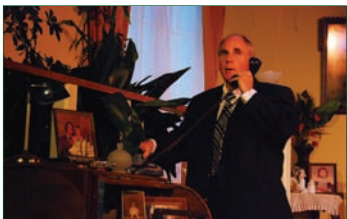




**BATTER UP!
FIND OUT WHAT SOFTBALL
HAS IN STORE THIS
SEASON PAGE 10**

**GOING TO THE CHAPEL:
LOOKING TO GET HITCHED? CHECK OUT ROMANTIC
SPOTS ON CAMPUS FOR THE BIG DAY
WWW.BAYLOR.EDU/LARIAT**



**GET YOUR LOVE ON!
'RED HOT LOVERS' PLAY
VISITS WACO THEATER
PAGE 7**

ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2009

New Poage display salutes 'Honest Abe'

**By Tiffany Acord
Reporter**

The W.R. Poage Legislative Library is now holding the "With Malice Toward None: An Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Exhibition."

The exhibition commemorates the 200-year anniversary of Lincoln's birth. It began Thursday in concurrence with Lincoln's birthday and will be on display through Feb. 28.

There will also be a lecture presented by Bob Willard titled "Collecting Lincoln" at 4:30 p.m. Thursday in the Mead-

ows Recital Hall at the Glennis McCrary Music Building.

Willard is the past president and director of the Abraham Lincoln Institute in Washington, D.C. and current vice president of the Abraham Lincoln Association.

He will speak about studying and collecting materials related to Lincoln over the past 50 years.

The Lincoln exhibit displays a variety of memorabilia, including rare and signed books about Abraham Lincoln, reproductions of documents, framed artwork and a re-cre-

ation of the Lincoln Memorial. Other presidential memorabilia is also displayed throughout Poage Library.

Allan Marshall, Baylor alumnus and Waco Chamber director of community development, wore a black top hat and long suit as he welcomed visitors Thursday at the exhibit's opening.

Several other men dressed in Lincoln garb accompanied him.

"I am a huge fan," said Marshall. "I have been interested in

Please see ABE, page 5



Jacky Reyes/Lariat Staff

A reception was held Thursday at W.R. Poage Legislative Library to celebrate the 200th birthday of Abraham Lincoln. The library will feature "With Malice toward None: An Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Exhibition," which will run until Feb. 28.

Campus police: everyday heroes without the cape

**By Brittany Hardy
Staff writer**

When people think of heroes, they generally think of men wearing capes and saving children and kittens, but there are everyday heroes on Baylor's campus.

The Baylor University Police Department engages in acts of heroism every day.

"We've seen people in tears when property is returned to them. We've watched officers work hard to reunite lost 5-year-olds with their parents at football games and the parents will be in tears," Baylor Police Chief Jim Doak said.

One particular incident, in December 1989, a night of studying quickly turned into a shoot-out on the Baylor campus.

On this night, around 2 a.m., a group of girls was studying for finals on the sixth floor of Collins Residence Hall.

After opening a window in order to let in air, the group of female students heard another female student screaming from the parking lot, where the garage is now located.

The Collins residents called the Baylor police and began telling the dispatcher what they saw.

A man, who was not a Baylor student, dragged a screaming female student through the parking lot. Near the back, the man pulled the female student into the car with him.

When the Baylor police arrived at the scene, the man shot his gun into the air nine times. The officer shot at the

suspect's tires and twice at the suspect.

The female student opened the car passenger door and the officer pulled her out, unharmed.

The attempted kidnapper fled the parking lot and backed his car into a different parking spot, near Penland Residence Hall. It is against Baylor's Parking Rules and Regulations to back into a parking spot.

The officer drove by and noticed that someone was parked illegally. It was the man's car, but the man had fled the scene, with a bullet wound.

The man stumbled to his apartment. The police found the suspect in his bed, where he was pretending to sleep.

The man received 55 years in jail, Doak said.

Doak said the dispatcher, who remained calm and collected throughout the phone call is a hero, as well as the officer who pulled the young woman out of the car, unharmed.

"There are so many stories of things these guys have done over the year. Some wouldn't make the newspaper but they're just good stories of human relations," Doak said.

Each Saturday morning of Homecoming, Baylor holds the nation's oldest and largest collegiate Homecoming Parade. The parade begins in downtown Waco and travels through campus.

"There are many things that are done behind the scenes. One year, Baylor officers recognized that the Homecoming Parade

Please see POLICE, page 5

Meet the Regents



Dr. Howard K. Batson
Chairman of the Board
Baylor degree: Ph.D. '95
Pastor, First Baptist Church,
Amarillo, Texas
Regent since 2000



Harold R. Cunningham
Baylor degree: BBA '56
Retired, Crawford, Texas
Regent since 2002



Gary D. Elliston
Senior Founding Partner,
DeHay & Elliston, L.L.P.,
Dallas, Texas
Regent since 2006



Jim L. Turner
Baylor degree: BBA '69
Principal, JLT Beverages L.P.,
Dallas, Texas
Regent since 2000

Guarding a legacy

Board of Regents on mission to find new president, preserve tradition

**By Ashley Corinne Killough
Staff writer**

As the presidential search process continues, Baylor's Board of Regents meets this week on campus for the second time during the current interim period. While the hiring of a president is one of the board's main responsibilities, Baylor regents work yearlong behind the scenes to see to other aspects of the university.

But who are the regents, and what exactly do they do?

The 21-member board includes professionals from a variety of occupations, and most, but not all, have Baylor degrees. As the university's governing body, the board has the final word on Baylor's major decisions, such as new facilities, tuition increases and the operating budget.

The board formally convenes at least four times a year — July, February, May and Homecoming — and communicates frequently through teleconferencing. During on-campus meetings, the board holds closed sessions where they review reports, vote on decisions and listen to presentations from students and faculty.

Dr. Howard K. Batson, chairman of the board, said regents also use their time in Waco to reconnect with Baylor's various constituencies at dinners, social gatherings and sporting events.

"Being a Baylor regent takes a lot of time, and it's absolutely a servant role. Most of them pay for their own travel expenses and spend a lot of hours making important decisions based upon Baylor's Christian mission," Batson said.

Did you know?

There are 21 active members of the Board of Regents.

Regents serve a three-year term.

Members may serve up to three consecutive terms before they must rotate off the Board for at least one year.

Regents are selected by election, with 75% of the membership elected by the Regents themselves and 25% elected by the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Board members are required to serve on a minimum of two committees, each composed of eight or nine regents.

The academic affairs committee covers degree programs and academic departments. In 2008, the board approved a new joint Baylor-U.S. Army doctoral program, the Doctor of Science Physician Assistant Studies with a major in clinical orthopaedics, as well as a new graduate degree in the Louise Herrington School of Nursing.

The committee also addresses student and faculty concerns. At the Homecoming 2008 meeting, the committee heard from representatives speaking for Faculty Senate, Student Government, Student Life, Student Learning and Engagement and the Graduate School.

Other committees include the audit committee, which oversees financial records, and the athletics committee, which deals with major coaching contracts and athletic facilities. In February 2007, the regents unanimously approved the \$34 million Alwin O. and Dorothy

Highers Athletics Complex and the Simpson Athletics and Academic Center.

As the chairman of the board, Batson doesn't serve on a committee. His job entails presiding over meetings, serving as the board's spokesman and appointing committee members and special committees in consultation with the vice-chair.

Prior to President Herbert Reynolds' tenure (1981-1995), the Baptist General Convention of Texas historically had appointed each of Baylor's regents. However, in an effort to separate from the ever-growing fundamentalist strength of the Southern Baptist Convention, then-President Reynolds engineered a change to the university's charter in 1990, which allowed the BGCT to elect only a quarter of the regents. The regents, themselves, now vote on the other 75 percent of board members.

To serve on the board, one must first be nominated, either by a regent or a non-regent. The

Please see REGENTS, page 6



Courtesy photo

In Korean culture, Valentine's Day is celebrated by way of women buying men gifts. Seoul senior Jihye Lee, a foreign exchange student, made homemade chocolates for a Valentine in 2007.

Chocolate translates in all cultures

**By Lauren Hollon
Reporter**

Valentine's Day is just around the corner, but Americans aren't the only people who celebrate romantic holidays.

Like Westerners, Koreans and Japanese also celebrate Valentine's Day on Feb. 14. In America, women can typically expect to receive chocolates, roses and even a dinner date. Men might get clothes, baked goods or their favorite DVD from their girlfriends. In Japan

and Korea, however, not everyone receives treats. In both countries, women traditionally give chocolates to men.

In Korea, chocolates are only given to boyfriends and "future boyfriends," said junior Jihye Lee, a foreign exchange student from Seoul, South Korea.

In Japan, however, Valentine's Day chocolate giving covers a broader range of relationships, including friends, employers, and boyfriends.

Plano junior Tiffany Eckert said there are two categories

of chocolates in Japan: "giri choco," or "obligation chocolate" and "honmei choco," or chocolate given to someone in whom you have a romantic interest.

Senior Emi Tanaka, an exchange student from Fukuoka, Japan, added a third category: "tomo choco." Its name derives from the word "tomodachi," which means, "We're friends," Tanaka said.

Giri choco and tomo choco are usually store-bought, and people who receive giri choco

often include male employers or co-workers. "You do it to keep a good relationship," said Tanaka.

But in both Korea and Japan, chocolate given to a romantic interest is homemade, Lee and Eckert said.

"Chocolate is more meaningful if it's handmade," Eckert said.

Women do all the work on Valentine's Day, but they aren't shortchanged. Japan and Korea

Please see COCOA, page 5

point of view

Creativity is key for Valentine's Date

Love is in the air. Or is it? Is Valentine's Day just a big hoax with the greeting card, candy and flower companies trying to take advantage of hopelessly "in love" couples, or to-be couples that think they have to do the most over-the-top, romantic gesture by spoiling their loved ones with lavish, expensive gifts? Or is that point of view only shared by those that dread Valentine's Day each year because it's this crazy holiday that makes everyone, either single or taken, ponder about their love life and eventually give in to a bucket of their favorite ice cream with a sappy love movie on Valentine's Day.

Well, whoever you are and whatever your attitude is toward Valentine's Day, this year make it your goal to do something different, whether that means doing something on your own, with a special someone or with your best girl or guy friends.

So we don't live in California or New York or even Las Vegas, for that matter. We live in Waco, which has been stereotyped as having "nothing to do."

But this year, make your Valentine's Day special with something creative and not generic. Go find something new and exciting to do this Valentine's Day rather than stand in line at Ninfa's or Gratziano's on the evening of Feb. 14th like every other couple.

I know what you're thinking. How can you do something different in a place that has a limited number of options?

Well, don't be fooled, there's so much to do in Waco. I went out scavenging and this is what I found.

One great option is taking a hot air balloon ride. 1800SkyRide is within a short distance of the Waco area. It's definitely something unique for the adventurous spirit. Imagine telling your date on Valentine's Day that you got a treat for him or her up in the air? How cool would you look in his or her book?

Not to mention, this amazing experience thousands of feet above ground. You'll feel like you're nearly touching the clouds. It will sure be a story to tell at the next party you have with friends.

For the not so adventurous type, there are other options that would be just as suitable for a Valentine's date. How romantic does snuggling under the stars, gazing into the brightly lit sky, sipping cocoa on a beautiful February night sound?

Lake Waco offers just that. You'll have your date all starry-eyed by the end of the night. Just don't forget the blankets because it tends to get a bit chilly late at night.

And if you're really feeling the environment idea, Cameron Park offers afternoon fun in the sun before you head over to star gazing at night. Pack some lunch and take your date on a romantic picnic.

Also, how about making your gift this year rather than buying something? I know it may sound cheesy, but it is also very underrated. Making a gift is the perfect way to be creative. It shows you care because you actually put time and effort into a gift. A combination of creativity and effort sometimes goes the extra mile.

How about making a scrapbook? If you and your boyfriend or girlfriend have been together for only a few weeks or a few years, you can recap and capture every funny, romantic, meaningful memory by making a scrapbook. Fill it with pictures, a ticket stub saved from the first movie you saw together, funny anecdotes and inside jokes you have with each other.

Whatever you decide on doing, enjoy yourself and remember to think outside of the box because let's face it, the main goal is to be creative.

It's not necessarily the amount of money that you spend that matters. The true challenge of creativity is faced when you are living in a city, such as Waco, with what seems like a limited number of things to do. Many places offer many things to do in Waco, but you have to actually get up off the couch and go explore.

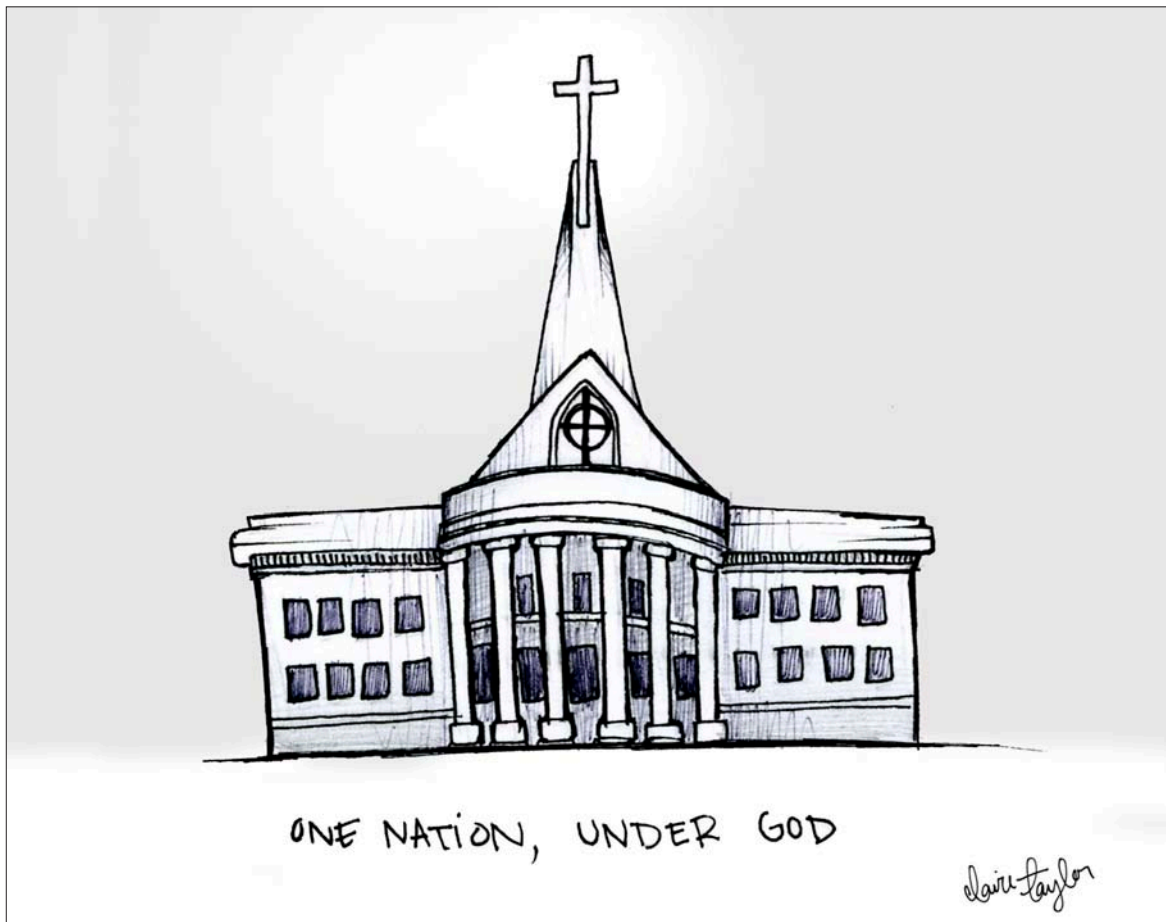
So this year, go out on a limb, show that you care by adding C-R-E-A-T-I-V-I-T-Y to your list.

Farah Nasarullah is a junior journalism and psychology major from Addison.



BY FARAH NASARULLAH

Editorial



Better to not repeal Bush policy

In the past couple of weeks, President Barack Obama has received both criticism and praise for his decision on a controversial aspect of the new White House office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships.

The role of the faith-based office is to direct government resources to smaller churches and organizations that aim to provide assistance to their communities.

The standing Bush policy allows religious groups to practice hiring and firing people based on religious differences because the Bush administration believed that religion influences actions. The policy generated lawsuits and enraged many who thought it unconstitutional to permit biased hiring practices with government money.

Instead of ending the much-discussed Bush policy, Obama has decided, much to the chagrin of his supporters and some elected Democrats, not to remove the Bush policy from the faith-based program.

The situation revolving around the Bush policy is complicated and muddled. No matter the route that Obama chooses, he won't be able to satisfy both sides of the political spectrum. Instead of selecting a clear-cut side to take, Obama made a smart move by choosing a compromise, because sometimes it's the best road to take.

Obama has created a new council comprising 25 people, who have had grass-root experience working in poverty-afflicted areas at home and overseas. The council members will range from those involved in secular groups that do social programs to religious groups. The council is inclusive in that it will consist

of religious conservatives and liberals.

But because of the negative reputation and attention that faith-based initiatives received in the past, the Obama administration is facing an uphill climb. The initial office created under the Bush administration garnered much negative attention after accusations of the mishandling of money arose. According to an article in last week's Los Angeles Times, the Bush initiative was said to have been misused and abused for the administration's purposes.

"Critics said the Bush initiative was used largely as a tool to court influential pastors and award grants in politically important states," the article states.

Obama recognized the problems of the faith-based program. While campaigning for the presidency, Obama spoke out against the policy, declaring the inappropriateness of taking federal grant money while maintaining a discriminatory hiring process.

"If you get a federal grant, you can't used that grant money to proselytize to the people you help and you can't discriminate against them - or the people you hire - on the basis of their religion," Obama said in a campaign speech last July.

The president's prior statement does not match his present inaction. It appears that he is having second thoughts on what seemed to be a firm declaration against the policy. Last summer, Obama said he would change the policy, that he would keep church and state separate and bar hiring discrimination. He has failed to, in the eyes of many of his supporters, address the most contentious aspect of faith-based initiatives - the Bush policy.

Even though Obama has created a new politically and religiously well-rounded council to advise the faith-based offices, he still backtracked on earlier promises to alter the Bush policy. While it's good that he decided to keep the Bush policy in place, he shouldn't have led voters to think he would change the policy during his campaign.

On the other hand, if Obama were to change the policy so that religious organizations and institutions wouldn't be able to accept government aid if they continued hiring people only of the same faith, then impoverished Americans would suffer the consequences.

These faith-based organizations, as mentioned earlier, provide assistance for communities struggling from economic and social problems. On their own, these organizations may not have the financial means to meet the needs of their local community. Without financial aid from the government, these organizations may have to cease their assistance efforts. This could mean that Americans in need may be turned away from soup kitchens, that efforts to alleviate the problems of poverty and drug addiction could be interrupted.

When considering the repercussions that could to those struggling in our economy, overturning the Bush policy wouldn't be worth it. Obama's decision may not satisfy both sides of the political debate, but it does take the bigger picture, the welfare of American citizens into consideration.

In addition, Obama's creation of the advisory council shows that he's determined to make sure that different voices of the public are represented in this diverse council.

point of view

Don't let gender role define holiday gifts

With Valentine's Day approaching, it might be beneficial to ask ourselves if we are perpetuating stereotypes and the way we choose to celebrate.

The holiday appears in Western culture to be a day for men to spend money to reassure a female partner of their love with a generic expensive gift, frequently jewelry.

The media reinforces the gender typing of this holiday.

Television is currently heavy on the heart-shaped diamond jewelry commercials, with women shown giddily accepting the plunder from their princes. Though I'm sure they're out there, I haven't seen a commercial yet that advertises Valentine's Day gifts for men.

The pop culture notion is that women are insecure and need material proof of their partner's love, or that they are exploiting men for material goods.

Men are shown as not caring for "romance" but perform the rituals begrudgingly, for sex, or to keep their partners from being angry with them.

One would assume The New York Times would be beyond such stereotypes, itself reporting on recent successes regarding women's ascension into politics and the gay rights movement, both permanently changing the landscape which defines the hetero-normative view of this romantic holiday.

It could have taken this opportunity to embrace a more inclusive view. However, The New York Times' T Magazine's newest article on Valentine's Day gift ideas mostly perpetuated stereotypes. While some were more interesting, like a Swiss army knife and a pair of skis, author Alix Browne also suggested a \$4,300 heart-shaped diamond necklace.

It's no wonder that men at this time of year feel pressure to dole out a few paychecks to prove their love.

With the requisite lingerie suggestion was the note, "Of course you love her for her, uh, sexy mind." And the film suggestion, a movie called "Seduced and Abandoned," was chosen, apparently, for its "adulterous affairs, staged kidnappings and murders." This movie, Browne writes, "is about as close as you're going to get him to a chick flick."

Real evolved there, Grey Lady.

Greeting card companies, despite making tons of money from Valentine's Day, do not own it, and the heterosexual and sexist values they espouse do not have to define your experience.

Why not break out of the dominant paradigm and get flowers for your male significant other, if you're a woman? Or genuinely offer to pay for dinner, not just to be cute or novel? Or cook dinner together and not really spend any money? And if you opt to exchange gifts, why not do it with your partner in mind, and get or make them a thoughtful gift that reflects their personality or your relationship with them?

And throw gender roles and posturing in the 50s era wastebasket they belong in. Feelings don't come in pink and blue. If you're gay or don't otherwise feel like you fit the spoiled-woman, dutiful-man mold, celebrate this day however you'd like to.

Let's change this contrived ritual to something beautiful and inclusive, a meaningful observance of shared affection.

Jade Ortego is a senior journalism major from Sweeny.



BY JADE ORTEGO

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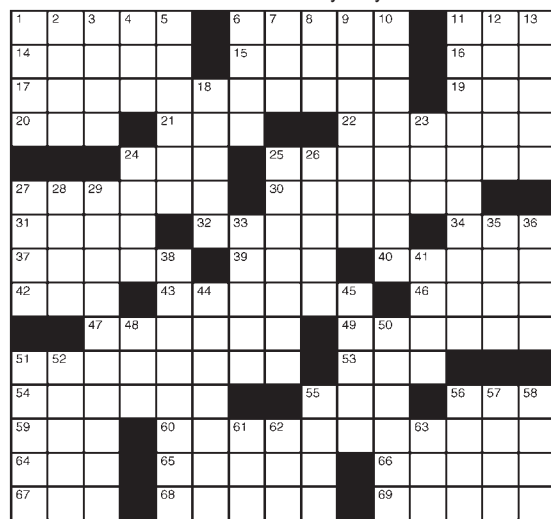
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THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams



By Annabel Michaels
Williamsburg, VA

2/13/09

ACROSS

1 Dulled by a narcotic
8 Hold dear
15 Flourish of trumpets
16 Otitis
17 Kubrick's Vietnam War movie
19 Old-time high note
20 Being
21 Market dips
25 O.T. book
28 German article
29 Slight
32 Acts against heirs
38 Aleutian Islands connection
39 Peter Sellers movie, with "The"
40 Arrives on stage
41 Cloth finish?
42 Manuscript encl.
43 Criteria
49 One Hemingway
52 Change in a car?
53 Management by overseeing
59 Acupressure message

60 Fell back
61 Nagana carriers
62 Suit makers
DOWN
1 Rubbed out
2 Sao ___, Brazil
3 Spouse's sibling
4 ___-CIO
5 Scottish cap
6 Poetic before
7 Talk out of
8 Boston pros, briefly
9 One who has been to Mecca
10 Q.E.D. word
11 Ribald
12 Yuck!
13 Thar __ blows!
14 ___ up (excited)
18 Beattie or Blyth
22 Oder___ Line
23 Mr. Fixit
24 Knocks off a boater, e.g.
25 Sustain
26 Inscribed stone
27 Syrian strongman
29 Blend

30 Went by dugout
31 "Broken Arrow" co-star Michael
32 Widows of knights
33 Entertainer Massey
34 Fry lightly
35 New Testament bk.
36 Stephen or Chris
37 Bank payt.
43 Skull cavity
44 Hanoi holiday
45 Observant
46 Last movement of a sonata
47 Crapshooter, for example
48 Huskies' burdens
49 Lion's fare
50 Crafts' partners?
51 Shine's partner?
53 Fast plane, briefly
54 Expressions of uncertainty
55 Bakery buy
56 Performance grants org.
57 601
58 Slippery one

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FAIRMONT
APARTMENTS

Jamestown

BENCHMARK

‘Void’ fills gaps between faiths

By Brittany McNamara
Reporter

“Void,” a new collective, welcomes people of all faith, Baylor students and Waco residents to discuss and provoke questions about faith, doubt and existence. The group will meet at 6 p.m. Monday at Treff’s Bar and Grill. College of Arts and Sciences adviser Adam Moore said he envisioned beginning a faith collective, based not on an evangelical message or standard preaching and teaching methods, but on questions. “The last couple years I’ve been thinking and talking to people about what it might look like to have a space, not a church, but a space, open for exploring different ideas relating to faith, religion and the uncertainty of it all,” Moore said.

A handful of those interested have spent the past months planning to begin the collective. Though the majority of the group claims to be Christian or come from a Christian background, all religious preferences are welcomed.

Waco junior Aaron Ellis affirmed the openness of the group.

“People hesitate to be honest for fear of conflicting some ideology or group belief,” Ellis said. “Any gathering of people that’s open and honest, done through a lens of creativity, is a valuable enterprise to engage in.”

Developing the group specifically in Waco holds significance. Certain expectations come along with living in Waco, Ellis said. It can be easy for someone to feel marginalized.

“Waco is the type of place where when you meet someone, the second question you ask them is where they go to church,” Ellis said.

Treff’s Bar usually permits those 21 and over, but for this event, the age requirement has been lifted.

Moore said choosing to hold the collective’s first gathering at a bar was a decision not made

in vain.

He said it is imperative to the group that this event be held in public, so the discussion could be heard in the “real world.”

“It’s great that it will be in a bar,” Ellis said. “I don’t think I’ve ever heard God in a bar without

“Waco is the type of place where when you meet someone, the second question you ask them is where they got to church.”

Aaron Ellis
Waco junior

an expletive behind it.”

Void mirrors a group started in Belfast, Ireland. The first guest speaker will be Dr. Peter Rollins who studied in Belfast and coordinated a collective of his own. Moore said Rollins is a primary source of inspiration for the new collective and will speak on the subjects of faith and doubt.

He said Rollins commonly speaks on 17th century philosopher Blaise Pascal and his belief that we all have a void that is empty until God fills us. Creation of the name “Void” derived from the opposite of this thought.

“What if it’s the other way around, and we feel this void only when we’ve had some encounter with God,” Moore said. “Maybe it’s only then we realize the void.”

The collective is open to Baylor University students, faculty, and those in the Waco area not affiliated with Baylor. Moore said he hopes it will be a Waco group that includes Baylor students, but is not exclusive to Baylor students.

According to Void’s Web site, “Void is a creative, provocative, experiential event, marked by the religious question, but radically open and welcoming.” For more information visit www.voidcollective.com.



Associated Press

Former first lady immortalized

San Angelo sculptor Scott Sustek checks a cutout of Laura Bush’s head against his life-size clay model of the former first lady. He created it to be displayed in front of a new library set to open in Austin early this spring.

Student Senate gives \$3,750 for Omega Kids concert

By Morgan Hoffman
Reporter

Student Senate approved of \$3,750 Thursday night for an Omega Kids fundraising concert taking place April 22, the night before Diadeloso.

Omega Kids is a nonprofit organization created by Baylor students.

Money raised at the concert will be donated to Boniface, a pastor in Nairobi, Kenya, who would in turn use the funds to provide for young Kenyan children.

Community affairs chair Andy Beall, a senior from Richardson, said Omega Kids offers a unique fundraising opportunity.

“What is so unique about the Omega Kids is that it’s not

a fundraiser to go to a charity somewhere in New York City or California.

This cause will provide funds to Baylor students to take the money to Kenya and help Pastor Boniface and the children of Nairobi,” Beall said.

Omega Kids raised \$25,000 last year from a concert featuring Matt Wertz and Jon McLaughlin. The funds that went to Boniface were used to build shelter for Kenyan orphans.

This year’s concert will feature the rock band Dr. Dog, a band Omega Kids said has a sound similar to The Beatles and The Beach Boys.

Omega Kids President Jenne Blackburn, a senior from San Juan Capistrano, Calif., said the money they raise and give to Boniface helps children all

across Nairobi.

“We want to make a big impact on campus by having the concert the night before Diadeloso and I think were going to have a lot of interest,” Blackburn said.

Student Senate voted in favor of the Omega Kids allocation by a vote of 29-0.

Senate also voted in favor of passing a student government recommendation in support of a tax-free textbook state legislation.

A similar proposal made it to the Texas State Senate floor two years ago before being passed over.

Student Government External Vice President Nicole Yeakley, a senior from Lindale, said the legislation will be supported by other universities statewide.

“Were in the process right now of building a coalition of Texas schools, so the initiative will be the same across the state. The legislatures they pass at their schools will be the same we pass at ours,” Yeakley said.

Yeakley added that the bill would remove tax from textbooks purchased at the university bookstore, but not at independent chains.

“This is a higher education bill so it covers textbooks for colleges and junior colleges. The Texas Legislation bill would cover any book for educational purposes. If you buy books in the university bookstore, they will have no sales tax, but if you buy them at (University Book Store and Spirit Shop), you wouldn’t receive the no sales tax,” Yeakley said.


BEAR BRIEFS

Dr. Ted Peters will speak about “The Controversy over Stem Cells” at 3:30 p.m. today in Room A108 of the Baylor Sciences Building. For more information, contact gerald_cleaver@baylor.edu.

The Waco Hippodrome will be screening *Casablanca* at 6 p.m., 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. today and Saturday. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students, children, Waco Performing Arts Company members, military and seniors. Tickets can be purchased at the Hippodrome box office at 724 Austin Ave. or by calling (254) 752-9797.

Heavenly Voices Gospel Choir will present Gospel Fest 2009 at 5:30 p.m. Saturday in Waco Hall. Tickets can be purchased at the Baylor Ticket Office for \$10 or at the door for \$15. For more information, call (254) 710-6949.

Bears For Life will be holding Texas Students For Life’s 2nd Annual Conference from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 21 on the Fifth Floor of Cashion Academic Center. The registration fee is \$10 for Baylor students and free for Baylor faculty. Breakfast and lunch are included. For more information e-mail Rachana_Chhin@baylor.edu.



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COCOA from page 1

have a separate holiday called White Day one month later, on March 14, during which men who received chocolates return the favor.

According to Tanaka, men spend two to three times as much on White Day gifts as women spend on Valentine's Day chocolates. At her part-time job, all the women contributed funds to buy a large box of chocolates for about \$10 for all the guys to share. The men had to buy a gift for each individual woman the next month.

Common White Day gifts in Japan are handkerchiefs, key-chains, flowers or purses, said Tanaka.

In Korea, men who accept and reciprocate girls' confectionary displays of affection traditionally give candy, said Lee. When a man gives a gift in return, the two start dating. As March 14 nears, women who gave chocolate grow anxious, said Lee, "But after White Day, there are always more cou-

ples."

Korean men sometimes buy more expensive gifts for women who don't like candy. Women might receive dolls, roses, rings or gold necklaces, Lee said.

One month later, on April 14, some Koreans celebrate Black Day. It is traditionally a holiday for singles, and its name derives from a sweet-tasting black-colored dish called "Jajangmyun," Lee said. Recipes vary, but all include wheat or rice noodles and black bean paste.

According to a Korean tourism Web site, <http://english.visitkorea.or.kr>, the black color of the dish reflects people's "gloomy single lives."

Lee said the people she knows don't care whether they're single or not on Black Day. She and her friends normally go to a restaurant near campus and eat Jajangmyun together.

Korea has romantic-themed holidays on the 14th of each month, ranging from "Rose Day" to "Hug Day," according to the Korean tourism Web site.

POLICE from page 1

was going off route. They took swift action," Doak said.

The parade wrongly traveled underneath the I-35 Bridge at South Fourth and Fifth Street. An officer stopped cars from going right through the band, Doak said.

Another agency was supposed to be handling traffic, but the Baylor police realized the problem and stepped in.

In 1990, during a basketball game at the Ferrell Center, between Baylor and Texas A&M University, a running bus was left parked by the outside vents. Gas fumes were sucked up into the heating intake, Doak said.

The heating intake dumped the fumes into the officials' dressing room and the A&M locker room.

The officials and Texas A&M University players began passing out on the court.

Doak recalled "seeing Aggies staggering around and collapsing into seats. People were just falling left and right."

thief had a decision to make. They decided to jump into the water and save the thief.

"But they took off their gun belts; those are nice weapons," Doak said.

There have been many instances where Baylor police officers have rescued on-campus animals.

"We have officers who have saved injured animals. Once a steer got loose on campus — a very frightened steer," Doak said.

Other misplaced animals have also been found on campus.

"We've had one officer take home two or three animals that were found on campus, they were abused and didn't seem to have a good chance, but were brought back to having full range of motion, dogs primarily," Doak said.

Libby Hackney, a sophomore from New Orleans, said the Baylor Police were helpful in her time of need.

"My freshman year, my car was keyed twice and the Baylor police were extremely helpful. They arrived on the scene very

quickly and helped answer my questions. They also made the report filing process very easy and pursued a search in finding the perpetrators," Hackney said. The Baylor University Police Department's Web site includes crime alerts, tips for campus safety, a crime log, a terrorism response plan, and directions to Waco area hospitals.

According to the Web site, the Baylor University's Police Department's mission statement is, "To support the mission and goals of Baylor University and its stakeholders through the development of a quality work environment, quality personnel and superior resources which facilitate the delivery of the highest level of service and enhances our image as a leader in campus law enforcement."

There are many stories of heroism, right here on campus.

"The best thing I could say is that the Baylor Police Department performs heroic acts on a daily basis, though they may go unseen," Doak said.

ABE from page 1

Lincoln since I was 10."

Numerous items featured in the exhibit are on loan from the private collection of 82-year-old Judge Jack Hightower, a former Texas Supreme Court Justice and Baylor alumnus, who has been an admirer of Lincoln since the age of 9.

His collection includes 300 Lincoln related books, some of them signed by Lincoln.

Hightower said he is excited that the Poage Library is joining in the nationwide celebration of Lincoln's birth so people can learn about and re-visit the president's story.

"This timely exhibition is a great opportunity for students,

families and the Waco Community to take part in a special celebration of Abraham Lincoln and the perfect time to honor one of our nation's greatest presidents," Hightower said.

Florida graduate student Erin Wolfe has been researching Lincoln for the past 6 months in preparation for the exhibit.

She says her experience with the exhibit has helped her to learn a lot about the inspirational figure and handle some very interesting pieces of history.

"My favorite piece is the recreation of the Royal Purple china pattern that Mary Lincoln designed," said Wolfe. "The china was used in the White House during Lincoln's presidency."

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REGENTS from page 1

board then interviews and votes on serious candidates. Each term lasts three years, and regents can serve a maximum of two consecutive terms.

In July 2008, the board voted to increase its membership size to 24 from 21 to allow more opportunities for service. The new goal will take several years to reach, because large classes of terms are set to expire over the next few elections and the board has decided not to add more than five regents in any given year.

When reviewing nominees, Batson said the board aims for a diverse board makeup in many aspects — geography, ethnicity, occupation, gender, age. The common denominator among all regents, Batson said, is a commitment to Christian heritage and a love for Baylor.

“Someone up for nomination doesn’t have to be a Baylor graduate. They typically are people who are engaged with the university, who have contributed to Baylor—and I don’t mean just financially—but have invested themselves in the life of Baylor,” Batson said.

But some view the board’s self-perpetuating model, one where regents elect other regents, as a system that breeds inclusiveness and lacks accountability.

David Lacy, 2009 president of the Baylor Alumni Association, said that while he believes the board has made progress in the last year in seeking input from students, alumni and faculty, he said the board could still make room for improvement.

“The corporate model of most boards is a good model in that shareholders are able to see the board’s actions and have a voice in its makeup, whether it be by vote or some other model,” Lacy said, adding that Baylor’s board doesn’t have a true third-party involvement similar to shareholders in a corporation.

“It’s necessary to have a system of checks and balances in place to ensure decisions are not made in a vacuum, and that leaders are held accountable for their decisions with good feedback from the various stakeholder groups,” Lacy said.

Many alumni also have argued for greater involvement within the decision-making process. As Baylor continues to strive for top-tier status, some point to Yale University, Harvard University and Princeton University, which each have alumni-elected trustees on their governing boards.

While Lacy said this might not be the exact model Baylor needs to accomplish broader participation, he hopes the board will open more active lines of communication with all of Baylor’s groups.

“It’s a tough job. There are more constituencies at a university than there are in a corporate model, which makes the job tougher,” Lacy said. “We believe giving key stakeholders, such as students, faculty and alumni association members much improved communications, with the board would be a positive solution for Baylor.”

Batson said holding elections for alumni seats on the board would be a complicated process requiring instrumentation the university lacks.

“Anyone can nominate folks to be a regent, so there are opportunities to have input,” Batson said.

Bryan Fonville, student body president, said the relationship between student leadership and the board has been a fairly positive one in recent years. But because Baylor is a tuition-dependent institution, Fonville advocates for a more audible student voice within the administration, a reality that he says can be strengthened through more fluid communication.

“Conversations between student leaders and the board, both formal and informal, help create a culture of inclusiveness, in which students can thrive,” Fonville said. “Baylor is a unique place. It’s one of the few places where we collectively refer to our larger community as a family. And, the best families talk to each other about family issues. The bottom line remains that we all want what’s best for Baylor, and what’s best for Baylor is what’s best for students.”

The feasibility of a student regent has been a popular platform point in student government campaigns for many years. But according to the Association for Governing Boards of Universities & Colleges, only 9.3 percent of boards at independent institutions include a student trustee, one of which is at Southern Methodist University.

Fonville said he believes the addition of a student regent would go a long way in alleviating any potential disconnect between the student body and the board.

“I don’t think it’s too unreasonable to expect that one day there will be a student regent at Baylor,” Fonville said. “As more and more top-tier institutions move towards greater student representation in upper-level decision-making, I think it’s only a matter of time before Baylor joins those ranks.”

Batson said he’s unaware of any age requirements for board membership but implied that tradition has mainly kept the idea at bay.

“There’s the old Baptist saying, ‘Well we’ve never done it that way before,’ But in itself, that wouldn’t be a reason that we couldn’t make a change in the future,” Batson said. “It’s not that we don’t want input from students, because we do and consider that very seriously. I can’t tell you what the regents might do in the future, but I don’t see it changing anytime soon.”

Batson contends the board is held accountable when it gives clear explanations and justifications for all its major decisions.

“Whatever we decide eventually has to be sold to the public,” Batson said. “The regents don’t make decisions based on what’s best for the regents but what’s best for Baylor, i.e. the students and faculty.”

As for transparency, Batson said a majority of the decisions the board makes would harm the university if they were made public before a conclusion was reached, citing personnel issues, lawsuits and plans to buy property.

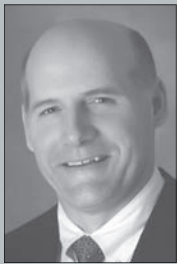
“For a great majority of the issues we face, it’s in Baylor’s best interest that they be made in a confidential setting where regents can speak with free and clear conscience,” Batson said.

Emphasizing a system of checks and balance, Batson said accountability is best met by maintaining a certain degree of separation between each constituency.

“You wouldn’t want to mix the president with Congress, for example, or the president with the judicial branch,” Batson said. “But the regents are still a part of the Baylor family. Our sons and our daughters, grandsons and granddaughters go to Baylor. We cheer at the football games. We’re there at send-away parties. We’re not at all separate from the Baylor family.”



Bobby Charles Dagnel
Pastor, First Baptist Church,
Lubbock, Texas
Regent since 2003



Wes Bailey
Baylor degree: BBA '78
President, Bailey Insurance & Risk
Management, Inc., Waco, Texas
Regent since 2002



Dr. Arthur Phillip Lineberger
Pastor, Williams Trace Baptist
Church, Sugar Land, Texas
Regent since 2000



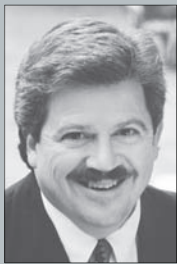
Sue Holt Getterman
Baylor degree: BA '50
Philanthropist, Waco, Texas
Regent since 2001



Donell Phillips Teaff
Baylor Alumna Honoris Causa
Speaker, Waco, Texas
Regent since 2000



R. Stephen Carmack
Baylor degree: BS '70, MS '72
Chairman and CEO, Legacy Bank,
Hinton, Oklahoma
Regent since 2002



Carl W. Bell
Baylor degree: EMBA '95
President and CEO, BellGroup,
LLC, Dallas, Texas
Regent since 2000



Dr. Duane Brooks
Baylor degree: BA '84, Ph.D. '91
Pastor, Tallowood Baptist Church,
Houston, Texas
Regent since 2005



Joseph B. Armes
Baylor degree: BBA '83, MBA '84
Chief Operating Officer, Hicks Holdings
LLC, Dallas, Texas
Regent since 2001

Meet the Regents Con't. from page 1



Dr. Belinda A. Reyes
Baylor degree: BS '81
Adjunct Associate Professor of
Communication Sciences and
Disorders, School of Behavioral and
Brain Sciences, The University of
Texas at Dallas, Dallas, Texas
Regent since 2000



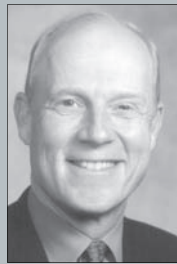
Dr. John C. Reimers
Baylor degree: BA '72
Dentist, Beaumont, Texas
Regent since 2003*
*Filling an Unexpired Term



Ramiro Abraham Peña, Jr.
Baylor degree: BA '88
Pastor, Christ the King Baptist
Church, Waco, Texas
Regent since 2005



Neal T. "Buddy" Jones
Baylor degree: BA '73, JD '75
Principal/Owner, HillCo Partners,
LLC, Austin, Texas
Regent since 2004



R. Dary Stone
Baylor degree: JD '77
Vice Chairman, Cousins
Properties Inc., Dallas, Texas
Regent since 2005



Albert C. Black, Jr.
President and CEO, On-Target
Supplies & Logistics, Ltd., Dallas
Regent since 2004



Stan Allcorn
Baylor degree: BA '76
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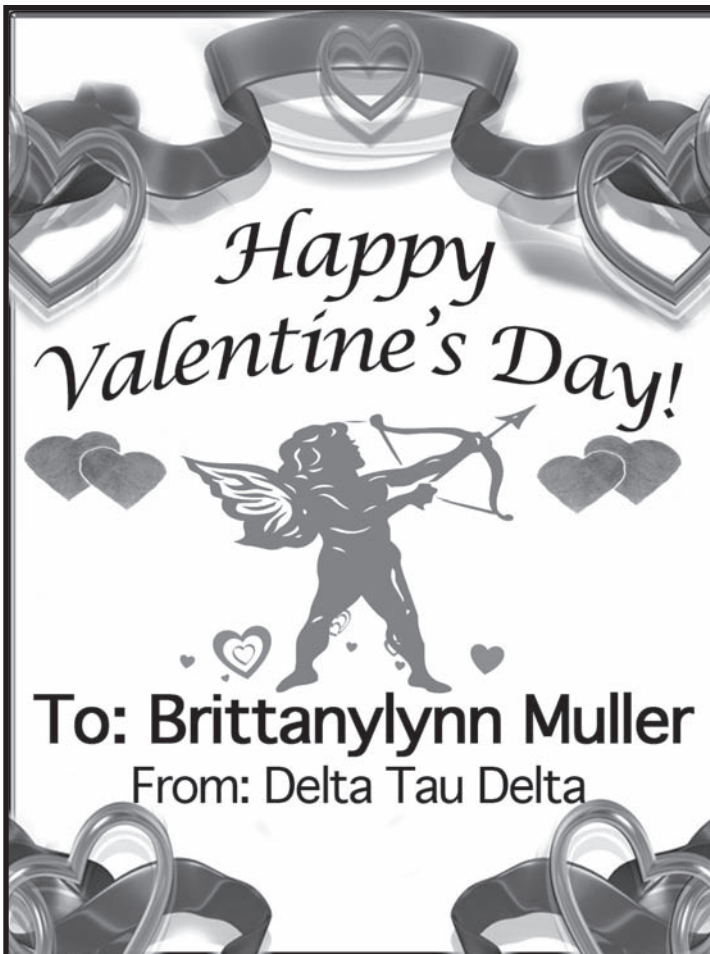
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Joel Taylor and Beth Richards rehearse a scene from the “Last of the Red Hot Lovers” at the Waco Civic Theater. The play opens at 7:30 p.m. today.

Waco Civic Theatre to bring ‘Red Hot Lovers’ to Valentine’s

By Caley Carmichael
Reporter

Waco Civic Theatre’s production of “Last of the Red Hot Lovers” will offer a different alternative for St. Valentine’s Day weekend plans.

Neil Simon’s original Broadway production is being restaged at Waco’s Civic Theatre at 7:30 p.m. today.

This PG-rated comedy satirizes the mid-life crisis of Barney Cashman, a married restaurant worker who unsuccessfully attempts to explore the world of infidelity.

“All men go through a mid-life crisis,” theater manager Parker Wilson said. “This is just a funny story about how (Cashman) handles it and how he deals with it.”

Cashman, played by Joel Taylor, is stuck in a life deprived of passion in both his job and marriage, causing him to embark on a series of relations with three different women.

“In the end, he realizes that the person that he really wants to have an affair with is his wife,” director James E. Johnson III said.

The “Last of the Red Hot Lovers” tells Cashman’s story in three acts, each act featuring a different mistress.

Cashman’s first attempt at a mistress is adulterous sexpot Elaine, played by Beth Richards. After his first failed attempt, Cashman moves on to an aspiring actress and in a final effort of adultery he attempts to have an affair with his wife’s best friend.

The cast of the Red Hot Lovers are very skilled and have high level of experience, Johnson said.

“All actors come from a professional background in acting,” Johnson said. “It lends itself to a great ensemble and a great show to come see.”

Beth Richards, who plays Elaine in the show, said she has had fun rehearsing with the cast.

“It has been great to work with a lot of talented people and really see such diverse roles in this show,” Richards said. “There may only be four characters, but each character is so incredibly different. It makes it a lot of fun.”

Johnson said he not only has high regards for his cast, but also

for Neil Simon productions.

“I’ve directed many of his shows,” he said. “I think that the dialogue is one of the better things about this show. It’s not dependent on sight gags or anything else like that. It’s the work of Simon that brings the characters to life and the characters within those works.” Regardless of anyone’s romantic endeavors, or lack thereof, Richards said she recommends this comedy for Baylor students as the perfect outing for the weekend.

“I think it’s pretty good timing, seeing how it’s Valentine’s season,” she said “It’s the season for lovers. Whether you are lucky in love or unlucky in love, this is a good show to come see. There is a lot of humor, and I think that anyone who is overwhelmed with schoolwork and tests and would like a good night of entertainment.”

Performances of “Last of the Red Hot Lovers” will be at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 13, 14, 20 and 21 and at 2:30 p.m. on Feb. 15. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors. Tickets can be purchased at the Waco Civic Theatre box office at 254-776-1591.

Mediocre Christian fiction proves entertainment flop

By Melyssa Brown
Contributor

“There will be a change in your near future.” “Your talents will soon be recognized.” We all love the carefully vague wisdom of a fortune cookie almost as much as the all-you-can-eat Chinese buffets that serve them. In Geoffrey Wood’s “the god cookie,” John Parrish beaks open a fortune cookie only to receive a strange message that sends him on a journey to rediscover his faith in God.

BOOKREVIEW

After a long, hard morning running his coffee shop, Parrish eats lunch with his buddies at a Chinese buffet where he rips open a fortune cookie and reads: “To the corner.”

Convinced that it is a message from God, he walks to the corner of his block every day, sits down at the bus stop and trusts that God will tell him what to do next.

The other bus stop regulars include Audra, a snarky nursing student, and Rose, a kindly old woman with a penchant for knitting. After a few days, Parrish finds a crumpled note under the bench, picks it up, and reads it. The suicide note has no signature or address, and a concerned Parrish decides to find its owner.

He’s on a mission from God.

Audra goes along for the ride, which leads Parrish to a darling old man, a giant St. Bernard, a mugging, a homeless man and eventually, a beating. Each encounter leads Parrish closer to the note’s owner, who we find out (just in case you couldn’t tell already) has been with him all along.

All loose ends are neatly resolved via deus ex machina, and we get a happy ending.

“The god cookie” stands out as a shining example of patently bad Christian fiction. Now to back-track lest I get shoes thrown at me: not all Christian fiction is bad (read any C.S. Lewis lately?), just most of it. Why, sadly, is the bulk of Christian fiction mediocre? The problem is two-fold: first, the key elements of a book – the characters, dialogue, plot structure – are predictable, cliché and inanely simplistic. Secondly, there is no intellectual or theological challenge in the content – there is no “edge” to it.

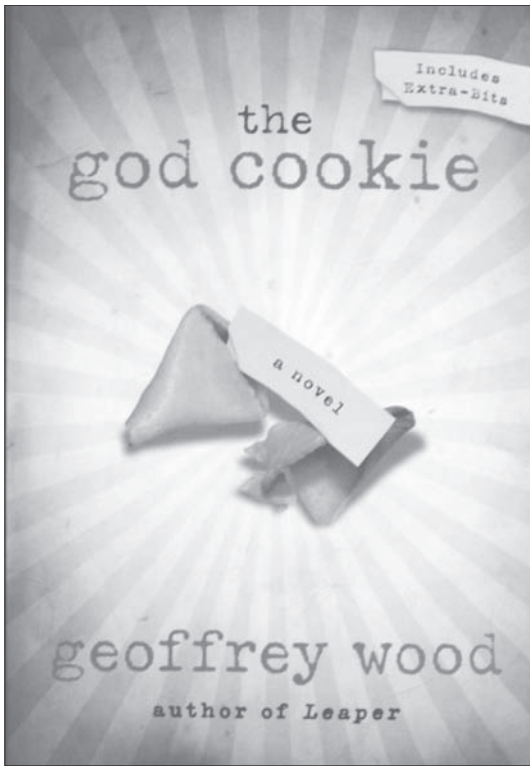
The Christian subculture attempts to slap a Jesus label on art to make it acceptable, to give it a higher purpose, which in and of itself is not necessarily a bad thing. Unfortunately, “Christianizing” of art often causes T-shirts, bumper stickers – and in this case, literature – to seem contrived. Christian fiction writers should not sacrifice the quality of the content of their work for the message they are trying to convey.

The flaws in “the god cookie” are a microcosm of some of the problems plaguing the Christian fiction genre.

The dialogue is engaging, snappy, even funny at times, but becomes a total train wreck any time “God” or “faith” is worked into it. Then, it is awkward, forced and contrived – almost scripted.

In the dialogue, Wood tries to make God and the Bible “cool” by using dated slang and vernacular, which only turns the reader off to the message that is so blatantly leaping off of the page.

Poorly-constructed dialogue prevents the reader



Shanna Taylor/Lariat staff

“The god cookie” by Geoffrey Wood is about a man that feels like God is calling him to action through a fortune cookie. The book can be purchased at amazon.com.

from fully investing in the characters. The world is filled with exquisite joy, sadness and pain. People are loud, colorful, ridiculous, incessantly curious and amazingly unique. And yet, we get underdeveloped, cookie-cutter characters with flat, one-dimensional personalities.

Another issue I have with “the god cookie” is that it is safe. All sex, cursing and challenging or controversial intellectual or theological issues are carefully sponged out, leaving a mass of mildly entertaining fluff. Even C.S. Lewis, the great Christian apologist and theologian, made his Space Trilogy more believable and relatable – and therefore more impactful – by including real characters that (gasp!) cussed and had sex while dealing with heavy theological and intellectual points. “The god cookie” has no “edge” to it, which lulls readers’ minds to stagnation from a lack of stimulation.

The plot of “the god cookie” is totally predictable – guy meets girl, they have escapades, they fight, there’s a plot twist and they make up. Every stop along the way, even the twist, was unoriginal and obvious.

This book has been written a thousand times before. Since we already know the story, we might as well just sit down and tell it to ourselves. I mean, just think of the trees we’d save.

On a more positive note, “the god cookie” does have pretty good cover art. It is refreshingly modern, visually attractive and draws in the viewer by piquing their curiosity.

Overall, I would only recommend “the god cookie” to those seeking a very quick, undemanding read or to readers that enjoy Christian fiction and coffee lingo.

Grade: C+

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Opening this week in a theater near you



Courtesy of MCT
Isla Fisher stars in "Confessions of a Shopaholic," a new comedy opening today. Based on a novel by Sophie Kinsella, the film chronicles the life of Rebecca Bloomwood, a college graduate who doesn't know how to say no when it comes to shopping.

Watch the trailer online at baylor.edu/lariat.



Courtesy of Sony Pictures
Clive Owen stars as Interpol Agent Louis Salinger trying to bring on of the world's most powerful banks to justice in the new action thriller "The International."

Watch the trailer online at baylor.edu/lariat.

Other openings:

FRIDAY THE 13TH

Courtesy of Warner Brothers

Waco Events

"Casablanca"

When: 6 p.m., 8 p.m., 10 p.m. Friday, Saturday
Where:

Waco Hippodrome
Cost: \$5 for adults, \$3 for students w/ID

Falling Whistles Dance Party

When: 9 p.m. Saturday
Where: Common Grounds Backyard
Cost: \$3

Foxy Shazam

When: 6:30 p.m.

Saturday

Where:

Art Ambush
Cost: \$10 in advance/ \$12 at the door

The Tastydactyls

When: 6:30 p.m. Monday

Where:

Art Ambush
Cost: \$8 in advance/ \$10 at the door

Pop to rock, Art Ambush will offer it all

By Lincoln Faulkner
Contributor

Music lovers will have their choice of style as Art Ambush holds a montage of diverse bands in the upcoming week.

Foxy Shazam will headline Saturday's show, which will also feature The A.K.A.'s, Dr. Manhattan and Cute As A Button. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door.

Before Foxy Shazam formed in 2004, vocalist Eric Nally, guitarist Loren Turner, bassist Daisy, keyboardist Schuyler White and drummer Joseph Halberstadt were a part of different bands in Cincinnati, Nally said.

"We would always play with each other's bands," he said. "Eventually everybody's band fell apart and the members who weren't in it for the long haul got weeded out and we became a band together."

Foxy Shazam's sound is soulful, passionate and does not hold anything back, Nally said.

"Nothing is cool until it's made cool," he said. "We try to keep that in mind when we write. We're not really held back by things that haven't been done before."

Music is not the only source the band draws inspiration from; it also takes from things like cool sceneries, friends and family, and movies, Nally said.

"Anytime a Robin Hood movie comes out, I love the music that comes with it," he said.

Nally said he wrote the song "Dangerous Man" based on Robin Hood movies.

When the band performs live it keeps the "hold nothing back" philosophy, Nally said. Swallowing a handful of cigarettes on stage is just one of the things Nally has done while performing, he said.

"(Performing) is like Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," Nally said. "It's not something we really plan for or think about. Whatever happens, happens."

Local band The Tastydactyls will take the stage Monday in an indie-pop line up including Fight Fair, School Boy Humor and Mangirlman Band. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door.

The Tastydactyls started in 2005 with guitarist and vocalist Blake Rawlings, keyboardist Kyle Randolph, bassist Brandon Oswald and drummer Gedden Gibson, Rawlings said.

The band avoids being a "cookie-cutter" band with formulated looks and sounds, he said.

"If you look through (Alternative Press) magazine every band in there looks the same; they all sound the same," he said. "It's the same kind of chord progressions, and they like the same music."

Rawlings said he sees the band as a "breath of fresh air," producing what he calls an "organic music experience" by drawing from many musical influences including The Cure, Say Anything and Death Cab for Cutie. He said they also just play what they like to hear.

"We don't really sound like every other band, but we can put on the same show as they do, and try to bring something a little more organic to the stage," he said.



Courtesy of The Tastydactyls

From left: Gedden Gibson, Kyle Randolph, Blake Rawlings, (seated) Brandon Oswald form the local indie-pop band The Tastydactyls.

"We always add quirky little covers here and there, or weird samples from old TV shows."

Rawlings said the band is hoping to be a national touring act within the next year.

"We have a couple of small regional tours in the surrounding states," he said. "Within the next year we should be pulling full time and then by the summer we should be recording our second full length."

Playing heavy metal and hardcore sounds Wednesday is Mychildren Mybride, along with The Ghost Inside, For Today, Broadcast The Nightmare and A Call To Arms. Doors open at 6 p.m. and tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door.

Mychildren Mybride became a full-time act in 2006 after guitarist Robert Bloomfield joined vocalist Matthew Hasting, guitarist Kyle Ray, bassist Joe Lengson and drummer Brian Hood, Bloomfield said. He said after some do-it-yourself promotion and regional touring, the band began doing national tours and eventually signed with Solid State records in 2007.

Bloomfield said the band tries not to conform to a traditional metalcore genre.

"A lot of people will just jump and say that we're metalcore, but none of us think that we blend hardcore and metal to make it a 'metalcore' sound," he said.

An example of this is how the band keeps genres separated on the 2008 album "Unbreakable", where some songs are purely metal followed by purely hardcore songs, Bloomfield said.

The band writes positive messages, but separates themselves from most Christian bands by sharing experiences instead of reciting Bible verses, Bloomfield said.

"I'm not saying it's a bad thing that bands do that, we just do it differently," he said.



Courtesy of Foxy Shazam

From left: Loren Turner, Schuyler White, Eric Nally, Daisy and Joseph Halberstadt make up the pop-rock band Foxy Shazam. The band will headline Saturday's concert at Art Ambush.

"Kids can read the Bible and get what they want from that, and then reading our music, kids can be like, 'I went through that same thing.'"

Christian lyrics are not the only type of lyrics the band has written. The song "Headshot!" was inspired by the video game Halo 3, Bloomfield said.

"We just try to have fun and keep it positive," he said.

Happy Valentine's Day!

To: Tina
From: Matt

Because of the love our marriage brings, I ask you, Will you be my Valentine?
-Moobie

To: Angie B.
From: Secret Admirer

Angie, you walk by me every day. You and love are the same. Beauty is your name.



To: Faculty, Staff, & Students in Castellaw
From: Margaret Kramer

I hope you have a Happy Valentine's Day!

To: Teresa Yeh
From: Stoney Laurel

I love you, Teresa! You are the best girlfriend and I am so lucky to have you in my life.



To: Mike Riemer
From: The Care Bears

Don't settle for the one you can live with. Instead find the person that you cannot live without.



To: Stoney Bee
From: Teresa Bay

I'm the luckiest girl in the world to have you. Happy Valentine's Day! I love you! btbt

To: Ryan Klesmit
From: Ashley Frank

Thank you for being my best friend and for staying by my side for the past two years I love you!



To: Joey
From: Jamile

I am grateful for each day we share. You are my best friend, my husband, and my heart. I love you so much.

To: David Johnson
From: Mom

I hope you have a Happy Valentine's Day!

To: Matt
From: Mariel

Will you be my Valentine?



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Moore looking for more

By Nick Dean
Sports writer

The Bears' upcoming softball season is in many ways a second chance. After a troublesome season in 2008, Baylor is looking to regain both confidence and a spot in the top 25 poll for college softball teams.

The Bears ended the 2008 season at 23-22 overall and a 4-13 Big 12 record.

"We are using last season to motivate us," Head coach Glenn Moore said. "We had some talent and we also had some struggles and adversity through injuries."

The four years prior to last year's unusual season, Baylor had been ranked within the top 25, a goal Moore has set for the 2009 team.

"We have made a lot of progress," Moore said.

The 2009 offseason displayed signs of a growing and improving squad. The Bears went 7-1 this fall and demonstrated that the future will be bright for them.

"This offseason was as good as I have ever had as a head coach," Moore said.

Glenn Moore has been a head coach for 15 years, nine of which have been at Baylor.

Last season's team is returning 12 letterwinners and seven starters; players that will help to create team unity and lay a firm foundation for a strong start in 2009.

"Tiffany and Nicole Wesley are strong on and off the field and are great leaders," Moore said.

Also, two lone senior starters, third baseman Brette Reagan and first baseman Alex Colyer, will be critical in the focus and drive of the Bears.

Reagan is a three-time All-American and brings experience to the team.

"We believe she is the best third baseman in the country," Moore said.

Colyer has been a versatile player for the team in previous years.

"I have played different positions each year," Colyer said. "I went from catcher to outfield to second and now I am at first."

With Colyer now at first and Reagan commanding third, the two seniors will bring a strong presence to the diamond this season.

The Bears had the unique opportunity to face a No. 1 University of Florida team in a three-game series Feb. 6-8. A new addition to the team, freshman pitcher Whitney Canion, led the team to one win of the three games in Florida.

"I think playing them made us play our best," Canion said.

Canion pitched seven innings, gave up no runs, three hits and tallied 10 strikeouts.

The one win against Florida provided a jumping point for the Bears. Moore said.

"You don't get a lot of chances to face a No. 1 team," Moore said. "To go down there and beat them was a big win for us."

Coach Moore talked of the complete dedication that is needed on and off the field for success.

"When (we) get on the field (we) need to sellout what we are trying to do," Moore said. "We have to be running on all cylinders to win big in this league."

Looking forward, the Bears have many challenges to face. The Bears will host five teams in the eighth annual Getterman Classic this weekend. The team roster for this weekend's tournament includes: Northwestern State University, New Mexico University, the University of Texas at San Antonio, the University of Mississippi and Stephen F. Austin University. The invitational is the beginning of a 15-game home stand for the Bears.

The Bears' history is just that — history. With fresh perspectives and new players, Baylor has a chance to go far this season. Moore believes his team is ready to deliver.

"I think this year we have a lot of good apples that are sold on the concept of having a great season"

Returning to dominance



The 2007 softball team celebrates after winning the Big 12 title. The 2009 squad is unranked, but it is fresh off a shutout of No. 2 University of Florida, which was the top ranked team to open the season.

Official 2009 roster

Number	Name	Position	Height	Year
9	Shaina Brock	RHP	5-6	SO-1L
11	Whitney Canion	LHP	5-11	FR-HS
13	Alex Colyer	IF	5-6	SR-3L
8	KJ Freeland	IF	5-3	SO-1L
2	Bree Hanafin	UTL	5-8	FR-HS
33	Jenny Isham	RHP	5-8	SR-1L
14	Sophia Lujan	OF	5-2	SR-1L
12	Courtney Oberg	C/IF	5-8	JR-2L
4	Brette Reagan	IF	5-5	SR-3L
00	Megan Turk	UTL	5-6	FR-HS
5	Brittany Turner	RHP	5-9	SR-3L
27	Jordan Vannatta	UTL	5-9	SO-1L
3	Kayce Walker	OF	5-2	FR-HS
22	Meagan Weldon	IF/OF	5-5	SO-1L
10	Nicole Wesley	OF	6-0	JR-2L
7	Tiffany Wesley	OF	6-0	JR-2L
24	Sydney Wilson	IF	5-8	FR-HS
16	Kalee Young	C	5-10	FR-HS



Whitney Canion

A four-year letter winner for Aledo High School, Whitney Canion received the prestigious 2008 Texas Gatorade Player of the Year award.

She was named the 2008 4A state tournament MVP for leading the Bearcats to their first-ever state title.

Canion had a .54 ERA in two games against No. 2 University of Florida. She went 1-1 in those games.



Alex Colyer

Alex Colyer has started 111 games in her collegiate career. She was named to the Academic All-Big 12 Conference team, and will hold down first base during 2009. She has played outfield, second and catcher in her three years.

The versatile senior was named the All-Greater Houston Outstanding Player of the Year during her high school senior year.



Brette Reagan

Brette Reagan has found her name on a National Fastpitch Coaches Association's All-America team every year. This year probably won't be any different. She finished second in the conference last year with a .385 average.

Reagan is the team's most reliable hitter, with an on-base percentage of .497.



Brittany Turner

Brittany Turner is one of two returning senior pitchers for the Bears. Last year, she led the squad with a 2.03 ERA.

Turner was 3-4 on the year, with a complete-game shutout of the University of Louisiana-Monroe.

She posted a 2.08 ERA her sophomore year and a 3.02 her freshman year.

Canion in charge

By Julie Sessions
Reporter

Whitney Canion has certainly been the talk of Big 12 softball circles this week.

After leading the Bears in a dominating pitching performance against No. 1 University of Florida Sunday in Gainesville, Fla., freshman left-handed pitcher Whitney Canion walked away with more the just a win under her belt. The victory over a No. 1-ranked team was the first in program history and the first for Baylor since the baseball team defeated Tulane University during the 2005 College World Series.

The Aledo native was awarded the Big 12 co-Pitcher of the Week award after pitching a complete-game shutout Sunday. She allowed just three hits at the game, with one walk and 10 strikeouts in seven innings for the 1-0 win. She shares the award for the week with University of Nebraska freshman Ashley Hagemann.

"(Whitney Canion) is probably the biggest and most exciting part of our team right now," head coach Glenn Moore said. "Where we are in some areas is kind of an average team, because of the importance of the pitching, she takes us to an above-average level. We're expecting her to be in the circle a lot and win a lot of ball games for us."

Canion went 1-1 on the weekend against the Gators, posting a 0.54 ERA and allowing just one earned run during her 13 innings of work over two complete games. Over the weekend, she recorded an impressive 19 strikeouts.

"Like Coach Moore said, we don't want to get too high or too low off of this game ... I mean, of course it is going to boost us up," Canion said.

Canion becomes the first Baylor pitcher to win the award since right-handed pitcher Lisa Ferguson in 2007. The Sunday loss for the Gators broke a 38-straight regular season winning streak and was their first at-home loss since April 27, 2007.

"Just realizing what all we did to beat that team and take that to the rest of the season will help us a lot," Canion said. "As long as I can keep the other teams this season down to no runs ... that will help pump our team up and makes us fight harder."

In 2008, following her senior year at Aledo High School, Canion was named the Texas Gatorade Player of Year. As a senior pitching for the Lady Bearcats, she went 31-0 with an 0.07 ERA. After leading the varsity team to their first 4A State Championship, in which she pitched 15 innings with 22 strikeouts, she set a new 4A State Championship strikeout record and was named 2008 4A State Tournament MVP.

Canion is expecting to build on her past and current success to bring another title to Baylor. "Everyone's wish is to get another banner up at Getterman (Stadium), and I think we have the work ethic to do it," she said. "As long as we work as a team, play well and score some runs, I think it is something we can do."



File photo

Senior pitcher Jenny Isham watches her teammate at the plate. Isham didn't experience the 2007 World Series, but was part of 2008's 23-22 squad.

Key games



April 8: Red and Charline McCombs Field

April 22: Getterman Stadium



April 1: Marita Hynes Field

(Double header)



March 25: Getterman Stadium

April 15: Aggie Softball Complex