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Uproar Records artist and The Robbie Seay Band jam at Common Grounds tonight

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### *Bears win 4-3*

Inclement weather cuts game short; Baylor beats UTSA in 7 innings Wednesday

# Town hall highlights students' concerns

## Administrators, students discuss tuition, parking

By KATY McDOWALL  
REPORTER

Students gathered at student government's town hall meeting Wednesday night to discuss such topics as tuition and parking with Interim President David Garland, Vice President for Student Life Kevin Jackson and Faculty Senate Chair Dennis Myers.

The town hall meeting was proof of students' desire to be involved, Myers said.

"You want student involvement?" Myers said. "Let's have more of this. Let's do this more."

The town hall included discussion on what Garland said is one of Baylor administration's concerns: rising tuition.

"Rising tuition costs are a

problem for families, and the regents are very conscience of that," Garland said. "I think they're very conscious of the need to raise endowments for scholarships."

Garland said the issue of scholarships not increasing when tuition increases also needs to be addressed.

"When tuition goes up, scholarship money also needs to go up," Garland said.

Myers said faculty members are very concerned with costs, such as textbook prices.

"The assumption is all Baylor students are wealthy and have many automobiles and boats and things, and, of course, that's not the case at all," Myers said. "In fact, therefore, we are very sensitive to the impact of these expenses on individual students."

Another topic addressed at the meeting was the relationship between the administration and students.

"We have an administration

now I feel is very open to student input, and I anticipate as we make changes in leadership that the new leaders we bring in will also be very open to input," Jackson said.

Garland said student involvement has not been a part of Baylor's tradition, but that is something that is going to change.

Jackson said one of Baylor's goals is to have 50 percent of students living on campus.

"The primary reason is we feel like when we have students living on campus it is a much richer learning environment for them," Jackson said. "National data supports that. Our students tell us that."

Jackson said the primary goal right now is to have all freshmen living on campus, and a future goal is to gain more student living space on campus.

"We still need more space on campus, and we know that,"

see **CONCERN**, pg. 6



DANIEL CERNERO | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Students ask questions Wednesday at Student Government's town hall meeting in Draper Academic Building. Interim President David Garland, Vice President for Student Life Kevin Jackson and Faculty Senate Chair Dennis Myers spoke at the meeting.



SARAH GROMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Sic 'Em Send-Off

No. 50 forward Josh Lomers and the rest of the Baylor men's basketball team put up their bear claws for the playing of "That Good Ol' Baylor Line" at the team's send-off rally Wednesday, in the den of the Bill Daniel Student Center. The Bears will face No. 10-seed St. Mary's on Friday at Reliant Stadium in Houston in the program's first Sweet 16 appearance.

# Death penalty center of lecture

## Speaking tour visits campus, argues capital punishment as unsound practice

By LAURA REMSON  
STAFF WRITER

"Lynching Then, Lynching Now," a national teaching tour trying to stop the death penalty, made its stop at a Baylor Democrats event Wednesday night.

The tour is sponsored by the Campaign to End the Death Penalty. Speakers included Dr. Alan Bean, executive director of Friends of Justice, and Mark Osler, Baylor law professor. Other stops on the trip have included a number of universities throughout the nation and in Texas at



MATT HELLMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Baylor law professor Mark Osler, right, speaks with Missouri City senior Stan Staton and senior Oscar Boleman of the Baylor Democrats Wednesday before a guest lecture in the Draper Academic Building on the "Lynching Then, Lynching Now" speaking tour by the Campaign to End the Death Penalty.

University of Texas, Austin, University of North Texas and University of Houston.

The Campaign to End the Death Penalty argues that the death penalty is an inherently unsound practice, one which should be opposed for five reasons: it's racist, it punishes the poor, it condemns the innocent to die, it is not a deterrent to violent crime and should be considered "cruel and unusual punishment."

Stan Staton, vice president of the Baylor Democrats, found out about the campaign through a professor who had been contacted by the campaign itself.

While the Baylor Democrats have never proposed nor determined an official stance on the death penalty, the vote to bring this event to Baylor was unanimous.

"I think that as a Baptist university — a Christian university — we should strive to love

justice and love mercy and so I think that one of those things is to have mercy on those who do wrong, even the most heinous crimes," Staton said. "If the right to life is not protected for even the most heinous of our population, then there's no guarantee that it would respected for even the best of our population."

Staton himself is against the death penalty, equating it to a

see **LECTURE**, pg. 6

# Oliver: God has a call for each of us

By LELA ATWOOD  
REPORTER

Dr. Samuel "Dub" Oliver, president of East Texas Baptist University and former vice president for student life spoke Wednesday about what he learned from his recent transition.

In a lecture arranged by the Academy for Leadership Development and Civic Engagement, Oliver encouraged students to seek God's will in their lives and follow it.

Oliver said that although experience is important in leadership, students must be intentional with learning from these experiences.

"One of the things that I say a lot is that experience is the best feature of leadership as long as you pay attention to what it is trying to teach you and what the Lord is helping you to discover," Oliver said.

Oliver was at Baylor for 17 years. In 2009, he left Baylor to become president at ETBU, but he said the choice wasn't an

easy one.

"I wasn't looking to leave," Oliver said. "You have to understand that very, very much. I didn't want to leave. That was not my desire."

In 2007, Oliver had received some presidential offers from other universities, but he never took them seriously because he said he was happy working at Baylor. Then he said he realized that he needed to be open for what God had for him.

When a friend called to tell him he had been nominated for the presidency at ETBU, Oliver seriously looked into and prayerfully considered the possibility of taking the position.

"The flat, honest truth is, I

see **DUB**, pg. 6



Oliver

# Profs collaborate for terrorists article

## Political scientists discuss motivations of suicide attackers

By SARA TIRRITO  
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Brad Thayer, professor of political science at Baylor, and Dr. Valerie Hudson, a professor of political science at Brigham Young University, will have their article, "Sex and the Shaheed," published in the Spring 2010 issue of International Security.

"It's essentially about using sex and marriage to combat the Shaheed," Thayer said.

Thayer said the article considers suicide terrorism, and the Shaheed, who are martyrs for Allah, through a unique perspective.

"It's to recognize that Islamic fundamental suicide terrorism is a huge problem and that in-

dividuals want to commit these attacks for reasons which are human and can be understood, and what we are trying to do is recognize that those human motivations can be met and there's an alternative path for these individuals."

"It's about exploring the issue of Islamic fundamentalist suicide terrorism — a particular form of terrorism — through the perspective of the life sciences, which allows us to see things that terrorism experts traditionally don't see," Thayer said, "because terrorism experts traditionally are coming out of a political science background, which captures a lot of motivations of terrorism, but not all of them."

Hudson and Thayer felt it important to utilize all of the knowledge about human behav-

see **TERROR**, pg. 6



# Selfish habits stifle growth, self-discovery

## Point of View

By Nick Dean



Students are always reminded of the importance of individuality. We are told that college is the crucial time when we must find out who we are and what we want to do. Apparently, we are in the most self-reflective part of our lives.

But what happens after I find out? What if the self-reflection gets me nowhere?

I think our society has caused us to be inwardly focused to a fault. Don't get me wrong, I agree that finding 'who you are' is the right thing to do. In fact, I am always asking "why" or "where" or "who" just to put the pieces of my own life together. But, honestly, the journey of "finding yourself" doesn't seem to have an actual end. In fact, "finding yourself" sounds like a bad motivational poster on the wall of a high school English classroom and that's it.

We conjure up huge expectations that lead us to believe once we understand who we are, then — and only then — everything will fall into place. We tell ourselves that once we uncover our true calling in life everything will run smoothly.

Knowing who we are is the vein, not the bane, of our existence. We are frantic if we don't know exactly what we want to do or where we want to be in five years. It seems that knowing the future is the only way to calm down. It also seems that knowing the future is currently an impossible task, so why try?

I've heard that when someone finally 'knows who he or she is' (whatever that means), then they are peaceful and live life stress-free. I don't believe it.

I've come to realize that, by only focusing on myself, I am running in the exact opposite direction of 'finding myself' and I am losing opportunities to give back. I think we all have an urge to think selfishly, to think from a perspective that only takes one's own well-being into account.

What about the other people in this world? Who are they? How do they play into this whole scheme? Finding ourselves is going to be easier if we just stop worrying about ourselves and start caring about those around us.

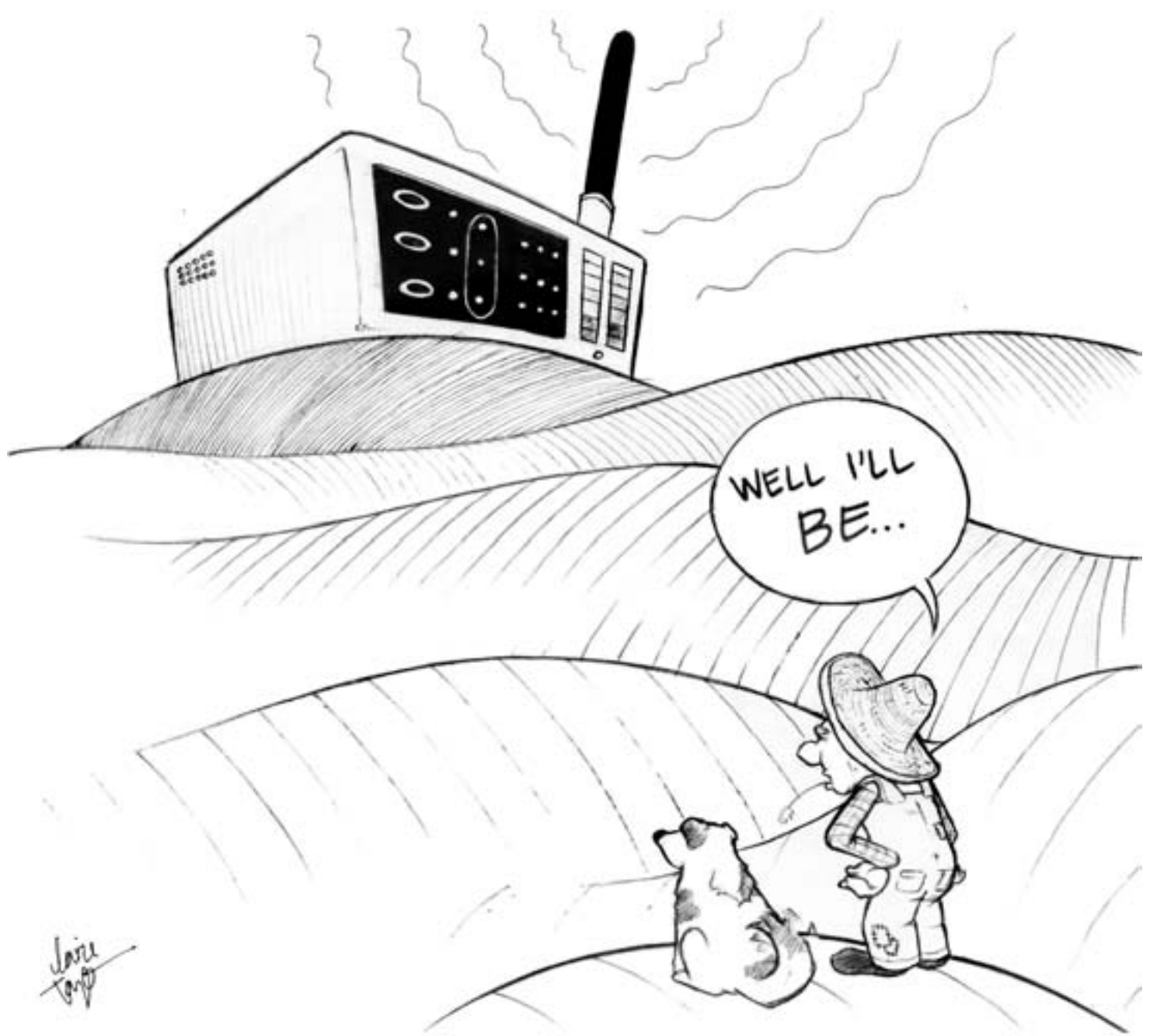
We need to start believing that others matter. In fact, we need to do more than just believe — we need to act. Help someone. Do something that shows another person they are valued, they are needed and they have an integral part in this world. Pay it forward for Christ's sake.

If we all strive to help others and stop focusing on our personal goals, 'finding yourself' suddenly becomes easier. Instantly, your problems are not as tremendous as they were before. "No matter how bad you think you have it, always remember that someone else in the world has it worse," my mom used to tell me. It is a sad truth. Others do have it worse than I do. Perhaps focusing on others' problems and working to improve others' lives is what I was born to do. Maybe through helping others I will find who I am. I am not sure. But I am positive that only focusing on my problems isn't improving my life or the world.

"For many years, and I can say it truthfully, I never rested. I neither thought nor reflected. I had no pleasure, even though I pursued it fiercely during the brief respite of vacations. Through many feverish years I did not work: I merely produced," Ray Stannard Baker wrote in his book "Adventures in Contentment."

I want to live a life that does more than produce. I want to help.

Nick Dean is an Austin sophomore majoring in journalism and political science. He is the news editor for the Baylor



# FCC's pivotal proposal capable of effecting national change

Most of us cannot imagine living without high-speed Internet access.

At one time, we have all endured the snail's pace of a dial-up Internet connection while anticipating the intermittent loss of this slow connection.

Luckily, the students, faculty and staff of the university have access to high-speed Internet through Baylor's broadband umbrella. However, off campus, many may belong to the one-third of the nation still without broadband access at home, a number released by the Federal Communications Commission in a February report.

The government believes it to be such an integral part of the nation's future that the FCC proposed the National Broadband Plan last week, which would pour the billions allotted by Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act into making broadband accessible to every American by 2020.

An important recommendation by the FCC is to utilize nonprofit colleges and universities as hubs for broadband access throughout communities. The thinking goes that with the existing infrastructure at these large institutions, combined with their regional and national networking, they could serve as central points for broadband access.

Not only would this part of the plan positively involve academia in this giant movement, but it would also greatly influence the communities surrounding America's colleges

## Editorial

and universities by creating jobs and boosting industries. In fact, some of America's top research institutions have already ventured to do so within their communities.

A model example, used in the FCC's 376-page report, is Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, which is planning a University Circle Innovation Zone that will provide speedy fiber optic connections to schools, libraries and households in the poorer socioeconomic areas surrounding the university. Case Western anticipates that this will enhance its local economy by launching jobs in the technology, science, health and engineering sectors.

If Baylor were to extend its broadband capabilities to the Waco community, the possibilities seem endless.

Waco's health care, finance and technology sectors are already strong and hold untapped potential for growth and employment with further use of broadband technologies.

Plus, with Waco's three institutions of higher education, blanketing the community with high-speed Internet does not seem implausible.

The possible hang-ups, like the immense cost of broadband infrastructure and competition with the private sector, are not to be ignored but should not detract from the mission that the Obama administration began.

Another pivotal factor of the government's push to increase broadband access is the positive impact this could have on minorities. Among other groups, the elderly, poor, geographically isolated, uneducated, disabled, and some racial and ethnic minorities stand to benefit the most from government-mandated increases in high-speed Internet. These groups have historically been underrepresented among Internet users — some even say discriminated against — and could greatly benefit from online education and job searching tools along with other software.

There's no doubt that broadband has revolutionized the Internet and our lives. In fact, broadband has become an integral part of the our nation with its uses such as Homeland Security monitoring, communicating for persons with disabilities and allowing specialized medical care to get to under-served populations, to name a few.

The FCC should be commended for its well-researched and ambitious plan that incorporates academia and strives for equality of opportunities for all Americans. Universities and colleges should take the FCC's recommendation seriously and use their resources to become a leader in broadband expansion.

The incorporation of research universities and colleges into this plan is pivotal, and these institutions have the opportunity to become leaders in a vital movement.

## Lariat Letters

### Conservative changes to textbooks in Texas are historically accurate

A recent Lariat editorial criticizes the Texas Board of Education for their March 11 decision to increase the emphasis of free enterprise and "the Christian beliefs on which the Founding Fathers based the government of the United States."

In a wide leap of logic, the editor seems to think that this historical approach is unfair, is contrary to separation of church and state, and that "the theory of evolution may soon be lost," if the board continues to make similar decisions.

Nonsense!

First of all, the theory of evolution is now so well accepted and foundational to the modern study of biology that it verges upon the paranoia of a conspiracy theorist to suggest that the board's recent actions by their precedent threaten to banish evolution

from public schools.

I mean, seriously...

Rather than being a "cause for concern" for Texans and Americans in general, the study of Christian principles and of free enterprise is a great aid to understanding American history.

For example, an understanding of the founders' belief in original sin and man's natural disposition to oppress his neighbor unless restrained aids one in understanding why they found separation of governmental powers to be necessary.

Why are defendants in our courts presumed innocent until proven guilty? This too is a result of Christian cultural influence. (cf. Exodus 23: 7)

True, many of the Founding Fathers were deists. But this does not erase the fact that their biblically Christian culture powerfully influenced these men's

thinking and actions.

Likewise, an understanding of free enterprise, the security of private property (cf. Fourth Amendment), and the citizen's right to dispose of his own property as he sees fit, is essential to the American conception of liberty.

From the time of the American founding, free enterprise has dominated American economic policy.

Alexander Hamilton, one of the most influential of the founding fathers, immigrated to America as an impoverished orphan.

A poster child for free enterprise, through his genius and hard work, Hamilton made himself into one of the most powerful men in New York. The first secretary of the U.S. Treasury, he proposed the first national bank and helped foster the industrialization of America.

Indeed, in almost any other country it would have been impossible for Hamilton, and many like him, to reach their full potentials. But because of its spirit of free enterprise, America has been and continues to be chock-full of success stories like Hamilton.

In the words of President Obama, "In reaffirming the greatness of our nation, we understand that greatness is never a given. It must be earned ... it has been the risk-takers, the doers, the makers of things ... who have carried us up the long rugged path towards prosperity and freedom."

Admitting the Christian principles and enterprising spirit that help to define America is neither partisan nor unwise. The relevant truth, whether or not it fits one's worldview, should always be considered, especially in the history classroom.

Now, of course, someone will shout, "but you're assuming what is relevant and what is not!"

Contending that Christian principles and free enterprise have not significantly influenced the course of American history is about as believable as claiming that communism has been a successful form of government. You don't have to be a brain surgeon or even a Democrat: to any candid mind, aware of the facts, neither of these contentions is credible.

And if Christian principles and free enterprise have played a significant role in American history, then Texans, and Americans in general, should be taught about it in school. Bravo, Texas Board of Education, bravo!

Foster Lerner  
Orlando, Fla. junior

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# Political science professor to run for Texas Senate

By JOHN D. ELIZONDO  
REPORTER

State Sen. Kip Averitt, R-Waco, announced his retirement earlier this month, and a Baylor political science professor is now running for his seat.

Dr. Gayle R. Avant, associate professor of political science who has been teaching at Baylor for 39 years, will be retiring at the end of the semester and said filling the open position would be a great opportunity for him to try something new.

"After teaching the Constitution and public administration and government regulation of business for several decades at Baylor, it seems time for to put what I know about politics into practice," Avant said.

Gov. Rick Perry has called for a special election to choose some-

one to take Averitt's spot in the Texas Senate on Saturday, May 8.



Avant

against Waco's David Sibley, Burleson's Darren Yancy and Granbury's Brian Birdwell for the Senate seat District 22. Avant said he is not new to campaigning for office.

He once ran for membership on the board of McLennan Com-

munity College and said his past experience and years of teaching will help him during the elections.

who won the Republican primary on March 2, decided to step down because of health-related reasons.

Avant will be running

against Waco's David Sibley, Burleson's Darren Yancy and Granbury's Brian Birdwell for the Senate seat District 22. Avant said he is not new to campaigning for office.

He once ran for membership on the board of McLennan Com-

munity College and said his past experience and years of teaching will help him during the elections.

"I think he wants to put forward his experience as a political scientist, in particular his specialty in the area of political administration," Allman said. "So I think he wants to represent those as an important part of the substance as part of his qualifica-

"Running in this campaign will give me opportunity to put into practice not only what I know about campaigning but also good and effective government."

Dr. Gayle R. Avant  
Associate professor of political science

tions and what distinguishes him from the other candidates."

Avant said he has received positive responses from colleagues and friends at Baylor, as

well as some of his students, after making his announcement.

Former Baylor chemistry professor John Belew said he is happy for Avant and supports the decision he made. He also commended his colleague for establishing a prominent program.

"He started a program for students in having Washington D.C. internships," Belew said.

Allman said he thinks Avant's personality will attribute to any successes he may have in the election.

"He is a very personable guy who is always friendly and cheerful around the office, so he seems to make friends pretty easily," Allman said. "All of those seem to be qualities that someone running for public office can make good use of."

Avant said the most important issue looming over the Texas Sen-

ate after the next election will be redrawing the congressional and state Senate electoral boundaries resulting from the population count in the 2010 Census. But he said that it is not the only issue with which he is concerned.

"I am committed to maintaining the integrity of this congressional district and of district 22 in the Texas senate and certainly improving the quality of education and supporting the Texas tuition equalization grant program," Avant said.

As the only Democrat running in this special election, Avant hopes to get votes from Democrats as well as Independents.

"I am looking forward to meeting as many potential voters as possible who live in the 10 county Senate District 22 between now and Election Day," Avant said.

# Fundraiser Dance Marathon hopes to benefit children

By BRITTNEY HERMAN  
REPORTER

The Scott & White Memorial Hospital, which joined the Waco community last year, opened its doors and brought a new light of philanthropy opportunities to Baylor students.

As part of this new addition, the Children's Miracle Network has teamed up with two Baylor students - Bettendorf, Iowa, sophomore Nicole Cobb and McKinney sophomore Reese Cantrell - to begin a philanthropy event called Dance Marathon.

This event, which will take place in fall 2010, is meant to benefit the Children's Miracle Network at Scott and White Hospital in Waco.

"Dance Marathon is a program hospitals use to build relationships with universities. Students run the program and the funding goes back to the local

hospital," Elizabeth McCann, development associate at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston, said. "So far 110 universities and colleges and over 30 high schools have done Dance Marathon. Six million dollars has been raised nationwide."

Groups seeking to participate must first obtain a charter through their home university or high school.

"There are 272 groups [at Baylor] chartered with the addition of Dance Marathon," Director of student activities, Matt Burchett, said. "Finalizing a charter can take up to six to eight weeks and has to go through a number of processes, although Dance Marathon took 12 weeks to charter."

Burchett said he has high hopes for this philanthropy, despite the fact that it is student-run.

"The students are in charge

"This is a key fundraiser that allows college students to stay in touch with hospitals and build community. Targeting schools all over the nation, Dance Marathon has gradually become a well-known philanthropy, especially with college students."

Elizabeth McCann  
Development associate,  
Texas Children's Hospital

of getting a charter and talking with the sponsors for the event," Burchett said. "We leave it up to them for the most part."

McCann said the organization influences campuses nationwide.

"This is a key fundraiser that allows college students to stay in touch with hospitals and build community," McCann said.

"Targeting schools all over the nation, Dance Marathon has gradually become a well-known philanthropy, especially with college students."

Zach Johnson, National Director of Dance Marathon, has a lot of faith in Baylor's potential to make a significant impact and contribution.

"Baylor University fits well with this format of bringing in a new philanthropy successfully. Our big focus now is the Big 12."

Dance Marathon will take place over the course of 24 hours and will have a number of op-

portunities, shows and activities.

In the past on other college campuses, such as Rice University, UCLA and Florida State, events such as silent auctions, dinners, mini-dance marathons, concerts and family events are the main focus of the day.

"The miracle kids' favorite part of this event is coming to meet the college students over the course of the 24-hour event," said Lesli Cearly, director of development for Children's Miracle Network at Scott and White in Waco.

Different than the other Scott and White hospitals, the Children's Miracle Network in Waco has a special device called the Olympic Cool-Cap system.

This cap slows the process of any brain damage or reverses the effects of brain damage when the oxygen supply stops for newborns.

The cap is made possible

through donations and fundraisers.

"We are the only hospital in the states that use this cap. Kids are alive today because of this," Cearly said.

Children's Miracle Network is completely funded by donations. The event is free for anyone to come and participate. Sign-ups for Baylor's charter will take place once in the fall 2010.

The money from the Dance Marathon along with that given from sponsors creates a chance for the Miracle Network to have summer camps for their miracle kids as well as many other lifetime opportunities.

With the recent charter obtained, Dance Marathon is a new expectation for Baylor students.

At the end of the day, Cearly said, "Not only does Dance Marathon give back to the community, but it influences the next generation."



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# Robbie Seay and Jillian Edwards stop in Waco

By RACQUEL JOSEPH  
REPORTER

Armed with a two-day-old, third EMI CD release titled “Miracle,” Robbie Seay Band will take the stage tonight at Common Grounds, one of the stops on its most recent tour schedule.

Robbie Seay Band is traveling with John Mark McMillan, a North Carolina independent artist, and Richardson junior Jillian Edwards, a singer/songwriter on a twenty-stop promotional tour for her newly released CD.

The artists are traveling through Texas, Arizona, New Jersey and North Carolina.

But the Robbie Seay Band does have Baylor roots, explained Tommy Mote, a student at McLennan Community College and barista at Common Grounds. Mote is also the promoter for the concert.

“Robbie Seay is Chris Seay’s brother. They’re Baylor graduates,” said Mote. “They went to

Common Grounds, when they were students.”

Chris Seay is the co-founder of local University Baptist Church, where Edwards occasionally leads worship.

Edwards released her indie-pop album “Galaxies & Such” independently and will perform several songs from the record.

Robbie Seay now serves as worship pastor at Ecclesia, his brother’s new church in Houston.

This is where Edwards began her part of the tour with Robbie Seay Band.

“I’ve led worship a few times at Ecclesia and he was kind enough to offer this opportunity,” Edwards said.

Edwards was also excited about the chance to tour with Robbie Seay Band.

“Tonight is the first time I’ll play with him,” Edwards said prior to their concert Tuesday. “I’ll open the show with probably the shortest set.”



COURTESY: KEITH FRAZEE

Christian artist and Richardson junior Jillian Edwards will perform with Robbie Seay Band and John Mark McMillan at Common Grounds tonight 7 p.m.

Edwards pauses a moment before she feels ready to describe Robbie Seay Band’s music.

“It’s not typical in any way,” Edwards said. “It’s very innovative. I enjoy listening to it.”

When it came time to describe her music, Edwards took an even longer pause.

“I never really know what to say. It’s not completely pop, not completely folk, not completely indie. It’s a combination of the three; something easy to listen to,” Edwards said.

The sound John Mark McMillan is known for is a little more rock and roll with a lighter touch of bluesy folk. His current record, “The Medicine,” has been lauded by Christian music reviewers for its grit and poetry.

These three artists will give a Christian performance, balanced with individual sounds.

Waco is the third city on the schedule and one of the eight stops in Texas. Edwards is excited to play at Common Grounds,

a usual stop for Baylor

“I love playing there because there’s so many familiar faces; they would probably be there no matter who was playing. It just feels like a bunch of friends, hanging out,” Edwards said.

Since the addition of their larger outdoor performance space, Common Grounds has been able to book shows that attract bigger crowds.

Jaxon Willis, a barista at Common Grounds, looks forward to the success of the performance.

“The last Robbie Seay show we had about 300 to 400 people show up,” Willis said.

And the draw of an excellent concert is what the community coffee shop hopes for.

“We’re trying to pull people in of all different ages, sex, walks of life through this,” Willis said.

The concert at Common Grounds costs \$10 up until the time of the show, which begins at 7 p.m. on Thursday. Tickets are \$12 at the door.

# Hollywood plans to take another trip to Emerald City

By STEVEN ZEITCHIK  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES – Hollywood is once again off to see the wizard.

In fact, it may make several trips.

As Tim Burton’s interpretation of “Alice in Wonderland” continues to attract audiences, film-world power brokers are looking to jump-start a number of remakes of “The Wizard of Oz” – a close adaptation of the original novel, a prequel about the wizard and a darker tale about Dorothy’s granddaughter in Oz.

Two of the three are, like “Alice,” stories about a girl on an identity-forging series of adventures.

Audiences who know the film only from TV runs and re-

mastered DVDs of the 1939 Judy Garland classic could soon find themselves with several Oz options at the multiplex. However, the remakes again raise questions about whether Hollywood’s habit of turning too often to its past – and whether a new version will expand on the rich mythology of “Oz” or simply trade on it for profit..

Two “Oz” updates that have been set up at Warner Bros. – one at its New Line label and another at the parent studio – are suddenly surging in the wake of the \$210-million worldwide opening weekend of “Alice.” Warner Bros. executives have put the word out to representatives of top-level Hollywood directors that they’re keen to make at least one of the movies.

The New Line movie is con-

ceived as a comparatively faithful, non-musical adaptation of the original L. Frank Baum novel “The Wonderful Wizard of Oz.” Produced by “Twilight” producers Temple Hill Entertainment, the film is written by “Shrek Forever After” writer Darren Lemke, who has completed a draft of a script.

The script hews closely to the book – published in 1900, Baum’s novel lies in the public domain, thus allowing screenwriters to adapt it free of copyright concerns – with only small adjustments. (Dorothy is 16 years old instead of 14, for example.)

Producers hope that the movie can become the basis of a franchise whose future installments would draw from the 21 other books Baum wrote about the Land of Oz. Warner Bros., whose

“Harry Potter” draws to a close next year, is hoping the same.

“The idea is that no one has done a faithful adaptation of the Frank Baum books, something that’s more of a straight adventure story,” says Temple Hill’s Wyck Godfrey, a producer on the film. “The MGM movie (from 1939) took the source material and made a classic musical.”

A second project is notably darker. Titled “Oz,” it’s written by Josh Olson, who also adapted “A History of Violence.” “Oz” tells the tale of Dorothy’s granddaughter, who returns to the Emerald City to fight evil.

However, it, too, takes cues from Burton’s “Alice.” The script features a girl who returns to a magical land with which she has a history in order to right a wrong.

“Alice” is more directly tied to yet another new “Oz”-related project. “Alice” producer Joe Roth, is producing “Brick,” a prequel about how the wizard arrived in Oz (he’s from Kansas too, apparently).

Roth says he met with Disney production president Sean Bailey and is in discussions with several directors.

Mitchell Kapner (“The Whole Nine Yards”) has written an original script partly derived from pieces of Baum books.

Laying out a sprawling story of Munchkins, wizards, witches and Dorothy’s rogue band of characters, Victor Fleming’s “The Wizard of Oz” has been embraced by numerous generations and landed as the No. 6 film on the AFI best-of list.

Studios clearly hope its popu-

larity will give a new film a head start in finding an audience.

But it’s precisely the title’s iconic status that has discomfited some observers, who, in the era of “Transformers” and “Battleship,” see it as evidence of Hollywood’s over-reliance on established names. And because “Oz” occupies a special place in the American consciousness, a remake comes with a stigma not unlike that of, say, Madonna covering Don McLean’s “American Pie.”

In fact, even directors have their reservations, which have impeded the search for an A-list filmmaker. “The knee-jerk thing is, I’m not remaking the MGM movie,” Godfrey says. “And we have to explain, we’re not remaking the classic, we’re making a movie out of the book.”

## FUN TIMES

Answers at [www.baylorlariat.com](http://www.baylorlariat.com) — McClatchy-Tribune

**Across**

1 Torah holders  
5 Dishonorable types  
9 Gets off the road, in a way  
14 Spear or pepper follower  
15 End of grace  
16 Sound portion  
17 On the briny  
18 Pro \_\_\_\_  
19 Spills carelessly  
20 CCCC?  
23 Amount consumed  
24 Yokel  
25 Bird was one, briefly  
27 Hemingway's Santiago, in the story's title  
32 Pontificate  
35 Jessica of "Good Luck Chuck"  
38 Relieve  
39 AAAA?  
42 "Get outta here!"  
43 Coward of the stage  
44 Clarifying words  
45 Incheon native  
47 "\_\_\_\_ never work!"  
49 Deli option  
52 Hunk  
56 TTTT?  
60 Santa \_\_\_\_: Silicon Valley city  
61 Fuzz  
62 DEA agent's discovery  
63 Big jerks  
64 Ocean predator  
65 Penultimate fairy tale word  
66 Used up  
67 \_\_\_\_-do-well  
68 Information \_\_\_\_

**Down**

1 Valuable violin  
2 Like baked dough  
3 Prepared to speak to a tot, maybe  
4 Overhead projection?  
5 Monopoly  
6 Eastern nurse  
7 Discourage  
8 Messy situation  
9 Many a Matisse  
10 Doozy  
11 It's added to natural gas  
12 Use a rag on  
13 Coast Guard pickup  
21 Olympic event since 1968  
22 Wolf pack member  
26 Poi essential  
28 At an impasse, as the Senate  
29 Medieval club  
30 More than wonders  
31 Egg site  
32 Trans-Siberian Railroad city  
33 Moneyed, in Madrid  
34 Banned apple spray  
36 Soap ingredient  
37 Indonesian island  
40 Invalidate  
41 España feature  
46 "Finally!"  
48 \_\_\_\_ sauce: seafood serving  
50 Polymer introduced by DuPont in 1938  
51 Blazing  
53 Like a babe in the woods  
54 British \_\_\_\_  
55 Childbirth symbol  
56 Equine sound  
57 Smog, e.g.  
58 Make smooth, in a way  
59 Fairy tale opener  
60 Items used by good buddies

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# SUDOKU

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# Udoh, Samhan pitted for intriguing matchup



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Omar Samhan (No. 50) shoots over Villanova's Mouphtaou Yarou during second-round action in Providence, R.I., Saturday. Samhan is averaging 30.5 points per game in the NCAA tournament.

By JUSTIN BAER  
SPORTS EDITOR

Quite possibly no player has blossomed throughout the NCAA tournament more than St. Mary's College forward Omar Samhan.

After averaging 30.5 points and 9.5 rebounds in the 10th-seeded Gaels' first two tournament games, Samhan has become a household name for March Madness fans.

Now Samhan and the Gaels have propelled the Catholic school of 4,800 to its biggest athletic stage since St. Mary's reached the Elite Eight in 1959.

"It turned so quickly from this team that wasn't on the map and no one cares about, to now we're a nationally known team," Samhan said in a press conference Monday.

While Samhan has burst

into the national spotlight the past two weeks, his counter for Friday's game, Ekpe Udoh, has captivated the country's attention for most of the season.

The Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year is averaging 3.8 blocks per game, which is good for fifth in the nation.

However, Samhan's offensive skill set may rival some of the top big men Udoh has seen this year, including Iowa State's Craig Brackins, Kansas' Cole Aldrich and Old Dominion's Gerald Lee.

"It'll be fun. It's always an enjoyment to play another big man," said senior center Josh Lomers, who will also see his fair share of Samhan in the South Region semifinal matchup Friday at 6:27 p.m. at Reliant Stadium. "You get to bump and grind with them more than you do with the

other guys, so it'll be fun and enjoyable."

Baylor has employed a 2-3 zone defense since last season's Big 12 tournament, and while that bodes well to impede Samhan, the Gaels are one of the country's top 3-point shooting teams, converting 41.1 percent of their shots from beyond the arc.

Subsequently, the Bears may dip into a man-to-man defense more frequently to utilize their athleticism and size advantage. But even then, they will be picking their poison.

"With the shooters they have the zone is going to be wide," Udoh said. "It's going to be tough, because we are going to have to pick and choose when we switch up. Watching Omar from last year, I know it's going to be tough. He's a bigger guy so I know it's going to be fun."

## Sports briefs

### Pair of baseball players named to national watch lists

The College Baseball Foundation named Baylor baseball's senior Raynor Campbell and sophomore Logan Verrett to a pair of watch lists Tuesday.

Campbell is under consideration for the Brooks Wallace Award, which goes to the top shortstop in the country, while Verrett has been named to the Pitcher of the Year Watch List.

The senior shortstop is batting .407 with four home runs and 23 RBI through 18 games while the sophomore right-hander has notched a 2-2 record, a 3.67 ERA and 31 strikeouts in his first four starts this season.

Both awards will be presented as part of the College Baseball Awards Show on July 2.

### Women's tennis returns to action

The No. 7 women's tennis will take on two in-state rivals over the next four days, first playing host to the No. 27 Southern Methodist University Mustangs today at 5 p.m. in a match that was rescheduled because of rain Wednesday.

On Sunday, the Lady Bears (13-2 overall, 4-0 Big 12) will travel to Austin to take on the 35th-ranked Texas Longhorns.

SMU brings a 17-2 overall record into the match, though the Bears will be its first top-20 competition of the season.

UT holds a 6-3 overall record but remains unbeaten in the Big 12 at 2-0.

The Baylor squad enters the match having won seven straight.

### Equestrian team participating in Big 12 Championship this weekend

The sixth-ranked Baylor equestrian team will play host to the second annual Big 12 Equestrian Championship this weekend at the Willis Family Equestrian Center.

The No. 3 seed Lady Bears will open the tournament by taking on the No. 2 seed Oklahoma State Cowboys.

Baylor will be looking to avenge its most recent loss to OSU in the final event of the regular season on March 5. The four-team tournament will begin Friday at 10 a.m. and also includes No. 1 seed Texas A&M University (10-4) and No. 4 seed Kansas State University (5-7).

By CHRIS DERRETT  
SPORTS WRITER

In a rain-shortened, seven-inning contest on Wednesday night, Baylor defeated UT-San Antonio, 4-3. Josh Turley improved to 3-0 on the season, while Willie Kempf picked up his first save.

On a 1-0 pitch with Gregg Glime at the plate in the sixth inning, UTSA hurler D.D. Towler threw a wild pitch that nearly hit Glime. Dan Evatt, who walked earlier in the inning and advanced to third on a Tyler Collins single, trotted home following Towler's pitch. Brooks Pinckard tied the game in the previous inning, sending Towler's pitch over the right center field wall for his first home run of the season.

Logan Vick also took the Roadrunners deep in the third inning on a 2-1 count to tie the game at three runs each. Vick's hitting streak improved to nine games, and he also batted in a run for the eighth consecutive

game.

"I've just been really able to see the ball out of the pitcher's hand. I've been picking it up early," Vick said. "It really helps when I go the night before and hit off the tee and get some front toss in."

Baylor used seven pitchers to hold UTSA to six hits and three runs. The Bears' pitching staff also overcame defensive mistakes for the win.

Jon Ringenberg took the start for the Bears and tossed 27 pitches in a rough inning of work. Two batters after a leadoff error, Ringenberg surrendered a double to Ryan Hudson, and then Ryan Rumel singled to score both Jason Mohn and Hudson.

Vick helped the Bears respond in the bottom half of the inning with his leadoff single. A wild pitch and a Joey Hains-further single allowed Vick to score his team-high 22nd run of the season.

In the second inning, errors hurt the Bears once again.

UTSA catcher Jeff Taliaferro advanced to third on a groundout and scored on an errant Gregg Glime pickoff attempt.

After Fritsch and Ringenberg, Kolt Browder, Kevin Winter, Ross Speed, Turley and Kempf combined for 11 strikeouts. Both Speed and Kempf retired the side by fanning all three batters.

"It's always good when you get some guys out there who haven't thrown in a while. Everybody who came in did a good job of filling up the strike zone," Kempf said.

This weekend the Bears take on Kansas in their home conference-opening series. From what he's seen this season, coach Steve Smith's squad enters this weekend playing solid baseball.

"I think we've got some good young players, particularly on the position player side. All of us forget just how young they are, but they're playing pretty well," Smith said.



DANIEL CERNERO | LARIAT STAFF

Kerrville freshman left fielder Logan Vick crushes a home run during Wednesday night's 4-3 victory against UT-San Antonio at Baylor Ballpark. Vick currently owns a nine-game hitting streak.



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ior possible in thier article.

## Close to Home

"Valerie is particularly interested in marriage markets and the practice of polygyny, so she brought many things to the article," Thayer said. "I had an understanding of evolutionary theory and inclusive fitness, so when we bring these ideas together we are able to see that suicide terrorists are individuals who see tremendous advantages from conducting that suicide attack and becoming a Shaheed."

"In the context of the religious world view, that suicide can be every honorable, very admirable if it is done for purposes of jihad," Hudson said. "[They believe that] there's a better way than having to endure the loss, whether that loss be loss of honor, loss of children, loss of economic viability

legalized form of murder.

"We have a highly Christian-

get to the top, they realize that the ladder is against the wrong wall, which can be really devastating," Oliver said.

Jackson said.

"This helps bridge the gap between the administration and students," Kim said.

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