

ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2007

Leaked rankings show BU Law falling

'U.S. News' results not scheduled for release until Friday

By Jon Schroeder
Staff writer

Although the official rankings aren't out yet, the blogosphere is hopping with news that the 2008 U.S. News and World Report law school rankings are out ... maybe.

According to multiple discussion board posts, citing an identical list in all cases, some users have already seen the

2008 rankings.

Complete listings of the supposed 2008 rankings match each other, but some users remain skeptical of the information, which officially will be released Friday.

Cindy Powell, U.S. News and World Report's public relations director, said she could "neither confirm nor deny" the authenticity of any supposedly leaked information. The official list will be available when the site's premium edition launches Friday.

It remains to be seen whether Friday's listing will match the "leaked" information.

Until it's officially posted midnight Friday, Powell said, the information is "strictly embargoed."

Baylor may be ranked 53 for 2008, tied with Yeshiva University and Case Western Reserve University.

That's a slight drop from Baylor's No. 51 ranking in 2007.

Baylor Law School cracked into the top 50 in 1999, 2000 and 2004, and has long maintained a ranking near 50.

Three other Big 12 institutions may have cracked the top 100 list: the University of Texas at 18, the University of Colorado

at 36 and the University of Kansas at 66.

Though Baylor's ranking may have dropped slightly, its pass rate on the Texas bar exam is up to 97.87 percent — the best average among the nine Texas law schools, according to the Texas Board of Law Examiners. The overall state pass rate for the same time period was 86 percent.

The previous pass rate was 96.88 percent.

In 2007, for comparison, 94.2 percent of No. 1-ranked Yale University students passed the bar exam in a district where

75 percent passed overall.

"I think we are always trying to move our program forward," said Brad Toben, dean of the Baylor Law School.

Despite the fact that Baylor's ranking has remained largely the same, the program has "demonstrably" improved over the last decade, he said.

Since 2000, Baylor has held fairly steady in the rankings, but the number of applications the law school receives annually has increased from 1,606 applications in 2000 to more than 4,350 in the most recent application year, Toben said.

He said the U.S. News ranking and others like it are valuable tools for prospective law students but added that students shouldn't rely on them exclusively, specifically mentioning a campus visit as a vital part of the search process.

Birmingham, Ala., senior Jonathan Turner said rankings like those published by U.S. News and World Report "partly" factored into his decision to apply to Baylor Law School and the Cumberland School of Law at Samford University.

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Loosier legal trouble not over

Judge throws out former Baylor student's plea agreement

By Melissa Limmer
Staff writer

After pleading not guilty Tuesday to one count of indecency with a child by exposure, former Baylor student Justin Loosier's case is "back at square one," according to District Attorney Melanie Walker.

Loosier was charged in March 2006 with 11 counts of indecency by exposure after students at Robinson Junior High School said they saw a man masturbating in the boy's bathroom. The charges stemmed from two separate incidents, according to Walker.

Loosier pleaded guilty Feb. 1 to one count of indecency with a child by exposure as part of a plea bargain agreement with the district attorney's office.

He withdrew his guilty plea Tuesday after District Judge Matt Johnson of Waco's 54th District Court rejected the plea bargain between Loosier and Walker.

The plea bargain stipulated that Loosier plead guilty to only one charge of indecency with a child by exposure, instead of the original 11 charges, in exchange for five years' deferred adjudication probation.

Loosier's lawyer, Russell Hunt Sr., said there is no way to ask the judge why he decided to deny the plea bargain. He said he was still "optimistic" that a plea bargain could be worked out with Walker and the judge. He also said the judge could decide to try the case as a felony or reduce it to a misdemeanor.

Walker said she believed Loosier's case would end up going to trial. She also added that since

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Melea Burke/Lariat staff

Performing under pressure

Cypress sophomore Graham Shockley (left) and Tim Eckhart, a Peoria, Ill., freshman, assess a mannequin Wednesday during training in their EMT Basic class between Rena Marrs McLean Gymnasium and the Bill Daniel Student Center.

Student officials rule candidate ineligible

Junior will still pursue internal vice president seat

By Kate Boswell
Staff writer

For many student government candidates, the road to office is a long one. But for Sikeston, Mo., junior Jeff Hay, the road to candidacy is even longer.

Student government's electoral commission decided Tuesday night that Hay is ineligible to run in student elections.

"To my understanding, they disqualified my candidacy based on the clause concerning residency," Hay said.

The rule in question states that a candidate must "have attended Baylor University, the Waco, Texas campus, during the semester of his candidacy."

Hay is a member of the Bob Bullock Scholars Program through Baylor's political science department.

The program allows Baylor students to take classes through the university while living in Austin and working as an intern with a representative in the Texas Legislature.

According to Dr. James Curry, a political science professor and the Bob Bullock Professor of Public Policy and Administration, the courses that Bullock Scholars take as part of the program are counted by Baylor as courses taken in residence.

Hay and the other 10 Bullock Scholars were recognized Monday in the Texas Senate as part of the Bob Bullock Scholars Day celebration.

Hay, who is working for Sen. Jeff Wentworth, R-San Antonio, said he works up to 40 or 50 hours a week, which prevents him from spending

time in Waco during the week.

For example, he said, he was unable to attend Tuesday night's meeting because of work responsibilities in Austin.

Electoral commissioner Kevin Nguyen, a Houston senior, said that to his knowledge, this is the first time a candidate has been disqualified because of this clause.

Hay said he is bringing a case before Student Court asking it to reinterpret the clause in the constitution so he will

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Course demand for Chinese rises

By Claire St. Amant
Staff writer

You had me at ni hao.

If China continues to develop its economic and corporate power on the world stage, we might all be hearing more than a fortune cookie's worth of Chinese.

According to the American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages, the number of students in the United States studying Chinese in public schools has risen from around 5,000 in 2000 to between

30,000 and 50,000 currently.

Dr. Vincent Yang, associate professor of Chinese, said he has seen a large spike in interest at Baylor as well.

Yang, who is the only full-time faculty member who works exclusively with Chinese classes, has been at Baylor since 1994.

"Enrollment in Chinese classes has been on a steady rise since I've been here," he said.

Yang attributes the growing interest mainly to the power of

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Associated Press

A fighter jet takes off on the second day of operations Wednesday on board the USS John C. Stennis in Persian Gulf waters.

U.S. flexes muscles off Iranian coastline

By James Calderwood
The Associated Press

ABOARD THE USS JOHN C. STENNIS — The United States wrapped up a massive military exercise in the Persian Gulf Wednesday, putting on a show of strength for Iran even as the United Arab Emirates became the second Gulf nation to declare it would not take part in any attack on the Islamic Republic.

The U.S. has denied any intention to attack. But the public refusals of two allies to help could affect U.S. military op-

tions or require shifting of resources if tensions did seriously escalate.

Qatar, home to 6,500 U.S. troops and the enormous al-Udeid Air Base, headquarters of all American air operations in the Middle East, said earlier this month it would not permit an attack on Iran from its soil.

The Gulf Cooperation Council, an alliance of Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and the Emirates, has called on all its members not to support any U.S. action against Iran.

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Breaking the television habit in three easy months

If asked my thoughts on the latest "Bauer Hour", you'd probably receive a blank stare. Same thing goes for **Law and Order**, **Entertainment Tonight** or anything else currently showing on television.

Four months without television has taught me a few things, but one thing in particular sticks out: I used to watch entirely too much of it.

A 2005 study released by the media research company Nielsen said college students watched an average of 24.3 hours a week. That's about three-and-a-half hours a day. A day!

Twenty-four hours a week is

more time than we spend sitting in class, more time than we work at a typical work-study job and definitely more time than most of us study.

It wasn't these revelations that made me decide to forgo the tube this semester. On the contrary, I love television.

I had specific shows I watched every night. I planned my schedule around what was slotted to run each evening. I looked forward to the TBS themed weekends with movies showing back to back.

Back when **Grey's Anatomy** was on Sunday nights, all my friends would come to my apartment for a potluck dinner before

point of view



BY KELLY COLEMAN

the show started.

But when I moved in November, my new house didn't come equipped with cable, my television wasn't programmed to pick up local stations and I didn't have any rabbit ears.

A call to the cable company revealed that installation and set-up fees weren't going to be cheap. A bit strapped for cash,

my sister, who's also my roommate, and I decided to hold off until we had some money. A week passed — then a month passed. Around Christmas we realized we'd never called the cable company back and hadn't really missed it.

Anytime we wanted to watch a specific show we just called my mom who lives five minutes away and asked her to digitally record it on her television.

When we had free time we'd go over and watch. It was as simple as that. This made us a bit more discerning about which shows we watched.

With limited time and attempting not to bug her too

much, we only asked to see one or two shows a week.

That's not to say the television at our house isn't getting use. We've invested the money we could have used on cable on box sets of our favorite shows such as **Veronica Mars**, **Friends** and **Family Guy**. That way, we can watch what we want when it's convenient.

We're still able to watch TV at our house, too; it's just a few hours later than everyone else. **Abc.com** posts its primetime episodes online just a few hours after they are shown that night. This lets us watch the shows we want when we want.

The thought of cutting tele-

vision out of your life is a bit frightening, and it's never what I intended to do.

I scaled back my television intake dramatically, simply due to circumstances — not an intentional decision. But as a result of this change, I'm conscious of how often I wasted time watching TV because it was there and I could.

Give your eyes a break and pick only a couple of shows to watch each week. You'd be surprised how much you can get done by not being glued to the tube.

Kelly Coleman is a graduate student in international journalism from Waco.

Editorial NYPD infringed on liberty

What kind of country would we be living in if we all thought alike?

The diversity in human thought is what makes the democratic process work. Apparently that's what the New York Police Department was worried about when **The New York Times** reported on Sunday that the NYPD was spying on groups that would be protesting at the 2004 Republican National Convention.

The article reports that undercover teams traveled to cities across the country — as well as in Canada and Europe — up to a year before the convention to observe and infiltrate groups that had plans to protest there. The stated intention of the operation was to collect intelligence on groups they thought would cause violence at the convention. Many groups however, were nothing short of harmless.

The article said, "The operation was mounted in 2003 after the Police Department, invoking the fresh horrors of the World Trade Center attack and the prospect of future terrorism, won greater authority from a federal judge to investigate political organizations for criminal activity."

The organizations observed were various antiwar, church, environmentalist, anti-globalization and groups against the death penalty. Associating them with terrorism is nothing short of alarmist thinking and smells of a political agenda.

Most of the groups protesting at the RNC were peaceful in nature and wanted nothing more than to have their voices heard. As with every event of its nature, there were elements that may have posed a more violent threat. But according to **The Times**, many of



the reports made were concerning plans of "people with no obvious intention of breaking the law." Many of the 1,806 people that were arrested during the convention were held up to two days on minor offenses, according to the article.

If there were no serious arrests or terrorist threats prevented as a result of the operations, then it is safe to say most of the groups that were spied on had their privacy invaded unjustly. This "Thought Police" mentality has become typical of our country in the wake of Sept. 11. Rather than looking like a legitimate law enforcement

operation, the surveillance of these "subversive" groups looks more like an attempt to silence dissent, and the source of such a directive may have come from elsewhere.

Where do we draw the line in allowing our government to take advantage of our fears and make a grab for power?

Such questions will decide the amount of liberty we sacrifice in the name of safety and ultimately determine the liberty we are willing to defend for liberty's sake.

Perhaps it was not terrorism that was the real concern, but rather the

protesters' capability to counteract the proceedings inside Madison Square Garden and show what democracy can really look like.

What democracy really looks like is what was largely happening on the streets that day — peaceful citizen-activists looking to take their message and transplant it inside the building for all to see and hear.

The protesters at the RNC recognized the path our country was headed down. Yet they were treated as a threat by the police, a fringe group by the media and as an enemy by those at the convention.

Opinion policy

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

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

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

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

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

Correction

The Bear Briefs in Tuesday's Lariat incorrectly stated that the deadline for candidates to file for Student Government was April 30. The deadline is actually Friday.

Corrections policy

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

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

Monster in the apartment? Let it play with your roommate

There's an animal in my wall. I don't know what kind it is and I don't know what it wants. I only know it is an animal, it's in my wall and it's driving me crazy.

It started about two months ago when I heard a scratching coming from the bathroom. I thought it was my roommate. She thought it was me.

It ran over the living room. We could hear the pitter-patter of little feet and the tapping of little claws on the ceiling. Then the scratching started. And the gnawing.

I was afraid to go to sleep. I just knew a giant rat would slither out of the wall and attack me. I imagined its ugly rat head

popping through the vents or the electrical sockets.

Sure, it may sound crazy to think a rodent is going to come through the outlets, but rats are capable of amazing things. I mean, look at Splinter — he raised a whole family of radioactive turtles on his own.

After all, crickets were able to get in the outlets just fine. The only way to end that annoying chirp was for my roommate to mildly electrocute herself.

We informed maintenance of our problem once.

They sent Bob and Bob over one Saturday morning when I was home alone in my pajamas. The three of us stood in silence

point of view



BY BETHANY POLLER

for five minutes waiting for the creature to make a noise. Of course, it didn't.

You can't command a wild beast to do what you want — they're much too stubborn.

Bob told me it was probably just a squirrel. He told me not to worry. Both of them left thinking I was slightly crazy and slightly less pretty than all the

other times they had come to fix things. But I was comforted by their words.

I was able to convince myself that it really was just a squirrel. But the clawing has gotten so loud. This is no ordinary squirrel.

At best, it's a squirrel on steroids. At worst, it's a wolverine.

I need to go complain again. This is one of those times I wished I still lived with my parents.

If there were vermin in the wall, my mom would call the exterminator — or whoever you call for wall-rats — and it would be taken care of by the time I got home from school.

Sometimes when I don't hear my hairy little friend for a day or two, I think maybe my mom has snuck in and driven out the demon.

But then, the next time I'm trying to fit a nap into my schedule: scratch, scratch, scratch. The fiend knows when I'm sleeping. Its scraping has worked its way into my dreams. I just want it to end.

I've shouted at it. I've cursed at it. I've even tried to reason with it. Nothing works. It even follows me around the apartment.

Lately it has taken up residence behind the walls of my shower. I keep expecting a big

drop of rat to come out of the faucet.

Today the bathroom light went out. The grating noise and the darkness make it pretty creepy. It sounds like the perfect setting for a rabid animal to pop out.

I hope the rat finally digs through the wall while my roommate's in there so that we'll know once and for all who's been living with us for the past two months.

She would probably be traumatized. But again, if it will end the awful scratching, I'm willing to sacrifice her.

Bethany Poller is a sophomore journalism major from Mansfield.

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MEDIUM # 22
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THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

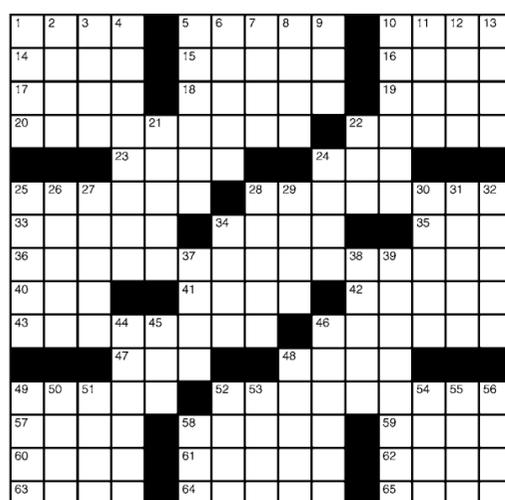
- 1 Makes a choice
- 5 Collector's book
- 10 Silver-tongued
- 14 Dennis the Menace, for one
- 15 Scandinavian
- 16 Take the bus
- 17 Greek letter
- 18 Projecting bay window
- 19 Very long time
- 20 Start of Moliere quote
- 22 Early-stage seed
- 23 Unit of force
- 24 Take to court
- 25 Steeper?
- 28 Small underground growths
- 33 Vexed continually
- 34 Detergent
- 35 Mauna __ volcano
- 36 Part 2 of quote
- 40 Tokyo, once
- 41 Move very slowly
- 42 Archibald and Thurmond
- 43 Isolated
- 46 Isolated
- 47 Argon or neon
- 48 " __ Lang Syne"

DOWN

- 1 NYC theater award
- 2 B.C. or Ont.
- 3 London art gallery
- 4 Take no cards
- 5 Consecrate with oil
- 6 "SNL" producer Michaels
- 7 Ship's jail
- 8 Exploits
- 9 Comic Brooks
- 10 Mixture of pebbles
- 11 In __ of
- 12 False god
- 13 Nota __
- 21 Nijo Castle's location
- 22 On the market
- 24 Last year's frosh

25 Domesticates

- 26 Piano study
- 27 Man of fables
- 28 Philosopher Josiah
- 29 Solemn word
- 30 Make joyous
- 31 Drying cloth
- 32 Full of lip
- 34 Transmitted
- 37 Skewed view
- 38 Suburb of Harrisburg
- 39 Continent
- 44 NASA, for one
- 45 Common rodent
- 46 Skulked
- 48 One more time
- 49 Czech or Slovak
- 50 Be down with
- 51 Pitcher with a spout
- 52 Muffin topper
- 53 Golfer's shout
- 54 Common rodents
- 55 Hebrew month
- 56 __ avis
- 58 Half a dance?



By Alan P. Olschwang
Huntington Beach, CA

3/29/07

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

Lecture to focus on women in medical field

By Perla Sanchez
Reporter

The Baylor Women's League will hold "Women in the Workplace: Women in Medicine" today in the SBC Theater, located in the Mayborn Museum Complex.

In the past, this lecture has consisted of speakers addressing general women's issues, but this year's lecture will center on one central theme.

Amy Fortener, a Valparaiso, Ind., senior and Baylor Women's League president, said the women in medicine theme was

chosen because many female students at Baylor are in a pre-health concentration.

"Any woman, regardless of what field she is pursuing, needs to be aware of issues pertinent to health so that she can be an advocate for her own wellness," Fortener said.

The lecture will include four guest speakers and a discussion panel. The organization's adviser and part-time political science lecturer, Tami Nutt, said each speaker will cover a different aspect of the topic.

"Some of them are speaking from a professional standpoint,

and some are just speaking from a patient perspective," she said.

Dr. Katherine Normand, a professor at the University of Texas Medical School, will share her experiences about entering the field and how being told "you can do whatever you want, whatever you set your mind to" wasn't exactly the way things worked out.

Dr. Katherine Haynes, a gynecologist, will talk to the audience about the HPV virus, the vaccine and its implications on women's health. Nurse practitioner Patricia Stark will speak on general women's health issues

and how medicine will change as more women become health-care providers.

Finally, Dr. Rene Massengale, assistant professor of Biology, will talk about the challenges of balancing a career and a family. Massengale is raising a special needs child and will explain how she's had to cope with doctors and decisions.

Although the lecture will cover women's issues, men are encouraged to attend.

"It is just as important that men understand the changes that are going on regarding gender relations in the workplace,"

said Bonnie Rhoden, Austin senior and Baylor Women's League vice president.

Following the lecture, a discussion panel moderated by the Baylor Women's League will be held to answer questions. All four speakers will contribute to the response.

Rhoden said this will be one of the most important parts of the event.

"It gives students a chance to hear from the panelists regarding their own concerns about women in medicine," Rhoden said. The event is free and open to the public.

BEAR BRIEFS

Apply for publications
Applications for fall positions at the *Lariat*, *Round Up* and *Focus* magazine are due today to 227 Castellaw Communications Center.

Join student government
Get the opportunity to see Baylor in a new perspective by serving the student body. Student government applications are available in the student government office. Deadline for the application is Friday. For more information, contact Kevin_Nguyen@baylor.edu.

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



Melea Burke/Lariat staff

Kim Johnson, a massage therapist at the McLane Student Life Center, gives Austin sophomore Kirsten Johnson a massage Wednesday in the Bill Daniel Student Center as part of the Virtual Vacation.

Virtual Vacation helps students destress

By Whitney Farr
Reporter

On Tuesday and Wednesday, students and faculty were invited to take a break from the ordinary and participate in a "virtual vacation."

They didn't escape to Palm Beach or take the next flight to Jamaica, but participants did enjoy the sound of Jimmy Buffet's "Margaritaville" while de-stressing and indulging in free snacks and massages.

Temple freshman Kalyn Van Slyke took advantage of the free massages and healthy snacks Wednesday.

"I have three tests this week and a test in an hour," Van Slyke said. "Coming here made me feel relaxed and think everything will be OK."

Many students, especially during this time of the year, feel stressed and bogged down, said Katie Treadwell, student outreach coordinator for the Baylor Counseling Center.

"We organized Virtual Vacation to be a stress relief week for students," she said.

At Virtual Vacation, different stations were set up for individual interests and needs related to physical and mental health.

"There's not just one way to deal with stress. Pick the one that best fits you," said Baylor Counseling Services staff psychologist Susie Matlock-Hetzel.

Dietitian Regina Mastin provided students with information about how different foods can affect their mood. Mastin said good-mood foods like beans and bananas have been scien-

tifically proven to lift a person's spirits, while alcohol and large amounts of caffeine have been proven to increase depression. A variety of good-mood foods like pretzels and fruit were offered at no charge.

Suggestions on how to reduce stress also were offered, including walking the Bear Trail, eating a healthy snack, spending time at the North Village prayer garden, spending time at the Baylor Marina Swimming Pool with friends, bowling in the Bill Daniel Student Center or having coffee with a favorite professor.

Baylor counselors said they're aware these tips may not always help. In that case, Baylor counselors offer free and confidential support.

"There are times no matter what you do, you're gonna come

unraveled," Matlock-Hetzel said.

Massage therapist Kim Johnson was very busy during Virtual Vacation, offering free back-rubs.

After Van Slyke's free knead, she said she's determined to get another massage soon.

Fitness coordinator Van Davis showed students how to give themselves massages at home or in class using a tennis ball.

"I think teaching people ways to relieve stress is so important," Davis said. "Most diseases that happen are due to stress."

Students and faculty who missed Virtual Vacation can look forward to another event soon because Baylor's counseling services plans to hold similar outreaches each semester, Matlock-Hetzel said.

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Softball sweeps Roadrunners

By Justin Baer
Sports Writer

Baylor softball carried on its momentum from a weekend sweep over Nebraska as the No. 12 Lady Bears (32-9) took both games of a double-header from the University of Texas at San Antonio Roadrunners Wednesday night at Gettner Stadium.

In the first game, freshman pitcher Kirsten Shortridge pitched a complete game, allowing only one earned run on five hits while fanning seven Roadrunners to lead the Lady Bears to a 4-1 victory.

Although head Coach Glenn Moore was extremely pleased to see the performance Shortridge put in the circle, he said he wasn't too happy with the offensive production put forth by the Lady Bears.

"We had a pretty good defensive outing, and our pitching did well again, but our bats were just lethargic," Moore said. "We hit better when we are aggressive and ready to hit right away, but we just weren't doing that."

Shortridge hadn't given up a run after four innings, but unfortunately she

had yet to get any run support behind her until Ashley Monceaux stepped to the plate in the bottom of the fourth and laced a shot up the middle to give the Lady Bears their first runner of the game.

With one out, sophomore infielder Brette Reagan perfectly executed a bunt single, and after senior infielder Chelsi Lake laid down a sacrifice bunt, sophomore infielder Alex Colyer drove both runs in on a two-out base hit to left field.

Freshman left fielder Tiffany Wesley then ripped a base hit to put runners on the corners when Shortridge stepped up to the plate and helped out her own cause, scoring Colyer on an infield single.

In the top of the sixth inning, Shortridge served up a home run to Jessica Rogers, accounting for the Roadrunners' only run of the game.

The Lady Bears got that run back in the bottom half of the inning when Shortridge once again came through from the plate, bringing home Colyer. But it wasn't needed, as Shortridge retired the side easily in the top of the seventh to put away game one for

Baylor.

The Lady Bears brought out the sticks in game two, needing only five innings to defeat the Roadrunners 9-1 via the mercy rule. Reagan led the way for Baylor, going 2-for-3 with a home run, double and four RBIs.

"I was trying to be patient, so I told myself to stay back," Reagan said of her standout performance. "I was just trying to do what I can for the team."

Sophomore pitcher Brittany Turner picked up the complete victory for Baylor in the circle, only allowing one run in the last inning.

Reagan started things off in the bottom of the first when she launched an opposite field home run to give the Bears the early 3-0 lead.

Baylor went back to work in the second, as Reagan brought in two more runs when she nearly drilled a hole in the wall on a two-RBI double. Up 8-0 in the bottom of the fourth, Lake hit her 40th career home run as a Lady Bear to seal off the game for Baylor.

The Lady Bears now head on a six-game Big 12 road trip with their next game set for Saturday against University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kan.



David Poe/Lariat staff

Freshman infielder Kelsey Sage makes the catch Wednesday as freshman left fielder Tiffany Wesley falls to the ground. The Baylor softball team swept the University of Texas at San Antonio Wednesday, winning the first game 9-1 and the second 4-1.

Taekwondo Club preps for first intercollegiate tournament



Courtesy photo

Baylor sophomore Sung Kim throws a roundhouse kick at another member of the Baylor Taekwondo Club during sparring practice. The club will compete in its first collegiate competition this weekend at Texas A&M University.

By Brittany Mihalcin
Reporter

Baylor's Taekwondo Club is invading Texas A&M University this weekend for the 32nd National Taekwondo Collegiate Championship.

Participants will be competing alongside students from top universities such as Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Harvard University, the University of California and the University of Texas.

Dallas sophomore Paul Cho started the club in November of 2005 and is the current president. He has been competing in Taekwon-Do for 11 years and said he saw a need for the club on campus.

"I thought there was a Taekwon-Do club here, but we didn't have one," Cho said. "I took the initiative and started one up."

The club has 20 members,

with 12 or 13 who are active and regularly come to practice. While the club members are mostly men, Cho said it is open to women too.

This is a big weekend for the club because it is the first intercollegiate tournament its members have competed in since the club began.

"This is huge because it's national collegiate. It's as big as it can get," Cho said.

The team has been practicing hard in order to prepare for the event. Practices are every Monday, Wednesday and Friday for 90 minutes, but the competition team has also been practicing on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

There are seven students competing this weekend in two events. On Friday, four will perform in forms, which is a series of movements. On Saturday, all seven will compete in sparring, which is fighting in the ring.

"We don't know what the

competition is like, but we've been training since the beginning of the semester, so I think we'll do well," Cho said.

Entering the tournament cost \$1,000, but the club raised funds for \$500 of that entrance fee.

"Taekwon-Do is not just kicking and punching," Cho said. "There is a high sense of respect and discipline, which we take outside of the classroom and apply to our studies."

Houston sophomore Priscilla Monroe, who has been competing in Taekwon-Do for nine years, echoed Cho's sentiments.

"We take what we learn and apply it to our lives, which has definitely helped me be more disciplined with my school work," Monroe said. Monroe will compete in sparring this weekend and said she's excited but nervous about competing.

"This is my first tournament in a really long time," she said.

"I've never fought black belts before, but I'm going to try my best and see what happens."

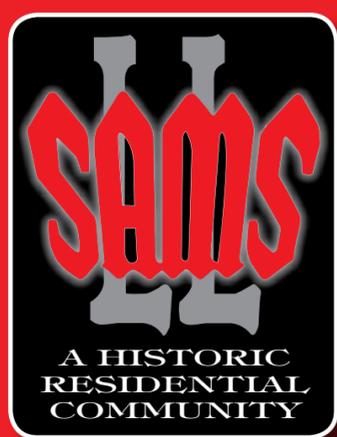
It took eight years for Monroe to get her black belt ranking, and she is proud to say she is one of the only women actively involved in Taekwon-Do Club.

"I don't think people expect girls to be black belts, and I like to prove them wrong," Monroe said. "It's really empowering."

Also competing in sparring this weekend is Hong Kong sophomore Wei Wong.

Wong started doing Taekwon-Do in Hong Kong before he came to Baylor. He joined the club after meeting Cho his freshman year and said it has made him stronger both physically and mentally.

"I'm really excited about this weekend," Wong said. "This will be my first official competition I will be fighting in, and I know it's going to be an awesome experience."



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Iraq truck bombings kill more than 60, wound dozens

By Kim Gamel
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Two truck bombs shattered markets in Tal Afar on Tuesday, killing at least 63 people and wounding dozens in the second assault in four days on a predominantly Shiite Muslim city hit by a resurgence in violence a year after it was held up as a symbol of U.S. success.

After the bombings, suspected Sunni insurgents tried to ambush ambulances carrying the injured out of the northwestern city but were driven off by police gunfire, Iraqi authorities said. The carnage was the worst

bloodshed in a day of attacks across Iraq.

A major Sunni Arab insurgent group reported its military leader was slain outside Baghdad, an assault likely to deepen an increasingly bloody rift between al-Qaida in Iraq and opponents of the terror group in Sunni communities west of the capital.

In Baghdad, a U.S. soldier and an American working as a U.S. government contractor were killed by a rocket attack on the heavily guarded Green Zone, U.S. officials said. Another contract worker suffered serious wounds and three were slightly wounded. A soldier also was wounded.

U.S. soldiers, meanwhile, foiled two suicide truck bombers trying to attack their base in a small town 50 miles west of Baghdad and killed as many as 15 attackers, the military said. It said eight soldiers suffered wounds, all but one of them slight, during the firefight in Karmah. Iraqi police reported at least 109 people killed or found dead nationwide. The toll included two elderly sisters — both Chaldean Catholic nuns in the increasingly tense city of Kirkuk — who were stabbed multiple times in what appeared to be a sectarian killing.

Most of the bloodshed in Tal Afar came when an explosives-laden truck was detonated by

remote control as people gathered to buy flour it was carrying in the center of town, 260 miles northwest of Baghdad. A few minutes earlier, a truck loaded with vegetables blew up near a wholesale market on the city's north side.

Brig. Abdul Karim al-Jubouri, a spokesman for the provincial police, said the first blast killed at least 62 people and wounded 150. The other bomb killed one person and wounded four, he said. Insurgents waiting in cars on Tal Afar's outskirts tried to intercept ambulances carrying the wounded to hospitals in nearby Mosul but fled when police escorts opened fire, said Husham al-Hamdani, head of

the security committee in Mosul. Jaafar Akram, a teacher at a school near the smaller explosion, said body parts were scattered about and vegetables lay in pools of blood.

"I instantly saw smoke, then I heard the blast," Akram said. "Thanks be to God the blast didn't occur during rush hour at the school. That reduced the disaster."

On Saturday, a man wearing an explosives belt blew himself up outside a pastry shop in Tal Afar's central market area, killing at least 10 people and wounding three. Tal Afar, which is about 90 miles east of the Syrian border, is inhabited mainly by ethnic Turkomen. About 60

percent of the residents are Shiite Muslims and the rest Sunni.

The city was an insurgent stronghold until an offensive by U.S. and Iraqi troops in September 2005, when rebel fighters fled into the countryside without a battle. Last March, President Bush cited the operation as an example that gave him "confidence in our strategy."

But even though U.S. and Iraqi forces put up sand barriers around Tal Afar to limit access, the city has suffered frequent insurgent attacks — Tuesday's was the deadliest since the war started. Among the largest previous attacks were suicide bombings that killed 20 people on Sept. 18 and 30 on Oct. 11, 2005.

Snow's cancer returns

Bush spokesman vows to fight disease, continue working

By Ben Feller
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Presidential spokesman Tony Snow's cancer has returned and spread to his liver and elsewhere in his body, shaken White House colleagues announced Tuesday. They said he told them he planned to fight the disease and return to work.

"He is not going to let this whip him, and he's upbeat," President Bush said of his press secretary. "And so my message to Tony is, 'Stay strong; a lot of people love you and care for you and will pray for you.'"



Snow

Snow, 51, had his colon removed in 2005 and underwent six months of chemotherapy after being diagnosed with colon cancer. He underwent surgery Monday to remove a growth in his abdominal area, near the site of the original cancer.

Doctors determined the growth was cancerous and the cancer had metastasized, or spread, to the liver.

The cancer has attached to the liver but is not in the liver, White House deputy press secretary Dana Perino said.

The news rocked the White House. Snow had gone into the surgery saying he felt fine, and recent blood tests and imaging scans had indicated no return of cancer. He had said he opted to remove the growth out of "aggressive sense of caution."

A former radio and TV commentator, Snow brought his star power and camera-ready charm to a beleaguered White House last May. He quickly became the public face of Bush's daily communications and has spoken openly — and emotionally — about being a cancer survivor.

"He told me that he beat this thing before," said Perino, "and he intends to beat it again."

It is common for colon cancer patients to suffer a recurrence of cancer, and the most common site is the liver. Medical experts say advances in chemotherapy can allow people with the type of cancer Snow has to return to work and good health for years.

But experts declined to speculate on Snow specifically because many details of his condition are unknown. Among the unanswered questions are how far the cancer spread, how extensive the cancer affecting his liver is, and whether the cancer can be surgically removed if it hasn't been already.

"This is a very treatable condition," said Dr. Allyson Ocean, a gastrointestinal oncologist at Weill Cornell Medical College. "Many patients, because of the therapies we have, are able to work and live full lives with quality while they're being treated. Anyone who looks at this as a death sentence is wrong."

Perino said Snow has pledged to fight the disease aggressively, likely with chemotherapy and other treatments.

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LAW from page 1

He said other factors, such as the location of the school, were also part of his decision process.

"I think you can use (rankings) well for trying to determine out of your choices which of those to apply for," he said. "You can use (U.S. News and World Report's) information to refine your sense of which schools would be best for you."

Turner added that two of the most important categories in the rankings are the percentage of students hired after graduation and the percentage of students passing the bar exam.

"I think that there are aspects of the rankings which do speak to the quality of the schools."

Brad Toben
Dean, Baylor Law School

"I think that there are aspects of the rankings which do speak to the quality of the schools," Toben said.

"I think it's important to realize though too that some of the measures U.S. News uses are input measures (such as in-

coming students' standardized test scores), not of the program per se, but of the quality of the students attracted into the program."

Toben specifically mentioned the bar pass rate and job placement rates as good objective measures of a school's success.

Despite the subjective nature of specific parts of some rankings, Toben said students attach great importance to them.

"It's necessary for everyone to accept that," he said.

"We're very proud of our ranking."

"We have an outstanding program and we're pleased to see that it's recognized."

HAY from page 1

be allowed to run for internal vice president.

"We're asking for a ruling from the court that will overturn the electoral commissioner's decision," said Lake Jackson senior John Nicholson.

Nicholson is a member of Hay's campaign who is acting as his student court representative.

Last week, Hay attempted to bring a pre-emptive case before the court, but he was denied a hearing on the grounds that he had not yet filed for candidacy. The court said it would hear

the case if, once Hay filed for candidacy, the electoral commission decided Hay could not run.

The hearing is scheduled for 10 p.m. today, one day before the deadline for candidacy filing.

Nguyen said if the court rules that Hay can file for candidacy, the decision would affect future candidates.

If the court does not rule in Hay's favor until after the filing deadline, Hay will still be allowed to run, Nguyen said.

"He's already turned in an application, so he would be allowed to run even if the dead-

line has passed," he said.

Nicholson said he feels the electoral commission is making a decision that is not its to make.

"I would just like to say that this is a decision of whether or not (Hay) should be internal vice president, and that should be left up to the student body, not to a group of five people," he said.

Applications are being accepted for candidacy until 5 p.m. Friday.

The applications can be turned in at the student government office in the Bill Daniel Student Center.



Associated Press

Sky-high walking

Tourists walk on the recently debuted, glass-bottomed Skywalk Tuesday at the Grand Canyon West's Eagle Point in Arizona.

CASE from page 1

Loosier withdrew his guilty plea he could now be found guilty of all 11 indecency counts.

Indecency with a child by exposure is a third degree felony, with a punishment of no less than two years and no more than 10 years in prison and a

fine of up to \$10,000.

Loosier's case is set for pre-trial on May 25. Hunt said if Loosier's case is high on the list May 25, it could be scheduled for trial on June 4 at the earliest.

However, he said, the "likelihood of that is remote."

Hunt also said it would have

been very "foolish" for Loosier not to withdraw his guilty plea. If Loosier had not withdrawn his plea, Hunt said, the judge could have sentenced him immediately.

Loosier was a senior at Baylor last March when he was arrested and charged in connection with the incident.

IRAN from page 1

The United States has close to 40,000 troops in the Gulf, including 25,000 in Kuwait, 3,000 in Bahrain, 1,300 in the United Arab Emirates and a few hundred in Oman and Saudi Arabia, according to figures from the Dubai-based Gulf Research Center.

Gulf Arab nations are increasingly uneasy with the United States' tough stance against Iran, fearing any outbreak of hostilities could bring Iranian retaliation.

All lie within distance of Iranian missiles.

Also, Iran has booming trade and tourism links and full diplomatic ties with the Emirates and most Gulf countries.

On Wednesday, the U.S. Navy wrapped up its largest show of force in the Gulf since the 2003 invasion of Iraq, with 15 ships, 125 aircraft and 13,000 sailors in an exercise a few dozen miles off Iran's coast.

The maneuvers were meant to show "the commitment of the U.S. to stability and security in

the region," said Rear Adm. Kevin Quinn, commander of Strike Group Three, which includes the USS John C. Stennis.

Navy Lt. Cmdr. Charlie Brown said the U.S. Gulf maneuvers were defensive in nature, aimed at keeping open the sea lanes that carry two-fifths of the world's oil shipments.

"We're not looking for any kind of confrontation with Iran," Brown said.

"The purpose of the exercise is to ensure that no one miscalculates about our commitment to security and stability in the Gulf."

But some U.S. allies were clearly aiming to make it clear they don't want to be caught in the middle if the situation escalates.

"We have assured the brothers in Iran ... that we are not a party in its dispute with the United States," said United Arab Emirates Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyana in a statement carried on the Emirates news agency WAM.

"We will not allow any force to use our territories for military, security and espionage ac-

tivities against Iran."

The Emirates "refuses to use its territorial lands, air or waters for aggression against any other country," Khalifa said.

That could prevent the U.S. Air Force from flying intelligence missions over Iran with its squadron of U-2 and Global Hawk spy planes based at al-Dhafra Air Base near the Emirates capital, Abu Dhabi.

The U.S. Air Force said Wednesday it had not altered air operations in response to Sheik Khalifa's statement.

Air Force Lt. Col. Mike Pierson, based in Qatar, declined to say whether U-2s were flying missions over Iran, but said the Air Force only operated in international airspace or over countries that had granted permission.

In the run-up to the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003, Turkey denied access to Turkish territory. This forced U.S. military planners to adjust their plans and to forgo opening a northern front.

The refusal ushered in a tense period in Turkish-American relations.

CHINA from page 1

the Chinese economy and the potential role it could play in the future of the United States.

"China and Japan are two of the largest creditors of the U.S.," he said. "If they wanted to, they could cause the economy of this country to collapse."

Despite China's role in the global marketplace, Yang said only two universities in Texas offer Chinese as a major: Trinity University in San Antonio and the University of Texas at Austin.

At Baylor, Chinese is part of the African and Asian languages division, along with Japanese and Swahili. Students are unable to major or minor in any of the languages because they aren't actual academic departments.

"In keeping with the 2012 vision, we need to offer more programs," Yang said, referring to Imperative V of Baylor 2012.

Currently, there are six Chinese courses offered, the same courses that Yang taught in 1994.

"It's really unbelievable that we haven't been able to respond to the growing interest in Chinese with more advanced classes," he said. "We've had to turn students away from the program."

Dr. Xin Wang, an assistant professor in the Baylor Interdisciplinary Core who also

teaches Chinese, said Chinese courses have seen almost a 30 percent increase in enrollment since 2004.

This interest led Wang, who is also the associate director of Asian studies, to propose a Baylor in China program. The four-week program will take place in Beijing and various cities in June. Wang also worked with Yang and Dr. Michael Long, interim chairman of the modern foreign languages department, to add another section of beginning Chinese in the fall.

"After receiving feedback from students, we knew there was a need for another section," Wang said.

"We want to be able to accommodate everyone who wants to study Chinese."

The section was created mainly for freshmen who expressed frustration over the closure of the beginning sections before they were able to register, he said.

Wang said there are 45 students in the elementary courses, with 99 students overall. The addition will allow 60 students to take the beginning courses, he said.

"We need to be prepared for even more students to express

interest," he said.

"We need more teachers and classes."

With the heightened role of the Chinese economy in world affairs, Yang said, opportunities to do international business have greatly increased.

"We have to understand that the growth of China is vital to American interest," he said.

Senior Jocelyn Chang, an Asian studies major from Guam, said she chose to study Chinese and the Asian culture because of the opportunity to work with a rising world power.

"I wanted a concentrated, specific major that's applicable to where the world is turning," she said. "Learning Chinese opens doors and allows you to go places and do things that very few people in the U.S. can."

Yang said there are other reasons to learn Chinese, especially for Christians.

Quoting the third chapter of the Gospel of Matthew, he said, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few."

"There are literally billions of people in China who don't know Jesus," he said.

"That's a very important reason to learn Chinese as Christians."

"There are literally billions of people in China who don't know Jesus."

Dr. Vincent Yang
associate professor

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