

ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2007

Regents approve \$34M for practice facility

By Jon Schroeder
Staff writer

The recently approved athletics and academics complex has coaches from nearly every sport at Baylor excited for the future, and has edged the university even closer to 2012.

With a price tag of \$34 million, both the Alwin O. and Dorothy Highers Athletics and Academic Complex and the Simpson Athletics and Academic Center were approved by

the Baylor Board of Regents on Friday.

The cost is \$12 million more than the initial \$22 million that was approved at the board's special Jan. 17 meeting when plans for an on-campus practice facility were originally announced.

The 96,300-square-foot Simpson Center will be housed inside the Highers Complex. The first floor of the Simpson Center will feature a main athletics training room, equipment room, locker rooms and a weight

room. The second floor will house administrative and football offices, meeting rooms and an academic center to be used by all Baylor student-athletes.

The Highers Complex, which is scheduled to be completed by summer 2008, will also hold three full-size practice fields — two with natural surfaces and one with artificial turf.

In a press release Friday, President John Lilley said the center and complex has "been the central focus of the Vic-

tory with Integrity Campaign" and will advance part of Baylor 2012's Imperative X.

That imperative calls for more complete integration of student-athletes into Baylor life and a top-five ranking for all sports in all Big 12 standings, as well as a top-25 position in the Sports Academy Directors' Cup standings.

The complex, as preliminary plans indicated, will be built on University Parks Drive, near the Sue & Frank Mayborn Natural

Science and Cultural History Museum Complex. Existing facilities on the proposed site, including the marina pool, soccer field and Streich Tennis Courts, might be relocated to make way for the new complex.

"This facility will make a dramatic impact in all 18 sports," Athletic Director Ian McCaw said. "We're very excited about the project."

The gift for the Highers complex comes from the estate of Alwin O. Highers Jr., a 1939 Baylor

graduate who passed away 2003.

McCaw said the Highers have been "great supporters of the entire athletics program, in particular football."

The Simpson Center, the "focal point" of the complex, will be funded by a gift from Bob R. Simpson, cofounder and chief executive officer of Fort Worth-based XTO Energy Inc.

McCaw said the complex is

Please see **REGENT**, page 4



Associated Press

Jane Bedford holds her sign during a rally Sunday in Austin. Some 40 organizations, including Keep Waco Green, gathered outside the Capitol to ask the Texas Legislature to pass a resolution calling for a moratorium on coal-fired energy plants and to lead the state to cleaner energy solutions.

Coal debate fires up at Baylor

Student group created to inform peers on good, bad sides of power plants

By Melissa Limmer
Staff writer

While representatives and senators in Austin discuss the prospect of new coal plants in Central Texas, one student group is bringing the debate to Baylor.

After meeting with Waco Mayor Virginia DuPuy, External Vice President Allan Marshall and members of his cabinet began developing COALition.

Bryan Fonville, a cofounder of CO-

ALition, said DuPuy encouraged them to inform students about the new coal plants, four of which would be in McLennan County.

"She wanted us to make Baylor students aware (of the coal issue)," Fonville said.

"The main goal of COALition is to inform students of the situation, beyond just health concerns," said Phoenix sophomore Caleb Gallifant, cofounder of COALition.

The group is not taking a stance for or against the proposed coal plants, but rather focusing on education, Fonville said.

"The obvious answer to coal plants is no, but there are many sides to the issue," Gallifant said.

Fonville said one opportunity to become informed on the coal issue is to attend the State Coal Plant Conference, hosted by the Texas Cities Clean Air Coalition Feb. 20 at the Waco Convention Center.

State representatives will be in attendance along with constituents from Houston, Dallas, Austin and statewide media outlets.

"We want Baylor students to be there," Fonville said. "It is a good opportunity for students to be educated on the issue."

COALition will also be partnering with the Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce to host an information summit at 4 p.m. Feb. 27 in Kayser Auditorium.

"We had hoped to have a representative from TXU at the meeting, but according to TXU general council policy, they cannot send a representative to discuss litigation issues, like the coal plants, at meetings when an opposing party is present," Gallifant said.

COALition is calling for a moratorium on the March 9 vote on the coal plants, which was fast tracked by Gov. Rick Perry in the Texas State Legislature.

"There is a lack of clear information currently out there," Fonville said. "We would like to see a bilateral discussion based on sound scientific re-

Please see **COAL**, page 4

October 2005:	October 2006:	November 2006:	Feb. 11:	Feb. 20:	Feb. 27:	March 9:
Gov. Perry issues an executive order which allows coal plants to be constructed	Keep Waco Green is founded	Sustainable Energy and Economic Development Coalition holds hunger strike to raise awareness	Coal plant opposition from all over Texas marches on the Capitol in Austin	State Coal Plant Conference will be held at the Waco Convention Center	Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce will host an information summit at 4 p.m. at Kayser Auditorium	Day when the Texas State Legislature is scheduled to vote on coal plants

StuFu, senator haggle over bill

Student representative challenges group's Bearathon funds

By Kate Boswell
Staff writer

Student Court met Monday evening to determine whether it would hear a case questioning the constitutionality of a bill allocating \$2,650 of the Student Life Fund to Student Foundation for its annual Bearathon.

As of press time, the Court had not yet reached a decision.

The objection, raised by John Nicholson, a Student Senate member and Lake Jackson senior, stems from section 4.6 of Senate's bylaws, which prohibits any allocation that is used "to offset costs for the purpose of satisfying the ... organization's desire to raise funds ... unless all attained funds are to be donated (to charity)."

Nicholson said he thinks the bill violates this clause since Student Foundation representatives told Student Senate that some of the money collected from Bearathon will go toward paying for the event's costs.

He said he hopes the court will decide to take the case and will restrict the way the Student Life Fund money can be spent.

Will Simmons, the bill's author and a Student Foundation member, said he believes the bill is constitutional and he discussed the possibility for controversy with Internal Vice President Travis Plummer and other senators.

"Student Foundation is primarily a student organization," said Simmons, a Frisco junior. "It's run by students. We felt that it was a constitutional bill."

He added that Senate's finance committee voted unanimously that the bill was both constitutional and financially sound.

Simmons said last year's Bearathon raised \$12,000 out of Student Foundation's total

Please see **FUND**, page 4

Sig Ep looking for new members after charter reinstated

By Nathan McCoy
Reporter

Two years after hazing allegations led to the revocation of its charter, Sigma Phi Epsilon is coming back to Baylor.

Originally scheduled for a spring 2008 return to the Baylor campus, the fraternity is back one year earlier after a decision made by Student Activities and the Interfraternity Council.

"The decision to let (Sig Ep) return early was not taken lightly and involved the national organization accomplishing a specific set of directives prior to their return," said Scott Wade, director of stu-

dent activities, in an e-mail interview.

According to Wade, the directives included the appointment of a "strong faculty/staff advising team," creation of an alumni advisory board and a pledge that all formerly initiated members will be banned from participating in the new chapter.

Sig Ep's new chapter will be reformed as a Balanced Man Chapter, meaning the chapter will stress leadership and values and choose to "step away from the traditional pledging model and destructive behaviors of their past chapter," Wade said.

Representatives from Sig Ep national

headquarters in Richmond, Va., have been at Baylor for a week and plan to stay for another four weeks.

Greg Barra, director of new chapter development, and regional directors Ryan Rastetter and Chad North, said they are at Baylor to recruit and train prospective members.

They will look for men who are involved on campus, leadership-minded and "basically committed to living their best lives," Barra said.

Also during the five-week period, executive officers will be elected from the

Please see **SIGEP**, page 4



A Sigma Phi Epsilon representative speaks with a prospective fraternity member Monday at the Bill Daniel Student Center. Sig Ep's charter was reinstated after being revoked in 2005.

Abbie Rosen/
Lariat staff

Missionary's heart left with children in Peru

I was one of eight Americans crammed in the dirty back seat of an old yellow taxi.

Bump after bump with no air conditioner and nothing to look at was making me feel a little under the weather. Miles later, the taxi bustled through a small town made up of dirt and some old Inca Cola signs.

Then, we stopped. The first time I went to Peru, I would have definitely thought we were in the wrong place, but this time I knew better. We had reached our destination. It was nothing special: Brown mud bricks formed four walls, and weeds growing up from the dirt road added color to the

bland scene. My heart was racing. I knew what was in store—I barely had time to stand up and stretch before I was engulfed by the coffee-brown faces of beautiful Peruvian children. They knew nothing of personal space, as they stroked my skin like it was silk and latched onto my legs like koalas on bamboo, but I was OK with that.

I found that the less they have, the more they give. During my first trip to Peru, I was talking with a guy my age and after our conversation, he took his necklace off and put it on me. I was blown away. I did nothing special to deserve this heart-felt gift. It was a small pendent he

point of view

BY WHITNEY FARR



had carved out of a cow bone — and in it he had engraved the name of Jesus.

How is it that we have so much but are still so stingy? There are not many people I know who would give up something of such value to a complete stranger. Baylor men take note: A gift from the heart is priceless.

Every morning, my team and I went to this small one-room church to lead a vacation Bible school. I walked around the small room, filled with colorful plastic patio chairs where more than 100 children carefully colored the face of Jesus. I had never thought of coloring Jesus blue, but it looked good on him.

To me, these coloring sheets were priceless works of art. I sat down on the dirt floor in the crowded room and encouraged them in my broken Spanish. When I stood up, I felt four or five hands brushing off my backside. I turned around and saw three little girls being very

concerned that there was some dirt and dust on my pants. I guess they knew I didn't sit in dirt that much in America. I stopped them and bent down to hug them — I wanted this dirt on me.

So many people look down on poorer countries or consider themselves better, but the reality is that these people have some things many Americans don't have: pure joy, contentment, humility and faith. Sometimes we may feel like we need to do these countries a favor by sharing some hidden insight to get them a step closer to being more like us. But each time I go, I realize that I long to be more

like them. I want to love others unconditionally. I want to give without expecting something in return. I want to bring my dog to church with me and eat Doritos during worship without getting disapproving looks for doing it. God made dogs after all, and I don't really think he is opposed to cheesy goodness.

As we drove away in the taxi, I looked out the back window and watched the laughing children disappear in the distance. Right then I knew I had left something with them — my heart.

Whitney Farr is sophomore professional writing major from Greenville.

Editorial

Regent meeting with reps falls short

On Thursday, Student Body President Mark Laymon, External Vice President Allan Marshall and Internal Vice President Travis Plummer were given the opportunity to address the Baylor Board of Regents for 30 minutes.

"We wanted to make sure that we were good stewards of that time," Laymon said.

The three student government leaders addressed some very important issues — such as the recent passage of a bill to recommend allowing nonBaptist groups on campus, the proposed coal plants in Central Texas and the possibility of a student regent.

All of these issues are immensely important to many students — so important, that 30 minutes was simply not enough time. We hope the regents got the message from the student body when the nonBaptist bill was passed. This is an issue that should have been resolved a long time ago. We need to recognize the inaction on the regents' part regarding the calls to have a student regent as well, and make sure this inaction doesn't happen once more.

Plummer said, "It was an absolute blessing for us to be able to have contact with these regents. By permitting that contact, you really see how committed to students they are."

Making it sound like it's a privilege for students to be in contact with the



regents is a little troubling, when it's really our right to tell them exactly what's on our minds. If the board of regents truly has our best interests in mind, they would be willing to speak to students and less secretive about the meetings.

The representatives also brought up the issue of parking which is a perennial issue at Baylor — not something that particularly needs to take up time with the regents. It will always be a problem with our growing

campus and is not worth mentioning when efforts to remedy the situation are already under way.

Equally disconcerting was the lack of any discussion about the current rift between some of the members of the board and the Baylor Alumni Association. Even though we aren't alumni yet — we soon will be — that's one of the more interesting conflicts at our university right now.

We understand how important it is to develop a good relationship with

the regents. It's not in the best interest of students to have a strained relationship with the regents. But the fact of the matter is that they work for us.

It's a rare chance to be able to communicate with the regents, so we need to make a better effort to let the regents know what's really important to us. An occasional 30 minutes is already not enough, so we shouldn't waste it by saying we're just happy to be there and make more use of time to explore more issues.

Letters to the editor

Time for a student regent

I've never met one of Baylor's regents. I'm certain they're nice people, and I'm sure they appreciate hearing student input from time to time at their meetings.

The truth is, however, I'm not happy just being able to occasionally chime in when conversations are held about what's best for Baylor. Sure, I can be involved in living room discussions with my roommates about what Baylor needs, but that simply won't do anymore.

I want a student regent. I want students to collectively have some direct representation in the board of regents meetings. See, if I have a problem with one of the regents' decisions, I have several options, but they all lead

to me asking the regents to consider something on behalf of the student body.

I don't want to be considered, I want us to be able to vote against an initiative if we believe it doesn't benefit students. I want to know that I have someone who can see things from my perspective. I want someone who I'll be able to contact without having to go through administrators. And when our board of regents decides that a student regent wouldn't necessarily be the best thing, I want an explanation.

What issues are we too immature to handle? What technical skills do college students lack to perform the duties of a regent?

I want answers so that maybe my underclassmen peers can

prepare themselves to have a chance to vote, not just gripe.

Miguel Romero
Accounting 2007

Housing part of process

I write this in response to The Lariat's Thursday editorial about spending university funds on new residence halls versus academics.

What I love about the editorial is its emphasis on making Baylor great, supporting the university's vision and acquiring new world-class faculty in addition to the world-class faculty we already have. But what concerns me about the editorial is how it presents the case as an either/or scenario. Funding academics and residence halls are not mutually exclusive. New

residence halls do two wonderful things. First, they connect our world-class faculty to students in meaningful ways outside of the classroom. Research shows that these connections affect students in powerful and positive ways. Second, it is important to remember that residence halls are revenue-producing entities that largely pay for themselves.

Once they open, principle and interest are covered through rent revenue and, within a few years these buildings contribute to the university's operating budget. So while I applaud the desire to spend money on academic initiatives, residence halls are not a problem but rather one significant step toward becoming all we envision we

can become.

Rishi Sriram
Associate director of academic initiatives and housing administration, Campus Living & Learning

Changes won't affect majors

In Jon Schroeder's Friday article, "Students address regents" he made a statement about the change in the forensic science degree program and stated as a matter of fact that the change "has impacted students in the anthropology and forensic science fields."

The implication made here is that current forensic science majors are affected by this change. This is not the case. The university and the anthropology department have stated several times that current students can

still major in forensic science and that the change does not affect their degree plan.

Who it affects are prospective and future Baylor students.

The Lariat seems to skirt around this every time the issue is brought forth and implies over and over again to students that this change will affect their forensic science degree plan when it does not.

When I was in college we always thought everything the university decided was some kind of conspiracy to disrupt our lives. But simple research and understanding can shed a lot of light on a subject that pure speculation and assumption can never do.

Brad Holbrook
Journalism 2003

The Baylor Lariat

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18

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THE Daily Crossword

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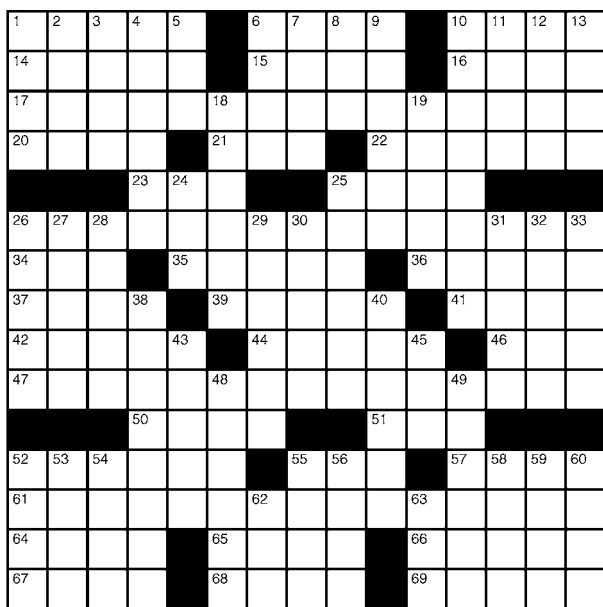
ACROSS

- 1 Tries to get a rise out of
- 6 Hired worker
- 10 Puts on the tube
- 14 Pond problem
- 15 God of love
- 16 Operatic showstopper
- 17 Shot
- 20 In this spot
- 21 Ridge, TN
- 22 Difficult trial
- 23 Dog tags, briefly
- 25 Norwegian saint
- 26 Shot
- 34 Flew the coop
- 35 Rainbow fish
- 36 Inquisitive one
- 37 IBM element
- 39 Technique
- 41 Hindu goddess
- 42 Gaucho's goodbye
- 44 Signs of sorrow
- 46 Work wk. starter
- 47 Shot
- 50 Zen paradox
- 51 Sundial numeral
- 52 Group of fish
- 55 Opening letters
- 57 Wall St. abbr.

DOWN

- 1 Cleansing ritual
- 2 Botanical balm
- 3 Inventor Sikorsky
- 4 Hoodwink
- 5 Aral or Caspian
- 6 Sarcastic laughter
- 7 Out of control
- 8 ___ on your life!
- 9 Slobbers
- 10 Termite devourer
- 11 "Dies ___"
- 12 Philbin's partner
- 13 Humorist Mort
- 18 Tough questions
- 19 Get a grip on
- 24 EPA-banned substance
- 25 Wanted man
- 26 Actor Dennehy

- 27 Han Solo's pal
- 28 Calrissian
- 29 Up to
- 29 Decayed
- 30 Purchasing agent
- 31 Heat's home
- 32 Casaba or honeydew
- 33 Rubber gasket
- 38 Sentinels
- 40 Beethoven's Symphony #3
- 43 Mind another's business
- 45 Hindu title
- 48 Single shoe protector
- 49 Ignite
- 52 Sizable slice
- 53 Sleeveless garment
- 54 Oversell
- 55 Soot-covered
- 56 Rorschach image
- 58 Log for the holidays
- 59 Quick cut
- 60 Scratches (out)
- 62 Kanga's kid
- 63 Linoleum cleaner



By Doug Peterson
Pasadena, CA

2/13/07

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

N. Korea takes step to disarm

The Associated Press

BEIJING — Six countries reached a tentative agreement Monday on initial steps toward North Korea's nuclear disarmament that could usher in the first concrete progress after more than three years of talks marked by delays, deadlock and the communist country's first nuclear test explosion.

The U.S. envoy to the talks, Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill, announced after a 16-hour negotiating session that a tentative deal had been struck at the latest round of six-party talks on the North's nuclear program.

The draft agreement contained commitments on disarmament and energy assistance along with "initial actions" to be taken by certain deadlines, Hill said. Working groups will be set up, hopefully in a month, laying out a framework for dealing with regional tensions, he added.

The agreement could herald the first step toward disarmament since the talks began in 2003.

Meningitis

Meningococcal disease most often affects those age 15 to 24. The disease, which attacks key organs, can kill a healthy person in days.

What happens
Bacteria attack dura mater, one of the layers of the meninges membranes covering the brain and spinal cord

Potential carriers
Bacteria carried in nasopharynx of about 5-10 percent of people; when a carrier coughs, sneezes or shares a drink or cigarette, bacteria can infect others

Symptoms
■ High fever, headache, stiff neck develop in several hours or over two days
■ Nausea, vomiting, discomfort with bright lights, confusion, sleepiness
■ Skin rashes occur in about half the cases

Deadly results
■ Brain swelling
■ Blood infection
■ Respiratory failure
■ Organ shutdown

Nasopharynx
Back of nasal passage

Cerebral spinal fluid
surrounds brain, spinal cord

Source: American Medical Association, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Dr. Gwendolyn Scott of the University of Miami School of Medicine and University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Medical Center
Graphic: The Miami Herald

MCT Campus

Student diagnosed with meningitis

By Grace Maalouf
Copy desk chief

Baylor Health Services confirmed a case of meningococcal meningitis in a student Monday evening.

Nancy Keating, director of nurses at the Baylor Health Center, said the center knew earlier that the student, freshman Preston Wallace, had meningitis, but was unsure of the type.

A table was set up on the second floor of the McLane Student Life Center Monday where preventative treatments were administered to students who had come in close contact with Wallace or were showing symptoms of the illness.

Linda Patzke, a staff nurse at the health center, said some symptoms of meningococcal meningitis are stiff neck, fever and chills, severe headache, nausea, vomiting, rash and lethargy.

"It's spread by droplets, so it's close contact," Patzke said.

She said an example of a close contact would be good friends hanging out together, or "a roommate or someone who's been with him four hours or more in the last

five to seven days."

Keating estimated that the preventative treatment had already been administered to about 70 students as of 8 p.m. Monday.

Keating said the preventative treatment, in most cases a 500-milligram dose of the prophylactic Cipro, is recommended even for students who have had the meningococcal meningitis vaccine.

"The vaccine doesn't cover every strain of meningitis," Keating said.

She said there are three or four available alternative treatments, also in pill form, for those who are allergic to Cipro.

Patzke said students who don't live in the dorms or come in close contact with Wallace shouldn't be worried.

"If they haven't had close contact with him, if they've not been with him, then they don't need to be concerned," she said.

She said for this outbreak, it was too late for those who hadn't gotten the vaccine to do so.

"It takes some time, so that wouldn't do any good," Patzke said.

No other cases had been reported as of Monday night.

BEAR BRIEFS

Guest lecture on leadership
A lecture on leadership for social issues will be held at 7 p.m. today in the Alexander Reading Room of the Bill Daniel Student Center. The guest speaker is Raj Gandhi, medical director at Hillcrest Baptists Medical Center's trauma center.

Students host wage seminar
Baylor Students for Social Justice will be hosting an awareness seminar for the Living Wage Campaign at 7:30 and 8 p.m. today in North Russell Residence Hall, and 9 p.m. in Arbors/Baylor Plaza. For additional information, contact Anali_Gatlin@baylor.edu.

Diabetes awareness
A diabetes awareness meeting will be held at 8 p.m. today in the Houston Room of the Bill Daniel Student Center. The guest speaker will be Dr. James Roberts from the Hankamer School of Business. For additional information, contact Jonathan_Ross1@baylor.edu.

AIDS meeting tonight
A Student Global AIDS Campaign meeting will be held at 9 p.m. today in 104 Speight Plaza Parking Garage. There will be an HIV/AIDS education session with Dr. Jon Singletary after the meeting. For additional information, contact Carmen_Jimenez@baylor.edu.

Last week for senior pics
The last chance for seniors to get yearbook pictures taken is this week outside the student government office in the Bill Daniel Student Center. To schedule an appointment, visit www.ouryear.com and use school code 417. For additional information, visit www.baylor.edu/roundup.

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

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Boxing parties help parents send touch of home to students

By Bethany Poller
Reporter

This Valentine's Day, students hope to receive presents from someone special. But several students will get gifts from the one or two people who love them most: their parents.

Many chapters of the Baylor Parents League will hold boxing parties to gather goodies to send to their kids.

The Baylor Parents League is a support group for parents with students at Baylor.

There are localized chapters in many areas, said Teresa Huestis, president of the West Houston chapter.

"We get together and help each other answer questions

about our kids," Huestis said. "Anything from housing to groups they can get into."

Chapters organize events with the students in mind, such as monthly prayer meetings to voice concerns and find solutions to their students' problems. Judy Maggard, director of Parent Programs for the Baylor Parents League, attends some events and keeps parents informed about what's going on at Baylor.

"Somebody has to tell us because our students usually don't," Huestis said.

Boxing parties are one of the ways members of the Parents League try to stay involved in their students' college lives.

"It's a time of fellowship for

the parents and a time to do something nice for their students," Maggard said.

Parents from the area meet at a member's house and bring a box for their student. Each couple or parent brings one item to put in each student's box.

"Say there's 25 people coming," Maggard said. "Everyone brings 25 of one item, then everyone goes around the table and gets one of each item to send to their student."

The items range in price and are anything the parents want to bring. Many parents bring items they know their student would like.

"My favorite candy is Mike and Ike, so most of the time my parents try to put that in the

boxes," said Katy senior Ryan Huestis, Teresa Huestis' son.

During the meetings, the parents chat about their kids and any problems students may have. Topics of conversation vary from Baylor news to roommate problems to buying tickets for All-University Sing.

Some groups have even warned each other about speed-traps students encounter on their routes home, Huestis said.

Most chapters hold boxing parties four times a year: Halloween, Valentine's Day and both rounds of finals. Items in the boxes may follow the theme of the holiday or help with studying.

"Sometimes there's Red Bull in there," Ryan Huestis said.

The students that get boxes from the parties are typically children of the members. But if the parents know someone else wants one, they'll put together a box for him or her, too.

Ryan Huestis said a friend found out about the boxing parties, and since her parents aren't involved in a Parents League chapter in her hometown, she asked Teresa Huestis to make a box for her.

"Now my mom makes a box for her every time they have a boxing party," Ryan Huestis said.

The final boxing party is Thursday for the West Houston chapter. Then the last of the boxes will be sent to Baylor for students to enjoy.

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SIGEP from page 1

group of prospective members. After the five weeks, members will be left to govern the new chapter on its own and “make its own decisions and operate as any other chapter,” Barra said.

Barra said there are no plans to keep an extra eye on the new chapter to prevent hazing in the future.

However, Barra said hazing is never allowed with Sig Ep and good behavior will be expected

“as is the case with any other fraternity.”

“We’re going to treat this chapter just as any other chapters as far as upholding high standards,” Barra said.

Skylar Herring, a Roswell, N.M., sophomore, spoke with Barra at the Sig Ep recruitment table in the Bill Daniel Student Center after he was referred by a friend. Herring said he what drew him was the ability to “shape the outlook of an organization on campus” as well as

the positive philosophy of the fraternity.

“Their push for a healthy mind, body and spirit goes hand in hand with Baylor,” Herring said. “They seem to be doing what appeals to me.”

In March 2005, a board of directors at Sigma Phi Epsilon’s national headquarters revoked the charter of the fraternity’s chapter at Baylor after hazing allegations were reported by its members.

Sigma Phi Epsilon is the larg-

est fraternity in the nation in terms of undergraduate enrollment. The fraternity has more than 260 chapters at universities nationwide and more than 13,500 undergraduate members. Barra said the fraternity establishes “about a dozen” new chapters every year.

“Baylor’s one of the best campuses in the country,” Barra said.

“It hurts Sigma Phi Epsilon to not have students at Baylor in our organization.”

FUND from page 1

scholarship fund of \$200,000.

“In the whole scheme it’s not the biggest (fundraiser), but it does help,” he said.

“But aside from the fact that it benefits students through scholarships, there is the fact that it helps unify campus and bring Baylor closer together.”

Sigma Plummer said more than half of the 300 runners already registered for the half-marathon

on March 3 were Baylor students and that student organizations also participated by helping during the event itself.

The bill passed 18-11, with two senators abstaining, during Thursday’s Student Senate meeting. According to the bill, the allocation accounts for 35 percent of the event’s total cost.

Nicholson questioned the bill’s constitutionality during the debate, but Internal Vice President Travis Plummer allowed voting on the bill to continue.

“To the best of my understanding, as I said then, it was constitutional,” Plummer said.

“We aren’t the best authorities on what is or isn’t constitutional. That’s Student Court’s job. That’s why we have checks and balances.”

The preliminary hearing, which is closed to the public, began at 8:30 p.m. Monday.

James Nortey, an Austin

junior and chief justice of student court, said there is no set criteria to determine whether the court would hear a case, but that the key issue would be the case’s importance.

“For one, it has to be relevant,” Nortey said.

“Sometimes people just bring a case because of misunderstandings or because someone misinterpreted something. If it’s not significant, we’re not going to hear it.”

If the court decides to hear the case, a notice will be sent to all the involved parties, Nortey said.

They will be required to submit evidence and witnesses, and then a court date will be set.

Nicholson is currently the plaintiff, but he is allowed to give the case over to the Attorney General Ben Collins, and let him represent Senate’s interests.

Nicholson said he hasn’t yet decided whether he will do this, but that it will depend on scheduling constraints.

Nicholson stressed that he was not attacking Student Foundation or the Bearathon.

“It’s not so much a case against Student Foundation as it is a case asking the court to bring a ruling that will probably restrict how the Student Life Fund money can be spent,” he said.

“That’s what I’m pushing for – a restriction – so as much money as possible will go to scholarships.”

REGENT from page 1

a major part of the Victory with Integrity Campaign, a five-year, \$90-million effort adopted in February 2005.

McCaw called the project “the most significant” one Baylor has ever undertaken, adding that it will hugely impact all Baylor athletics for years to come.

In particular, the complex will help with recruiting.

“This will be a spectacular building,” McCaw said, adding it will show potential recruits that Baylor cares about its student-athletes.

Head football Coach Guy Morriss agreed, saying the new facility will have a “huge impact” both upon recruiting and on the team.

Having “something tangible” to show potential recruits is of great importance, he said, even if that means construction on the new building.

The \$34 million proposal was part of the original thinking behind the facility, although the smaller version, approved by the board of regents in January, was also on the table. When more funding came through, the larger version of the proposal was presented, Morriss said.

Since the athletics and academics complex has been approved, Morriss said when re-

cruits visit campus and see the facility “they’re going to come back.”

“We can take the gloves off a little bit,” he said. “We can go fight some of our competitors.”

When a university values its athletic programs, “you can obviously see that in the facilities,” Morriss said. “It’s kind of like the last piece of the puzzle.”

Morriss called the combination of the academic and athletic parts of the complex “one-stop shopping.”

“The kids can come off the field, and they’re right there,” he said.

Morriss offered his thanks to everyone involved in the decision-making process, mentioning the two contributing families, the Baylor administration and board of regents.

He said he’s incredibly excited about the new plan.

“When that first dozer gets unloaded, I’m going to be on it.”

In their general meeting Friday, the regents also discussed imperatives IV, V and VI of Baylor 2012. Turner said in the release that the board has seen “evidence of the successes of Baylor 2012 at all levels of our university,” adding that Baylor will be enrolling an “academically outstanding” class in the fall.

As of Jan. 17, Baylor had ac-



Courtesy illustration

The Baylor Board of Regents approved Friday a \$34 million plan for the Alwin O. and Dorothy Highers Athletics and Academic Complex and the Simpson Athletics and Academic Center.

cepted 6,763 of the 23,157 applications received. The average SAT, at 1253, is higher than any class Baylor has previously enrolled.

“I’m excited to hear that this caliber of students are interested in going to Baylor,” said Student Body President Mark Laymon, a Richardson senior. “I think that you can get a world-class education at Baylor so I’m not surprised that students with these high SAT scores would want to

come to Baylor.”

Laymon said Baylor’s academic life should be appealing to students, but Baylor has more to offer them than just academics.

“Baylor is the type of community where you can study, but you can also be developed personally by faculty and other classmates that are serious about their commitment to Christ,” he said. “Baylor is uniquely attractive in that way.”

COAL from page 1

search.”

COALition is yet another step by members of student government to make Baylor students more involved in issues that affect the city of Waco.

“A lot of students don’t think of Waco as long term,” Gallifant said. “They don’t think they will live here in the future, so they don’t take a proactive stance.”

DuPuy said it is important that students become informed about the “complex” issue of


coal plants because the “decisions that are being made now could impact the lives of all Waco residents and students at Baylor University for the next 50 years.”

DuPuy also said she was thrilled students were showing

an interest in the Waco community.


“I am very encouraged by the students interest,” she said. “We know they are living in various parts of the city. We really appreciate them wanting to engage in numerous issues.”

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David Poe/Lariat staff

Sophomore guard Jhasmin Player gets inside positioning on Iowa State's Nicky Wieben and Megan Ronhovde and prepares to go for a layup during the Lady Bears 81-64 victory over the Cyclones Saturday.

By Will Parchman
Sports writer

With their backs firmly pressed against the wall, the Lady Bears shot well on Saturday night and kept their Big 12 hopes alive.

Facing an Iowa State University team that had upset on its mind, the Lady Bears squashed the idea early and emphatically. Baylor cruised to a 81-64 win, punctuated by a couple of hot-handed upperclassmen leading the way in a game that was almost never in doubt.

Senior Bernice Mosby and junior guard Angela Tisdale combined for 38 points to move Baylor's home record to 14-2 this season and keep Iowa State at arms length all night. In fact, the Cyclones needed a 13-4 run early in the second half just to cut the Baylor lead down to 14.

Adding to the Lady Bears' eighth conference win, Tisdale tied her season high with 21 points, all of which came from three-point range.

Head Coach Kim Mulkey

said after the game that Tisdale's contributions at both ends are invaluable and stopping her when she finds her shot like she did Saturday is nearly impossible.

Mosby, the team's leading scorer and rebounder, said she and Tisdale help each other on the court.

"What she did against Iowa State for us was tremendous," Mosby said. "She stepped up big from the three-point line, and when teams double me she's always there on the back side. She's taken on her role very well this year."

Tisdale's seven three-pointers highlighted what has become a varied arsenal of skills for the junior point guard from Austin. She leads the team in assists and the offense has struggled this season without Tisdale's hand guiding it.

"When the (Iowa State) game first started, she took us in a huddle and told us all to play as a team," Mosby said. "We listened to her, stepped out on the floor and did it."

Mulkey has moved Tisdale to shooting guard often this season instead of playing her exclusively at the point. Tisdale said it's no surprise that the move coincides directly with a dramatic spike in her level of play.

"I feel like my game has opened up because I'm not just setting up the plays anymore," Tisdale said. "Instead of having to put people in position I've been looking for myself to score, so that's helped my game a lot."

The Lady Bears are now in a four-horse race entering the final two weeks of Big 12 play. After an interesting weekend, Baylor is tied with the University of Oklahoma for second in the conference, behind the University of Nebraska and Texas A&M University. Only one game separates the four teams, and Baylor still has dates with Oklahoma and Texas A&M on its schedule.

On top of obvious post-season implications, the revenge factor could play a significant role in those two games as well. After all, Oklahoma and Texas

A&M are responsible for two of the Lady Bears' four losses this season.

The players said the story lines practically write themselves.

"It's in our own hands right now," Mosby said. "We have the ability to win it or just step back and finish fourth or fifth. As long as we keep focused and have that winning mindset, we can do it."

For now, the Lady Bears will gear up for a home matchup with Oklahoma State University at 7 p.m. Wednesday. Baylor won the first meeting 66-55, in Stillwater, Okla. on Jan. 27.

For most teams, that might have the makings of a trap game. But Tisdale said Mulkey isn't like most coaches, and the Lady Bears aren't like most teams.

"Oklahoma State is good team. They've got some great athletes," Tisdale said. "They killed Texas a few weeks ago so you know they're playing good."

And as Mosby said after the Iowa State win, so is Baylor.

No. 18 softball sweeps Classic

By Brian Bateman
Reporter

The No. 18 Lady Bears softball team swept the sixth-annual Gettman Classic this weekend, earning a 6-0 record to start the season and claiming the title at the Baylor-hosted tournament.

Even while battling the cold, Baylor found little resistance from the competition.

Two of the six games ended in a shutout and Lady Bears' pitchers yielded less than three runs in each of the other four.

Baylor played the University of Southern Mississippi and Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Friday; Stephen F. Austin University and the University of Kentucky Saturday; and rematches with the Wildcats and the Islanders Sunday.

The Lady Bears came out firing in the first game, scoring 12 runs by the second inning. Strong hitting and defensive play spotted the Lady Bears an 18-0 lead over the Golden Eagles, which they would keep until the game was decided.

Senior pitcher Lisa Ferguson highlighted the victory as she kept the Golden Eagles off-balance all game and recorded her second-career no hitter. Freshman infielder and catcher Kelsey Sage pitched in with two

homers: one to left field and one off the brick scoreboard foundation in center field.

If during the course of the weekend the other tournament teams did find a hole in the pitching or defense, the Lady Bears' offense made up for the lapse. Baylor scored 52 runs on 65 hits, including three consecutive home runs to center field against Southern Mississippi.

Sage, who made her college debut on Friday, said she found the competition challenging.

"It was good seeing different pitching," Sage said.

She said she was worried about her inconsistency at the plate, but she is confident that will improve with practice and coaching.

Freshman utility player Kirsten Shortridge hit one of four home runs for the Lady Bears during the Southern Mississippi game. The long ball, which was the first of her college career, came in her third college at bat.

"It was kind of shocking, actually," Shortridge said. "I started as a slapper and have been working on the big hits."

While her offensive production added to Baylor's lead Friday, "big hits" were what she was trying to avoid on Saturday. In the first pitching appearance of her collegiate career, she followed with a complete-game

win over the University of Kentucky.

Shortridge said the defense behind her gave her ample support and allowed her to relax and play her game. She allowed just one run on four hits, while striking out seven.

The Lady Bears only trailed once over the weekend. The Ladyjacks of Stephen F. Austin held a 3-0 lead in the top of the third inning on Saturday in a game the Lady Bears would win 9-3. Sophomore infielder Brette Reagan cut the lead to 3-2, with a two-run double, and senior infielder Chelsi Lake gave Baylor the lead with a two-run home run in the bottom of the fifth.

Despite dominating most of their games, the team found ways to stay focused.

"We come out to play Baylor softball no matter who is in the other dugout," Shortridge said.

While it could be a challenge for a coach to keep his team motivated, Baylor head Coach Glen Moore said he doesn't have that problem with his players.

"I was really pleased with the effort the team gave throughout the tournament," Moore said.

The Lady Bears were scheduled to play a doubleheader with Sam Houston State University Wednesday, but the games were postponed to March 7, due to possible inclement weather.



Abbie Rosen/Lariat staff

One-man show

Sophomore guard Curtis Jerrells attempts to drive on three Oklahoma defenders during the Bears' 68-64 loss to the Sooners Saturday. Jerrells had 23 points, 7 rebounds and 3 assists for the game.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Rough start for baseball

The Baylor baseball team started its season off 0-3 with losses to the University of Houston, Rice University and Vanderbilt University over the weekend at the Houston College Classic. It's the team's worst start since 2002, when they opened with three losses in the same tournament. The Bears return to action at 6:30 p.m. tonight, when they host Texas State University.

Tennis takes two

The No. 8 Baylor men's tennis team

won a pair of home matches over the weekend, when the Bears upset No. 3 University of California at Los Angeles 4-3 Saturday and defeated No. 27 Stanford University 7-0 Sunday. The meeting between Baylor and Stanford Sunday marks the inaugural HP Cup, and is the first of what will be an annual series. With the wins, the Bears move to 6-2 on the season.

Georgia defeats equestrian

The Baylor equestrian team suffered its second straight loss Saturday when the University of Georgia


defeated the Bears 9-7 on Saturday at the Willis Family Equestrian Center. The team is now 3-5 with two shows remaining. The Bears return to action on Feb. 24, when they host Kansas State University.

Bruce injured

Junior guard Aaron Bruce suffered an ankle injury during the Bears' 68-64 loss to Oklahoma Saturday. X-rays weren't back Monday, but he's expected to miss the Bears' next two games at least. Sophomore guard Henry Dugat will take his place in the starting lineup.

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