

In Print

**>> Season tradition**  
Waco's annual Christmas parade at 6 p.m. today will feature decorated floats and tours of four historic Waco homes

Page 7

**>> Bowl bound**  
Saturday's game against UT will tell what bowl game Baylor will play in. Projections include the Valero Alamo Bowl, the Insight Bowl, the Bridgepoint Education and Holiday Bowl.

Page 8

**>> A new title**  
Dr. Shelly F. Conroy was named the dean of The Louise Herrington Nursing School Wednesday.

Page 4

On the Web



'Tis the season

The holidays came early with Christmas on 5th street Thursday. Check out the Lariat photo essay online at

[baylorlariat.com](http://baylorlariat.com)

Viewpoints

*"Having a place to buy fresh produce going from the farm to the market is a wonderful opportunity of which Waco residents and Baylor students need to take advantage."*

Page 2

Bear Briefs

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

Christmas at Baylor

Become a part of "Baylor Agape Connection Decks the Halls" at 3 p.m. Sunday at The Regent Care Center. Members of Baylor Agape Connection and fellow students will participate in decorating 80 miniature Christmas trees to be placed in each room of the nursing home.



By DANIEL C. HOUSTON  
STAFF WRITER

University officials have disputed claims made by Dr. Marc Ellis, professor of Jewish studies, that Baylor canceled an invitation to bring a prominent public intellectual to campus.

Ramona Curtis, director for the Academy of Leader Development and Civic Engagement, confirmed Wednesday that her department has been working since spring to book Princeton professor Dr. Cornel West to speak at

Baylor on social justice issues.

The academy is trying to bring West to speak at an event to coincide with Justice Week, a week-long series of events to be put on in spring 2012 by the student organization International Justice Mission.

Justice Week's primary goal is to bring attention to issues of hu-



Ellis

man trafficking and modern-day slavery, Curtis said. West was targeted as a potential speaker for his wide body of published work on race relations in American society and his tendency to speak out actively on subjects relating to human oppression, Curtis said.

But Baylor's efforts to bring West to campus hit a snag when the university's Center for Jewish Studies, of which Ellis has been the director, was no longer able to make good on a commitment it had made to fund a portion of the event cost, Curtis said.

"Marc's department was going to help sponsor the event," Curtis said. "But I'm not sure what's going on in [the Center for] Jewish Studies, so we were no longer able to count on those funds. So we are in the process of looking for other partners."

Ellis made a statement last week at the American Academy of Religion's annual meeting, during which he announced Baylor was considering charges against him that could lead to his dismissal from his tenured faculty position. During his speech, Ellis said

Baylor had canceled his classes for the fall semester, and "systematically eroded" his job duties as director of the Center for Jewish Studies, "most recently leading to Baylor's cancellation of the invitation to Cornel West."

Curtis, who has been involved in talks about booking West for the speech, said a formal invitation had not been offered to West and no contract was signed because her department is still

SEE ELLIS, page 10

# Academy seeks to fund West invite

## Students urged to be aware of robbers

By JADE MARDIROSIAN  
STAFF WRITER

In light of the recent increase in crime around campus, including a Taco Bell drive-through incident Wednesday night, Baylor Police are urging students to take extra precautions to stay safe.

Rodney Scott, 35, was charged of robbery and criminal trespass early Thursday in connection with the Taco Bell robbery.

Scott's bail is set at \$25,000 for robbery and \$5,000 for criminal trespass. He has not posted bail and is being held at McLennan County Jail.

The victim said Scott walked up to their car asking for money. After the victim gave Scott a dollar bill, he demanded more money and reached toward his jacket pocket. At that point the victim threw change at Scott and drove away in fear that Scott had a weapon. The victim called police at 11:42 p.m. Wednesday.

Previous robberies include an armed robbery at 10:35 p.m. Monday at 12th Street and Bagby Avenue, a 7 a.m. robbery Nov. 21 at the Baylor Arms Apartments, an 8:10 a.m. armed robbery Nov. 9 at the La Mirage Apartments and four armed robberies in Oct., including the Oct. 30 robbery in the 1500 block of South Ninth Street. Tresten Robinson, 19, was charged with one count of robbery-bodily injury in connection with the incident.

Waco police do not believe Wednesday night's incident is related to other robberies around campus, but urge students to take precautions.

"Look around and know what is going on and who is around you," Doak said.

Doak shared a simple tip for students to protect themselves when walking to their car or through parking lots.

"[Students should] take one of the keys in their hand put it between their forefinger and middle finger, and that becomes a weapon," Doak said. "If someone attacks you, those first few seconds are crucial because that sets the tone and if the male or female [student] turns around with keys in hand, [the robber] does not expect that. That is prevention that can be worth a lot; it is very inexpensive — everyone has a key."

Doak said a few years ago, one female student was able to defend herself against an attacker by using this tip.

"She was able to slash him right across the face [with the key]," Doak said. "She defended herself

SEE SAFETY, page 10



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

## A very sic 'em Christmas

Slayd Casey participated in a sic 'em in front of the Christmas on 5th tree Thursday in the Burleson Quadrangle during the annual celebration. Headliner Aaron Watson took the stage shortly after. Other activities included Christmas tree lighting, a Christmas marketplace, cocoa, cookies and carols.

## Pi Alpha Delta fraternity auction offers professor dates for charity

By ROB BRADFIELD  
STAFF WRITER

If you've ever wanted to date a law professor, now's your chance.

For the second year in a row, the Baylor Law School chapter of the Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, International will auction off "dates" with Baylor law professors.

Friday between 12:30 and 1:30 p.m., students can attend a live auction in the student lounge of the law school to help raise money for the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) association. CASA volunteers are appointed to abused or neglected children to help them through the legal and social service systems.

"We're very appreciative of how generous the professors have been and how generous our sponsors have been, and we're over-

*"We're very appreciative of how generous the professors have been and how generous our sponsors have been, and we're overwhelmed by the generosity of the students bidding on these events."*

Cameron Redding |  
Phi Alpha Delta justice

whelmed by the generosity of the students bidding on these events," Cameron Redding, Phi Alpha Delta justice, said.

The silent auction bidding began earlier this week, and contin-

ues until noon Friday. During the live auction, students will be able to bid on spots at events hosted by different law professors.

Events include golf and cooking lessons; an eight-person shooting contest; and an opportunity to attend a Lady Bears practice session, tour the locker room and meet the team. Baylor President Ken Starr has also opened up six spots at his lunch table for top bidders.

Funding for the events has either been covered by the hosting professors or donated by event sponsors like Themis, Barbri, Westlaw, LexisNexis and Kaplan, so nearly all of the money raised by the auction will flow directly to the McLennan and Hill Counties CASA group.

"It's a little easier to get law students to part with what little funds they have when they know

SEE AUCTION, page 10

## New BU minor explores poverty

By ASHLEY YEAMAN  
REPORTER

Baylor students from all academic disciplines can now minor in poverty studies and social justice, a program housed in the School of Social Work.

It took time to launch the new minor because of its interdisciplinary nature, said Dr. Jon Singletary, associate dean for baccalaureate studies, the Diana R. Garland Endowed Chair in Child and Family Studies and the director of the Center for Family and Community Ministries.

"We wanted to have different departments who are on campus involved, and so we wanted everybody to have a chance for some input, and also just be able to get all the approvals that are necessary [for an interdisciplinary program]," Singletary said. "But it's finally approved, and we are definitely excited."

The minor is part of the academic foundation and focus of the Baylor Interdisciplinary Poverty Initiative, an organization designed to "create a catalyst for social change around issues of poverty, social justice and human capability," according to its website.

Dr. Gaynor Yancey, professor of social work, said that even prior to the creation of the initiative, it had been determined that a minor should be created.

"We knew there were all sorts of instructors who were integrating social justice issues and poverty issues into their courses," Yancey said. "There was a reason for the minor because it gave an emphasis, especially interdisciplinary [in scope], to these issues of poverty and social justice."

The minor is structured with flexibility in mind in order for students to use classes from many departments.

"Half of the hours for the minor are a required core set of classes. Two of those are in social work, and one is in economics," Singletary said. "But then the other nine hours of the minor can be taken from different departments. We have 25 or 30 pre-approved classes, but if students identify other courses that are related to poverty, they can include those pretty easily."

In order to appeal to a wider group of students, especially outside of the School of Social Work, Singletary said they tried to create a new course listing prefix, but this attempt failed.

"We wanted to create a poverty

SEE POVERTY, page 10



# Farmers market brings much-needed fresh food

## Editorial

Finally, Waco has a place for residents to buy fresh, farm-grown products from a variety of local vendors close to campus. After its grand opening last Saturday, the Waco Downtown Farmers Market had a great response from locals and college students.

Many booths ran out of their products because of the wonderfully large turnout. From the opening weekend, this new farmers market proved itself to be a promising, successful open market.

Having a place to buy fresh produce going from the farm to the market is a wonderful opportunity of which Waco residents and Baylor students need to take advantage. Yes, supermarkets provide an ample amount of fruits, vegetables, meats and dairy products, but buying from local vendors is an experience worth having.

Farmers markets have been popping up throughout the country over the last several years. In fact, there is an entire movement dedicated to increasing public awareness about growing and selling local, fresh produce – Slow Food Revolution USA.

Slow Food Revolution USA is a nonprofit organization working toward changing the “fast food” lifestyle of the United States and on an international level. With the addition of farmers markets around the country, the “fast food” mindset and lifestyle of Americans will be changed.

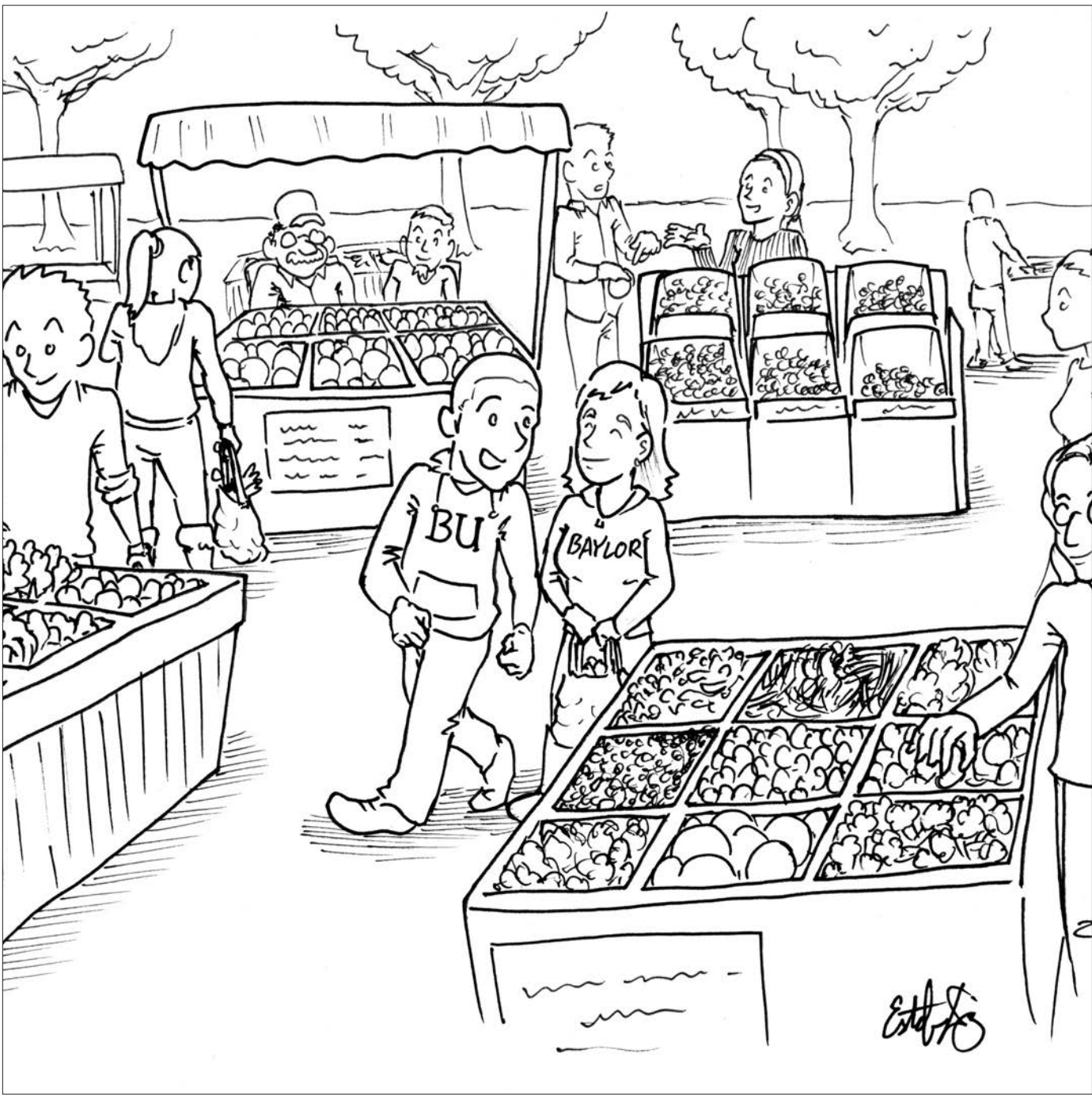
Although Waco does have other farmers markets, the Heart

of Texas and Troy Farmers Market, adding a farmers market to downtown Waco will help Waco follow this trend of producing, selling and consuming fresh products not only from locals in Waco but around the state as well. Some out-of-city vendors include Round Rock Honey in Austin, Richardson Farms from Rockdale and Smith & Smith Farms from Rogers.

These vendors provide a multitude of specialty products, such as honey, eggs and pasteurized meats. This opens the door for consumers in Waco to taste and see the different products available throughout the state and to buy the things these vendors specialize in. Regular supermarkets don’t come close to providing a diverse, specialized array of products.

Not only does the farmers market allow for out-of-city vendors to sell their products, but local businesses, such as Caprino Royale, Heart of Texas Urban Gardens and Fungal Forest offer their own products that locals have already enjoyed. Even Baylor Campus Kitchen joined the other vendors by hosting a booth that accepts donations of food to give to local area hunger programs such as the Salvation Army Kitchen.

This new farmers market allows a multitude of opportunities for vendors to sell their fresh products and for locals to be introduced to a whole new world of grocery shopping. The market takes an admirable step in an effort to change the mindset from buying “fast food” to slowing down and enjoying the fresh products.



# Seniors have better gift options than football stadium fund

## Guest Column

As dramatic as I am, I will need you all to bear with me for the following hyperbole:

If my graduating class votes to give our senior class gift to a new football stadium, I will do my very best to delay graduation.

Now, that isn’t true. I have things to do and don’t need to wallow around Waco. But the excessive nature of that statement is the only way I could truly express how I feel about having the new football stadium as an option for the Class of 2012 senior gift.

The other options are:

- A memorial to Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans
- An actually eternal flame atop the Immortal Ten statue
- An endowed scholarship fund

Arguably all three of these options are better than “being the first class to fundraise for the new football stadium,” and here’s why.



*“We should leave our mark on the Baylor tradition by showing future classes that we took the time to pay tribute to soldiers, the Baylor family or future students.”*

Christian twist. Well, how about we let the Christian ideals take precedence for a change? Let’s put athletics and pride aside. Let’s be Baylor Faithful, not Baylor Proud.

Instead of attracting people with shiny, large multimillion-dollar buildings, let’s show them the side of Baylor I am always defending – the faithful side.

As a senior class, I think we do that in three ways: a war veteran memorial, reinstating the eternal flame that we are responsible for extinguishing or making college a tangible choice for future Bears through a scholarship. We should leave our mark on the Baylor tradition by showing future classes that we took the time to pay tribute to soldiers, the Baylor family or future students.

The part of Baylor that brought me to this school had nothing to do with a building and everything to do with the people. I’m a snap-app attendee, like most, and I didn’t take that much time deciding between colleges. I knew a few Bears that graduated from my high school years before

me. Most of them had character traits I admired: faith, intelligence, kindness.

As a senior, I look back and realize that my decision to attend Baylor wasn’t all that haphazard. I innately knew my aspirations, and I saw how Baylor fit into that because as much as I like to rant about decisions my school makes, I love it here and I will never regret my decision to attend.

Many staff members, professors and students have fundamentally altered my life for the better, and there are numerous seniors who would echo that sentiment.

I don’t think my words in the school paper will stop us from building a new football stadium. Indeed, it shouldn’t. I’m not looking to halt plans for a new stadium.

I hope my appeal for this year’s senior class to direct its gift away from the stadium is at least considered. A new football stadium will make our campus look great. But this decision isn’t about what our campus will look like – it’s about how the Class of 2012 wants to be remembered and what we want to leave behind.

Senior gifts, while not life-changing or magnanimous, say something about the students who were here for each one.

I’m voting for the eternal flame on the Immortal Ten statue for several reasons:

1. We owe it to the classes behind us because we are the class that let violence end a tradition. I would rather not be remembered

that way. Also, the Immortal Ten statue is something that brings all of Baylor back to what matters: the students. The way our school surrounded those families of the ten we lost is one of the best examples of Jesus, who helped those in need.

2. It is the most tangible way to express how I feel about the Class of 2012, which is that it is a group of dedicated students who saw that Baylor has its own place in the realm of academia and whose contributions will forever impact this school for the better.
3. The flame symbolizes something every incoming student needs to realize: we are all in this together. Baylor has many hurdles to jump in the years ahead. We have a Vision 2012 statement to answer, and we will have to set up our road map for the future.

The flame, which represents all of Baylor Nation, is the perfect way for our class to remind everyone

that regardless of what we face, we are still one school bonded together by the roots of founders committed to Christianity, faith and learning.

My vote doesn’t have to be your vote. But your vote should be a sign of how you viewed your time at Baylor. Paying tribute to those lost in the wars that began in our generation, to the flame that represents all of the Baylor family or even to future Baylor Bears seem like great ways to leave our mark.

Adding dollars to a football stadium fund just doesn’t seem like enough to me.

If you know the trend of collegiate sports, the money for that new stadium will appear one way or another.

*Nick Dean is a senior journalism and political science major from Austin and a former Lariat editor in chief.*

### Questions? Comments? Concerns?

Letters to the editor should be no more than 300 words and should include the writer’s name, hometown, major, graduation year, phone number and student identification number. Non-student writers should include their address. Letters that focus on an issue affecting students or faculty may be considered for a guest column at the editor’s discretion. All submissions become the property of The Baylor Lariat. The Lariat reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, length, libel and style. Letters should be emailed to [Lariat\\_Letters@baylor.edu](mailto:Lariat_Letters@baylor.edu).

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### Opinion

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# New nursing school dean named

By JORDAN HEARNE  
REPORTER

Bringing more than 30 years of experience in the field of nursing and nursing education, Dr. Shelley F. Conroy will fill the position of dean for the Louise Herrington School of Nursing starting Jan. 1. The announcement was made Wednesday.

“I think I’ve had a career that’s prepared me overall progressively to be the dean,” Conroy said. “I’ve had experience at every level of nursing education and broad experience in terms of academics.”

Conroy has also served as the dean of nursing schools at Weber State University in Utah and Armstrong Atlantic State University in Georgia, in addition to holding positions in hospital administration and service on a National Council of State Boards of Nursing committee.

Conroy said she is passionate

about furthering student involvement in global health service.

“One of the things that really attracted me to the Louise Herrington School of Nursing was the focus on serving globally and preparing students to go out on mission work to spread health care,” Conroy said. “Service learning, mission trips and cultural immersion — that’s really what the school of nursing here focuses on. It’s unique to the mission of Baylor.”

Conroy grew up, she said, as an “Army brat” and graduated from a high school in Germany. Her international upbringing is what spurred her love for traveling and global health care, Conroy said.

During mission trips she attended with other universities, Conroy visited China, an area she said she hopes to bring Baylor students in the future.

“I didn’t know what to expect the first time I went to China. I didn’t expect that I would love the

country as much as I do. I have taken students and faculty there nine times and would like to take them back again. It’s a great place to learn traditional and alternative Chinese medicine and techniques,” Conroy said.

In the future, Conroy said, she would like to look into untapped partnership opportunities with Baylor Medical Center, located across the street from the nursing school, in order to expand the program. Conroy also said she wanted to look into potential cross-college relationships that could benefit the program.

Martha Bradshaw, professor in the Louise Herrington School of Nursing and interim dean, said the school is thrilled to have Conroy as its new dean.

“When I first met her, I thought right away that she would be a good fit,” Bradshaw said. “She brings a wonderful background in leadership and an excellent perspective

in nursing.”

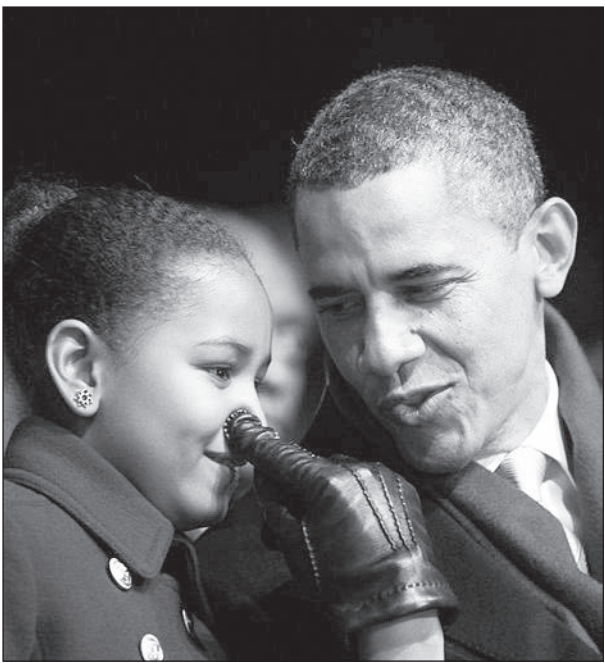
Bradshaw said starting next spring, she and Conroy will work together as a team to ease the transition as Conroy becomes familiar with her new position.

Conroy’s enthusiasm for her new university is not limited to her professional and academic plans. Bradshaw said that Conroy is already embracing the Baylor spirit.

“I had brought her and her husband Baylor T-shirts, and they were already looking online at the bookstore for spirit items,” Bradshaw said.

Conroy said she is taking her newfound role as a Baylor Bear very seriously, watching every Baylor football game televised in Georgia.

“We are coming to the game on Saturday,” Conroy said. “But we’re getting warmer clothes. As soon as we get there, we’re going out and making sure we have our Baylor hoodies.”



ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Nose-y parent

President Barack Obama jokes with his daughter Sasha as they sing Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer while attending the annual National Christmas Tree Lighting Thursday.

# Missionary travels to Cambodia with one rusty press to spread the Word

By ANNA FLAGG  
REPORTER

One man is spreading Christianity as he travels the globe, however, Tim Comer isn’t your average missionary.

““*They are getting saved through a spiritual hunger. The country was so desolate and desperate that a spiritual hunger rose up.*”

Tim Comer | Missionary

Inspired by printing press inventor Johannes Gutenberg, Comer

spent the last two weeks of November in Cambodia, helping to install the first web printing press in the country to be used for printing Bibles. Comer says he hopes to share the Gospel with those who have never experienced it.

Comer married his wife, Sharon, at age 20 and went into the printing business soon after, starting in Waco. The couple has since traveled to Ghana, Africa, Kurdistan, Iraq and Sri Lanka doing missionary work.

Toward the end of the Comers’ most recent four-year stint in Sri Lanka, they were contacted by John Dupree of Bethany Press, a company that partners with Christian publishers. Dupree contacted Comer to discuss the installation of a printing press in Cambodia and Comer accepted.

After locating, buying and inspecting the press, Comer spent

two weeks overseeing its installation in a print shop that is little more than an open barn with no air conditioning

Luckily for Comer, due to the amount of rust on the machine, the import duty to get it into Cambodia was low.

“The press is pretty simple, and electronically it is not very sophisticated,” Comer said. “It’s perfect for a Third World country.”

The press, he said, will be used primarily to print Bibles. In charge of the project will be a team of Cambodian workers that has been printing books for 15 years.

The team is hoping to get the necessary text and begin printing today.

So far, only two editions of the Bible have been available in Cambodia, first in 1920 and then in 1953. Many of these were not distributed, and the translations were

difficult to understand. The Cambodian government does not allow Bibles to be imported, mainly for economic reasons. However, the government does allow the use of the printing press. Comer says that a terrible event in Cambodia’s history led to the resurgence of Christianity in the country.

Under the leadership of Pol Pot, the Khmer Rouge took control of the country in 1975 in a bloody revolution that resulted in the deaths of more than 3,000,000 Cambodians. The Communistic Khmer Rouge did not allow religious freedom. The revolution, and its ghastly death toll, continues to haunt the country. From this, Comer said, Christianity got a second chance.

“They are getting saved through a spiritual hunger,” he said. “The country was so desolate and desperate that a spiritual hunger

rose up.”

But the Khmer Rouge passed, and though a prime minister now rules the country, which now includes more than 500,000 Christians in the population, only 10 percent of the citizens own a Bible.

American missionary Steve Hyde is responsible for starting dozens of churches in Cambodia, and the people consider him one of their own. Hyde has a network of churches and pastors, and he plans to help distribute the Bibles printed on the new press.

The Comers said they witnessed the power of the gospel in northern Iraq in 2005. The couple met a man named Saman, a former terrorist who converted to Christianity after finding a small booklet, “The Book of Luke,” in the clothing of a man he had shot.

Comer said he remembered Saman asking, “How could anyone

say to love your enemies? Only God could say to love your enemies.”

The Comers believe the story of Saman shows the transformative power of Christian Scripture.

The couple currently reside in Waco as the directors of the local Samaritan Foundation. Their current project is a series of books called “The Life of Jesus,” a compilation of the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John in chronological order, to allow people to read Jesus’ story in a clear format.

So far, the “Life of Jesus” books have been translated into Arabic, Spanish and Hindi. Their mission is to spread the gospel by handing them out to indigenous people who may not have access to the Bible in their native language.

To find out more about the Samaritan Foundation, visit [www.the-samaritanfoundation.org](http://www.the-samaritanfoundation.org).

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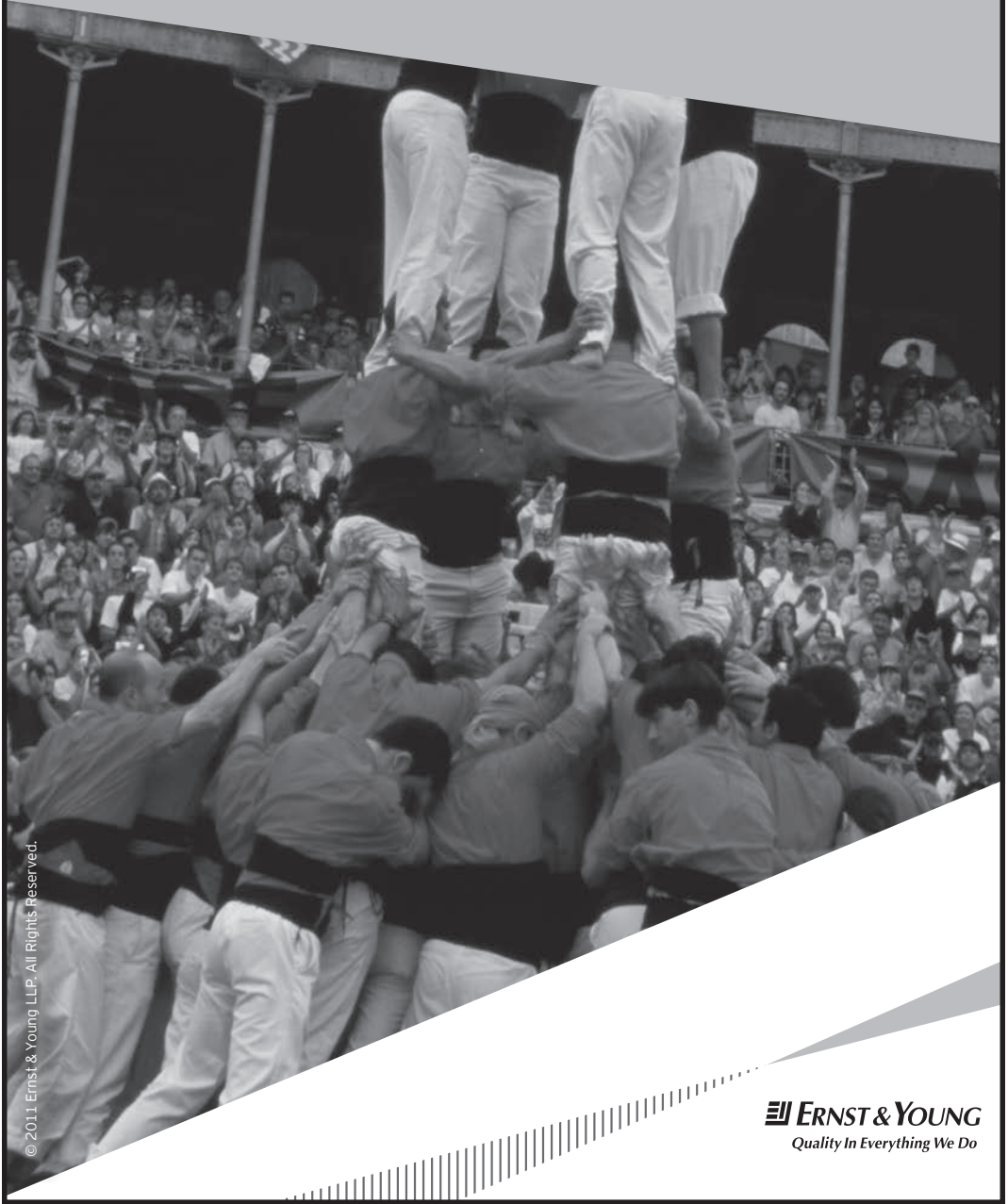
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# Christmas on 5th Street: A Baylor holiday tradition



MATTHEW MCCARROLL | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

People admire Christmas trees decorated by student organizations Thursday on Fountain Mall at Christmas on 5th Street.



MEAGAN DOWNING | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Students, faculty and members of the Waco community shop at the Christmas Marketplace, Baylor's annual craft and gift fair, during Christmas on 5th Street on Thursday at Fountain Mall.



MAKENZIE MASON | ROUND UP PHOTO EDITOR

Waco and Baylor residents gather around a decorated Christmas tree set up in the Bill Daniel Student Center during the Christmas on 5th Street annual celebration Thursday.



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

A Waco child pets one of the goats in the Vara Martin Daniel Plaza petting zoo during the Christmas on 5th Street celebration Thursday.



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

Aaron Watson headlines at the stage in the Burleson Quadrangle moments after the lighting of the tree during the annual Christmas on 5th Street celebration Thursday.



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

Kappa Alpha Omega participates in the Christmas Tree Decorating Contest during the Christmas on 5th Street celebration Thursday.



MATTHEW MCCARROLL | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Children sit on Santa's lap and tell him what they want for Christmas at Christmas on 5th Street on Thursday in the Bill Daniel Student Center.

When?

Thursday,  
6-11 p.m.

Where?

Fountain Mall, Burleson  
Quadrangle, Traditions  
Plaza and the Bill Daniel  
Student Center

What?

Christmas tree lighting, Christ-  
mas marketplace, cocoa, cookies  
and carols as well as additional  
family-oriented events, including  
pony rides and letters to Santa.



MAKENZIE MASON | ROUND UP PHOTO EDITOR

The Columbus Avenue Baptist Church bell choir performs in the Vara Martin Daniel Plaza during Christmas on 5th Street celebration Thursday.



# Rich tradition clouded by recent death of band member

By CHRISTINE ARMARIO  
AND ERRIN HAINES  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — Four Florida A&M University students have been expelled for their role in what is believed to be a hazing death of a marching band member, the latest blemish for a rich and cherished institution at historically black colleges.

Hazing is part of the price band members pay at historically black colleges to be part of a vaunted campus tradition that eclipses the prestige and popularity of the football team. Band members can endure anything from punching to paddling to being forced to drink copious amounts of water, all for a chance to perform in front of thousands of people at football games, parades and other high-profile events.

On historically black college campuses, band members are often given perks and treated like celebrities.

"If you were in the band, it was like you were a superstar," said Fontreia James, a piccolo player for three years in the marching band at Jackson State University in Mississippi. "People don't come to the games to see the football team. People come to see the band."

In the fall, halftime is game time for the band and fans at historically black colleges, which are mostly in the South. The crowd cheers and applauds as the band

high-steps out onto the field, dancing and marching in sync in elaborate formations, playing a variety of songs.

They do it week after week in heavy uniforms, holding instruments in the blazing heat. Band nicknames are almost as well-known as the school mascot: The Human Jukebox, The Sonic Boom of the South, and in Florida A&M's case, The Marching 100.

Started in 1892 with fewer than 20 instruments, The Marching 100 has grown to over 400 members and is regarded as a pioneer, performing at Super Bowls, the Grammys and presidential inaugurations. The band even represented the U.S. in Paris at the 200th anniversary of the French Revolution.

The most revered members are the drum majors. They are as popular on campus as a star quarterback would be at other colleges. Florida A&M has several drum majors, including Robert Champion, who died Nov. 19 after he collapsed on a charter bus just a few hours after a football game with a rival.

Authorities have still not said how the junior died, only that hazing played a role. University President James Ammons referred to the student dismissals in a memo he sent earlier this week to the school's board of trustees, but didn't specify what they did, according to a document obtained by The Associated Press on Thursday.

According to 911 tapes, Champion had vomit in his mouth the



ASSOCIATED PRESS  
A horse-drawn carriage carrying the casket of Florida A&M University band member Robert Champion is led by his fellow band members following his funeral service Wednesday in Decatur, Ga. His death is believed to be hazing related.

moments before he died and he couldn't breathe.

Champion's death was puzzling because of his high position within the band and because he was an upperclassman.

"Drum majors are always in the front, always in the limelight," said Jermaine Culbreath, who was head drum major at Bethune-Cookman University last year. "Walking around campus, you have a lot of people speaking to you, saying they saw you on the field. Half the people, you don't even know who they are. You have alumni coming up to you, you have all these people who really appreciate what you do."

The hierarchy within the band can get complex. Some members

join a fraternity, Kappa Kappa Psi, founded on the campus of Oklahoma State University in 1919 to serve college band programs. Instrument section leaders also wield power in "mini-fraternities" within the band, according to Richard Sigal, a retired sociology professor at County College of Morris in Randolph, N.J.

Former FAMU clarinet player Ivery Luckey said he was paddled around 300 times and hospitalized in 1998 in order to join his section, called "The Clones."

To perform on the field or at events, Luckey had to do whatever the older students told him to, said Sigal, who holds anti-hazing workshops at schools and was hired

by Luckey's attorneys in a lawsuit against the school.

One of the worst hazing cases occurred in 2001 and involved former FAMU band member Marcus Parker, who suffered kidney damage because of a beating with a paddle. In 2008, two first-year French horn players in Southern University's marching band were beaten so bad they had to be hospitalized. A year later, 20 members of Jackson State University's band were suspended after being accused of hazing.

Former state Sen. Al Lawson is a Florida A&M alumnus who was named to a university task force to look into Champion's death, one of several investigations announced in the aftermath. Lawson said hazing was difficult to deal with.

"They're students, but they really kind of take over. The staff is too small," Lawson said. "You've got to have some people to depend on to take care of 400, 500 people. As they get to senior status, they have a lot of power. These students really don't think they're doing anything wrong."

Unlike hazing at some colleges, alcohol plays a lesser role at historically black colleges and in the band, Jones said.

"They see going through this struggle, that has nothing to do with music obviously, but they see it as reaffirming of their dedication to the band, their dedication to their section, and a rite of passage," Jones said. "It's all about this very

intense desire at that age to belong and be accepted. And it's getting people killed and injured."

There are perks for the band as a whole, too: charter buses with TVs, private cafeteria breakfasts before away games and a weekly allowance for entertainment.

The commitment begins long before classes start. During the summer, practices start before sunrise. Grueling outdoor workouts build strength and stamina and last more than an hour. Days and nights are spent together, forming a long-lasting bonds. The band becomes a second family.

"You looked out for your classmates," said James, the Jackson State alumna. "I went to homecoming last month. The people I came in the band with still can reminisce, talk about how things were when we were in the band."

That bond creates a loyalty and protective culture that is hard to penetrate. Several current and former band members were reluctant to discuss hazing at their schools. While most acknowledged its existence, none said they considered themselves victims.

"When I look at some of these instances where people have been hurt, it really bothers me," James said. "Most of the people that do that tend to be these rogue people. This had nothing to do with the band. You're just a thug. You're bringing yourself into the band, which removes the whole unity element."



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# Wallace divides ‘Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde’

By ROBYN SANDERS  
REPORTER

The Baylor theater department has begun rehearsing for the spring production of “Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.” Master’s candidate Josiah Wallace, who is directing the production, gave the Lariat some insight into what the prospective audience can expect about this theatrical interpretation of Robert Louis Stevenson’s novel.

**Question: What is different about this play than the novel?**

**Wallace:** A variety of things. One of the things that’s great about doing a play that’s an adaptation of a piece of literature is that everyone knows something, right? Everyone has some kind of preconception about the story and what it’s about.

The playwright for this, Jeffrey Hatcher, acknowledges that expectation, but in a very postmodern way. [He] basically takes that adaptation and exceeds your expectation or changes the possibilities of what you think the story could mean or be about. And not being specific, either, in saying, ‘It’s about this,’ but kind of opening up the story to possible meanings, as opposed to [just]one.

We often think about Jekyll and Hyde in terms of good and evil, and that’s not what Stevenson wrote. Stevenson wrote a tale about a person who was normal and a person who was evil. Not a person who was good and evil.

**Question: What about the character of Jekyll/Hyde is appealing to you?**

**Wallace:** It’s obviously appealing to most people. I think the at-

traction probably stems from the knowledge that all of us do the thing we don’t want to do, right? I mean, in that way, it’s biblical. It’s talking in terms of sin, which is often associated with [Hyde], and grappling with it, and that’s what’s going on with Jekyll.

In the original story, even, he is trying to rid himself of sin, or his sinful desires, and that is why Hyde is created. The thought process behind the creation of him is, ‘If I can isolate this being, maybe I can not be it. If I can isolate this being, I can not be who he is.’ And it doesn’t work out that way at all. But in terms of our fascination with it, I think it stems very much from this idea of us all recognizing that we want to do the things we think we should not, or that are morally problematic.

**Question: What will the audience enjoy about this interpretation of the story?**

**Wallace:** Hopefully, they will enjoy how the story is told and enjoy recognizing they don’t know the story. We want to take what people think they know and exceed it in ways they didn’t expect.

Otherwise we’d just end up with a lot of caricatured, evil laughter and silliness. And the other end of that, in terms of take away, is people grappling with their complicity in evil.

**Question: What are some interesting qualities of this play that the audience might not expect?**

**Wallace:** There are eight actors in the show, but there’s about 24 different roles that they play. A couple of them just play one role



MATTHEW MCCARROLL | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Theatre Master’s candidate Josiah Wallace watches the progress being made by Theatre students on the set for his upcoming play on Thursday at The Theatre Building.

each, and the other six actors basically play the rest of the characters. So that transformation often occurs onstage. You’ll get to see them change from one character to another.

The other thing about this play is that there’s 29 scenes that take place in 16 different locations, basically. So, again, there’s no realistic set. We don’t have a realistic backdrop for each one of these locations.

Jekyll and Hyde aren’t played by one actor, they’re played by different actors.

And not only that, Hyde is not played by one actor, but it’s played by the rest of the actors. So through the course of the play, almost everyone . . . will embody Hyde at some time in the play, sometimes at the same time in the play.

**Question: What aspects are you most looking forward to in**

**directing and putting together this production?**

**Wallace:** Well, we’ve already had two weeks of rehearsal, and it’s been good. Because of the crazy amount of scene changes, we came up with a way to indicate those transitions and those locales through a couple of scenic units that move, so most of our rehearsals of late have been a process of where do you move the units, how

much do they move, who moves them and then how are they interacted with. So that’s been a really good part of the process.

I think I will certainly be glad when that’s over and it’s all integrated into everyone’s knowledge of how to tell the story, and then, you know, my favorite part is when it really starts to come together.

**Please send comments to lariat@baylor.edu.**

## Theatre presents three plays

By RACHEL AMBELANG  
STAFF WRITER

After two successful plays this semester, Baylor’s theater department has three more productions for students and faculty to look forward to in the spring.

Every year the students of the theater department put out five productions, two in the fall and three in the spring. This fall the department showcased the plays “Thoroughly Modern Millie” and “The Ruby Sunrise.”

In the spring the department will present “Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde,” “Quartet with Grand Piano” and “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

Adaptations of Robert Louis Stevenson’s novella “Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde” are present in almost every medium from comics to film. The story has inspired artists in all genres by causing its readers to wonder about the true nature of man.

Josiah Wallace will be directing “Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.”

“As the play is an adaptation of a well known story, it must fulfill audience expectations while giving them just enough of the unexpected to be entertain and encourage

them to think of the story in new ways,” Wallace said about Baylor Theatre’s spin on the classic tale.

The Theatre department chose Jeffrey Hatcher’s theatrical adaptation for their performance, which focuses more intently on Stevenson’s analysis of the dark side of human nature. “Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde” begins the spring season on Jan 31.

Opening on Feb 28 is the more unique production “Quartet with Grand Piano,” which is actually an anthology of short plays that is literally accompanied by the music of a grand piano. The shorts of the night are “Little Airplanes of the Heart,” “The Trapeze Artist,” written by Baylor Alumni Mary Laws, “Johannes, Pytor, & Marge” and “Aftermath,” which was written by Thomas Ward, a Baylor Theatre professor.

The production is a diverse combination of plays that vary both from each other and Baylor’s past productions.

On the Baylor Theatre website, the play is described as, “new and contemporary short plays, brilliantly combined for an eclectic brand of story-telling.”

The piano pieces will play a major role in the performances, creat-

ing an experience unlike anything else the theatre department has planned for this year.

The last play to cross the Baylor’s stage this spring is “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.” One of Shakespeare’s more humorous classics, the majority of the story takes place in a woodland inhabited a band of Athenian actors busy rehearsing a play that they hope to perform for the duke of Athens at his wedding.

Also in the woods is a group of fairies who are preparing for their own wedding. In addition to this, there four young Athenians tangled in their own lover’s web. The story sees comedic events occur as the different groups cross paths throughout the play.

San Antonio junior Vinnie Yanga talked about how excited he was to see this play specifically.

“I’ll definitely be going to ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream.’ I’ve always been a big fan of Shakespeare’s plays, and I think our theatre program will do a really good job with it,” Yanga said.

“A Midsummer Night’s Dream” is one of Shakespeare’s most beloved productions, and will mark the end to the 2012 spring season on April 23.

## Waco Christmas Parade features lights, museums

By JESSICA FOREMAN  
REPORTER

The Historic Waco Foundation has many holiday events lined up this year, and are asking all who want to “share the spirit of the season” to attend. Annually, the foundation puts together an annual Christmas parade, as well as hosts the Christmas on the Brazos decorated house museum tours.

The Christmas Parade takes place in downtown Waco, and begins at 6 p.m. today. Decorated floats

from local businesses and organizations will brighten Austin Avenue with Christmas lights.

Historic tours of four Waco houses, built between 1858-1874, are now open to the public, and tours are scheduled for this evening, Sunday and the weekend of Dec. 10 and 11. Three of the houses are located downtown along Fourth Street, and a fourth house fronts onto Martin Luther King Drive. The cost for single tours are \$5 and tickets are \$15 for all tours of the weekend.

A new addition to this tradition-

al event is the first Holiday Showcase House. Local designers have been invited to decorate a room or two to showcase their finest creativity and knack for design.

The decoration within the room will be available for purchase to the public, and a special candlelight tour will take place from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 10.

For more information on holiday activities hosted by the Historic Waco Foundation please visit: <http://www.historicwaco.org/events/christmas-on-the-brazos/>.

## FUN TIMES

- Across
- 1 Family nickname
  - 5 Turkeys
  - 10 Together, in scores
  - 14 Say and mean
  - 15 “Star Wars” name
  - 16 Locks that are hard to manage
  - 17 Shed tool
  - 18 Restraints to prevent the eating of forbidden fruit?
  - 20 “Who am \_\_ judge?”
  - 21 ID theft target
  - 22 Eastern faith
  - 23 Crooned while tipsy?
  - 26 Sleep: Pref.
  - 28 Present in court
  - 29 Resistant to punches?
  - 32 Officiate
  - 34 Word often ignored in alphabetizing
  - 35 Golfs, e.g.
  - 36 Scary place to pray?
  - 40 Thickness
  - 42 Wide size
  - 43 Big-league
  - 44 Actor Holbrook under the weather?
  - 48 Island mentioned in the Beach Boys’ “Kokomo”
  - 52 At \_\_: in one go
  - 53 Underwater menace?
  - 55 Doha resident
  - 58 Patience-virtue link
  - 59 Regulus’s constellation
  - 60 Rooster that doesn’t wake you up?
  - 62 End of school?
  - 63 Rhode Island senator for whom an education grant is named
  - 64 Struggling with
  - 65 Community service org.
  - 66 Escaped
  - 67 “Then ...”
  - 68 One good at takeoffs

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

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- Down
- 1 Model/actress Berenson
  - 2 Online image
  - 3 Vietnam’s \_\_ Delta
  - 4 Exist
  - 5 Met villains, perhaps
  - 6 Round gaskets
  - 7 McKinley, e.g.: Abbr.
  - 8 Leader
  - 9 Junior-to-be
  - 10 Key related to C
  - 11 Cop’s order
  - 12 Thus far
  - 13 Twisting shape
  - 19 Struggle with sassafras?
  - 21 Absolute
  - 24 Sage
  - 25 Restaurant pots
  - 27 They might happen
  - 30 “The Motorcycle Diaries” subject
  - 31 McCain : Palin :: Dole :: \_\_
  - 33 Went up
  - 36 One of seven in this clue
  - 37 Casual “Sure”
  - 38 Italian luxury label
  - 39 Legendary accounts
  - 40 Free TV ad
  - 41 Strong finish?
  - 45 Younger, as a sister
  - 46 Play-of-color gem
  - 47 Camera store choices
  - 49 Tanning booth item, briefly
  - 50 “The Devil’s Dictionary” author
  - 51 12-time All-Star Roberto
  - 54 Invite as one’s date for
  - 56 Self-titled 2000s sitcom
  - 57 Self-assured statement
  - 60 Basker’s abbr.
  - 61 A little off
  - 62 One-named R&B singer

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Level: 1 2 3 4


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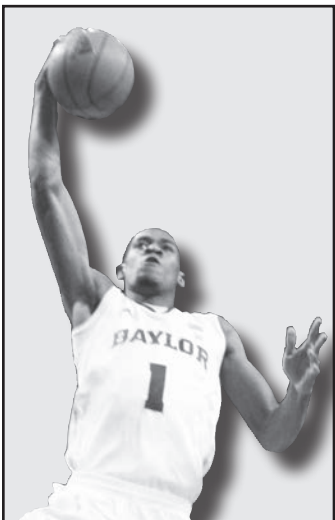
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Sad, but true.





# Men’s basketball winter schedule

*The Lariat ceases to publish during the winter break, but men’s basketball continues playing. Here is Baylor’s schedule from now until conference play begins in January.*

- @ Northwestern  
Evanston, Ill.  
3 p.m. Sunday
- Bethune-Cookman  
Ferrell Center  
7 p.m. Dec. 14
- @ BYU  
Provo, Utah  
1 p.m. Dec. 17
- Paul Quinn  
Ferrell Center  
7 p.m. Dec. 19

Saint Mary’s  
Las Vegas, Nev.  
9:30 p.m. Dec. 22

West Virginia  
Las Vegas, Nev.  
8 p.m. Dec. 23

Mississippi State  
Dallas  
8 p.m. Dec. 28

# Women’s basketball winter schedule

*As with the men, the Lady Bears continue playing through the winter break, including one game at a prominent location and one against the reigning NCAA champion. Here is Baylor’s schedule from now until conference play begins in January.*

@ Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minn.  
1 p.m. Sunday

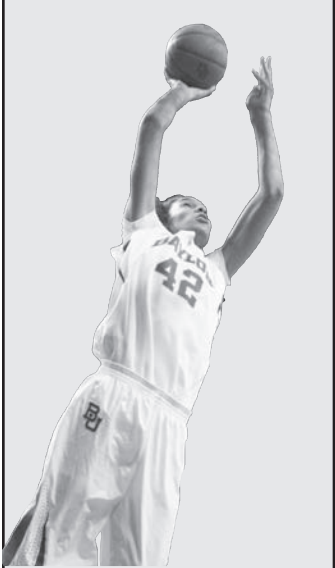
Milwaukee  
Ferrell Center  
7 p.m. Thursday

St. John’s  
Madison Square Garden  
10 a.m. Dec. 11

Connecticut  
Ferrell Center  
7:30 p.m. Dec. 18

McNeese State  
Ferrell Center  
7 p.m. Dec. 21

Mississippi Valley State  
Ferrell Center  
7 p.m. Dec. 30



Week 13	Tyler Alley Sports Editor	Krista Pirtle Sports Writer	Daniel Wallace Sports Writer
Philadelphia at Seattle	Eagles	Eagles	Eagles
Carolina at Tampa Bay	Panthers	Buccaneers	Panthers
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	Steelers	Steelers	Bengals
Atlanta at Houston	Texans	Falcons	Falcons
NY Jets at Washington	Jets	Jets	Jets
Indianapolis at New England	Patriots	Patriots	Patriots
Oakland at Miami	Dolphins	Raiders	Raiders
Denver at Minnesota	Broncos	Broncos	Broncos
Tennessee at Buffalo	Titans	Bills	Bills
Kansas City at Chicago	Bears	Bears	Bears
Baltimore at Cleveland	Ravens	Browns	Ravens
Dallas at Arizona	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys
Green Bay at NY Giants	Packers	Giants	Packers
St. Louis at San Francisco	49ers	Rams	49ers
Detroit at New Orleans	Saints	Saints	Saints
San Diego at Jacksonville	Chargers	Chargers	Chargers
Week 12:	14-2	5-11	11-5
Season:	104-56	79-81	104-56

# Blake’s journey crossed borders, positions

By KRISTA PIRTLE  
SPORTS WRITER

Most of the attention this season has been on the athletes who move the football up the field. What people forget is who officially starts out with the ball, senior center Philip Blake. “I don’t get the ball unless Philip Blake snaps me the ball,” junior quarterback Robert Griffin III said. “If he doesn’t feel like snapping me the ball, we’re just not going play offense. If those guys aren’t up there, taking care of business, then we don’t succeed.” This 6-foot-3, 320-pound anchor for the front line has stepped up to fill the roll of center after starting at right tackle his sophomore season. After J.D. Walton graduated and was drafted by the Denver Broncos, Blake shifted over to anchor the line at his current position.

“It was good my first year and a little rough,” Blake said. “The defense is a lot closer when you play center than tackle.” Blake’s hard work to make this adjustment has gotten him some attention on the national level as he is up for the Rimington Trophy. “It’s good to be notified on the watch list,” Blake said. “So I will just keep playing hard and see if I can try and win it.” His trip to Waco is longer than most, being a native of Toronto, Ontario. “The cold sucks but it’s good for a little change,” Blake said. “When I first came here, I was thankful for no more winters, and then I got into the heat and was like oh my gosh please cold weather. Other than that it’s all right.” The heat was not the only thing standing in the way of success for Blake. Others were trying to steer him away from the game he loves.

“I never gave up,” Blake said. “I was told to stop playing and do something else. I was like no, I like playing sports. So I guess my persistence helps.” That persistence not only helps him individually; it also sets the bar high for the guys on his right and his left. “They are playing physical, playing tough, playing aggressive, playing with passion,” Baylor head coach Art Briles said. “That’s what we ask. When they click up front, we’re going to click as an offense. They’re everything. They make everything happen.” Baylor has been seen as a passing-only team with the cannon Griffin III has for arm. This season the Bears have struck and stunned from the ground, due to the hard work of the front line. Thus far, Baylor has racked up 2,390 total rush yards. “The thing I love about our offensive line starts with the center

position, Philip Blake,” head coach Art Briles said. “He is not a kid, he is not a guy, he is a man. He turned 26 years old the other day. He is a man. We have a man up there touching the ball every time we take a snap. We have a man controlling our huddle with those O-linemen. We have a man dictating the mentality of our football team up front. That is an advantage.” Griffin III made a deal with his line; every game he isn’t sacked, he makes beignets for his front five. “He makes beignets so they’re really good,” Blake said. “The coaches don’t like it because there is powdered sugar on it. We always make him come upstairs and cook those on Sundays. They taste pretty good.” For his last home game in the Baylor green and gold, Blake will be nose to nose against the top defense in the conference, Texas, at 2:30 p.m. Saturday at Floyd Casey Stadium.

# A&M fires coach after mediocre season

By KRISTIE RIEKEN  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mike Sherman was fired as Texas A&M’s coach Thursday after the Aggies finished the regular season a disappointing 6-6. Athletic Director Bill Byrne announced the move in a statement. Sherman went 25-25 in his four seasons. He was hired at the end of the 2007 season three days after Dennis Franchione resigned. His best and only winning season came last year when the Aggies won their last six regular-season games and lost in the Cotton Bowl to finish 9-4. “I appreciate Coach Sherman’s selfless service to Texas A&M as our head football coach and his tireless efforts in building leaders of character,” Byrne said in the statement. “He is truly one of the great offensive minds in football, both collegiate and professional, and I know that he has much to offer the game of football in the future.” Byrne said he will talk with the assistant coaches to decide who will serve as the interim coach for Texas A&M’s bowl game. He also hopes to meet with the team and remaining staff Friday. Texas A&M is moving from the Big 12 to the Southeastern Conference next year. The Aggies entered this season with 18 returning starters, a top 10 ranking and were expected to contend for the Big 12 championship and be a factor in the national title hunt.

Instead they lost early games to Oklahoma State and Arkansas after holding double-digit halftime leads to fall to 2-2. They won three in a row after their first skid, but a three game losing streak, which included two overtime losses, ensured the Aggies of a mediocre season. The low point of the season came when Texas A&M ended their more than century-old rivalry with Texas with a 27-25 loss at home on Thanksgiving. At times, Sherman seemed to be grasping for ways to deal the team as the close losses piled up. Four of their six defeats were by a combined 10 points, including a 53-50 four-overtime loss to Kansas State.

“I’ve never experienced a season like this and I don’t plan on experiencing a season like it again,” Sherman said after the loss to Texas. “This was a very difficult season to swallow. We have good kids, they work hard, but for whatever reason the ball bounced funny for us sometimes, and we didn’t make the play when we need to make it to win the games we didn’t.” Sherman came to Texas A&M after spending two seasons as an assistant head coach with the NFL’s Houston Texans. It was his first college job since he worked as an assistant with the Aggies from 1995-96.

After leaving A&M he worked as an assistant with Green Bay and Seattle before becoming the Packers’ coach in 2000. Green Bay went 59-43 under Sherman and won three NFC North titles in his six seasons, but he was fired after the Packers finished 4-12 in 2005. The change gives the Aggies a chance for a fresh start when they move into the SEC next season. They end their time in the Big 12 after a decade filled mostly with disappointing finishes. The team had more than seven wins just twice since 2002.

# Sandusky’s lawyer: No plea for former coach

By JOHN P. MARTIN  
McCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

Jerry Sandusky’s lawyer on Thursday dismissed as “completely unfounded” suggestions that the former football coach may consider pleading guilty to charges that he molested at least eight boys. “Jerry and I have had no discussions about any sort of deal in his case,” Joseph Amendola said. “He has always maintained his innocence and continues to do so as we prepare for his preliminary hearing.” Amendola issued the statement after the Harrisburg Patriot-News quoted him saying that Sandusky, the former defensive coordinator at Pennsylvania State University, might consider a plea deal “if more allegations come forth and Jerry gets to the point where he realizes fighting against more than the original allegations might be a real

uphill battle.” Amendola said his remarks were in response to a hypothetical question as to how his legal strategy might change if 15 or 20 more accusers came forward. “My answer to the ‘what-if’ question was analogous to saying, if weather forecasters were predicting a blizzard next week, which they are not, I would have to at least consider the possibility of postponing my scheduled trip to Philadelphia,” Amendola said. “Of course, I’d have to reconsider the trip under those circumstances, just as I would have to discuss with Jerry all the possible alternatives in his case if the (Attorney General’s Office) were to file additional charges.” Prosecutors have not added charges or confirmed the existence of more alleged victims since Sandusky’s Nov. 5 arrest. But lawyers and others familiar with the investigation say reports about the case have spurred more accusers to come forward. One is a 29-year-old man in Philadelphia who on Wednesday filed the first lawsuit against Sandusky, Penn State, and the Second Mile, Sandusky’s charity for underprivileged boys, where prosecutors say he targeted several of his alleged victims. That plaintiff, identified in court papers as John Doe A, said the former coach molested him more than 100 times between 1992 and 1996. His lawyer, Jeff Anderson, said the man reported the allegations to law enforcement authorities this week. Attorneys from at least three other firms claim to be representing potential victims of Sandusky. They include Philadelphia-area lawyers Mark J. Boni and Slade H. McLaughlin; State College lawyer Andrew Shubin; and Harrisburg

lawyer Ben Andreozzi. On Thursday, Andreozzi said he had reached a settlement with the Second Mile that would prevent it from selling assets or closing without a court order and notifying potential victims. The Second Mile confirmed the settlement, noting that it didn’t include any findings of liabilities. In a statement, the foundation also said it was continuing to operate all of its programs. “This settlement will preserve the assets of the Second Mile and allow these victims to have a voice before any assets are transferred,” Andreozzi said. He said he and lawyer Jeffrey Fritz planned to file a lawsuit for at least two potential victims. Also Thursday, Penn State announced it would donate \$1.5 million for a partnership with two organizations that run sex-assault prevention and response programs.

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SAFETY from Page 1

AUCTION from Page 1

very nicely and we were able to make the arrest on them.”

Doak said students should try to always be with a friend when going places, especially at night.

“We don’t want people to feel this is an unsafe area right now,” Doak said. “[Students should] be vigilant and be mindful of people approaching you don’t recognize or don’t know.”

With Christmas break quickly approaching, many students will be leaving for an extended period of time, which could possibly leave homes and apartments susceptible to burglaries. Doak said a radio left on inside could serve as a simple deterrent to possible burglars.

“A radio left on is going to send the message that somebody might be in there, and burglars don’t like to go into places that are occupied,” Doak said.

In the event students are at home while a possible burglary is taking place, Doak said occupants should make a lot of noise, in an attempt to deter the burglar, and immediately dial 911 or call Baylor Police.

Doak stressed the importance of contacting the police immediately after a crime occurs.

“To us, the biggest concern is that students delay in calling [police] for some reason,” Doak said. “It is hard for us to understand the delay because it greatly hurts the chances of us finding the perpetrator.”

Doak said students should not hesitate to contact Baylor Police, at 254-710-2222, in the event of an emergency, since they can often respond to crimes in the area around campus quicker than city police.

“Our response time is going to be two to three times faster than Waco [Police],” Doak said.

Doak said Baylor Police continue to heavily patrol the area around campus and investigate the recent robberies, along with Waco Police.

“Waco police is making contact with the victims and trying to turn over any stone that may give clues to who the perpetrators are,” Doak said.

Sergeant Patrick Swanton of the Waco Police Department said there are no new leads in the cases.

it’s going to such a worthy cause,” Ashley Parker, treasurer and former justice of Phi Alpha Delta, said.

Phi Alpha Delta and Baylor law students have been involved with CASA for several years, but last year was the first event they hosted of this scale. Both Parker and Redding were on the committee that organized the first Baylor Law School Faculty Auction.

The committee wanted to have more students involved in helping area children lost in the legal system.

“We were trying to come up with a good fundraiser that would spur a sense of community between students and faculty,” Parker said.

According to those involved, the reaction of the law school faculty was enthusiastic. This helped the first auction raise close to \$2,800, with the highest single bid at \$430.

This year’s preliminary bidding has already netted more than \$2,000 and the organizers are optimistic about the live auction.

The organizers hope that if this year’s auction is successful enough, Baylor will follow the example of institutions like Harvard Law School and make it a tradition so generations of young Baylor lawyers can start making the world a better place before they ever take a client.

ELLIS from Page 1

seeking funding.

The current delay in the process, she said, is a result of the funding from the Center for Jewish Studies falling through.

One of Ellis’s attorneys, David McCall, spoke on behalf of Ellis and said the Jewish studies center still has the funding, and was prevented by the university from transferring it to the Academy for Leader Development and Civic Engagement.

“I believe the comment from Baylor University was there was a lack of funding,” McCall said. “The

POVERTY from Page 1

prefix so the courses wouldn’t be social work or engineering, they would be poverty classes, but the university wouldn’t do that,” Singletary said.

This has not deterred interest in the program, however, Yancey said.

“We already have seen some [interested] out of philosophy. We have some from religion,” Yancey said. “It’s not contingent on any one group.”

2010 alumna Katie Yocham, who now works as a grassroots organizer at the Texas Hunger Initiative said she took enough classes to have earned this minor had it been offered at the time.

“My perspective on poverty at that point was from my personal experiences,” Yocham said. “This was the first time that I really had more of an educational background in it.”

Yocham said the interdisciplinary nature of the classes was beneficial, giving her an education to go with her personal experiences.

“You don’t look at poverty just from one angle. You really get to go at it from all different perspectives,” Yocham said. “You also get to look at specifics and focus on a certain issue of poverty if you want. It gives you a pretty good general picture

Gold Star Families Tree with ceramic gold ornaments carrying personalized messages by families.

Tour visitors can also create handwritten notes for the troops.

The usual centerpiece of Christmas at the White House is the official tree, an 18½-foot tall balsam fir in the Blue Room.

The tree is decorated with holiday cards created by military children, medals, badges and patches from all the military branches.

“I want to thank all of the troops, all of our veterans and all of our military families,” Mrs. Obama said at the unveiling. “Your service and sacrifice inspire us all.”

The Red Room features fruit, foliage and flowers set in pepperberry- and cranberry-covered vases and a 9½-inch tall Bo replica made of buttons.

Denver caterer and event planner David Bondarchuck, who designed the Green Room decorations, said he wanted to enhance the “simple beauty” of the room. “I didn’t want to overdo it,” he said. The room was decorated with various hues of green with a bit of “sparkle and shine” including pine cones, twigs, and clear and silver ornaments, he said.

The family dog, Bo, made a special appearance in the State Dining Room as military children

created holiday ornaments and decorated cookies with the White House chefs Cristeta Comerford and Bill Yosses, and White House florist Laura Dowling.

Mrs. Obama drew a laugh from the crowd when she said Bo, “the most famous member of the Obama family,” has been a little confused walking around the house and seeing himself in “gigantic form.”

A total of 37 Christmas trees and a 400-pound White House made of gingerbread, white chocolate and marzipan also decorate the executive mansion. Some of the handcrafted decorations are made of paper, felt and recycled cans.

funding was there with the institute and they were more than willing to transfer the funds so the program could be carried out, and they were stopped from doing that.”

Multiple calls to the Center for Jewish Studies went unreturned.

University spokesperson Lori Fogleman, director of media relations, would not confirm whether Ellis is still the director for the Center of Jewish Studies or whether any of his privileges as director have been removed as a result of the charges brought against him.

“His status with the university is that he is employed by Baylor,” Fogleman said. “Right now we are going through a process and we are committed to protecting the integrity of that process and the confidentiality of that process.”

According to Baylor’s course listings, Ellis is teaching no classes in the fall 2011 or spring 2012 semesters.

Ellis has yet to make public the nature of the charges brought against him, although he has said the charges are for violating university policies that are

selectively enforced, leading him to believe the motivation behind them is to silence his voice of Jewish dissent to the state of Israel, among other positions.

The university has denied the charges have anything to do with restricting Ellis’ academic freedom, as the faculty dismissal policy does not include holding particular academic opinions as grounds for dismissing a tenured faculty member.

Ellis and his attorneys have until Dec. 8 to respond to the charges, Fogleman said.

of what’s going on around poverty in all different areas.”

Yocham said having this educational base has helped in her work at the Texas Hunger Initiative.

“Something as vast, complicated and complex as poverty takes a lot of learning and a lot of trial and error [in the workplace],” Yocham said. “You have to know what you’re talking about. You can’t just pull from personal experiences that you’ve had to convince people of something. Not only has [the education] affected how I am working with these people in this organization, but it’s also

encouraged me to continue to work in areas of poverty.”

For those who do not want to pursue careers in issues of poverty and social justice, Singletary said the program can provide a deeper awareness of these issues.

“After Steppin’ Out, or the summer mission projects, students are always saying, ‘Well, we got to work with poor people, but how do we really change the system?’ And I think that’s a part that motivated us to [create the minor] — wanting to educate students to be able to change systems to address poverty.”

Singletary said the minor brings together faculty and students

to study the issues surrounding poverty in a more immersive way.

“There had been a couple of research projects where students had been able to work together on different areas of poverty,” Singletary said. “You know, students could always take one or two classes that would address these issues, but to have a whole curriculum where students could work together across majors [has been] something that we’ve been dreaming of for several years.”

For a detailed look at the poverty studies and social justice minor, students can visit [www.baylor.edu/student\\_life](http://www.baylor.edu/student_life).

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