

Starr named 14th president

Pepperdine dean will take office June 1

By CATY HIRST
STAFF WRITER

Judge Kenneth W. Starr, dean and professor of law at Pepperdine, was unanimously elected as Baylor's 14th president by the Baylor University Board of Regents on Friday.

"I am very excited and honored to be here," Starr said. "I will do my very best to help Baylor move in the direction it is moving, which is ever upward."

In an interview with the Lariat on Monday morning on the Baylor campus, Starr said he is honored and humbled that he was elected Baylor's president.

"It's a great university with a proud tradition of 150 years, plus," Starr said. "And standing for great principles of integrating faith and learning. And happily situated in my native state."

Starr was Solicitor General of the United States from 1989 to 1993 and was appointed to serve as the Independent Counsel for the Whitewater investigation of Bill Clinton and most well-known for his investigation in the Monica Lewinsky scandal. He was the author of the Starr Report, which provided evidence to impeach former President Bill Clinton.

He argued 25 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, until he moved on to a career in academics.

Starr was born in Vernon, Texas and raised in San Antonio, though he currently lives in Malibu, Calif.

"I'm a fifth-generation Texan so it was a call to the heart to come home, but especially [to] a great renowned Christian institution," Starr said.

The search for a president took over a year and a half after Dr. John Lilly was forced out of office in July 2008.

Dr. David Garland has served as interim president since August 2008.

"We had well over 100 names that we considered," said Joseph Armes, Baylor regent and chairman of the Baylor presidential search committee.

"We had conversations with approximately 25 people and interviewed 10. And we narrowed the field from there. It has been a very comprehensive process."

Starr will take office June 1.

"We were patient and we are thrilled with the outcome," Armes said.

Dary Stone, chairman for the board of regents, said Starr is a perfect fit for Baylor.

Stone said the committee looked at many traditional candidates who had strictly academic careers and they also looked at non-traditional candidates who were in strictly non-

"I'm a fifth-generation Texan and it was a call to the heart to come home."

Judge Kenneth Starr
President-elect

academic fields, such as business and politics.

"Judge Starr actually bridged both of those," Stone said.

Here is someone who had a terrific high profile, highly credentialed private sector career as an attorney and public servant, who also had a more recent, very successful career in the academy."

Tom Phillips, a member of the advisor committee for the presidential search and a retired Chief Justice of the Texas Supreme Court, said he had heard of Starr for more than 30 years.

He said Starr started as a clerk for the Supreme Court before working for the Justice Department and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Washington D.C. Court, the second most important court in the nation.

Phillips said he has known Starr for approximately 20 years and said his career in academics was as impressive as his career in the private sector.

"I thought he has done a marvelous job as dean of Pepperdine and very much raised that school's profile," Phillips said.

Stone said Phillips was the energy behind Starr's election, as he was the first person to encourage Starr to inquire about the position.

Phillips said he approached Starr because he thought he would fit in well with Baylor's mission.

"I thought his intellect, his personality and his experience would make him an ideal decision maker for the Baylor campus, an ideal leader for a better



JED DEAN | PHOTO EDITOR

Judge Kenneth Starr, shown in the Alexander Conference Suite, was named the 14th president of Baylor University Monday after a nationwide search lasting almost two years. Starr comes to Baylor as the previous dean of the Pepperdine University School of Law and will begin his role as president on June 1.

way to say it," Phillips said.

Baptist doctrine part of Starr's foundation

Stone said that a Baptist affiliation was an important con-

sideration in the hiring process.

"It is important because of the Baptist identity of Baylor, it is who we are," Stone said.

Phillips said he thought Starr would be a good applicant when the presidential office first opened, but said he did

not think of Starr as a possible candidate because he did not think Starr was a Baptist. "But I saw him some months after the search started at a speech he was making in Washington

see **PRESIDENT**, pg. 3

Kenneth Winston Starr

Born July 21, 1946 in Vernon, Texas

B.A. from George Washington University in 1968

M.A. from Brown University in 1969

J.D. from Duke University Law School in 1973

Duane and Kelly Roberts Dean and Professor of Law at Pepperdine since 2004

Independent Counsel on the Whitewater case

Authored the Starr Report, which led to former President Bill Clinton's impeachment by alleging Clinton lied under oath about his extramarital affairs

Solicitor General of the U.S. from 1989 to 1993, arguing 25 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit from 1981 to 1983

Law clerk to Chief Justice Warren E. Burger from 1975 to 1977

Authored 25 publications and a book titled "First Among Equals: The Supreme Court in American Life"

Son of a Church of Christ minister

Currently a non-denominational Christian

Plans to join a Baptist congregation in Waco

Married to Alice Starr, has three children and four grandchildren

The road we took

Baylor began the arduous process of looking for a president 19 months ago

By NICK DEAN AND SOMMER INGRAM
NEWS EDITOR AND CITY EDITOR

The position of president at a Big 12 university may seem daunting to most, but the process of getting there demands even more.

That process began 19 months ago and ended Monday with the announcement of Baylor's 14th president, Kenneth Starr.

But how did we get there?

The Start of the Search

The search began after the board of regents fired President Lilley in the summer of 2008 after barely a two-year tenure as president.

Dr. David Garland, dean of George W. Truett Theological Seminary, was named as interim president on Aug. 20, 2008.

Baylor's Board of Regents Chairman, Dr. Howard K. Batson, appointed two committees to aid the presidential search process in March of 2009. The all-regent Presidential



JED DEAN | PHOTO EDITOR

Judge Kenneth Starr, newly named as the 14th president of Baylor University, greets music professor Dr. Georgia Green and other members of the Faculty Senate on Monday in the Alexander Conference Suite. Math professor Dr. Ray Cannon and Interim Provost Elizabeth Davis greeted Starr as well.

Search Committee headed up the effort, and it alone had voting power.

"Everybody who was a continuing regent at the time the committee was set was invited to participate," Joseph Armes, chairman of the Baylor presidential search committee said.

Fifteen invitations were given, and one regent declined, leaving 14 members of the presidential search committee.

Armes said that the search committee operated effectively and provided much-needed dialogue.

"I think everyone worked together really, really well. I was very pleased with the participation, and especially pleased with the discussions," he said. "We didn't always agree but we were always in good spirits, and everybody got along. It was a very pleasant, thoughtful process."

Batson also appointed 10 Baylor members to the Advisory Committee, all of who represented various Baylor constituencies, including Faculty Senate, the Staff Council,

see **PROCESS**, pg. 6

Starr's resume illustrates his life

By LIZ FOREMAN
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Doggedly pursuing the prosecution of a U.S. President and teaching inner city children present only one contrast of many in the life and career of Judge Kenneth Starr.

His experiences seem as diverse as those who support him.

Following Baylor's official announcement Monday, George H. W. Bush, 41st President of the U.S., expressed praise for Starr's appointment, citing his character among other things.

"I am pleased that Baylor University has named an individual of Dean Starr's sterling reputation, character and ability to lead the university into a future that is made all the more promising by his presence," Bush said. "Ken was one of the very finest public servants with whom I had the privilege to work as president of the United States. When he represented the United States before the Supreme Court, the American people had a tireless advocate who not only

represented their values and interests -- but shared them. Both Baylor University, and Dean Starr, have chosen wisely, and Barbara joins me in wishing the Baylor University family every success moving forward."

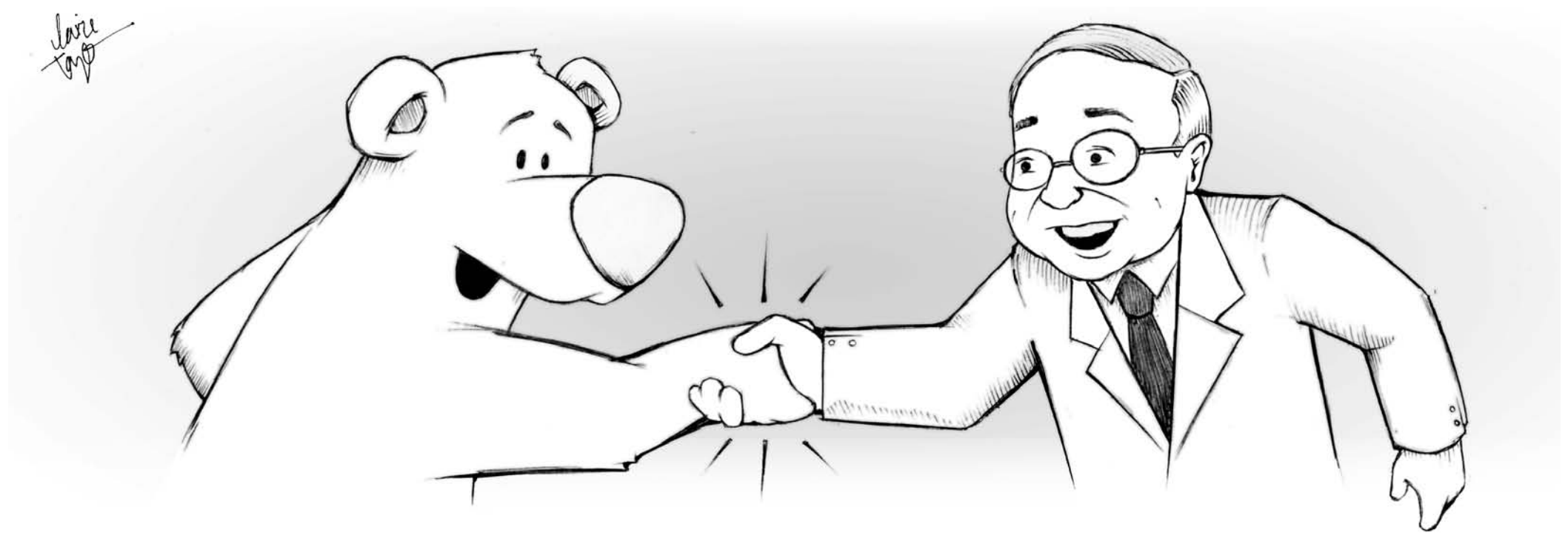
Starr's connection to the former president dates back to 1989 when he acted as Solicitor General of the United States until 1993, arguing 25 cases in front of the U.S. Supreme Court during his tenure.

His other legal achievements include his term as U.S. Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit from 1981 to 1983; counselor to U.S. Attorney General William French Smith in 1981 and clerk to Chief Justice Warren E. Burger from 1975 to 1977.

The most controversial aspect of Starr's tenure at Pepperdine was his recent representation of the proponents of Proposition 8 before the California Supreme Court in March 2009.

Starr's support of the propo-

see **STARR**, pg. 6



Starr is an unconventional, but positive addition

It was quite the Presidents Day at Baylor University. Kenneth Starr, dean of the Pepperdine University School of Law, will become Baylor University’s 14th president. Certainly creating an interesting beginning to the week, Starr will be officially introduced to the Baylor family at 3 p.m. this afternoon.

While some may be nervous about this rather unconventional selection or bitter from feeling ignored in the decision process, we believe Starr will be an extremely qualified addition. This Vernon, Texas-native is an unusual selection because of what he is most widely known for — his work in the Bill Clinton impeachment case and because he comes from a Church of Christ background, but unconventional does not equate amiss. These hesitations have not tarnished his impeccable reputation; rather, everyone who spoke to the Lariat had immensely positive things to say about him.



Starr

A nearly two-year presidential search has come to an end and culminates with the selection of a “courageous leader as well as ... accomplished attorney, judge, scholar and law school dean,” as described by David Hiller, president and CEO of McCormick Foundation, a nonprofit organization that invests in children, community and the country.

Starr brings with him a highly impressive list of accomplishments. He has done extensive work in law. In addition to partnering in the law firm Kirkland & Ellis and Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, Starr acted as solicitor general of the United States from 1989 to 1993. As solicitor general he argued 25 cases in front of the U.S. Supreme Court. This experience, alone, is incredibly impressive.

Starr served as Counselor to U.S. Attorney General William French Smith, Judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals, and is often recognized for his role in the Whitewater investigation, a political

Editorial

controversy involving Bill Clinton and his administration.

With the announcement showing up on major new stations, such as CNN, Fox and AP, Baylor has already achieved public acknowledgement. As a result, its stature will be heavily elevated. Potential employers will take notice of this previously little-publicized university — minus the occasional scandal.

Starr has a notable academic background. He attended Harding College and George Washington University as an undergradu-

“Starr’s background in service and justice yields itself to active participation in the local community as he makes Waco his home.”

ate, graduating from GWU. He received a master’s degree from Brown University and his law degree from Duke University. He has proven himself to be hard working and grounded in academics. He will be an encouragement and a role model to Baylor students. As reported in today’s Lariat article ‘Starr’s resume illustrates his life,’ Starr’s class was often awaited by a line of eager students.

Starr has proved himself to be service-minded. “I have always found him to be not only a zealous, brilliant advocate on the biggest issues of the day, but also someone who is deeply con-

cerned about and kind to every individual he encounters. From the students for whom he is impressively available, to the death row inmates whose legal appeals he has handled on a pro bono basis, he is unstintingly generous with his time, expertise and wisdom,” former president of the American Civil Liberties Union Nadine Strossen said. The most important aspect of this decision to many of us is to bring in a president with a heart. This is what we find most honorable. He has also written about morality in law and while his trials may be controversial, he often acts as a moral crusader.

At the dawn of the extensive search, Baylor invited members of its family to participate in the conversation. In an April 24, 2009 article, the Baylor Lariat quoted Student Body President Jordan Hannah as saying, “I would like to see a president who is visible to the Baylor campus and in the community.”

Starr’s background in service and justice yields itself to active participation in the local community as he makes Waco his home.

“Based on feedback from the listening sessions and comments from the broader alumni community, there is a strong consensus among alumni that the regents should choose the most qualified person available,” Jeff Kilgore, executive vice president of the Baylor Alumni Association, said in a Aug. 24, 2009 Lariat article.

Clearly, Baylor believes Starr will be the fulfillment of these hopes, and we agree. Starr is certainly visible. Through his heavy background in academia and service, we believe Starr will become an active and qualified member of the community.

Unexpected, sure, but perhaps Starr’s not so atypical. In fact, Baylor has had several judges act as president in the past.

With a heavy background in service, law and academia, Starr appears ready to take on the challenges that may accompany being president of Baylor University.

Starr will be a breath of fresh air and an innovative addition to the Baylor and Waco community.

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.

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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.

ABC shows journalistic initiative by gaining release of distinctly heart-wrenching 9/11 photos

On Sept. 11, 2001 and corresponding days after that, we all viewed footage of the Twin Towers falling in a mass of devastating rubble. We all called loved ones and we all cried for names we had never heard before — while some cried for names they had heard and cherished.

There was a nationwide breaking as the smoke billowed from those two pillars of strength and prestige; we all felt weak and small. Our freedom became mortal. Americans were disillusioned, but intertwined by compassion. The footage made us feel. The footage connected us.

As the towers collapsed, so did our sense of security. So many of us had previously felt shielded under the protection of the nation’s illusion of invincibility.

Nearly nine years later, incomparable photos have surfaced, taken by men in a New York Police helicopter. Many of us, separated by time and geography, believed we knew the enormity and entirety of the tragedy — but we were wrong.

Last week, as I flipped through the newly-released photos on various online outlets, I was shocked. I was stunned and saddened. The photos powerfully brought tears to my eyes, even as a fairly distant observer. I did not lose someone I loved in the attack and I did not even know anyone living in New York at the time. Thus, I did not, even for a moment, feel the crippling paranoia or fear that someone I knew might be lost in the chaos.

However, it is impossible to see these photos and not hurt with the hurting.

Almost nine years have past since the devastating tragedy, but this is a first. This is our first time to witness the photos from this angle —

Point of View

By BRITTANY HARDY



from above. The stories are forever burned in our brain, but this is new. These pictures remind us of the enormity of the tragedy and what it means to be united by something so damaging. At that moment — and in these moments of remembrance — we feel. Together, we break and bend under the weight of this fallen world.

So maybe you have seen these pictures. (If you haven’t, you should stop reading this immediately and find them.) But perhaps you don’t know the work that went into releasing them.

Last summer, ABC filed a request through the Freedom of Information Act to attain access to these images, which had been in the possession of the U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology for investigation into the catastrophic event.

Initially, some said the photos were too graphic, too harsh to view, but I am intensely grateful that ABC used perseverance and patience in getting them released. It seems that many more people than those upset by the photos are speaking out on the life-changing portrait this perspective captures.

New York City is an icon of strength, success and acquisition. Let us never forget the events of that day. Because of this remembrance, I am thankful that ABC went through this tedious but rewarding process. I am proud of their journalistic initiative and their determination to make public these photos that have such a profound effect on those who view them. It is impossible to look at these photos and not feel emotionally connected to the circumstances surrounding Sept. 11, 2001.

Brittany Hardy is an Argyle junior majoring in journalism. She is the opinion editor for the Baylor Lariat.

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Please Recycle This Issue

PRESIDENT from pg. 1

and just casually asked him about where he was in his faith and professional journey and learned that he was at an independent Bible church that had baptistic leanings,” Phillips said.

Starr said he plans to join a Baptist church in Waco by June 1.

Starr said he has been involved in a non-denominational Christianity for decades and his home church, McLean Bible Church, operates under a Baptist theology.

Stone said McLean Bible Church is considered consistant with Baptist theology.

“Ken Starr’s home church McLean Bible is Baptist as you will find, it just does not have Baptist in its name,” Stone said. “The pastors on our board are familiar with this church and had a great, terrific conversation with [Starr] about his doctrinal beliefs.”

Stone said members of the advisory committee were pleased with Starr’s articulation of his beliefs and said they align with Baptist beliefs.

“A lot of people outside of Texas don’t have the same opportunity for Baptist churches that we are blessed with here in Texas, specifically here in Waco,” Stone said. “And so I suspect that Judge Starr, had he been in Waco, would have been a Baptist at a Baptist church.”

Starr agreed with Stone.

“It will be a wonderful experience because I am very comfortable with the great Baptist distinctives,” Stone said. “I am going to be right at home, theologically and otherwise.”

Phillips said Starr’s experience at Pepperdine and Pepperdine’s similarities with Baylor make Starr a perfect fit for the president.

“[Pepperdine] has a strong religious affiliation and yet most of its faculty and most of its student body is of another faith tradition...and so I thought he would understand our approach,” Phillips said. “And [he] understands how to integrate a faith based educational institution with the highest standards of educational quality. I just thought he was a natural for us.”

Phillips said Starr’s thorough understanding of Baptist doctrine will enable him to lead Baylor through disputes.

“[Starr is a] leader who could bring all the various factions together,” Phillips said. “And bring them together enthusiastically.”

Starr’s Vision for Baylor 2012

Although Starr is excited to take over his duties as president, he also said he needs to adjust to the Baylor rhythm.

“I plan to listen and learn before I start suggesting directions,” Starr said. “We are of course in the latter phase of 2012, a very ambitious and bold plan. I applaud that plan. It is now time for us to be thinking, prayerfully and strategically, about what the next step is.”

Starr said he plans to follow through with Baylor’s Baptist mission and Baylor 2012.

“I applaud [Baylor 2012]. It is very bold,” Starr said. “I believe it to be a noble vision of Baylor remaining true to caring deeply about undergraduate education and yet moving to a level of maturity as a research university, and to be a leading research university with a goal of excellence in all things including athletics.”

Starr said once he has a solid understanding of where Baylor stands in the completion of the Baylor 2012, there might be additional work.

Starr talked about Imperative 12, with its goal of achieving a \$2 billion endowment, as an example of perhaps needing more work.

The progress summary for Imperative 12 says the endowment

“I want to be very engaged with civic and business leaders, and obviously church leaders in the community,”

Judge Kenneth Starr
President-elect

is behind the projection line. It stood at \$1.06 billion, according to the latest figure reported on Baylor’s 2012 Web site.

He said Baylor needs to move forward to bring this goal and others to their fullest completion.

“The membership in the Big 12 Conference is just an extraordinary achievement and that is again part of this bold vision,” Starr said. “We want to achieve excellence in all aspects of university life.”

Starr said striving for excellence will not end when Baylor 2012 is complete.

“But then what is the next chapter in Baylor’s unfolding story? And that is a conversation,” Starr said. “It is a university-wide conversation.”

Starr’s desire to fulfill the Baylor 2012 vision aligns with his desire to be involved in the lives of students and faculty and staff.

Engaging with students, faculty and staff

Starr said one of his favorite aspects of academia is teaching, mentoring and being involved with students. He does not plan for this to change as president.

“I have an open door policy,” Starr said. “That is, I see any student who wants to see me. I ask them to make an appointment...to sit down with them and to hear about their aspirations and dreams. And to perhaps share a little bit of insight, hopefully, drawn from decades of experience...That is a very gratifying part of being in higher education.”

Starr said he plans to learn and take part in the current traditions to get to know students, such as Dr Pepper Hour and freshmen move-in.

“I think it is great when the president of the university and other servant leaders help when the freshman are moving,” Starr said. “I have got a bad back, but I should do the best I can. Put on a t-shirt and get out and help a little.”

He also mentioned creating new traditions.

“Perhaps even add a new avenue for engagement with the students, sort of just a sense of connectedness between a particular servant leader and the entire student body,” said Starr.

Starr said the president’s house should not be viewed just as a residence, but also as a resource for the faculty, staff and students. He said the president’s house will be open and welcoming to the Baylor community.

Dr. Dennis Myers, chair of Faculty Senate, said the faculty needs the opportunity to learn more about his call and commitment to Baylor.

“I was pleased that the faculty senate representatives had a voice in the decision to select Judge Starr for the presidency,” Myers said. “I was pleased by the fact that he has a call to the academy inspite of numerous other vocational options available to him.”

In addition, Starr plans to be open to the Baylor alumni and Waco community.

Starr’s plan to reach out to alumni and the Waco community

Starr said he plans to work on what the university can do to build and reconnect with Baylor graduates.

“I think the challenge for any university, including Baylor, is to build a sense of community and to restore that sense of community that the alumni had when they were on campus,” Starr said. “That’s a challenge and that is one of the areas that I plan to make a very high priority.”

To do this, he said he will focus on ensuring the various alumni chapters are energetic and active.

“The president should, to the fullest extent that energy and time permit, be present, help build the alumni chapters wherever they may be, and that means globally,” Starr said.

Starr said he was especially excited about the Baylor Global Network.

“I love the idea of the Baylor Network and the idea of connecting people who may be living, as the Baylor Magazine recently featured, all over Germany but coming together through the Baylor Network to go across generation lines, brought together by their love of Baylor and their experience at Baylor,” Starr said.

Starr also plans to be involved in the Waco community because of Baylor’s interdependence with the Waco community and the Central Texas area.

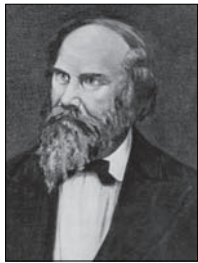
“I want to be very engaged with civic and business leaders, and obviously church leaders in the community,” Starr said. “And I have always been engaged in the community and want to continue that and deepen that in Waco.”

He said being involved in the community is a very important role that, as the president of Baylor, he will be very involved in.

Dary stone, board of regents chair will present Starr to the Baylor community at 3 p.m. today in the Barfield Drawing Room of the Bill Daniel Student Center, according to the university’s statement released Monday.

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Graves

Henry Lee Graves,
1846-1851

Baylor’s first president. On May 18, 1846, when Baylor opened as a small frame schoolhouse in Independence, he was the president for 24 men and women.



Burleson

Rufus C. Burleson,
1851-1861

Shortly after converting to Baptist faith, he went into ministry. Burleson was also Baylor’s first president to focus on publicity, sending circulars and letters.



Andrews

Reddin Andrews,
1885-1886

He was the first native Texan and Baylor alumnus president. He fought for the Confederacy before coming to Baylor. He became president after Crane’s death.



Neff

Pat Morris Neff,
1932-1947

Neff made plans for a Bible building, a student center, a permanent gymnasium and an administration building.

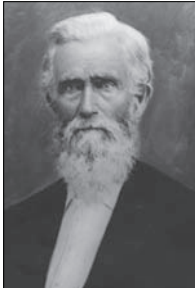


Reynolds

Herbert H. Reynolds,
1981-1995

During his presidency, the endowment quadrupled, the university’s total net assets increased threefold, and additions and renovations to campus facilities totaled more than \$180 million. Reynolds established the distinguished visiting professors program and headed the creation of a university governance system.

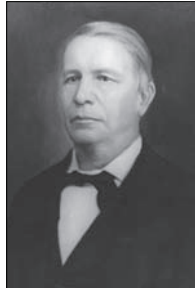
Presidents of
Baylor: Display
of leadership
and endurance



Baines

George Washington Baines,
1861-1863

Baines had a difficult but short time as president of Baylor University, dealing with financial troubles and the oncoming civil war.



Crane

William Carey Crane,
1864-1885

As president, Crane took back campus buildings that were being used by Confederate soldiers and increased the size of the student body.



Cooper

Oscar Henry Cooper,
1899-1902

Yale alumnus. As president of Baylor, he was responsible from receiving the donations from the Carroll family for the chapel, library and science buildings.



Brooks

Samuel Palmer Brooks,
1902-1931

Brooks gave Baylor its bear in 1914, from a vote among a frog, an antelope, a buffalo and a ferret. By the late 20s, enrollment was up to 3,500.



McCall

Abner Vernon McCall,
1961-1981

McCall then served as the dean of the law school, before becoming Baylor’s 10th president.



Sloan

Robert B. Sloan, Jr.,
1995-2005

From 2005-2006, Sloan was Chancellor of Baylor. Before becoming president of the university, Sloan was the founding dean of the George W. Truett Theological Seminary. Sloan graduated from Baylor in 1970 with a bachelor of arts degree. As president, he was instrumental in the implementation of Baylor 2012.



Lilley

John M. Lilley,
2006-2008

Under Lilley, Baylor was named one of the most productive research universities nationwide by Academic Analytics. While Lilley was president, Baylor’s endowment grew to \$1.1 billion. Construction and renovation projects during his presidency included the Brooks Village Residential Community, the Immortal Ten Memorial, and the Paul L. Foster Success Center, among others.

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Baylor falls short of concert-hosting potential

POINT
of view

By JAMES BYERS

When Baylor students crave live music, they frequently travel to Austin or Dallas. Call me crazy, but I dream of a day when students don't need to leave Waco to see their favorite artists.

Don't misunderstand me; I know that Waco simply isn't big enough to attract acts like U2, Bruce Springsteen or Beyoncé. The city doesn't have any venues that are large enough to make such a concert financially feasible. Baylor isn't a small school, but it's no University of Texas, and the Heart O' Texas Coliseum isn't exactly the American Airlines Arena. But I do think that Waco, as a college town, is a potentially formidable market for small to mid-level musical acts.

First off, let me say that the

folks at Common Grounds do an excellent job of supporting local acts and artists on Baylor's Up-roar Records. Common Grounds has hosted nationally touring acts too, like on Feb. 1, when Norwegian pop singer Sondre Lerche performed. While I wasn't able to attend, I was thrilled that a prominent artist came to Waco. Unfortunately, Common Grounds isn't the largest venue, so unless the coffee shop plans on relocating, it can only accommodate artists of a smaller size.

Art Ambush hosts a steady flow of concerts, but it tends to gravitate toward the metal/hard-core genre, so if you're not into that then you're out of luck.

The onus, then, falls on Baylor to bring entertainment to Waco. You may not know it, but Baylor has hosted plenty of concerts in the past. In the '60s and '70s, the Carpenters, John Denver, Chicago and many other artists played on the Baylor campus. In 2005 country singer Keith Urban

played the Ferrell Center. But since then the number of high-profile concerts has noticeably decreased. It isn't difficult to guess why: Concerts are expensive, and there's no guarantee that they'll sell out. Plus, there are so many other events scheduled at Waco Hall and the Ferrell Center that it's difficult to find an open date that works for both Baylor and the artist.

Now, most of the bigger concerts at Baylor are sponsored by student organizations and facilitated by the department of student activities, like when Switch-foot played at Beta Upsilon Chi's Island Party in 2007. But I don't think student organizations should be responsible for entertaining the entire student body. Baylor itself should be willing to organize more concerts.

Concerts aren't as expensive as the administration may think. At least not the kind I have in mind. Dropping \$200,000 on John Mayer may be far fetched (and

who knows what he might say on stage), but many of the bands that college students like cost only a fraction of that sum.

I recently polled students around campus in a very unscientific manner to determine which artists students would like to see play on campus. Sure, there were plenty, I daresay, unrealistic requests for Lil' Wayne, Taylor Swift and Lady Gaga, but many smaller artists were mentioned too. Regina Spektor, Augustana, the Avett Brothers, Josh Kelley and Ray LaMontagne were a few of the artists mentioned multiple times. According to Pretty Polly Productions, a booking agency that specializes in college concerts, all of those artists (and hundreds more) are available for between \$10,000 and \$50,000. Many artists are available for less. The point is that not every concert will break the bank. I'm not familiar with the university's finances, but those amounts seem reasonable.

Surely there are Fridays or Saturdays when Waco Hall is available. With a proper advertising push, and tickets priced at \$10 to \$30 (depending on where you sit), I'm fairly confident that Regina Spektor would sell out the 2,200-seat Waco Hall.

Putting on a concert of that size is easier said than done, but Baylor would have compelling reasons to bring more artists to campus.

First, higher-profile concerts would be a terrific recruiting tool. When I was visiting colleges back in high school, I remember being impressed whenever the guide mentioned the bands that recently played on campus. And those were small, liberal arts colleges, not Big 12 members.

Perhaps more importantly, if Baylor hosted bigger concerts, more students would stay in Waco on the weekends, which would energize both the city and the campus.

At the very least, where are

the Christian music artists? As the largest Baptist university in the world, you would expect big-name Christian artists to play on campus every other month. Yet the biggest Christian concerts are at UBC, not at Baylor, which is a shame.

Waco's proximity to bigger cities could be seen as reason to leave on the weekends. I choose to view it as a blessing; if Waco is so close to the "live music capital of the world," then why shouldn't a few of the artists swing by here?

So what to do about this? If you want a particular artist to play on campus, vocalize it. Tell Student Activities. If they're continually bombarded with requests for more concerts, they might listen. I'm just trying to start a dialogue. I would love feedback from students. If you think I'm crazy, let me know. But if you're like me, and you think that we shouldn't have to hit I-35 to see bigger bands, then let's change this together.

'Crazy Heart' impresses with simplicity, music and plot

By JAMES BLAKE EWING

REPORTER

Bad Blake (Jeff Bridges) is past his prime, an old country musician without a new song in years. Every town is the same, a small cramped bar or the dirty corner of a building playing old songs to

MOVIE | REVIEW

those who wish to wax nostalgic. He can usually get a one-night stand, some free booze and a little cash out of the deal.

Bad Blake is not a man corrupted by an industry, he's just bad. His gnarly beard, seething temper and passive aggressive air makes him one cantankerous old sod.

When he's not at the bottle or smoking a cig, he's in the arms of a beautiful woman or the next best thing.

And then Bad meets Jean Craddock (Maggie Gyllenhaal), a small-town journalist who catch-

es his fancy and then some. One interview becomes a lot more. However, Jean has been burned in the past by worldly men and while Bad can be charming and sweet, his vices are many.

From here, the film could develop a heavy sense of overbearing drama, crafting a series of deliberate and serious moments. Instead, the film simply unfolds, allowing events to follow their natural course and simply letting the camera capture all that happens. It's obvious how things will play out from here, but it's still compelling to watch it slowly build.

If the film has a fatal flaw, it's that Jean is played more as a sound board for Bad than fleshed out into an actual character. By the end, the audience hasn't gotten to know her that well and that's inexcusable, given the amount of time we spend with her.

Yet it is Bad Blake that's the star of the film, brought to life by Jeff Bridges. The swagger in his walk and the way he simply



Jeff Bridges and Maggie Gyllenhaal are shown in a scene from "Crazy Heart." Bridges was nominated for an Oscar for best actor and Gyllenhaal was nominated for an Oscar for best supporting actress for their roles.

stands embodies his performance. His disarming smile and smooth tongue hide the malice and disdain we see come out in private. The way he articulates all this is seamless, and by the end he truly has become this character in a way only great actors can.

Even more impressive is the

fact that Bridges performs the songs himself. I'm no great expert in music, and country is not a genre I've ever found compelling, but the way the music is integrated into the story and how it speaks of the characters and their history is well crafted.

Where the actual music fas-

cinates is the point of the movie when the audience realizes it has just witnessed its creation from Bad's story. In the last act of the film, Bad pens a song called "The Weary Kind" (written by T-Bone Burnett) and once it's performed, it is a revelation to realize that the audience just witnessed the

inspiration of a song for the past two hours.

The film also develops an interesting commentary on the way country music has changed. At a certain point Bad Blake is forced to play for his former protégé, Tommy Sweet (Colin Farrell), who has made it big. Whereas Blake plays simple, downbeat songs, Tommy is playing songs with lyrics that sound of country music but are oddly placed in a fast, upbeat and catchy tune. It's commercial and popular, as seen from the crowd roaring from his performance, but it lacks the heart and passion of Bad's music.

And that's what separates "Crazy Heart" from most other Hollywood productions. Films like "Avatar," "The Hurt Locker," "Inglourious Basterds" and "District 9" will garner most of the praise and talk from this year's award season, but they lack the soulful sincerity and simplicity of "Crazy Heart."

A-

The more money movies cost, the less money they make

By BEN FRITZ

LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES — There turned out to be a simple formula for sorting the three new movies at the box office this weekend: The more they cost, the less they made.

Romantic comedy "Valentine's Day" dominated Presidents Day weekend with a record-setting studio-estimated take of \$66.9 million in the United States and Canada, easily besting children's fantasy book series adaptation "Percy Jackson

& The Olympians: The Lightning Thief," which took in \$38.8 million and the remake of the classic monster movie "The Wolfman," which grossed \$36.5 million.

The ranking was the same overseas, where "Valentine's Day" opened to \$30.4 million, "Percy Jackson" to \$28 million and "Wolfman" to \$21 million.

"Valentine's Day" cost Warner Bros.' New Line Cinema unit just \$52 million to produce, making it a huge hit out of the gate. The debut of "Percy Jackson" was good, but not great given its \$95-million production budget funded

by 20th Century Fox, Dune Entertainment and Ingenious Film Partners. "The Wolfman," meanwhile, had a so-so opening. Depending on who you ask, it cost between \$110 million to \$150 million to produce. A person close to the Universal Pictures and Relativity Media movie said it cost \$150 million, while the studio said it was more like \$110 million. Either way, that opening was not great news.

Total receipts for the four-day weekend were \$245 million, according to Hollywood.com, well ahead of the previous record of

\$220.1 million set last year.

The outside opening for "Valentine's Day," which came in above already big expectations, is the best-ever performance for a movie over Presidents Day weekend, even accounting for ticket price inflation. The previous record holder was 2007's "Ghost Rider," which collected \$52 million.

It came in just behind the top romantic comedy debut ever, "Sex and the City," also released by New Line, which opened to \$57 million over its first three days in 2008.

Fox and its financing partners have a good shot at coming out OK on "Percy Jackson," as family movies tend to hold well after opening and the movie got a B-plus grade from moviegoers, according to market research firm CinemaScore, a sign of healthy word-of-mouth.

Oddly for "The Wolfman" are longer not only due to its cost, but because audiences gave it an average grade of only C-plus. In addition, the lone new movie opening next weekend is "Shutter Island," an R-rated thriller that will compete most directly

for the audience of "Wolfman."

Fox Searchlight also opened Indian superstar Shahrukh Khan's "My Name is Khan" at 120 theaters in cities with significant Indian-American populations. The movie grossed a healthy \$2.3 million over four days. It also took in a strong \$9.2 million in India and a total of \$14.2 million in eight foreign markets.

Of last weekend's new movies, "From Paris With Love" held on better after its dismal start, declining 32 percent, while "Dear John" dropped 47 percent in the face of "Valentine's Day."

FUN TIMES

Find answers at www.baylorlariat.com

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Across

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- 6 Rice-__
- 11 Air gun ammo
- 14 Catherine of "Beetle-juice"
- 15 Binary system digits
- 16 Exercise unit
- 17 "Relaxing soak
- 19 Brew in a yard
- 20 "Just __ suspected!"
- 21 "... have you __ wool?"
- 22 Company whose calling is calling
- 23 Bio kin
- 26 "Great concert turn-out
- 29 Sympathetic connection
- 31 Cease
- 32 Blood system letters
- 33 Confirmation, e.g.
- 35 Outperforms
- 39 "Many an exec's remuneration

- 43 Work with hair
- 44 Pre-coll. catchall
- 45 Bit of Internet mirth
- 46 Binary system digits
- 49 Pulls an all-nighter
- 51 "Unlucky selection
- 55 Course with many problems
- 56 Hip-swiveling dance
- 57 Beachgoer's shirt
- 58 Rioting group
- 60 Former California fort
- 61 What you can say about sketches, and about the answers to the starred clues
- 66 NFL's Cardinals, on scoreboards
- 67 Free-for-all
- 68 McDermott of "The Practice"
- 69 Soap-making need
- 70 "__ my case"
- 71 Figure out

Down

- 1 Heavy weight
- 2 Bigeye or yellowfin, at a sushi bar
- 3 Cheese partner
- 4 Radio signal booster
- 5 Signs of contentment
- 6 HIV-treating drug
- 7 Masonry-reinforcing rod
- 8 Tree-dwelling apes
- 9 "Almost ready-be patient"
- 10 Suffix with Brit
- 11 "Top Chef" network
- 12 Downstairs, at sea
- 13 Blow, as dough
- 18 Well driller
- 22 Skin care maven
- Adrien
- 23 Uncouth
- 24 Good thing to kick
- 25 Hobbyist's glue
- 27 Westernmost Aleutian island
- 28 Kurt of Nirvana

- 30 Point in the right direction
- 34 Preceding, in poetry
- 36 Tex-Mex dip
- 37 "Rainbow" fish
- 38 Mythical air dweller
- 40 Regional plant life
- 41 Corsica neighbor
- 42 Skeptic's demand
- 47 Her book is read during the Jewish holiday Purim
- 48 "Remington __"
- 50 Pre-fetus stage
- 51 Shallow sea area
- 52 Speed things up
- 53 Song from the past
- 54 Three-time N.L. stolen base champ José
- 59 Gambler's concerns
- 61 Pa. plant in the 1979 news
- 62 Like Gen. Powell
- 63 Every last one
- 64 Sound file suffix
- 65 L.A.-to-Helena dir.

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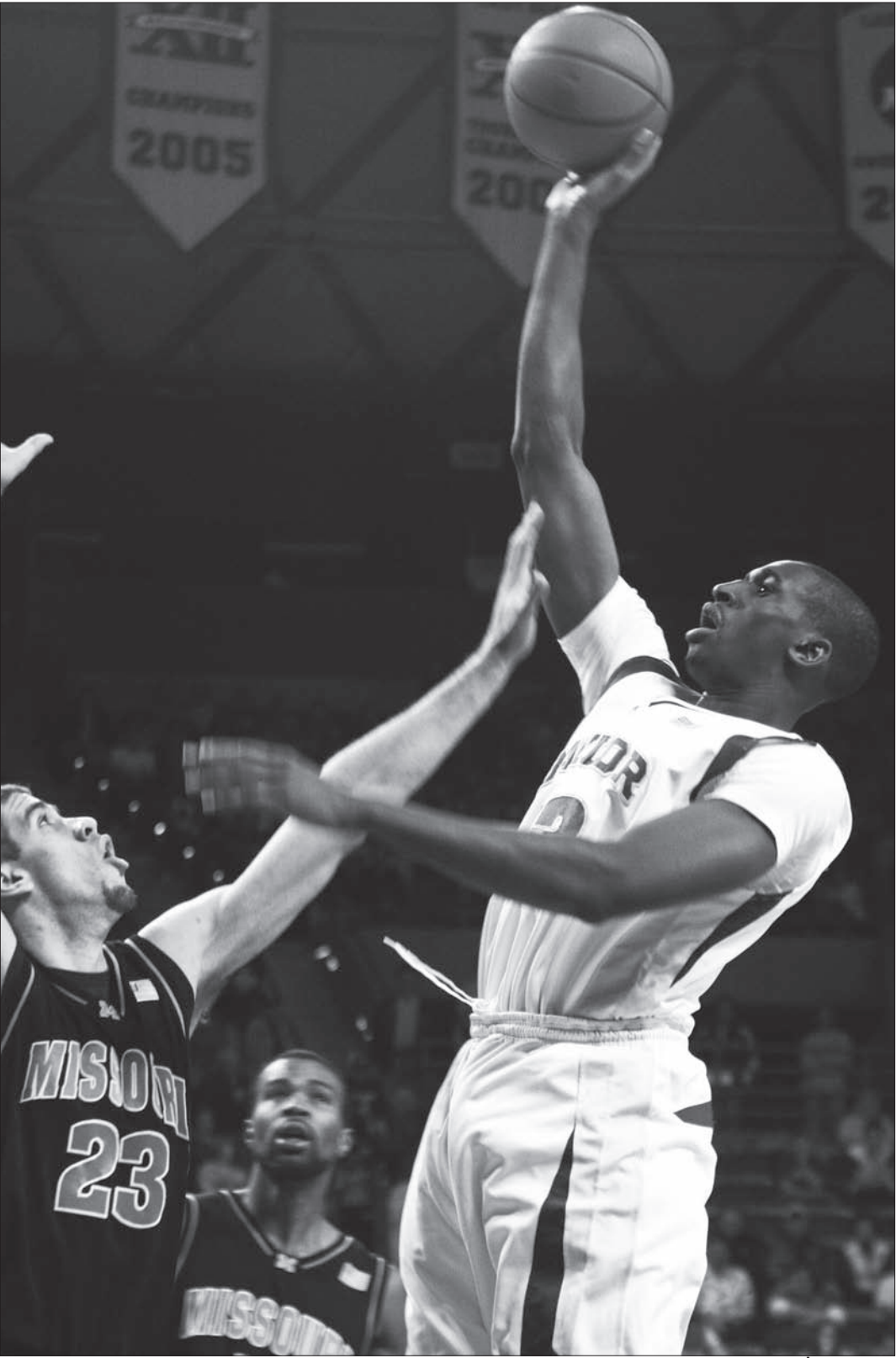
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DANIEL CERNERO | LARIAT STAFF

Ekpe Udoh (No. 13) places a hook shot over Justin Safford during Saturday's 64-62 victory at the Ferrell Center. Udoh made two game-winning shots last week for the Bears, who are one win shy from notching their third consecutive 20-win season.

20 / 20 / 20 Vision

Drew, Baylor basketball seeking third consecutive 20-win season tonight

By JUSTIN BAER
SPORTS EDITOR

Sitting at 19 wins entering tonight's game against Texas Tech University, the No. 22-ranked Baylor men's basketball team is on the cusp of setting a mark that has yet to be accomplished throughout the 104-year history of the program — compiling three consecutive 20-win seasons.

With the breadth of talent dispersed among teams today, head coach Scott Drew realizes the hardship of the feat. Any proof, he says, can be seen in two 2009 Final Four teams' (North Carolina and UConn) struggles this season.

"If you can achieve three straight 20-win seasons, that shows not have you only been good, you have been consistently good," Drew said. "Anybody can see how tough it is just to sustain (that level of success)."

The Bears' (19-5, 6-4) tussle to reach the 20-win plateau has been strenuous, as Baylor has clinched several of its wins in the waning moments of games — including its previous two victories against the Universities of Nebraska and Missouri.

"We have to make it fun to watch," senior center Josh Lombers said jokingly Monday afternoon. "Nobody likes to watch a 55-point blowout."

Ekpe Udoh hit a game-win-

ning shot against the Cornhuskers with 25 seconds remaining Wednesday night in Lincoln.

Udoh bettered Wednesday's climactic ending on Saturday, when the Edmond, Okla., junior tipped in LaceDarius Dunn's missed shot with 1.2 seconds remaining in the game to send the Bears to a 64-62 victory.

"I know that Ekpe is one of those guys that doesn't mind having a lot of pressure on him," said Drew, who earned his 100th career victory with Saturday's win. "He performs well under (pressure), and I think our guys look to him."

Drew has preached that cake-walks are hard to come by with the strength of the Big 12. However, the frantic endings in Baylor's favor, he said, are an essential element to a postseason run.

"When you look back at any season, if it is a successful season, you have won your share of close games," Drew said.

If the Bears are victorious tonight, they may have to settle for another close win. Even though the Red Raiders have collapsed since being ranked No. 16 on Dec. 15, the scrappy squad has posted valiant fights in its past three games.

Pat Knight's team knocked off the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University in a four-day span before crumbling in the waning minutes of Saturday's 67-65 defeat against Texas A&M University.

"They have lost a couple of close games," Drew said. "They have played well on the road,

and they are a team with that athleticism. They can go on spurts."

Without a starter standing above 6 feet 9 inches tall, Tech faces a disadvantage to a tall Baylor squad. But comparable to Mizzou, the Red Raiders are notorious for their athleticism.

Led by Mike Singletary (15.5 points per game) and John Roberson (15.4 points per game), Texas Tech has a common theme among its players.

"They are more undersized, but they are athletic," said Udoh, whose team possesses three starters standing taller than 6 feet 10 inches. "They have players that can run and jump with the best of them. We are going to have bring our A game. We are really going to have to get out there and defend."

Dunn, Udoh collect Big 12 Honors

Dunn and Udoh were named the Big 12 Player of the Week and the Big 12 Rookie of the Week, respectively, on Monday by the Big 12 offices. Dunn, who ranks second in the conference with 18.7 points per game, earned his third honor of the season after leading the Bears with 18 points per game against the Cornhuskers and Tiggers.

Meanwhile, Udoh earned his third rookie honor after hitting two game-winning shots and averaging 9.5 rebounds and 4.5 blocks.

He also broke the Brian Skinner's single-season block record of 98. This is the second time the two have swept the honors this season.

Sports writer says Web skills vital

By DANIEL CERNERO
REPORTER

Baylor alum John McClain, a sports writer for the Houston Chronicle, talked about the ways he has survived the ever-changing world of the newspaper industry Monday at the Society of Professional Journalists meeting.

McClain emphasized the importance of being able to adapt with technology and the growing world of social media.

"I don't want to be an old dog who can't learn new tricks," McClain said. "You have to adapt to change. You have to be flexible."

Many of his friends didn't adapt to the Internet. Instead, they ignored it and got laid off as a result.

Before graduating from Baylor, he had already been working at the Waco Tribune-Herald for three years. Upon graduation, McClain began working for the Houston Chronicle, where he still works today.

"I've been at (Houston) Chronicle in the sports department longer than any of our other

writers and am told that I'm the second-highest paid," McClain said. "Which means I'd be a leading candidate to get laid off in our next round of layoffs. They told me that I don't have anything to worry about because fortunately I generate enough hits on the Web site."

Sophomore Kyle Beam, a native to the Houston area, said he enjoyed listening to McClain's experiences in sports writing, especially since most of McClain's experience has been covering that area.

Currently, McClain can be heard in radio stations in Houston, Waco, Austin and Nashville, Tenn.

McClain said he enjoys radio jobs because he feels that "talking for money is like stealing."

He said he never turns down the chance to make a radio appearance because it gives him the chance to promote the Web site, chron.com, and the movies he's been in.

McClain has made cameos as a sportswriter in movies such as "The Rookie," "The Longest

Yard," "Invincible" and "The Game Plan." This is just another way he's been able to survive in the journalism industry.

Clovis, N.M., junior Jenna DeWitt appreciated McClain's ability to accept any journalistic medium that comes his way.

"It is so important for us today in a world of convergence, where we have to be able to do pretty much anything in journalism," DeWitt, president of SPJ, said.

Dewitt said that at SPJ meetings try to accomplish anything that a textbook can't teach you in the journalism department.

"You can only update a textbook every once in a while, but in a meeting, we can have a different (topic) every month."

When talking about the nature of journalism, McClain stressed the importance of timeliness and accuracy.

"You want to be first. If you're in journalism, that's what it's all about," McClain said. "You want to be accurate, but you want to be first. All we have is our credibility. If you're wrong, people are going to use it against you."



Catch me if you can

Snowboarders race downhill at the 2010 Winter Olympics Monday afternoon in Vancouver, British Columbia. The track is reputed to be one of the toughest the snowboarders have ever ridden.

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