

ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2006

EVP to connect Waco alumni, students

By Van Darden
Staff writer

Student Body External Vice President Allan Marshall, in conjunction with the Hughes-Dillard Alumni Center, has created a new program that will connect current Baylor students with alumni living in Waco.

The Alumni Mentor Program will kick off in November, Marshall said.

“As students, we do appreciate the care and generosity of our alums and it will be very rewarding and fulfilling to have this kind of relationship with them,” Marshall said.

Marshall said the program is designed to pair aspiring stu-

dents with knowledgeable and professional alumni in their chosen field of study.

“Right now we’re wanting to bring together journalism majors with journalists, business majors with businessmen, science majors with doctors and psychologists and political science majors with politicians and city managers,” Marshall said.



Marshall

Jeff Kilgore, executive vice president of the alumni association, said he’s always been interested in how students can benefit from relationships with alumni.

“It’s our role in the university community to one, keep alums engaged with Baylor after graduation, and two, to support educational programs to inform students about the responsibilities of being an alum so they, too, can benefit from the association,” Kilgore said. “We’re trying to implement programs that would operationalize these components, whether you call it the Baylor Line, the Baylor family or just good, old-fashioned networking.”

Marshall said the program is designed so that mentors and their mentees can meet on a monthly basis to talk about topics of their choosing.

“Hopefully the participants will want to talk shop about their chosen professions,” he said.

Abby Martin, coordinator of student outreach and programs for the alumni association, said she and Marshall began visiting and talking about putting this program together last year, after Marshall was elected.

“Earlier this semester we started meeting once every other week, bouncing around our ideas,” Martin said. “I think this is a great way for the association

to build relationships with students.”

Martin said she thinks the program will be an opportune time for students to see the value in an active and engaged alumni association and how that can benefit the student population.

Baylor alumnus David Lacy is president and CEO of Waco’s Community Bank and Trust and also serves as treasurer for the alumni association’s board of directors.

“I am always a fan of anything that puts a practical spin on learning and academic progress,” Lacy said. “There are times when I think that classroom settings don’t have as much real-world life skills as they should.”

Lacy said anything that can teach students “not only the academic side of theory but also the practical side of real-life implementation is a beneficial thing for students.”

Marshall said that all students are encouraged to apply, but that the program is geared toward well-rounded sophomores and juniors with good grade point averages who are in good standing with the university.

“We want to underscore that we’re looking for committed people, both on the mentor and the mentee sides,” Marshall said. “The people involved are taking

Please see MENTOR, page 4

Smaller moments closest to heart

Professor of the year delivers convocation after receiving award

By Katelyn Foster
Reporter

Dr. Kevin Pinney, professor of chemistry and the third recipient of the Cornelia Marschall Smith Professor of the Year Award, told listeners on Tuesday at the Baylor Sciences Building to celebrate the small successes in life.

Pinney spoke in response to receiving the award April 19 at the annual Honors Convocation. Winners of the award receive a plaque and \$20,000 along with the chance to make a speech in the fall on the academic topic of his or her choice.

Dr. James Bennighof, vice provost for academic administration, introduced Pinney to a full crowd and said the award is “based on three traditional areas” including “teaching, research and other areas of service.” Bennighof said one student told him Pinney gives his whole heart to his students and his teaching.

Pinney’s speech discussed the small things in life, specifically in academics and research, that need to be noted.

“There are lots of small things along the way,” Pinney said. “Many, many that need to be celebrated.”

To Pinney, small things deserving celebration include writing a grant proposal, a new idea shared with others, a student’s first presentation about research and saying thank you to each other.

“Research should be goal-oriented,” he said. “But one must always recognize that the pathway taken to these goals is equally important.”

Pinney spoke about his cancer research specifically focusing on vascular disrupting agents. He discussed the development of Oxi8007, a drug that he said came out after “years and years of thinking.” He said a colleague of his included “007” in the name because of his love for James Bond and that the same colleague said the drug

Please see PINNEY, page 4



Kelly Moore/Lariat staff

Somewhere over the rainbow

Jennifer Moon, left, an Atlanta freshman, and Emily Harvell, a Colleyville freshman, walk down the yellow-brick road Monday outside of Collins Residence Hall. The

“Wizard of Oz”- themed decorations are part of a new homecoming tradition for all the residence halls.

Assistant dean more than pretty face

By Laura Frase
Staff writer

Being the most competitive law school in the nation isn’t Baylor Law School’s only claim to fame anymore – the school boasts one of the hottest deans in America.

In an online contest, Baylor Law School Assistant Dean Leah Jackson has been voted into the contest’s selection of hottest deans.

The online law tabloid, www.AbovetheLaw.com, is holding the contest.

As of last night, Jackson held

second place among seven contenders for the hottest female law school dean in America.

Jackson’s 31 percent of votes falls short of Yale Law School Assistant Dean Asha Rangappa’s 38 percent, but the polls are open until 2 p.m. today.

“I was truly shocked to show up on such a list,” Jackson said via e-mail Tuesday.

Jackson noted that the contest was “a cute little piece,” but said she would “enjoy it more if the comments focused on how bright, accomplished and respected each of



Jackson

a “blonde bombshell,” the lure of Jackson’s teaching of the class Partnership Taxation captured this

the women on the page are.”

But beauty wasn’t all that caught the anonymous nominator’s eye.

Besides being the “quintessential Lone Star State beauty” and a “blonde bombshell,” the lure of Jackson’s teaching of the class Partnership Taxation captured this

nominator’s vote.

“What’s more sexy than tax law?” the nominator wrote on the Web site.

A second nominator found Jackson “delightful to be around and easy on the eyes.”

David Lat, AbovetheLaw.com editor, created the contest from the suggestion of one of the tabloid’s readers, and from this suggestion, he said he plans to start several series of “hottie” contests stretching across the law scope.

Please see HOT, page 4

North Korea looks ready for next test

By Bo-Mi Lim
The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — Satellite images indicate North Korea appears to be getting ready for a second nuclear test, officials said Tuesday, as the defiant communist regime held huge rallies and proclaimed that U.N. sanctions amount to a declaration of war.

China, the North’s longtime ally and biggest trading partner, warned Pyongyang not to aggravate tensions. The U.N. has condemned the Oct. 9 atomic blast, and U.S. nuclear envoy Christopher Hill told reporters in Seoul

on Tuesday that another nuclear explosion would be “a very belligerent answer” to the world.

As the White House acknowledged that the isolated nation might try a second test, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice launched a diplomatic drive to persuade Asian allies and Russia to intensify North Korea’s isolation by enforcing sanctions that the U.N. Security Council unanimously approved on Saturday.

Concern over a second test stems partly from new satellite imagery showing increased activity around at least two other North Korean sites, a senior U.S.



Associated Press

Activists in India Monday called for the U.S. to stop imposing its values on others and to stop intervening against North Korea’s nuclear test program.

defense official said.

The activity, started a number of days ago, included ground preparation at one site and construction of some buildings and other structures, said the official.

struction of some buildings and other structures, said the official.

Please see TEST, page 4

Teenager shoots self inside Houston school

The Associated Press

HOUSTON — A high school sophomore shot and killed himself around noon Tuesday at Seven Lakes High School in the Houston suburb of Katy.

Steve Stanford, a spokesman for the Katy Independent School District, said the student, a 16-year-old boy, went to a secluded area adjacent to the school’s cafeteria courtyard before shooting himself with a handgun. Stanford said the boy left a note.

Another student who witnessed the shooting ran to a school nurse for help, and the nurse and an assistant princi-

pal called 911. A Life Flight helicopter transported the boy to Memorial Hermann Hospital, where he later died.

No other students were harmed or threatened before the shooting, Stanford said, and Katy ISD police are investigating how the boy got the gun on campus. Katy schools are not equipped with metal detectors.

Seven Lakes was placed on “lockdown” status immediately after the shooting, Stanford said, with all interior and exterior doors secured. Students remained on lockdown until 1:30 p.m., he said, and were released as usual at 2:30 p.m.

Heart of athletes makes college football meaningful

I can't tell you the day it happened or what I was doing when it began, but let me assure you: This is a love affair like none other. No, I don't have a ring on my left hand. But I do have my TV tuned to nearly every college football game I can get my hands on.

I watched professional football when I was a little girl, but somewhere along the road of life I lost any desire to hoot and holler at the TV screen.

Then I came to Baylor, and I'll admit I wasn't swept off my feet at first. In fact, I made the mis-

take of making a crack about the Bears in my English class once. Simultaneously, the whole front row of football players stood up, pulled their chairs above their heads and nearly gave my professor a heart attack. Sorry, guys. Sorry, Dr. Hinojosa.

But after a few games, I was handed the most addictive substance anyone can be given: football without million-dollar contracts attached to every play. As a freshman at those early football games, it was as if a romantic fog entered Floyd Casey Stadium each time the

point of view

BY AMANDA BRAY



coin was tossed up in the air; I couldn't resist the tugging on my heart to cheer on my Baylor Bears.

What was this strange power? How was I being drawn to a sport that had bored me so long ago? The answer is simple: college football has heart.

During the week, college football players are not only working out and going to practice, they're attending class. And after each game, they have to walk into class and face rooms full of some of their harshest critics. But they don't blind you by their awesome fame or gaudy Super Bowl rings. They're writing the same papers, taking the same quizzes, working hard for their grades just as much as the next student. They sit outside the SUB, and they go to the library.

My romance with college

football rests on the fact that the players on the field are, in some small way, just like me. They work for their education just like everyone else. At night when they'd like to go to bed after being up since 6 a.m., they're meeting with their partners for a group project.

Last semester I had the privilege of working with some of the smartest Baylor Bears. Each week I watched their diligence and perseverance through each paper, every trip to the library and grueling morning workouts. Every time we met, I couldn't

help but anticipate the coming football season.

Today, whenever I start whining about having too much on my plate, I think back to these guys, their hard work, and then I shut up.

So every week I can't wait to watch a game of college football, especially my Baylor Bears. And I can't help pointing out the guys I know, cheering them on and thinking that come Monday morning, they'll be sitting in a classroom just like me.

Amanda Bray is a senior journalism major from McKinney.

Editorial

North Korea threatens itself with nuke tests

The United States has had a soft stance on North Korea's goals to develop a nuclear program, and with good reason.

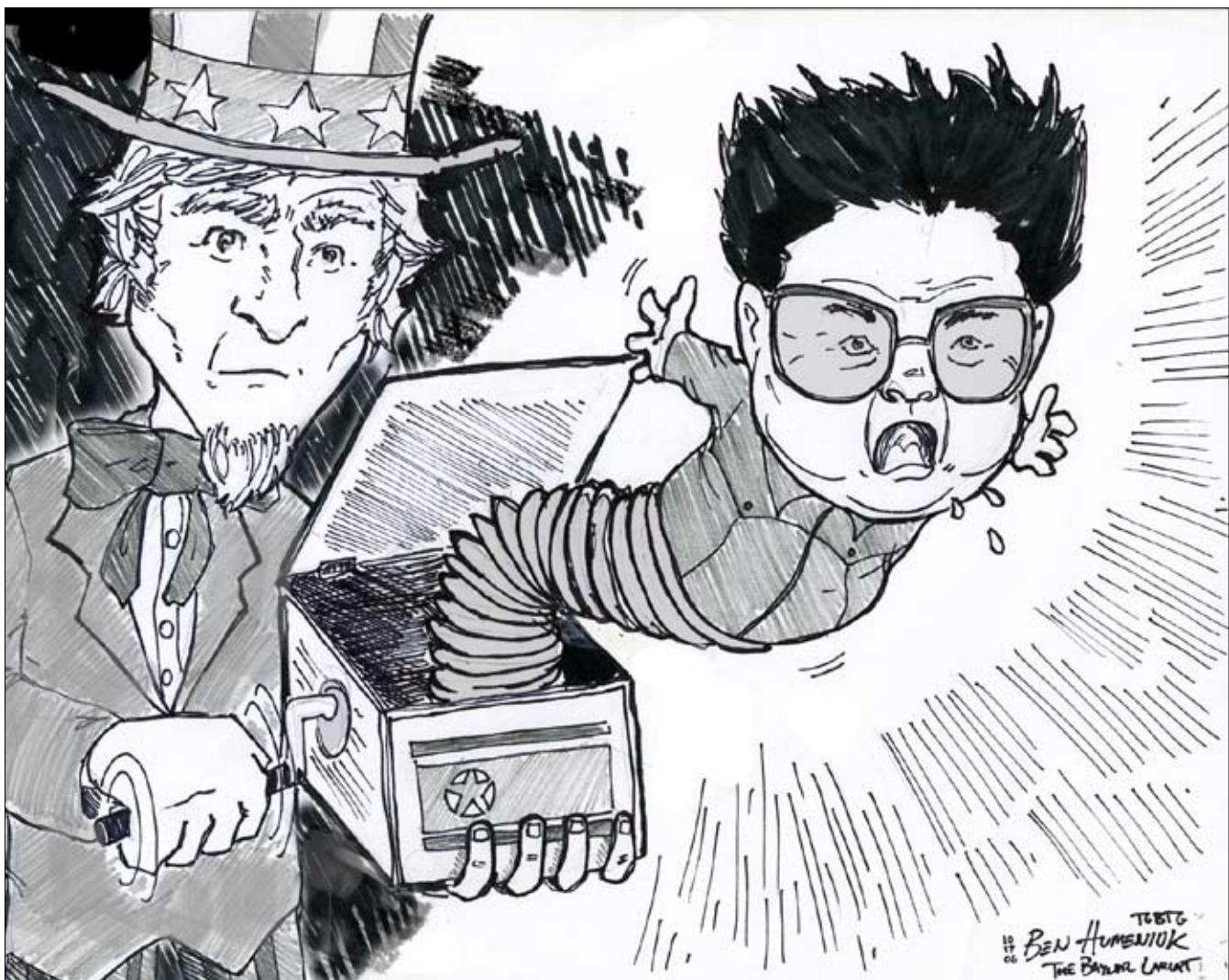
Despite reports that Kim Jong Il, the tyrant who runs North Korea, might be preparing for a second nuclear test, North Korea is a greater threat to itself than to other nations.

While the six permanent members of the United Nations Security Council agree sanctions against North Korea are the best idea, that would only further hurt the North Korean people, who leave their nation by the boatload as Jong Il's insanity grows more and more.

After the initial shock of the test wore off, information was released stating that the test was actually unsuccessful and far less powerful than it was originally intended.

So, what's the moral of this story? That North Korea has an unstable nuclear program and an unstable ruler? In all fairness to CNN and MSNBC, the odds of North Korea blowing itself up and increasing the suffering of its starving people are much higher than the communist nation launching a surprise attack on the U.S., or even one of its Asian neighbors.

Also, North Korea has a long history of grossly exaggerating its accomplishments, the latest being this botched



nuclear weapon test that has produced no radioactive particles in the air and was reportedly smaller than North Korea was expecting.

This claim of a successful test is almost as believable as when Pyongyang media made the claim that Jong Il's first golf excursion resulted in a score of -38. For all you non-golfers, that's about four times better than Tiger Woods could ever do on his best day.

And what did North Korea want from the U.S. to abandon its nuclear program? Jong Il said he wanted a guarantee that America would not attack his country, a request that would make a whole lot more sense if he had just scrapped his nuclear program to begin with.

The dictator said that they have these weapons to protect themselves from the United States. Jong Il said that we are hostile and the weapons are a neces-

sity. But if America is so hostile, why are politicians saying President Bush's policy on North Korea is too soft? Jong Il and the entire North Korean nation shouldn't be taken seriously.

Sanctions placed on them should make the communist dictator scale back his efforts to further develop his nuclear program when he finally realizes that his country can't survive without the assistance of other countries.

Evolving image of American Jesus stretched by Amish, Sept. 11 attack

By Marshall Roy
Carnegie Mellon University

The history of American Christianity just closed a fascinating chapter. You don't have to look much further than the headlines to see that the Son of God must be having an identity crisis.

On Sept. 13, 2001, in the rubble and the dust of the World Trade Center, social service worker Frank Silecchia discovered an intersection of steel support beams roughly 18 feet tall and weighing about three tons. It had broken in precisely the shape of a cross. For five years it stood over Ground Zero, offering an odd solace to countless grievers. Last week it was moved to St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, where it will reside until its permanent installation in the World Trade Center Memorial to be completed in 2009.

The effect this artifact has had is religion at its best. It offered a sense of purpose to the men and

women charged with the Herculean task of removing mountains of debris from downtown New York. It comforted and uplifted them, its three tons an insignificant weight compared to the burden of the workers that it helped to shoulder (giving new meaning, in my mind, to the phrase "support beam").

Somehow, in the same breath, religion made itself a sinister player in the week's most heart-breaking story. The Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, led by the nefarious Reverend Fred Phelps, planned to picket the funerals of the Amish schoolgirls slain on Oct. 2 in Nickel Mines, Pa. A representative of the church claimed that God was merely punishing the Amish for following a "false religion."

Phelps and his congregation of ultra-conservative Christians gained notoriety by protesting at funerals for American soldiers killed overseas. These guys make Rick Santorum look like a granola-eating, tree-worshipping,

bike-riding, Simone de Beauvoir-reading campaign manager for Hillary Clinton.

But in a surprising twist, the congregation did not take this tragic opportunity to pour scorn on the Amish, one of this country's most piously peaceful communities. Conservative talk-radio host Mike Gallagher offered the Westboro Baptist Church an hour of national airtime in exchange for a written promise not to picket the funerals. The church accepted his offer and complied with its terms.

Gallagher, though he vehemently opposes the group's message, sacrificed the airtime so that the Amish of Nickel Mines wouldn't have to grapple with additional anguish. He willingly submitted to a personal anathema so that the suffering of others might be eased.

How Christ-like.

Amid all this, evangelical Christians are beefing up their pop-culture blitzkrieg; they are

worried about retention. A troubling number of teenagers are leaving the flock, they say, giving in to salacious impulses fostered by MTV and that mainstay of teenage mentality, the coolness of not caring. The people who brought us the phenomenon of the megachurch — add a wicked sound system to a shopping mall, throw in the zest of worship, and you should have a pretty good mental picture — are re-energizing their efforts to make evangelical Christianity a mainstream part of American popular culture.

Setting Christianity to a three-chord riff might get some of the broader, more contentious points across (save it till marriage, homosexuality is a no-no, etc.), but I wonder how well it conveys the more challenging themes (loving thy neighbor and whatnot).

Recently, many evangelical Christians have adopted environmental causes, and thank goodness. Once upon a time,

before falling into the inescapable pigeonhole of hot-button issues like abortion and gay marriage, religious activists concerned themselves with feeding the impoverished, securing peace around the world, and fighting for human and civil rights.

My point in all this is that evangelicals should be careful employing — and exploiting — the same visceral, cultural tendencies they're trying to counter. They can't beat MTV by imitating it. Christianity has a habit of latching onto popular customs as a propagation strategy; it's why Christmas conveniently coincides with old pagan solstice celebrations and the resurrection of Christ supposedly takes place in spring, when the Earth renews itself. (That's no heretic conspiracy theory a la Dan Brown. Read the medieval memoirs of St. Augustine; he's quite frank about it.)

The Amish have a favorite piece of scripture, Romans 12:2:

"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Evangelicals needn't go to Amish levels of nonconformity to this world, but they would be wise — and righteous — to renew not their music or megachurches, but their minds and hearts.

Jesus must be awfully confused.

He's been pulled in so many directions by our country that he's like an unmoored teenager awash in the ocean of popular culture. From New York's soothing steel cross to Topeka's hateful Reverend Phelps to hipster evangelicals who put Jesus on a T-shirt and sell him, America has wildly different expectations of our Lord and Savior. Whose imploring does he obey? To whose authority does he concede?

We'll never know. Let's hope he does.

The Baylor Lariat

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THE Daily Crossword

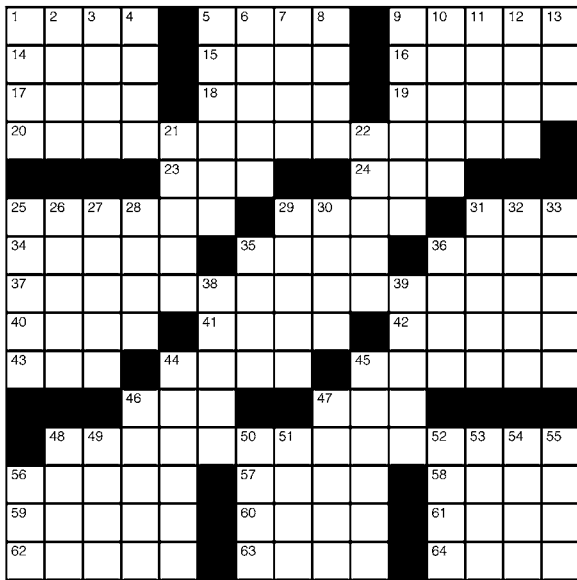
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ACROSS

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- Portal
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- Colorful Apple
- "South Pacific" extras
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- Wealthy
- Word to the audience
- Philosopher's doubts?
- Tarzan Ron
- Mama _!
- Tried hard
- Hydrox rival
- Trifling amount
- Seething
- Black Hawk War participants
- Copenhagen native
- Philanthropist's doubts?
- Unfair preference
- Corrida cries
- Shoptalk
- NCAA word
- Book jacket info

- "_ Fideles"
- Shell product
- Eminem's Dr.
- Rat fink's doubts?
- Barely sufficient
- Actress Gershon
- Leon Uris novel, " _ 18"
- Baseball manager Joe
- Pizzeria need
- State boldly
- Computer command
- Got up
- Long skirt
- DOWN
- Playwright Hart
- Heraldic border
- Secular
- Tarzan Lincoln
- Slimming garment
- Friendship
- Dash gauge
- Reverberation
- Slowly, in music
- Turkish title
- Skip over
- Cincinnati team
- Half a fly?
- Emphatic turndown

- "Sayonara" Oscar winner Miyoshi
- "The Lion King" hero
- Characteristic
- Indian prince
- Platte River people
- Desert springs
- Bad hair pieces
- Viper's weapon
- Fort Knox bar
- "Beau _"
- Farm tower
- Dreadful
- Slightly wet
- "Star Wars" villain
- Repartee
- Known by few
- Literary category
- Units of force
- PC picture
- Zip about
- Composer
- Stravinsky
- Digital recorder
- Islamic scholar
- God of destruction
- Holm oak
- Delhi garb
- Fr. holy woman



By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR

10/18/06

For today's crossword and sudoku answers, visit www.baylor.edu/Lariat

Blair calls for ‘integration,’ removal of veils

By Beth Gardiner
The Associated Press

LONDON — Prime Minister Tony Blair said Tuesday that Islamic head scarves are a sign of separation and Britain’s Muslims should be encouraged to integrate with mainstream society in order to improve the quality of their lives.

Blair’s comments represented a strong stand in an emotional debate that has raised broad questions about Muslim communities’ ties with the rest of Britain.

The issue gained attention two weeks ago when former Foreign Secretary Jack Straw, now leader of the House of Commons, said Muslim women visiting his office should remove their veils. A Muslim teaching assistant in northern England was then suspended from her job for refusing to remove a black veil that left only her eyes visible.

The incidents have set off an angry back-and-forth about a garment seen as a symbol of some Muslims’ reluctance to fully integrate into British life. The issue of alienation was brought painfully to Britons’ attention last year, when four young British Muslims carried out suicide bomb-

ings that killed 52 commuters on London’s transit network.

Blair said Tuesday that the veil “is a mark of separation, and that’s why it makes other people from outside the community feel uncomfortable.”

“People want to know that the Muslim community in particular but actually all minority communities have got the balance right between integration and multiculturalism,” he said.

Blair said evidence shows that “when people do integrate more, they achieve more as well. There is a reason why minority communities that have integrated well then end up doing better, achieving more, attaining more.”

He defended the local education authority’s handling of the case involving the teaching assistant, saying it had the right to decide whether the veil interfered with Aishah Azmi’s ability to carry out her work.

He didn’t say, however, whether he specifically supported Azmi’s suspension. She has taken her case to an industrial tribunal, a court that handles cases on employment law, which will make a decision in the next few weeks.



Associated Press

A Muslim woman waits Saturday outside Bangor Street Community Centre where leader of the House of Commons Jack Straw was holding a constituency meeting in Blackburn, England. Prime Minister Tony Blair called veils a “mark of separation,” asking Muslims to remove them.

BEAR BRIEFS

Henna tattoos

The Indian Subcontinent Student Association will offer Mehndi (henna tattoos) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. today in the first floor lobby of the Bill Daniel Student Center.

Baylor Icon

The Baylor Religious Hour Choir will host Baylor Icon weekly rounds from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. today in the Den at the Bill Daniel Student Center.

Bake sale

The African Student Association will sell baked goods to raise money from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the first floor lobby of the Bill Daniel Student Center.

Homecoming food drive

The Baylor Chamber of Commerce will collect cans for the Homecoming Philanthropy Food Drive from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. today on Fountain Mall.

Gay Point Average scores 100 universities on inclusiveness

By Jo Napolitano
McClatchy Newspapers

CHICAGO — Forget the traditional grade point average. The creators of a college guide geared toward gay students have a new ranking system for universities: the Gay Point Average.

It’s based on 20 factors, including whether the school has a coming-out week or if it extends domestic partner benefits to same-sex couples.

The Advocate College Guide for LGBT Students is a book which

evaluates 100 colleges and universities across the country for their inclusiveness. Though it does not rank them against one another, each is given a Gay Point Average of 1 through 20. The schools were recommended for inclusion by gay students who attend them.

In the Chicago area, for example, Columbia College rated a 10, while Northwestern and the University of Illinois-Chicago both scored a 17.

The reference guide, published by Alyson Books in Au-

gust in conjunction with The Advocate, an established gay-themed newsmagazine, offers a unique glimpse into each college, highlighting noteworthy moments in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender history at each school. According to the notation for Northwestern, the university “has a bit of glam for everyone. Even the College Republicans get a piece of the action by judging the annual drag show.”

Each university profile includes the best party locale

— that would be Gay Night at Otto’s Dance Club and Underground for Northern Illinois University’s Huskies — as well as the best hangout, eating place, dorm and religious organization for LGBT students.

Chris Bylone, a graduate student at Eastern Michigan University, which earned a Gay Point Average of 18, said he and many other gay students select colleges based in large part on the schools’ interaction with the gay community.

“They (LGBT students) se-

lect universities based on their inclusiveness ... before they look at academic standings,” Bylone said. “When I was applying to graduate schools, they had to have an LGBT center or I was not applying.”

Margie Cook, director of the LGBT resource center at NIU, said her school’s group is particularly active. Students spent Oct. 11 handing out “Do Ask, Do Tell” buttons in honor of National Coming Out Day. The jab at the established military policy was meant to get students

talking about sexuality and acceptance, Cook said.

Bruce Steele, The Advocate editor at the time the guide was published, said LGBT students are more self-assured today than in previous generations.

“They’re not so easily intimidated,” he said. “They are looking for a book like this because they are so determined to be themselves that they want to go to a place where they will have a constructive and positive experience that will encompass their sexuality.”



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