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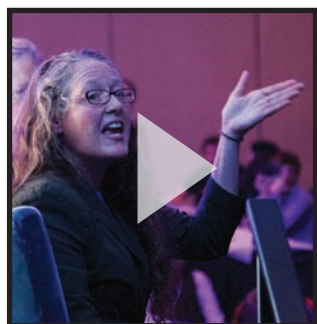
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## On the Web



### Unconventional ideas

Watch Margie Phelps of the controversial Westboro Baptist Church answer questions from a Lariat reporter and others about her beliefs at a convention in New York

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*"The Fort Hood case was a tragic way for the Army to learn of its dismal ability to keep commanding officers accountable. It should not have taken the death of 13 people to find that lackluster or frightening performances were being wrongfully evaluated as acceptable, and in Hasan's case, positive."*

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## Bear Briefs

*The place to go to know the places to go*

### Musical event

Baylor Symphony Orchestra will perform and students from theatre arts department will offer dramatic readings at "Art That Changed the World: The Siege of Leningrad and the Shostakovich Symphony No. 7" at 7:30 p.m. Sunday in Jones Concert Hall in the Glennis McCrary Music Building. Admission is free. The event tells first-hand accounts of Russian resistance and defiance to Nazi totalitarianism and militarism during the attack's earliest months at the close of 1941.

# Campus gun bill passes committee

By DANIEL C. HOUSTON  
REPORTER

AUSTIN — A bill that would require public universities to allow concealed-carry license holders to bring handguns onto public university campuses is now one step away from consideration on the floor of the Texas House of Representatives.

The bill, H.B. 750, passed 5-3 Wednesday in the Homeland Security and Public Safety Committee after more than five hours of public testimony. The bill was then referred to the House Calendars Committee, which will determine if and when it will arrive on the House floor for con-

sideration.

Of the Calendar Committee's 15 members, 11 are listed as coauthors for H.B. 750, all but assuring it will reach the floor of the House. A majority of all House representatives also signed on in support of the bill, making it highly likely the House will pass the legislation and place its fate in the hands of the Texas Senate.

Republican Rep. Sid Miller, chair of the committee and joint author of H.B. 750, said more than 800 individuals stood before the committee to testify for or against the bill and three similar ones.

"They shared their concerns. I think most of those concerns

were addressed in the bill as far as [carrying firearms] in the dormitory and in the bars, and that's not going to happen. I think we've got a good bill. Obviously a lot of my colleagues do, too."

Many of the testimonies on both sides of the issue were emotionally charged, as in the case of John Woods, whose girlfriend was killed in the 2007 shootings on the campus of Virginia Tech University.

"You're trying to address the rare day when a campus shooting occurs," Woods said in his testimony, "but what about all the days when campus shootings

SEE **BILL**, page 8



JED DEAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

Rep. Sid Miller of the Homeland Security and Public Safety Committee listens to Austin Police Chief Art Acevedo on Wednesday at the Texas Capitol as he argues against the passing of the four house bills that would allow concealed handgun license holders to carry their firearms on public university campuses.



NICK BERRYMAN | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

## This is only a test

A wounded soldier is aided by members of Baylor Air Force ROTC during a staged medical emergency Wednesday outside Draper Academic Building.

# School of Social Work celebrates move

By JADE MARDIROSIAN  
STAFF WRITER

Baylor's School of Social Work celebrated its new location in downtown Waco with an open house on Wednesday.

The event included welcoming remarks from Dr. Diana Garland, dean of the School of Social Work, Dr. Elizabeth Davis, executive vice president and provost, and Waco Mayor Jim Bush. Visitors toured the new facilities located at 811 Washington Ave.

Garland said the school began in 1999 and was located in the then-new Speight Plaza Parking Garage. After growing to a faculty of 18 and a student body of about

270, the school had outgrown its old location.

"Fortunately the wonderful administration of Baylor University is very creative and very visionary and they made the decision along with Gordon Robinson to prepare this building for us right in the heart of the community we serve symbolizing the vital relationship between Baylor and Waco," Garland said.

The school's dean described the school building as elegant, and said the social work faculty and students are thrilled with the new location.

SEE **SOCIAL**, page 3

# It takes a crowd to excite a crowd

By LINDSAY CASH  
REPORTER

Imagine entering the Ferrell Center on a Saturday evening for a huge conference rivalry game. Immediately upon arrival, an array of sounds, smells, chants and music engulf the fans as they find their way to their seats. The thrill of competition and battle between rivalries lie just ahead on the court.

Who will link the spectators and competitors?

The all-girl cheer squad, yell leaders and Baylor courtside players help fans connect with the action on the court.

The practices and time commitments of the dedicated cheerleaders show their loyalty to the university. The courtside players continually strive to enrich the athletic experience for athletes, fans or even opponents.

Dallas junior Claire Turner of the co-ed yell leader squad has not only provided the crowd with passion through cheering – she's received it, too.

"I've become a huge Baylor athletics fan through my experience as a cheerleader. I'm so attached to the teams. Win or lose, it's my job to be Baylor's number one fan," Turner said.

When it comes to cheering on the hardwood, Turner notes an essential component to amping the body of Baylor.

"The courtside players add to the atmosphere and crowd enthusiasm, and we depend on them more than we even know," Turner said.

SEE **CHEER**, page 3

# Video game's simple pleasures enthrall, addict gamers

By STEPHEN STROBBE  
REPORTER

First-person shooters, space marines, massive guns and huge battles. Most popular video games have at least one of these four elements, but one game developer has set out to turn the entire world of video games on its head.

In May 2009, Swedish programmer Markus Persson — now more casually known to the gaming world as Notch — began development on a game that has in the time since garnered critical acclaim, commercial success, a popular wiki and a fervent fanbase. The game accomplished all this despite only reaching a beta

release, typically the release just prior to a full release, this past December. According to gaming website Gamasutra, Persson intends for the game to reach a full release later this year.

Minecraft, a game by Mojang, starts out as a simple enough concept: As soon as a new game is launched, a character spawns in a randomly generated world map — a map that will continue randomly generating essentially forever once the character begins reaching the edges — where everything from trees to cacti to caverns are made of a variety of textured cubes.

Each cube has different properties. There are wood blocks for the trees, sand blocks for the



beaches, stone blocks for the mountains and so on. What happens next?

Walk up to a tree, start hitting it and after a few seconds that block will drop so that it can be

picked up. Now that wood block can be used to hit other blocks. Get enough wood blocks and to craft a workbench. Use the workbench to make shovels, mining picks and swords to fight the wan-

dering enemies. Use the mining pick to mine stone, which allows players to make stronger mining picks and weapons, furnaces or stairs.

Keep mining to find coal to make torches, iron, diamond ore and maybe even gold. Go deeper and to possibly find a monster-spawner. Use all the blocks collected so far to start building a house. Put some sand in the furnace to create glass to make windows. And then use the wood to make planks, and then use the planks to make wooden poles, and then use the poles to make ladders to climb on the roof of the

SEE **GAME**, page 8





## Army responds to past neglect at Fort Hood

Central Texas was rocked in November 2009 by a gruesome shooting spree at the Fort Hood army post in Killeen.

Now, more than a year later, nothing can comfort the families more than knowing a loved one's death was not taken lightly by the United States Army.

On Thursday, the Army announced it would be punishing nine soldiers stationed at Fort Hood because of leadership failures in relation to Army doctor Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan, who is accused of killing 13 and wounding 29 in the Nov. 5, 2009 attack.

"The severity of each action varies depending on case-specific facts and circumstances," reads an Army press release addressing the disciplinary action. "In certain cases, it may take several weeks to ensure that each officer is accorded appropriate due process and to take final action."

It is often said that the me-

### Editorial

dia has attention faults — that is, major media outlets flock to the hot button issues each week but once the spotlight has shifted the media ceases to follow the story. Luckily, that is not the case with the Fort Hood massacre.

This tragedy has affected people over the nation, not just central Texans, and it is promising to see that the Army is still investigating the incident.

Blame should certainly not be wholly thrust upon the backs of these nine officers, but the Army's recent announcement points to several flaws in the leadership above Hasan.

Accountability and responsibility must be top priorities for America's armed forces, and the move to punish these nine leaders is proof that that Army is committed to that charge.

The Army has not released any of the names related to the incident, citing the protection of the due process rights of the officers.

The Army will be reviewing information surrounding the event and will decide whether the release of any of that information would be appropriate.

According to ABC News, a report from the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee details that there were warning signs in the Fort Hood case.

Titled "Ticking Time Bomb: Fort Hood Massacre Could Have Been Prevented," the Senate report points to Hasan's "radicalization" and that many colleagues raised concerns about Hasan.

Hasan was given exemplary evaluations and promotions, despite the present warning signs.

Army Secretary John McHugh, the man who has begun "adverse administrative actions"

against the nine officers, has called for the review of the Army's evaluation procedures.

He wants to improve the way evaluations work in the Army to ensure "more accurate and useful evaluations."

McHugh's call for a revamp is long overdue. The Fort Hood case was a tragic way for the Army to learn of its dismal ability to keep commanding officers accountable.

It should not have taken the death of 13 people to find that lackluster or frightening performances were being wrongfully evaluated as acceptable, and in Hasan's case, positive.

The more we glean from this disaster, the more we will — hopefully — be able to change for the better. Thirteen people lost their lives because of poor oversight.

Let's take this opportunity to honor them by protecting future Army officers.

## Being the USA comes with messy, delicate obstacles

It is not easy being America. Maybe that's why America often finds it hard to do.

Being America requires more



Leonard Pitts Jr. | Columnist

than simply existing between certain geographic lines. Rather, it requires vindicating a set of ideals that are downright dangerous.

This would include the notion that all men and women are created equal and have from birth the right to live, be free and pursue personal happiness.

Also that they enjoy freedom of — and from — religion, freedom to assemble, freedom from random search and seizure. And most dangerous of all: that they possess the absolute freedom to speak their minds.

What makes those promises dangerous is that they entrust people — not the smart people, not the good people, not the right people, but the people —with power. Enough to challenge authority, make trouble, thwart police — even enough to restrain government itself.

So yes, sometimes America finds it hard to be America. History is dotted with the big failures: the Alien and Sedition Acts, slavery, the Trail of Tears, Plessy v. Ferguson, the Japanese internment, the Red Scare, COINTEL-PRO.

Arguably more insidious are the smaller failures, the everyday acts of moral cowardice that come and go in the rush of daily events: terror mosque panics and Hispanic bashing, driving-while-black traffic stops and the banning of books from public libraries.

The reason it's not easy being America is that there is always a temptation to avoid the demands of dangerous ideals, a temptation to find a more expedient way.

That is what adds the taste of bittersweet to last week's emphatic Supreme Court ruling in favor of Westboro Baptist Church.

Westboro, of course, is no more a church than the Playboy Mansion is. It is, rather, a boil on the buttock of reason, a tiny, Topeka, Kansas-based congregation of diseased minds whose entire raison d'être is to spread the following bizarre thesis: America has grown too tolerant of gays; therefore, God has turned against America.

He gets His point across by killing American soldiers.

Westboro members spread this hateful perversion of the gospel by showing up at military funerals bearing signs that depict images of anal sex and slogans like: "God Hates Fags" and "Thank God for Dead Soldiers." After this carnival of repugnance desecrated the 2006 funeral of a 20-year-old Marine, Lance Cpl. Matthew Snyder, his father, Albert, sued and won a \$10.9 million verdict.

Westboro appealed. By a vote of 8 to 1, the Justices vindicated the "church."

While noting that the protesters' activities added to the "incalculable grief" of the Snyder family, Chief Justice John Roberts, writing for the majority, said we may not respond by punishing them.

"As a nation," he wrote, "we have chosen a different course — to protect even hurtful speech on public issues to ensure that we do not stifle public debate."

And I don't mind telling you: I had hoped the justices could find some loophole, some technical, legalistic way of restricting Westboro's grotesque assaults while leaving intact the constitutional guarantee of free speech. Part of me still wishes they had.

But another part of me knows we do that all too often, seek, for reasons both admirable and repulsive, to compromise our own

*"Last week's ruling, then, repulsive as it was, disappointing as it was, was also correct, was also a needed reminder that freedom is a messy thing. It is a reminder that strips innocence away like tree bark."*

Leonard Pitts Jr. | Columnist

freedoms, weasel out of defending those dangerous rights.

Small wonder. Sometimes, those rights protect wrongs. But the thing is, rights too freely abridged are not rights at all, but privileges. And privileges can be taken away.

Last week's ruling, then, repulsive as it was, disappointing as it was, was also correct, was also a needed reminder that freedom is a messy thing. It is a reminder that strips innocence away like tree bark. Yes, it's painful when America fails its own ideals.

But sometimes, it's painful when America does not.

*Leonard Pitts Jr. is a Pulitzer-winning columnist for the Miami Herald.*

For more information on the Westboro ruling, see the Lariat's coverage and video on the web.

## Rare treasure: I've got a friend in family

When you spend at least 20 hours a week working with the same group of people, you will eventually find out their likes, dislikes and random pieces of information about them.

The newsroom for the Lariat is the same way. For instance, being that I am a self-proclaimed chatty person, many of my colleagues know that one of my favorite things to eat are Texas Fries from Chili's (bacon and cheese on French fries may be the best combination ever), I hate feet and I consider my cousin my best friend.

The first two fun facts being mentioned in the newsroom usually lead to me being made fun of by various people on the Lariat staff.

Apparently, I eat bacon cheese fries a little too much and my country accent comes out fairly strong when I scream "I hate feet!" after watching people take off their shoes to rub each other's feet.



Amanda Earp | Copy desk chief

The last tidbit, more often than not, leads to a discussion on family members being considered a person's best friend. Anytime I mention my best friend, it is generally followed by the statement, "You mean your cousin."

Yes, yes I do mean my cousin. My cousin is 10 months older than me and we have been best

friends my whole life, despite spending the majority of it living an hour and a half away from each other.

She would spend the whole summer at my house, we would talk on the phone for hours during the school year when we could not see each other and make frequent trips to each other's homes on the weekend.

Since we have been best friends for such an extended period of time, she knows more about me than anyone else. Unlike someone who met their best friend in high school or college, we know each other's past because we grew up together.

When exchanging stories we don't have to digress to explain a situation or who a person is in the story like new friends would have to do.

My cousin is not the only person I'm close with in my family. Let's say I was getting married tomorrow. The first three bridesmaids in my lineup with be three

of my female cousins (the best friend being the maid of honor, of course).

This is not because I would feel obligated to put them there since they are family. It is because we are that close as a family.

I am a family-oriented person. When I say my family is the most important thing to me, I'm not kidding.

In fact, my family members are my favorite people to be around and spend time with. I love them because they are my family, but I like them because they are entertaining, interesting people.

Growing up, I thought all families were like mine. I thought everyone would pick a night playing poker with the family over watching a movie with a friend.

I'm realizing, however, that is not the case. My family enjoying each other's company is an exception, not a rule.

*Amanda Earp is a graduate student from New Waverly and the copy desk chief for the Lariat.*

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### Opinion

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.



CHEER from Page 1

Lebak junior Kourtney McMillian of the all-girl squad is on her third year of being an ambassador for Baylor through cheering.

“I love watching the teams getting pumped up, with every fan standing to their feet,” McMillian said.

“But it couldn’t happen without the band. They yell every cheer with us and are huge difference makers in the atmosphere.”

Arriving with energy overflowing the Ferrell Center doors, the courtside players do anything but hold back. From buzzer to buzzer, they sway, sweat and support while relentlessly backing the Bears.

Dr. Rick Espinosa, director of the courtside players, calls his crew the most dedicated fans in Baylor’s world of hardwood sports.

“We show up when everyone else doesn’t. We light the fire, and aim to give our team a home court advantage wherever we are,” Espinosa said.

A home court appearance requires 52 designated members arriving 45 minutes early before tipoff. La Grange senior percussionist David Corkill, whose favorite song is ‘Dynamite’ by Taio Cruz, enjoys teaming up with the cheerleaders in efforts to maintain the crowd hype.

“We love the cheer squads. They start the cheers and we continue them. Then, 10,000 people are doing it, too. We are their microphone,” Corkill said.

It’s important to note that the “microphone” projecting the music at Baylor basketball games is

entirely original, Espinosa said.

“The courtside players use custom arrangements, meaning we don’t buy music from the stores. We make our own musical arrangements,” Espinosa said.

And the courtside players have every reason to take pride in the group skill. Encinitas, Calif., junior clarinet player Erika Ukkestad attends games as a courtside player, even when she isn’t assigned.

“We love it. Everyone is here because they want to be. Group members come when they aren’t even assigned to the game, like me, because I couldn’t imagine coming to cheer on the Bears without being a courtside player,” Ukkestad said.

Through all the cheering for the Bears, the courtside players never

lose sight of their essential role to the game of basketball.

“The players only see the court as that square they’re playing on. So we know our job is to amp the crowd, and let the crowd feed into the game,” Corkill said.

But Espinosa recognizes the relationship of his courtside players and the student athletes at the conclusion of every game.

“The team needs us. The courtside players know the impact they have, and they love that moment after the games when they exchange high-fives with the teams,” Espinosa said. “One moment, we want to be the loudest, most energetic, most rabid fans as possible. But the moment we pick our instruments up, we want to sound beautiful.”



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

The Baylor courtside players provide game music during a women’s basketball game against Texas A&M Feb. 14 at the Ferrell Center. Baylor won 67-58.

SOCIAL from Page 1

“We are home to a treasure house of students who have hearts on fire for people in need; we are home to faculty doing research on ending hunger, stopping slavery, strengthening marriages and lifting families out of poverty,” Garland said. “We have long prepared for this event I cannot think of a more fitting group of people to gather and celebrate with us.”

Students have spent this semester at the new location and are enthused about the opportunities the move has afforded.

Waco senior Abigail Felix said the new downtown building has brought attention to the school, among other things.

“I feel like it brings a lot more

*“This new location is symbolic of the relationship between the school and the university with our community. It’s not moving off campus but moving campus toward the city, something we at the university need to continue to do.”*

Dr. Elizabeth Davis  
Executive vice president and provost

awareness not only to the students at Baylor to let them know we have a school and this major exists but it’s also awareness to Waco,” Felix said. “Part of the reason we decided to move downtown is so that we would have more opportunities to reach out to the community down here, so I think with our move here and our existence letting Waco know we are here would create a good opportunity for us to connect with agencies in Waco to help out in any way that we can.”

Davis spoke about the collaborative process of moving the school to its new downtown location.

“This new location is symbolic of the relationship between the school and the university with our community. It’s not moving off campus but moving campus toward the city, something we at the university need to continue to do,” Davis said. “Of course the school of social work has been a leader in this regard. They represent the heart of Baylor’s mission, tackling issues that matter.”

The event also featured the opening of an exhibit featuring award-winning photography taken by Mark Menjivar, a Baylor School of Social Work alumnus. The exhibit, titled “You Are What You Eat,” will be on display at the school until April 29. The exhibit includes 20 of the series’ 36 images made by photographing the interiors of refrigerators from across the United States.

Garland thanked Menjivar for the exhibit and “for being such an incredible exemplar of this school.”

Menjivar graduated in 2002 and spoke briefly at the open house, thanking the school for hosting his exhibit.

He also explained the profound role the school has had on his life.

“There is a great writer, Frederick Buechner, who says that vocation is found at the intersection of the world’s greatest need and your deepest desire,” Menjivar said. “The School of Social Work has helped form those two things for me and to show me what those are and I look forward to seeing what occurs inside these walls over the next couple of decades.”

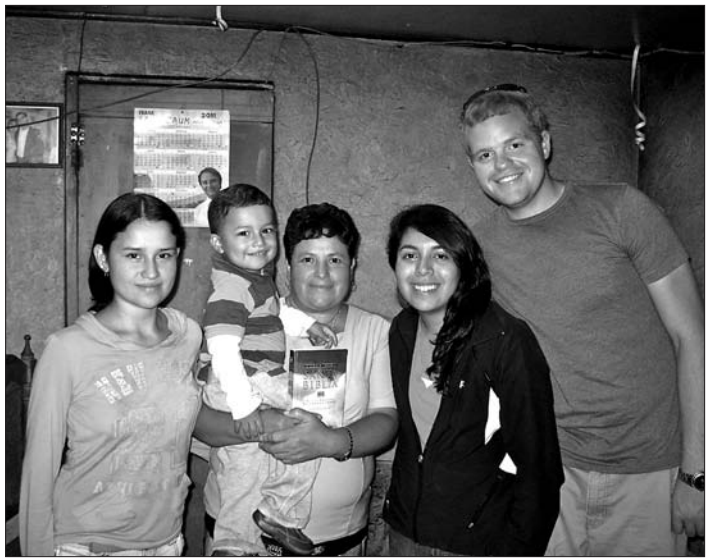


pwc

- 2006 Introduced to PwC at a scholarship reception
- 2007 Selected for PwC’s Semester of Discovery Internship program
- 2009 Earns MSA and CPA certification, starts full-time position at PwC
- 2010 Mentors at-risk kids in community

**Wayne Rowe, PwC Associate.** PwC sensed Wayne’s passion for numbers before he started college. An internship where his mentor introduced him to senior partners followed, then a full-time position with opportunities ranging from accounting to community outreach—all of which feeds Wayne’s life and his future. **To see Wayne’s full timeline and how you can feed your future, visit [www.pwc.tv](http://www.pwc.tv)**





COURTESY PHOTO

Carrollton sophomore Natalia Gutierrez and Lockhart sophomore Mark Tate (right) ventured to Chile over this past spring break and reconnected with members of a Chilean church, visiting the homes of members they worked with on a previous trip in December 2010.

# Community helps fund trip to Chile

By STORI LONG  
REPORTER

The words spring break bring to mind different things for different people. For two Baylor students, this spring break meant a return visit to the earthquake- and tsunami-ravaged areas of Chile.

Carrollton sophomore Natalia Gutierrez and Lockhart sophomore Mark Tate first went to Chile on a mission trip with their church, First Baptist Church of Woodway, over the 2010 Christmas break.

The students' small group leader Taylor junior Sydney Savage accompanied them on their first trip to Chile.

"I was really able to see their heart for the people and for mis-

sions grow," Savage said.

Not long after returning to school, Gutierrez and Tate resolved to return to Chile over spring break and immediately began searching for ways to make it happen.

"When Mark and I decided to commit to the trip we started calling God Jehovah-jireh, God provides, so that we would remember that the Lord would come through for us and provide," Gutierrez said.

The two students began raising money, and through their work and the support of their church and friends, they were able to raise enough money to send them back to Chile by spring break. To raise money, the students partnered with Chick-Fil-A, which agreed to donate a percentage of each sale to Tate and Gutierrez. Many friends

*"I was so humbled by the amount of people who supported us. Even those friends who didn't go to church but helped just because they knew it was a great cause."*

Natalia Gutierrez | Carrollton sophomore

and fellow church members ate at the fast food chain in support of the two.

"I was so humbled by the amount of people who supported us," Gutierrez said. "Even those friends who didn't go to church but helped just because they knew it was a great cause."

Savage said their home group continued to support the students while in Chile by committing to pray for them on a daily basis.

While in Chile, the students worked with churches that were destroyed by the earthquake and tsunami in 2010.

"This trip was a lot about being proactive in using our blessings in order to help our brothers and sisters in Christ," Tate said.

Accompanying the students on the trip were pastors, architects and engineers who used their skills and professions to work with the various churches to discuss plans and budgets for how each church could get back on its feet.

"This trip was the beginning of a lot of great things," Tate said. "We were able to get a lot of information from these churches and bring that information to churches in Waco that are willing to partner with a church in Chile and help them reach those goals."

Gutierrez and Tate reconnected with the church they had worked with on their first trip to Chile and visited many of the church members in their homes.

While Tate and Gutierrez came to serve and to help, they were also encouraged during their time in Chile.

"It was really humbling to see that despite how rough it's been they are still so joyful and have such a faith in the Lord," Tate said.

Gutierrez also said the faith of those she encountered in Chile was inspiring and encouraging.

"Regardless of all their difficulties, they remembered that God is faithful," Gutierrez said. "I had been reading a lot in John 10 and 11 and was reminded that Christ is the good shepherd and he takes care of his flock. And I have no doubt that these churches will be provided for according to the rich-

# News Briefs

### Citizens advised to leave Tokyo

TOKYO — Australia, Britain and Germany advised their citizens in Japan on Wednesday to consider leaving Tokyo and earthquake-affected areas, joining a growing number of governments and businesses telling their people it may be safer elsewhere.

The advisories came as the crisis at Japan's Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant in the northeast deepened in the wake of last week's earthquake and ensuing tsunami. Surging radiation forced Japan to order workers to temporarily withdraw from the plant Wednesday, a setback to efforts to cool its overheating reactors.

Tokyo, which is about 140 miles south of the stricken nuclear complex, reported slightly elevated radiation levels Tuesday. Officials

said the increase was too small to threaten the 39 million people in and around the capital.

### Times journalists reporting on Libya conflict missing

NEW YORK — Four New York Times journalists covering the fighting in Libya were reported missing Wednesday.

Editors last heard from the journalists on Tuesday as they were covering the retreat of rebels from the town of Ajdabiya, and Libyan officials told the newspaper they were trying to locate the four, executive editor Bill Keller said in a statement. The Times said there were unconfirmed reports that Libyan forces had detained the foursome.

*Compiled by the Associated Press.*

# Taking debate: Team goes to top

By JAMES STOCKTON  
REPORTER

Another of Baylor's teams is national championship tournament bound, but unlike the Lady Bears basketball team, this team is flying under the radar.

The Glenn R. Capp Debate Forum posted a 6-2 record at the District 3 tournament at Wichita State University, clinching a trip to Dallas to compete in the national debate tournament.

Similar to the Lady Bears, the Baylor debate team consists of a young squad.

"I'll put it this way, three of our top four debaters are returning next year, and only one had experience in the district tournament," said Dr. Matthew G. Gerber, assistant professor of communication and director of the Glenn R. Capp

Debate Forum.

But youth has not stopped the debaters from reaching a tournament. Baylor has won three times in the past, with championships in 1975, 1987 and 1989. Baylor has also reached the final four an additional nine times.

John Cook, a junior international studies major from Olathe, Kan., is the only debater with experience in the district tournament, having won it last season with his then partner Alex McVey.

"Winning last year made it easier to focus on debates that were going on and not on qualifying," Cook said.

Along with his partner Omaha, Neb., junior Ashley Morgan, Cook placed fourth overall in the District 3 tournament with wins over Kansas State University, the University of Texas at

Dallas, Emporia State University and Wichita State University.

In addition to the Cook-Morgan team, Baylor is sending a second team to the national tournament later this month. Olathe, Kan., sophomore Kendall Kaut and Corsicana junior Nathan Ford finished fifth with wins over teams from the University of Texas at Austin, Southern Methodist University, Kansas State University, University of Texas-Dallas and Missouri State University.

Dr. Scott J. Varda, assistant professor of communication studies and associate director of the Glenn R. Capp Debate Forum, is excited about having two teams qualify for the national debate tournament.

"It is the first time since 1993 that Baylor has had two debate teams qualify for nationals through the district tournament,

which speaks both to the overall difficulty of the tournament and to the strength and depth of our current team," Varda said in a press release.

Just like the Lady Bears' No. 1 seed, being close to home helps them. Gerber said he believes that the "home court advantage" of having the championship close to home will boost the confidence of his team.

Participating in a debate close to home will also help the team by providing them with support, Cook said.

"When we go to a tournament that close, we are able to bring everyone on our team instead of just those who qualified," Cook said. "We are able to get more work done because everyone is there."

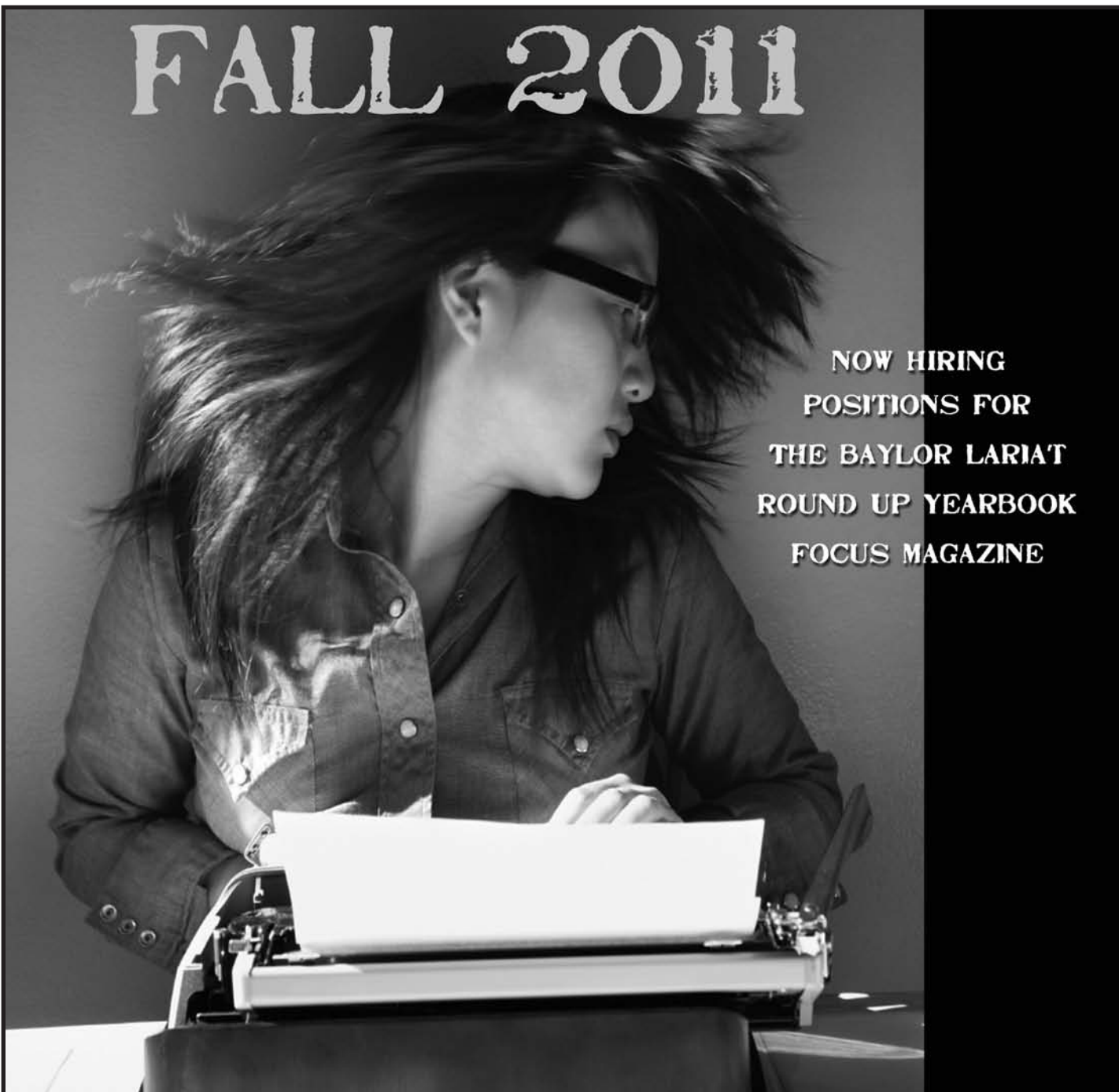
The national debate tournament will be held March 25-28.



PAUL CARR | DIRECTOR OF STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

## Back to the beginning

Bill Hartman, 1961 and 1962 Baylor Lariat editor-in-chief, greets the current editor-in-chief, Austin senior Nick Dean, on Wednesday while visiting with Caddo, Okla., senior Caty Hirst, city editor, and Katy junior Chris Derrett, sports editor, in the Lariat newsroom in the Castellaw Communications Center.



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# Album preorder for Uproar’s Zoo Studio now available

By **LIZ HITCHCOCK**  
REPORTER

Zoo Studio, a band on Baylor’s Uproar Record label, launched its pre-order website for its “The Black and White” EP Monday.

Zoo Studio includes Tulsa senior Max Helmerich on lead vocals and piano, Carroll senior John Steen on guitar and Pearland senior Ben Aguinaga on drums.

Uproar is looking to further the career potential of its artists by now producing full EPs for its bands, Uproar Records president Taylor Ashcraft, a senior from

Humble, said.

“This year is the first year for us to release any EPs. The reason we are doing this now is because we want to give bands the tools that they need for when they graduate,” Ashcraft said.

“They will be able to take their careers to the next level with an EP.”

Ashcraft said he is excited for the EP release and that Zoo Studio fits in well with the Uproar family.

“They have a lot of personality and appeal,” Ashcraft said. “We saw that and thought we could do a lot with them. They are fun and

produce good quality, clean and upbeat music.”

Helmerich said the band is stretching its sound and exploring other types of music with “The Black and White.”

“The album is going to be a lot more of alternative rock, but it also is dipping into an indie style as well,” Heimrich said.

“It is our first solo deal without being incorporated into something with other bands.”

The band’s manager, Winfield, Ill. senior Tyler Michel, said working with Zoo Studio has shown him

the progression of the band’s talent and creativity.

“The album is going to be a lot different from what people are expecting. ... It is definitely something that people are going to want to buy,” Michel said.

Michel said the title of the album, “The Black and White,” represents the complexity of life and the idea that much of life lands in the gray area—neither black nor white.

“The things that are sometimes the most elegant are clear and simple, black and white.” Michel said.

“We are trying to convey this idea

through the album, with simple songs and even into the release party.”

The band, along with two opening acts — Sunday Lane and Ty Mayfield — will perform at the album’s release party, from 7 to 10 p.m. April 5 at the Bill Daniel Student Center.

“Sunday Lane is a feel-good poppy sound,” Helmerich said, “but she has tracks that bring an indie side to her music as well ...and Ty Mayfield is a piano-pop, rock kid from Dallas.”

A digital copy of the band’s new

album can be ordered at the website [www.uproarrecords.com/pre-order/](http://www.uproarrecords.com/pre-order/).

The band has made a variety of packages available that include stickers, T-shirts, a home-cooked dinner by the band or a booking with them.

“We wanted to put something funny up on the website to order, but surprisingly someone already ordered the dinner package. I guess we will have to learn how to cook soon,” Helmerich said. “I don’t think that person will want \$100 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.”

# Bradley Cooper stars in ‘Limitless,’ opening Friday

By **CARRIE RICKEY**  
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

PHILADELPHIA – As he tells it, Bradley Cooper in 1999 is just another awestruck theater student in the audience of James Lipton’s interview show “Inside the Actors Studio.”

Then the hunk with the laser-blue eyes seizes the chance to ask a question of Robert De Niro, his idol, his lodestar, the guy who inspired him to be an actor. De Niro tells him it’s a good one. It exceeds Cooper’s wildest dreams.

Considering what happens next, those dreams are pretty tame.

In “Limitless,” opening Friday, Cooper, the heartthrob from the Philly burbs best known for “The Hangover,” not only holds his own opposite De Niro, but also in two scenes his character wipes the carpet with his idol’s.

The dark-comic thriller stars Cooper as Eddie Morra, a writer who gets hooked to a drug that lets him use 100 percent of his brainpower.

Before long, Eddie gets the attention of a Wall Street titan (De Niro), the Russian mafia and some long-stemmed socialites. Given the spectrum of Cooper’s performance, not only is “Limitless” the title of the movie, it’s also the career forecast for a certain 36-year-old from Rydal.

As a student he wasn’t exactly stalking De Niro, Cooper says with a laugh during an interview Monday in the conference room of WMMR. But the Four Degrees of Robert De Niro is one way to tell his story.

See the 11-year-old Rydal El-

ementary schooler who watches “Raging Bull” and “The Elephant Man” on cable in his parents’ bedroom, and decides to pursue acting as a career.

Fast-forward to the apprentice who asks Mr. “You-Talkin’-to-Me?” about his technique in “Awakenings” at the Actors Studio taping.

Enter, screen left, the journeyman, riding the bounce from “Wedding Crashers” and “The Hangover,” who sends De Niro a homemade audition tape to get cast in the actor/director’s “Everybody’s Fine.” (The tape earns Cooper a brief audience with the monosyllabic mumbler, who tells him, “Not gonna happen,” and then dismisses him.)

Behold the actor infamously caught between a tiger and Mike Tyson in “The Hangover” and between Jennifer Connelly and Scarlett Johansson in “He’s Just Not That Into You.”

This player gets the lead in “Limitless,” a part coveted by Heath Ledger and Shia La Beouf, and billed above De Niro.

Cooper and the laconic actor become peers, and more. During production, much of it shot in Philadelphia (doubling for Midtown Manhattan), “we send each other mozzarella every day.”

“I’ve been so fortunate to work with him,” says Cooper, who can’t quite grok that though he’s lost an idol, he’s gained a friend.

Rare is the actor who looks better in person than on screen, but Cooper is that uncommon guy. He’s very present, a good quality in an actor and a man.

At WMMR on Monday morn-

ing as he charms Preston & Steve, a flock of young female interns coo outside the studio. “You’d think there was a Beatle here,” a producer quips. The joke of “Limitless” is that this 6-foot-2 Adonis would need the help of drugs to be catnip to women.

Cooper “practically lived” at the Eric Baederwood movie theater. “I loved what films did to me emotionally.” Emotional is the operative word. Recently, he told an interviewer that he grew up in an environment “where being emotional was not something that was seen as honorable.”

Movies let him go there. They took the self-described “shy kid” out of himself.

If watching De Niro loosened the tight lid that was the pubescent Bradley Cooper, Anthony Hopkins and John Hurt opened him up. “I was watching ‘The Elephant Man’ when I was 11,” Cooper recalls. Something clicked.

“When I saw Treves” – Hopkins, the Victorian surgeon who sees the humanity in disfigured sideshow freak John Merrick – “look at Merrick, I thought, ‘I want to do that.’ It felt wonderful knowing what I wanted to do.”

He deeply identified with the sideshow freak: “I felt that Merrick and I were so similar. The way we both hold one hip higher.” Cooper’s thesis project at the Actors Studio was on Merrick and Bernard Pomerance’s play “The Elephant Man.”

The fledgling actor played the role of Inspector Fix in the Rydal Elementary production of “Around the World in 80 Days.” But in high school, the stagestruck youth had



Actor Bradley Cooper stars in new film ‘Limitless’ opposite his childhood idol, Robert De Niro.

stage fright. “I was not at ease with who I was,” he recalls.

“Fortunately, I always had a lot of love from my family and was blessed with great friends.” One of them, Brian Klugman, the screenwriter of “TRON: Legacy,” has completed a script called “The Words” in which Cooper hopes to star.

After transferring from Villanova University to Georgetown,

Cooper appeared in a Hoya production of “Dangerous Liaisons” and was a member of the medal-winning crew team. He enrolled at the Actors Studio, where while a student he won parts in “Sex and the City” and in “Wet Hot American Summer” (2001). Recurring roles on television’s “Alias” and “Nip/Tuck” followed. On Broadway, he co-starred with Julia Roberts in “Three Days of Rain.”

# Internet makes The Civil Wars newest music sensation

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Here’s a question the members of the duo The Civil Wars have been contemplating a lot lately: What’s the value of a star’s tweet? Or two? Or three?

For Joy Williams and John Paul White, tweets by Taylor Swift, Hillary Scott of Lady Antebellum and Sara Bareilles, among many others, helped drive first-week sales of their debut album, “Barton Hollow,” to levels they didn’t expect. They sold out one tour and now have a more ambitious schedule down the road, had their video added by CMT, and now have at their fingertips limitless possibilities that good old-fashioned word of mouth brings in the Internet age.

“Instantly, with one click, five million people knew our names,” White said of Swift’s tweet.

Swift threw her support behind the duo when she told fans she was

listening to “Poison & Wine”: “You can’t push ‘repeat’ on vinyl so I keep setting the needle back on my record player.”

And that — combined with other unexpected national word-of-mouth opportunities — helped the band sell five times as many copies of “Barton Hollow” in its opening week in February than expected. The album debuted at No. 12 on the Billboard 200 with about 25,000 copies sold. After five weeks it’s climbing steadily at 50,000.

After catching a show in Nashville, Swift told fans she and a friend bought T-shirts “cause we’re superfanssss. They RULE live!”

Perhaps not coincidentally, a tour earlier this winter sold out with fans looking in through the windows at some venues. A larger tour later this year is already approaching sellout.

Add in an endorsement from Bareilles, an out-of-the-blue appearance on “The Tonight Show

with Jay Leno” and a song placement on “Grey’s Anatomy,” and Williams and White are feeling the love, which is just as good as a multimillion-dollar advertising campaign.

“It’s actually better,” White said. “... because it’s word of mouth,” Williams said. “No one’s being paid to do that.”

The Civil Wars are at South By Southwest in Austin, this week looking for more buzz. They’ll perform at least 10 times at and around the conference, including a few high-profile events that will surely bring more clicks.

Of course, word of mouth usually doesn’t happen when there’s no basis for it, and the duo has earned the kudos with an exciting debut that’s satisfying in a couple different ways.

The musicianship and songcraft are simple, direct and evocative, simultaneously old-fashioned and new with a focus on mood.

The music, which relies on White’s dynamic guitar and soaring dual harmonies, is almost impossible to classify. It’s been called country, folk, Americana, Southern Gothic and sliced and diced by bloggers and critics into a number of sub-categories.

“I don’t really know where we fit,” White said. “But I’m extremely happy about that.”

Williams and White — both married, but to other people — didn’t set out to make the kind of music they do. Williams, a native Californian who lives in east Nashville, was attempting to make the step from gospel music to pop. And White, of Muscle Shoals, Ala., was a rocker whose record deal fell through.

They might never have met if not for “Band X,” a country project both were asked to write for by their music publishers. Neither saw how they fit in the picture.

“And we both tried to cancel,”

White said.

White and Williams agree there would have been no reason to put them together in a writing room on the first day of the songwriting sessions.

It was random chance that made no sense on the surface. But the results were immediate.

“To be honest, the first day when I was with her, we weren’t too concerned about getting cuts on the project,” White said. “We were just like, ‘Who are you.’”

“Where have you been my entire musical life?” Williams said.

“But neither one of us said that out loud at any point,” White said.

The two got together for another songwriting session and the chemistry was undeniable. Yet still neither broached the idea of teaming up in a permanent way.

“I was a little jaded and so was she,” White said. “I thought, I’m just going to write songs for a while. We went into the studio and

we clicked again, so I finally got up the nerve to ask her out as it were.”

“In a musical way,” Williams said.

“It was very awkward — ‘I don’t know what you’re doing later ...,’” White said. “And she totally could’ve just let me hang out there.”

Instead, she chose a path neither of them really ever envisioned and it has led them to a kind of freedom they’ve never felt before.

“I can see your wings getting larger and larger as we do this, too,” White said to Williams near the end of the interview.

“There’s no confinement. There’s no walls. There’s no hole that this has to fit through, no topic that this has to fit under. It’s like we have no rules with what we do. We’re lucky in that what we do together seems to have this general nucleus to it but we just chase the muse wherever it takes us.”

FUN TIMES

Find answers at [www.baylorlariat.com](http://www.baylorlariat.com)

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14 Bard's black  
15 “\_\_ Latest Flame”: Presley hit  
16 Bird that hangs its nest from a branch  
17 “Survey response  
19 Rang  
20 Juliet’s volatile cousin  
21 “Trying to remember  
23 Suffer defeat  
25 Cubic roller  
26 “Prospects  
29 Cartoon skunk Le Pew  
32 Mideast political gp.  
33 UPS delivery  
34 Know-it-all  
38 “Tomorrow” musical

40 Push-up sound, perhaps  
41 Longtime Dodgers manager  
44 Org. with shrinks  
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47 Software buyer  
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68 Oppressive boss

69 Short flight  
70 Cubicle furnishing

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3 Leopold’s co-defendant  
4 Ultimate goal  
5 “Not to worry”  
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8 Best-seller  
9 Age opening?  
10 Hairlike corn feature  
11 Like a rock  
12 Nicholas Gage memoir  
13 Rushlike plant  
18 “SportsCenter’s Not Top Plays” videos, e.g.  
22 Marching syllables  
24 Pre-op test  
26 Play-of-color gem

27 Forearm bone  
28 Lots  
30 19th-century Italian violin virtuoso  
31 Commit 18-Down  
35 Old boats  
36 Memo “apropos of”  
37 Pierre’s state  
39 Paper in a pot  
42 Gone  
43 Bone-dry  
44 Pierre’s soul  
45 More than fills the inbox  
49 Like staccato notes  
50 Medium’s medium  
51 Expressionless  
52 Playful swimmer  
54 Diver’s concern  
56 “\_\_ girl!”  
57 Former girls’ magazine  
59 Ready to eat  
60 Brutus’ bird  
61 Eat like a bird  
64 “Now I get it!”

McClatchy-Tribune

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

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



# Indoor track ends season in College Station

*By LINDSAY CASH*  
REPORTER

Concluding the indoor season with a bang, Baylor's track and field team hit College Station last weekend to compete in the Indoor Championships. The NCAA meet was at the Gilliam Indoor Track Stadium, and nine Baylor field members attended.

The track athletes exceeded expectations as a team, with the men making their biggest move in history to 16th place and the women entering into the top 10.

"This meet was as close as we

could get to perfect," Coach Todd Harbour said.

Senior Tiffany Townsend and freshman Tiffani McReynolds were spotlight representatives for the women's side. For the men, senior Marcus Boyd and juniors Woodrow Randall and Whitney Prevost earned their way to the championships. Sophomores Drew Seale and Zwede Hewitt joined the action for the relay team, and field representatives included junior Jessica Ubanyionwu and sophomore Skylar White.

Townsend didn't waste any time. Starting the meet by making

history, Townsend earned her 14th career All-America honor. With her blazing speed in the 200 meters at 22.90, she ranks seventh in the world this year. She also grabbed third in the 60 meters.

"I'm thankful for the honor. I'm blessed," Townsend said. "But I'm already looking forward to outdoor and bettering my times."

It's safe to say Townsend is hungry for the future, as she finishes her career at Baylor.

"It's bittersweet, being a senior. I've had a great experience here and I know it's almost my time to go. But I want to grab a national

championship. And I know it's do-able," Townsend said.

Both races and her 14th honor gave Townsend three records to take home, but she wasn't finished. Townsend earned her 15th honor and tied former Baylor star Tony Miller for most ever at Baylor.

Randall hit his career best time in his 60-meter heat win at 6.65, gaining his first career All-America honor. His time was the sixth-fastest overall and the second-best time ever at Baylor. He also reached personal best in Friday's prelims.

McReynolds contributed with eight team points to project the

women to finish 10th overall team wise. Finishing 10th overall is second best in Baylor history.

After spending a few months in and out of meets and competitions, one of Baylor's tiniest athletes has made a powerful and mighty name for herself.

"I'm a huge sports fan, and I'm saying that Tiff is one of the top athletes on this campus," Harbour said.

McReynolds finished second at 8.03 in the hurdles, earning her first All-America honor, and broke her own record for the sixth time.

Ubanyionwu's final jump was

her personal best, with her leap of 43 feet, 6.75 inches, giving her sixth overall.

White finished 10th overall in the shot put with her third-best throw ever. Friday marks the beginning of the outdoor season when TCU hosts the invitational in Fort Worth.

"We are a stronger outdoor team. With all the finals we've made in indoor, you just see those transition to outdoor, then build on that," Harbour said. "You really don't lose anything transitioning to outdoor, just gain."

## Women's tennis sweeps Kentucky

*By WILL POTTER*  
REPORTER

From the first toss to the last winner, the 10th-ranked Baylor women's tennis team dominated the Kentucky Wildcats Wednesday. The Bears swept the dual match 7-0 and did not drop a set in singles play.

The match was the second win in a row for the Lady Bears and marked the second time they have completed a 7-0 sweep of a team this spring season.

"We have an experienced team so they understand that the next match you play is always the biggest match on the schedule," head coach Joey Scrivano said. "The girls came out focused and determined today and did not let up."

Baylor took the doubles point to dig the Wildcats in an early 1-0 hole and when singles play rolled around, Kentucky was clearly out-matched.

Sona Novakova and Abby Stainback were first off the court



Junior Nina Secerbegovic strokes a ball against Alabama's Courtney McClane. On Wednesday, Secerbegovic beat Kentucky's Marni Venter, 6-2, 6-0, to help women's tennis beat the Wildcats, 7-0, and improve to 10-2.

for the Lady Bears in singles losing only two combined games in their respective matches.

"All of our players are very energetic," junior Diana Nakic said. "Even the ones who don't play are so great. They are always cheering and supporting us while we are on the court. We are playing very well together right now."

The fourth, clinching point for Baylor came when No. 34 junior Nina Secerbegovich defeated Marni Venter 6-2, 6-0.

Despite having clinched the match, the team did not let up and steamrolled through the rest of the matches to win 7-0.

Scrivano said he is happy with

the win but said he is convinced there is still room for improvement.

"Good news for us is that we are not even close to peaking yet," Scrivano said. "We need to continue to be motivated to push ourselves to the next level."

The match was closed with relative ease using a complete performance by Nakic who defeated Khristina Blajkevitch of Kentucky 6-3, 6-3. Nakic missed all of the fall season with a wrist injury and has been steadily improving her game to return to top form for Big 12 play.

"My mindset is to work to change things to make myself bet-

ter," Nakic said. "I am playing very relaxed and trying to stick to my game plan every match."

Every match is vital to moving the team forward to their ultimate goal of an NCAA title.

"The key is for the girls to want to improve," Scrivano said. "Attitude will fuel that change in their game. We have to be wanting to get better every single day and that desire has to come from within the players."

The Lady Bears will have a chance to continue to improve on their season and their Big 12 winning streak as they host the Kansas State Wildcats in the Big 12 home opener on Friday.

## Softball wins 1 of 2

*By LINDSAY CASH*  
REPORTER

The No. 15 Baylor Lady Bears went 1-1 against the University of North Texas Wednesday night, dropping the last game of the double header in nine innings.

North Texas struck first in the bottom of the third thanks to a Mallory Cantler grand slam off Baylor's pitcher, freshman Liz Paul, making the score 4-0.

Baylor tied the game at four in the top of the fourth, as freshman Clare Hosack brought in two runs with a single up the middle, freshman Shelbi Redfearn hit a sac fly to left and Hosack scored on a wild pitch by Brittany Simmons.

North Texas jumped on top again in the bottom of the fourth 7-4 with an RBI single by Cantler and a two run double by Mariza Martinez.

Baylor came back to tie up the game scoring a run an inning in the fifth, sixth and seventh, sending the game to extra innings.

Both teams went scoreless in the eighth, but Baylor took advantage of a double to right center by senior KJ Freeland, scoring redshirt sophomore Whitney Canion who reached on a fielding error, leading for the first time of the game 8-7.

Canion, who came on to pitch for the Lady Bears in the seventh,

couldn't get the save as Courtney Bradshaw hit a two out walk off double, topping Baylor 9-8.

In game one of the double-header, thanks to a three run shot over the right field wall from junior Kayce Walker, Baylor topped the University of North Texas 6-1.

Sophomore Kathy Shelton led off the game with a walk and made it all the way around the bases, thanks to a stolen base, a sacrifice bunt by Walker and a Turk single to left field, taking a 1-0 lead.

North Texas tied the game by scoring on a fielding error.

In the second, sophomore Kelsi Kettler and Hosack both got on base due to left field singles. Walker then emptied the bases with her homerun, upping the score to 4-0.

The Lady Bears didn't score again until the fifth. The runners advanced a base due to a sacrifice bunt by Kettler. Hosack's sacrifice fly and Freeland's single to center field scored the two Lady Bears on base, topping their lead to 6-0.

Canion was in the circle for Baylor allowing one run on five hits, walking one, and striking out eight.

The Lady Bears have a week off until they host a double-header against Florida International, their last game before the conference schedule begins against Texas A&M.

ROUNDUP

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SEASON REVIEW

A look at the key games that shaped Baylor's year

12/18 - Gonzaga

Then No. 9 Baylor comes up short against unranked Gonzaga, 68-64, in Dallas in the Bears first mild test.

12/23 - Washington St.

A late comeback falls short in a 77-71 loss. Baylor cuts a 20-point deficit to one, but it ultimately learns a hard lesson in how to close a game.

1/8 - at Texas Tech

The Bears' first step in conference play is forward as they manage a road win against the Red Raiders. The problem: this would be just one of two road victories in Big 12 play.

1/15 - at Iowa State

Though on the road, this loss hurt. The Bears became one of just three teams to fall to the last-place Cyclones during the conference stretch.

1/17 - vs. Kansas

In this Big Monday matchup, the ESPN national audience watched the Jayhawks keep the Bears at arm's reach in Waco. 85-65 was the final.

2/5 - at Texas A&M

Junior Anthony Jones put back a missed shot just before the overtime buzzer to beat the Aggies, 76-74. The Bears needed a victory after a tough loss on the road at Oklahoma.

2/15 - vs. Wayland Baptist

Some might say "a win is a win," but the all-too-close 64-50 nonconference victory saw the Bears shoot poorly from 3-point land and the free-throw line. Following this conference breather the Bears lost 4 of 5.

2/19 - vs. Texas Tech

The Bears fell, 78-69, at home. This created more need-to-win games against more difficult opponents like A&M and Texas down the stretch.

2/26 - vs. Texas A&M

Sweeping the Aggies would have been the crowning achievement to most seasons had expectations not been so high for this year's squad. Still, taking a home and away from the conference's third best team should not be downplayed too much.

3/5 - vs. Texas

While Baylor fans showed up for the College Gameday matchup, their team was unable to close the conference regular season on a win or take advantage of the national spotlight in a game that could have propelled them back into the mix for the Big Dance.

# Drew's press conference ends season

## Coach looks to future after tough 2010-11 year

By CHRIS DERRETT  
SPORTS EDITOR

After a whirlwind end to an undoubtedly disappointing season, men's basketball coach Scott Drew held his final press conference of the 2010-11 season Wednesday.

"We've had so much success and enjoyed postseason so much. And this year, you're just left with an empty feeling. Hopefully, that's something that will help motivate and lead to a great off-season," Drew said, alone on the podium, as players were not made available.

Drew and the Bears watched Sunday as the NIT selection show revealed Baylor would not receive a bid to the tournament. Falling short of postseason play ended a three-season streak.

"From talking to committee members before [the announcement of the tournament teams], I know they take everything into account. With the uncertainty of Perry [Jones III], I don't think that was the deciding factor, but still, information is information," Drew said.

Hindering the Bears' chances of getting into the NIT was the fact that a record number of automatic qualifying teams made the field. Those 12 teams that won their conference regular season championship but did not receive an invitation to the NCAA tournament were automatically invited to the NIT.

The uncertainty Drew spoke of regarded Jones. The NCAA declared Jones ineligible because of loans that Jones' mother received from Jones' high school club basketball coach. Jones' coach also paid for Jones' travel to San Diego to see a preseason professional football game.

Baylor was told of Jones' ineligibility six hours before its Big 12 tournament opening round game against Oklahoma, which the Bears would go on to lose, 84-67.

At Wednesday's press conference, Drew said Baylor is waiting for the NCAA's ruling on the Bears' appeal to reinstate Jones. "I thought we could hear to-

day, hope to hear to day, but you never know because its their timetable," Drew said.

Of course, Jones could choose to declare himself eligible for the NBA draft, a choice that standout forward Ekpe Udoh made after helping the Bears to an Elite Eight appearance in 2010. Jones will sit down with Drew soon and talk about the decision.

"We usually give our guys a week or two and bring them in, and at that point discuss what they're thinking," Drew said. "Perry comes from a great family, and they're going to do what's best for Perry."

The last week has been tough for Jones, who found it difficult to sit on the bench and watch his team drop its last contest of the year.

"I know he lost eight pounds. That kind of sums up the week," Drew added.

Jones is not the only Baylor player that could enter the NBA draft. After setting the Big 12 all-time scoring record during his senior season, LaceDarius Dunn might also go pro.

As Drew ponders the absence of his two leading scorers next season, at the same time he welcomes new personnel in standout recruits Deuce Bello and Quincy Miller. The Bears will also have next year in California transfer Gary Franklin and Boston College transfer Brady Heslip.

Drew said Franklin and Heslip could help solve one of the Bears' biggest problems on the court.

"It was pretty glaring to see that turnovers hurt us all season long," Drew said. "Defensively, for the most part we were good enough to win and rebounding, for the most part, we were good enough to win. We never really took care of the ball well enough to win."

Sophomore point guard A.J. Walton will have another year under his belt as the Bears try to improve their turnover margin, which ranked last in conference play last year. Juniors Quincy Acy and Anthony Jones will look to lead the team as well.

"Quincy took a step forward and again will take another step forward next year," Drew said. For now, all Drew can do is get back on the recruiting trail and focus on the future.

"It's very tough. People just assume, OK, do you go on vacation now? Do you watch all the other [tournament] games? When you lose, the last thing you can do is watch other teams play."

*"When you lose, the last thing you can do is watch other teams play."*

Scott Drew | Head coach



NICK BERRYMAN | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

No. 24 senior LaceDarius Dunn scans the court in the Bears' March 5 game against Texas. The Bears lost, 60-54. On Wednesday, coach Scott Drew discussed the season as a whole, saying he hopes for more success next year.

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# Durant, Thunder top Heat

By TIM REYNOLDS  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI — Oklahoma City had one of its worst shooting nights of the season. The way the Thunder played defense, hardly anyone noticed.

Except the Miami Heat, that is. Kevin Durant scored 29 points on 12 for 21 shooting, Russell Westbrook added 18 and the Thunder gave Miami's offense fits on the way to a 96-85 victory over the Heat on Wednesday night.

"Our defense was as good as it could possibly play," Thunder coach Scott Brooks said.

James Harden scored 12 points for the Thunder, who have won five straight. Oklahoma City shot just 40 percent, and had been 7-13 when connecting on less than 43 percent of its chances this season.

It didn't matter Wednesday after holding the Heat to 38 percent shooting, plus having a dominating 24-10 edge in second-chance points. Miami shot a season-low 29 percent after halftime.

"One thing we've gotten better at is closing games out," Durant said.

Chris Bosh had 21 points and 11 rebounds, Dwyane Wade scored 21 points and LeBron James finished with 19 for the Heat, who had won three straight and were averaging 114 points in their last two games.

"We missed some pretty good chances," Bosh said.

And the Heat were hopping mad as this slipped away.

Miami had a chance with 3½ minutes left, Wade getting the ball in transition and the Heat down by seven. He missed a layup and contended he got fouled — replays showed he clearly had a case, with Serge Ibaka grabbing him from behind — but nothing was called.

That is, until Wade overreacted. He slammed his hand into the padding around the basket support, an unusual display for him, and Greg Willard responded with a technical after Harden made a 3-pointer. Heat coach Erik Spoelstra earned a technical as well, Durant made one of the two free throws, and the Thunder lead was 11 with 3:11 left.

Afterward, James and Wade both saluted what Oklahoma City did defensively.

"Tonight is not one of those games where you feel awful about how you played," James said.

Ibaka finished with 12 rebounds and three blocks, and the Thunder outrebounded Miami 51-40.

"We have some of the best attackers in the game. They usually go over the top," Spoelstra said. "They were being met at the rim. They forced us into some tough opportunities. Regardless of whether we feel there was contact or not, you have to give them credit with their defense."

The loss reduced the almost-nonexistent margin for error Miami has in the Eastern Conference, where the No. 3 seed looks like it will be reality entering the playoffs.

The Heat (46-22) are now three

games behind Chicago and Boston in the race for the No. 1 seed, but in actuality, the gap is wider than that. Chicago and Boston both are four games ahead in the loss column, plus hold tiebreakers over Miami.

"You know they are going to find ways to win games," Thunder center Kendrick Perkins said. "Come playoff time, they are still scary. Coming into this arena, knowing that you have to play those guys, is still scary."

Oklahoma City (44-23) stayed 3½ games ahead of Denver for No. 4 in the Western Conference.

Wade tried giving Miami a lift with 8 minutes left, lurking from behind to swat a layup attempt by Eric Maynor several rows into the seats. But on the continuation of Oklahoma City's possession, former Heat guard Daquan Cook — one of the players Miami cut loose to free salary cap room last summer — made a 3-pointer to stretch the Thunder cushion to 76-66.

Durant followed with a 20-footer on the next trip, the lead was 12, and the league's reigning scoring champion was finally in position to knock off one of James' teams for the first time.

They had met six times before Wednesday. But the results had always gone James' way, including each of the last three where the Thunder had great chances entering the fourth only to be thwarted.

Not this time, though Durant shrugged it off afterward.

"It was a great win for the Oklahoma City Thunder," Durant said.

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BILL from Page 1

aren't occurring? What will you do when someone gets mugged on campus, pulls out a gun but isn't fully prepared to use it, and that firearm gets used against that person for something much worse? Will you call her parents?"

Woods went on to say none of the survivors of the Virginia Tech shootings of which he is aware, nor the families of the victims, support allowing concealed firearms on college campuses.

"These bills are about an ideological agenda, not about campus safety," Woods said, "and I urge you to vote 'no' on all four."

Scott Lewis, the Texas legislative director for Students for Concealed Carry on Campus, said when concealed-carry legislation first allowed handguns to be taken onto public premises about 15 years ago, Texas legislators were concerned about its experimental nature and banned them in sensitive areas like churches and college campuses. Now, Lewis believes the evidence shows those concerns were unfounded.

"I think it's important to keep in mind that this is about personal security, not campus security," Lewis said. "We're not suggesting that concealed handgun license-holders be tasked with protecting campus; we're not trying to create some sort of amateur security force. We are suggesting that individuals be allowed the means to protect themselves."

Of the individuals who testified against the legislation, many recog-

nized the likelihood that H.B. 750 would pass and proposed amendments that would mitigate what are, in their opinions, the negative effects of the bill. The most common amendment requested was that individual public universities and colleges be allowed to determine the weapons policy on their respective campuses, as private institutions like Baylor are allowed under the bill, rather than having to comply with a statewide policy. The committee did not make any such amendments to the bill before voting to pass it.

Dr. William Holda, president of Kilgore College and chair-elect of the Texas Association of Community Colleges, questioned the rationality behind allowing private institutions to opt out of the policy while not allowing public institutions to set their own policy. "The state gives \$300 million a year in tuition equalization grants to private colleges, so that technical argument that they receive no state funds is really not true," Holda said. "I'm not saying, 'Don't let them opt out.' I really am not. I think our association would like our local boards to have that option also."

The state's numbers reflect private institutions received closer to \$212 million in tuition equalization grants during the 2010-2011 fiscal biennium and stand to lose up to \$87.4 million over the next two years, according to the Texas Legislative Budget Board's original budget proposal this session.

GAME from Page 1

house and start on a second floor.

Maybe now the addiction potential of Minecraft is becoming clear. So much so that some users on the Minecraft forums have jokingly referred to the game as "Minecrack."

Baton Rouge, La., senior John Mark Lowry started playing the game recently.

"I heard about it from one of my brother's friends who had played for a while and just kind of mentioned it in passing," Lowry said. "When he was telling me about the game, he said 'It's this video game that I just kind of play casually' and then explained the game to me. So I thought, 'OK, good, sounds great.' The main thing I got was that he played it casually, so I downloaded it and started playing."

"The first week I probably played two to four hours a day depending on what kind of time I had. So seeing how addicting it was, I just sent him a Facebook message that said 'Casually?' He messaged me back saying, 'Haha, gotcha.'"

The game has an incredible range in what can be both mined and crafted. There is "redstone dust" that can be used to make simple circuitry, an entire other region called the Nether full of blocks with other wordly characteristics, the ability to create mine carts and mine cart tracks on which to ride (think Rollercoaster Tycoon, but even more expansive).

There are enemies, known as Creepers, that exist to just wander around, explode and destroy your beautiful creations. There are multiplayer maps where users can join forces and create entire cities together. There is a creative mode where the inventory of blocks is endless. And since the game is still in beta, updates are fast-coming and frequently bring entire new dimensions to the gameplay.

Despite all these features, gamers may be surprised by what the game lacks. There are no bosses to beat and no quests to complete, at least not yet. Players can only survive and build. And people have done just that. Some people have built 1:1 scale replicas of Minas Tirith, the capital of J.R.R. Tolkien's fictional Gondor from "The Lord of the Rings," or Star Trek's U.S.S. Enterprise — literally block by block. In a way, it's like playing with life-size Lego blocks. Others have used the ability of redstone

dust to create circuitry in order to build an ALU (the math part of a CPU) capable of performing simple mathematics within the game. It would seem, given the freedom to do anything, people have tried to do everything.

"I think the best thing about it is that I just get to do whatever I want," Lowry said. "There aren't really any objectives other than just making things and I enjoy having free rein over this little digital world. Whether I want to just go around and mine things or build a crazy big house or even just level a mountain, whatever I want to do, it's fun to figure out how to accomplish that using the items that they give you and then figuring out how to craft it into whatever you need. And then ultimately accomplishing goals that you set for yourself."

The Minecraft wiki is home to more than 600 articles devoted solely to the game and, according to analytic data from Martijn van de Kerkhof, the wiki's head administrator, the site is frequently accessed by about 2.6 million people per month with 970,000 of those users coming from the United States.

The low-resolution graphics may put off some gamers who have grown accustomed to only the absolute highest tier when it comes to their video games' graphics. But Minecraft seems to have taken the unique approach of valuing quality gameplay mechanics over flashy or even impressive visuals.

This little independent game, with practically no advertising whatsoever and no official release, has been an incredible success, selling over a million copies. Gamasutra also reported at the end of February that Persson has plans to port Minecraft over to both iPad and iPhone.

Looking to the game's future, Persson said on Minecraft's official website, "I've got a few plans and visions, but my only true design decision is to keep it fun and accessible."

Lowry offered a warning to interested gamers: "I would just warn people that, if you're gonna try it out, it's definitely addicting. Start it when you have some spare time and not when you're gonna want to skip things so you can play it."

The game currently costs about \$20, available only on Minecraft. net. It is expected to go up to about \$28 by the full release.

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