting quarterback. Cody Johnson added two touchdowns as he rushed for 109 yards, while Tre' Newton ran for 80 yards and a 45-yard touchdown run.

2. Oklahoma State

Zac Robinson threw for only 90 yards and one touchdown, but he was able to get the job done on his feet, as he rushed for a team-high 106 yards in the Cowboys' win against Texas Tech.

Patrick Lavine secured the win for the Cowboys, as he returned an interception for a touchdown in the fourth quarter to put squad from Stillwater up 24-10.

3. Nebraska

After taking down the University of Kansas for their third consecutive win, the Cornhuskers find themselves tied at the top of the Big 12 North with Kansas State University.

Roy Helu Jr. has been one of the most consistent running backs in the conference, as he ran for another 156 yards and three touchdowns last week. The Huskers vie for the division title Saturday against the Wildcats.

4. Oklahoma

Landry Jones made up for his five-interception performance last week as he threw for a career-high 392 yards and five touchdowns against Texas A&M University.

Chris Brown, Ryan Broyles, Adron Tennell and DeMarco Murray all recorded two touchdowns apiece as the Sooners compiled 65 points, while the defense was able to hold the Ag-

gies to only 226 yards of total offense.

5. Texas Tech

Texas Tech's defense couldn't find an answer for Oklahoma State's rushing attack, as the Red Raiders gave up 243 rushing yards despite holding them to only 90 yards passing.

The Red Raiders have yet to stick with a starting quarterback as Steven Sheffield replaced Taylor Potts in the first half. Sheffield threw a costly interception in the fourth quarter, killing any momentum Tech had built up.

6. Missouri

After an embarrassing loss to Baylor last week, the Tigers were able to turn things around as they stomped on Kansas State 38-12. Danario Alexander led the way, as he caught 10 passes for 200 yards and three touchdowns, while Derrick Washington rushed for 68 yards and added two touchdowns of his own. The defense stepped up, as it held the Wildcats from scoring a touchdown for the first time all season.

7. Kansas State

The Wildcats' Big 12 North chances hit a speed bump as they were blown out by Missouri on their home turf for the first time all season. Kansas State was unable to find the end zone, as they relied on four field goals by Josh Cherry to put points on the board.

The Wildcats' biggest game of the season will come this week as they travel to Nebraska to see who will most likely represent the North in the Big 12 Championship.

8. Iowa State

For the first time since 2005, the Cyclones became bowl eligible after beating Colorado 17-10. Austen Arnaud threw for 116 yards and two touchdown passes, while Alexander Robinson contributed to the offensive effort with 138 rushing yards.

The Cyclones will look to make a case for a stronger bowl bid with a win over Missouri on

the road next week.

9. Baylor

Despite being handed their sixth loss of the season in a 47-14 beating from Texas, Baylor still has something to fight for. The Bears' bowl hopes are still alive if they can somehow muster up wins in their two remaining games, starting with a tough challenge at Texas A&M Saturday. If the Bears are going to pull off a win at Kyle Field for the first time since 1994, they must get more production out of their offense, which only produced 37 yards in the first half against Texas.

10. Texas A&M

So much for the return of the "Wrecking Crew" defense. The Aggies were unable to find any answer for the Sooners' offense as it gave up 640 total yards of offense.

Jerrod Johnson couldn't get anything going on offense, as he completed only 12 of 33 passes and threw for 115 yards, while the running game only produced 59 yards. The Aggies will look to become bowl eligible with a win over Baylor next week but must take care of the football after recording four turnovers last week.

11. Colorado

After squeaking by Texas A&M on Nov. 7, the Buffaloes couldn't build off their momentum as they lost their 10th-consecutive road game. Tyler Hansen threw for 258 yards with one touchdown, but the offense couldn't protect the ball, as they committed three turnovers in the second half.

12. Kansas

The Jayhawks have come a long way since being ranked No. 16 in the nation earlier this season. Kansas lost its sixth consecutive game as it fell to Nebraska 31-17 in its home finale. Todd Reesing threw for 236 yards and a touchdown, while running for another, but couldn't get past a poor first-quarter performance. Now once glorified Coach Mark Mangino could be on his way out.



SARAH GROMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Colt McCoy throws a pass during the University of Texas' 47-14 victory against Baylor on Saturday. The Longhorns remain one of six unbeaten teams in the NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Oklahoma State linebacker Patrick Lavine (No. 4) is congratulated after scoring on an interception against Texas Tech University. The Cowboys defeated the Red Raiders 24-17.

Runner's aspirations place her at head of the pack

BENJAMIN ALLEN
CONTRIBUTOR

Baylor senior cross-country star Nichole Jones has two post-graduation goals: to "run fast and run professionally."

"Nichole is a very talented young lady," Baylor track and field coach Todd Harbour said.

Jones proved her talent when she made the jump to collegiate running quickly by graduating from high school a year early in 2006. Even with being a younger-than-usual freshman, Jones won the Big 12 championship in the 800-meter run, becoming the

record-holder for the youngest Big 12 track champion and was named Big 12 Freshman of the Year in indoor and outdoor track and field.

"I didn't see the point in staying in high school," Jones said.

She added that she wanted to have another year of collegiate experience before she tried to reach her goal of competing at the 2008 Olympic trials, in Eugene, Ore. Jones reached the semi-final round of the 800-meter run, and she knows that she will be back at the trials in 2012, much faster and stronger than she is now.

Jones said she thanks God for

the opportunity to be invited to the trials in 2008 and earning as much respect as long-distance legend Bernard Legat.

Starting her senior year in college, Jones has already won five Big 12 championships and two national championships. She is working toward winning another championship in the distance medley relay this spring. Jones has received All-American honors three times, and All-Big 12 honors four times. She has been to the NCAA Championships for cross-country three times. Jones has climbed up to the prestigious list of all-time Baylor greats, by

setting five school records.

Jones has set a goal of professional running after she graduates in the spring.

"I can't see myself not running," she said, adding that she hopes to continue to impact the sport of track and field after she finishes running by pursuing a career in coaching.

"She is very focused and determined and is a tough racer," Harbour said.

Every day Jones is willing to push her body to the limit to lead her team through every practice and every race.

A usual day for a Baylor cross-

country runner entails waking up before 6:30 every morning for practice. The team usually meets either at Cottonwood Golf Course or Cameron Park, where the runners will average anywhere between 60 to 70 miles a week.



Jones

"She is definitely a leader by actions," cross country freshman Kaitlyn Barry said. "She works really hard and is very encouraging."

In the 2008 Olympic trials, when placing her foot on the line, Jones said she had as much ambition and determination flowing through her body as she had her entire career, even though she knew the caliber of the runners she was facing. Jones added that she is "not afraid of racing anybody because being a champion starts psychologically."

She expects the physiological aspect to follow.

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Inconsistencies fluster Baylor, Texas A&M



SARAH GROMAN | LARIAT STAFF

Nick Florence gazes over to the sideline during Saturday's 47-14 defeat against the University of Texas. Florence has produced a variety of games, ranging from a record-setting performance to tossing multiple interceptions against the Longhorns.

With bowl berths up for grabs, coaches urge teams to play up to maximum potential

BY CHRIS DERRETT
SPORTS WRITER

With Baylor standing at four wins and Texas A&M five, Saturday's game between the Bears and the Aggies in College Station carries heavy postseason implications for both teams.

The question lies in predicting which of each team will take the field. Both squads have bewildered fans by epitomizing the "which team will show up" cliché, altering between strong performances and embarrassing disappointments.

Even before losing quarterback Robert Griffin to season ending knee surgery, Baylor struggled to develop consistency. Mistakes proved too costly to overcome as the Bears dropped their home opener against Connecticut after beating Wake Forest two weeks earlier.

Still carrying a 3-2 record with seven games remaining, the Bears went into Ames, Iowa, and failed to produce a touchdown until nine seconds remained in their 24-10 loss.

Fans returned to Floyd Casey Stadium a week after a 34-7 homecoming loss to Oklahoma State and watched their team enter the locker room down, 20-0. Having no reason to expect anything dif-

ferent from the team, the crowd then saw the defense awaken and deny the Cornhuskers of any second half points.

When asked if the game, though a defeat, could still be a turning point of the season, senior center J.D. Walton answered, "I sure hope so. It better be. We have to start putting points up on the board. We started moving the ball pretty well against a really good defense."

The Bears entered Columbia the next week as 12-point underdogs to Missouri and emerged with a 40-32 win that exceeded the team's combined point total from its first four Big 12 games.

As few could have foreseen Nick Florence setting a school passing yardage record that day, it remains impossible to determine how well Baylor will move the ball and stop the Aggies on Saturday.

Texas A&M has also had its share of surprisingly dominating wins and shockingly poor defeats.

The 3-0 Aggies took on the University of Arkansas in Cowboys Stadium, and despite being slight underdogs, the team and its supporters expected a competitive game. They came away disappointed and crushed, 47-19.

A week later Texas A&M welcomed No. 15-ranked Oklahoma State University to Kyle Field and nearly contained the Cowboys enough for an upset, losing 36-31.

Any pride the Aggie faithful

had in playing so well against a top-ranked opponent, however, was erased seven days later as the team fell 62-14 to Kansas State University.

A 52-30 road win over #21 Texas Tech University and a 35-10 victory against Iowa State appeared to give Texas A&M a nearly certain bowl game, but the team once again faltered against Colorado and was steamrolled, 65-10, at Oklahoma.

Head coach Mike Sherman was asked on Tuesday for his take on his team's roller coaster season.

"It seems to me this season has been a little bit of a management of their personalities during the course of the game, when things seem to have gone wrong," Sherman said.

He pointed to having an Aggie fumble returned for a touchdown against Arkansas, and a fumble that gave Kansas State a short field and an easy touchdown opportunity.

Nobody knows which team, if any, will make a crucial, momentum-swinging mistake or make all the right plays at the right time.

Fans on both sides will show up for Saturday's matchup and can only hope that their teams do the same.

"It's always going to be a big game because it's in your state, a rivalry and they're 80 miles down the road," Art Briles said. "But you add (bowl implications) to it and it makes it even better."

Volleyball suffers defeat

BY KEVIN TAMER
SPORTS WRITER

The No. 24 Baylor volleyball team dropped their second match in a row as they were swept (25-16, 25-21, 25-20) by No. 9 Nebraska Wednesday night in Lincoln.

The Bears offense recorded 33 kills and 22 errors with an unusually low .089 hitting percentage. Katie Sanders led the Bears with nine kills, while Ashlie Christenson added eight kills of her own. However, defensively the Bears only recorded two blocks and 53 digs on the night.

Despite a losing effort, Head Coach Jim Barnes was impressed by his team's performance in a challenging environment.

"Nebraska is the toughest place to play in the nation," Barnes said. "And this is the best we've ever played in this stadium. Even though we lost, we played well and had some opportunities in game two and three to win it, but we didn't get the job done."

In the first set Baylor was able to hang with Nebraska for the first 10 points, but the Cornhuskers began to break away as they scored four consecutive points on two Baylor errors and a pair of kills. Ashlie Christenson was able to stall Nebraska's rally with her first kill of the game, but Nebraska continued to roll as they scored another four consecutive points eventually taking the set 25-16.

In the second set Baylor fought back from a 19-13 deficit as the Bears scored four consecutive points on kills by Sanders and Campbell and a pair of errors by Nebraska. However, Baylor couldn't get any closer as Nebraska continued to score, taking a 23-20 lead. Ashlie Christenson and Anna Breyfogle both recorded kills late, but it wasn't enough as Nebraska took the set 25-21.

In the third set Baylor traded points with the Huskers for the first half, and took their second lead of the night as Katie Sanders recorded her 8th kill to make the score 12-11. However, the Huskers began to slowly break away as they took 20-17 lead a Baylor error and two kills by Hannah Werth and Delano Brooke. Taylor Barnes, Ashley Byrd and Briana Tolbert all recorded a kill, but the Huskers continued to fight and took the set 25-20.

Senior setter Taylor Barnes admits the loss was disappointing, but she believes the Bears will be able to bounce back against Texas.

"This is a tough loss because it was our second one in a row, but Nebraska is a good team," Barnes said. "I think it is important to come out strong against Texas and put up a fight."

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HOOD from pg. 1

The information we have is that this is a lone wolf," Langevin, a member of the House Armed Services Committee, said after a closed-door briefing on the Fort Hood investigation.

Sens. Susan Collins, R-Maine, and Joe Lieberman, a Connecticut independent, are investigating whether a breakdown in communications or poor judgment calls contributed to the shootings, considered the deadliest attack on a military base in the U.S.

The Senate Homeland Security Committee that Collins and Lieberman sit on was expected to open hearings in the case Thursday.

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.

"The Fort Hood massacre also raises questions about whether there are unnecessary restrictions on information sharing and whether those restrictions resulted in a failure to trigger a further inquiry," Collins said.

Hasan's psychiatry supervisors at Walter Reed Army Medical Center had expressed concerns in May 2007 about what they described as Hasan's "pat-

tern of poor judgment and lack of professionalism." The Associated Press had previously reported that doctors there discussed concerns about Hasan's overly zealous religious views and strange behavior months before the attack, but National Public Radio on Wednesday published an evaluation letter signed by the department's psychiatry residency program director, Maj. Scott Moran.

Moran concluded that Hasan still could graduate and did not deserve even probation because Hasan was able to improve his behavior once confronted by supervisors.

About a year after Moran's memo was written, Hasan was

selected for promotion from captain to major, a position that would give him increased pay and responsibilities. He would formally become a major in May 2009 and by July he was on his way to Fort Hood.

Rep. Tom Rooney, R-Fla., said any "telltale signs that he was a disgruntled major were not as apparent as the rumors you've heard." Rooney spoke to reporters after he left Wednesday's classified briefing.

Rooney, a member of the House Armed Services personnel subcommittee and a former Army lawyer, also said Hasan was qualified to be promoted but was in "more toward the bottom third of his class."

HEALTH from pg. 1

ago it would also include an option for consumers to purchase government-sold insurance, with states permitted to drop out of the system.

Reid did not speak with reporters before stepping into the closed-door caucus, although he was expected at a news conference later in the evening.

In a sign of the challenge confronting him, the Nevada Democrat met earlier in the day with Sens. Ben Nelson of Nebraska, Mary Landrieu of Louisiana and Blanche Lincoln of Arkansas, moderates within his party who have expressed reservations about the bill.

"He is walking through the

particulars with them," said Reid's spokesman, Jim Manley. "We need 60 votes to get this bill to the floor.

"Nelson later issued a statement strongly suggesting he would vote with fellow Democrats on an initial showdown expected within days.

Lincoln, the only one of the three who faces re-election next year, told reporters, "We'll wait and see." With the support of two independents, Democrats have 60 seats, the precise number needed to choke off any Republican delaying tactics.

None of the 40 Republicans is expected to defect on the first test

vote, expected by weekend.

Ahead lie weeks — if not more — of unpredictable maneuvering on the Senate floor, where Reid and his allies will seek to incorporate changes sought by Democrats and repel attempts by Republicans to defeat the legislation and inflict a significant political defeat on the president. Reid was releasing his legislation more than a week after the House approved its version of the health care bill on a near party-line vote of 220-215.

Anticipating a major struggle, the White House deputized Interior Secretary Ken Salazar and former Senate Majority Leader

Tom Daschle to join Vice President Joe Biden in trying to clear the way for the bill's approval over the next several weeks.

Salazar, a former Colorado senator, is viewed as a bridge to moderate Democrats who are far outnumbered by liberals inside the Democratic caucus.

Daschle was Obama's first choice for secretary of health and human services, a position from which he was to try and oversee the administration's drive to enact health care legislation.

He withdrew his nomination when it was disclosed he had not paid more than \$120,000 in federal taxes over several years.

DRUGS from pg. 1

crack-cocaine is very harsh. As the amount of powder cocaine decreases, the disparity of punishment becomes smaller and smaller. The 100-to-1 law means that most of those convicted of possession of powder don't serve long for their crime with those in possession of crack-cocaine are heavily discipline.

"The law is hard to change because if a politician changes it the next time he runs for office he is known as the crack dealers friend," Osler said.

In 1986, Len Bias was the No. 2 draft pick from the Boston Celtics, who died from an overdose. The autopsy tested positive for cocaine.

When Ted Kennedy arrived in Boston and heard the news that Bias died, Kennedy immediately supported the 100-to-1-ratio law.

Journalism professor Robert Darden has been friends with Osler since Darden arrived at Baylor in the early 1990's.

"Osler is my hero for many reasons.

His book 'Jesus and the Death Penalty', and for his stance on the new crack cocaine law," Darden said.

Osler's book, which challenges the death penalty from Christ's experience, was published in 2009.

Darden read an early draft of Osler's "Jesus and the Death Pen-

alty," and helped him find a publisher. "He writes so beautifully," Darden said.

"[Osler's] brave outlook in his book 'Jesus and the Death Penalty' made people talk about the issue not yell at each other," Darden said.

Darden believes changes made to the crack-cocaine law would help decrease the trafficking of cocaine.

"If the government pursued the manufactures the cocaine problem would decrease, and Osler recognizes this and is taking a stance," Darden said.

A movie, "American Violet", was based on a true story about an unjust drug bust in which Os-

ler mentored the lawyers.

"A Baylor law graduate in Hearn helped Dee Roberts after being thrown into prison for unjust drug charges and the attorney went to Mark for advice — it is great publicity for Baylor," Darden said.

Tyler Atkinson, third-year law student and Osler's research assistant from Fort Worth, said, "He (Osler) involves the student a lot in discussion and is very knowledgeable because he was a persecutor before he was a professor."

Osler will be presenting the same speech he did at Harvard University at 7 p.m. Dec. 8 at the Baylor Law School. It is free and open to the public.

GSR from pg. 1

Male athletes competing in cross-country and track had a 63 percent GSR rate, 83 percent for golf and 75 percent for tennis.

All of the women's sports at Baylor had higher GSR rates than the men's sports.

Female basketball players had an 83 percent GSR rate, female cross-country and track competitors had a 90 percent rate and softball was at 100 percent.

Byrd said Baylor has always been a contender in the academics of its Big 12 athletes.

Byrd said its this success is due in part to the encouragement coaches give their athletes.

"We have coaches who recruit kids who will succeed both on and off the field," Byrd said.

Our coaching staff does a great job supporting the academic goals of the student athletes."

At the very core, this success can be credited to the Baylor's push for academic excellence.

"We have a university that cares about graduation," Byrd said.

"I can't say enough. Our professors at Baylor care about seeing their students succeed in the classroom. [The professors] hold them accountable."

Byrd explained that Baylor makes study halls, academic advisers, personal tutors and learning specialists available to its athletes. "We have 10 full-time staff members that work with our [athletes] here," Byrd said.

Chicago graduate student Kristen Teague works as a tutor with several Baylor athletes. Teague said that the tutoring program gives the athletes an extra edge to succeed in class.

"[Athletes] come in with so much on their plate between workouts and school, especially freshman," Teague said.

"It helps keep them organized. Many of them are required to come, which is good because it keeps them accountable."

WOMEN from pg. 1

admission services. "However, we don't use gender as a factor in the admissions decision."

Instead, admission services relies on factors such as academic readiness and high school transcripts to evaluate students.

In 2006, the university implemented two deadlines for admission. The early decision deadline is Nov. 1, and the overall deadline for applications to be received is Feb. 1. Previously, applications could be received anytime. However, preference would be given to those who applied earlier in the year.

"When we first moved from rolling admissions in 2006, one of our major concerns was the gender balance. We noticed that males did apply later than females," Carron said.

At that time, the shift was not widely broadcasted Carron said. However, presently the percentage is even with the national average at 41.4 percent of males applying to Baylor for admission in fall 2011 after the first deadline.

Correction:

Tuesday's article, "Seniors give back" stated that the senior class gift last year was \$50,000. The actual amount raised was \$25,000 for 2009 and \$25,000 for 2008. The last two years cumulative amount raised was \$50,000.

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