SPORTS Page 5

Bears rule the court

Men's basketball dominates the stadium against Texas Tech with a resounding 77-48 win

NEWS Page 3

Women in the church

George W. Truett Seminary will host Sacred Voices: Women in the Ministry Conference on Monday

A&E Page 4

Score for 'Madden 2004'

The popular football video game lands a seat in the ongoing "Great Video Game" series



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Viewpoints

"[Indiana State Rep.] Morris has painted an interesting picture of a radicalized pro-abortion and pro-homosexual organization that somehow manages to avoid the question and not take a stance. What Morris was attempting to do was expose a dangerous organization that is brainwashing young women, but he instead exposed the ineptitude of some of our elected officials."

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Bear Briefs

Going to Pigskin

1st place: Kappa Kappa Gamma and Kappa Sigma 2nd place: Kappa Omega Tau 3rd place: Delta Delta Delta and Alpha Tau Omega

> Alpha Chi Omega Chi Omega Phi Kappa Chi Phi Gamma Delta Pi Beta Phi

Best Choreography Kappa Kappa Gamma and Kappa Sigma

Best Costumes Kappa Alpha Theta

Best Song Selections Pi Beta Phi

Sing Chair of the Year Virgil Walker of Phi Gamma Delta

Best Vocals Phi Kappa Chi

Best Theme Development Kappa Kappa Sigma

Best Backdrop Kappa Omega Tau



baylorlariat.com

Griffin III's claim to fame solidified

By Tyler Alley SPORTS EDITOR

Hopefully students did not pick Monday to avoid Fountain Mall. Anyone who did missed something that may not happen again at Baylor for a long time.

Heisman-winning quarterback Robert Griffin III returned to the Baylor campus. Electronic Arts Sports accompanied him to unveil Griffin on the cover of NCAA Football 13.

"It's great," Griffin said. "We could have done this at the Super Bowl, but we wanted to do it here at Baylor to kind of bring that attention back to Baylor, and you guys are here so we were successful. I'm happy about that."

EA Sports set up a pavilion on the 5th Street-side of Fountain Mall displaying NCAA Football 13 banners and a rough, unofficial cover with Griffin on it.

"This is great for Baylor to have this photo shoot here and be on the cover of NCAA Football 13," Griffin said. "It's a great experience; only one person gets it every year and Baylor University gets that this year."

Griffin will not be alone on the cover. This year, EA Sports will put a former Heisman Trophy winner alongside Griffin, and fans can vote for which players they want beside him at www.ea.com.

"I mean all those guys are great," Griffin said. "If it's a quarterback, it'd be sweet, but Herschel Walker, Barry Sanders,



Robert Griffin III signs autographs for fans Monday in Fountain Mall after the unveiling of his likeness on the cover of NCAA Football 13 video game by EA Sports.

Marcus Allen, all those guys that have done a lot more than I have. I'm excited to just be on the cover with them."

Griffin spent most of Monday morning sitting on a stool in front of the camera doing interviews with various media outlets, including SportsCenter, Fox, ABC, and radio stations in San Francisco and Cleveland.

Athletic director Ian McCaw said having Griffin on the cover of a high-profile video game will help with recruitment and increase enrollment. "On the heels of the Sports Illustrated article and the New York Times article, along with the publicity of NCAA Football 13, it offers us a great period of national exposure," Mc-

From 2 to 6 p.m., Griffin posed and threw passes for the camera, signed autographs for fans and threw passes to fans who correctly answered trivia questions, including Fort Worth freshman John Wheeler.

"It was an unbelievable experi-

SEE **RGIII**, page 6



Sul Ross Elementary is one of nine WISD schools that will close on Monday due to cuts in the state budget

SD closures revealed

By Amanda Thomas REPORTER

A six-month wait finally came to an end Thursday when the Waco Independent School District made its final decision regarding its school closings. Now — with nine schools set to close and A.J. Moore students relocating — the school board, students, parents, teachers and community members are waiting for the reveal of new attendance zones, which should come later this month.

the "Process-wise, step is to draw new attendance zones," Pat Atkins, president atlarge of the Waco I.S.D. school board, said.

W.I.S.D. Superintendent Bonnie Cain said the school district is working with the district demographer to make new attendance zones. Drafts of attendance zone plans should be ready to present to the school board March 22, and the school board could start the voting process as soon as March

The March 22 and tentative March 29 attendance zone meetings will be open to the public.

After the \$3.4 million cut in state funding Waco ISD received, the school board began the process of planning what it could do to save money and had demographers assess the district, Cain said.

"I started with one plan and

kept taking input," Cain said. "I couldn't cut the teachers [and] I could not cut the programs, so I had to cut the facilities."

In September, the school board looked at the demographer's report, and over the past six months, the school board, students, teachers and other community members have come together to create a plan that would benefit everyone, Cain said.

"You never want to close a school," Cain said. "I really regret having to make this decision."

At the end of January, the board met and discussed the plans that were developed by Cain as well as other plans that were pre-

SEE CLOSURES, page 6

Lecturer declares religion in America is still strong

By Daniel C. Houston STAFF WRITER

The head editor of the Real Clear Religion website visited Baylor Monday and argued the decline of religion in America over the last 60 years has been greatly exaggerated.

Jeremy Lott, editor for Real Clear Religion, a website that consolidates content from various Internet sources, spoke at Armstong-Browning Library at the invitation of Baylor's Institute for Studies of Religion.

Lott cited a series of surveys administered by the Gallup Organization going back to 1948 that indicate a gradual decline in the percentage of Americans who self-identify as belonging to an organized religion, saying that the numbers themselves are not all that drastic.

"Is the era of big religion over?" Lott asked the audience of mostly Baylor faculty members. "I don't think so. America is a very, very devout country compared to most European nations."

"There is some fall-off in religious affiliation and attendance, but it's not as severe as you'd think. I basically came to the conclusion that religion in America is robust but confusing," Lott said.

Lott said he thinks the reason why so many Americans, in contrast to many Europeans, still hold deep religious beliefs is rooted in the founding of the United States political institutions.

"I have a bit of speculation [as to why], and it's real simple," Lott said. "It's that the founding idea of America is a theological state. 'We are endowed by our creator

with certain unalienable rights and among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.' And I think that a lot of Americans at some level say, 'OK, so our rights derive from God. What happens when you take God out of the

equation?" Although Lott said the decline of religion in America may

SEE LECTURE, page 6

News director: New media could have changed Waco siege

By Trevor Allison Reporter

Nineteen years ago, federal agents attemped to execute a search warrant at Mt. Carmel, the Branch Davidian compound near Waco, after the McLennan County Sheriffs Office was notified of the possible presence of illegal weapons.

That was the beginning a 51day siege that ended with the compound destroyed in a fire. 82 people died in the fire, including more than 20 children, two pregnant women.

The siege of Mt. Carmel, which included agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF); the Texas Rangers and the Texas National Guard, began when ATF agents attempted to execute a search warrant for the compound on Feb. 28, 1993. The ATF is now called the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Some wonder how different the Branch Davidian siege might have been had it occurred today, in light of the impact social media has had on other events, such as

those of the Arab Spring in 2011 that led to revolutions in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya and other nations.

Rick Bradfield, news director at KWTX, Waco's CBS television affiliate, was one of the reporters covering the siege in 1993. While speaking to Dr. Cassy Burleson's advanced public relations class on Wednesday, Bradfield said the Davidians were cut off from the media during the siege by FBI signal jammers.

This technology made cell phone communication impos-

SEE **DAVIDIANS**, page 6

A church built by people sympathetic to the Branch Davidians stands at Mount Carmel, where AFT agents tried to raid the compound 10 years ago.

Morris made absurd statements on Girl Scouts

Editorial

On Feb. 18, Indiana state Rep. Bob Morris sent an email to other Republican representatives, advising them not to sign a resolution that honored the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouts of America.

Morris claimed in the email that after receiving information from constituents he had done "a small amount of webbased research" and discovered "a close strategic affiliation" between the Girl Scouts and Planned Parenthood.

Morris admits you won't find evidence of this affiliation on either organization's website, but he insists that "abundant evidence proves that the agenda of Planned Parenthood includes sexualizing young girls through the Girl Scouts, which is quickly becoming a tactical arm of Planned Parenthood."

Both the Girl Scouts and Planned Parenthood have issued statements denying any sort of relationship.

The lawmaker also wrote that the fact that first lady Michelle Obama is honorary president should concern lawmakers and that all but three Girl Scout role models were "feminists, lesbians or Communists." Morris also claims "many parents are abandoning the Girl Scouts because they promote homosexual lifestyles."

He concludes by urging fellow lawmakers to think carefully before they "extend legitimacy to a radicalized organization."

Morris' fellow lawmakers were apparently not as concerned as he had hoped they would be. His email quickly went viral, and as Girl Scouts everywhere expressed outrage, Indiana House Speaker Brian Bosma expressed his feelings by purchasing 278 cases of Thin Mints to share with the legislature.

Every member of the House except for Morris signed the resolution honoring the Girl Scouts' 100th anniversary.

Morris issued an apology Thursday for making an "emotional, reactionary and inflammatory" blanket accusation. The representative still stands by his individual claims, however, saying only that he wishes he had called his fellow lawmakers instead of sending an email.

Girl Scouts of America responded with grace, issuing a statement that they are ready to move on, and the apology is accepted.

Morris has painted an interesting picture of a radicalized pro-abortion and pro-homosexual organization that somehow manages to avoid the question and not take a stance.

What Morris was attempting to do was expose a dangerous organization



that is brainwashing young women, but he instead exposed the ineptitude of some of our elected officials.

Some of his claims were a little conspiratorial, but some were just plain wrong. In response to Morris' insinuation about Michelle Obama, Girl Scouts of America issued a statement that suggests Morris' "small amount of web-based research" was far from adequate: "Not only is Rep. Morris off the mark on his claims, it's also unfortunate in his limited research that he failed to discover that since 1917, every first lady has served as the honorary leader of Girl Scouts, including Nancy Reagan, Barbara Bush and Laura Bush."

When we elect public officials, we like to think that they are giving their time to advocate for their constituents' interests. We also like to think that these people are intelligent, rational and have a modi-

cum of common sense. Our generation likes to think our elected representatives know how to use the Internet, or at least how to hire someone who does.

Morris seems to have missed the lesson in elementary school where the librarian iterates and reiterates that random webpages cannot be trusted. If it would not be acceptable on a works cited, please don't put it in an email, call it a fact, and send it to everyone in your legislature.

We realize Morris is a freshman representative, but there's probably some pre-law Indiana student who would love to be an unpaid intern and teach him how to not embarrass himself by trusting the first result on Google. As an elected official, Morris is held to a higher standard, but making sure you have the facts before you make an accusation isn't a higher standard. That's common sense.

If that's how you feel...

Indiana Rep. Bob Morris' thoughts on Girl Scouts of America

"Abundant evidence proves that the agenda of Planned Parenthood includes sexualizing young girls through the Girl Scouts, which is quickly becoming a tactical arm of Planned Parenthood."

"Many parents are abandoning the Girl Scouts because they promote homosexual lifestyles."

"As members of the Indiana House of Representatives, we must be wise before we use the credibility and respect of the "Peoples' House" to extend legitimacy to a radicalized organization."

Following Christ as He wants requires walking the walk

Socrates once said, "The greatest way to live with honor in this world is to be what we pretend to be."

I have a feeling Socrates knew what he was talking about. Though this man who essentially committed suicide spoke in riddles and questions, I have to agree with this saying of his.

So, what do we pretend to be? As little kids, we might've pretended to be superheroes or princesses, cops or ballerinas. Now that most of us are in college, I'm going to assume most of us don't pretend to be Spiderman or Cinderella anymore.

Over the past several years, I've been hearing many people mention how Christianity is all



Linda Wilkins | Staff writer

about pretending. Upon first hearing this declaration, I wanted

to argue and say nothing is wrong with Christianity. How can there be anything wrong? It's about Jesus, right? That's what counts.

After this initial reaction, I began thinking a little more about how people who claim to be Christians actually act. From what I could tell, many people only act like Christians; their motivations are not from the want to follow the Bible at all. It's gotten harder and harder to distinguish between the real and fake.

This is the problem.

"Hypocrite" is a strong word, but it's a word that bothers me. It's like a plague in Christianity. You say the word to almost anyone in a church and they'll say, "Nope, that's not me." They might be right, but my guess is that most of the time they're just playing the role of Christian. Hypocrisy has become an easier religion to follow than Christianity it seems. Why? It's possible Christ's call for self-denial in his followers is just too difficult to do.

When I came to Baylor last semester as a freshman, I thought I knew the basics. I knew what it means to be a Christian, what it looks like to be a Christian, and how to be a Christian. As my college experience progressed, I kept getting this irking feeling that something was off. Not necessarily with other people or with myself. It was just a general feeling.

Obviously not everyone is the

same. However, as Christians, we're supposed to stand for the same things. I understand there are different denominations and different methods of practicing Christianity, but the basics seem like they should be pretty universed.

One of the biggest basics I know of is this old saying: Practice what you preach. How can we, as Christians, move through life claiming to be Christians and then act like something else?

Jesus said, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

When we skip the first part of this, when we don't deny ourselves, we fall into the weeds of becoming

Delivery

Brent Nine

*Denotes member

of editorial board

a hypocrite. Christianity is about self-denial; the authors of the New Testament made that clear.

What kind of representatives of Christ are we if we can't even get the first part right? Sure, we can believe in him and what he did. But some sort of action for the right reasons (i.e. not for recognition, but solely for following God) has to accompany it.

Hypocrites are fakes. Christianity is becoming infested with more and more hypocrites. Does this make Christianity fake? You decide.

Linda Wilkins is a freshman journalism major from Tyrone, Ga., and is a staff writer for the Lariat.

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To contact the Baylor Lariat:

Newsroom: Lariat@baylor.edu 254-710-1712 Advertising inquiries: Lariat_Ads@baylor.edu 254-710-3407



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Speaker explores worship in context of culture

By Linda Wilkins STAFF WRITER

Students participated in periods of meditation, silence and contemplation as they partook in a shortened version of one of the oldest forms of worship during Chapel services Monday.

Karen Ward, Episcopal priest and pastor of the Church of Apostles in Seattle, guided students through a fixed prayer hour, an ancient Christian system of worship.

Ward will also speak at two other events this week about integrating new worship styles into churches to keep up with a changing culture. Ward is a leading figure in the Emerging Church, a movement that focuses on keeping churches up-to-date with today's culture by bringing in various art forms to encourage worship.

Ward is an ordained priest who currently serves as curator for the Apostles PopUpChurch. She moved to the PopUpChurch after working with the Church of the Apostles in Seattle for nine years.

Ryan Richardson, associate chaplain and director of worship, said Ward wants to see the people of God speaking against poverty and oppression, and instead nurture beauty, goodness, action and

"Karen desires to see new churches and ministries that embed themselves in today's culture and are capable to speaking to brokenness and hurt and longings," he

PopUpChurch is a mobile church movement involving a group that meets at different locations and does not have an established building, Ward said. The group hosts Wednesday night monastic prayer services, which Ward demonstrated during Chapel.

Ward said the fixed hour of prayer is a tradition the early Christian church developed prior to a similar Islamic tradition, and that it is also the earliest form of worship besides Communion.

"The practice of fixed prayer is making a resurgence in the culture today, especially among young people who are finding value in monastic forms," Ward said, referencing the new monasticism movement in America.

The hour of fixed prayer progressed in three different stages Ward called meditation, bell and silence and then "The Examen." First, students participated in meditation, slowing down their mind in order to focus on the "call to worship." Next, Ward played bell sounds to represent the "call to silence." Lastly, the students participated in The Examen, a method developed by Ignatius of Loyola in the 16th century to help people realize that God is working actively in our society, Ward said. The Examen is a time when people can reflect on passages in Scripture and how they apply to their daily lives,

Ward said she uses fixed prayer during the Wednesday night gatherings she leads for PopUpChurch in Portland

Graduate assistant Jill Sims, who organized Ward's visit, said Ward is an innovator in today's society because she approaches worship differently than traditional Christian services.

"She presented a worship service that is related to the culture by music, but was different in presentation," Sims said.

Sims said the Emerging Church movement is a way of relating to post-modern culture while maintaining the foundational truths of the Bible. The movement incorporates multiple elements from American culture, such as musical styles and art. Sims said the emphasis for the Emerging Church movement is focused on group worship, as opposed to having one person guide the group in worship. She gave the example of a worship band that may play in the back of the group instead of in the front in order to put more emphasis on the worship itself.

Sims invited Ward to come to the Hearn Innovators in Christian Music Series, which is hosting her visit. The Innovators Series is a program that brings speakers involved in church worship to Baylor. Sims

said the series, made possible by the Billy Ray Hearn endowment, is meant to facilitate close interaction of students and speakers by providing a setting for students to ask questions about the speakers' area

of expertise. "[Ward] presents new and fresh ideas about relating to society and

culture as a church," Sims said. The Emerging Church movement is a focus for Ward, who will also speak tonight from 4:00-5:00 p.m. at a Baylor Association of Church Musicians meeting about how worship incorporates cultural change. The meeting is open to the public and will take place in Recital Hall II of Waco Hall.

In addition, Ward will attend the Brown Bag Luncheon which is open to all students, at 4 p.m. Wednesday in 309 Truett Semi-

Truett conference examines role of women in ministry

By Meghan Hendrickson REPORTER

Women may be gaining ground in the business world, but the role of women ministers in the church is an ongoing topic of interest for an upcoming conference at Baylor.

George W. Truett Theological Seminary is hosting the sixth annual Women in Ministry conference sponsored by the Baptist General Convention of Texas from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday to discuss issues related to this ques-

Dr. Jeter Basden, director of the Ministry Guidance Program and professor of religion, said the conference is designed for any man or woman who is interested in the role of women in ministry. The Ministry Guidance Program has helped publicize the event.

"This conference brings together people who have rich experience and keen interest in vocational ministry for and by women," Basden said. "Having such a variety of speakers and topics presents students with an opportunity to explore multiple issues all in a oneday conference.

Issues related to the role of women in ministry will be discussed throughout the day in general sessions, panel discussions and breakout sessions.

Rev. Julie Pennington-Russell, pastor of First Baptist Church of Decatur, Ga., and former pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Waco, is the main speaker for the general sessions at this year's conference.

Jo Ann Sharkey, assistant director of student services at Truett, has participated in the conference in previous years. She said she is excited about the conversations conference participants will engage in because of the "encouraging and supportive nature" of the

"We can talk about the real issues that we are dealing with in our ministries and work together to find healthy solutions to any problems we may be facing," Sharkey said. "I enjoy meeting women who have more experience than I have and hearing the stories that they can share with me. There is great opportunity for wisdom to be shared and knowledge to be gained."

Dr. Brian L. Harbour, Winfred and Elizabeth Moore visiting professor of religion and pastor for 45 years, said he is encouraging his students to attend the conference because of the speakers and the topics to be discussed.

One of those speakers, Candy Smith, pastor of spiritual development at First Baptist Church of Richardson, has been a lifelong friend and colleague of Harbour's.

Harbour said Smith has excelled in every position since she began serving in vocational ministry in the early 1970s and that she is "one of the finest examples of a woman who has effectively fulfilled her calling in a Baptist church."

Harbour said the issue of women in ministry is an important

topic today. "Among Baptists today, we see a trend to push us back toward a mindset that prevailed in the patriarchal world of the first century instead of pushing forward toward the vision articulated in Galatians 3:28 [when the Apostle Paul writes 'there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus']," Harbour said. "The leaders of this conference exemplify the best thinking about, and the best examples of, women in ministry today."

Keller junior Lauren Rivers is a student in Harbour's Introduction to Ministry course and said she is looking forward to participating in the conference because she believes the role of women within churches is an controversial issue worthy of further "respectful dis-

"I consider Mark 16:1-8 and Luke 23:1-11, where the women who loved Jesus were the first to find his empty tomb and tell the other disciples, and contrast it with 1 Timothy 2:12, where women are admonished to remain quiet, not teaching or exercising authority over men," Rivers said. "I don't believe that God accidentally allowed those women to become the first evangelists, but I also think that the subject of women in the church is more nuanced than that simple dichotomy."

Rivers said she is especially interested to attend the breakout session "The Bible and Women in Ministry."

"I would love to hear what men and women who are wiser than I am have to say about this debate, which is and has been important in my life," Rivers said, referring to the various career paths she could take as a religion major.

In view of the "Sacred Voices" theme of this year's Women in Ministry conference, there will be three simultaneous panel discussions from 11 a.m. to noon ranging from recognizing a call to ministry, dealing with struggles in ministry and the male perspective on female

There will also be 10 breakout sessions in the afternoon covering topics including: discerning one's call, the next step after one feels called to ministry, enduring in ministry, ministering in a multicultural world and the ethics of ministering across genders.

The two general sessions will convene at 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. in the Paul Powell Chapel at Truett. Networking lunches will also be offered in the Great Hall at noon.

The conference cost for Baylor students is \$15, but students who receive financial assistance from the BGCT may register without a

Students can register for the conference online at texasbaptists. org/events/women-in-ministryconference.

For non-students, the conference cost is \$20.



Taylor goes Baylor in New York City

REPORTER

It is sometimes difficult for Texas students focused on prospective job openings within the entertainment industry to see firsthand the demands and fast paced living of large-city careers. For one,

New York seems worlds apart from the calm and quiet nightlife within Waco's downtown streets, or at least that's what Kerrville senior Hannah Taylor says.

Taylor is a communication specialist major with a background in public relations, and this semester she and a group of 17 other Bay-

lor students went to New York for their study abroad programs to home in some necessary skills in the entertainment world.

Hannah Taylor

Taylor, who said she loves the city compared to Waco, is interning with CBS 'entertainment publicity department. She said that it was a unique transition to big city life when she moved to the "city that never sleeps."

"It's the most fun place I have ever been. There are so many amazing things to see and do here. You can literally never say you are bored. Every weekend is an adventure. We get to see new things, visit world-class museums with the Baylor group and Dr. [Joseph] Kickasola," Taylor said.

"We get to experience cultures so different than what we find in Texas. There really is no place like New York. It is the most vibrant, exciting and culturally diverse place I have ever been."

Taylor said New York residents and their passion for life differs from the patient pace of Wacoans. She says they are unlike any other people she has met.

"They know what they want," Taylor said. "And they pursue their passions with everything they have. It's a little intimidating, but mostly exciting. It gives us [students] a challenge to rise up to the occasion and show this city what we are made of."

Dr. Joseph Kickasola, head of

the New York study abroad program, expresses his admiration for Taylor's upbeat personality and perspective on career pursuits.

"What I love about Hannah is that she's not just hardworking. At her internship, but she's also focused in the classroom," Kickasola said. "She really wants to see the academic and professional worlds work to-

gether for her, and if she has questions, she diligently pursues the answers. She's not simply angling for a profession, but wants to be a well-rounded person serving in a

Taylor said tenacious passion for the classroom as well as her internship at CBS as a means of steering her prospects toward her dream job of the future.

"At this point in my life, I just want to learn as much as I can about the industry as possible," Taylor said. "I'm sure by doing so I will find my perfect job."

Kickalosa said Baylor's program in New York can offer opportunities to students like Taylor.

"I'm very glad our program could point her to the door, and that previous Baylor interns had helped unlock it for her," Kickalosa said. "But Hannah alone did the hard, brave work of walking through it and so far has made the most of everything on the other

Still, Taylor said students interested in the program need to un-



Kerrville senior Hannah Taylor is interning at CBS in New York City. When talking about how Baylor has prepared her for the experience, she said, "So take what you learn at Baylor, stay determined and keep your character. That's what Baylor students do — that's what's going to make you stand out."

derstand the depth of the commitment they are making.

"It takes a lot of guts and talent to move to New York and start working internships in this highly competitive environment," Taylor said. "But who could deny an opportunity in New York. It's like a different world up here."

Taylor does publicity for entertainment shows in her job at the CBS Media Relations office.

"I assist the publicists, and I produce daily industry clippings because I'm learning about the ways they promote the entertainment shows. I have been on set visits for shows like 'The Good Wife,' 'Blue Bloods' and 'Unforgettable.," Taylor said.

The biggest reward to all her efforts is her ability to apply coursework in her internship. Taylor said she is confident that jobs will open up for her now that she has experienced New York's special work-

"It's an amazing thing to go from learning about PR in my classes in Waco only a few months ago, to actually putting my schooling to practice," Taylor said. "It makes all of my schooling worth that much more. This internship is giving me the skills and confidence I need to make it post-graduation."

But what is an undergraduate to do if he or she is on the fence about leaving Waco and pursuing the entertainment business in New York for the first time? Taylor said it all depends on hard work and little bit of persistence.

"You have to be persistent in your pursuits and don't take anything personally," Taylor said. "It's a tough business and things won't always be easy, but if you retain the knowledge you learn at Baylor and combine it with that Baylor sense of courtesy and professionalism, you will go far. "

Lindsay Cash, a Frisco senior and Taylor's roommate in New York, says Taylor will have no problem finding a job in the busy New York scene.

"She's got a unique hunger for New York City," Cash said. "She's definitely got that unstoppable drive and an extra spark of energy, an upbeat and fearless mindset, and that 'I'm going to serve you no matter what' smile that stands out in a city like New York City."

For more information about Baylor's New York program, go to Baylor.edu/comm_studies.

'Madden 2004' scores spot in great gaming

Editor's Note: This is an article vy strategy by EA Games, because in our ongoing "Great Video Game" players like having the freedom of series in which readers and staffers alike are asked to submit a few hundred words about a video game that they consider to be great. To celebrate Robert Griffin III's appearance on the cover of "NCAA Football 13," previous submitter Daniel Pope is taking a victory lap in our "Great Video Game" series and has taken the time to reflect on a classic EA Sports-made football game, "Madden NFL 2004."

> By Daniel Pope Contributor

"Great job, teammate! We just won the big game! We are now the winners of the National Football League's championship!"

If you're anything like me, you've dreamed of hearing these exact words spoken to you, but have sadly never had the opportunity. To ease the pain, EA Sports created the "Madden NFL" videogame series. The series gives gamers the chance to make a big time scoring drive and will your team to victory. In my opinion, "Madden

NFL 2004" is the best of the series. In "Madden NFL 2004" you start out with all of the NFL teams being unlocked. This is a really savchoosing whichever squad they

That being said, it's too bad you can't play as college teams. I know I'm not the only one who'd like to see the 2003 Seattle Seahawks battle it out against the 2003 Minnesota Golden Gophers. Man, what a thrill. I get goose bumps just thinking about it.

The biggest surprise for me about this game is that you can even play in the Super Bowl. I fully expected the game to end and the credits to roll after winning the conference championship game. But no, lo and behold the developers threw in the Super Bowl as icing on the cake. Living in the age of expansion packs and downloadable content, it is nice to know that there are some video game companies willing to go the extra mile for their consumers.

It is interesting looking at "Madden NFL 2004" eight years later. For instance, did you know that the Cleveland Browns used to struggle mightily to score touchdowns? Bizarre, I know. Also, the Baltimore Ravens used to be known as potential Super Bowl contenders in the need of a franchise quarterback. It's funny how things change.

Have you ever wanted to make a blockbuster NFL trade but just lacked the resources to seal the deal? Well, in "Madden NFL 2004" you can make any sort of trade you desire: from the blatantly unfair (Ricky Proehl for Marvin Harrison) to the irrelevant (Tim Rattay for Josh McCown) to the Dan Snyder-esque (a first, second and third round draft pick Jeff George.)

Eight years later the "Madden" series is still going strong. Games released these days for the nextgeneration consoles have better graphics and more in-depth customization than their PS2/Xbox counterparts once did. But for my money, the 2004 entry is still the pinnacle.

We may never make it to the National Football League, but thanks to John Madden and his video games, we can all take part in the gridiron fun.

Does reading this article make you think of a video game that you consider great? Please send us an email at lariat@baylor.edu with a suggestion for a "Great Video Game." Please include a few hundred words on why you consider your game to be great and you just might find your opinion here.

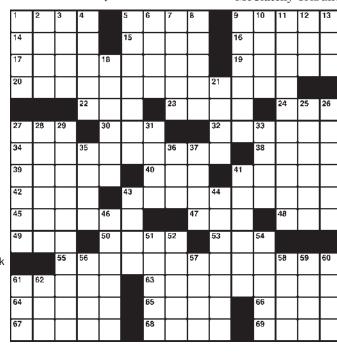
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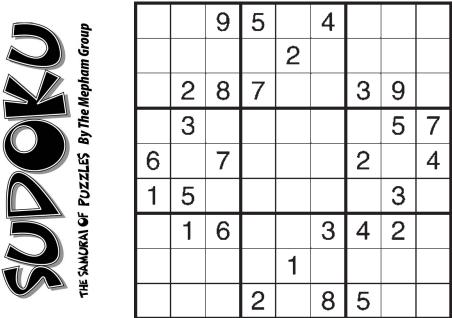


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At a Glance

A quick recap of last weekend's action and upcoming events

Sooner state sweep

Men's basketball beat Oklahoma 70-60 Saturday at the Ferrell Center to sweep both Oklahoma teams this season. Junior Pierre Jackson led the Bears with 17 points.

Rockin' the Jayhawks Women's basketball beat Kansas 76-45 Friday in Lawrence, Kan. Junior Brittney Griner scored 20 points in 28 minutes.

No longer undefeated Baseball went 2-1 in its weekend series against UCLA in Los Angeles. Baylor won the Friday game 15-3, lost the Saturday game 9-3, and lost the Sunday game 8-6

Middle of the pack

Women's track and field finished fourth and men's finished fifth at the Big 12 Championships Friday and Saturday in College Station.

One away from bronze Women's golf sits at fourth place out of 15 teams with one round to go at the AllState Sugar Bowl in New Orleans.



Top 25 Ranked Teams

No. 1 Women's basketball

No. 4 Equestrian

No. 8 Women's Tennis

No. 9 Men's Basketball

No. 9 Softball

No. 13 Football

No. 15 Soccer

No. 16 Men's Tennis

No. 19 Women's Golf

No. 25 Baseball

Bears win big in final home game

By Greg DeVries
Sports Writer

It was the last home game of the season as the No. 10 Baylor Bears put away the Texas Tech Red Raiders 77-48.

The story of the night was not the significant margin of victory. It wasn't the Bears gaining position in the Big 12 standings. The story was sending away the most winning senior class in Baylor basketball history: Fred Ellis, Anthony Jones and Quincy Acy.

"To leave with the record of the winningest class means that not only were they good players, but they were ... good leaders," head coach Scott Drew said. "Baylor nation respected what they accomplished."

From the senior presentations before the game until the players walked off of the court, the crowd of 7,164 rallied behind the seniors and the team much more than usual.

Jones was the first of the senior class to open up the scoring on senior night. He finished with 13 points on 5 of 6 shooting. This game marked Jones' 33rd start with the team.

"The fans [have] shown us so

much love throughout the years," Jones said. "[The 95 wins] makes me want to get five more to get to

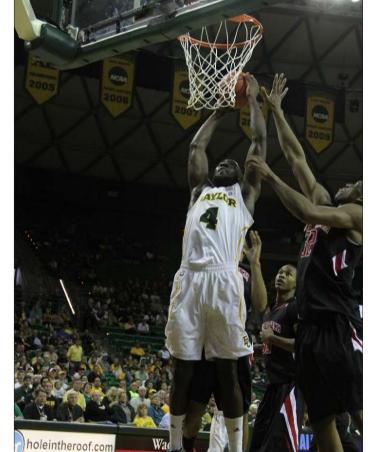
Acy finished this game as he did 70 times in his career — with double figure scoring. His 12 points moved to 12th place on Baylor's all-time scoring list with 1,274 passing Doug Brandt.

"Obviously its emotional playing my last game in the Ferrell Center, but I feel like we have a long way to go in the season," Acy said.

Acy's final play at home was a powerful post move followed by a dunk. After a timeout was called, Acy danced to himself while the crowd was on their feet. It was a fitting way to for Acy to end his final game at the Ferrell Center.

With 9:15 to go in the second half, chants of "We want Fred" echoed against the golden dome and green seats. Ellis was waiting at the scorer's table ready to check in just a few seconds later. Then, with 6:35 to go in the game, Ellis sank two free-throws to the delight of the crowd.

After the game, Ellis joked about one day telling his kids a story about the time that everybody at the Forrall Contar chanted his



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

No. 4 senior Quincy Acy dunks the ball over Texas Tech defenders Monday at the Ferrell Center. Baylor defeated the Red Raiders 77-48.

name as he put up incredible stats. While Ellis actually only finished with two points and one rebound, it was the crowd behind him that made this day memorable.

Sophomore Perry Jones III finished the game with 15 points and

10 rebounds on 5 of 8 shooting. This marked his sixth double-double this season.

The Bears will next head to Iowa State to take on the Cyclones at 6 p.m. Saturday in what will be a battle for third place in the Big 12.

Softball ace injured in Baylor victory

By Krista Pirtle Sports Writer

Baylor softball won third place at the Fairfield Inn North-Texas Shootout this past weekend at Getterman Stadium, but lost its ace pitcher, redshirt junior Whitney Canion, to a torn ACL.

Canion was running out a grounder in the third inning when her left knee buckled as she planted on first base.

She will rehab her leg and attempt to return to the circle later this season.

"Whitney had an MRI that confirmed that the ACL was torn," head coach Glenn Moore said. "This is a heartbreaker because she is such a great representative of this team and university. She has battled injuries before, and she will face this one with the help of her teammates. We will rally around her, and the next players in line will rise to the challenge."

The bullpen for the Lady Bears has been impressive thus far and provides strength to fall back on.

Junior right-hander Courtney Repka and sophomore left-hander Liz Paul have only one loss between them. Repka has a 0.81 ERA in 34 innings pitched and Paul has a 2.28 ERA with 15 innings pitched.

The Lady Bears started the weekend with a sweep day one with victories over Texas-El Paso (11-1) and Stephen F. Austin (7-6).

The second day featured a 1-0 upset by Texas State.

"I am disappointed in our effort today," Moore said Saturday. "We should be playing in the championship game in our home tournament on our home field. Our offense didn't come through enough, but at least we salvaged a win in game two."

Down 2-1 going into the bottom of the sixth against North Texas, junior catcher Kelsi Kettler hit a shot to right center, scoring two for

The final game of the tournament was a rematch between Baylor and North Texas, one the Lady Bears again would win by one (2-1). After Canion went down in the third, Repka entered the circle and allowed only one hit, one unearned run and struck out three in four innings pitched.

"It was definitely a tough situation, but I warmed up real quick and did what I had to do," Repka said. "You don't want to ever see another pitcher go down, but we had to refocus and do our best. We're going to fight with whomever we have out there."

Her performance kept Baylor in the lead as it scored a pair of runs in the bottom of the second.

Guy scored on a wild pitch, and senior Sydney Wilson hit a sacri-

fice fly to score Kettler.

"Courtney has been doing a great job all year and we were excited to be behind her," third baseman senior Megan Turk said.
"I think this says a lot about our girls because we don't like to lose.

Whatever happens, we'll just have

to push through it."

Griner leads Lady Bears past Aggies By Kristie Rieken knocked the ball out of Alexia The crowd of more than 10,000 Kelsey Bone and 6-5 Karla Gilbert

Associated Press

Baylor coach Kim Mulkey didn't like watching a big first-half lead dwindle with star Brittney Griner on the bench. She was even more troubled when the forward's fourth foul sent her there again in the second half.

But after the top-ranked Lady Bears overcame Griner's foul trouble in a 69-62 win over No. 17 Texas A&M on Monday night, Mulkey saw the value in the situation.

"I was taught by some of the greats of the game to get them out of there," Mulkey said. "We need to be in situations like that. I need to be in tough decisions. We already wrapped up the Big 12 championship. This game, you want to win it, but it's a game to maybe see what you can do."

Griner and Odyssey Sims scored 25 points each and the Lady Bears used a late run to hold off the Aggies.

Baylor (30-0, 17-0 Big 12) led by one point before going on a 6-0 run that was aided unintentionally by an official. Griner made a jump shot before Kimetria Hayden Standish's hands. With the ball almost sure to go out of bounds, it bounced off an official and remained on the court, setting up a layup by Sims before Hayden added a basket to make it 67-60 with 1:39 remaining.

Both teams agreed that the play with the official was pivotal in the game, and Sims said she just did what she was taught on it.

"Coaches say: 'The play is not over," Sims said. "Just stay with it. If you don't hear a whistle, keep playing."

It was a much more competi-

tive game than the first meeting between these teams when Baylor won 71-48. "We've gotten better since we

"We've gotten better since we got embarrassed in Waco," Texas A&M coach Gary Blair said.

The Lady Bears have matched the 2009-10 Nebraska team for the best start in conference history and have their second straight 30-win season.

Baylor got its 10th win in last 11 tries against A&M in Big 12 regular-season meetings, with the Aggies moving to the Southeastern Conference next season. heckled Baylor, and especially Mulkey, throughout the game, and some fans were still yelling at players as they left the court after the win. Mulkey pumped her fist and smiled as she exited and Griner put her hand to her ear and flashed a thumbs-up on her way out.

The thumbs-up is A&M's "Gig Em" hand signal, but Mulkey denied that Griner meant to mock A&M with her gesture. Griner said winning what could be the last game against A&M didn't mean any more than any other victory.

"It's always good to get a win," she said. "It doesn't matter who it is. The only thing we're worried about is the NCAAs."

The Lady Bears have already

claimed their second straight regular-season conference championship and are the only undefeated team in Division I. Griner and Sims were both in

Griner and Sims were both in foul trouble on Monday and Griner sat out for long stretches in both halves because of it. Sims picked up her fourth foul with more than seven minutes left, but she never came out, playing 40 minutes.

Texas A&M alternated 6-foot-4

to try and slow Griner. They both got in foul trouble early in the second half. Gilbert fouled out with about 12 minutes remaining and Bone picked up her fourth just seconds later, sending her to the bench.

Things were evened out about

a minute later when Griner picked up her fourth foul knocking Kelsey Assarian down on the offensive end and the Baylor star also left the game.

While both teams were in foul

trouble in this one, the difference came at the free throw line. Baylor made 23 of its 28 attempts, while Texas A&M hit just 9 of 19, with White missing six of her 10 tries.

Sydney Carter added 13 points,

Adaora Elonu had 12 points and Bone had 10 for A&M. Destiny Williams had 12 rebounds and three steals for Baylor and the 25 points by Sims tied her season high.

"It's like they took it up another level when Griner comes off the floor," Mulkey said of the Aggies. "When she comes off the floor it was like: 'Oh boy, we can start doing things we normally do."

Senior earns silver as men's golf finishes low

By Kasey McMillian Reporter

Baylor men's golf team finished 10th at the Wyoming Desert Intercollegiate on Sunday in Palm Desert, Calif. Baylor was 1-over through two rounds but shot a final round 292 to finish the tournament with 5-over 869, and is now ranked No. 29 nationally.

No. 14 UNLV defeated previous champion Texas Tech by seven

strokes, shooting a 20-under 844.

Baylor senior Lorenzo Scotto tied for 35th overall at 2-over 218 and freshman Mikkelsen Bjerch-Andresen tied for 52nd overall at 6-over 222. Redshirt freshman Niclas Mansson followed at 59th at 7-over 223 and junior Ryan O'Rear tied for 75th at 10-over 226.

"We struggled all weekend, we had a lot of 3-putts and just didn't play well," head coach Greg Priest said in a press release. "Joakim

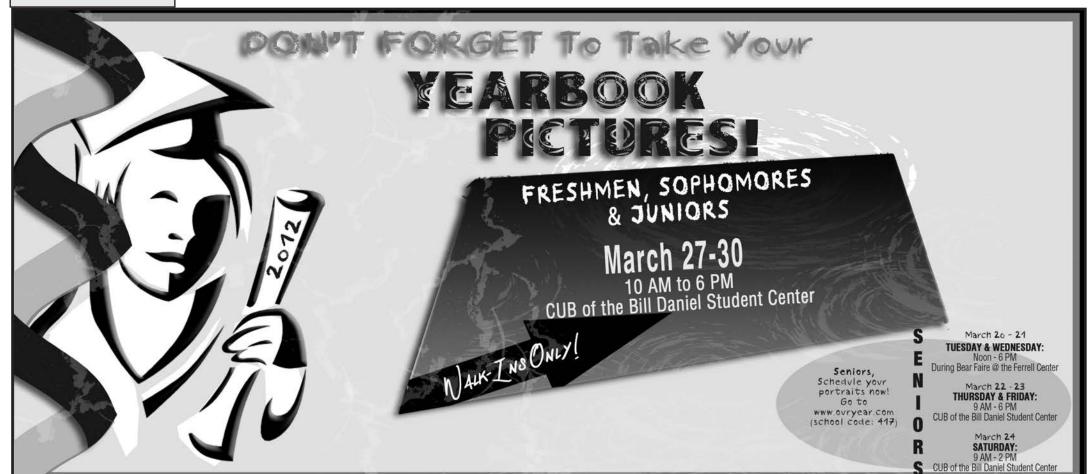
[Mikkelsen] played really [well]. He kept getting better and better with each round and put himself in contention to win it."

Senior Joakim Mikkelsen finished with a 4-under 68, the second lowest score in the final round. He finished the weekend in a threeway tie for second (6-under 210) behind Kevin Penner of UNLV with 7-under 209. Mikkelsen has had six top-10 finishes this season and is ranked fifth in Baylor's pro-

gram history.

"He's got a lot of drive in him," Priest said. "He wants to be successful, and he's proven that he wants to be the guy that you can rely on whenever it gets in a tough situation, so I mean he's by far stepping up to being the guy we need on this team to take us where we need to go."

Baylor will next compete in the Border Olympics March 16-17 at Laredo.



LECTURE from Page 1

be exaggerated, he pointed to two factors that may have influenced the gradual rise of secularism: that atheism is a more widely accepted worldview than it was 50 years ago, and that lower-income individuals are less likely to marry, which he said is correlated with lower church attendance.

Dr. Byron Johnson, director of ISR, said his organization has analyzed the phenomenon and found that many of the people who answer surveys saying they don't identify with a religion may just be rejecting the options available on the survey itself, not religion as a

"What we've found [at ISR] is that when people mark, 'no religion,' we literally ask them questions about their religion later on and find out a lot of them actually can name a denomination and a church or house of worship they attend; they just don't like this column that has a list," Johnson said.

Dr. Thomas Kidd, associate professor of history and senior fellow for ISR, said Lott was able to provide a unique perspective on American religion because of his "prolific" writing frequency and his exposure to so much material on religious issues.

"One of our priorities is connecting Baylor scholarship and friends of Baylor scholarship with the news media and broader public discussion of what's happening with religion in American pub-

ence," Wheeler said, "especially the

third pass where he just threw it as

hard as he could. I thought I was

about to die as the ball came, and

somehow it ended up in my arms.

This past weekend, Griffin par-

ticipated at the 2012 NFL Scouting

Combine, where players entering

the draft compete in a wide variety

of drills to showcase their raw tal-

people are talking good about you

and what you did at the combine,

you did your job. Rather you guys

be talking good about me than bad

about me. I felt like I went there

and did what I planned to do in the

interviews and on the field."

"It was great," Griffin said. "If

It was a great catch, I think."

ent to potential teams.

RGIII from Page 1 —



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

Jeremy Lott, editor for the Real Clear websites, gives a lecture on the decline of religion in America in the Armstrong Browning Library on Monday.

lic life and on the global scene, as well," Kidd said.

Lott said his background that he was raised Protestant, went to an Evangelical college and then converted to Catholicism - exposed him to religious viewpoints that enable him to seek a wide variety of content for Real Clear Re-

"I was interested in what these traditions had to teach me, and that has definitely helped in terms of being able to steer people toward the best [content] out there," Lott said.

Griffin ran the 40-yard dash in 4.41 seconds, the fastest time for a

Unofficial times clocked Griffin at 4.38 seconds. There was also some discrepancy surrounding Griffin's height.

quarterback since 2006, according

"People kind of underestimated my speed, thought I'd run a 4.5 something and I went 4.3," Griffin said. "With my height, they thought I was 6 feet tall. I don't know where that came from. I was 6-2 like I told them I would be."

Griffin did not participate in any passing drills at the combine. He said he will throw at his March 21 Pro Day at Baylor.

Between now and then, Griffin

said he will continue training in Arizona and hopes former teammates Kendall Wright and Terrance Ganaway will join him.

As for the draft, there is some buzz surrounding the second pick, currently owned by the St. Louis Rams, and how much different teams are willing to trade to move up to that spot.

"I've heard, but I don't think it should be that much," Griffin said. "A team shouldn't have to throw multiple draft picks — as far as this year and next year — and a bunch of players at a team to get that pick.

I'd rather have those players to play with to make that team better."

CLOSURES from Page 1

sented by community members, along with input they had received from community members.

"At the meeting, we asked Superintendent Bonnie Cain to come up with a final plan, and Feb. 14, the plan was presented to the board," Atkins said.

On Feb. 23 the school board made its final decision, which will be enacted next school year. For the final plan, Cain said she considered input from the community members and board, though it was not one of the plans originally pre-

The plan outlined the closure of nine schools, along with the relocation of A.J. Moore students to University High School. The plan also included a decision to change the A.J. Moore facility into a middle

Schools that will close are Viking Hills Elementary, Sul Ross Elementary, Meadowbrook Elementary, North Waco Elementary, Lake Waco Montessori, Brazos Middle

School, University Middle, Waco Alternative School and STARS High School.

During the rezoning process, the school board is making sure the students will have a comfortable transition, Atkins said.

"These schools are not just on a map," Atkins said. "These are real students and real teachers."

Letters were sent to parents on Friday, informing them of the board's decisions and when they will be enacted. A survey asking teachers and falculty members affected by the decsions where they would like to be relocated was also made available.

The school board recognizes that there is a human element involved and they are working to make sure these changes happen smoothly, Atkins said.

"We are beginning to take steps regarding the human process," Atkins said. "Talking to teachers and seeing what campuses they would like to go to and what grades they would like to teach at and setting up open houses at the new schools to get the students and parents to

James Rauhut, University of Texas freshman and a 2011 graduate of A.J Moore, developed the "Blue Plan" in hopes of saving A.I. Moore. Rauhut attended the town meetings and worked with community members in order to get support for the "Blue Plan."

"I'm upset," Rauhut said. "Even though they kept the A.J. Moore building open, they are not keeping the school open — something that was a part of my plan."

Looking forward, Rauhut hopes to help Waco I.S.D. in another way by helping in the upcoming School Board election.

"I hope this does not affect the students badly, but it's hard to see how that will happen," Rauhut said. "Now I am concerned with getting more community members on the board and helping with the school board elections."

DAVIDIANS from Page 1

sible after Davidian leader David Koresh made phone calls to local media outlets.

This would have been different had the siege occurred today. The advances in technology and social media would have slowed the government's prevention of the Davidians' communication with the outside world, Bradfield said.

"News is no longer disseminated," Bradfield said. "It's shared."

Those inside the Davidian compound might have been able to tweet or post to their Facebook accounts about what was happening, had those technologies existed at the time, Bradfield said. They could have also posted videos online from their point of view during the siege.

"The thing that unnerved me the most was that we never saw the people on the inside," Bradfield

Bradfield said the only information he received at the siege was from ATF agents.

"Truth is what people want it to be, as opposed to what it is," Brad-

He said many people now re-

ceive their news through social media.

"If something big happens today that people need to know about, you'll find out about it on Facebook," Bradfield said.

The sharing of news through social media has made the news cycle faster and news easier to access, Bradfield said, but there can be a trade-off in news quality.

"Internet journalism's greatest sin is to be last, not to be inaccurate," Bradfield said

San Antonio junior Sarah George said she sees the benefit of universal access to all kinds of media.

"I heard about the [Arab Spring] riots on Twitter," George said. "I think it's good governments have to go through greater lengths to stop the flow of information. It puts the power in the hands of the

Chicago junior Madeline Lloyd

"I love the idea of unfiltered media," Lloyd said. "There are a lot of people who definitely post things they shouldn't and instantly

regret they can't take that back, but

when used properly, new and social media can be extremely effective to reach a younger audience."

Bradfield put news consumers into three groups. He said "integrators" are those who receive news through new media, such as online or social media, as well as traditional outlets.

The second group is "net newsers," who get their news from nothing but online media sources, such as Facebook posts or smart phone

The third group, which Bradfield said includes 13 percent of the population, doesn't regularly consume news at all.

Bradfield said with modern technology and social media, the internal story of the Davidian compound could have been made public and people could have heard their side of the situation.

"The Davidians didn't have the means to get their story out," he

Emilly Martinez, Morgan Taylor, Isaac Dovalina, Brenna Middleton and Natalie Garrett contributed

New ELG topics to integrate social issues with curriculum

By Daniel C. Houston STAFF WRITER

Baylor faculty and administrators announced next year's Engaged Learning Group topics Friday, hoping they can build upon popular established programs to more fully integrate classroom learning and on-campus residen-

The ELG topics for next year include Medical Sciences, Scriptures and Heritage and Hispanic Families in Transition, Terri Garrett, associate director for academic initiatives, said.

Students in the ELG programs live together in communities in Kokernot Hall, where they have access to common study areas and faculty visitation.

"They began here in 2007 as a means of adding diversity to our Living-Learning Programs," Garrett said. "It's one more different type of option where we were seeking to join a student's academic experience with that of their living experience in a way that would increase a student's involvement and

Garrett said having faculty plugged in to the the atmosphere

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Apartments, Knotty

at Kokernot is not just beneficial academically, but also helps students adjust to their new college environment.

"Faculty are very influential on students, and so the opportunity to have faculty that are at or around your residence hall is very comforting for [first-year] students," Garrett said.

The Medical Sciences ELG will provide students seeking careers in medicine with specialized coursework through the biology and chemistry departments, community events and extracurricular activities, according to a Friday Baylor press release.

Through the Scriptures and Heritage ELG, students will be able to complete both of the university's required religion courses, Christian Scriptures and Christian Heritage, within the ELG atmosphere. This program is aimed at religion

Dr. Randy Wood, professor and director of the Hispanic Families in Transition ELG, said the program is designed to broaden students' understanding of the difficulties that primarily Spanish-speaking families experience when trying

to assimilate into English-speaking communities.

Wood's academic program focuses on the struggles of Spanishspeakers in America, and also requires students to go out into Spanish-speaking communities and assist with Learning English Among Friends, an English class for Spanish speakers.

Wood said the first-hand experience allows students to better understand the subject material than they could in a classroom setting

"I think the academy gets a bad rap several times because they say we live in the ivory tower," Wood said. "When you put legs to something, it becomes real to you."

Wood said the program has positively affected the lives of Baylor students and Hispanic people outside the Baylor community

"We're just trying to help people be better parents, get better jobs, and Baylor students are finding out that this is very important, that academics and real-life experiences can go hand in hand," Wood said.



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