



SPORTS PAGE 5

Bears go 7-0

The men's tennis team wins all games in defeat of UT-Pan Am Tuesday

SPORTS PAGE 5

Griner takes the lead

The Lady Bears look to new leader after losing Melissa Jones to an injury

ENTERTAINMENT PAGE 3

Down the aisle for all to see

Baylor grads document process of staging their custom wedding on the show 'Platinum Weddings'

Varied views on U.S. terror

Analysts, professors discuss mixed beliefs behind war

By ERIN NIPPER
REPORTER

Terrorism. It is a word that came up on the vocabulary of the average American nine years ago.

For some, it is the cause for annoyances such as not being able to bring a bottle of shampoo in a carry-on bag and standing in bare feet as their shoes roll through an X-ray machine inside a plastic tub.

For others, terrorism is associated with a war, a president, a man in a cave and a fear of flying.

As the years go by since 9/11, the debate over the way in which the United States should fight the threat of Islamic terrorism grows.

Dr. Harvey Kushner, professor and chair of the department of criminal justice at Long Island University, is an internationally recognized authority on terrorism. He has shared his expertise with agencies from the FBI to the United Nations in several countries around the world. He has been featured on hundreds of radio shows, has been published in print and has been a guest on television stations, including Fox News, discussing the issue of terrorism.

Kushner said one problem we face is in our "War on Terror" today is our inability to identify the enemy with whom we are at war.

"Today, especially under this war administration, we are very fearful of identifying who in fact

see **TERROR**, pg. 7



JED DEAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dents, Donations to Aid Haiti

San Antonio freshman Andrew Plummer bashes a car Tuesday in Fountain Mall to raise awareness and donations for the destruction of Haiti. During the event, sponsored by Alpha Tau Omega, onlookers were given the opportunity to destroy a car with bats and a sledgehammer.

Love-struck showcase opens

By JAMES BLAKE EWING
REPORTER

Baylor Love Stories: A Celebration of Romance is a new exhibit in Moody, highlighting the stories of Baylor sweethearts throughout the years.

For instance, Cheryl Segura, a business major senior at Baylor in 1991, wasn't looking for a relationship; she just needed a date to her Delta Delta Delta sorority dance.

Cheryl's roommate set her up with Rich Gochis, a junior studying in the health and education school.

What started as just one dance became a relationship as the two regularly went on dates and attended various campus events.

"It was fun," Cheryl said, "we

had a lot of mutual friends."

They got engaged a year and a half later when Rich proposed on the roof of Pat Neff Hall, her favorite spot on campus.

"I was surprised because I really wasn't expecting it at that time," Cheryl said.

They married at First Baptist Waco in August of 1993.

Rich and Cheryl now have three children, two sons, who are 12 and 9 and a 7-year-old daughter they adopted from China.

"We're trying to get them to go to Baylor but we'll just have to wait and see," Rich said.

Between the two of them, Rich and Cheryl have six degrees from Baylor. Cheryl worked at Baylor in student activities. Rich

see **LOVE**, pg. 7



DANIEL CERNERO | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The display of Kathryn Brown and Mitchell Horner seen at the Valentine's Day Exhibit, located in the entrance area of Moody Library. The exhibit will be open until March 14.

Snowstorm shuts down Washington

By JESSICA GRESKO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — If snow keeps 230,000 government employees home for the better part of a week, will anyone notice?

With at least another foot of snow headed for Washington, Philadelphia and New York, we're about to find out. The federal government in the nation's capital has largely been shut down since Friday afternoon, when a storm began dumping up to 3 feet of snow in some parts of the region. Offices were remaining closed at least through today.

So far, the effects have been negligible. Many essential government services are performed at offices around the country, and about 85 percent of federal employees work outside the Washington region anyway. Others were working from home despite the snow. An IRS spokeswoman said tax returns should not be affected.

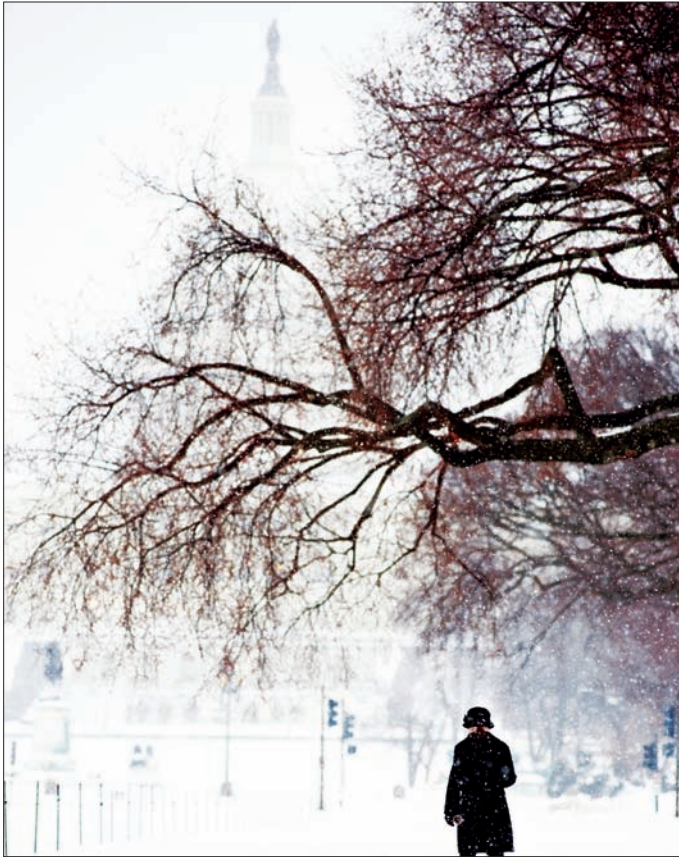
"Anything that is critical is going to get done," said Linda Springer, a former director of the Office of Personnel Management, which oversees the federal work force of nearly 2 million workers.

David Fiore, who works for the federal government's Export-Import Bank of the U.S., stocked up on groceries Tuesday in Washington and said he planned to do some work from home, including a 2 p.m. conference call.

"They're open in Turkey. I'm getting e-mails from Morocco," he said. "The work goes on."

That was the case for Robert Kronin, who made it to his office at a non-profit organization in Washington that has contracts with the government. He said that with federal workers off, he had fewer meetings and got caught up with a lot of paperwork.

Still, "it's always hard to swallow when the government has the day off and we don't,"



ASSOCIATED PRESS

A woman walks on the National Mall Tuesday near the U.S. Capitol as the second snowstorm in four days, begins to fall in Washington.

he said as he walked home.

Philadelphia and Washington needed just 9 more inches of snow each to log the snowiest winters since at least 1884, the first year records were kept.

Even before the storm arrived in the District of Columbia, the House announced it was scrap-

ping the rest of its workweek. Several hearings and meetings were postponed, including one planned for today on Toyota's massive recalls.

Agencies from the Federal Communications Commission

see **STORM**, pg. 7

Faculty Senate focuses on presidential search, summer school, lecturers

By CATY HIRST
STAFF WRITER

Faculty Senate discussed policies for full-time lecturers, the ongoing presidential search and summer compensation for faculty during its meeting Tuesday.

"The Senate is very interested in equitable policies for our full-time lecturers," Dr. Dennis Myers, chair of Faculty Senate said.

The Senate commissioned a report on lecture concerns chaired by Dr. Ann McGlashan, associate professor of German McGlashan and her committee spent approximately 18 months researching the issue, conducting listening sessions on campus for lecturers to formulate a proposed policy and procedure statement for university lecturers.

"The intent of the proposal was to assure that hiring, evaluation, retention and dismissal policies were uniform across the university," Myers said. "The Faculty Senate reviewed these proposed policies and procedures and voted to discuss these with the provost for the purpose of formulation of a university policy on lecturers."

As the search for a Baylor

president continues, Faculty Senate continues to discuss the issue.

"Senate representatives on the advisory group for the presidential search reported that they had the opportunity to review applicants for the office of the president," Myers said. "This process will continue until a selection is made."

The Senate's talk on summer compensation for faculty highlighted Senate concerns about university policies and procedures surrounding summer salaries. Specifically, the Senate brought up the difficulties when summer teaching contracts issued for the summer term cannot be consummated because of low student enrollment in summer courses. In addition, some faculty members receive a reduced level of compensation in the summer because of a lower number of students in classes than expected. The Senate agreed to conduct a study on these policies and procedures.

"The Faculty Senate, in concert with the provost and vice president for finance and administration, will have continued conversations about improving agreements for faculty teaching in the summer," Myers said.

Grant funds church studies

Faculty members to research, produce book covering congregational social work

By SARA TIRRITO
STAFF WRITER

Two faculty members in the School of Social Work received a \$24,530 grant from The Louisville Institute last week.

The grant will allow Dr. Diana Garland, dean of the School of Social Work, and Dr. Gaynor Yancey, professor and associate dean for baccalaureate studies in the School of Social Work, to research congregational social work in order to produce a textbook on the subject.

The institute is an organization that supports research dealing with American religion, among other religious goals.

"We believe that social work can also be part of a congregational context," Yancey said. "Our textbook is looking at individual congregations; how they work with not only their members, but also the people in the community around the church."

Garland said the book will provide information on how to apply the social work practice to congregations.

"The book is what social workers who work in and with congregations need to know about working in that setting," Garland said. "Congregations are settings for practice, just like hospitals and schools and other settings where social workers serve."

Yancey said that with this textbook, they hope to provide other schools with a resource on

see **GRANT**, pg. 7

Biden providing tranquility for White House team

Biden, who originally seemed uninterested in the vice presidential position, has helped create a harmonious environment in D.C.

By DAVID BROOKS
NEW YORK TIMES COLUMNIST

During the presidential campaign, Barack Obama and Joe Biden had a Felix and Oscar air about them. Obama was disciplined and professorial while Biden was tactile and approachable. Biden would make an off-color joke, while Obama would put on a contemptuous grimace. Biden would bound friskily onstage to the roar of the crowd. Obama would glide gracefully and even ask Joe to hold his coat.

It was not automatic that the two men would work well together once in office. When advisers from the Obama campaign interviewed Biden as a potential running mate and asked him why he wanted to be vice president, he told them that, in fact, he didn't want the job. He'd do it. But he didn't want it.

And, indeed, Biden's first few months on the job were not entirely happy. He went off on one of his gaffe sprees, angering White House aides. It was common to hear Democratic senators say, "Joe is miserable. He's doing this for the country, but he's miserable."

It was odd to interview him then. Normally a verbal gusher, his word rate diminished to a trickle. He paused and hemmed, like a man crossing a minefield.

But in recent months, Obama has found a way to use Biden's skills, while Biden has found ways to be of use.

A big moment came when the subject of Iraq came up at a security meeting. Obama casually asked Biden to take the lead on Iraqi policy. This was a potentially dangerous moment, in which the vice president could be tromping over ground occupied by the secretaries of state and defense. But Biden seems to know every player in Iraq down to the alderman level – and, so far, he seems to have done the job without stepping on too many toes. (Hillary Clinton's influence on this and all issues is exceptionally hard to figure out.)

Biden was also asked to oversee the stimulus spending, a job that occupies 20 percent of his time. He has spoken to 49 governors and 100 mayors successfully policing the spending splurge and heading off potentially damaging stimulus projects, like a Napa wine train that would have shepherded tipplers from one vineyard to another.

Finally, Biden was asked to come up with a middle-class agenda. This is a surprisingly difficult job, because many of these programs — credits for college affordability and child care — fairly reek of small-bore Clintonism. This is an administration that is staffed by Clintonites but does not want to appear Clintonian in any way.

Biden, for his part, has become the country's leading Obama-ologist. Dick

Cheney never spoke at meetings. Biden has his weekly presidential lunches, as Cheney did, but he does speak at meetings, depending on the president's body language.

There are times when the president is leaning back when he seems to relish Biden's interventions. During the Afghan debate, the president clearly used the vice president to push the skeptic's case.

On other occasions, when the president doesn't seem to have made up his mind, or when he is leaning forward, hunched over the table, Biden holds back, letting the arguments play.

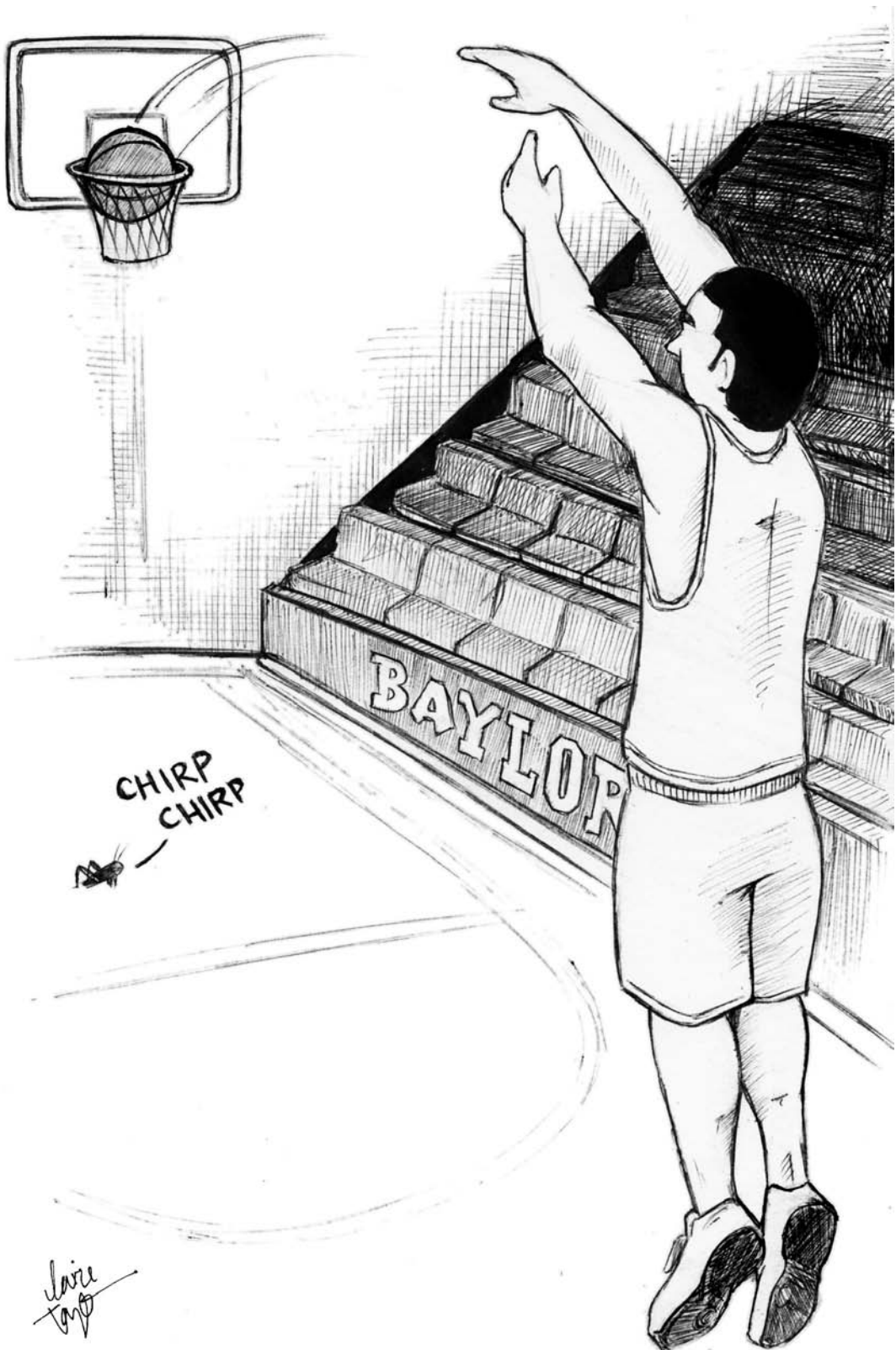
Inside the administration, in other words, Biden doesn't have the class-clown reputation he has on the late-night comedy shows. White House aides speak of him respectfully, and regularly mention his role when decisions are made. Among other things, he has emerged as the special assistant for body English — sent to Capitol Hill, Poland and beyond — when the administration needs somebody to hold a hand and show empathy.

The surprisingly smooth relationship between the administration's top two officers is part of the broader White House culture. This is a fraught political climate. Liberals are furious. Moderates are running for their lives. Republicans believe, with much evidence, that an unprecedented wave of public rage is breaking across the land, directed at Washington. The uninformed float rumors that Rahm Emanuel is on the outs.

Yet the atmosphere in the White House appears surprisingly tranquil. Emanuel is serving as a lighting rod for the president but remains crisply confident in his role as chief of staff. It's true that several top administration officials did not want to attempt comprehensive health care reform this year. But they are not opening recrimination campaigns. It's no secret that many think the president needs to be more assertive with Congress, yet administration officials still talk about Obama in awe-struck tones, even in private.

Some would say the administration is underreacting to the incredible shift in the public mood. Some would say they need more voices from the great unwashed. But no one could accuse them of panicking, or of scrambling about incoherently. In their first winter of discontent, they are offering continuity and comity. Whatever their relations with the country might be, inside they seem unruffled. The bonds of association, from the top down, seem healthy — especially for a bunch of Democrats.

David Brooks's Op-Ed column in The New York Times started in September 2003. He has been a senior editor at The Weekly Standard, a contributing editor at Newsweek and the Atlantic Monthly, and he is currently a commentator on "The Newshour with Jim Lehrer."



Better commitment to Bears would prove loyalty

Time to show support for the ‘underdog’ who has been playing so well

There is something to be said about a committed sports fan, one of those people who seem to be the epicenter of intensity in any crowd during a sporting event. They have an admirable quality of dedication.

From what we have gathered, through letters to the editor and overheard conversations on campus, fans like that are lacking in the Baylor student body.

At present, Baylor boasts a No. 24 men's basketball team and a No. 11 women's basketball team. We are also home to a No. 6 men's tennis team and a No. 5 women's tennis team along with numerous other successful sports teams. Though with all that to be proud of, devoted fans have said there aren't enough people attending the games. The green-and-gold-adorned people who are in the audience seem to be mostly alumni. Current students should understand that, while sports are not what a university is all about, they are one aspect of camarade-

in, game-out basis.

"I will never understand the Baylor student body and its unwillingness to support its successful athletic programs," one student wrote in a letter to the editor. "The Baylor student body is 14,000 strong and we can't sell out a 10,000 seat arena for a Big 12 basketball game?"

Cheering on your team is a form of bonding. Every Baylor Bear in the Ferrell Center is rooting for the team: not just the moms and dads — everyone. Baylor is the connecting thread that runs throughout the crowd as the team begins to dominate the court or the field.

According to Seattle Times columnist Jerry Brewer, Seattle sports fans are a prime example of a sorrowful sports environment. Brewer said that during 42 years of having professional sports, Seattle has lost two teams and nearly lost both the Mariners and the Seahawks, as well. "It has won only one championship in the Big Three of American sports leagues (NBA, NFL, MLB), and that title came in 1979," Brewer wrote.

The city's tough times with sports isn't apparent from the fans, though. Brewer says the Seattle fans have a hope that resonates from them. "Loyalty is difficult to quantify, but you know it when you see it," Brewer wrote. "The spirit and optimism of these supporters somehow outshines the misfortunes they've endured."

Baylor students should take some pointers from the Seattle fans. In fact, though sometimes the underdog, we have even more to be excited about. Our teams are playing at their best.

So, with that we ask — where are the fans? Though several hiccups threw our football season for a loop, we do have a top 25 team in both men's and women's basketball — take a couple hours and come support them.

We understand the pressure and hard work that comes along with college, but we also understand the amount of time we spend hanging out with friends. I guess all we can really ask is that the next time you and a group of friends have a spare night, go to a Baylor game. The athletes deserve support from their fellow Bears.

“Baylor students should take some pointers from the Seattle fans. In fact, though sometimes the underdog, we have even more to be excited about. Our teams are playing at their best.”

rie that is beginning to fade from the Ferrell Center to Floyd Casey where the fan count has been sparse.

Baylor has given its students a distinct advantage over other Big 12 schools by being the only school in the conference to provide free admission and free parking to games. But these benefits to students have yet to pay dividends, as the squad receives paltry turnouts from students on a game-

The Baylor Lariat welcomes reader viewpoints through letters to the editor and guest columns. Opinions expressed in the Lariat are not necessarily those of the Baylor administration, the Baylor Board of Regents or the Student Publications Board.

Corrections

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.

Subscriptions

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Letters

Letters to the editor should include the writer's name, hometown, 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.

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Please Recycle This Issue

Freshmen BIC students take cultural field trip

By HOGAN ALLCORN
REPORTER

Baylor Interdisciplinary Core freshmen have the chance to expand their knowledge of Middle Eastern culture through a field trip to the Dallas Museum of Art, the Dallas Central Mosque and Al-Amir Middle Eastern Restaurant in North Dallas.

Half of the BIC freshmen made the trip Saturday.

The rest will make the trip this upcoming Saturday as a part of the second required BIC World Cultures course.

Dr. Lynn Tatum, associate director of Middle Eastern studies, coordinated the trip.

"One of the cultures in the class we examine is the Middle Eastern culture," Tatum said. "To

understand a culture you have to understand its religion, its art, its architecture, its history, its music, its flavors and its worship style. So this is really a day for the students to examine the Islamic religion from the lectures that they have had in class."

After spending two hours in the museum, students observed a prayer ceremony in the mosque.

They also participated in a question-and-answer session with some of the mosque volunteers.

The students ended the day by eating authentic Middle Eastern cuisine at a genuine Lebanese restaurant.

Fairbanks, Alaska freshman Joe Byrnes enjoyed the hands-on opportunities that the BIC pro-

"To understand a culture you have to understand its religion, its art, its architecture, its history, its music, its flavors and its worship style."

Dr. Lynn Tatum
Associate director
of Middle
Eastern studies

gram provided.

"Besides watching some of our professors belly dance at the Lebanese restaurant, my favorite

part about the trip was just experiencing the Islamic culture with my own eyes after studying it in class," Byrnes said. "The best part about BIC is that you can get a real sense of other cultures from a firsthand account through reading primary texts and going on field trips like this. You form your own opinions and views rather than simply read someone else's."

Grapevine freshman Brent Salter said spending time with fellow BIC students was just as beneficial as the trip.

"Spending time with my classmates was the most enjoyable part of the trip because the BIC students are so diverse," Salter said. "The field trip served as a catalyst to learn about different cultures not only through

the places that we were going to but also through the different students we were with. In addition to the very generous and informative Muslim volunteers at the mosque, several Muslim students helped explain other things about the mosque and Islamic traditions."

From a Christian perspective, Tatum believes in the value of associating with other cultures.

"It's very important for Christians to understand the world around us," Tatum said. "If you take New Testament examples, Paul was constantly in interaction with the pagan world around him. Also, while Jesus was a Jew, many of the biblical writers, Luke for example, were not."

Last semester BIC freshmen participated in other field trips,

including a visit to a Jewish synagogue and Hindu temple.

Salter's experience in examining other religions through the BIC program has given him a deeper perspective into his own faith.

"It's a very good thing to learn about other religions in other cultures," Salter said. "Knowing the points of similarities and differences gives us a better sense of what our religion is all about in relation to others."

Byrnes also agreed with the usefulness of learning about other cultures.

"Our society is becoming more globalized every day," Byrnes said. "You could meet a Jew, a Muslim or a Hindu anytime and having that awareness of their culture is vital."

BEAR BRIEFS

Valentine Memories

The Armstrong Browning Library presents Valentine Memories with musician Dave Tanner. The event will take place from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday at the Armstrong Browning Library, where Tanner will perform a medley of Hollywood love songs. For more ticket information, call 254-710-4968. Individual tickets are \$30 and couples' tickets are \$50.

Lecture in Cashion

The J.M. Dawson Institute of Church-State Studies presents the 2010 Hugh and Beverly Wamble Lecture: Orthodoxy, Islam, and the Desecularization of Russian State Schools by Dr. Elena Lisovskaya of Western Michigan University. The event will take place from 4 to 5 p.m. Thursday on the Fifth Floor Conference Room of Cashion Academic Center

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By KATY McDOWALL
REPORTER

Texas Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst is speaking to Baylor students and the public at 2:30 p.m. today at the Texas Sports Hall of Fame.

Dewhurst is currently campaigning as an incumbent for the 2010 Texas lieutenant governor

election, which will take place in November.

Running against Dewhurst are Democrats Linda Chavez-Thompson, Ronnie Earle and Marc Katz.

Baylor University College Republicans Secretary Daniel Abernathy was contacted by Dewhurst's campaign to schedule today's event.

"Students don't get that many chances to see people in the top leadership of the state, especially people like the lieutenant governor who is often overlooked but has a lot of influence regarding the state's budget and where the money goes," Abernathy, an Aleo junior, said.

Abernathy said Dewhurst might discuss Texas' financial

situation, an issue important to the lieutenant governor.

Dewhurst's campaign issues include fiscal responsibility, border security, property rights, public safety, education reform and transportation, according to Dewhurst's campaign Web site.

"People should go if they're interested in Texas politics and the process of government," Ab-

ernathy said.

Abernathy said the event is open to everyone, not just College Republicans, because it is important to show everyone how government works.

"I think it shows that we're interested in not just the governor's race but that we're interested in the other important aspects of Texas politics," Abernathy said.

Everybody is doing it: yoga, anywhere

By MICHELLE HIGGINS
NEW YORK TIMES TRAVEL REPORTER

Like Wi-Fi, on-demand movies and fitness centers, yoga is becoming an amenity many hotels and resorts just can't do without.

Long popular at spas and retreat centers, yoga classes have been spreading to mainstream hotels, resorts and tour operators over the last several years.

As the ancient stretching and

meditation practice gained popularity, the travel industry began seeing dollar signs in sun salutations.

Spas and resorts began to tweak their yoga programs by hosting weeklong retreats with yoga masters like Rodney Yee and Colleen Saidman, who attracted a cultlike following.

Now, with yoga becoming so mainstream, properties from chain hotels to bed-and-break-

fasts are looking for new ways to incorporate it into their programs to pique guests' interest and reach their wallets.

"Yoga is becoming a must-have amenity," on the order of Internet access, said Chekitan S. Dev, a professor of marketing at the Cornell University School of Hotel Administration. "Guests want to be able to stress out and go on the Internet and check e-mail, and then take five minutes

and do yoga. It's the yin and the yang of travel."

The Savannah House in Himrod, N.Y., in the Finger Lakes region started Wine and Yoga Get-away weekends in October that include visits to wineries, and yoga classes.

Dave Romanelli, co-owner of a chain of Arizona yoga studios, who is known for his popular yoga-and-chocolate and yoga-and-wine retreats, is introducing

HPV Fact #19:

In a study of female **college students**, about **60%** of them were found to be infected with **HPV** by the end of **3 years**.

HPV Fact #6:

For most, **HPV** clears on its own. But for some women, **cervical cancer** can develop.

Why risk it

Visit your campus health center.



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Baylor grads have televised tailor-made wedding

By RACQUEL JOSEPH
REPORTER

If a bride-to-be could tailor any aspect of her wedding to perfect personalization, blueprints would probably be the last thing on her mind. However, Baylor bride Christine Tamer Bassham and her father, Michael Tamer, made property hunting a part of the planning process. And to make things even more interesting, “Platinum Weddings,” a show on the Women’s Entertainment Network (WEtv) featured the Jan. 3, 2009, wedding in an episode airing Super Bowl Sunday.

Christine Tamer Bassham and Jonathan Bassham, who were high school sweethearts before they were a Baylor couple, never planned to build their very own venue. After searching around the Dallas/Fort Worth area, newly engaged Christine Tamer Bassham could find nothing that fit her requirements for a traditional church complete with an old-fashioned center aisle.

“Especially where I’m from, there’s a lot of mega-churches,” Tamer Bassham said. “We had a vision of a more of a quaint cha-

pel...and nothing like that existed.”

Jonathan Bassham said the couple searched “probably six months to a year” for the perfect venue but were unsuccessful.

So, while Christine Tamer was looking at flowers and cakes to fit her secret garden theme, her father was reviewing blueprints and choosing building materials for a custom \$4 million wedding venue for his daughter in Colleyville.

Michael Tamer, who constructed the building along with his sister and his brother-in-law Heather and Chris Rowley, describes the creation of Piazza in the Village as “a labor of love.”

When choosing layout and design elements, he said, “I think I chose everything because I knew she would like it.”

Construction lasted 18 months and it was barely finished on time, even with the wedding date pushed back once. Tamer remembers the stress of the final weeks.

“I mean, wreck your daughter’s wedding because the building isn’t done on time. Big problem,” Tamer said.

Since the Piazza in the Village is now family business, avail-

able to the public for rental, the Tamers were able to put in their two cents concerning the details. Some ideas made the cut, such as an outdoor courtyard for cocktail hour, a bell tower timed to ring after the vows were said, and a balcony for the bride to toss her bouquet from. Other amenities include bridal and groom suites and huge chandeliers throughout.

Since its completion, the venue has been a popular venue with brides.

“We are booked every Saturday in 2010 except for Christmas. We’ve booked over 200 weddings,” Michael Tamer said.

Technology is also a major presence with large projection screens in the ballroom, the ability to stream an event live on the Internet, and televisions in the bride’s suite that show the arrival of guests.

According to the couple, building from the ground up was definitely worth it.

“Watching the place we were getting married go from a field to this big beautiful building was really interesting,” the groom, Jonathan Bassham said.

Keller junior Kevin Tamer,

brother of the bride, recalls the planning as being more stressful for his parents than the bride.

“I’m not going to say I was neglected. Usually it’s just your mom planning the wedding but when it’s your dad too ... I stayed pretty much out of it,” Kevin Tamer said. “But for someone whose chapel was still being built while planning her wedding, [Christine] was pretty calm.”

Besides having a semi-custom setting for her wedding, Christine Tamer Bassham also included personal touches such as having appetizers that were the gourmet versions of the couple’s childhood favorites. The projection screens showed pictures of the couple and their families. There was even a life-size floral sculpture of their Maltipoo guarding the guestbook.

According to the couple, the cameras, about seven of them, were hardly noticeable. Bassham described them as “non-intrusive” and “like having an entourage.” Being filmed did not stop the couple from having the personal moments that make a wedding day unforgettable.

“When Christine was coming down the aisle, I got nervous.



COURTESY: FERENCOMM FOR WEtv

Baylor alumni, Jonathan and Christine Basshams, featured on “Platinum Weddings,” had a venue made by the bride’s father for their big day.

I thought I was going to forget my name, form incoherent sentences,” Jonathan Bassham said. “I just grabbed her hand and started chatting real low and we had so much fun.”

Now that the couple has been married for little over a year, it is a flash from the past to see the

wedding on television. The episode aired on Super Bowl Sunday and will re-air at 8 p.m Friday on WEtv.

After seeing the episode, Jonathan Bassham felt “very blessed that we were lucky enough to have this event and share it with our friends and family.”

Saints’ win becomes highest-viewed television event ever

By JOE FLINT
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Move over, Hawkeye Pierce. Looks like Drew Brees and the New Orleans Saints just took your ratings crown along with the Super Bowl title.

A record 106.5 million people watched the Saints write a storybook ending to their dream season by beating the Indianapolis Colts 31-17 in Super Bowl XLIV on CBS, according to Nielsen.

That’s not only the biggest audience to date for the Super Bowl, but the biggest audience for a televised event ever – barely knocking off the finale of CBS’ “MASH,” which averaged almost 106 million viewers when it ran in 1983.

Of course, the television landscape has changed dramatically over the last 30 years. When the “MASH” finale ran in 1983, there were 83.3 million television homes; now there are almost 115 million television homes. One can spin that beating the record set by “MASH” was inevitable.

Though there may be more eyeballs available now than there were 27 years ago, there are also a lot more options for viewers, making the Super Bowl number more impressive. “MASH” played in the glory days of three broadcast networks. Now, people also have hundreds of cable channels and the Internet as entertainment options.

There was some concern that power outages caused by heavy

snow in the mid-Atlantic region may have hampered viewing. Instead, it looks like the cold and snow helped, keeping people inside and in front of their televisions on Sunday night. It was a similar story in that region in 1982 when a snowstorm and Arctic blast hit that region and CBS’ coverage of the game between the San Francisco 49ers and Cincinnati Bengals scored a then-record 85.2 million viewers.

When it comes to big-event programming, it is becoming clear that the Internet is more friend than foe to television ratings. The growth of social media creates a national water cooler for viewers to share thoughts and trade quips about what they’re watching. Someone watching the

game alone can now feel like they are watching it at a party without having to worry about cleaning up dishes later. Twitter was overloaded a few times during the game, with people tweeting about advertisements – particularly the spot featuring David Letterman, Jay Leno and Oprah Winfrey – as well as about the game and The Who’s halftime performance.

The big number provided a strong lead-in for CBS’ new reality show “Undercover Boss,” which premiered after the game and drew 38.6 million viewers. That is also a record for a new show’s premiere after the Super Bowl. CBS took a gamble by launching a brand new show after the Super Bowl. The network ran a very tight post-game show

so that “Undercover Boss” started at 9:13 p.m. EST. Sometimes the game and post-game show run so long that it’s not unusual for the entertainment programming scheduled after the game to start after 9:30 p.m. in the East, which usually means lower ratings as fatigued viewers drift away.

For history buffs, last year’s down-to-the-wire Super Bowl match between the Pittsburgh Steelers and Arizona Cardinals on NBC averaged 98.7 million viewers. This is the fifth year in a row that the Super Bowl has averaged more than 90 million viewers, making it the new norm for success. Prior to the February 2006 match between Pittsburgh and Seattle, the previous seven Super Bowls had fewer than 90

million viewers.

Ad rates for Sunday’s match were between the range of \$2.5 million and \$2.7 million, although some advertisers may have paid as much as \$3 million to get into the game. Look for News Corp.’s Fox, which has the game next year, to use this year’s huge ratings to try to push the cost per 30-second spot well over the \$3-million mark.

If it seemed like you had more time to run to the kitchen or bathroom during the game, that’s because you did. According to industry consulting firm Kantar Media, the telecast had 47 minutes and 50 seconds of commercials, a new record. If only a few had been as clever as the Letterman, Leno and Winfrey spot.

FUN TIMES

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1		7	9	2			
		5	4		3		
			5	8			
4	8				9	3	
	7					6	
	2	9				7	4
			3	5			
		3		6	7		
		8	9	2		3	

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

Across

- 1 Struggle (through), as a tedious book
- 5 Leatherworking tools
- 9 Sheriff’s star
- 14 Incur additional cell phone charges, perhaps
- 15 Profound
- 16 Gonzalez in 2000 headlines
- 17 Nice retinue?
- 19 Mel, “The Velvet Fog”
- 20 Slob’s opposite
- 21 Nice nonpro?
- 23 Filmdom’s Lupino
- 24 ‘Hood bud
- 25 Prefix with mom, coined after historic 2009 births
- 26 Nice keepsake?
- 30 Dying-out sound
- 32 Riddle
- 33 More apt to be picked
- 35 “Dropped” drug

- 38 Space bar neighbor on a PC
- 39 Nice stand?
- 41 Wall St. news
- 42 Spoil
- 43 “Thanks ___!”
- 44 Old beaker heaters
- 46 Within: Pref.
- 48 Nice behind?
- 50 Actor Morales
- 52 Phillies’ div.
- 54 Tiny amount
- 55 Nice rubdown?
- 57 Played some jazz numbers, say
- 61 “___ be seeing things”
- 62 Nice walk?
- 64 Ship-finding acronym
- 65 Overhang
- 66 Folk singer Burl
- 67 Refuse
- 68 “___ in Rome ...”
- 69 Site of a Lincoln profile

Down

- 1 Small songbird
- 2 Primo
- 3 Entered material
- 4 Eliciting feeling
- 5 Vikings running back Peterson who holds the NFL record for yards rushed in a single game
- 6 Unsound, as an argument
- 7 Relay race part
- 8 Asparagus unit
- 9 ___ blocker
- 10 Umpteen
- 11 Privileged connection
- 12 Whole range
- 13 It began on viernes in 2010
- 18 Take in too little
- 22 One with a long face
- 24 Nice squad?
- 26 Cybertrash
- 27 “Return of the Jedi” green-skinned dancer
- 28 Govt. note issuer
- 29 “Dies ___”

- 31 Full scholarship, e.g.
- 34 With 53-Down, French toon who would be right at home in this puzzle?
- 36 Have heated words
- 37 Two tablets, say
- 40 It doesn’t cover much of a
- 48-Across
- 45 Ill-fated vessel
- 47 Maxima maker
- 49 Cleanup hitters, briefly
- 50 Actor Jannings and pianist Gilels
- 51 South Pacific island nation
- 53 See 34-Down
- 56 Periodic table fig.
- 57 Peace symbol
- 58 Put away
- 59 “East of ___”
- 60 Means of determining proficiency
- 63 Cheer syllable

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Griner elevates presence in wake of injured captain

Lady Bears prepare for second half of conference play

By CHRIS DERRETT
SPORTS WRITER

The Baylor Lady Bears began conference play as head coach Kim Mulkey thought her team would — with youth and injury contributing to a 2-4 start.

More experience and continued effort has driven the team to decisive wins at Kansas State University and against the University of Colorado, and now the Lady Bears open the second half of conference play traveling to Norman, Okla., to face the No. 12-ranked Sooners.

Baylor struggled to find on-court rhythm early in conference play. With junior guard Melissa Jones sidelined by a stress reactor injury, the team started with one win and two losses, which included a 65-56 home loss to a more experienced University of Nebraska team.

A road loss to then 1-4 Missouri dropped the Lady Bears to their lowest ranking this season, No. 14.

"I really don't look at who we lose to, I just look at the fact that we lose," Mulkey said after falling to the Tigers. "We still have to get better and healthy."

Jones returned to a standing ovation at the Ferrell Center against Texas A&M University and scored 17 points in a 61-53 win. Unfortunately her presence on the court was short-lived as she played only 20 minutes against Texas in Austin and sat out against the Wildcats and Buffaloes.

All the while, though, Baylor's young players have accumulated minutes together to gain experience. In contrast to the 32-88 combined 3-point shooting allowed to Missouri, Nebraska and Oklahoma State, Baylor held Colorado and Kansas State to a collective 11-39.

"They've never had to guard anybody," Mulkey said to explain the open shots her team was con-

"Not having Melissa Jones on the court to talk and keep us going, I knew I had to do something."

Brittney Griner
Lady Bears' post

ceding. "I'm trying to break years and years of habits."

Offensively, the Lady Bears have seen improvement as well. In the beginning of the season, teams who beat Baylor neutralized Brittney Griner as increased attention inside forced Baylor to take outside shots, few of which they made.

With the assurance of playing alongside her captain gone, Griner now feels a need to become a leader on the court.

"Not having Melissa Jones on the court to talk and keep us going, I knew I had to do something. Whether it was telling the team

'good shot' or 'take a shot,' I just felt like I should say something," Griner said after the Kansas State win.

The team continues to refine its shot selection, and as opponents give more respect to Baylor's game outside of the paint, Griner prospers under the rim as evidenced by 26- and 24-point performances in her last two games.

Another key part of Baylor's success, senior forward Morghan Medlock, has shot a combined 10-18 for 21 points in that same time frame.

"We were coming off of a pretty good win at Kansas State, and I just had a lot of momentum and was just excited," Medlock said after defeating Colorado. "I was just ready to play."

The Lady Bears look for a repeat performance against Oklahoma, whom they handed a 57-47 loss at the Ferrell Center almost a month ago.

Griner rejected 11 shots in the contest and recorded a double-double with 12 points.



SARAH GROMAN | LARIAT STAFF

Brittney Griner (left) blazes past Danielle Adams during the Lady Bears' 61-53 victory on Jan. 23 against Texas A&M. On Monday, Griner became the second player in conference history to earn the Big 12 Women's Basketball Player and Freshman of the Week in the same week.

Men's tennis pummels UT-Pan Am, 7-0

By JEREMY JOSEPH
REPORTER

The No. 6-ranked Baylor men's tennis team (5-0) remained undefeated after beating the University of Texas-Pan American 7-0 Tuesday evening at the Baylor Tennis Center.

Senior Denes Lukacs, who reached second place on Baylor's all-time wins list, believes the Bears head into this weekend's ITA National Team Indoor Championship in Charlottesville, Va., with confidence.

"I think we have a good chance this year, and I hope everyone can get it together and just keep rolling like we are," Lukacs said.

Junior Jordan Rux and freshman Roberto Maytin won the first doubles match of the day after beating Beau Bernstein and Brett Bernstein 8-3.

Head coach Matt Knoll was pleased with getting the freshman Maytin valuable experience, especially before the weekend ahead.

"I was happy that he was able to

play a match — that was one of the things I felt strongly about wanting to get this match in before we left for the (ITA Indoor Nationals) tomorrow," Knoll said Tuesday.

Lukacs and sophomore Maros Horny, who dominated Ashwin Vijayaragavan and Nirvick Mohinta 8-1, followed Rux and Maytin.

The Bears closed out doubles matches when sophomore Julian Bley and junior Sergio Ramirez beat Marcus Dornauf and Andrew Irving, 8-3.

Horny finished singles play first with a 6-3, 6-2, win over Abdelhamid Riani. Maytin, who beat his opponent, Dornauf, 6-4, 6-2, followed him.

The No. 11-ranked Rux continued his dominance and clinched the match for Baylor with a 6-1, 6-0 victory over Brett Bernstein.

"It was just sort of a day where you really just need to focus. The conditions were tough," Rux said. "It was really just a day where you try not to lose any concentration."

Lukacs earned the Bears' fifth point

after he got a 6-2, 6-3 win over Vijayaragavan and moved into a tie for second place on Baylor's all-time career singles win list with 119 victories.

"This is not really what you are shooting for. You are just trying to get the wins every day," Lukacs said of the milestone.

"I mean obviously it feels good to tie, but it's not the main goal. I think I did a good job, and it shows the effort that I put out."

Dominik Mueller was able to handle his opponent in his first match of the day when he beat Mohinta 6-4, 6-0.

In the last and longest match of the day, Ramirez was able to put away Beau Bernstein 6-4, 6-2.

"The first game was really long. It was an even match and neither guy has a big serve so every played out and Sergio was taking a lot of time between points," Knoll said.

The Bears will take on No.11 University of Florida at the ITA National Indoor Championship on Friday at 9 a.m. in Charlottesville, Va.



JED DEAN | PHOTO EDITOR

Senior Denes Lukacs awaits a serve during Tuesday afternoon's victory against UT-Pan American. Lukacs defeated Ashwin Vijayaragavan 6-2, 6-3.

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JED DEAN | LARIAT STAFF

Lenka Broosova, shown during a Jan. 19 practice, helped the Lady Bears overcome a 3-1 deficit Saturday against the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Fla.

Broosova sets record during tennis victory

By DANIEL CERNERO
REPORTER

The Baylor women's tennis team continued its strong spring with a comeback road victory over the No. 6-ranked University of Miami on Saturday, which featured a record-breaking performance by senior Lenka Broosova.

With her singles win against Miami's Laura Vallverdu, Broosova won the 128th match of her career, passing Katja Kovac on Baylor's all-time career wins list, who set the previous record in 2002.

"It's a record that when I got here, I didn't think any was going to beat Katja's 127 wins," head coach Joey Scrivano said. "It's a real testament to Lenka's consistency. Every week she's performed at a high level to obtain that record."

Broosova said it was a humbling experience, but it doesn't stop here. "It makes me want to work even harder," Broosova said about the record. "I know it's a great accomplishment, but winning the NCAA Champion-

ship would be better."

After dropping its first doubles match of the day, Baylor responded with two big wins to lock up the doubles point. Rebounding from an early deficit proved to be theme the Bears would encounter all day.

Baylor lost the first three singles matches, falling to a daunting 3-1 deficit. German freshman Carla Lindlar stopped the bleeding, winning her match 6-2 in the third set. No. 17-ranked Broosova followed that up with a win over No. 7-ranked Vallverdu.

Bosnian sophomore Nina Secerbegovic and Miami's Anna Bartenstein faced off in the deciding match. Secerbegovic lost the first set 4-6 and faced three match points in her second set win. She proceeded to win the third set 6-4 and give Baylor a 4-3 win. "I'm really happy with the way we fought back and competed in the second half of the match," Scrivano said. "They kept fighting and in the end we were rewarded as a team because of those individual efforts."

The Baer Necessities: Saints fans deserved victory

After arriving in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., for the Super Bowl late Saturday night, I walked into Lulu's with three of my co-interns from the summer.

With the majority of Colts fans staying in Fort Lauderdale, the restaurant was filled primarily with those rooting for Indianapolis. However, Lulu's was a Cajun restaurant, so the black-and-gold of Saints fans' attire was sprinkled throughout.

On our trek to the four-chair, dilapidated table, we were interrupted by a couple aged in their late 40's. She was donning a No. 9 Drew Brees' jersey, and he had on a black polo with the Saints logo embroidered above the heart.

The conversation began with friendly heckling. The female (the music was blaring, and I am wretched with names) laughed that our royal blue attire was despicable. We retorted by bragging about the Colts' success throughout the decade compared to her team.

Thirty minutes later, a light-hearted banter had become an in-depth conversation in which a greater appreciation of the opposing team was established.

The male was just a child when the city of New Orleans was given an NFL franchise. He had endured 40-plus years of misery. He explained that the city embraced the Saints and vice versa. They were the lifeblood of the city's resurrection following Hurricane Katrina, and the Saints' first Super Bowl victory would accentuate the revitalization of New Orleans.

Flash forward to Sunday evening, as I am perched near the top of Sun Life Stadium in Miami. Tracy Porter sniffed Reggie Wayne's out route and intercepted Peyton Manning. Porter scampered 74 yards down the field to give New



ASSOCIATED PRESS

New Orleans Saints running back Reggie Bush celebrates the team's first Super Bowl victory Sunday night at Sun Life Stadium in Miami. Bush finished with 25 rushing yards and 38 receiving yards.

Orleans a 31-14 lead with 3:12 remaining in the game and a lock to win the Lombardi trophy.

I stood looking down at the conclusion of the Colts' collapse. The wind whirled through the top of the stadium and pierced my body. Saints fans throughout the stadium barked, 'Who Dat.' My friends cursed with disgust. But I was oblivious to the commotion surrounding me. I was numb.

I began to pity myself, which in hindsight is deplorable. I questioned how the Colts could lose. They were the favorites to win. Peyton Manning was invincible. I put in countless hours interning for the team this summer. A Super

Bowl victory was supposed to be the dividends paid for my efforts.

My thoughts continued running when I glanced over to a section of Saints fans. Tears rolled down their eyes. Tears that were once shed because of homes lost and businesses destroyed were now tears of perseverance and triumph.

My thoughts then redirected. Instead of selfishly pitying myself, I reminisced of how passionate the couple at Lulu's was about their city ... their team. It was just a few years ago that the home of the Super Bowl XLIV champions was the home of refugees escaping the hell outside.

I realized then, there were bigger things than this game. There are bigger things than myself. So while it is humbling and difficult to admit my favorite team's defeat, it was rejuvenating to see the citizens of a recently devastated city rejoice.

Congratulations, New Orleans. Bask in the glory of a Super Bowl victory. Enjoy your time as kings of the league while you can, because Manning and crew will be eager to dethrone you next February in Arlington.

Justin Baer is a marketing and business journalism major from Midlothian and the sports editor for the Lariat.

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TERROR from pg.1

attacked us. We are not at war with ‘terrorism’ per-se. There are hundreds of different terrorist organizations worldwide, so we are not at war with a concept. We are at war with an identifiable enemy: that’s militant Islam,” Kushner said.

However, Kushner said when the U.S. fought in World War II, political correctness wasn’t something that inhibited us from identifying to the public who was the enemy was.

“We had no inhibitions defining Nazi Germany, Imperial Japan and Fascist Italy,” he said. “The Japanese used a sort of terrorist technique called a Kamikaze attack.

“Germany as well had a term for the military technique that they used called Blitzkrieg. As a society, we weren’t saying we were fighting a tactic, like Blitzkrieg or a Kamikaze fighter. We identified our enemy.”

Kushner believes there are more things at risk than the loss of life when it comes to terrorist attacks.

“There is an attack on our basic principles which are based on Judeo Christian beliefs,” he said “Our founding fathers believed in the basic principles of the Old and New Testament, they didn’t believe in the Quran. There is a difference,” he said.

David Lu, an international security analyst in Washington, D.C., said that “terrorism” is not a blanket term applying only to Islamic culture.

“Only the term Islam, for example, is attached to terrorism. Not other religions. Even though, both you and I know that terrorism has been for so long with all of the religions,” Lu said.

Dr. Christopher Van Gorder, associate professor of world religions, said that religion is the basis for terrorist attacks.

“The religion is the anchor for them,” he said. “The religious terrorist knows they’re right, and they know the other person’s wrong. They know they’re good, and they know the other person’s evil. There’s no ambiguity, and they see themselves not as terrorists, but as saints and martyrs.”

Like Van Gorder, Kushner also believes that religion is the catalyst of terrorist actions and that Americans should not be ignorant of the differences within belief systems.

“The secular progression has argued that everything is the same. They are totally destroying our identity,” he said.

However, Christians have also been to blame for acts of “terrorism” in the United States. Van Gorder used the example of the Klu Klux Klan. He said that they performed acts with a goal to “purify” the world.

“Religion is a matter of faith and belief, but there is no basic science for it. Where is it written that all religions are the same? They’re not. They’re belief systems,” Kushner said. “Islam is a religion based upon legal principle. The prophet Muhammad was a general, who through conquering through militant battles converted.”

While Islam is a peaceful religion, Kushner said it is difficult to differentiate those who are Muslim versus radicals.

“In Islam, certainly no one wants to take this brush and paint a picture of Muslim persons being evil and bad, because it is not true,” Kushner said.

According to the Council on American-Islamic relations, there are an estimated 1.2 billion Muslims worldwide. “Obsession,” a documentary about radical Islam released in 2005, states that about 10 percent of Muslims have radical viewpoints—in other words, share the same beliefs as Osama bin Laden.

“Some people would argue that it is a small percentage. If you take 10 percent of 1.2 billion, that’s 121 million. You are talking about a significant number of Muslims worldwide who harbor very dangerous beliefs,” Kushner said.

With these individuals in the Muslim community who hold these radical beliefs, what does this mean in regard to the recent predictions of an imminent threat of a terror attack on the United States within the next three to six months as intelligence officials have recently predicted?

“I’ve been in this business almost 40 years. In my 40 years, I have never heard American intelligence agencies all in tandem say that there would be a terror attack within the next three to six months. So, for me quite frankly, it was shocking for them to say that,” he said.

LOVE from pg.1

currently works at Baylor as a physical therapist. Love hasn’t just been found on the dance floor at Baylor but also among athletes.

Stacey Bowers and Rodney Smith had known each other for a while since they lived in the Waco area but they didn’t start dating until they attended Baylor.

“[We said] Well, let’s try this dating thing and see how it goes,” Stacey said. “It was so small that pretty much everyone knew we were a couple.”

Both Stacey and Rodney were heavily involved in sports. Stacey ran track and Rodney was strong safety in football and point guard in basketball.

“We both enjoy sports, we’re both locals,” Stacey said.

They both understood and

supported each other’s athletic endeavors.

Rodney proposed to her on his birthday in 2002, and they married at Miller Chapel in August 2003.

Currently Stacey is the assistant track coach at Baylor and Rodney Smith coaches and teaches at University High School. They have a 4-year-old daughter and a 2-year-old son.

These are just two of many stories being told at the exhibit in the Allbritton Foyer of Moody.

Kathy Hillman, special collections librarian, put together the exhibit, soliciting, collecting and editing all the stories on display.

“What we wanted with each family was a picture as a student, a wedding picture and a family picture,” Kathy said.

Kathy’s own story is on display as well. She and her husband, John Hillman, met at the Baylor Leakey Leadership Laboratory, a leadership camp, and John was immediately interested.

Kathy said their meeting was “a God thing”. She applied her sophomore year and didn’t make it because of a sorority limit and her junior year lost her spot because of mismanagement. Her senior year she finally attended, and that’s where she met John.

Kathy tried to set up John with both her sister and roommate, but he told her he only wanted to date her.

“In the middle of this paragraph he just said, ‘let’s get married,’” Kathy said. So they did in 1973 in Armstrong Browning Library’s Foyer of Meditation.

The love stories span as far back as 1915 and as recent as 2006.

The couples in the exhibit will be recognized at the Valentine Extravaganza at Armstrong Browning Library being held Saturday at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$50 for couples or \$30 for an individual.

The exhibit will be open until March 14th and can be located in the entrance area of Moody Library. Kathy Hillman says they will likely run the exhibit again and are welcoming students and alumni to send in their own love stories.

Kathy Hillman can be contacted at 710-6684 or Kathy_Hillman@baylor.edu. Alternately, you can contact DeAnna Burks at 710-1613 or DeAnna_Burks@baylor.edu.

GRANT from pg.1

the topic.

“We don’t have a lot of information out there about congregations for context, so that’s really the impetus for this work-- trying to start that discussion, and trying to resource other schools of social work,” Yancey said. “We’re not just talking about faith-based institutions; it could go to state colleges or anybody else.”

Garland said they also want to help churches understand the benefits of social work in their congregations.

“It’s exciting when a church

realizes what a social worker can bring,” Garland said. “So many churches really don’t understand what social work is, so we hope to help with that.”

Josh Carney, the teaching pastor at University Baptist Church in Waco said the church created a position for a social worker after seeing the benefits on intern brought to the congregation during her internship and work there.

The position went to Baylor graduate Kelly Baker.

“We find congruency between

the gifts that she has to offer and the call to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the world,” Carney said. “We think that social work is able to train people in a specific skill set that maybe seminarians aren’t trained to offer.”

For their book, Garland and Yancey will interview about 50 social workers in congregations nation-wide to address various questions about their work.

“The research, which is about the people we’re interviewing, will tell their stories in or with congregations,” Yancey said.

STORM from pg.1

to the Federal Trade Commission canceled hearings. Shutting the agencies for a day costs the government an estimated \$100 million in lost productivity and related costs.

Down Pennsylvania Avenue, the White House decided to move up by a day a Black History Month concert featuring Bob Dylan, Smokey Robinson and Natalie Cole. It had been slated for today, but was instead moved to Tuesday night.

President Barack Obama held a bipartisan meeting with congressional leaders ahead of the storm Tuesday and joked that

it went so well that Democratic Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada and Republican Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky had gone out to play in the snow.

“In fact, I understand that McConnell and Reid are out doing snow angels on the South Lawn together,” Obama joked as he made an unannounced stop in the White House briefing room.

Others poked fun at the government.

“It’s embarrassing that the world’s largest superpower closes from a few feet of snow,” said Alex Krause, 23, of Los Angeles,

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7. Pool w/hot tub, heated year round
8. Oversized front porches with swing
9. Lush landscaping
10. Perimeter fencing around cottages
11. Video surveillance of parking areas
12. Four private bedrooms
13. Four private baths
14. Powder bath in main living area
15. Flat screen TV with surround sound
16. Large laundry room with full size washer and dryer
17. Kitchen: Granite countertops, barstools, all stainless appliances
18. Wireless internet ready
19. Monitored alarm system available
20. Plenty of parking for your friends.

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