



ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2007

Equality ride preaches open dialogue



Henry Chan/Contributor

Gay student advocates spread message of love, acceptance at Baylor

By Claire St. Amant
Staff writer

Twenty-six members from the Soulforce Equality Ride visited campus Monday to dialogue with students and the community about issues of homosexuality and faith. Baylor marks the fourth stop at private Christian universities and colleges across the Eastern United States for the group, which also has a Western counterpart.

The group's mission is to "encourage reconciliation between lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals and faith communities," said equality rider Mandy Matthias, an alumna of Eastern University.

Group members attended Chapel with students Monday morning and spent the rest of the afternoon walking around campus and meeting people, she said.

"We do feel that God loves and affirms us just as we are as LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) people," Matthias said. "The

writers in the Bible didn't necessarily understand the issue of orientation and they just saw it was deviant behavior."

Matthias said she also believes the historical context and the audience of the verses about homosexuality are important factors to look at in interpretation of the Scriptures.

"A lot of what the writers of the Bible are speaking against we are opposed to as well," she said. "We are not OK with using sex within religious practices or anything like that."

Matthias said the groups are advocating for monogamous, loving, same-sex relationships.

"To tell someone based on those few passages that any expression of who they are as relational beings is invalid and can be very damaging," she said.

While Baylor did not grant the group an officially sanctioned dialogue, Vice President of Student Life Dr. Dub Oliver said the administration had no problem with the riders visiting campus "as long as they conducted themselves in a manner consistent with the university's mission."

Oliver sent an e-mail to current



Henry Chan/Contributor

About 60 people gathered Monday at Heritage Square in downtown Waco to have a discussion with members of Soulforce Equality Ride, a group that advocates gay student rights.

students Monday explaining the university's stance on sexuality and notifying students of the presence of the equality riders on campus scheduled for Monday and today.

"This is a private campus," he said. "You have to be invited to

speak here."

Equality rider Amanda Harris, a senior at the University of Central Arkansas, said several groups, individual students and faculty mem-

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"I feel like they can reject any organization that asks to come here, and it does make sense that they chose to reject this particular organization since it appears to be contrary to Baylor's ideals, as they would call them."



Matt Aaker
Laguna Hills, Calif.,
freshman

"As a college, we're supposed to be open to discussion and things like that, so I wish (administrators) were a little more accepting."



Kacia Huddleston
Chandler, Ariz.,
freshman

"Baylor has held a pure, Christian point of view since the opening of the school in 1845, and they're not looking to change or divert from that original viewpoint, which is not promoting the gay and lesbian lifestyle."



Brandon Clark
Houston soph.

"I do want to be open-minded about it, especially because I have gay friends here at Baylor and I don't want them to feel like they're being excluded just because of their sexuality."



Amanda McClendon
Houston senior

Baylor, Soulforce tackle Christianity, homosexuality

By Claire St. Amant
and Melissa Limmer
Staff writers

Dub Oliver, vice president for Student Life and Amanda Harris, a Soulforce Equality Ride member from Lonoke, Ark., who attended Baylor in the fall of 2003, answered a series of questions for the *Lariat*.

Q: Is it a conflict to be a homosexual and a Christian?

Harris: Not at all. I don't think that they are mutually ex-

clusive one bit.

Oliver: There is a difference between orientation and engaging in homosexual behavior. The bottom line for me is that we're all sinners and saved by grace. There are many ways that Christians fall short.

Q: What rights does a private Christian university have to control dialogue on campus?

Harris: They have every right as a private university. It's interesting — I don't know if you got the letter that they sent out to-

day where they said that Baylor is very comfortable having dialogue on human sexuality. Every student I have talked to today said that they never talk about human sexuality in any of their classes or in general. So, I'm wondering what comfort they are talking about because it just seems to me that it's really not discussed at all.

I've gotten several letters from Baylor students who are gay and they just talk about how they fear physical violence, they fear being beaten up.

They have to be so careful about who knows that they are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, whatever.

Oliver: Institutions in general, as supported by case law, can restrict time, place and manner of speech. We're a private institution affiliated with the Baptist General Convention of Texas, and we have the right to restrict activities on campus, particularly in public forums.

We do control the forum that is Baylor University. Our mission is unique.

Q: How should a Christian university treat students who are homosexuals?

Harris: I think that a Christian university should treat lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgendered students just like they treat any of their other students. They should affirm them; they should welcome them in. They should act just like Jesus did. If you look at Jesus, he reached out to the people who were seen as the pariahs of society: women, children, differently abled.

Christians of all people should recognize the discrimination the LGBT community faces and they should open their hearts to them.

Oliver: I hope we will always respond to all of our students with Christian grace and love. Several students wrote back to me today (from the e-mail to undergraduate students) in support of Baylor's stance, and several students wrote back in opposition.

Please see **BUS**, page 10

Bullets rip through home near campus

By Melissa Limmer
Staff Writer

While many students were away on spring break, some houses near campus became targets for break-ins, and for one house, even gunfire.

According to Waco Police Department spokesman Steve Anderson, a home located at the 2600 block of Third Street was fired upon at about 11 p.m. March 12.

John Lewis, a resident of the home, was inside when the shooting took place.

Anderson said police discovered at least five shots had been fired at the home, "with

only one round penetrating the residence."

Lewis' vehicle was also struck by a bullet on the passenger-side door.

Pearland junior David Belek also lives at the home.

He said a few of the bullets had penetrated so deep into the house that they could not be removed. Belek said police told him the gun used to shoot the house appeared to be an assault rifle.

Belek said crime is not uncommon in his neighborhood, especially over long breaks.

"There are a lot of people that get robbed out here," he said. "I don't know if they are not pa-

trolling enough or what."

Belek said street lights along Third Street do not work.

This is not the only crime in

the neighborhood over spring break. Anderson said three residences were broken into on Third Street as well.



Henry Chan/contributor

Pearland junior David Belek's home was the target of gunfire March 12 while he was inside.

Dems want out of Iraq; Bush pleads patience

By Ben Feller
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With Democrats pushing for an end to the Iraq war now entering its fifth year, President Bush pleaded for more patience Monday, saying success is possible but "will take months, not days or weeks."

The war has stretched longer and with higher costs than the White House ever predicted. On the fourth anniversary of the day Bush directed the invasion to begin, the president made a televised statement from the White House Roosevelt Room to defend continued U.S. involvement.

He said his plan to send

21,500 additional U.S. troops to secure Baghdad and Iraq's troubled Anbar Province "will need more time to take effect," especially since fewer than half of the troop reinforcements have not yet arrived in the capital. Bush added: "There will be good days and bad days ahead as the security plan unfolds."

Democrats are bringing up this week in the House a spending bill that would effectively require the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq by the fall of 2008, on top of providing funding for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan for the year. The White House has been pushing

Please see **IRAQ**, page 10

Gore's home energy usage is as green as can be

Al Gore must be feeling like Michael Corleone. Like the agonizing mafia don in **The Godfather: Part III**, he's probably thinking, "Just when I think I'm out, they pull me back in!"

Now we're at the closing chapter of the saga and like the final movie, the ending isn't satisfying to anyone.

On the left, a burgeoning "Draft Gore" movement is trying to convince Gore to give the presidency another shot despite arguably the best field of Democratic candidates in decades.

On the right, there's a vicious hit job being waged on Gore regarding his energy consumption. The Tennessee Center for Policy Research (a conservative

think tank) recently issued a press release stemming from research originally done by **The Tennessean**, a local Nashville newspaper. It offers its take on Gore's household energy bill — a staggering \$30,000 a year — by accusing him of not "walking the walk." With the help of The Drudge Report and the conservative political machine, we now have the pleasure of hearing about it on Fox News.

But they fail to mention the rest of the story. While the household uses large amounts of energy — 20 times more than the average American — Gore is closer to being carbon neutral than any of us.

The Gores live in a 10,000

point of view



BY BRAD BRIGGS

square-foot house in the Belle Meade area of Nashville. It is a "posh" area, as the press release states, but it's also an older neighborhood and large, older homes are quite inefficient. The Gores also work from home when they're not traveling.

The power is provided through The Green Power Switch program with the Nashville Electric Service. According to

The Tennessean, they purchased 108 blocks of green energy in three months and paid \$432 extra. The article states that "the green power Gore purchased in those three months is equivalent to recycling 2.48 million aluminum cans or 286,092 pounds of newspaper, according to comparison figures on NES' Web site."

The article also reports that the Gores drive a Lexis hybrid SUV, use compact fluorescent light bulbs and are in the process of retrofitting all of their residences with solar panels.

They even go a step further by purchasing carbon emissions offsets in addition to the green power. If the offsets were

the only thing they were doing, as many in conservative media are reporting, there would be cause for criticism. Carbon offsets were never meant to be a paid indulgence.

Some criticize Gore for not taking commercial flights on trips to deliver lectures. If you were a well-known person traveling with a grueling schedule to keep, wouldn't you be worried about your safety? If I were Gore, I certainly would after that lackluster campaign in 2000.

The debate over global warming is almost over. It's not a question of whether we're causing the extreme warming since the Industrial Revolution, but how much. By now, anyone object-

ing to the majority consensus of climate scientists is either being funded by the oil industry or should have his head checked. When was the last time there was ever a 100 percent consensus on anything?

Gore isn't perfect, but he certainly deserves our respect. He's been a consistent voice for the environment.

Will we get past that wooden frame and listen? My fear is that Gore won't suffer the fate of Michael Corleone. Like the geek in science class never taken seriously, always right and hated for it, Gore may only get credit after it's too late.

Brad Briggs is a junior journalism major from Mesquite.

Editorial

Don't shun dialogue on prejudice

Next stop: Baylor University.

A bus of people who hit campus Monday will continue to participate today in the Soulforce Equality Ride, a two-month, 34-college tour that, in the group's own words, "seeks to create a conversation with the next generation of conservative Christian leaders about the painful consequences of discrimination."

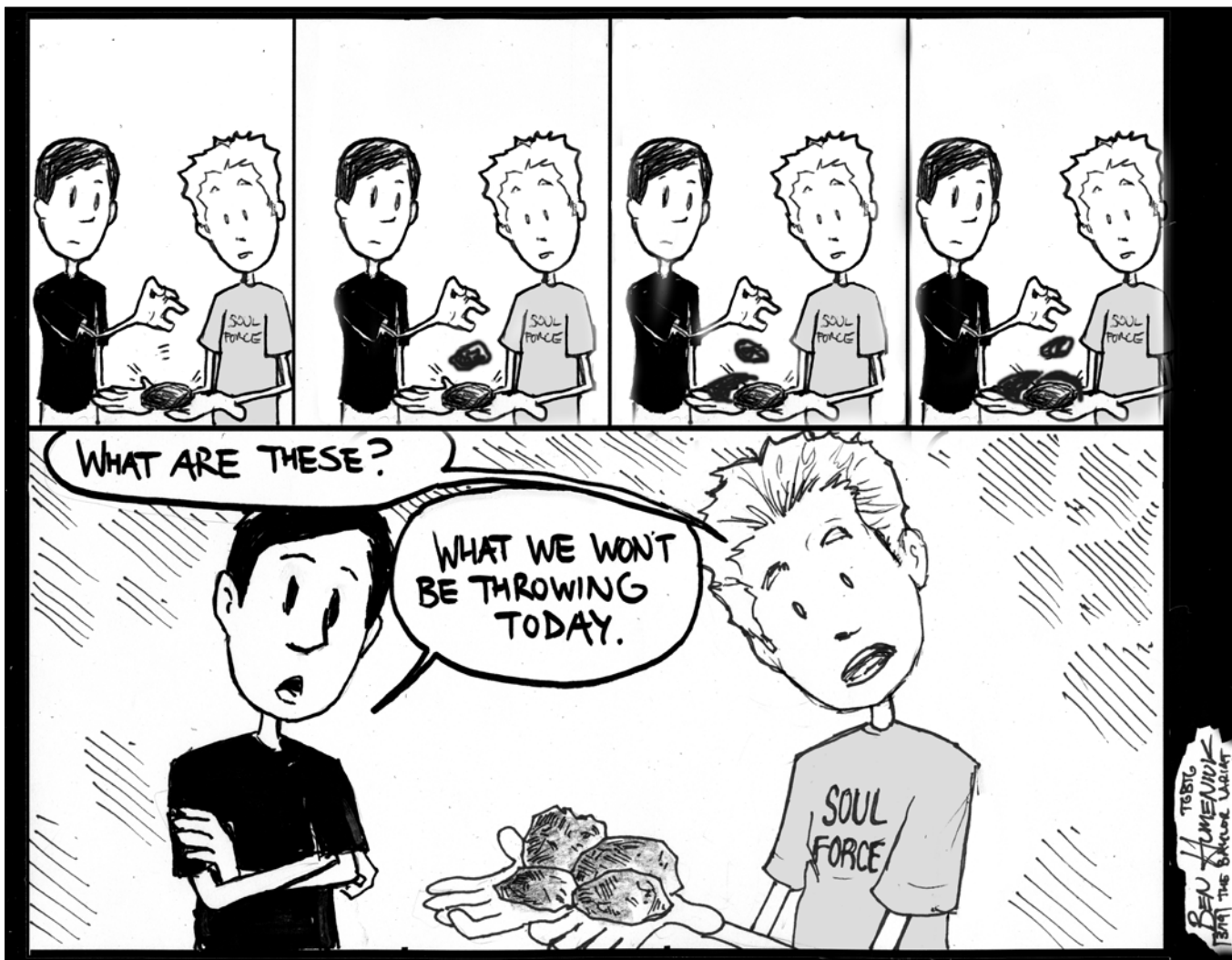
This attempt at a conversation on a campus Soulforce says discriminates against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered students is its fourth stop on the route that's taking the bus to 18 colleges as one of two journeys of the group.

Rather than supporting or discrediting Soulforce's message, we instead encourage students to take advantage of a moment of dialogue. Although the administration has refused to grant the group an official forum, group members were allowed on campus Monday to have discussions with students.

The university and student body should welcome the opportunity to discuss any and all types of discrimination. Dr. Dub Oliver, vice president for student life, sent all students an e-mail Monday morning explaining that the university would not honor the group's request for a university-approved dialogue. He said Baylor has the "right as a private institution to hold views based on our mission as a Christian university in the historic Baptist tradition."

He also said "the same approach has been and would be used with any external uninvited group, not just those dealing with human sexuality."

While Baylor does reserve the right to deny the group what it calls "university-approved dialogue," we think that with the denial, Baylor is missing an



opportunity to demonstrate its commitment to the important discussion of discrimination. After all, our campus hasn't been immune to discriminatory events in the past.

If the university was worried about promoting the views of Soulforce by giving it a platform, it should have invited another group to present a different opinion on the subject. Oliver's e-mail assured students the university will continue to provide chances to discuss human sexuality, but said Baylor "does not wish to have the conversation controlled by an external organization." Inviting groups of varying viewpoints,

even to an official discussion, would have kept the conversation from being controlled by anyone.

Members of the Equality Ride were arrested on charges of trespassing at two of the last three colleges they visited. The Equality Ride bus was also defaced during its first stop of its journey: Dordt College in Sioux Center, Iowa. We're confident that the level of maturity and respect at Baylor is high enough to avoid such childish antics at our school.

Since an official on-campus discussion has been banned, we encourage students to discuss this topic with friends, family, spiritual leaders and anyone else

they feel comfortable with.

Baylor's statement on human sexuality says that Christian churches "have affirmed purity in ... marriage between a man and a woman as the biblical norm. Temptations to deviate from this norm include both heterosexual sex outside of marriage and homosexual behavior. It is thus expected that Baylor students will not participate in advocacy groups which promote understandings of sexuality that are contrary to biblical teaching."

We would hope that at an institute of higher education, discussion and education would be promoted so students could make informed, moral decisions.

After Iraq debacle, chairman has no right to lecture on morality

"I believe homosexual acts between two individuals are immoral and that we should not condone immoral acts. I do not believe the United States is well served by a policy that says it is OK to be immoral in any way." — Peter Pace, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

In other words, it's wrong because it's wrong.

Boil Gen. Pace's comments in a recent interview down to their essence and that's what you get. Bypass intellect, detour around critical reasoning and there you are: wrong because it's wrong.

That, says the general, is why he opposes repeal of the military's "don't ask, don't tell"

policy. He doesn't want homosexuals to serve openly — they already serve clandestinely — in the armed forces.

People like the general — in other words, bigots — often wrap their objections in claims of fundamental right and wrong: I have a moral objection to homosexuality, they will say loftily.

I've always thought "visceral" would be a better and truer adjective. As in, a gut-level objection to people of the same sex engaging in physical or emotional intimacy.

If those who feel that objection would admit to being driven by instinct and not principle, I could at least respect their hon-

point of view



BY LEONARD PITTS

esty. Frankly, it's not uncommon for heterosexual people to flinch at the idea of homosexual intimacy. But the problem is, that admission would cost gay haters the pretense of principle.

To admit that a response is visceral is to admit you haven't thought it through, ergo, frame it as a "moral" issue. As a practical matter it comes out the

same, but it sounds more high minded. And never mind that it makes no sense.

I've never understood how people bonded by racial, sexual, religious or geographical commonality can be immoral. Is it immoral to be Jewish? Immoral to be male? Is it immoral to hail from Idaho? How, then, can it be immoral to be gay?

At this point, someone is frantically pointing to an obscure Old Testament passage as authority for homosexuality. The Old Testament also requires the death penalty for disrespectful children, forbids the eating of rare meat and obligates the man who rapes a virgin to buy and

marry her. I've seen no groundswell of support for those commands.

Morality has less to do with commonalities of existence than with how you treat people. Do you lie to or about them? Do you steal from them? Do you cheat them? Do you walk by their suffering, oblivious? Do you, except in self defense, harm them physically or mentally?

The answers to those questions define morality more than whether you're sharing a bed with someone who has the same sexual equipment you do. That's why, there's painful irony in hearing the president's top military adviser lecture on morality.

Team Bush misled the nation into war against the wrong enemy. It hospitalized wounded Americans in squalor and filth. It left the people we "liberated" without electricity, gasoline or medical services for months turning to years because of its failure to plan. How moral is that?

And how moral is it for the chairman to insult soldiers still in harm's way, soldiers who have been wounded, who have died because they don't love as he would choose?

The answer in two words: not very.

Leonard Pitts is a columnist for The Miami Herald.

The Baylor Lariat

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THE Daily Crossword

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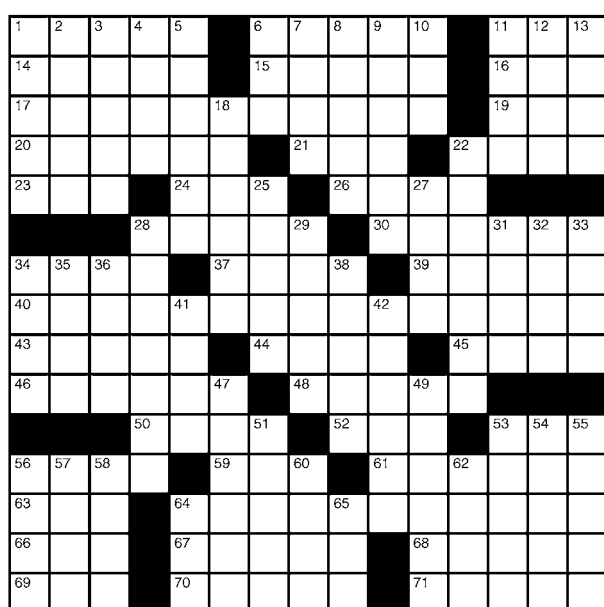
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- 43 Goatee, e.g.
- 45 Lou or Willis
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Fig or fir

- 32 Glamour rival
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- 41 Sask. neighbor
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- 56 Junk email
- 57 One Guthrie
- 58 Rolling stone's lack?
- 60 Popular cookie
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- 65 Mos. and mos.



By Verna Sait
Silver Spring, MD

3/20/07

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

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Student aims to gain eligibility to run for office

By Kate Boswell
Staff writer

Student Court met Monday night to decide whether to hear a case involving Student Senate's electoral laws.

Student senator Abbie Rosen, a Boxford, Mass., sophomore, said she is bringing the case to court on behalf of Sikestown, Mo., junior Jeff Hays, who wants to run for student body internal vice president.

There is a provision in student government's constitution stipulating that any candidate "must have attended Baylor Uni-

versity, Waco, Texas campus in the semester of his candidacy."

"From what I see, (Hays) would be ineligible," said Kevin Nguyen, a Houston senior and electoral commissioner.

Under this rule, Hays will not be allowed to run for internal vice president since he is spending this semester in Austin as a Bob Bullock Scholar.

The internship is through Baylor's political science department, Hays said.

He is still enrolled as a full-time student and is taking correspondence courses through the political science department.

"I'm working for Senator Jeff Wentworth in Austin," Hays said. "I still have to take my finals on campus, but I live in Austin because I'm working a 40-to-50 hour-a-week internship."

Rosen said she is bringing the case on Hays' behalf because she believes he would be a good candidate for the position.

"Jeff is a member of Baylor Chamber of Commerce," she said. "He will be living here next year and has a passion for Baylor."

Rosen and Hays are requesting that Student Court interpret

the passage so that Hays will be able to run for the position.

As of press time Monday night, a decision had not been made in regard to the hearing.

Hays said he believes the intent of those writing the constitution should be considered when interpreting this passage.

"I think the purpose of that was to ensure that the candidate has a concern and connection to campus," he said.

"They don't want someone that doesn't know the issues of campus and problems that they are facing. Although I'm still in Austin now, I feel that I under-

stand what those issues are."

Hays also said he believes that it's important for a candidate to have worked with campus issues before.

He said his involvement with Chamber and Student Senate means that he has that experience.

Nguyen said this rule is in place to ensure fairness and that it is important for those running for a position to be on campus.

"It gives (the process) a bit more fairness," he said. "If you're not on campus, it's harder to follow what's going on and it brings unneeded complications."

BEAR BRIEFS

Study abroad info session
The Center for International Education will have a study abroad information session for students at 4 p.m. today in 201B Poage Legislative Library.

Women's rights lecture
In honor of Women's History Month, Dr. Kathi Kern, associate professor at University of Kentucky, will be this year's visiting lecturer. Her lecture, "Sacred Politics: How Religious Debate Transformed the Women's Rights Movement in 19th Century America," will be at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday in Kayser Auditorium.

Bunny Drive this week
The seventh annual Bunny Drive, sponsored by CHI'S Service Sorority, will be held March 19 - 25. Members are collecting stuffed bunnies that still have tags to donate to local hospitals and nursing homes.

HIV/AIDS campaign meeting
A Student Global AIDS Campaign meeting will be held at 9 p.m. today in the School of Social Work in Speight Plaza Parking Garage. Following the meeting will be HIV/AIDS education session with Dr. Jon Singletary. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. For additional information, contact Carmen Jimenez at carmen_jimenez@baylor.edu.

Don't miss Acoustic Cafe
Acoustic Cafe will be at 8 p.m. Thursday in the den of the Bill Daniel Student Center. Featured artists are Lunden McGill and Colby Amparan. Enjoy a night of free music, coffee and pastries. For additional information, contact Michael Riemer at miichael_riemer@baylor.edu.

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



Photographer/Lariat staff

Giuliani takes on Texas

Republican presidential hopeful Rudy Giuliani, center, greets supporters Monday during his visit to the Tarrant County Republican Party Headquarters in Fort Worth.

Many paying up for internships

By Melissa Limmer
Staff Writer

With the days of spring break now only a memory, many students are looking forward to the summer break. But for many, summer is no vacation. The job market for internships is competitive, leaving many students willing to pay up for that resume-enhancing internship and turning to new resources to help them find one.

Fast Track Internships is a fee-based internship-finding service founded by two fathers with college-age students. "We knew our kids were frustrated in getting internships," said Steve Rodems, one of the founders.

Rodems and his business partner, Tom Kuthy, are both former executives who have worked in marketing for major corporations such as Procter & Gamble, Dell and Toyota. Rodems says his experiences make him a "fox in the henhouse" of sorts and help him place students in quality internships because he knows what employers are looking for.

Fast Track charges students \$799 to find an unpaid internship and \$999 for a paid internship. Rodems said they also offer a 100 percent money-back guarantee to students if they

do not find an internship. Up to this point, Rodems said they have not had to refund anyone's money.

Either Rodem or Kuthy sit down with each student customer to help write an "internship-focused resume." Fast Track then selects companies and individuals for the students to send resumes to.

He said that in many cases sending resumes to individuals rather than a human resources department "creates an internship where one didn't exist before." He added that internships have taken on a new importance.

"When I went to school 25 years ago, it was a good idea (to have an internship). Now it is sort of a 'have to have,'" he said.

Fast Track is not the only service students can hire to help them find internships. University of Dreams, an internship program, places students in eight-week summer internships. The cost ranges from \$6,499 to \$8,999 depending on the location of the internship.

University of Dreams holds its summer program at NYU, at UCLA, in Chicago, London and Barcelona. Students are also provided with room, board and transportation. University of Dreams CEO Eric Lochtefeld

said placement agents are assigned to each student and 70 percent of students get their first choice of among 2,000 different internships.

"We are a compliment to (university) career centers," Lochtefeld said. University of Dreams focuses not just on local companies, but national and international ones like MTV Europe and Dreamworks.

Lochtefeld described the internship process as a "test drive" both for students and employers.

While you can buy your chance at an internship, Nicole McAninch, a Baylor career center counselor, said you don't have to shell out money. Both the Career Services Center and individual academic departments are really "getting behind the idea of going out and actively finding internships," McAninch said.

Besides individual departments and professors' various contacts, the career center has a database with more than 900 employers. McAninch suggested that students start their internship search early and be proactive.

"For most majors it is a must-have," McAninch said. "It would be to their (students) benefit to have industry specific internships."

BU names information technology VP

By Kate Boswell
Staff writer

Baylor University announced Monday the appointment of Pattie Orr as vice president for information technology and dean of libraries.

"Baylor University is fortunate to have found in Pattie Orr an individual with the distinctive expertise necessary to continue the integration of library services with the university's technology resources," President John Lilley said in a press release.

Orr, who currently serves as the director of user services at Wellesley College, said she was excited about her new position.

"I'm just really looking forward to joining the Baylor family," she said. "I started Resnet here (Wellesley) back in 1994 ... My background has been all about supporting users and I want to make sure that information technology and the library are accessible to students."

Orr will replace Rebecca L. King, director of informa-

tion systems and services, who served as interim chief information officer and William B. Hair III, associate dean and director of the university libraries, who served for the past year as interim dean of libraries.

Orr will be leading a university-wide information technology organization that provides administrative and academic technology services and technology infrastructure and library services, according to the press release.

Though Orr has been pursuing a doctorate in higher education administration from the University of Massachusetts, she is putting the degree on hold to come to Baylor.

"Opportunity knocks when opportunity knocks," she said.



Orr

Orr said she plans to continue pursuing her degree in Texas after she has settled into her new job.

She said the degree is "meant to help administrators be better administrators" and that she believes the classes she has already taken will directly help her in her new job.

The job will begin June 1, and she said her new position is a kind of homecoming for her.

"I'm from Texas originally," she said.

Orr's daughter, Ivy Hamerly, is a lecturer in Baylor's political science department, and Hamerly's husband, Greg, is an assistant professor of computer science in the School of Engineering and Computer Science.

Hamerly said she thought Baylor's Texas location was exciting to her mother.

"We moved to Massachusetts when I was 13, and ever since then, she and my dad have been trying to get back to Texas," Hamerly said. "She's excited about the opportunities at Baylor and the challenge of a new job."

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directed by Stan Donnan

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Truett dean expected to uphold legacy

By **Bethany Poller**
Reporter

After skyrocketing George W. Truett Theological Seminary's endowment to \$30 million above the average seminary's \$8 million coffer, Dr. Paul W. Powell is stepping down as seminary dean. Dr. David Garland, Truett Academic Affairs Associate Dean, is stepping up to take his place.

Powell said he was retired and living in Tyler when he was appointed as the third dean of Truett in 2001.

He has since played a large part in collecting funds for the Truett endowment, which passed \$38 million during his time as dean.

"He's great at getting people to donate to a worthy cause," said Dr. Betty Talbert, Truett faculty member and director of spiritual formation. "The finan-

cial stability we have now is due to him."

This money goes toward student scholarships and mission trips, Truett assistant dean Rene Maciel said.

"Dean Powell's a legacy with the amount of money he's raised," Maciel said. "It's helped out so many students."

But Powell is more proud of the identity he has given Truett Seminary.

"I helped give the seminary an identity as a Christ-centered and Bible-based seminary devoted to our historic Baptist principles," Powell said.

He was able to do this, he



Garland

said, because he was well known by Texas Baptists because of previous positions as an author and a preacher.

This allowed people to get a sense of Truett's identity because they knew the position Powell took on issues.

"Dr. Robert Sloan had the original vision for Truett, but I think it is Dr. Powell's tenure that has made that vision live," Talbert said.

At 73 years old, Powell is ready to retire again. He recommended Garland to President John Lilley as his successor.

"Dr. Garland will keep Truett going the way it's going," Powell said.

"He's an outstanding scholar, a competent administrator and the faculty has confidence in him."

When Powell began working as dean, he hired Garland as the associate dean of academic affairs. Garland is also

a member of the Truett faculty, teaching classes in Greek and ministry.

During his time at Truett, Garland has earned the respect and admiration of all his colleagues, Talbert said.

"He is beloved by faculty," Talbert said.

Garland has preached in various churches in the U.S. and Australia and is the author or co-author of at least 12 books, including two he wrote with his wife, Dr. Diana Richmond Garland, a professor of social work and chairwoman of Baylor's School of Social Work.

Truett faculty members have expressed confidence that Garland will continue to work hard as dean of the seminary.

"He'll do an incredible job for Truett in the years to come," Maciel said.

Garland will start his term June 1 after Powell officially retires May 31.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

U.S. grants Iranian president visa for U.N. address

WASHINGTON — The U.S. has granted Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad a visa, letting him travel to New York to address the U.N. Security Council as it considers sanctions against Tehran over its nuclear program.

The department has processed 39 visas for Ahmadinejad and his delegation, which includes 12 other senior Iranian officials and 26 security guards. Another 33 visa requests, for airline crew and support staff, are expected to be processed shortly.

The approvals, which had been expected, were announced Monday after world powers agreed

in principle to a new package of sanctions. Iran sought to speak to the council before members vote on a resolution to impose the new measures for its refusal to suspend uranium enrichment.

The U.S. does not have diplomatic relations with Iran, which it regards as a leading state sponsor of terrorism. The U.S. has repeatedly condemned the country for allegedly trying to disguise an atomic weapons program under the guise of a civilian nuclear energy scheme.

The council will begin consideration of the new resolution Wednesday.

White House hopes Gonzales remains attorney general

WASHINGTON — Amid bipartisan calls for Attorney General Alberto Gonzales' resignation in a scandal over dismissals of eight federal prosecutors, White House representatives said Monday, "We hope he stays."

When asked if Gonzales will serve for the rest of President Bush's term, White House press secretary Tony Snow said, "Well, we hope so."

Gonzales is under fire for the removal of eight U.S. attorneys and the misconstrued way their

firings were explained to Congress.

Bush has expressed confidence in Gonzales and defended the removal of the prosecutors, but also voiced frustration that lawmakers were not provided straightforward information.

White House counselor Dan Bartlett said Monday that Bush has full confidence in Gonzales and hopes he serves the remainder of his term.

He said Gonzales had not offered his resignation.

Postal rates to hit 41 cents, forever stamp approved

WASHINGTON — The cost of mailing a letter will go up on May 14, but you'll be able to lock in that price — no matter how rates rise in the future — by buying the new "forever" stamp.

The post office governing board agreed Monday to accept the new 41-cent rate for first class mail recommended in February by the independent Postal Regulatory Commission.

The board also agreed to the proposal for a "forever stamp" that will always be valid for mailing a letter no matter how much rates increase.

The first forever stamps will sell for 41 cents apiece, but they won't have a price printed on them and they will remain valid for sending a letter regardless of

any future rate increases.

While a forever stamp will always be valid for mailing a letter, that doesn't mean the price won't go up. If rates were to increase to 45 cents, for example, that's what a forever stamp would sell for. But stamps already purchased at a lower rate could still be used without adding extra postage.

Shape-based pricing is also included in the new rates. For example, if the contents of a first-class large envelope are folded and placed in a letter-sized envelope, mailers can reduce postage by as much as 39 cents per piece.

Implementation of one part of the new rates will take place July 15.

The Associated Press

Medical professor advises Baylor students

By **Ashlie Young**
Reporter

The Baylor College of Medicine, located in Houston, Texas, is one of the top institutions striving for excellence in the field of medicine.

Dr. James L. Phillips, professor of pediatrics at the Baylor College of Medicine (unrelated to Baylor University) and senior associate dean of the college, and two Baylor College of Medicine students visited Baylor Monday to meet with pre-health students to discuss the college's medical program.

Getting into the Baylor College of Medicine program is very competitive. In 2006 alone, 4,326 students applied, but only 168 were selected. Of the 168 accepted students, 76 percent were Texas residents and 48 percent were women.

"Baylor College of Medicine is committed to diversity and improving healthcare for the en-

tire country," Phillips said. "We have physicians, researchers and students from a wide range of backgrounds."

The student population overall is very diverse, including people from many ethnicities and backgrounds, even including some international students, which is rare for medical programs in the United States.

Admission to the Baylor College of Medicine program has several criteria: GPA, MCAT, transcripts, references, essays, extracurricular activities, volunteering, research and other life experiences.

"Academics are important, but we want well-rounded individuals who excel in many areas and have interests in things other than studying," Phillips said.

Dr. Phillips also recommended that younger students who are considering applying to start getting experience now by participating in summer programs such as SMART, which is

designed to give undergraduate students experience in medical research.

The Baylor College of Medicine uses a new learning system based on organ systems instead of the traditional method of separating all of the different sciences.

By using an organ-based learning system, Baylor College of Medicine students have the advantage of connecting everything they learn instead of attempting to link what is learned in one class with another.

"Along with this difference in curriculum, Baylor College of Medicine also condenses the first two years of basic sciences into one and a half years," third-year Baylor College of Medicine student Bartley Mitchell said.

"This means Baylor College of Medicine students get a six-month head start on other medical students by beginning clinical study early," he said.

"This also gives Baylor College

of Medicine students more time in actual clinical situations than other students, making them more prepared for their exams."

Another plus to attending the Baylor College of Medicine is the chance to watch lectures online. The administration understands students don't always get a concept the first time, and sometimes coming to class isn't an option, said Phillips.

Students who are accepted to the Baylor College of Medicine also accumulate meaningful life experiences both in the hospital and out.

"The experience that I've had working with patients is amazing," Mitchell's husband, Bartley Mitchell, said.

"You encounter many different people, from someone who simply can't afford medical care to a person who has been shot five times and is on his deathbed. But other life experiences are important for medical students as well."


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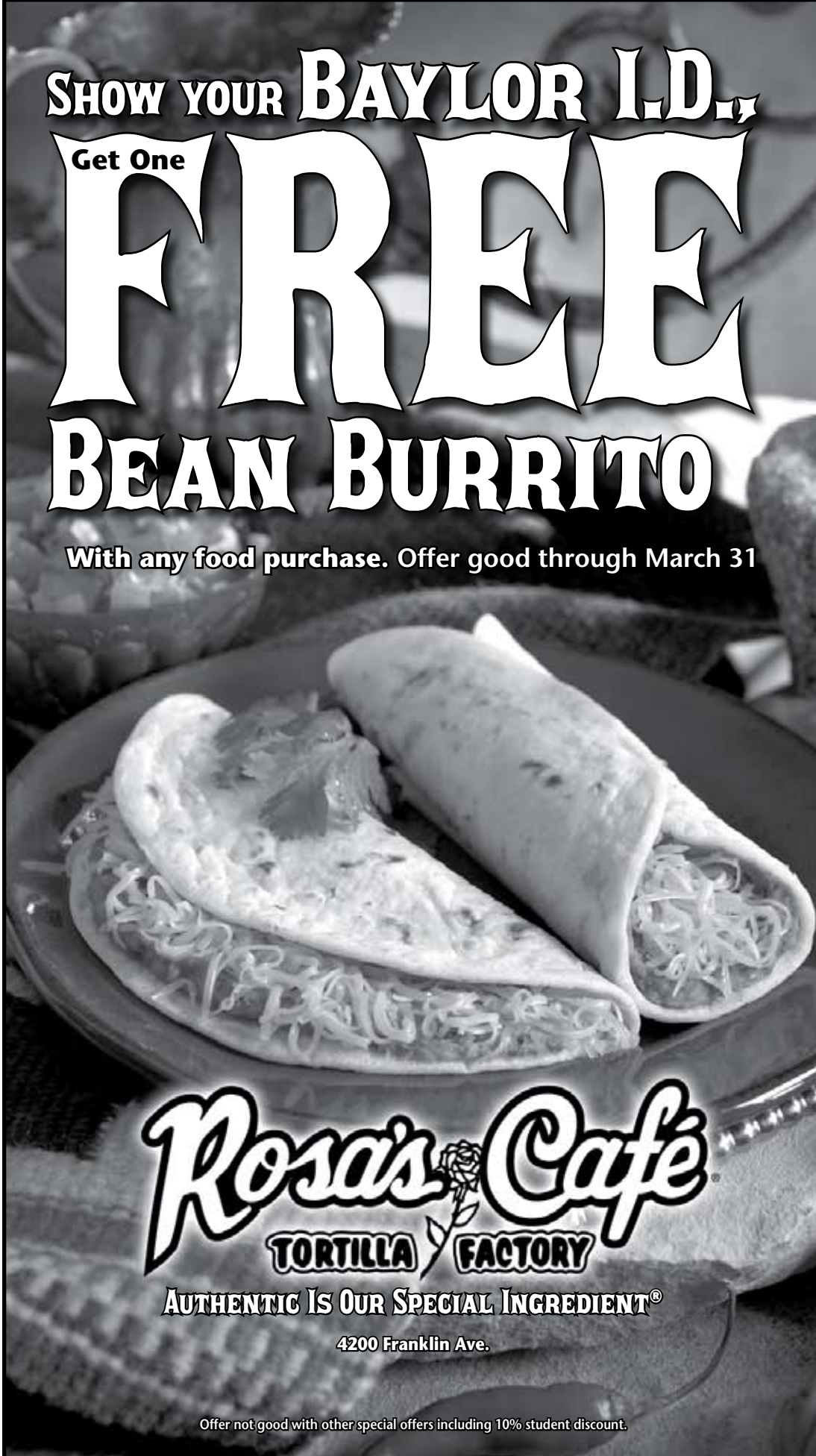
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BU student given national office in graduate association

By Yvonne Pham
Reporter

This March was the first time the Baylor Graduate Students Association attended a regional conference. It was also the first time a Baylor GSA member was elected to fill a national officer's position.

Amy Myers, GSA president, was elected regional coordinator for the National Association of Graduate and Professional Students at a regional conference held March 2-4 in Columbia, Mo.

"It's really outstanding that Amy can represent us and that the region will have one of its officers from Baylor," GSA faculty

Upcoming GSA events

April 1-7
Graduate appreciation week

April 3
Ice Cream Day at the North Village Creamery from 5 to 8 p.m.

adviser Laine Scales said. "It's a great honor for her and a great thing for Baylor."

As the national association's regional coordinator, Myers is responsible for overseeing eight states in the region.

Along with Myers' new position come new responsibilities.

ties.

"As a member of the NAGPS board of directors, I represent my region in all discussions and activities planned by this executive steering committee," Myers said.

In addition to appointing Myers to her new position, the regional conference gave the GSA the chance to meet, mingle with and learn from fellow GSA officers from the universities in the Midwest. Myers said all eight states and 204 universities in the South-Central region gathered at the regional conference to discuss the dynamics of graduate and professional education.

The different aspects of

graduate/professional student life were addressed, and topics included student leadership groups, student body engagement, student services and policies impacting graduate and professional education at both institutional and national levels.

GSA officers learned about organizational structures of other schools, reflecting on what the organization has done and could do that would improve the group in the coming years.

The group also mentored members from schools that are just now developing their own graduate student associations. They also learned from veteran

schools that have more experience to offer.

The knowledge and skills shared with the officers have given them more insight on ways to improve and continue the organization's growth on campus.

GSA president-elect Ann Pickens said after comparing the different universities' programs, she realized how much more organization is needed in terms of interdepartmental communication at the graduate school.

"We need to find a better way to streamline communication between the different departments," Pickens said.

"The other universities had

found some way where each grad student was represented effectively."

The conference provided opportunities for the students to start general networking with GSA members of all different levels of experience.

According to Scales, GSA members and faculty advisers believed it was important to learn what other universities are doing and to share with others what the GSA does at Baylor.

"This conference allowed us to strengthen and better serve our graduate student body," Myers said.

"There is a lot of knowledge and experiences we can learn from one another."

'Times' Web access free with '.edu' e-mail

By Bernard P. Zipprich
The Harvard Crimson

(U-WIRE) CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — The *New York Times* is now allowing anyone with a ".edu" e-mail address to access its exclusive online TimesSelect content — free of charge.

Since TimesSelect was first unveiled in September 2005, readers have been required to subscribe to the print edition of the *Times* or pay for an online-only subscription in order to gain Web access to op-ed columns, article archives and other special features.

By waiving the \$49.95 yearly online fee for readers affiliated with academic institutions — students in particular — the paper is aiming to boost readership among what it considers to be a crucial demographic and a group that is increasingly turning to the Web for its news.

"College students represent the next generation of *Times* readers," said *Times* spokesperson Diane McNulty in a phone interview on Friday. "Reading the *Times* is a critical piece of any student's intellectual development, and we want to make it readily available."

TimesSelect was first introduced in 2005 as part of ongoing efforts by the *Times* to adapt to declining print sales and a surge in online readership. By limiting access to op-ed columns, archives and other exclusive features to paying customers, the paper hoped to secure a new source of revenue to support its news-gathering operations.

"It's very expensive to have a Baghdad bureau and to send Thomas Friedman around the world to cover stories," McNulty said. "It's important to build new revenue streams and TimesSelect is one of the ways we were doing that."

In 2006, TimesSelect raised \$9.9 million in new revenue for the paper. As of January 2007, it counted 627,000 subscribers in its rolls. Of the 627,000, 34 percent had online-only subscriptions. The remainder received access as part of their home delivery subscriptions, McNulty said.

But many readers — including college students on notoriously tight budgets — were not pleased with the *Times*' 2005 decision to charge for content.

"I read (the *Times*) every day," said Chia N. Mustafa, a sophomore. "So I was kind of pissed off — news should be accessible to everyone."

In the year and a half since TimesSelect was first introduced, the newspaper has continued to adapt to a business model that is increasingly reliant upon the Internet. Among *Times* readers on campus, the paper's recent decision to stop charging students has been well received.

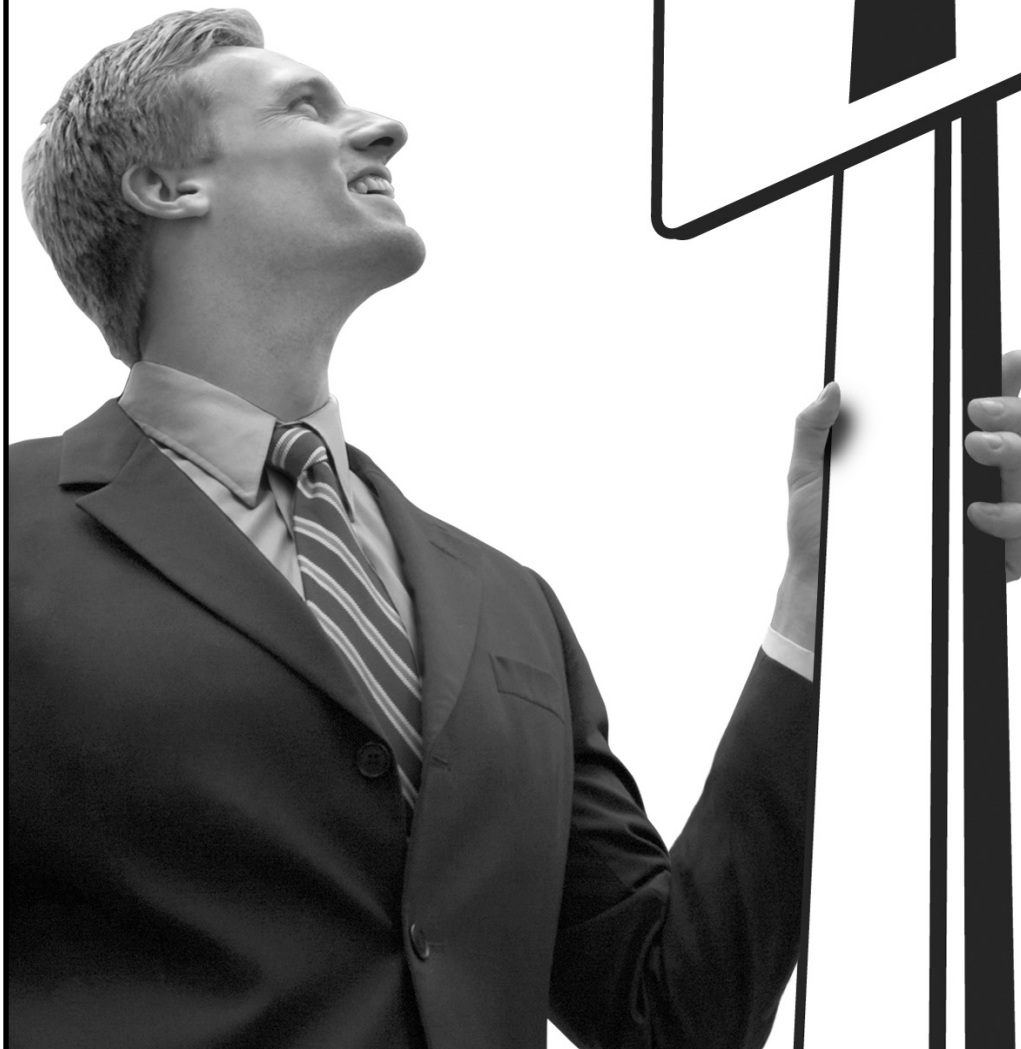
"I think it's awesome," said Aimee C. Dobrowski, a senior, who had been relying upon her father's subscription to gain access to TimesSelect.

McNulty said opening up TimesSelect to college students is just one of many ways the paper has been attempting to reach out to the college-age demographic.

The *Times* is also currently running a "Win a trip with Nick Kristof" promotion, whereby the *Times*' columnist will personally pick one college student and one high school or middle school teacher to accompany him on a trip to Africa to engage in on-the-ground reporting of issues of poverty and development.

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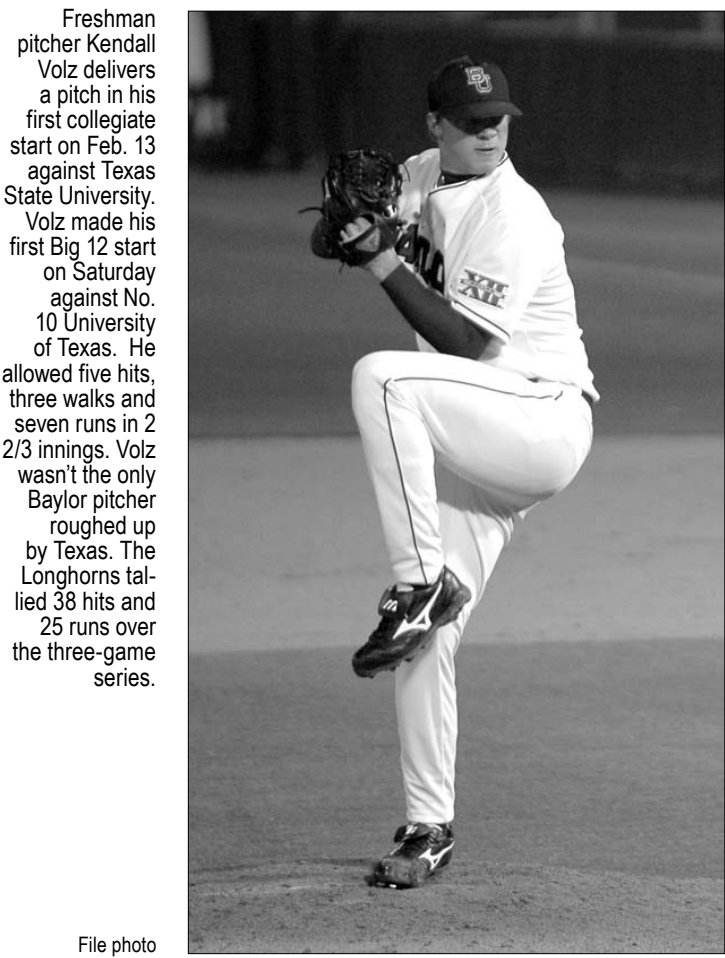
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Heavy-hitting Horns sweep Bears

By Daniel Youngblood
Sports editor

Heading into the season, head baseball Coach Steve Smith said he wouldn't know what kind of expectations to put on his young team until it had played some games.

After his Bears (12-10, 0-3) completed their first Big 12 series of the season against No. 10 University of Texas, Smith has a better idea where his team stands — somewhere well below the Longhorns. Texas swept the weekend series, outscoring the Bears 25-7 over three games.

"These games, more than any we've played all year, showed the difference in experience between the two teams," Smith said.

After dropping the series opener 3-2 at Texas' Disch-Faulk Field, the Bears returned home to finish the series, losing 14-2 on Saturday and 8-3 on Sunday.

The Bears scored two runs in the first inning of each of the

first two games to jump out to early leads. But in both games, they were unable to score afterward and Texas bats came around.

Senior pitcher Jeff Mandel held the Longhorns to three runs over 6 1/3 innings on Friday but took the loss when Texas struck for a run in the fourth inning and two more in the fifth.

On Saturday, freshman starter Kendall Volz coasted through 2 2/3 innings, but the Longhorns knocked him out of the game in the third inning, when nine straight Texas batters reached base with two outs and seven came around to score.

Senior first baseman Tim Jackson, who had just one hit in 10 at-bats over the weekend, said this series could be good for the team.

"Texas is a tough team and this was a tough way to start the Big 12 season, but being so young, it was good to see where we are as a team," he said. "Now

is not a time to get down. We just need to keep working hard and use this series as a learning experience."

While Texas pitchers allowed just four earned runs the entire weekend, it was the Longhorns' lineup that garnered most of the attention. Texas tallied 38 hits, including seven home runs.

Texas right fielder Kyle Russell hit four home runs to raise his season total to 13 — two more than Baylor has as a team.

Junior pitcher Randall Linebaugh, who took the loss after giving up four earned runs over seven innings Sunday, said the Bears ran into a tough team.

"They hit some of the pitches well that I thought were good pitches," he said. "We caught them on a hot streak right now, and they're all seeing the ball pretty well. It's just one of those times where you just tip your hat to them and move on."

Unfortunately for the Bears, moving on might not be easy. The Bears' next two conference

series are against a 17-8 Texas Tech University team and No. 19 Oklahoma State University.

Smith said the most important thing for the team to do is learn from the losses, get back on the field and play baseball. With a home game against Texas Southern University scheduled for 6:30 p.m. today, the Bears will get to do just that.

Jackson said it's important the team doesn't panic and just sticks to its game plan.

"(Today's) game is definitely big," he said. "A lot of people take those midweek games for granted, but we have to go out there, play our game and get a win. We need to get our confidence back up as a team."

Smith said this weekend was frustrating, but he isn't too worried about his team's mindset moving forward.

"To me, the only way that a young team can fail is if they just quit, and I don't see the handful of seniors on this team letting that happen," he said.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Women's golf takes third

The Baylor women's golf team shot a final round 298 to finish third at the Betsy Rawls Longhorn Invitational at the University of Texas Golf Course on Sunday. Freshman Hannah Burke led the Bears with a 73 on the tournament's final day, moving Baylor to third overall. Baylor finished three strokes behind second-place TCU and 14 behind first-place Purdue. Burke led the Bears with a total of 220 over the four-round event and finished third individually, while senior Anna Rehnholm helped with a score of 223. The team plays at the Mountainview Collegiate Tournament in Tucson, Ariz., this weekend.

Men's golf finishes second

The Baylor men's golf team took second at the Border Olympics held Friday and Saturday at the Laredo Country Club. The Bears started strong, posting a four-under-par round on the tournament's first day.

They were able to coast from there, riding a solid third round to secure second place ahead of Vanderbilt University. Jeremy Alcorn and Wes Williams posted the Bears' best individual outings, tying for seventh place at four-under-par. Baylor will return to the links on March 25-27 as the Bears travel to Awendaw, S.C., to participate in the Hootie at Bulls Bay Intercollegiate.

Softball goes 2-4 in Hawaii

The Baylor softball team managed two wins in its four-day road trip to the Bank of Hawai'i Invitational, finishing the trip 2-4 and dropping its overall record to 26-9. The Bears beat No. 25 University of California on the final day to move them into the championship game, but they fell short to the University of Hawai'i, 2-1, in the tournament's final game. Baylor's only other win came off a two-out, RBI single from Alex Colyer to beat No. 23 Hawai'i 3-2 on Thursday. The team returns to action Thursday for a double-header against Oklahoma Baptist University at Getterman Stadium.

Tennis wins two matches

The No. 5 Baylor men's tennis team won both of its matches over the weekend, defeating both the No. 2 University of Virginia and Georgia Tech University 6-1. The Bears' win over Virginia Saturday at the Baylor Tennis Center was the team's biggest upset of the season. Dominik Mueller and Matt Brown sealed the doubles point with a win in a tiebreak, 9-8 (1). In singles action, Baylor's Lars Poerschke and Brown upset higher ranked players. Zgaga was the only Baylor player to drop his match. The men defeated Georgia Tech University on Sunday, improving their record to 13-2. Georgia Tech swept all three doubles matches to take the doubles point. But Baylor won all six singles matches to get the win. Baylor opens conference play in Lincoln, Neb., against the University of Nebraska on Friday.



Associated Press

Voicing support


Sophomore forward Rachel Allison (left) and freshman post Jessika Bradley cheer during the Bears' 68-55 win over Chattanooga University on Sunday. With the win, the fifth-seeded Lady Bears move on to the second round of the NCAA tournament for the fourth straight year. They're set to face fourth-seeded North Carolina State University at 6:30 p.m. today in Raleigh, N.C. The Wolfpack have won 11 of their last 13 games.

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Rangers narrow starter search

The Associated Press

SURPRISE, Ariz. — Texas Rangers manager Ron Washington still has a tough decision to make for the fifth starter in the rotation. He doesn't mind too much, though, because all three remaining candidates have been pitching well in spring training. "Hopefully, it goes down to the last meeting that we have to have to do it," Washington said. "If they keep pitching the way I feel they are capable of pitching, whatever guy we leave out of here with, I feel we'll be all right."

Before the Rangers' only off day of the spring Monday, left-hander Bruce Chen and right-handers Kameron Loe and Jamey Wright continued their impressive springs in consecutive starts.

"Ron has a very tough decision to make," Chen said after throwing three scoreless innings Sunday to lower his spring ERA to 0.77 in four games.

"There's been separation," Washington said. "Loe, Chen and Wright have separated themselves from the pack."

Loe, who came out of last spring in the rotation before being sidelined by a sore elbow, hasn't allowed an earned run in

13 2/3 innings over four games this year. He threw five shutout innings Saturday.

"I'm feeding off the competition," Loe said. "I've got a little more fire knowing I have to earn my spot."

Wright gave up his first earned runs Friday night, but still has a 2.16 ERA over 8 1/3 innings in three games. He has six strikeouts and two walks.

John Koronka (12.00 ERA) and Josh Rupe (15.43 ERA), solely a reliever last season but considered a starting candidate this spring, were sent to the minor leagues Sunday. Edinson Volquez, who ended last season in the rotation, was in the first group of cuts last week.

John Rheinecker hasn't even pitched this spring because of back spasms, and Washington said it would be impossible now for Rheinecker to start the season in the rotation.

Washington made it clear from the start that performance would determine who joined the rotation with Kevin Millwood, Vicente Padilla, Brandon McCarthy and Robinson Tejeda.

Wright and Chen are experienced pitchers in camp as non-roster invitees. Wright, a first-round pick by Colorado in 1993, has started 237 games over 11



Associated Press

Rangers fifth starter candidate Bruce Chen delivers a pitch during a spring training game against the Colorado Rockies on Sunday. Chen has turned the heads of Rangers management with his 0.77 ERA over 11 2/3 innings.

major league seasons with five teams, and Chen has 237 appearances (112 starts) over nine seasons with eight teams.

If not on the 40-man roster at the end of spring training, Wright and Chen can become free agents. Loe, with 65 appearances (24 starts) over the past three seasons, still can be optioned to Oklahoma without being exposed to other teams.

Wright made San Francisco's rotation last spring as a non-roster invitee and was 5-3 before losing seven of his last eight decisions.

"I'm just trying to simplify everything," said Wright, who has changed his delivery this spring. "Everything is about mechanics. It's pretty refreshing

to have a pitching coach tell me that I want you to forget about everything else, go out there let the ball go, air it out."

After winning 13 games for Baltimore in 2005, Chen was 0-7 with a 6.93 ERA for the Orioles last season. The Rangers signed him to a minor league deal after he had a solid winter in Puerto Rico.

"If I end up making the club because I'm throwing the ball good, then that's good. If I'm not making the club but I'm still throwing the ball good, it's OK. I know I have a shot, either here or somewhere else," Chen said. "The most important thing for me is to go out there and get back to the form where I was in 2005."

Lane's two homers power Astros over Marlins

By Tim Reynolds
Associated Press

JUPITER, Fla. — Jason Lane is trying hard to reclaim his right-field job with the Houston Astros.

Lane hit two home runs, including a three-run shot off reliever Mike Koplove in the sixth inning that put the Astros ahead to stay in their 4-2 win over the Florida Marlins on Monday.

Lane also hit a solo homer in the second off starter Scott Olsen.

"I've just maintained an approach where I'm going to try to get myself ready to play for opening day," Lane said. "I think I can get myself prepared for the season. The results will be there."

The 30-year-old Lane was the Astros' starter in right last year, but was replaced by Luke Scott

after a dismal first half. Lane hit .205 before the All-Star break, but Scott batted .336 with 10 home runs and 37 RBIs in 65 games after getting called up for the second half of the season.

When Lane got a chance to play after his struggles continued. He was actually worse following the break, hitting .188 and finishing the year at .201 in 112 games.

He entered this spring as an underdog in the chase for an everyday spot.

But after some offseason work, including slimming down



Lane

a bit and adding more flexibility, he's in position to perhaps win the job back.

"He had to hit those balls pretty doggone good to get them out — and he did," Astros manager Phil Garner said. "I think he's been swinging good, and I'm delighted he's getting some results out of all the work he's been doing."

Olsen probably wasn't delighted, but had to be at least satisfied with his day. The left-hander allowed three runs and four hits in 5 1-3 innings, striking out five. Olsen threw 87 pitches, 52 for strikes.

"I felt good," said Olsen, who tossed five shutout innings against Baltimore in his previous start. "The changeups were more consistent today, more were down in the zone than up. Fastball location was not as good as the last start but

still good enough. I need to stay back over the rubber and my arm will work and everything will be fine."

Hanley Ramirez scored a run, drove in another and stole a base for the Marlins, who lost for only the second time in their last seven Grapefruit League decisions.

Lane's first homer of the day tied the game in the second inning.

Ramirez scored the Marlins' first run on Josh Willingham's single in the first inning, then drove in Miguel Olivo with a sacrifice fly in the seventh.

But four Houston relievers combined to throw five innings of one-hit ball and protected the lead.

Astros starter Fernando Nieve, who's competing for a rotation spot, allowed five hits and a run in four innings.

Nebraska's Sadler denies interest in Arkansas opening

By Noah Trister
Associated Press

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Doc Sadler seemed ready for the question — even if he wasn't particularly interested in answering it.

What does the Nebraska basketball coach think about the situation at Arkansas these days?

"Believe me, I've got way too many things to be worried about at Nebraska," Sadler told the crowd at a luncheon Monday.

Sadler was back in his home state to speak at the Downtown Tip-Off Club, and although he spent plenty of time talking about his current job, he fielded a few questions about the state of the Razorbacks.

Arkansas was knocked out of the NCAA tournament by Southern California on Friday night, and coach Stan Heath's job status is the subject of much speculation.

Sadler, a former assistant with the Razorbacks under Ed die Sutton, was asked by reporters afterward if he would be interested in a potential opening

at Arkansas.

"I'm the coach at Nebraska, and I'm happy to be at Nebraska, and I plan on being there a long, long time," he said.

Sadler's first season with the Cornhuskers hasn't always been pleasant. For example, their was a home loss to Kansas in which Nebraska trailed 43-16 at halftime.

But the Cornhuskers rebounded.

"We came back after that game," Sadler said. "We practiced twice a day, probably more than the four hours a day which you're allowed to do. We came back and went to Missouri on the road and beat them double figures and went to Texas Tech, we won. I think that's what athletics is all about."

Nebraska finished 17-14.

Sadler is from Greenwood and was an assistant at Arkansas from 1982-85, one of several coaching stops for the 46-year-old coach.

His first head coaching position was at Arkansas-Fort Smith from 1998-2003, and he then led the Texas-El Paso program for two seasons before ending up at Nebraska.

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Bands come together on common ground for show

Green River Ordinance, Florez, 20 Minutes to Park to play Waco coffeehouse

By Aileen Wong
Reporter

Three bands will converge at one place today: Common Grounds.

Florez, 20 Minutes to Park and Green River Ordinance will perform at 9 p.m. in the backyard of Common Grounds.

Mitch Strohm on lead vocals and guitar and Josh Gilmore on lead guitar and back-up vocals perform as 20 Minutes to Park.

"We're playing with two other pretty professional bands," Gilmore said. "It's our first time in Waco, and that's pretty exciting."

The band is originally from Indianapolis and has been playing mainly in the Midwest.

Strohm and Gilmore met at Indiana University and combined their musical influences of country and blues to create a new sound of their own.

They played together for four years around the Midwest in Michigan, Chicago, Cincinnati, Florida, Tennessee and Indiana. After they graduated in May 2005, they decided to pursue their music careers full time.

"We've been doing this for a while," Gilmore said. "It's fun. It's what we love to do, and we'll keep doing it. Now we're taking it on the road."

The duo likes to relate to their audience with a self-described quirky, soulful acoustic rock sound.

"We'll throw in some humor here and there," Gilmore said. "We definitely feed off the audience."

20 Minutes to Park recently released **Can't Stand Still**, its de-

but album.

Florez, a band based out of Nashville, Tenn., is made up of Alex Florez on lead vocal and guitar, Erik Huffman on bass and vocal and Dusty Emerick on keyboard, harmonica, banjo and vocals. All of them played together at Furman University and would perform regularly around the campus in Greenville, S.C.

Florez is touring around the country, and John Robinson, a drummer, is touring with the band, as well.

"We haven't been to Texas in almost a year," Florez said. "We're really good friends with Jill Mashburn (owner of Common Grounds), so any chance we get to hang out with her, we do."

Florez said playing at Common Grounds will be a different atmosphere for the band because the coffee shop is such a small venue.

"We're not going to be able to do the rock 'n roll stuff we usually do," Florez said. "It's going to be a more acoustic, more relaxed sound."

However, Florez said although the atmosphere is different, the performance will still connect with the audience.

"When the performers are on stage and feel at home, it resonates with the audience," Florez said.

Florez said his musical roots go back to his childhood. His father was in a band, and his mother encouraged him to take guitar lessons.

"My family has always supported me and never told me to have a backup plan when I told them I wanted to play music professionally," Florez said.

The band has shared the stage with popular artists such as Gavin DeGraw and Amos Lee.

The song "Natalie" from its

first CD, **In Flight**, was featured in NBC's **Scrubs**. Its second acoustic album is called **The Brooker Sessions**.

Green River Ordinance includes Joshua Wilkerson on electric guitar, Josh Jenkins on vocals and acoustic guitar, Jamey Ice on electric guitar, Geoff Ice on bass and Denton Hunker on drums.

"I'm excited about the show," Jenkins said.

"We did a show there a couple of weeks ago, and the weather should be good."

For Green River Ordinance, Common Grounds is close to the members' hometown of Fort Worth.

"We've got a lot of friends in Waco and enjoy hanging out with them," Jenkins said. "Usually we're playing for people we don't know when we're on tour, but now we get to see people from high school."

The five met, wrote and re-

corded their music before they even entered high school.

Their first EP was recorded in the basement of their church and sold out within a few months. The current album, **The Beauty of Letting Go**, has received numerous positive reviews from music critics.

The band was listed among the top 20 college-based bands in the U.S. by MTV in 2006.

"We love to have a good time," Jenkins said.

"We want to play music that puts people in a good mood. We want our show to have a lax atmosphere."

Admission for the show is \$7.

For more information about the bands, visit www.myspace.com/florez, www.myspace.com/20minutestopark and www.myspace.com/gro.

For information about the show, call Common Grounds at 757-2957.



Sony Pictures
Sandra Bullock and Julian McMahon play Linda and Jim Hanson in the psychological thriller *Premonition*. The film was released in theaters Friday.

'Premonition' fulfills great predictions

By Hana Manal
Contributor

The critics are right. **Premonition**, starring Sandra Bullock and Julian McMahon, is phenomenal — to say the least. Not only did the psychological thriller make me think, but I actually found myself more focused on the screen than my watch, which is rare these days.

MOVIE REVIEW

The movie begins with a happily-ever-after scene: a newly married couple purchases their dream home. Skipping ahead about 10 years, the Hanson family, with parents played by Bullock and McMahon, lead the normal suburban life. Jim Han-

son has a prestigious job with a car company, and Linda Hanson is a stay-at-home mom with the repetitive chores of washing clothes, cleaning the fireplace mantle and preparing dinner.

Her life completely changes, though, when she receives a message from her husband referring to an occurrence which has not yet happened. Seconds later, she is informed by a police officer that her husband has been killed in a car wreck on his way to an out-of-town business interview. However, when Linda wakes up the next morning, her husband is watching television and sipping his morning coffee.

Although she vividly remembers the previous day's news, every other morning when she awakens he is dead and then alive again. For the next week,

Linda discovers the secret life of her husband, which makes her question whether saving him from the supposed accident is really the best thing.

Linda sadly proclaims she was merely roommates with her husband. Although people throw around the phrase, "I wish he or she would die," **Premonition** is summed up by Linda's question, "If I let him die, is it the same thing as killing him?"

While movies similar to **Premonition** — namely **Groundhog Day** and **Identity** — tend to be slightly redundant and hard to understand, **Premonition** is by far the best psychological thriller with the perfect amount of suspense and emotional appeal.

If there is one negative comment about the movie, it would

have to be the casting of the two little girls. Neither really looks as though she belongs in the Hanson family because of hair color and diverse physical appearances. While this type of casting flaw could ruin a movie, the two girls were so talented in their roles I hardly noticed the outward appearances once the characters were developed.

Throughout the movie, I was definitely on the edge of my seat. However, the amazing but un-Hollywood ending really made the difference between good and indescribable. Although the ending might not be the typical feel-good scene, the Hanson family is able to experience their own happily-ever-after, taking **Premonition** back to the content family seen at the beginning.

Grade: A+

Spector case starts with jury selection

By Linda Deutsch
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — For decades, famed music producer Phil Spector was a recluse, hiding in his hilltop suburban castle. It took the gunshot death there of a glamorous actress to force him out into the Hollywood spotlight.

"I think I killed somebody," Spector was quoted as saying by his chauffeur, Adriano De Souza. The chauffeur also told a grand jury that Spector had emerged from his mansion holding a gun, with blood on his hands. De Souza said he asked what happened and Spector responded: "I don't know."

On Monday, the search began for jurors to decide if the 66-year-old Spector is guilty of murdering Lana Clarkson on Feb. 3, 2003, after taking her home with him from the House of Blues on the Sunset Strip.

Clarkson was found slumped dead in a chair in the foyer, her teeth blown out by a gunshot to her mouth. The coroner's office called it a homicide but also noted that Clarkson had gunshot residue on both of her hands and may have pulled the trigger.

Spector pleaded not guilty and has remained free on \$1 million bail since being arrested. He faces life in prison if convicted.

Attorney Bruce Cutler said his defense will be simple: "He didn't shoot this woman."

"Everything in this case is consistent with a self-inflicted gunshot wound," Cutler said.

"The cause of death is not at issue. The manner of death is the question."

Cutler has been careful not to call the death a suicide.

"There was no malice, no motive, no intent, no homicide, no crime," he said. "If it had happened in any other home, there would have been no charges."

The prosecution theory of the case, outlined during grand jury proceedings, is that Spector placed a gun in Clarkson's mouth and pulled the trigger. Prosecutors claimed he had threatened women with guns in the past but had never been charged.

Spector revolutionized rock music in the 1960s with his "wall of sound" recording technique. He produced the Beatles' **Let It Be** album and George Harrison's **Concert for Bangladesh**, and has been cited as an influence by Bruce Springsteen and countless other artists. Spector also wrote such rock classics as "Da Doo Ron Ron," "Be My Baby," "You've Lost that Lovin' Feeling" and "River Deep-Mountain High."

Clarkson was 40, best known as the star of Roger Corman's film **Barbarian Queen**.

Superior Court Judge Larry Paul Fidler, rejecting protests from Spector's lawyers, decided to let the trial be televised when testimony begins. Fidler summoned 300 prospective jurors to his courtroom for the start of jury selection. Time will be an issue for the panel members, since the proceedings could last three months. A jury is expected to be seated by April 30.



Courtesy photo

Christopher O'Riley hosts National Public Radio's hit series "From the Top." He will perform a piano concert at 7:30 p.m. today in Jones Concert Hall.

NPR host gives concert of his own on campus

Pianist to perform music by Radiohead, Elliott Smith

By Rafael Benavides
Reporter

Christopher O'Riley, an internationally acclaimed pianist and host of National Public Radio's hit series "From the Top," will present a guest recital at 7:30 p.m. today in Jones Concert Hall.

The Baylor School of Music Distinguished Artists Series is sponsoring the event.

Tickets can be purchased in the lobby of the Glennis McCrary Music Building for \$10 until 5 p.m. today and will also be sold at the door.

O'Riley will perform his own transcriptions of music by Radiohead and Elliott Smith, as well as seven of the Preludes of Fugues, Op. 87, by the great Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich.

"We selected Mr. O'Riley because he is a very well-known classical artist. His

show encourages young prodigies and talented youth," said Kathy Johnson, coordinator of the Distinguished Artist Series and assistant to the dean of the School of Music.

Johnson said O'Riley came to Baylor about five years ago for a nationally aired live show in which he interviewed musically talented youth from Texas.

Station Manager Brodie Bashaw said KWBU hosted the show when it came to Baylor in October 2002.

"It was sold out, and it was wonderful," Bashaw said.

O'Riley's "From the Top" is one of the five most popular one-hour weekly programs on public radio.

The show is recorded in live settings in concert halls around the country and airs with performances and interviews from young musicians ages 9 to 18.

O'Riley's performance tomorrow will showcase his musical skills.

"He is a terrific and eclectic pianist," said Dick Veit, concert and promotion manager for the School of Music.

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BUS from page 1

I think that's what's great about Baylor: You can write an e-mail to the vice president and let him know how you feel. I would hope all students feel cared for and supported as they pursue

their education at Baylor.

Q: How has the Baylor community's response been so far?

Harris: The students have been fabulous. They have been absolutely wonderful.

I wish the administration could be as amazing as the students have been.

Oliver: I'd characterize it as really positive. Everyone has been very respectful.

Q: What do you foresee for the future of this debate?

Harris: I hope that I can look back whenever I'm a grandparent and say this won't even be an issue anymore, just like women weren't allowed to do things in the church, African-Americans weren't allowed to do things in the church.

I hope its just a continuum, a progression of social justice and I hope what we're doing today is moving that along.

Oliver: I think that human sexuality will continually come up as a topic of interest for students and the larger community

for years to come.

I hope students will engage in conversations with professors and mentors whom they trust and look to as leaders. The Baylor community is full of people trying to live out their faith in real and genuine ways.

IRAQ from page 1

aggressively against this legislation, and Bush did so again on Monday.

"It can be tempting to look at the challenges in Iraq and conclude our best option is to pack up and go home," he said. "That may be satisfying in the short run. But I believe the consequences for America's security would be devastating."

Democrats swiftly sought to refute Bush's assertion that the legislation would reduce flexibility needed by the military to win the war.

"There is nothing in this legislation that will be considered this week that micromanages the war," said House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Md. No military general "will in any way be constrained from the tactics or the strategies that they deem best to employ on the ground in Iraq."

House Minority Leader John Boehner reiterated that Republicans would vote against the bill. Without GOP support, Democrats have been struggling to make sure they have enough votes within their own party.

"Our troops have not quit on us, and Republicans will not quit on them," said Boehner, R-Ohio, who has predicted "99 percent" of GOP lawmakers will vote against the Democratic proposal.

Bush said he had received news of positive signs during a morning briefing on the war with his National Security Council, and during a closed-circuit television conference call with Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki from Baghdad.

Bush ridiculed House Democrats' legislation to remove troops, a measure he has promised to veto because it contains a timeline. He called it an abdication of U.S. commitments to Iraqis.



Associated press

Protesters march through the streets of Seattle Monday on the fourth anniversary of the war in Iraq.

"There's a lot more work to be done and Iraq's leaders must continue to work to meet the benchmarks they have set forward," he said. "As Iraqis work to meet their commitments, we have important commitments of our own."

The House's war spending bill includes a troop withdrawal deadline of Sept. 1, 2008. The timeline would speed up if the Iraqi government cannot meet its own benchmarks for providing security, allocating oil revenues and other essential steps.

Democrats "have a responsibility to ensure that this bill provides the funds and the flexibility that our troops need to accomplish their mission," the president said."They have a responsibility to pass a clean bill that does not use funding for our troops as leverage to get special interest spending for their district. And they have a responsibility to get this bill to my desk without strings and without delay."

But Democratic lawmakers argue that the public voted

in November to place them in charge of Congress to demand more progress in Iraq, and to start getting the U.S. troops out.

The House plan appears to have little chance of getting through the Senate, where Democrats have a slimmer majority. The White House wants to stop it anyway, fearful of the message the world will hear if the House approves a binding bill to end the war.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates said Sunday the House bill could make it impossible for military commanders to do their work.

Congressional Democrats, put in power in large part because of anti-war public sentiment, are trying to use their power of the purse to force action. So far, Iraq's leadership is struggling to meet the major benchmarks that it has pledged to the United States.

The impending House vote concerns a \$124 billion spending bill, \$95.5 billion of which is targeted for the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

EQUAL from page 1

bers did invite them to come to campus, but the administration denied each request for an official dialogue.

"It's interesting because in our initial conversations with the university (in November) they told us that if we could find a student group or a faculty member to invite you on then you could come on campus," Harris said.

Oliver reiterated the openness of the campus to thousands of visitors each year.

"Our campus is very porous," he said. "There is no barrier here and we didn't try to create one to keep them out. If Soulforce is like any of the other visitors we have on campus daily and behave in a way that's respectful and cooperative with Baylor's mission, we have no problem with their presence here."

"To be turned away from a place to familiar is just devastating."

Mandy Matthias
Soulforce Equality Ride

Before

Baylor, the group visited Dordt College in Sioux Center, Iowa, Central Bible College in Springfield, Mo., and Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, Okla.

Matthias said the experience at Dordt was "positive and welcoming." The university provided hosts and organized an official presentation and forum on campus, she said.

"Overall the tone was very respectful," she said. "Many of the students remained in their position with what they already believed, but it was great to come in and bring our message."

Even though the group was welcomed by the university, Matthias said other parts of the community were not as kind.

"While we were staying in Sioux Center our bus was vandalized with some pretty graph-

ic stuff, so there's kind of both sides in that community," she said.

After Dordt, the group traveled to Central Bible College, where they were barred from entering campus.

"When you aren't allowed on campus, it's a hard experience," Florida State University junior Kyle DeVries said.

DeVries, who withdrew for the semester to take part in the Equality Ride, said everyone benefits from having conversations about expressions of sexuality and faith.

Matthias said two group members were arrested at Central Bible College for crossing onto campus property "with only their Bibles in their hands."

"It's sad to me the lengths people will go to in order to prevent conversations from happening," she said. "Interestingly and importantly, those were two of our straight allies that got arrested."

At Oklahoma Baptist University, the group was also met with legal opposition when five members were arrested while trying to attend Chapel. Matthias said the university informed the group that they were not going to be allowed on campus, but they had originally been told they could attend Chapel with the students. A representative from the university told the group before Chapel that they weren't welcome inside, she said.

"One by one as we each attempted to go to Chapel we were each individually turned away," she said. "Five of our riders were arrested that day for trying to go to Chapel."

Matthias, who comes from

the Baptist faith, said the rejection was particularly painful because of the shared denomination.

"To be turned away from a place so familiar is just devastating," she said. "To stand in front of a church that looks so much like my own and be met with police officers and told to leave is extremely sad."

The group also made a tapestry with Bible verses about "the all-encompassing love of God," and the names of "closeted students at Christian universities across the nation," she said.

When the riders tried to take the colorful cloths to the university president, six more members were arrested. Matthias said after all the riders were removed, two Oklahoma Baptist students took the tapestry to the student union building.

"That was fairly moving actually," she said. "It was totally unexpected."

While no one was arrested Monday at Baylor, Police Chief Jim Doak said one person was given a criminal trespass warning and asked to leave. Doak said that person was "very cooperative."

Soulforce also held a community rally Monday at Heritage Square. About 60 people were in attendance to talk about issues and encourage students to form a student group. Some students expressed their desire to begin such a group even if it were on a small scale.

During the rally, participants could sign a banner that read, "Diverse By Design, Strong in Spirit, Affirmed by God." The rally ended by attendants singing "Shout to the Lord" and praying.

The group has plans to send delegates to Common Grounds from 10 a.m. to noon today, as well as with eating lunch on campus at noon.

Opinion editor Brad Briggs contributed to this story.

It's Not What You Think ...

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