

The Baylor Lariat

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Freedom of speech issues

The rights of the controversial Westboro Baptist Church are discussed at a media convention in New York

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Blue Like Jazz

Two popular Christian authors will share a stage and discuss writing today on campus

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Softball impresses

The No. 22 Lady Bears softball team wins two out of three games at powerful No. 4 Arizona



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"The problem with the way the NCAA handled Jones is a lack of consistency. It is true that being declared ineligible because of a loss of amateur status is different than breaking the rules while retaining amateur status like the Ohio State players. But both should still be subject to the proper punishment."

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Bear Briefs

The place to go to know the places to go

Battle of the Bands

Want to help a great cause while showing off your band's talent? Register for Battle of the Bands, which will be held during Relay for Life on April 1 at Fountain Mall. The deadline to register is today — e-mail Ashley_Ayala@baylor.edu to sign up or get more information.

Professional advice

Come receive free advice about your job search from professionals on your lunch break Wednesday. Representatives from Target and New York Life will answer questions from noon to 1 p.m. in the basement of Sid Richardson. Cookies and drink will be provided.

Job fair approaches

Career Services will host a nonprofit and government job fair from 1 to 4 p.m. Thursday in the Barfield Drawing room of the Bill Daniel Student Center. Come prepared by researching the companies, dressing well and bringing a resume.

Bears' season ends on low note

Jones III declared ineligible before tourney loss

By CHRIS DERRETT
SPORTS EDITOR

The fourth time won't be a charm for Baylor men's basketball this year.

Hoping to make their fourth straight postseason appearance, the Bears found out Sunday their season is finished without an NCAA tournament or NIT bid.

The NCAA tournament was widely accepted as a nonpossibility for the Bears unless they were able to either make or win the Big 12 tournament final round.



Jones III

Still, the NIT appeared plausible even after the Bears' loss to Oklahoma in the Big 12 tournament first round, but the NIT selection committee felt otherwise.

Sunday officially marked the end of a tumultuous week for Baylor, which is awaiting the NCAA's decision to reinstate freshman Perry Jones III.

The NCAA declared Jones was not an amateur and therefore could not play against the Sooners. Because Jones' mother accepted three loans from his AAU basketball coach while he was in high school, and Jones' coach paid for Jones to travel to San

SEE JONES III, page 7



NICK BERRYMAN | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Coach Kim Mulkey and Lady Bears guard Melissa Jones cheer Monday during the NCAA selection show watch party in the Stone Room of the Ferrell Center. The Lady Bears will open NCAA tournament play at 6:30 p.m. Sunday against No. 16 Prairie View at the Ferrell Center.

Lady Bears earn No. 1 seed

By CHRIS DERRETT
SPORTS EDITOR

While nobody at the Ferrell Center was surprised on Monday, the Lady Bears' basketball team still joined those in attendance in a burst of celebration upon seeing Baylor's No. 1 seed for this year's NCAA tournament announced on ESPN.

With a Big 12 regular season and the tournament championship under its belts, the No. 3 ranked Lady Bears will open NCAA tournament play at 6:30 p.m. Sunday against No. 16 seeded Prairie View at the Ferrell Center.

The only part of the Dallas regional that left coach Kim Mulkey

and her team curious was the regional's No. 2 seed. If Baylor wants to reach the Final Four, it might have to beat No. 2 seeded Texas A&M for a fourth time this season.

But not even having the Aggies, whom the Lady Bears beat twice in the regular season and again in the Big 12 tournament, in the same region could spoil Baylor's excitement over postseason play.

"I can't ever use the word shocked with the NCAA anymore. You're too excited; you're too happy," Mulkey said. "I don't think anybody wants to see the same teams that you see from your conference. But it's the NCAA playoffs."

ESPN's Kara Lawson said that

despite Baylor and Texas A&M being in the same conference, geographical constraints led the NCAA selection committee to place the Aggies in the Dallas regional. The Pac-10's No. 1 seeded Stanford and No. 2 seeded UCLA also share a regional.

Mulkey later said the best news she heard all day, however, was a text message she read from senior Melissa Jones. Jones suffered a head injury in a Feb. 27 win at Oklahoma that left her unable to see out of her right eye.

The text message said for the first time since losing vision, Jones could see shapes and colors with the injured eye.

"I don't know why I wake up

randomly in the middle of the night, but every time I do, I just kind of look. It was a shock, like, 'Whoa, there's actually something there,'" Jones said. "I can see things right now, but it's really blurry."

Jones' teammates were equally excited to hear the news.

"We were all excited. It's progress. I'm waiting for that one text to say, 'Hey, I can see clearly now,'" Griner said, singing to the tune of the 1970s hit song.

Mulkey then showed the interview room what made the 10th-year coach so happy. She held four fingers in front of Jones' right eye, and Jones could see and count

SEE LADY BEARS, page 7

BU students abroad in Japan safe after disaster

Studies expected to continue despite tragedies

By SARA TIRRITO
STAFF WRITER

Baylor's six students studying abroad in Japan are safe and expected to remain in the country to complete their studies despite the tragedies that occurred last week, unless the situation changes, according to Katie Erickson, exchange program and study abroad adviser.

"Students are all safe and accounted for," Erickson wrote in an e-mail to the Lariat. "At this time, our office is keeping abreast of the situation to determine if we need to take action."

Baylor currently has three students studying at Hosei University in Tokyo and three at Seinan Gakuin University in Fukuoka City.

Dr. Michael Morrison, director of the Center for International Education and Jo Murphy Chair, said the students in Tokyo are safe, but the state department has recommended that U.S. citizens in Tokyo not travel north. He said there will be a discussion within the university on precautions for the students.

"My office is preparing a report today [Monday] that we'll be meeting with others within the university to discuss safety pre-



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Japan Ground Self-Defense Force members search for the victims of Friday's tsunami Monday in Miyako, Iwate Prefecture, northern Japan, three days after a massive earthquake and the ensuing tsunami hit the country's east coast.

cautions for the students staying in Tokyo," Morrison said.

The students at Seinan Gakuin should be able to continue their studies, Morrison said.

"At this time we have no reason to believe they have been impacted," Morrison said. "We'll of course keep an eye on it to make sure that set of circumstances does not change, but as long as it remains stable we have no reason to believe they won't be able to complete their studies."

Dr. David Uber, professor of French and director of the Baylor-Seinan Gakuin exchange program, said Seinan Gakuin was not harmed by the disasters because it

is located on Kyushu, an island at Japan's southern end.

"I heard from Seinan Gakuin that that area has not been affected at all and that our American students are fine there," Uber said.

Tokyo was not severely affected either, according to Yuko Prefume, Japanese lecturer and director of the Baylor-Hosei exchange program, who was in Tokyo at the time of the earthquake.

"Except like public transportation stopping, everything else was pretty much business as usual," Prefume said. "Actually, I think some schools might have closed

SEE STUDENTS, page 7

Obama pledges U.S. support

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama said Monday the U.S. will stand by long-time ally Japan as it recovers from last week's earthquake and tsunami and the nuclear crisis that those twin disasters spawned. The White House said that despite the emergency, nuclear power remains "vital" to U.S. energy policy.

Meanwhile, the Navy reported that several U.S. ships involved in the relief effort had to be moved away from the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant after officials found out that the ships and the 17 helicopter crew members had been exposed to low-levels of radiation. There have been two hydrogen explosions in three days at the plant, a third crisis that developed after the facility's cooling systems failed following Friday's earthquake and tsunami.

But U.S. officials said Monday the design of the Japanese reactors and the distance across the Pacific Ocean mean there is little probability of harmful levels of radiation reaching the United States, including Hawaii or U.S. territories.

Obama said he has offered Japan any assistance the United States can provide as it recovers from the "multiple disasters."

In an education speech at a school in Virginia, the president began his remarks by saying that he continues to be heartbroken by the images of devastation that have struck the U.S. ally. "I know all of you, young and old, have been watching the full magnitude of this tragedy unfold," he told his school audience. He called the people of Japan "some of our closest friends and allies."

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has sent two technical experts to Japan, NRC Chairman Gregory Jaczko said. The Department of Energy has also

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SOURCE: REDCROSS.ORG

dispatched reactor experts and emergency response experts to Japan.

"It is a serious situation and we continue to provide whatever assistance is requested," Jaczko told reporters at the White House.

He said U.S. nuclear plants are built to withstand natural disasters, including earthquakes, tsunamis and hurricanes. But he said he did not want to speculate whether U.S. reactors would be able to resist a disaster of the same magnitude that struck Japan.

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

Nothing nice to say, say it anyway with First Amendment

Westboro member speaks to journalists about free speech

By SALLY ANN MOYER
REPORTER

NEW YORK CITY — College journalists explored First Amendment issues Monday afternoon at the College Media Advisers' 2011 spring college media convention at the Marriot Marquis Times Square.

The recent Supreme Court 8-1 decision to allow Westboro Baptist Church and others to protest at funerals spurred a special session titled "Westboro Speaks."

Gene Policinski, senior vice president and executive director of the First Amendment Center, interviewed Margie Phelps, attorney and daughter of Fred Phelps

Sr., founder of Westboro Baptist Church in Topeka, Kan.

"The greater evil for those of you who disagree with her message is if we weren't able to hear her message at all," Policinski said. "That's not an endorsement, but it's also not an attack."

Michael Koretzky, convention director, opened the session with a reminder that the protection of Westboro Baptist Church's First Amendment rights matters to journalists.

Policinski began by asking Phelps where to draw the line between what someone can, but should not, say.

"There's an unspoken aspect of the First Amendment that says, in effect, to most Americans: you could, but should you?" Policinski asked.

Phelps disagreed on the basis of individual liberty.

"The First Amendment doesn't get an opinion on 'should,'" Phelps said. "It's not the government's business on should, it's a matter of your conscience."



JED DEAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

As an invitee to a Q&A session for the College Media Advisers' annual media convention in New York City, Margie Phelps, attorney for the Westboro Baptist Church and daughter of its founder, heatedly responds to student's questions on the first amendment as well as the church's various controversial standpoints.



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

College Media Advisers' annual media convention in New York City hosts Margie Phelps, attorney for the Westboro Baptist Church and daughter of its founder, and Gene Policinski, executive director of the First Amendment Center, as they discuss with students the public's right to free speech. However, discussion quickly gave way to cynicism as the student media asked several questions regarding the church's motives. The interview follows a recent 8-1 Supreme Court ruling in favor of the church's first amendment rights to picket outside military funerals.

Phelps also emphasized her belief that Westboro has consistently followed the law.

"One of those rock solid things is that we were following the law; we knew the law," Phelps said.

Austin King, the opinion editor of the newspaper at Daytona State College, supported Phelps' right to free speech.

"Her rights are there for her to say what she said. I don't feel like she's breaking any laws," King said.

However, he disagreed with the convention's decision to bring Phelps as a speaker.

"After sitting in on this session, my biggest problem is that we brought her to it," King said.

He originally planned to write a First Amendment story with references to Westboro Baptist Church

for his school's newspaper, but will now leave out any mention of the church.

"I think if I wrote about this, then I'm helping her," King said.

Eddie Damon, a student journalist at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, said he believes the press should continue to report on Westboro Baptist Church when relevant.

"I think the press can do it objectively and not sensationalize it. It's still important for the press to talk about it," Damon said.

Mary Redstone, also a student journalist at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, agreed with the need for current coverage.

"If that Supreme Court case hadn't happened, then yes we're feeding her, but it's totally rel-

evant," Redstone said.

Phelps also offered support of the Supreme Court decision furthering the right of homosexuals and other dissenters to counter-protest Westboro Baptist Church.

When one student journalist asked her opinion, Phelps replied that it made her feel as "happy as a clam at high tide."

Students also recognized universal First Amendment benefits derived from the Supreme Court case.

"I think the court case itself definitely helped in a round about way," King said. "Westboro has helped cement the First Amendment."

While Damon disagreed with Phelps' message, he supported her freedom of speech.

"Both sides have so much emotion, and there was no likelihood of us meeting halfway. The only thing we agree on at the end was that the First Amendment protects important rights," Damon said.

Phelps also warned student journalists to protect the First Amendment.

"Your country will shred the First Amendment," Phelps said.

Redstone thinks the Supreme Court's Westboro decision will open the door for more freedom of the speech at all levels, including high school.

"I think we can take something good out of it, that if they can go around saying stuff like that, then we can write about more touchy subjects," Redstone said.

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- T. BOONE PICKENS, BP Capital Management
- BOB TIPPEE, Oil & Gas Journal

Downtown plan includes paid parking possibility

By ADE ADESANYA
REPORTER

Downtown parking will be re-structured in accordance with the downtown economic revitalization plan. That plan includes the possibility of paid parking.

“The premise behind metered parking is that on-street parking is regulated in the downtown area,” Chris McGowan, the urban development director for the Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce, said. “Currently people are parking for extended periods on the street and that causes problem for retailers.”

Parking shortages in the downtown area is currently an issue in Waco, McGowan said. Business owners have complained about employees and visitors disrupting business activity by parking for extended periods of time in short-term parking areas.

“Parking is not a serious problem at the moment, however, it is something to consider,” McGowan said. “Especially when the convention center has many visitors and parking flows to the street.”

Retailers, residents and restaurant owners in the Waco down-

town area share the view that parking should be modified as part of the economic revitalization plan, organizing and regulating paid parking.

“There are many people who agree this is needed and should have been done five years ago,” Stuart Illing, the manager of Gratziano’s Pasta and Pizza Grill said. “I do not think paid parking will hurt our business, but I think I will get some negative feedback because of lack of parking during peak hours.”

People who do not want to pay for parking can park in designated public parking areas around downtown or walk on the pedestrian-friendly walk paths to be included in the revitalization plan.

“People park in loading areas for the tenants [of Spice Village]; this delays loading and causes problems,” Jennifer Wilson, owner of the collection of shops in downtown Waco called Spice Village, said.

Currently, there are approximately 14,000 parking slots in the downtown area that serve visitors, employees and shoppers.

“During peak hours on most week days, between 40 and 60 percent of the slots in the Waco down-



NICK BERRYMAN | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

People may have to start paying for downtown parking if the Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce carries out its economic revitalization plan to cut back on congested parking.

town are occupied, so this is looking into the future when there will be greater traffic,” McGowan said.

Future plans for parking will mimic paid parking in metropolitan areas and cities around the country, McGowan said.

“We have not engaged consultants about a future parking plan; transportation planners will look at regulating parking and generating

revenue the same way we [Waco Chamber] would,” McGowan said.

Though paid parking incites mixed feelings, business managers and owners said people who plan to spend time shopping and dining will not worry about a parking fee.

“Parking meters create a mixed benefit, depends on how you see it, the price of parking will determine the effect — after all, people drive

from Waco to downtown Dallas to shop and do things, yet, they pay for parking when they are there,” Wilson said.

Metered parking would mean businesses would not have to pay out of pocket to tow illegally parked vehicles.

But customers aren’t the only people committing parking faux pas, employees from the restau-

rants and other businesses take up parking meant for customers.

“People can spend more time shopping and pay for parking, at the same time employees won’t be abusing parking designed for customers because they have to pay,” Wilson said.

The chamber’s goal is to use the available parking to service visitors and shoppers when they need it.

“Regulating parking or metered parking is not because of lack of parking, it is more about allocating the parking slots available for use when they are needed effectively,” McGowan said.

Amid concerns that paid parking will discourage visits to the downtown, chamber and business owners agree that customers who pay to park do so because they want to spend a lot of time exploring the area. Both parties also agree that it works well for both the city and businesses. The city will earn revenue from parking and businesses will enjoy higher sales because of the convenience customers enjoy.

“We want people to come and spend money here. The revenue they generate is what we need and paid parking should not keep them from spending,” Wilson said.

Truth and consequences: study finds honest employees rate better

By JADE MARDIROSIAN
STAFF WRITER

Honesty may be the best policy after all.

New findings from a Baylor study, “A New Trait on the Market: Honesty-Humility as a Unique Predictor of Job Performance Ratings,” have found that employees who exhibit honesty and humility score higher in job performance, as rated by their employers.

“[The study found] honesty-humility, which to some degree is a slightly understudied personality trait, is a predictor of job performance,” Megan Johnson, a Baylor doctoral candidate and lead writer on the study, said. “This is unique because to date, nobody has found honesty-humility to predict that.”

The study, conducted by Baylor researchers and a Nevada business consultant, surveyed 269 employees who provide home health care to patients who Johnson described as difficult. The data came from 20 different states and 25 different agencies within those states. Supervisors measured the performance of the employees.

Dr. Wade Rowatt, associate professor of psychology and neuroscience at Baylor, helped lead the study.

“The main finding [of the research] is that honesty-humility correlates with supervisor rating of job performance,” Rowatt said. “The second big finding is that honesty-humility predicts job performance above and beyond things like conscientiousness and agreeableness. The third thing is that we think the correlation

is only going to be found in some jobs and positions. The participants in our study were working with challenging clients. These people are more likeable, and we don’t think these would be predictable of a sales performance or entertainment position.”

Johnson said the ratings were conducted by supervisors rating the employees on a variety of job skills.

“The 35 skills were quite a range, [including] able to manage money, able to manage medical care, listened effectively, had effective reading skills, were responsible and [the survey] asked how they performed each of these tasks,” Johnson said.

The researchers concluded that the employees who considered themselves to be honest and humble scored significantly

higher than those who didn’t on their job performance by their supervisors.

Employees with honesty and humility were defined in the study as those who displayed high levels of fairness, greed-avoidance, sincerity and modesty.

Johnson said these findings will affect how prospective employees are evaluated before being hired.

“This study will help employers, one, understand that humility and honesty are important personality traits for employees to have, especially those in care giving roles,” Johnson said. “And two, it will provide a justification for a means to screen potential employees on desirable traits, such as honesty-humility, that will help them better perform certain jobs. This will help employers find better fits for certain

positions within their companies.”

Johnson said honesty and humility are important personality traits that are sometimes underrated.

“My hope is that people will see that [honesty-humility] is positive with personal relationships and can also be positive with certain types of jobs,” Johnson said.

Rowatt said he hopes people start seeing humility as a character strength and not as a weakness.

“Some people think of humility as lowliness, but humility is definitely a positive quality and just because humble people might be more quiet, doesn’t mean that they don’t have strengths,” Rowatt said.

The study was published in the April issue of the scientific academic journal, “Personality and Individual Differences.”



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Authors talk crossroads of written word, faith

By **BONNIE BERGER**
REPORTER

Popular Christian authors Anne Lamott and Donald Miller will meet with an audience of students, faculty and the general public to discuss writing as an act of faith at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Jones Concert Hall in the Glennis McCrary Music Building.

“[Lamott] and [Miller] are two of the most prolific writers of our time,” said associate director of Department of Student Activities Michael Riemer in a recent press release.

“The opportunity to have both of them on stage together, which has never happened before, will be a rare opportunity for the Baylor community to be apart of something unique.”

Lamott and Miller frequently focus on faith and evangelicalism through fiction and memoirs, providing a seasoned view into marrying spirituality with the published word.

Lamott’s works include “Traveling Mercies” and “Imperfect Birds.” Miller is the author of “A Thousand Miles in a Million Years” and “Blue Like Jazz.”

A joint venture between the Honors College, the Division of

Student Life and the Department of Student Activities, the event is styled as a conversation between the two authors, inviting the audience to participate in a Q&A session following the lecture.

Students are intrigued by the opportunity to freely converse with the authors, exchanging constructive dialogue on pertinent topics of faith and ethics.

Conroe junior Preston Yancey anticipates the chance to hear more from Lamott during her visit to campus today.

“[Lamott’s] writing is a well of honesty and careful reflection, tinged with an unfailing hunger for healing and a broken desire for God,” Yancey said. “But there are several elements of her political choices that I oppose and see as antithetical to the Christian message.”

Including her views on hot topics in her works, Lamott’s stance on abortion raised questions for Yancey, a great texts major. Feeling challenged by her opinions, Yancey said God taught him a deeper lesson of grace through this encounter.

“Lamott’s position on this, so different from my own, is none the less a position of a fellow Christian,” he said. “It deserves to be

heard, engaged and understood. I hope most to learn a deeper sense of graciousness from hearing her speak about the role of faith in writing. I hope to see those common threads that bind more than they break, so as to start first from a conversation about the love who governs all things then move into a dialogue about where we see opposition.”

Yancey said grace and mercy must be present in such conversations if progress will prevail.

Fans of Miller’s writings are also flocking to the event, keen to gain a deeper look into an acclaimed author’s life.

“I think a person’s background and history really plays into their writing,” said Woodlands junior Sara Lemister. “I’m really interested to see in what he has to say about his experiences and how they’ve impacted his works. I’m also just a big fan of his books.”

The event is free to Baylor students and faculty, although tickets are required for entry. Tickets are available at the Bill Daniel Student Center for pick-up with a valid student ID.

The public may purchase tickets for \$10 for preferred seating or \$20 for preferred seating and access to the private book signing

NICK BERRYMAN | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Author Donald Miller will be lecturing along with Anne Lamott today. Miller’s book “Blue Like Jazz” was the inspiration for the film with the same name.

with Lamott.

Directly following the lecture are free advance screenings of Miller’s new film “Blue Like Jazz the Movie” at 9 p.m. Tuesday and 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, in the Sony Theatre of the Mayborn Museum. Based on Miller’s book, Blue Like

Jazz, and directed by Steven Taylor, this will be the movie’s first public appearance.

Following the screening, Taylor and Miller will be available to answer questions and receive comments.

Hosted by the Department of

Student Activities, the Office of Spiritual Life and the department of film and digital media, tickets are free and seating is limited to 150 patrons.

For ticket information, contact the Campus Program Center at 254-710-4919.

Alien invasion: 2011 films are out of this world

By **ROBERT W. BUTLER**
McCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

Watch the skies. They’re coming to get us all.

“They,” of course, are aliens.

Not from South of the Border. From outer space.

Hollywood is in the midst of an alien invasion unequaled since the paranoid Cold War fantasies of the early 1950s.

At theaters now you can enjoy “I Am Number Four” (alien teens outwit intergalactic pursuers) and, opening Friday, “Battle: Los Angeles” and the animated comedy “Mars Needs Moms.”

At least eight more alien-themed films will open this year, with several more planned for 2012.

These come on the coattails of “Cloverfield” and “Skyline,” in which creatures from other worlds have their nasty ways with us. In the Oscar-nominated “District 9,” alien refugees become third-class

citizens on Earth.

And it’s not just at the megaplex. Alien invasion is hot on the TV screen, too. Witness the ongoing series “V” and “The Event.”

Why now?

The 1950s was the heyday of the alien invasion movie.

The concept goes all the way back to H.G. Wells’ 1897 novel “The War of the Worlds,” but it was in the uncertainties of the Cold War that little green men from beyond became rooted in our consciousness.

Encouraged by a rash of post-war UFO sightings, scores of films about aliens landing on Earth with evil designs were produced between 1948 and 1962.

Some were quickie exploitation efforts memorable for their cheesiness. Others – like 1951’s “The Day the Earth Stood Still” (a Christ-like visitor arrives to save humanity from nuclear self-destruction) or 1956’s “The Invasion of the Body Snatchers” (alien seed pods replace

humans with emotionless clones) – are genuine works of art.

Their popularity was born in the fears of communism and atomic annihilation.

Aliens became a potent metaphor for all the scary outside elements that could undermine Eisenhower’s America.

Perhaps the new surge of alien movies – which got the green light from studios a couple of years ago at the worst point in the economic downturn – also reflect our anxiety about the unknown.

These are fearful times. Many of us feel threatened by a scary financial future, terrorism and illegal immigration.

“I recall from my own childhood in the ‘80s, when nuclear war was still seen as a real possibility, that these movies gave me a kind of release,” said Jenna Busch, who writes about geek culture for the Huffington Post and other Web sites.

“It was a way for me to focus my

panic on a different threat, to cope with something that was more manageable because it was fiction. It was actually kind of comforting.”

Alien movies are therapeutic in another way, Busch said.

“It’s very dangerous to focus your anger on a group of fellow humans, but it’s OK to direct it at aliens. They’re like bank robbers wearing masks, or storm troopers in ‘Star Wars.’ You can’t see their faces, so it’s OK to hate them.”

Some argue that alien invasion movies satisfy because they show human beings putting aside their differences to combat an external foe.

“That strikes me as a bit of an easy explanation,” said Heather Urbanski, the author of “Plagues, Apocalypses and Bug-Eyed Monsters: How Speculative Fiction Shows Us Our Nightmares” and an assistant professor at Central Connecticut State University.

“But one thing that has persisted in this genre is the idea that you

can go to bed and when you wake up the next morning, the world has changed.”

Empires crumble and jobs vanish, Urbanski said. And an alien invasion represents a situation where everything we think we know is turned inside out virtually overnight.

“One of the persistent questions raised by SETI” – the organization devoted to searching for extraterrestrial intelligence – “is: ‘What happens if we do find an alien race out there?’

“It so fundamentally shifts our understanding of everything – religion, science, our place in the universe. And it raises another question: Do we really want to be calling attention to ourselves? Maybe we should just lay low.”

Not everyone thinks the new alien movies represent our deepest anxieties.

“I honestly don’t think it’s a reflection of our fear of another mortgage meltdown,” said indus-

try observer Paul Degarabedian of Hollywood.com. “I think there are more obvious reasons.

“Really, it’s hard to determine the sociological or anthropological cause of a certain film genre surging. But you can be sure that the studios are all banking on certain genres heating up and becoming the next big thing. We saw that over the last couple of years with vampires. Now aliens seem to be the next big deal.”

Hollywood, he noted, is always on the lookout for films that are “action-based, conducive to big special effects and able to bring in younger audiences and play well overseas.”

Alien invasion movies fit the bill perfectly.

“Plus, today’s audiences, when they pay their money, want to see it up there on the screen. Alien invasion movies allow for a very obvious use of big budgets.”

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4 Gunpowder element

10 Turns seaward

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15 Dream up

16 Losing strategy?

17 Lather-holding cup

19 Homely fruit

20 Eye part containing the pupil

21 Timeline divisions

23 Habit wearer

24 Kimono sashes

25 Sock mender’s tool

28 Magi

30 Sweden neighbor

31 Utmost degree

32 Church instrument

35 Flag maker Betsy

36 Violin knob for pitch adjustments

38 “__ to that!”

40 Ecstatic way to walk

41 Roman 700

Down

1 Used to be

2 Lettered piece of

3 Pessimistic about Wall Street

4 Biol. and chem.

5 Coffeepot for a crowd

6 Jeans part

7 Hall of __: enshrined athlete

8 One-eighty

9 Win back

10 Campus e-mail address letters

11 Special report subject

12 Sturgeon yielding expensive caviar

13 Tight-fisted

18 Workbench clamp

22 Noisy sleepers

24 Part of BYOB

25 Bruce of “Coming Home”

26 Prefix with -plasty

27 Pirate’s quaff

29 Canadian lawman on horseback

44 1992 Olympic skating champ Yamaguchi

46 As an alternative

48 Retriever or pointer

51 Heidi’s heights

52 2011 minus year of birth, roughly

53 It replaced the franc

54 Handling the job

55 Member of an Iraqi minority

57 Joke that gets funnier with repetition

61 “Now ____ me down ...”

62 Complete

63 Hurry, old-style

64 Clearance event

65 Smells to high heaven

66 Blasting sply.

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Softball notches wins over top-ranked squads

By KRISTA PIRTLE
SPORTS WRITER

Over spring break, the Lady Bears softball team landed the No. 22 spot in the national ranking as they brought home some big wins, most notably over No. 6 UCLA and No. 4 Arizona.

Most recently, the Lady Bears went to No. 4 Arizona for a three game series ending Sunday.

In the first matchup on Friday, Baylor blanked Arizona 6-0, thanks to home runs from freshmen Shelbi Redfearn and Clare Hosack and sophomore Whitney Canion, who also pitched seven innings allowing one hit while walking three and striking out nine.

The Lady Bears struck in the second, as Canion homered to right field and RBIs from senior KJ Freeland and sophomore Kathy Shelton built the lead.

Redfearn followed with a home run of her own, her sixth for the year.

The second matchup didn't prove as friendly for the Lady

"I am so proud of this team and what they accomplished this weekend. These kids never gave up today, and we finally wore them down enough to take advantage and come through in the clutch."

Glenn Moore | Head coach

Bears, as they fell, 9-7.

Baylor had a 7-3 lead heading into the bottom of the sixth, but a five run inning for Arizona turned everything around.

"This is a tough loss because we had it in the palm of our hands," coach Glenn Moore said Saturday. "Arizona is a good team and they responded in front of their home crowd when they had to. We have to rebound quickly and get ready

for tomorrow."

And that is just what they did on Sunday.

Arizona was leading 2-0 going into the seventh when senior Dani Leal smacked a two run shot over the left field fence to tie the game.

With one out, Freeland bunted her way to first and advanced to third after back-to-back walks. Then, Redfearn sent a shot to right field for the sac-fly, scoring Freeland for the 3-2 lead.

The players were not available for interview while on the road, but Moore echoed their sentiment.

"I am so proud of this team and what they accomplished this weekend," Moore said after the win. "These kids never gave up today, and we finally wore them down enough to take advantage and come through in the clutch."

Earlier in the week the team flew to California to take part in the Campbell/Cartier Classic, in which it went 4-1.

Baylor's first game, against defending NCAA champion and No. 6 ranked UCLA was played after a day full of travel and finished at al-

most midnight CST; however, the fatigue of the road did nothing to hinder the Lady Bears.

Canion struck out 14, while allowing only three hits, one run and three walks in a 5-1 win.

The game was scoreless through three until Canion hit a two out RBI double, scoring junior Megan Turk from second and giving the Lady Bears a 1-0 lead.

The Baylor bats got hot in the fifth, as Shelton hit a one out single up the middle and scored on a Walker triple to left center, making the score 2-0. Leal then bunted for a base hit to score Walker. With two outs in the inning, Turk hit her second double of the night, scoring Leal for the 4-0 lead.

Leal added to the Baylor lead in the top of the seventh, smashing a solo homerun, making it 5-0.

At the Campbell/Cartier Classic, Baylor also beat No. 23 Fresno State, Cal Poly and San Diego State. Its lone blemish came in a 7-1 loss to Long Beach State.

The Lady Bears are back home to face the University of Texas at Arlington at 5 p.m. today.



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

No. 27 senior Jordan Vannatta swings at a pitch in a game last season against Prairie View A&M. Behind strong pitching and consistent offense, the Lady Bears stand at 21-3 with four games left before conference play.

National awards cap successful week for baseball

By MATT LARSEN
SPORTS WRITER

The No. 14 ranked Bears baseball team got it done with both bats and arms this past weekend against Louisiana Tech to sweep the Bulldogs in a four-game home series and build a six game win-streak with conference play just a week away.

Senior Chris Slater and junior Logan Verrett led the way and earned Big 12 Player of the Week and Pitcher of the Week honors, just the second time in the history of the program Baylor (11-5) players have garnered both honors in the same week.

Pitching led the way to a 6-2

win Sunday as sophomore starter Josh Turley threw his longest outing ever with a 7.1 inning stint in which he gave up the only two runs of the game. Turley kept all Louisiana Tech players from advancing past first until the Bulldogs managed their two runs in the seventh and eighth innings.

Junior catcher Josh Ludy led the efforts from the plate going 2 for 4 with three RBIs.

Saturday was anything but a pitchers' duel as Baylor outscored Louisiana Tech 12-8. Slater made the greatest impact, managing three hits for the third straight game. Five of Slater's teammates also pillaged the Bulldog pitching staff for multiple-hit games. De-

spite trailing 7-6 after the fourth, the Bears remained patient until knocking six runs home in the sixth inning.

"You just have to keep battling and pressing on, and that's what we did today," head coach Steve Smith said.

Friday was all about Verrett. The righty tossed a one-hit, complete game shutout to lead his squad to a 7-0 win. His 14 strikeouts tied a Baylor Ballpark record.

"This was probably the most comfortable I have felt out of any of the games I have played at Baylor," Verrett said. "I had all four pitches working."

Ludy and Slater each went 3 for 4.

"This is as good of a team win as you are going to see."

Mitch Thompson | Assistant head coach

The Bears blended solid pitching and hitting efforts to take an 8-4 win Thursday in the first game against Louisiana Tech. They got to Bulldog starter Trevor Petersen right away, putting up five runs in the first two innings. Slater caught fire with a three-hit, two-run, three-RBI game and sophomore Logan Vick added three hits, three runs and an RBI of his own. Meanwhile junior Tyler Bremer

and sophomore Max Garner combined to give up just four hits and one earned run.

A week was not long enough for Baylor to forget the 13-2 pounding they took at the hands of Texas State in Waco on March 1. Last Tuesday they held the Bobcats scoreless through eight innings before putting a ninth-inning rally to rest for a 6-4 win in San Marcos.

"I thought it was a really good performance by a whole bunch of guys," assistant head coach Mitch Thompson said. "That is as good of team win as you are going to see."

Two weekends ago Baylor took two of three games at the Houston College Classic at Houston's Minute Maid Park. The second win,

last Sunday, came in historical fashion for the Bears.

Sophomore Max Muncy ended the Bears' 10th-inning victory over No. 21 ranked Rice with a grand slam blasted over Minute Maid Park's right field wall, the first Baylor walk-off home run since February 2007 against UT Arlington.

The game was Baylor's last of the Houston College Classic. The Bears beat the University of Houston, 5-2, on Friday and fell to Utah, 4-3, on Saturday before edging Rice.

"Every player on this team, there's nothing more they'd want than to have a situation like that," Muncy said.

Rangers' Feliz wants to start

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Neftali Feliz wants to start for the Texas Rangers after all and took a step in that direction Monday.

Feliz threw four strong innings, Adrian Beltre made his Texas debut and Josh Hamilton hit his first home run in the Rangers' 5-4 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers.

A week ago, Feliz said he was more comfortable closing — a role in which he earned AL rookie of the year honors last season — than starting.

After scattering three runs and a hit with five strikeouts, though, Feliz said while he's comfortable as a closer he never has stopped working to become part of the Rangers' starting rotation.

starting rotation.

Rangers manager Ron Washington said Feliz's eventual role remains undecided, depending on how things develop through the rest of spring.

"He'll make up his mind sooner or later," Washington said. "It's open. We'll see what happens as we go along."

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Brittney Griner does her part to cut down the net following a 61-58 victory over Texas A&M in the championship game at the Big 12 Conference women's tournament on Saturday in Kansas City, Mo. Griner scored 31 points in the victory.

LADY BEARS from Page 1

them. The Lady Bears will need Jones' senior leadership as they take their still young team through another NCAA tournament. Only Jones and sophomore Brittney Griner were regular starters last year, with sophomores Jordan Madden and Nae-Nae Hayden getting a handful of starts.

Sophomore Destiny Williams and junior Brooklyn Pope both transferred into Baylor this season, and freshman point guard Odyssey Sims has never played an NCAA tournament game.

"The stability is we've had enough from come behind victories," Mulkey said. "We've had enough competition that it's prepared us more than maybe a year ago. Maybe a year ago we did all the fighting and clawing we could do, but we were still inexperienced."

The Lady Bears faced plenty of stiff competition on Saturday against Texas A&M for the Big 12 tournament championship. Griner scored 31 points, a Baylor Big 12 tournament record, in her team's 61-58 victory.

The game went back-and-forth until Madden's fastbreak layup gave

the Lady Bears a 50-49 advantage. Griner then scored in the post and completed an and-1 opportunity, and Baylor didn't trail in the last nine minutes.

Texas A&M forced four turnovers and blocked a shot during

"I don't think anybody wants to see the same teams that you see from your conference. But it's the NCAA playoffs."

Kim Mulkey | Head Coach

a 12-0 run to begin the game, but the Lady Bears would not fall that quickly. Brooklyn Pope's offensive rebound and putback tied the game at 16, and Griner's jumper in the paint gave Baylor its first lead of the game at 20-18.

At the final buzzer, there had been 12 ties, 17 lead changes and one coach hoping Saturday was not the last time she cuts down nets this season.

STUDENTS from Page 1

for a couple days, but other than that, I think everything is pretty much normal."

Prefume also received confirmation that the Baylor students at Hosei University are safe.

"I have not talked to them in person, but I was able to get hold of Hosei's exchange adviser and so we did confirm that all the Baylor students there are doing fine," Prefume said.

Neither university's classes seem to have been disrupted by the disasters.

"The students in Tokyo have semester dates that differ greatly, so it is my understanding that they are on a mid-year break," Erickson said. "The students in Fukuoka have similar semester dates at Baylor and I have not heard that classes have been disrupted."

The students have been in Japan since last semester. The Hosei University program will end in August, and the Seinan Gakuin University program will end in May, Erickson said.

JAPAN from Page 1

Administration officials said the U.S. would seek lessons from the Japanese crisis but said the events in Japan would not diminish the United States commitment to nuclear power.

"It remains a part of the president's overall energy plan," White House spokesman Jay Carney said. "When we talk about reaching a clean energy standard, it is a vital part of that."

Cmdr. Jeff Davis, spokesman for 7th Fleet, said air monitoring equipment on the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan detected that the warship had been exposed to very low levels of contamination. It is presumed that the seven other ships traveling together in the carrier group also were exposed, but only the Reagan — which has an air monitoring system meant to detect problems with the ship's own nuclear power — picked it up, he said.

Smaller hand-held equipment kept on ships for detecting surface contamination separately determined a low level of exposure for the 17 helicopter crew members who had returned to the carrier after a search and rescue mission over Japan, Davis said.

"Bottom line is, the amount of contamination that they were exposed to was very very low," Davis said from the command ship USS Blue Ridge, which is near the Philippines and headed toward Japan. "It was easily taken care of by washing with soap and water. Once they had discarded their clothing, washed with soap and water and were retested, there was no addi-

tional contamination detected.

"The dosage of radiation that they received would have been less than what somebody gets from just normal background radiation over the course of a month from the sun, soil, rocks — all the things around you that give off background radiation," Davis said.

He said officials then moved the ships out of the downwind path of the nuclear plant.

"We are committed to this operation — we're going to do it," Davis said. "We just wanted to make sure that we're doing it in a manner that accounts for the environmental risk."

So far, two U.S. Navy P3-Orion surveillance planes have been mapping debris fields and working as spotters for search and rescue missions, passing on information on the location of victims to Japanese officials. They have mapped a huge debris field in the water that is one nautical mile wide by 60 miles long and officials have recovered some bodies but no survivors.

The U.S. assistance operation will ramp up with the arrival of U.S. Marines, who are expected to use the USS Tortuga amphibious dock ship to pick up some 300 Japanese civil defense workers on the island of Hokaido and ferry them and 90 vehicles Tuesday to the island of Honshu.

The Navy also has agreed to allow use of the deck of the Reagan as a floating platform for refueling Japanese helicopters being flown by the coast guard, police and other civilian agencies in the relief effort.

JONES III from Page 1

Diego and see a preseason professional football game, the NCAA said Jones vacated his status as an amateur. Not being an amateur would leave Jones ineligible to play.

Six hours before the game, Baylor received the news.

Jones' teammates were taken aback, like sophomore point guard A.J. Walton, who said he had never encountered such a situation.

"Not even middle school, high school, AAU ball, none of that," he said.

"It was shocking, but we just didn't come out and play like we needed to."

A look inside the locker room after Baylor lost to the Sooners revealed a team still stunned by the day's events. Baylor administrators present at the game, including athletics director Ian McCaw and president Ken Starr, echoed the team's feelings.

Both McCaw and Starr said they hoped Jones' last minutes in a Baylor uniform have yet to pass.

"I'm hopeful we'll see Perry Jones on the court again for Baylor," McCaw said.

McCaw was also asked to discuss whether he was surprised by the NCAA's decision to remove

Jones' eligibility shortly before game time.

"I'd rather not," he replied.

As much as Starr would have liked the process to move along before postseason play, he admitted Baylor could only appeal and hope for the best.

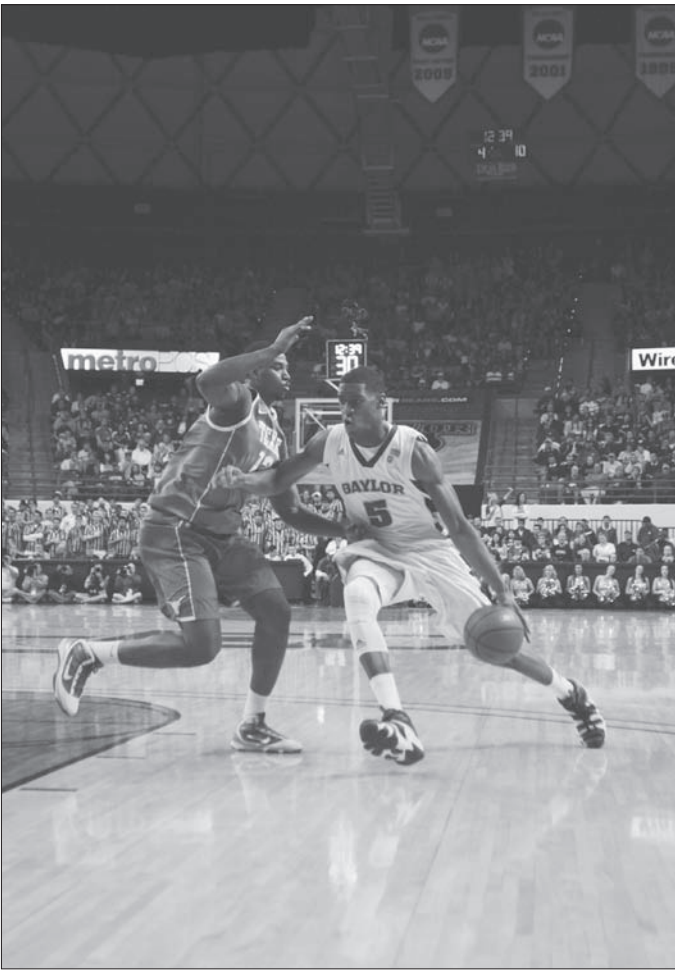
"We can only do what the circumstances permit," Starr said.

The circumstances left the NIT committee looking at a team that suffered a blowout loss to a 14-18 Oklahoma squad and lost its second-leading scorer in Jones. Jones averaged 15.6 points per Big 12 contest this season and took almost 20 percent of the Bears' field goal attempts in conference play.

Also a factor in Baylor's 2011-12 season is the possibility that Jones could declare himself eligible for the NBA draft. If he does, he is projected to be a top five overall pick.

The day following Jones' ineligibility, the story sparked national conversation as analysts discussed whether the NCAA's actions were consistent with other high profile college athletes, specifically at Ohio State and Auburn.

All of those questions are yet to be answered as Baylor awaits the NCAA's decision regarding Jones.



NICK BERRYMAN | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

No. 5 forward Perry Jones III drives to the basket against Texas on March 5 at the Ferrell Center.

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