



ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

# THE BAYLOR LARIAT

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2007

## Building for the future



Head Coach Guy Morriss announces the Baylor football team's 2007 recruiting class Wednesday at Floyd Casey Stadium. This year's class includes 22 high schoolers, five junior college transfers and one transfer from Kent State University. Baylor opens its season Sept. 1 against Texas Christian University at Amon G. Carter Stadium in Fort Worth.

Melea Burke/  
Lariat Staff

### Morriss, coaches nab top linebacker from Louisiana

By Daniel Youngblood  
Sports editor

Your work is never finished as a college football coach. When you're not game planning for future opponents or breaking down film, you're on the road trying to convince high school recruits your school is the one for them. All that hard work finally paid off for Baylor head Coach Guy Morriss and his staff Wednesday when Morriss an-

nounced that 28 players would be joining the Bears next fall. Morriss called the incoming class "a significant improvement" over his first four at Baylor. "We had a good day," Morriss said. "We were all smiles in the coach's office. We got some good players and we're excited about each and every one of them joining our program." Of those included in this class, 22 are high school recruits, five are junior college transfers and one transferred to Baylor from Kent State University. The Bears' class is ranked

Turn to page 4 for a complete list of Baylor's 2007 signees.

No. 61 in the nation by rivals.com, No. 51 by scout.com and No. 58 by espn.com, which uses Scouts Inc. to produce its rankings. Morriss said he believes there's a lot of talent in this class, and that most of the talent comes in areas of need. He said he thinks the areas most helped by this class were quarterback, linebacker, offensive line and cornerback. With the departure of record-setting quarterback

Shawn Bell, the Bears signed quarterback John Weed from Tyler Junior College to come in and compete with sophomore Blake Szymanski for the starting job. Michael Machen, a senior transfer from Kent State, will also be in the mix. At linebacker, the Bears added Earl Patin, a four-star prospect from Baton Rouge, La., and Cedar Hill High School standout Chris Francis. Patin is the Bears' highest-rated recruit since Morriss came to Baylor five years ago.

Please see **SIGN**, page 4



Photo illustration by Melea Burke

Jim Marsh, director of counseling services at Baylor, said between 4 and 5 percent of students seeking counseling have an eating disorder.

## Binge eating growing trend

### Unhealthy disorder more prevalent than anorexia, bulimia

By Kirsten Horne  
Reporter

In a society where it seems as though thin is always in, why are so many Americans finding themselves wandering toward the kitchen?

In the first national study done of individual eating disorders, researchers at McLean Hospital, a psychiatric facility of Harvard Medical School, found that binge eating is more prevalent among Americans than anorexia and bulimia.

"I am not the least bit surprised that binge eating is so prevalent among Americans," said Dawn Montaner, founder and executive director of Lifelines Foundation for Eating Disorders.

Montaner said many people tend to overlook binge eating as a problem because the slimming effects of anorexia and bulimia are more visually obvious than those of binge eating. People tend to categorize binge eaters as simply being overweight.

The study shows that binge eating actually affects 3.5 percent of women and 2 percent of men at some point in their lives. By contrast, only 0.9 percent of women and 0.3 percent of men suffer from anorexia and 1.5 percent of women and 0.5 percent of men report having suf-

fered from bulimia. "I see it in a lot of high school and college kids, including Baylor," Montaner said. "Many of them are stressed about starting college or studying for exams and feel the pressure from their parents. This pressure and stress can sometimes lead them to this continuous eating of food." Jim Marsh, director of counseling services at Baylor, said between 4 and 5 percent of students seeking counseling are coming for help with an eating disorder.

"That is only about 25 students per year," Marsh said. "However, this doesn't mean that it isn't a problem on campus, because I think it is. This is just the average number of students we see for this problem each year." Montaner said Baylor is "very much" about appearance.

### "Binge eating is so often brushed off as an overweight problem."

Dawn Montaner  
Lifelines Foundation  
for Eating Disorders

"I think that kids are almost getting a mixed message about what their appearance should be like," she said. "They hear that thin is so beautiful, but with all the stress and anxiety that they feel at school, food is the emotional scapegoat."

Cynthia Wall, a staff psychologist at the Baylor Counseling Center, said food is used as an unhealthy way to cope with emotional distress or psychological problems.

"Food is used to calm and soothe oneself, to give oneself

Please see **BINGE**, page 3

## Island Party to add three bands

### BYX battle of bands to decide opening acts for Switchfoot

By Jon Schroeder  
Staff writer

Brothers Under Christ's Island Party will be bigger than ever in 2007, and there's a new way students can get involved-if they're musically inclined. For this year's Island Party, BYX is looking for three local bands to open for Switchfoot. "We have three spots that we're leaving open for local and regional bands that would like to play at Island Party," said

Trent Weaver, a DeKalb senior and Island Party chairman. He and Dallas junior Justin Farr, BYX vice president, are in charge of this year's event. Weaver said BYX has received many e-mails from local artists following previous Island Parties, wanting to know how to play at the event. This year, with multi-platinum band Switchfoot, interest is likely to be at an all-time high, he said. This year BYX is introducing Shipwrecked, a battle of the bands which a panel will judge to determine who will open for Switchfoot at Island Party. Switchfoot will also bring one

opening band, although the name of that band hasn't been announced yet. Shipwrecked will be from 6 to 10 p.m. March 6 on Fountain Mall. Five to eight bands, chosen from demo CDs and tapes submitted to BYX, will compete. Three winners will be announced at the conclusion of the contest, all of which will play between 5 p.m. and midnight April 20 at Island Party. So far, BYX has received eight demos, including some from outside of Texas. The deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. Friday, and bands will be notified Monday

whether they have been selected to play at Shipwrecked. Weaver said BYX isn't looking for any particular style of music, although the bands performing at Island Party most likely will play music similar to past headliners, which include Bebo Norman, Sanctus Real and Jeremy Camp. "It's bigger than we ever thought it might've been," he said. "It wasn't until we actually got the confirmation from Switchfoot that we realized, 'Wow, this is something really huge.'" Eric Weiss and Ryan Com-

Please see **BAND**, page 3

## Three soldiers indicted as part of multimillion-dollar scam



Associated Press

IRS Commissioner Mark Everson, center, announces the indictment of three U.S. soldiers and two civilians in a bid-rigging scam.

By Lara Jakes Jordan  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Three U.S. Army Reserve officers were indicted Wednesday, accused of taking part in a bid-rigging scam that steered millions of dollars for Iraq reconstruction projects to a contractor in exchange for cash, luxury cars and jewelry. An American businessman in Romania was charged as the go-between for the military officers and the contractor. The husband of one of the reservists was accused of helping smuggle tens of thousands of dollars into the United States that the couple used to pay for a deck and a hot tub at their New Jersey house. Together, the five used the \$26 billion Iraqi rebuilding

fund "as their own personal ATM machines," Deputy Attorney General Paul McNulty said in announcing the charges. "These defendants actually took bricks of stolen cash ... and smuggled them out of Iraq and back to the United States for their own personal use," McNulty said. The 25-count indictment, filed in U.S. District Court in New Jersey, marks the latest development in an investigation of \$8.6 million in Iraq contracts awarded to construction mogul Philip H. Bloom. Bloom, an American citizen who ran construction and services companies under Global Business Group, has admitted to laundering at least \$2 million that was stolen from reconstruction funds managed by the

U.S.-led Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq. He awaits sentencing. McNulty said the five people indicted Wednesday stole or otherwise misused \$3.6 million from the CPA fund. The three reservists, Col. Curtis G. Whiteford of Utah, Lt. Col. Debra M. Harrison of New Jersey and Lt. Col. Michael B. Wheeler of Wisconsin, were responsible for helping supervise the funding and progress of the CPA contracts in al-Hillah, Iraq, southwest of Baghdad. In return for steering contracts to Bloom between 2003 and 2005, prosecutors said, the military reservists and their accomplices shared an estimated \$1 million in cash, and were showered with Porsche and Nissan sports cars, a Cadillac SUV,

real estate, a Breitling watch, business-class plane tickets, computers and other items. Harrison's husband, William Driver, was charged with helping smuggle over \$300,000 into the U.S., part of which was used for home improvements, prosecutors said. One of Bloom's friends, businessman Seymour Morris Jr., allegedly acted as a go-between for the military officers and the construction company by illegally wiring money and securing the goods. Morris is a U.S. citizen who lives in Romania, and owns a Cyprus-based financial services business. Charges against the five include bribery, conspiracy, wire

Please see **SCAM**, page 3



# Keep track of how Congress votes; results may be shocking

This summer I did something terrible. It was something so unspeakable for a person my age to do. I knew I could very well be ostracized in some circles for this, forever doomed to wander the planet alone.

I checked my hometown congressman's voting record. You see, what makes our democracy so great is that all of the votes of Congress are maintained by the Library of Congress.

A simple trip to its Web site or other Congressional watchdog sites such as Project Vote Smart can give you more than enough information about your representatives.

I thought I knew what I would find, and I figured it wouldn't be pretty.

It seemed my hometown congressman and I didn't quite see eye to eye on a few things.

Or, better yet, quite a few things.

OK, who are we kidding? Practically every fundamental issue I could think of.

My hometown of Mesquite is part of the 5th Congressional District, represented by Rep. Jeb Hensarling.

It seems kind of strange to mention a prestigious public office in the same sentence with a person named Jeb.

Especially when Jeb voted

point of view



BY BRAD BRIGGS

against renewing the Voting Rights Act during the Second session last year.

In his opposition to the act, my congressman valiantly declared he didn't think his grandchildren should pay for something his grandparents were responsible for.

Not only is that a sweeping generalization of the nature of

this legislation, but it directly appeals to southern reactionaries, ready to believe they are suffering from reverse discrimination.

It is one of the most important pieces of legislation resulting from the civil rights movement, helping to ensure minorities don't become disenfranchised at the polls.

And my congressman was one of only a handful of the most conservative members of Congress to vote against it.

Then I found out that Jeb voted against raising the minimum wage. Twice.

I wrote two letters expressing my utter disgust with his oppo-

sition to each issue in what may have been the most time-wasting, futile exercise of my life.

As I expected, I received a ham-handed form letter in response. It was probably written in a template by an aide six months ago, and it addressed none of my concerns.

Ralph Nader once said, "If you don't turn on to politics, politics will turn on you."

The famous consumer advocate may seem like a crazy radical to some, but to me, that seems like a direct and relevant message.

I felt ashamed as I perused Jeb's voting record. Here he was, supposed to be representing me

,and yet he has opposed just about everything I stand for. He even voted against cutting student loan rates. Who does this guy think he is?

But alas, in a glimmer of hope, Jeb and I found something we could agree on. Jeb voted – along with every other member of Congress present at the time – for a bill, "declaring that the United States will prevail in the Global War on Terror, the struggle to protect freedom from the terrorist adversary."

That's comforting to know. I'm glad at least we got that one covered.

**Brad Briggs is a junior journalism major from Mesquite.**

## Editorial

# Money for new dorms better spent on academics

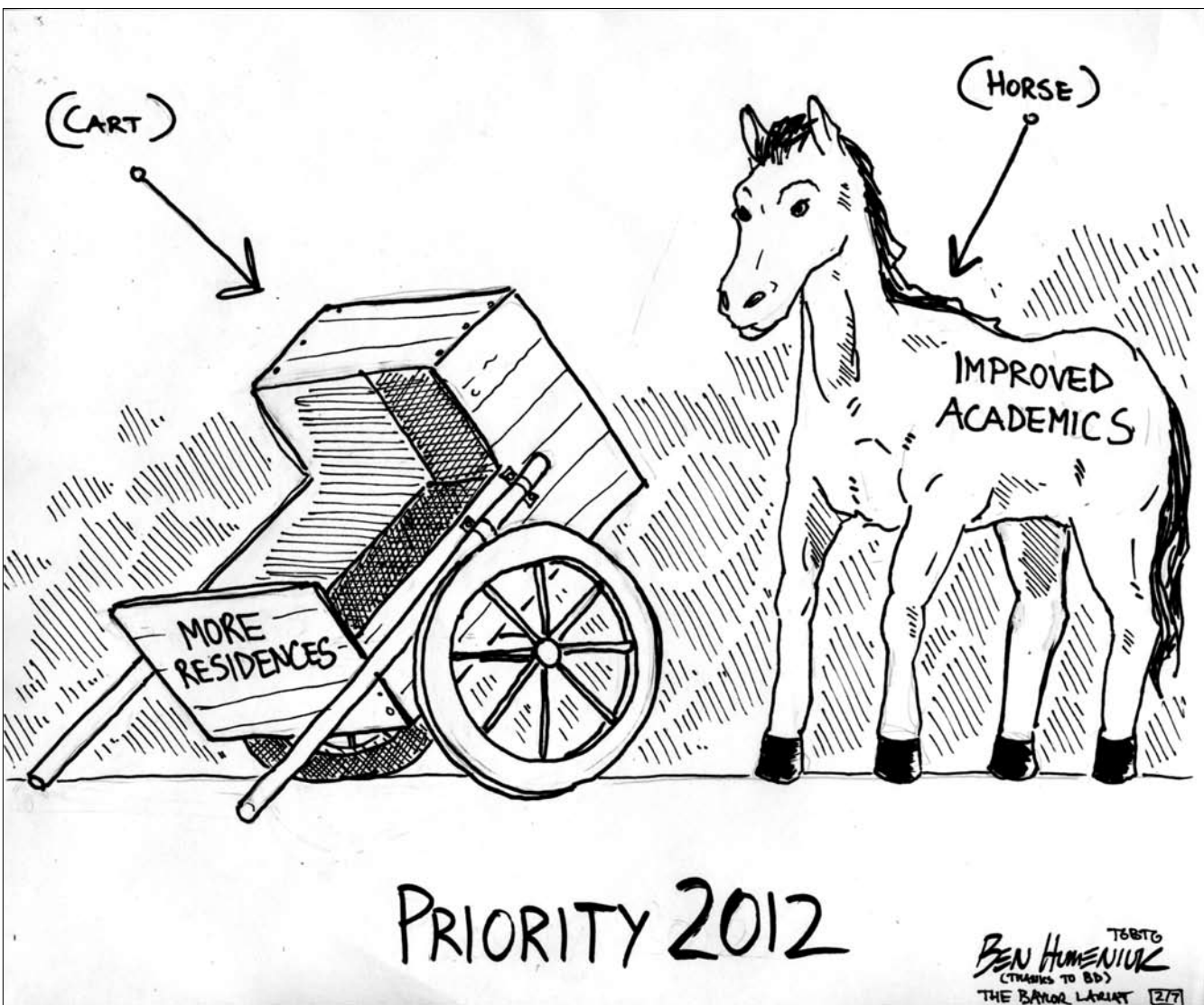
There is no doubt that on-campus residential facilities add to a university's character. They allow students the chance to interact with one another and be closer to campus activities. In the case of living-learning centers, they also help form communities and help students build relationships with professors.

It comes as no surprise that Baylor's administration has focused so much on creating new residential communities. But that focus may be going too far.

With the completion of Brooks Village, Baylor will be able to house 4,600 students, or 38 percent of the student body, on campus. The addition of two proposed facilities in 2010 and 2012 would increase this to about 50 percent. If anything like Brooks Village, the proposed cost of the facilities could come to \$42 million.

While a residential community is a noble goal, perhaps the money would be better spent on academic pursuits such as developing doctoral programs, sponsoring research and hiring world-class faculty. Imperative II of Baylor 2012 calls for Baylor to "seek to make more, and more desirable, residence halls available so that at least 50 percent of Baylor undergraduates are living on campus by 2012."

So far, the progress being made indicates that reaching this goal may be possible. But is it more important than fulfilling Imperative III, which calls for Baylor to develop a world-class faculty, or Imperative V, which calls for the development of "outstanding new



academic programs?"

The history department recently submitted three strategic proposals aimed at doing this. It suggested 10 new faculty members, a doctoral program, a building to house the department and funding for research, scholarships and visiting teachers. Spending \$42 million on new dorms while some departments don't have the buildings they need indicates misplaced priorities. A university definitely needs to be well-rounded, but the core purpose and

value of a university lies in its academics. If channeling close to \$42 million toward academics means postponing the building of a new dorm, it might be worth the cost.

Yale University, a truly residential campus with 12 residential colleges each having its own dean, dining hall and traditions, created its system more than 70 years ago. The arrangement is closely associated with the university but not implemented from the university's founding. It was developed

after Yale had reached high academic prestige. The fact it has been successful without having been there from the beginning shows that Baylor's goal is viable and one worth achieving – eventually.

But for now, perhaps the money would be better spent on strengthening Baylor's academic credentials. When we reach the academic levels of the residential campuses with which we're trying to compete, maybe then we should turn our focus to more dorms.

## Opinion policy

The Baylor Lariat welcomes reader viewpoints through letters to the editor and guest columns.

Opinions expressed in the Lariat are not necessarily those of the Baylor administration, the Baylor Board of Regents or the Student Publications Board.

Letters to the editor should include the writer's name, major, graduation year, phone number and student identification number. Non-student writers should include their address.

Letters that focus on an issue affecting students or faculty may be considered for a guest column at the editor's discretion.

All submissions become the property of The Baylor Lariat. The Lariat reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, length, libel and style.

Letters should be e-mailed to Lariat\_Letters@baylor.edu or mailed to The Baylor Lariat, One Bear Place #97330, Waco, TX 76798-7330.

## Corrections policy

The Baylor Lariat is committed to ensuring fair and accurate reporting and will correct errors of substance on Page 2. Corrections can be submitted to the editor by sending an e-mail to Lariat\_letters@baylor.edu or by calling 254-710-4099.

A subscription to the Lariat costs \$45 for two semesters. Send check or money order to One Bear Place #97330, Waco, TX, 76798-7330 or e-mail Lariat\_ads@baylor.edu. Visa and MasterCard payments may be phoned to 254-710-2662. Postmaster: Please send address changes to above address.

## Letters to the editor

### Alum is TXU representative

Google is an amazing tool. On Tuesday, The Lariat ran a letter from an alum that towed the TXU line on how "environmentally responsible" and necessary their proposed coal plants are alleged to be. Google quickly provided many returns on a search of "Don Montgomery."

Now I am sure it is a coincidence, but there's a Don Montgomery TXU representative. If we cannot trust a fellow Baylor alum to come clean and tell his relationship to the issue he is advocating, how can we trust assurances these plants will not diminish central Texas' air quality? TXU has tried, in cooperation with the governor's office, to fast-track approval of the

proposed plants while trying to avoid public input.

The plants will pollute our already troubled air and diminish our quality of life. If the plants are as environmentally sound as TXU claims, then let's take the time to study the impact on out homes. Let's also insist that any new plants be the best they can be, not merely better than average.

**Greg Ryan**  
Alum 1991

**TXU letter not accurate**

I am writing in response to the letter to the editor about TXU's power plant proposals. Several things are patently false that require pointing out.

First, the claim that build-

ing more coal power plants will clean the air is completely irrational. It is not possible to clean the air in Texas by adding more pollution.

Second, Texas currently has a power surplus that it sells to other states, and TXU hopes to continue this trend. There is no current power crisis. Anyone who takes the time to look up the planning documents filed in Austin will learn that none of the proposed plants use clean coal technology. While they may be less polluting than power plants that are 50-plus years old, they can hardly be called clean. Why not use the best technology that is available?

Finally, it is assumed that coal power plants are the only option for new power production.

Again, this is obviously not true. There are plenty of other ways that new power can be created in clean, environmentally friendly and economically sound ways. In short, this proposal amounts to corporate greed that will have an incredibly negative impact on us all in the long run.

**Thomas Herndon**  
Political science 2008

**Charitable motives irrelevant**

Reading Claire St. Amant's opinion piece "Red, trendy clothes don't mean social activism" caused me to confront some of my own prejudices about social awareness. Initially, my reaction to Product (RED) was the same as St. Amant's: It seems

inappropriate to fight a devastating epidemic with bikinis. Now I feel that sentiment misses the point at best, and at worst is nothing better than elitism.

It can be frustrating to see fighting AIDS become a fad. Gap Inc. is not the first company to get on the bandwagon: You can find Product (RED) iPods, Motorola RAZRs and American Express Cards. You can question the motives of someone chatting away on their red RAZR, but do those motives really matter? If money is being raised for the Global Fund – the organization that Product (RED) benefits – and relief is being sent to Africa, does it matter if that girl who sits in front of you in class didn't care about the AIDS epidemic two months ago?

It's a frame of mind we're all prone to: A band that you've been listening to shows up on the OC; you were wearing tight jeans before Lindsay Lohan; you were a diehard Mavs fan during the rough years. But when it comes to global causes, it doesn't really matter who got there first. In fact, the more the merrier.

You can speculate that all those other people don't really care as much as you do – you can also take solace in the idea that one T-shirt from the Gap provided 41 single-dose nevirapine treatments for a mother and child.

There are worse things that happen to charity than trendiness, namely elitist activists.

**Kat Adams**  
M.A. English 2008

## The Baylor Lariat

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## THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

**ACROSS**

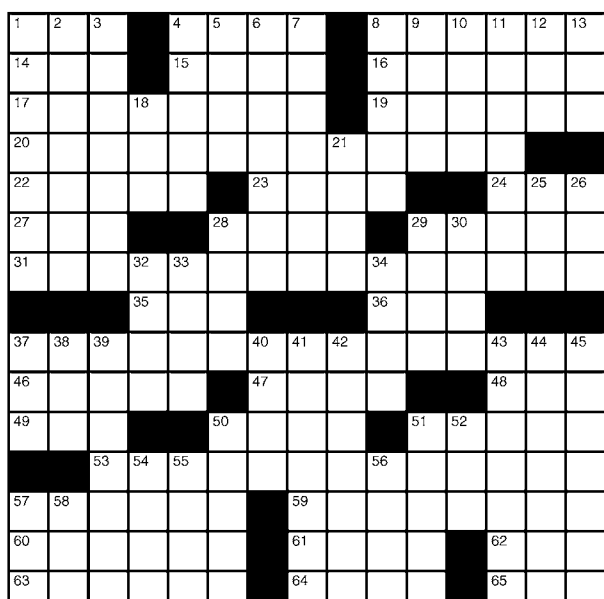
1 EMT's special skill  
4 Hard and fast rules  
8 Be wishy-washy  
14 Tic-tac-toe win  
15 Latin learner's verb  
16 Lace tips  
17 Plummet  
19 Squashes  
20 Start of a quip  
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29 Key of Chopin's "Minute Waltz"  
31 Part 2 of quip  
35 Foreman KO'er  
36 Yokohama OK  
37 Part 3 of quip  
46 Skater Sasha  
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50 Mike's "Wayne's World" co-star  
51 Actress Berger  
53 End of quip  
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59 Hammer's creator  
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62 ACLU concerns  
63 Egg amounts  
64 Fr. holy women  
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34 Hold your horses!  
37 Rink surface  
38 \_\_\_\_ so fast!  
39 H'wood industry  
40 Munich's river  
41 Tubb and Truex  
42 Don't move!  
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44 Informal alliance  
45 Closest  
50 Bargains  
51 Moody exhibitions  
52 Bigger pic  
54 Coastal bird  
55 Gradually break from a habit  
56 Seine feeder  
57 '60s hallucinogen  
58 PFC's address



By Victor Fleming  
Little Rock, AR

2/8/07

For today's crossword and sudoku answers, visit [www.baylor.edu/Lariat](http://www.baylor.edu/Lariat)



# Court martial ends in mistrial

By Melanthia Mitchell  
The Associated Press

FORT LEWIS, Wash. — A judge declared a mistrial Wednesday in the court-martial of an Army lieutenant who refused to deploy to Iraq, saying the soldier did not fully understand a document he signed in which he admitted to elements of the charges.

Prosecutors said 1st Lt. Ehren Watada admitted in the document that he had a duty to go to Iraq with his fellow soldiers.

But Watada, under questioning with the military jury absent, said he had intended to admit only that he had not gone to Iraq, not that he was duty-bound to deploy to Iraq with his unit.

Military judge Lt. Col. John Head set a March 19 date for a new trial and dismissed the jurors.

Watada's lawyer objected to the mistrial and said a second one would amount to double jeopardy, more than one prosecution for the same crime.



Associated Press  
Carolyn Ho, mother of Army 1st Lt. Ehren Watada, sheds a tear Wednesday following the declaration of a mistrial in the court martial of her son.

Watada, 28, of Honolulu, had been expected to testify in his own defense Wednesday.

He is the first commissioned officer to be court-martialed for refusing to go to Iraq, said Eugene Fidell, president of the National Institute of Military Justice in Washington, D.C.

In the 12-page stipulation of fact he signed last month, Watada acknowledged that he refused to deploy last June with the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, and that he made public statements criticizing the Iraq war.

Watada has said he refused to go to Iraq because he believes the war is illegal.

In exchange, prosecutors dropped two charges of conduct unbecoming an officer against him.

He remains charged with missing movement, for his refusal to deploy, and two other allegations of conduct unbecoming an officer for comments made about the case. He could receive four years in prison and a dishonorable discharge if convicted.

When the disagreement over Watada's admission surfaced, the judge indicated he was unsure whether he could accept the document.

After the mistrial was declared, Seitz said he didn't think his client could be tried again because it would be the equivalent of double jeopardy.

Should the Army proceed with a second trial, Seitz said he would seek dismissal of the charges with prejudice so they could not be refiled.

## BAND from page 1

brink, both Katy seniors, are considering submitting a demo tape for Shipwrecked, although they haven't yet.

Dubbed "The Awesomes," the duo plays at local venues and on-campus events.

Weiss, who said he wasn't necessarily trying to "go big," said opening for Switchfoot would just be a good time, but he understands the appeal an event like Island Party might hold for more serious artists.

"It would be a nice little spot

on the resume," Weiss said. "Switchfoot's huge."

Playing in front of a larger crowd also appeals to Weiss.

Whether the concert is actually helpful to local bands depends on whether they bring merchandise to the event and if they appeared in event publicity, Weiss said.

Still, he added, "It could never hurt."

While Island Party might help out local artists, the event means much more, Weaver said.

"Island Party, for BYX both

here and at all chapters, is our ministry outreach to the community," he said. "It's an event based on Christianity and on what God gives us to present to the community."

"It's our way of showing his love and his grace that's evident in our campus and community," he said.

Admission to both Shipwrecked and Island Party is free, and food will be available to people who choose to wear Island Party T-shirts, which will be available soon for \$10 each.

## SCAM from page 1

fraud, money laundering and transporting stolen property.

The indictment was unsealed the day after authorities arrested Morris in Romania.

It also followed tough questioning Tuesday by House Dem-

ocrats of the former U.S. occupation chief in Iraq over how he doled out up to \$12 billion in Iraqi money without accounting for it.

At that hearing, in front of the a House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, L. Paul Bremer III repeat-

edly said he had spent Iraqi, not U.S., money.

Bremer ran the country for 14 months.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents helped unravel the scheme by examining money trails and other data gleaned from computers, cell

# Ex-youth minister sentenced to death

By Elizabeth White  
The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — A former youth pastor was sentenced to death Wednesday for killing a teenager and her fetus in what is believed to be the first such order in Texas, the nation's busiest death penalty state.

Adrian Estrada, 23, was convicted Friday of one count of capital murder for the death of Stephanie Sanchez and the fetus, of which he was the father.

"This is a significant case," said Bexar County prosecutor Susan Reed.

"This is significant for the state."

A 2003 Texas law amended the definition of the word "individual" to include an "unborn child at every stage of gestation from fertilization until birth."

The death sentence is Texas' first in the death of a fetus, said Dave Atwood, founder of the Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, which monitors capital cases.

Sanchez, 17, was three months pregnant Dec. 12, 2005, when her body was found in her family's home.

She had been choked and stabbed 13 times. During the trial, DNA evidence was presented to show Estrada was the father.

Estrada, a former youth pastor for a church, admitted to the stabbing the day after the killings.

Prosecutors also said he worked out at a gym and went shopping after the crime. He showed no emotion when his punishment was read.

"The bad guy that you don't suspect is the one that you can't protect your loved one from," said Scott Simpson, Bexar County assistant prosecutor.

"And that's what he was and that's what he is."

Estrada's attorney, Suzanne Kramer, had argued that her client made bad decisions.

"Is that enough to execute him? Is that enough to kill him?" she asked the jury.

## BINGE from page 1

pleasure, to express feelings, to shut oneself down emotionally," Wall said.

The study calls for further research as to why recovering from anorexia and bulimia is actually easier than recovering from binge eating.

"I think this may be because people suffering from anorexia and bulimia are more likely to be treated than those suffering from binge eating," Montaner said. "Binge eating is so often brushed off as an overweight problem."

Wall said it's important to point out that there are different levels of severity of anorexia. Patients suffering from anorexia are often younger and may recover as they mature. Her hypothesis for why binge eating symptoms persist is that people are often ashamed to acknowledge their abnormal and often

embarrassing eating habits.

It is also suggested that binge eating may be a link to the United States' issue with obesity.

"The study shows that the number of people who are binge eating is growing," Wall said. "If binge eating is a cause of obesity, then the number of people struggling with bingeing may be linked to obesity."

Montaner said binge eating, as a serious problem, is rarely acknowledged.

"It is a vicious cycle that Americans go through," she said. "They are suffering from stress, so they eat. Then they suffer from stress because they feel unattractive, unpopular and isolated."

"They know they are supposed to be healthy. They just feel a lack of control in their lives — something many of us face in our lives at one time or another."

## BEAR BRIEFS

### Teach in Thailand

Informational meetings about teaching English as a second language in Thailand will be held at 4 p.m., 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. today in 311 Burleson Hall. Soon-to-be graduates are encouraged to apply to teach and all majors are welcome. Application deadline for the program is Feb. 16. For additional information contact Kathryn\_Mueller@baylor.edu.

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To submit a bear brief, e-mail Lariat@baylor.edu.

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# Softball aims for top as talented freshmen join ranks

**By Will Parchman**  
Sports writer

Softball head Coach Glenn Moore wanted to make one thing clear to his team before the season begins Friday with the Getterman Classic in Waco: It's a new year, and as proved last year, talent and chemistry are not manufacturable items.

Ending their 2006 campaign on a somewhat sour note, the Bears fell to Oregon State University, one game short of the NCAA Super Regional. One more step and Baylor would have had its first taste of the College World Series in school history.

"For three years now we've been knocking on the door, so we do want more," said Moore, who led Baylor to a 38-22 record last season. "There's some intangibles as a coach that you look for that I never quite felt we had last year. To the contrary, I feel this team has those intangibles that we need to get over that hump."

Moore compiled one of the most impressive recruiting classes of his career last summer. He pulled in Gatorade National Player of the Year Kirsten Shortridge, along with highly

touted twins Nicole and Tiffany Wesley.

All three will start – Shortridge as a third option at pitcher and the Wesleys in left and right field – and their infectious enthusiasm has given the Bears one huge reason for optimism.

"They can win, and they can win now," senior catcher Chelsi Lake said.

"This freshman class will contribute more than any freshman class that I've had here," Moore said. "In a sense, we're pretty young, but this freshman class came in better shape, and there's more talent there. When you couple that with the leadership of players like Ashley Monceaux, Lisa Ferguson and Brette Reagan, there are some outstanding players there."

Lake said her only regret about this year's talented freshman class is that she can only spend one year on the field with them.

"The six girls in the freshman class right now are going to change the face of Baylor softball over the next four years," Lake said. "It's really exciting that I at least get to be part of that for one year."

As far as taking the baton from the

four impact players who graduated, Lake said she's been impressed by the team's resilience.

"I definitely see the veterans picking up where we all left off last season," Lake said. "Obviously, the ones that are returning aren't satisfied where we ended up. We knew we could do more, we just didn't get to where we wanted to be."

"This year with the newcomers coming in, they're all more determined. We all get along really well, know where we're going and what we need to do."

Lake is joined in the heart of the lineup by senior pitcher/first baseman Ashley Monceaux and sophomore third baseman Brette Reagan. Reagan became Baylor softball's first ever Big 12 Freshman of the Year in 2006, largely because of her powerful bat and ability to lead even as an underclassman.

"Brette's a gamer," Moore said. "I think she's a leader in the aspect of the respect she gets from her teammates knowing that she's going to be there and play consistently."

Reagan agreed that the talent on this year's roster shouldn't take long

to mature. Their impact, she said, shouldn't be underestimated.

"This year we have a lot of younger talent that can come in and make an impact within the first game," Reagan said.

"We're hoping they gain a lot of experience as the season goes on."

Senior pitchers Monceaux and Lisa Ferguson anchor a pitching staff that appears to be the team's greatest strength.

Monceaux steadily improved as last season progressed, and Ferguson threw a complete game victory in the team's dramatic 5-3 win over Portland State University in the post-season last year.

"I think this is the best pitching staff I've had since I've been here," Moore said. "They're all pretty similar, but they're all quality pitchers. I think Kirsten Shortridge will have a little bit of a learning curve, but she's still a great competitor. I think she'll learn a lot from our senior pitchers."

Squeezing every ounce of talent from his freshman class will be high on Moore's agenda this season.

After all, just knocking on the door won't do anymore.



Abbie Rosen/Lariat staff

Baton Rouge freshman Nicole Wesley warms up her throwing arm before practice with the team at Getterman Softball Stadium.

## SIGN from page 1

"He struck me as a young man who knew what he wanted and in the end, knew where to come get it," Morriss said.

"He wants to get on the field as a freshman, and we think he's got the ability to do that."

Morriss said he expects all of the junior college transfers to be able to compete for a starting spot and that around six of the 22 high school players could see playing time next fall.

Cedar Hill head Coach Joey McGuire, who had three of Baylor's 2007 signees on his 2006 Class 5A, Division II championship team, said he thinks Francis could be one of those freshmen ready to contribute immediately.

"Francis is the best tackler I've ever coached," he said.

"In fact, I believe he's the best linebacker in Texas. He has a motor that doesn't stop, and he loves contact."

Perhaps the biggest coup of this class was adding five offensive linemen, two of whom were on the Texas top-100 list according to rivals.com.

Cedar Hill's John Jones and Corsicana's Cortney Green both have a chance of playing as freshmen, and Coffeyville Community College's James Barnard is expected to compete for a starting spot.

While this qualifies as Baylor's most highly regarded class in about a decade, several decommits suffered prior to signing day kept Baylor from having an even better freshman crop.

The Bears had much of their class verbally committed before the season was over.

Twelve of those who gave early commitments remained committed to the Bears but several of their most high-profile recruits left for other schools.

Lonnie Edwards, the 24th best offensive tackle in the nation according to rivals.com, was the Bears' third commit, but he left Baylor for Texas Tech University on Jan. 18.

Quarterback G.J. Kinne, the son of Baylor's linebackers coach Gary Joe Kinne, decommitted in favor of the University of Texas

on Dec. 28.

Morriss, who's long been known for his straight-forward nature, made it clear that he only wants players who want to be at Baylor.

"I stopped worrying about (those who decommitted) when they signed at other places," Morriss said.

While Baylor lost commits from several other players as well, each time its coaching staff recovered by finding an alternative.

"There's always challenges, and I think our staff did a tremendous job of overcoming some of the challenges that were facing us," he said.

"As people lose commits and start moving around, you have the problem of some of the larger schools coming around and picking off our recruits."

"I think our staff did a good job of keeping most of our class solid."

The class has 22 players from Texas, two from California, and one each from Alabama, Florida, Kansas and Louisiana.

While the staff's reach was broad, Morriss continues to grab players from Central Texas.

After nabbing Waco High School standouts LaQuantum McDonald and Carl Sims in 2005, defensive end Antonio Johnson decided to stay in town and sign with Baylor.

Waco High School football Coach Johnny Tusa said Morriss has done the best job of any Baylor coach who has recruited his players.

He said Morriss is getting a fine player and person in Johnson.

At 6-foot-1-inch and 215 pounds, Johnson's a little undersized for the defensive line, but both Morriss and Johnson's high school Coach Johnny Tusa said he has a bright future ahead of him.

"We pride ourselves on running our practices like college practices," Tusa said. "And I think Antonio has played competitively enough and been put under the fire enough that he can transition to the college game with a minimum amount of adjustment."

Along with tapping local

## Baylor's 2007 football recruiting class

| Player           | Position | Hometown             | Rivals.com star ranking |
|------------------|----------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| James Barnard    | OL       | Overland Park Kan.   | **                      |
| Romie Blaylock   | WR       | Cedar Hill           | ***                     |
| Shea Brewster    | PK       | College Station      | ***                     |
| Krys Buerck      | WR       | Mesquite             | ***                     |
| Elliot Coffey    | S        | Sugar Land           | **                      |
| Ryan Douglass    | DE       | Leander              | ***                     |
| Derek Epperson   | P        | Southlake            | **                      |
| Chris Francis    | LB       | Cedar Hill           | ***                     |
| Leon Freeman     | DE       | Vero Beach, Fla.     | ***                     |
| Courtney Green   | OL       | Corsicana            | ***                     |
| Hunter Hightower | OL       | Richardson           | **                      |
| Antonio Johnson  | DE       | Waco                 | **                      |
| John Jones       | OL       | Cedar Hill           | ***                     |
| Rex McDougald    | DT       | Iola                 | ***                     |
| V.J. McElroy     | ATH      | Uvalde               | **                      |
| Michael Machen   | QB       | Mobile, Ala.         | N/A                     |
| Anthony Morgan   | OL       | Lancaster            | ***                     |
| Eddy Newton      | WR       | Santa Monica, Calif. | **                      |
| Clifton Odom     | CB       | Arlington            | **                      |
| Earl Patin       | LB       | Baton Rouge, La.     | ****                    |
| Larry Rosebud    | CB       | Mesquite             | ***                     |
| Zac Scotten      | DT       | Houston              | **                      |
| Ray Sims         | S        | Corsicana            | **                      |
| Matt Singletary  | DE       | San Jose, Calif.     | **                      |
| Chris Tuck       | WR       | Mineola              | **                      |
| Barry Valcin     | DB       | Port Arthur          | **                      |
| John Weed        | QB       | Houston              | ***                     |
| Stacy Williams   | WR       | Houston              | **                      |

talent and exploiting recruiting pipelines with high school coaches, Morriss and his staff have also used their own connections to find players.

Four of the 22 freshmen in Baylor's class are the sons of former National Football League Stars, and three of those are the sons of former Baylor greats.

Defensive back V.J. McElroy, defensive end Matt Singletary, and Francis – the sons of Vann McElroy, Mike Singletary and James Francis – all chose to follow in their father's footsteps.

Morriss said he was glad that these players' fathers and former Baylor Coach Grant Teaff helped Baylor land these recruits.

But he said each earned a scholarship on his own merit and not based on what their fathers did.

"With all due respect, just because daddy was a great player doesn't mean that the sons will be," he said.

"We don't have the luxury of taking guys just because his dad played here."

## Soccer signs seniors

**By Brian Bateman**  
Reporter

Four high school seniors signed National Letters of Intent Wednesday to play with the Baylor soccer team.

While most Baylor sports fans were discussing signings for football, the sport that shares that name internationally welcomed some much-needed support to last year's six-win team.

"We view these players as the missing pieces to the soccer puzzle at Baylor," head Coach George Van Linder said.

The class includes Lindsay Johnson, a midfielder and forward from Arlington; Courtney Seelhorst, a goalkeeper from Plano; Lindsay Smith, a midfielder and forward from Austin; and Lucy Quintana, a defender from Albuquerque, N.M.

With schools like nationally ranked Texas A&M University nearby, Van Linder stealing recruits like these has his program headed in the right direction.

"We recruited against some of the top teams in the country to get these kids here," Van Linder said. "We didn't have these types of players taking that risk a couple of years ago."

Courtney Seelhorst took that risk. Choosing Baylor over the Tulsa University and Rice University, the 5-foot-9-inch goalkeeper was named the District 8-5A Goalkeeper of the Year twice in a row.

"If she continues to play with the same confidence, she will go far," said Susan Peel, coach for Plano East Senior High School women's soccer. Van Linder envisions Seelhorst as a replacement for senior Ashley Holder when she graduates in 2008.

"By having Courtney, we will be able to continue our tradition of having strong goalkeepers," Van Linder said.

But it was not just the team that brought Seelhorst to Waco.

"The campus was beautiful," Seelhorst said. "I loved the coaches. I could see myself spending four years at Baylor."

Two of the signees found other reasons to join the Lady Bears. Quintana will join her sister, freshman goalkeeper Gianna Casarez-Quintana, on the team, while Lindsay Smith will join former McNeil High School teammate Carolyn Lynch.

The incoming Quintana received a New Mexico High School Player of the Year award in her junior year and currently plays club soccer with Albuquerque United.

While this year's recruiting class is far smaller than last year's, Van Linder said he thinks his freshmen will make a big splash.

"We're only signing four players as opposed to the nine we signed last year, but because of their athletic ability, I they'll make just as big an impact as last year's freshman class did."

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# ‘Annie Get Your Gun’ production debuts on Baylor stage

By Ashlie Young  
Reporter

Baylor Theatre begins its spring set of shows today with the musical **Annie Get Your Gun**. This production has been staged many times over the years on Broadway and film since its opening in 1946.

“I really wanted to do a big musical this semester, and I think Baylor is ready for something exciting,” said Lisa Denman, the play’s director and theater arts lecturer, said. “This show is pure entertainment and accessible to everyone.”

The show begins with the famous song “There’s No Business Like Show Business,” a high-energy number that grabs the audience’s attention.

In the musical, Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show has just come to town, and everyone is excited.

In a publicity attempt, Frank Butler, the show’s sharpshooter, is put up against local girl Annie Oakley in a shooting competition. Annie beats Frank and falls hopelessly in love with him.

To Annie’s dismay, she discovers that Frank wants a feminine woman, not a gun-toting tomboy.

He is also intimidated by the fact that Annie is better than him at sharpshooting, making her an adversary.

What ensues is an entertaining story full of action, comedy and love.

“Annie is a very old-fashioned, feel-good musical that’s different from the shows today,” Denman said. “It has a very nostalgic feeling that will allow the audience to escape their everyday lives and go back in time for one night.”

This production is made up of a large group of

students that includes 26 cast members. There are also many students working behind the scenes to put together the musical.

This show marks the first time that Baylor Theatre has allowed two student designers to work on such a big project.

Georgetown senior Allie Hahn, lighting designer, and Pflugerville senior Blair Womble, costume designer, are working on the production, which is usually designed by faculty.

“Designing the lighting for such a big production is a lot of work, but it’s great that I’m being trusted to do this job,” Hahn said. “Lighting is very difficult and time-consuming, but this has been an enjoyable experience.”

Because the set design is sparse, Hahn’s lighting contributes to the atmosphere, creating an environment for the actors.

Hahn said she was inspired by Toulouse Lautrec paintings, spending hours studying them for their use of light. She designed the show’s lighting to give similar effects, such as silhouettes.

Womble, who is working on another design aspect of the show, said it’s a “huge honor” that she has been given the opportunity to design for the show.

“There are many costume changes, more than in many modern shows,” she said. “This gives me experience for future jobs and I am very thankful. I am very grateful for the collaboration with Lisa Denman. She allows us a lot of creative freedom.”

Because of the minimal set, costume design establishes the time period, mood and everything the set can’t, Womble said.

Denver senior Austin Terrell, who plays Frank Butler, said he is also excited to be involved in the

production.

He started his acting career at Baylor in a musical also directed by Denman.

However, this is his first romantic lead in a Baylor production.

“I really enjoy this show because it’s a big classical musical,” Terrell said. “We get to sing songs that sound fresh, but have been around for awhile. My favorite is the last shooting match where we sing ‘Anything You Can Do I Can Do Better.’”

Huntsville senior Haley Phillips plays the main character, Annie Oakley, who was one of the first strong female characters in musical theatre.

“This is such a fun show,” Phillips said. “I get to play with guns and a trapeze and be a girl in love. It’s very different from the older roles that I usually play,” She said her favorite song is “Lost in His Arms.”

Phillips encouraged people to come to the show because of the hilarious antics and action.

She said that it’s a great way to escape reality for a little while.

**Annie Get Your Gun** will run through this weekend as well as February 15 to 17.

The shows on Thursday through Saturday begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Jesse H. Jones Theatre of the Hooper-Schaefer Fine Arts Center, and Sunday matinees begin at 2 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased at the Hooper-Schaefer Fine Arts Center box office, and also at [www.baylor.edu/theatre](http://www.baylor.edu/theatre). Tickets are \$15 for the general public and \$10 for students with a Baylor ID.

For more information, contact the box office at (254) 710-1865 or consult the Baylor Theatre Web site, which includes 15- and 30-second radio spots of **Annie Get Your Gun**.



David Poe/Lariat staff

Denver senior Austin Terrell, as Frank Butler, and Huntsville senior Haley Phillips, as Annie Oakley, rehearse Wednesday night in the Jesse H. Jones Theatre in Hooper-Schaefer Fine Arts Center.

# Second Life could be next big thing in online networking

By Cary Darling  
McClatchy Newspapers

I show up for the first time in the place and this fox begins speaking to me.

I’m not talking about the old-school slang for a beautiful woman, but something closer to Animal Planet than the Playboy Channel.

Can’t remember exactly what the conversation was, but the whole thing left an unsettling feeling.

That’s because it was my first experience with Second Life, the buzzed-about and controversial online role-playing and social networking site that’s being hailed as the next YouTube.

Sort of a combination of My Space, The Sims and Monopoly with the three-dimensional touch of Star Trek’s holo-

decks, Second Life is not a competitive pursuit as much as an alternative state.

Users choose a fictional name and create an avatar, which is an animated version of themselves that can walk, run and dance. Then they are dropped into a landscape where they interact with other avatars, including those of real-life friends who are also “in world.”

Other activities include buying or selling Second Life land, setting up businesses, building houses, buying clothes, working a job and, yes, even some NC-17 activities.

And if that doesn’t sound all that much different from everyone’s first life, it’s their life buffed to perfection.

You can be whomever or whatever you want. You can fly. You can teleport. No taxes. No war on terror.

But there is plenty of hype.

Hatched in 2000 by a San Francisco company called Linden Lab, which didn’t make the site publicly accessible until 2003, Second Life includes eBay co-founder Pierre Omidyar and Amazon pioneer Jeffrey Bezos as backers.

Major companies and organizations – from Dell and MTV to the American Cancer Society – are flocking to the site to set up “islands,” worlds within the world dedicated to their products.

Although most of the site’s 2 million-plus residents conduct their commerce in Linden dollars, some are raking in real money.

Last fall, Linden Lab CEO Philip Rosedale estimated that \$1.5 million (in actual currency) changes hands through Second Life monthly.

In November, a German woman named Ailin Graef (known on the site

as Anshe Chung) reportedly became the site’s first real-life millionaire, buying and selling Second Life real estate.

Second Life is the brainstorm of Rosedale, 38, a former chief technology officer at RealNetworks.

“He had a great idea: to create a collaborative online space where people could do things together,” said Linden Lab marketing director Catherine Smith.

There is a potential downside to Second Life.

As the world becomes more populated, it can become more prone to crime, hacking and inappropriate behavior, just like real life.

Second Life is no less susceptible to the same elements that have haunted the Internet since its inception – such as people not being who they say they

are – than the often-criticized MySpace. In September, Linden Lab’s system was hacked into, forcing the company to contact the FBI and mandate that all residents change their passwords.

There also have been cases of online harassment, called “griefing.”

On top of that, the government may start to take a closer look at the tax responsibility of those making money on so-called “unreal estate” through sites like Second Life.

Economist Daniel Miller, whose congressional Joint Economic Committee has been investigating virtual gaming since October, is due to deliver a report early this year.

“Congressional and IRS interest in this issue is simply a matter of time,” he was quoted as saying in The Weekly Standard.

# Lifestyle changes help shed pounds

By Cheryl Truman  
McClatchy Newspapers

Tiffany Groves’ epiphany about losing weight came when she realized that she became breathless when walking from her couch to the kitchen.

She was 15 and weighed 294 pounds. But she now weighs less than half what she did before.

Lori Simpson of Waco, Ky., “tried every diet known to man,” she says. Then she lost 108 pounds.

Faithe Warren-Agee wondered, “Do I need my food enough to be able to risk having a big stroke, not having independence at all?”

She did not need her food that much, she decided. So she lost 90 pounds.

Groves, Simpson and Warren-Agee don’t claim particular wisdom in weight-loss technology. Instead, they eat less and exercise more.

“It’s all diet and exercise, unfortunately,” says Warren-Agee.


And by the way – most people who lose don’t call the new eating plans “diets.” They think of it as permanent lifestyle changes.

How did they do it? People who have lost large amounts of weight eat differently. And they exercise a lot. Here are some of their tips.

When it comes to exercising, make it a daily habit. Those who lost the most weight were most committed to their exercise routines. As for fast food, Bart Steele still likes his McDonald’s breakfast sandwich and Krista Alexander has the occasional cheeseburger Happy Meal, but most of those with the biggest weight losses avoided fast food. Watch out for eating patterns that show you’re eating out of emotion rather than hunger.

Look for calories in places where you don’t think you’re piling them on. Several of our weight-loss champs even gave up their sugared soda habit.

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