

ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

# THE BAYLOR LARIAT

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 2007

## Panel discusses staff wage raise

Faculty member calls adequate living wage 'inadequate' for many

By Claire St. Amant  
Staff writer

Students for Social Justice held a panel discussion Tuesday night in Draper Academic Building to discuss adequate wages for campus workers.

The panel consisted of six faculty members and was moderated by Dr. Jon Singletary, assistant professor of social work.

Austin junior Jenny Parker, co-chairwoman of the adequate wage task force, has been working with the justice group since fall 2004.

"We have continually pressured the administration to raise wages," she said.

The task force was founded in 2005 under then-Interim President William D. Underwood and has been continued by President John Lilley. Parker, an economics major, said the task force developed a "stepping-stone process" to raise wages to \$10.40 per hour by 2010.

"Now it's up to the administration to decide," she said.

Waco senior Anali Gatlin, a member of the justice group, said the discussion was timely because the decision on whether to increase wages at Baylor will be made this summer by Lilley and the Baylor Board of Regents.

Thomas Odegaard, senior lecturer in economics, shared his views about the correlation of markets, prices and the value of what's produced.

"What one's due is tied to what one does," he said. "How

many people can do the same job is a valid question for economics," he added. Odegaard said his view on the impact of implementing a living or adequate wage is "agnostic."

"I don't know what the results will be," he said. "Forecasts are all over the map."

Dr. Thomas Offit, anthropology professor, shared statistics about the gap between the rich and poor in the United States.

"Income is distributed exactly as unequally in the U.S. as it

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David Poe/Lariat staff  
Dr. Thomas Offit (left) listens as Dr. Tony Talbert discusses adequate wages Tuesday in 116 Draper Academic Building.

## Virginia Tech mourns one day later



Students embrace during a memorial service Tuesday at Worsham Stadium on the campus of Virginia Tech University in Blacksburg, Va. The school held a service for those slain by a gunman

Monday. Thousands of students and other mourners gathered at the football stadium and the basketball arena.

## Schools close after threats

Measures taken after suspicious activities in several states

The Associated Press

AUSTIN — Campus threats forced lock-downs and evacuations at universities and grade schools in seven states Tuesday, a day after a Virginia Tech student's shooting rampage killed 33 people.

One threat in Louisiana directly mentioned the massacre in Virginia, while others were reports of suspicious activity in Texas, Oklahoma, Tennessee, North Dakota, South Dakota and Michigan.

In Louisiana, parents picked up hundreds of students from Bogalusa's high school and middle school amid reports that a man had been arrested Tuesday morning for threatening a mass killing in a note that alluded to the murders at Virginia Tech.

Schools Superintendent Jerry Payne said both schools were locked down and police arrested a 53-year-old man who allegedly made the threat in a note he gave to a student headed to the private Bowling Green School in Franklinton.

Both towns are in southeastern Louisiana.

"The note referred to what happened at Virginia Tech," Payne said. "It said something like, 'If you think that was bad,

## Killer identified as troubled English student

President Bush and first lady Laura Bush leave flowers at a memorial Tuesday on the campus of Virginia Tech University. The president addressed the student body at a memorial at Cassell Coliseum at the school.



Associated Press

Man who left 32 dead was 'loner' who wrote violent plays for class

By Matt Apuzzo  
The Associated Press

BLACKSBURG, Va. — The gunman in the Virginia Tech massacre was a sullen loner who alarmed professors and classmates with his twisted, violence-drenched creative writing and left a rambling note in his dorm room raging against women and rich kids.

A chilling picture emerged Tuesday of Cho Seung-Hui, a 23-year-old senior majoring in English, a day after the bloodbath that left 33 people dead, including Cho, who killed himself as police closed in.

News reports said he may have been taking medication for

depression and that he was becoming increasingly violent and erratic.

Despite the many warning signs that came to light in the bloody aftermath, police and university officials offered no clues as to exactly what set Cho off on the deadliest shooting rampage in modern U.S. history.

"He was a loner, and we're having difficulty finding information about him," school spokesman Larry Hincker said. "A student who attended Virginia Tech last fall provided obscenity- and violence-laced screenplays that he said Cho wrote as part of a playwriting class they both took."

One was about a fight between a stepson and his stepfather and involved the throwing of hammers and attacks with a chainsaw.

Another was about students fantasizing about stalking and killing a teacher who sexually molested them.

"When we read Cho's plays, it was like something out of a nightmare. The plays had really twisted, macabre violence that used weapons I wouldn't have even thought of," former classmate Ian McFarlane, now an AOL employee, wrote in a blog posted on an AOL Web site. He said he and other students "were talking to each other with serious worry about whether he could be a school shooter."

"We always joked we were just waiting for him to do something, waiting to hear about something he did," said another classmate, Stephanie Derry. "But when I got the call it was Cho who had done this, I started

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## Senior doesn't let success go to head

By Sapna Prasad  
Reporter

A preacher who doesn't preach. A believer in confident humility.

Samreen Hooda's life is full of paradoxes, but she has never felt so complete.

At 22, the Fort Worth senior was chosen for the International Waezeen Training Program in London. Hooda is only the second person to enter the program, akin to a graduate program, before completing an undergraduate degree.

The average age of a Waezeen trainee is between 35 and 40.

Hooda spent three and a half weeks at the Institute of Ismaili Studies in London last

summer. She said she learned about the role of the imam and closely examined the teachings of the Quran. She also was trained to give speeches and presentations on the history of Islam.

"It's a passion for me," Hooda said. "It's teaching me to become a good articulator because the Ismaili denomination of Islam has been misarticulated in the past."

Hooda said Ismaili-ism is a liberal, Shia denomination of Islam. She said there are no strict guidelines for when or how to pray, and the focus is on spiritual living.

Hooda said Ismaili-ism is "taking what we believe and living it spiritually."



Fort Worth senior Samreen Hooda (right) was chosen for the International Waezeen Training Program in London. The program's goal is to create a global perspective on Islam by inviting people from all over the world to participate.

Courtesy photo

The Waezeen program selects 10 to 15 people from hundreds of countries, creating a unique global perspective on Islam. Hooda said the international interaction allows the

trainees to connect with diverse audiences.

She said the program is also beginning to see the importance

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## Baylor dumps program that shares loan money

By Melissa Limmer  
Staff Writer

Amid ongoing controversy regarding student loan companies, Baylor has decided to no longer take part in the revenue-sharing program of the student loan group Education Finance Partners.

Baylor officials released a statement Friday regarding the decision and the university's relationship with the loan group.

The company is a revenue-sharing student loan organization that returns some of its profits to the universities it is contracted with.

According to a Baylor press release, since the university became affiliated with Education Finance Partners in March 2006,

the university has received a total of \$4,207.48 in shared revenue. Baylor's policy was to put this money exclusively toward need-based scholarship aid.

According to Jackie Diaz, assistant vice president for financial services, 262 students had received loans from the group. The \$4,207.48 in revenue Baylor received will be distributed evenly between the 262 students who took out the loans, and \$16.06 will be placed in each student's account.

Diaz said despite the fact that Baylor will no longer participate in the revenue-sharing program, it will remain on Baylor's preferred lender list.

Education Finance Partners

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# Plummer, Hay, Fonville make strong government trio

Election season is under way for student government. Students can vote for their favorite candidates starting today at 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Thursday at bin.baylor.edu. Each year, the *Lariat* editorial board is given a special opportunity to sit down with the candidates for the top three student government positions.

After comparing their goals, experience, personality and vision, we select those we believe will do the best job. These endorsements are solely the opinions of the majority of the editorial board and should serve only as a guide to understanding the student body's options when choosing leaders for next year.

Audio files of the interviews can be found on our Web site at [www.baylor.edu/Lariat](http://www.baylor.edu/Lariat).

Here's our recommendations:

## Student body president

Being the leader of student government is no easy task. And each year, students choose someone among them who not only provides leadership to student government but also serves as the spokesperson for the entire Baylor student body.



Travis Plummer

Even if San Antonio junior Travis Plummer were running against someone, we wouldn't endorse anyone but him.

For the past year Plummer served as the internal vice president and was always willing to work openly and truthfully with students and the *Lariat*.

Plummer values the voice of the students he serves; he's worked all year to create a student regent position. This assures us that he will continue fighting for the students' voice in all areas of Baylor. His ideas are also well constructed and achievable.

For the next year, two of Plummer's goals include the establishment of a Web site where students could review the spending of student fees and make it possible for students to buy more space for their electronic mailboxes.

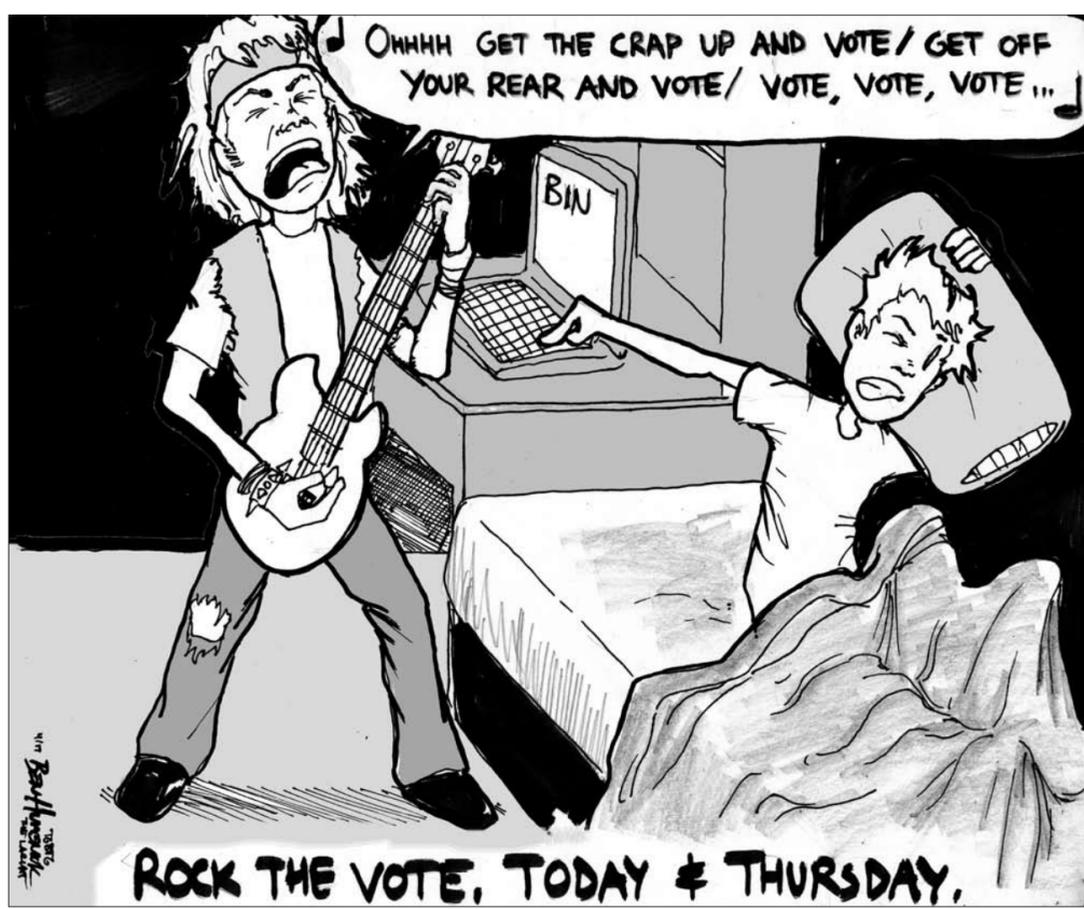
Plummer is articulate when speaking, but doesn't come across as being pretentious. He has the ability to get his thoughts and opinions across to his audience clearly and concisely, and he tops all that off with great ideas and the ability to follow through with them.

## External vice president

Serving alongside the student body president is the external vice president. His job focuses on building relationships between Baylor and the outside community.

This includes the Waco community, other schools in the Big 12 and the Alumni Association.

When Cuney senior Allan Marshall took the office of external vice presi-



dent in the fall, he performed his duties like few members of student government ever have before. He was known for his innovative ideas as well as his transparency.

In Garland sophomore Bryan Fonville, we think we've found someone who has the experience and foresight to continue Marshall's vision and further his agenda.

While working closely with Marshall, Fonville developed relationships with area leaders, including Waco Mayor Virginia DuPuy. Fonville's leadership skills were evident through the leadership summit and implementation of the alumni mentor program that paired students with local professionals.

To help students become more active in the Baylor and Waco communities, Fonville suggested a community service fair that would inform students of the opportunities available to them, which was an idea we thought was original and interesting.

As an upperclassman living in Allen Residence Hall, Fonville has a finger on the pulse of students, and his organi-

zational skills and motivation are attributes that would make him a strong external vice president.

Whitehouse junior Kevin Giddens would make a fine external vice president, too, but in the end, we believe Fonville's experience as Marshall's chief of staff is too overwhelming.

Giddens has fresh, innovative ideas to get students more involved in both on and off-campus events; these ideas included partnering campus organizations to work closely and combining efforts to give events more impact and involvement.

It's obvious he understands the problems facing our university, such as a lack of diversity at school events, and would still make a fine representative in student government.

Like Giddens, Lincoln, Neb., sophomore Britney Wekesser has interesting ideas, but we believe she just isn't quite experienced enough to hold a position as important as external vice presi-

dent. Her idea to present students with all the different student activities, especially at Welcome Week, is a great approach to increasing student involvement.

Her participation in March to College Day is encouraging, and she seemed very intent on making student government more accessible and transparent to the student body.

We believe the immense accom-

plishments that Marshall has made can best be preserved and strengthened through Fonville. Wekesser may be a great candidate for EVP in the future, just not this year.

## Internal vice president

Completing the trio of leaders in student government is the internal vice president. Not only does he preside over Student Senate meetings, but he also coordinates the workings of the legislative branch and internal affairs.

Travis Plummer held this post with fairness and efficiency, creating the standard by which we judged this year's candidates.

Sikeston, Mo., junior Jeff Hay had a lot of hurdles to jump during his campaign. He was ruled ineligible at one point and has had to mount much of his campaign from Austin, where he is working as an intern at the state capitol.

But his experience in both the state and student government, as well as his solid relationships with the administration make him the best candidate for internal vice president. He appears

intent on using all the technologies available to help students better interact with student government.

Like many of the candidates, he's in favor of student government's activities becoming more accessible on the Internet. He also suggested making it possible for students to sign up for instant message updates from meetings.

Hay is the only candidate to advocate giving students a louder voice in regard to tuition costs; this sounds like a great idea, although not necessarily feasible. He's also fully on board with the tax-free textbook campaign that is on the minds of so many students.

Throughout our interviews, Plano junior Samer Baransi stood out as the most experienced student government candidate. His dedication to Baylor and its students can be seen in his years of continued service.

He's been a member of Student Senate for five semesters and developed incentives to get students to participate in surveys on the Baylor Information Network. However, there were some aspects of his platform we didn't feel were important for the internal vice president to focus on.

While keeping the Baylor Sciences Building open 24 hours would be helpful to some, it's not in the best interest of the student body to commit so much time and energy to something that in the grand scheme of things isn't incredibly important. Also, his desire to extend visiting hours in residence halls sounds like a good idea, but it's not a pressing issue.

Although we believe Hay is the best candidate, there were a few ideas of El Paso junior Jen Kim's that intrigued us. We were glad to see Kim reflecting Hay's desire to make student government more transparent to students and the media. We consider this to be important in order to improve on the relationship between student government, the student body and the *Lariat*.

Kim proposed the idea of having town hall meetings for student government. This idea would make student government more accessible and provide a place for students to express their views and concerns to the administration. However, her experience didn't quite equal that of Hay.

While enthusiasm is encouraging, it doesn't always produce effective leadership. Many of the candidates had great ideas, but they won't come to fruition overnight. Kim also said one of the best ways to make students more aware is to spread information by word of mouth. So far this approach hasn't worked well in grabbing students' attention.

Overall, we were pleased to see each of the candidates had a lot to offer. They brought original ideas as well as a passion for serving the student body. Nearly every candidate quoted student government's motto "Students serving students," and we sincerely think they all believe that's their primary role.

In the end, we decided to err on the side of experience and vision. Even if you don't agree with our choices, the important thing is to make your own.



Bryan Fonville



Jeff Hay

# MTV's 'Sweet 16' offers nothing but mindless entertainment

Wherever the terrorists are hiding and plotting, let's all hope, for the sake of America, that they don't have cable or MTV. If they ever happen to catch an episode of *My Super Sweet 16*, our country might be in more trouble than we realize.

You see, *My Super Sweet 16* represents everything terrorists hate about America. To another extent, it also represents everything I'm afraid my generation is turning into.

Why the cause for concern? It's the selfish attitudes and the glorification of obscene wealth. It's the kids with the sense of entitlement who control their parents. It's the princes and goddesses, the rock stars

and divas. And these are the ones who will run our country some day? I fear the day banks close for National Pink and Sparkly Day.

For those who have been lucky enough to avoid the show, MTV describes the characters as kids who "expect and will only accept the absolute best. Now, it's up to them to make sure jealous siblings, stressed-out parents and school rivals don't get in the way."

Status is all that matters to the kids on that show. They wear their biases and dislike for classmates and so-called friends on their sleeve. They revel in the disappointment of those who won't get into their party.



BY NATHAN MCCOY

They don't brag that their dad can beat up your dad; they brag that their dad can, like, totally buy them another car right now if he wanted to. The characters on the show would argue that if you've got it, flaunt it.

If your parents can afford to throw you an extravagant party with a six-figure bill, than you might as well go all out.

I agree that families should provide for their children. But I also remember a man named Jesus saying that it's easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven.

In other words, if wealth is a person's only concern in life, that person should re-evaluate their mindset.

The A.V. Club, the entertainment section of the satirical magazine *The Onion*, once called *My Super Sweet 16* "The Most Offensive Show On Television." The label certainly was not given because of lack of competition from other shows. Trash television has taken over the airwaves as an excuse for entertainment.

Ever since a certain hotel fortune heiress made a name for herself by doing absolutely nothing, people have been infatuated with the rich and ridiculous rather than the talented and typical.

Suddenly, entertainment is watching a washed-up, clock-wearing rapper pick his girlfriend from a bevy of hopefuls looking for their 15 seconds in the spotlight.

Unfortunately, I can be counted among the victims of trash television.

I, too, have watched an episode of *My Super Sweet 16*. The entire way through, I kept telling myself to change the channel. I kept complaining about annoying, spoiled kids. I kept

feeling like I needed to vomit; but like a car crash, I couldn't keep from craning my neck to watch what was wrong.

So if it's so disgusting and absurd, why do we watch trash television?

It's a lot like eating cotton candy. It looks like you're getting a lot of substance. It tastes good and satisfies your sweet tooth. And hey, look at the pretty colors!

But in the end, it just dissolves and you're left hungry for something that will actually fill you up.

Here's a suggestion: Go outside. Live your own life.

Nathan McCoy is a junior journalism major from Crowley.

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**THE Daily Crossword** Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

**ACROSS**

- Coconut fiber
- Male swans
- Coeur d'\_, ID
- "Rule Britannia" composer
- Toward shelter
- Challenged
- Adroit
- Lou or Willis
- Pilotless aircraft
- Pop
- King in France
- Reunion invitees
- Three pops
- Sue \_ Langdon
- Hosiery hue
- Horse mackerel
- Game similar to lotto
- Madrid Mrs.
- Boggy area
- Trick into difficulty
- Object of worship
- Roman greeting
- Three pops
- Sty guy
- In favor of
- Pop
- Game name
- Fragrant gum

**DOWN**

- Two-timer
- Lode loads
- Poop or scoop
- Send back
- Of the heart
- Table spread
- Steer flesh
- "Calendar Girl" singer
- Book supplements
- "Doctor Zhivago" heroine
- Greek Cupid
- Hawaiian goose
- Biographer of Henry James
- Memo
- Birthdays
- Victories
- Upright
- Oscar de la \_

**8** B&O and Amtrak  
**9** Shroud of \_  
**10** Chewy treat  
**11** Bathsheba's husband  
**12** Chutzpah  
**13** Malevolent stare  
**14** California fort  
**15** Use a calculator  
**16** Designate  
**17** Discomfort  
**18** Not on the beat  
**19** Vietnam's neighbor  
**20** Playing marbles  
**21** Russian carriage  
**22** Pop singing "Mama"  
**23** Perched on  
**24** Few and far between  
**25** Light machine gun  
**26** Matador's foe  
**27** Flair  
**28** Sketched  
**29** Henri's girlfriend  
**30** \_ longa, vita brevis

By Philip J. Anderson  
 Portland, OR

4/18/07

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

# Committee meets to discuss BU's accreditation status

By Jon Schroeder  
Staff writer

Baylor's on-campus visit from Southern Association of Colleges and Schools began Tuesday.

The visit, along with several reports submitted to SACS, will eventually determine Baylor's accreditation status, but Baylor officials say they expect a smooth visit.

After visiting Baylor's executive MBA program in Austin on Monday morning, a group of seven SACS representatives arrived Monday evening in Waco and began on-campus meetings Tuesday.

Their visit will end at 11 a.m. Thursday.

Assistant Provost Tiffany Hogue said the visit will differ from past visits of Southern

Association of Colleges and Schools representatives.

Ten and 20 years ago, the visit comprised the bulk of the process, and SACS representatives made decisions largely based on their on-campus visit.

In contrast, this year SACS representatives already had most of the information before they arrived on campus — in the form of a 411-page report, not including documentation, which was sent to them online in September. Baylor's Quality Enhancement Plan, one of SACS' requirements, was sent to the representatives March 2 along with responses to other specific queries.

"What they've done with the change in the rules is to make a one-step process with a huge visit into a two-step process,"

Hogue said.

She said she doesn't know what sort of questions the SACS representatives will ask during their visit but said Baylor was "very transparent" in its Quality Enhancement Plan.

The group will "give us some ideas about things to do and things to avoid," said Dr. Patricia Tolbert, director of assessment and compliance.

The on-campus visit will focus on Baylor's Enhancement Plan, not on accreditation as a whole, Tolbert said, calling it a "helpful" process.

As the SACS representatives meet with students, faculty, regents and administrators, they'll be able to give a different perspective to Baylor's plan, she said.

The plan originally included

three proposals for new programming: an undergraduate research plan, engaged learning groups and University 1100.

The undergraduate research portion of the plan includes the Small Grant Program, which will "provide research-related funding for undergraduates and their research mentors," according to the plan's documentation.

It also includes a revamped version of Scholar's Day with a greater focus on undergraduate research.

The day traditionally has showcased Baylor lecturers and researchers.

A Web site and awards for undergraduates are also part of the plan.

The engaged learning group section of the plan, which will

make its debut in the fall, will admit 180 incoming students into three learning groups: Film and global cultures, Hispanic families in transition and energy and society.

Each of these interdisciplinary groups will last for at least three semesters and will count toward a degree requirement. An optional fourth-semester "capstone" program also will be available.

University 1100, the plan proposal originally slated to replace Chapel Fridays, was dropped after concerns were brought up on behalf of the university curriculum committee.

An online update from Dr. Larry Lyon, vice provost for institutional effectiveness, said he's hopeful that "at some time in the future administrative de-

tails can be worked out across campus to the satisfaction of all the faculty, administrators and students who would be affected by this new class."

Completion of University 1100, unlike either of the other two initiatives, would have become a universitywide requirement had it remained a part of the Enhancement Plan.

Hogue and Tolbert each said they didn't feel they could comment on any possible effect the change could have on Baylor's accreditation process, but they said there's no reason to think SACS' on-campus visit will be anything but positive.

"This accreditation process is a valuable one because it offers us the opportunity to improve," Tolbert said. "We're hoping for smooth sailing."

# Model Arab League earns top award at competition

By Star De La Cruz  
Reporter

Baylor's Model Arab League received the Overall Outstanding Delegation award at the Model Arab League competition, which was held from Thursday to Saturday at Texas Wesleyan University.

"In the five years I have been associated with Baylor's Model Arab League program, this is clearly the strongest team we have had at competition," said Dr. Mark Long, director for Middle East Studies and associate professor in the Honors College. "The team won four individual and group awards, to include the highest award for the overall best delegation."

Baylor had not won the Overall Outstanding Delegation since 2002. This award is given to only one school that does the best overall in every aspect of the competition.

Katy sophomore Eric Headstream and Fort Worth freshman Meagan Raley were awarded outstanding delegates for political affairs committee.

Flower Mound junior Joji Su-

zuki won the outstanding delegate award for environmental affairs committee. Eules senior Shan Ali Molidena and Sugar Land senior Samssa Ali won the honorable mention delegates award for the social affairs committee.

Long said the team did extraordinarily well, which was an indication of how diligently the members worked throughout the semester to prepare.

"They could not have given better representation for Baylor University," Long said.

Samer Baransi, a Plano junior and head delegate for Iraq, said the competition is comparable to Model UN.

"We split up into five different committees and are given conflicts, which we are to write resolutions for," he said.

Prior to the competition, members of the Model Arab League had to research the countries they would be representing and study the country's position on every political aspect. Baransi said it consisted of a lot of intense research and memorization.

He also said they had to

come up with a resolution just as the Arab League would in given situations. One of the situations given to the delegates was, how to establish a protocol in the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq.

"Part of our competition is graded on how much knowledge we have acquired about the country we represent, as well as team work, writing and speaking skills," Baransi said.

Humble senior Taleen Khalaf, president of Model Arab League, said the league won more awards than in previous years.

"This was the first time we won outstanding delegation in a long time," Khalaf said.

Khalaf said along with the hard studying, the league did so well because they were "blessed to have people who think well on their feet and are poised at speaking."

"We had a lot of mock simulations in committees," Khalaf said. "We had weekly assignments that ranged from topic researches, brainstorming and writing resolutions and we were exposed to different exercises that helped us prepare."



Courtesy photo

Baylor's Model Arab League displays awards received last weekend at the Model Arab League competition at Texas Wesleyan University.

Baransi said this competition gave him experience to develop conflict resolutions.

"More importantly I was able to see how countries in the Middle East combat these issues every day and I could distinguish the comparisons between how Americans view the Middle East and what in reality is going on," he said.

Ali said the best part of the competition was the anticipation of seeing the other participants' preparation.

"I learned a lot through the debates because after research alone there is only so much knowledge one can attain, but after debating, you use that knowledge and learn a lot more," Suzuki said.

## BEAR BRIEFS

### Run for a cause

Pi Beta Phi sorority will hold Run to Reveal at 8 a.m. Saturday on the Bear Trail to support the nonprofit organization Invisible Children. All proceeds will go to the organization. Registration will be at 7:30 a.m. Saturday at the circle by Hankamer School of Business and costs \$10. For additional information, contact Dana\_Hamann@baylor.edu.

### BeneFIT Bash at the SLC

Bearobics BeneFIT Bash will take place from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday at the McLane Student Life Center. Registration will be from 9 to 10 a.m. The Bash will include trophies, prizes and aerobic classes. A \$5 donation is requested, and all proceeds will go to the American Heart Association. For additional information, contact Ember\_Strand@baylor.edu or call 710-7529.

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

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# Seminar recalls Holocaust's impact

Professors, students discuss Christianity, politics of hate

By Kirsten Horne  
Reporter

What would it be like if there were no more Jews?

This will be one of the discussion topics today at the Holocaust Remembrance seminar held by the Baylor Center for Jewish Studies.

The seminar will be from noon to 1 p.m. in 107 George W. Truett Theological Seminary. During the seminar, clips will be shown from *Final Solution*, a film about the politics of hate.

After the movie, Dr. Marc Ellis, director of the Center for Jewish Studies; Dr. Hulitt Gloer, professor of preaching and Christian scripture at George W. Truett Theological Seminary; and Dr. Lai Ling Ngan, associate professor of Christian scripture at George W. Truett Theological Seminary, will participate in a

discussion with students about various topics related to the content of the movie.

"The movie shows the meeting with German officers that laid out the plan for the 'final solution,'" Gloer said. He said 12 men hatched the "final solution" plan that ultimately resulted in the deaths of 6 million Jews.

"I plan on relating to the idea that this was just a business-like act for the Germans," Gloer said. "There was no emotion shown, no sense of something tragic."

Ellis said he plans to speak about a world without Jews.

"That was the ultimate plan of the Nazis: to eliminate the Jews," he said. "I just want them to think, what would every day be like?"

Ellis said these questions are not just for Jews, but for Christians as well.

"What would it mean to be a Christian if there were no Jews?" he said. "What does that mean for Baylor?"

He said he plans on discussing the topic from more than just one viewpoint.

"When I ask about Jews, it really means more than that," he said. "I want them to think about what it would be like if there were no African-Americans or Muslims. I want the students to think, 'Are we better off in a world where there is no one different than we are?'"

Ellis explained why the history of the Holocaust is important for all students, including Christians, to know.

"Both Christians and Nazis share disturbing similarities in their understanding of Jews," he said. "The difference is that Christians felt the Jews had killed Christ and had rejected the new covenant."

He said that because of this, Christians believed that the Jews were condemned to wander and suffer until they saw the light.

Ngan said she thinks it is important that Christians are made aware of the events that took place during the Holocaust. "If we don't, it will happen again," she said.

The seminar is open to everyone and pizza will be provided.

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## [STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS 2007]

**Samer + IVP = Success**

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**GIDDENS**

Vote for  
*Jen Kim*

**Plummer for President**

Say "Hay" on election day!

**FONVILLE RETURNS**

Pick Wekesser for EVP

# RACE

Executive position candidates gear up for elections and share their platforms

By **Kate Boswell**  
Staff writer

You've heard the speeches. You've seen the signs. It's that time of year again.

With election results to be revealed Thursday, the competition heats up as seven students vie for the three executive branch positions: student body president, internal vice president and external vice president.

**Travis Plummer**

San Antonio junior Travis Plummer is running unopposed for the position of student body president. Last year's winner, Richardson senior Mark Laymon, also ran an uncontested race.

"I personally would like to see students have more options and choices," Plummer said of his solo race, but he's quick to point out the bright side. "However, there won't be a period of shakiness or transition, since Mark and I are already working together."

Plummer currently serves as internal vice president, but he said his main qualification for the office is his passion for Baylor.

"The big thing I bring to the table is my love for Baylor," he said. "You cannot do this job unless you love Baylor."

Plummer said he hopes as president to continue projects he began in his current position, like increasing student interaction with the Baylor Board of Regents.

One way he plans to do this is by holding luncheons and dinners for visiting regents and encouraging them to eat with students.

"We want to maximize that time when they're in town," he said. "They can talk about issues and things that students are doing, not just student government's projects."

Plummer already has worked on this issue by appearing before the regents with the other executive branch members several times since he began office.

He also said he hopes to help the individual class officers implement more programming for each class.

"The classes have a lot of potential, and I would love to see that maximized," he said, adding that this will create more of a sense of pride in each class.

Another issue Plummer is working on is breaking down the student fee.

"We currently pay a student fee in a lump sum," he said. "While I appreciate Baylor's not 'nickel and dime-ing' us on everything, I think it would be beneficial for students to know how the money is spent."

He emphasized that this is not a chance for students to refuse to pay for something, but rather an opportunity for students to suggest where money should be funneled.

Plano junior Samer Baransi; Sikeston, Mo., junior Jeff Hay; and El Paso junior Jen Kim are running for the position of internal vice president.

**Samer Baransi**

Baransi said his decision to

run for office was made after a recent mission trip to Tokyo.

"It might sound cheesy, but I was convicted of a need to talk to people and get out of my comfort zone," he said. "This position served as an opportunity to bring students and administrators together."

Baransi has served in Student Senate for five consecutive terms and said he believes experience will serve him well if he is elected internal vice president.

"I'm qualified primarily because of experience and my passion for the student voice to have the ear of the administration," Baransi said.

He said his trip to Japan taught him the importance of speaking to people in their own language rather than expecting them to speak his language.

"We, as students, need to adapt to the administration's language," he said.

He said he plans to continue the progress made this year.

"I don't want to change 180 degrees," he said. "I want to work closely with Travis Plummer and other officers. If we keep pounding things into the ground, the administration will listen."

One of the issues Baransi wants to bring to the administration is opening the Baylor Sciences Building for 24 hours a day.

He also said he has heard some talk about Baylor's residence hall visiting hours being cut back, and he will fight for them to stay the same or even be extended.

He said he also is interested in setting aside a percentage of the Student Life Fund for events that encourage diversity.

"We need more than just a student government committee," he said. "We need to get people who don't usually attend multicultural events to attend."

Baransi emphasized that he plans to work to build bridges with the administration.

"If we just keep politely asking them, the administration will listen," he said.

**Jeff Hay**

Hay said his experience in student government, as well as his current internship in Austin, make him the most qualified candidate for the position. He has previously served as president pro tem of the Senate and as chairman of Senate's operations and procedures committee.

"I've been given great opportunities and I am making the most of those of opportunities," Hay said.

He added that he decided to run for the position to give students a voice in their government.

"I think that the students deserve a fair voice in government," he said. "They need someone looking out for them in their interest, and I believe I am that kind of person. I wanted to be that voice for them."

Hay emphasized the most important part of his campaign is that students understand his platform.

"There's no slogan (on my signs) because I think that people really just need to under-

stand the platform," he said.

One aspect of Hay's platform is textbook issues.

"I've been working here in Austin since I have been in Austin on tax-free textbooks," Hay said. He said as internal vice president, he would investigate the Baylor Bookstore and see if it had access to advance information about textbooks.

"I want to see whether or not they can get advanced information before other bookstores," he said. "All of the bookstores should have the same ability to gain textbooks. I'd like to keep them from charging such high prices for textbooks."

He said he also hopes to put students on a tuition advisory board and allow them to meet with the vice president of finance. "Students ought to see the reasons why we are raising tuition," Hay said. "They would have a greater voice when involved."

Hay said he is also interested in aligning on-campus concerts with student government.

"I'm looking into adding a few dollars to the Student Life Fund, so students could go to concerts for free," Hay said.

**Jen Kim**

"The resolutions I've written have shown that I'm making things happen," Kim said of her time in Senate.

She has spent two years serving in Senate and is currently the co-chairwoman of the diversity committee.

She said this and other activities, like Model United Nations, have enabled her to get in touch with many different kinds of students and their concerns.

However, she said, her strength is her practicality and ability to get things done.

"I have realistic goals and I will make no blank promises," she said. "I tend to have a very rational approach and I'm efficient."

She outlined a detailed, five-part platform that included creating openness between student government, the administration and the student body as well as increasing safety on campus and lengthening visitation hours.

Kim said one way she plans to increase communication between members of the Baylor community is by holding regular forums.

"I plan to host regular meetings with administrators: open forums where students can ask them questions," she said.

She said she also plans to hold a similar forum with student government and would try to get members of Student Court, the executive branch and class officers to attend to answer students' questions.

In terms of security, Kim said she wants to "push Baylor DPS to shift its focus toward patrolling and safety."

She also said there are several broken emergency call boxes on campus, and they need to be fixed quickly.

"They're no good if they are broken," she said. "We need to fix that ASAP."

She also said she hopes to make registration more efficient and extend the current course offerings.

"Baylor is growing," she said. "Demands aren't being met for specialized majors, like philosophy. It's difficult to get in the necessary classes."

Garland sophomore Bryan Fonville, Whitehouse junior Kevin Giddens and Lincoln, Neb., sophomore Britney Wekesser are vying for the position of external vice president.

**Bryan Fonville**

Fonville, who may be recognizable to students for either his Superman-themed campaign posters or his work as current external vice president Allan Marshall's chief of staff, calls his goals "community focused."

"I'm most passionate about community. I'm trying to get Baylor students focused on the Waco community," Fonville said. "I want to change the percentage of community involvement. After freshman year, after Welcome Week, there are almost no community involvement opportunities for students."

He said he also has seen a need for community involvement and outreach to be more intentionally faith-based.

He said joining with local churches to plan activities is one way Baylor can accomplish this.

"We need to not just impact lives physically but spiritually as well," he said.

Fonville said he also hopes to increase community attendance at athletic events.

"I would like to work with the athletic department for promoting ideas on community attendance," he said.

He also said he was interested in continuing meetings with Waco mayor Virginia DuPuy to increase downtown development. "We really want to change the perception that there is nothing to do in Waco," he said.

Though Fonville has had to deal with questions about how closely he will follow in Marshall's footsteps, he says his experience as Marshall's chief of staff is an asset.

"Who better to know the office than the chief of staff?" he said. "I've thoroughly enjoyed my time working with Allan, but I am my own candidate. We see things and handle things differently, and this is an asset."

Fonville added that the importance of continuity in leadership "can't be put into words. It's important that we have people coming into office that have a working relationship with different people," he said.

"I will continue to develop and fulfill the previous external vice president's vision."

**Kevin Giddens**

Giddens said one of his main goals is to make student government and the Student Life Fund more accessible to students.

"A lot of what I want to accomplish is open up student government and student life and make everything less complicated and user-friendly



**Plummer**

**Travis Plummer • San Antonio junior • Biology major**  
Desired position: Student body president

I'm most passionate about increasing the board of regents' interactions with students. They are a board that sincerely cares about the Baylor family; however, I think they might be a little out of touch with the student body itself.

I feel that I'm the most qualified candidate for this position due to my experience and my sincere love for this institution. I have had the privilege of serving as the internal vice president and president of the Student Senate for the past year and hope to continue the tradition of excellence that Mark, Allan and I began. We have worked to create an environment of service in student government and I desire to see this tradition maintained. After seeing how the office should be run for the past year, I feel that I have a strong understanding of the duties, requirements and hardships of such a position and am more than qualified considering my heart for serving this university.

**Samer Baransi • Plano junior Finance, Business Fellows major**  
Desired position: Student body internal vice president



**Baransi**

After five consecutive semesters as a senator in student government, my head floods with ideas to improve Baylor. Twenty-four-hour BSB. Fountain back on Fountain Mall. Making faculty evaluations available. Dreams are great vehicles for achievement, but you can't drive toward them without the fuel of realistic expectation.

Experience has taught me the importance of building bridges. The most of my campaign will be flying a flag of cooperation: the gap between the student body and the administration needs to be stitched closer, and we need to adapt to the way they think. The position of campus improvements chairman rewarded me with an active committee, which I rallied to produce the most popular student survey ever produced by the BIN. The results of this survey molded the tasks of the committee this semester. I'm a leader made, not born, and my vice president position in Brothers Under Christ fraternity last year taught me what that means. It forced me to deal with multiple crises that tempted me to become distracted from my task of planning Island Party. In that time, I learned that leaders make specific goals that people can hold them accountable to. They challenge themselves. They reach outside their comfort zones. They admit their mistakes. Most of all, they keep going, despite what happens. Proverbs 24:16 mandates it: "For though the righteous man falls seven times, he rises again."

**Jeff Hay • Sikeston, Mo., junior Political science major**  
Desired position: Student body internal vice president



**Hay**

I am most passionate about ensuring that students have fair representation when it comes to finances for which they will be paying. Last year, the regents voted to increase tuition. I propose that students be selected to serve on a tuition advisory board for the vice president of finance and the Baylor Board of Regents when that recommendation is made. The students deserve a voice in financial matters of the university since they are the ones ultimately responsible for paying the cost. I have been lobbying in Austin for a bill which would provide for tax-exempt textbooks for both public and private universities. Not only do I support this, but I also believe the Baylor Bookstore should not gain any advantage over off-campus bookstores by advance notice of textbook requirements from professors or by re-charging high prices multiple times for textbooks. My experience as president pro tem of the Senate last semester and the year I have spent in the Senate are important in running for the office of IVP. As pro tem, I served in the absence of the IVP and gained valuable experience on the Senate executive commission. My experiences with the Chamber as homecoming general assistant last year have helped me develop strong relationships with administrators which I can use in the future as we work together for the good of the students.

**Jen Kim • El Paso junior Philosophy, political science major**  
Desired position: Student body internal vice president



**Kim**

I am most passionate about bringing the student voice back to the student body through the use of Student Senate. During my time at Baylor, I have come to recognize students are not utilizing Senate mainly because they do not know what Senate can do for them. Also, it seems that student concerns are not all being addressed by the administration, and it is my goal to use Senate to build bridges between students and the administration to make this university greater than it already is.

I have experience working with a number of students and their organizations on campus, and know the concerns and needs that are voiced by the students. Also, I have worked in several different committees within student government and am currently the chairwoman of the diversity committee.

**Bryan Fonville • Garland sophomore Finance, economics major**  
Desired position: Student body external vice president



**Fonville**

I have a heart for the Waco community and I want to share that passion with others. Community service sometimes has a negative association. It is usually thought of within the context of an organization's membership requirements. I want to change this perception. I know more students would volunteer if they could engage in meaningful community involvement that provided them with opportunities to interact with community members. I also know more students would volunteer if they found a service agency that shared their same interests, values and beliefs. I want to help Baylor students find these agencies and get involved in the community. I want to help them improve someone's life. And most importantly, I want to help them improve their own life.

Having already served in the office for a year, I have a complete understanding of the position's requirements. As the chief of staff to the external vice president this past year, I met with several of Waco's community leaders, most notably Waco Mayor Virginia DuPuy. I have at one time or another performed all of the job responsibilities that come with the EVP office. I have established connections within the community and will continue to build these relationships should I be elected. I have also organized and planned several EVP-sponsored events, most notably the Coal Plant Educational Forum and the Beyond Leadership Community Summit. As EVP, I hope to utilize my experience to continue building meaningful relationships with Waco community leaders. I hope to build on the momentum of this year's successes and take the office to new heights.

**Kevin Giddens • Whitehouse junior Speech communication, political science major**  
Desired position: Student body external vice president



**Giddens**

The Baylor Experience. I am passionate about Baylor students receiving the best college experience possible and becoming people that reflect the Baylor tradition of excellence. This includes extending events on campus to develop the Baylor community and converging efforts in the Waco community to develop strong character and pride in the student body. I have served multiple organizations including FLO as social chair, Kappa Sigma as chaplain and philanthropy chair, Phi Alpha Delta pre-law fraternity, Antioch lifegroup and day care and Student Senate. I have planned many successful events and meetings and I am very experienced with the Baylor requirements for student activities. While serving these organizations I have also worked at Carroll Library and *The Baylor Lariat* and maintained a 4.0 GPA.

**Britney Wekesser • Lincoln, Neb., sophomore Professional sales major**  
Desired position: Student body external vice president



**Wekesser**

Throughout this school year, it has been made known to us there are many needs in our surrounding community. As the next external vice president, I will strive to further the involvement of students in meeting those needs, thus continuing to strengthen the relationship between Baylor and Waco. However, I also want to draw outstanding people to our university. I will do this through the March to College Day, the Private University Conference, scholarship endowments and working with administrators to ensure we continue providing world-class facilities and education, while maintaining our deeply rooted Christian values.

I have become an experienced leader as the current sophomore class president and social chairman of my sorority. Additionally, I have been a Welcome Week leader and a chairperson in the Freshman Leadership Organization. I have served the Baylor student body and the Waco community through my participation in King's Club, Humane Society, student government and Steppin' Out. All of these activities have made me aware of our need to reach out and give back to those around us. I am an extrovert by nature who has a passion for interacting with people and hearing what is on their hearts and minds.

[STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS 2007]

## Candidates are vying for class officer and Student Senate positions. How well do you know these students? Check out their platforms below.



Franklin

**Lloyd Franklin • Grand Prairie junior • Accounting major**  
Desired position: Senior class president

If elected, I would focus on the senior class gift for the class of 2008. I would like to see the restoration of a fountain on Fountain Mall. This gift would enhance the beauty of the Baylor campus and leave a proud legacy for the class of 2008.  
My previous experiences make me a good candidate for senior class president. I have been an active member of student government the last two years.

My sophomore year, I served as a student senator and was on the operations and procedures committee. This year I have served as external relations representative on the cabinet of the external vice president, served as the director of Learning English Among Friends, co-founded the Alumni Mentorship Program and co-founded COALition.



Gallifant

**Caleb Gallifant • Phoenix sophomore • Finance major**  
Desired position: Junior class vice president

I'm most passionate about faculty and student mentorships because I believe it is invaluable to pour into a new student's life. Having faculty members and upperclassmen mentor younger students not only allows new students to work through inevitable college struggles with an experienced individual, but also forms deep, intentional friendships with them.

I like to be committed to the work I am involved in. It doesn't make any sense to do anything half-hearted. I am personable and enjoy challenges. I am enthusiastic about new ventures and initiatives as well as getting done what needs to get done. I like to dream big but also lay out an action plan for practical measures.



Hannah

**Jordan Hannah • Cleburne freshman • Political science major**  
Desired position: Sophomore class president

Whatever my class decides, they want something changed in next year. We don't know what will need to be addressed the quickest yet, but when that is known I will do my best to advocate on behalf of my class. I feel like a better relationship is needed between the legislative and executive branches. We were not on the same page most of the year and I

would like to change that by working with the sophomore Senate on issues on campus.  
I am very passionate about serving students and Baylor. I have a year of student government experience in the Student Senate so I believe I have the knowledge to serve my class to the best of my ability.



Broussard

**Tracey Broussard • Bridge City freshman • Marketing, public relations major**  
Desired position: Sophomore class secretary/treasurer

I really feel that it is very important to get students involved in campus life at Baylor through organizations, service events and sports. By promoting these events to all classifications of students and not just freshmen, I think that the Baylor community would feel more connected.  
In high school, I was the secretary for student council and the president of En Croix, a group for Christian dancers. These positions

taught me how to be a good example for others and ultimately, a stronger leader. One quote that has always strengthened me is: "Leadership is understanding people and involving them to help you do a job. That takes all of the good characteristics, like integrity, dedication of purpose, selflessness, knowledge, skill, implacability, as well as determination not to accept failure." ~ Admiral Arleigh A. Burke

### RACE from page 4

and student friendly," he said.  
One problem Giddens identified was lack of communication between groups on campus and between students and the Waco community. He said he believes action, not dialogue, is the best way of overcoming this problem as well as increasing diversity.  
"This semester, I've seen a lot of similar events at the same time. If people worked together it could be so much more effective," he said.  
"I think we can make a bigger impact in the community and on campus. In doing that, instead of just dialoguing about diversity, this would actually get groups to work together. They would see that they had common interests and goals. That's going to knock down walls, not sitting in Baylor tea rooms having bad cookies and orange punch."  
Giddens said he believes his experience in numerous organizations, including membership in Kappa Sigma and serving as a senator in Student Senate, qualify him for the position as external vice president.  
"I have a great knowledge of what needs to be done, and I know how to get people excited

about events," he said.  
Giddens' current project is an event called Kickin' it with Kappa Sig, a kickball tournament at the end of April the fraternity is putting on to raise money for a new playground for Doris Miller Elementary School.  
Giddens said he came up with the idea for the event and organized everything, including co-authoring a bill asking for funds from the Student Life Fund, which was passed Thursday.  
**Britney Wekesser**  
"I'm not a superstar or someone who wants to change the world, but I really feel that I can make a difference here on campus and my passion is Baylor students," Wekesser said.  
Wekesser said she wanted to make sure students recognized her and felt comfortable approaching her on campus, so she and her campaign manager decided to put her photo on all of her campaign signs.  
"I want to make sure they aren't afraid to come up to me and ask questions," she said.  
Wekesser said her involvement in on-campus activities (she is currently president of the sophomore class) and her people skills make her a good candidate for the position.

She outlined three parts to her platform: promoting March to College Day, attendance at statewide university conferences and raising scholarship awareness.  
She said March to College Day, which is hosted by the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, is an event that will help to draw the community to Baylor's campus and promote Baylor.  
Another issue Wekesser is passionate about is scholarship endowments and awareness.  
She said she believes the creation of an online service that lists all scholarships available to students would help alleviate this problem.  
"I would like to set up one Web site where (students) could go and check out all scholarships offered," she said. "It would be a collaboration of every organization's scholarships that they offer throughout the year."  
Wekesser also said she wants to hold a statewide university conference at Baylor for students from all over the state to meet with one another.  
"It's just a place where student can start a network of like-minded students, and students can build off each other's ideas for their own campuses," she said.

**Nekpen Osuan • Houston junior • University Scholars major**  
Desired position: Senior class vice president

I am most passionate about improving student relations with Baylor faculty, staff and administrators because a healthy sense of inclusion and cooperation are vital to the progress and continued success of our beloved university.  
I have been a member of student government for three years this fall and have thoroughly enjoyed serving with students, faculty and

administrators in building a better Baylor. I look forward to hearing and sharing ideas with the class of 2008 as to how our class can reach and even exceed its goals in fundraising for the senior class gift, preparing for graduation and sustaining ties to the university afterward.



Mooney

**Erica Mooney • Baytown sophomore • Political science major**  
Desired position: Junior class president

The past two months, we have gathered the leaders of student organizations to spend an hour together praying for our campus and organizations. I think that it is very important that the students are leading their organizations with character and are striving to glorify God. I want student government to aid in bringing those leaders to that common goal.

I am passionate about students' issues being heard and brought to the attention of the faculty and staff. Through the past two years in student government, we have worked on many projects, and I would like to see them through to completion, enabling the best to be accomplished for Baylor.



Forbes

**Megan Forbes • Edmond, Okla., junior • Forensic science major**  
Desired position: Junior class secretary/treasurer

I believe the students should have input in the decisions that run this campus. By getting involved and working together we can improve many different aspects that could contribute to a improved community.

I am a responsible and passionate student. I always give 100 percent to what I am involved in. I am involved in many different campus programs and groups. I would love to represent the junior class.



Sasser

**Felicia Sasser • Bethalto, Ill., sophomore • International studies, religion major**  
Desired position: Junior class secretary/treasurer

Student involvement and equality among the different social/service groups are key issues that need to be addressed. The image of Baylor is often mistaken and many students compete against each other when it is unity we should be seeking.  
If we want to make a difference in this university, state and an even more ambitious difference in our world, then we need to realize we are all standing and

striving for the same goals.  
Desiring and passionately seeking out a united class of 2009, an involved student body and pride for Baylor's authentic foundation is the ambition this university needs and is the prominent asset I offer — passionately doing so, being the key. As poet D.H. Lawrence said, "When genuine passion moves you, say what you've got to say, and say it hot!"

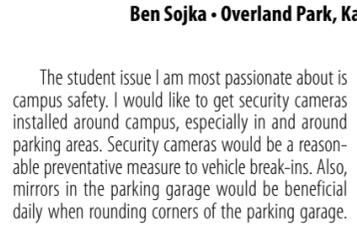


Dickman

**Cory Dickman • Portland freshman • Business major**  
Desired position: Sophomore class president

I think we should not be so quick to judge others just because of their Greek affiliation, race or dorm they live in, but instead we as students at Baylor should strive for unity. I think students should leave Baylor having a better personal understanding of all types of people. I think it is good from time to time for students to step out of their comfort zones.

My senior year of high school, I was the all-school student body president. I learned how to work with others and solve challenging problems that would arise. This semester, I'm involved in LEAD LCC, which taught me to strengthen my leadership skills, become a better team player and understand the different issues that students at Baylor face.



Sojka

**Ben Sojka • Overland Park, Kan., freshman • Speech communication major**  
Desired position: Sophomore class vice president

The student issue I am most passionate about is campus safety. I would like to get security cameras installed around campus, especially in and around parking areas. Security cameras would be a reasonable preventative measure to vehicle break-ins. Also, mirrors in the parking garage would be beneficial daily when rounding corners of the parking garage.

Wrecks happen often.  
I believe I am an excellent candidate for sophomore class vice president because of my leadership and communication abilities. I want the class of 2010 to remember their time at Baylor as some of the best years of their lives. I will do whatever I can to serve the class and make next year as enjoyable as possible.

## Save me a spot... in the **Senate**

Candidates for Student Senate arranged by classification:

### Sophomores

- Suzu Azzam
- Colt "Tex" Currie
- Liz Foreman
- Jessie Graf
- Vincent R. Harris
- Christine Hersh
- Jessica Kim
- John Kitch
- Jason Lawrence
- Jessica Liu
- Holly Maddox
- Daisy Marchena
- Morgan Mooers
- Luisa Muskus
- Chelle Nipper
- Chris Paxton
- Rebecca Scott
- Jose Mauricio Valles
- Kathy Wilson
- Nicole Yeakley

### Juniors

- Adam Arrington
- Alberto Barraza
- Andy Beall
- Amanda Beattie
- Alex Dubois
- Stephanie Formas
- Zach Krohn
- Chase McVicker
- Whitney Petty
- Jordan Powell
- Abbie Rosen
- Parker Short
- Kathleen Simpson
- Tommy Takyi-Micah
- Zack Taylor
- Sarah Thompson

### Seniors

- Erin Bolivar
- Brad Doherty
- Mallory Driggers
- Justin Farr
- Rosie Gregg
- Jared Grigg
- Paul Hamilton
- Thomas Herndon
- Seth Koster
- Alia Mohammed
- Jeremy Paxton
- Matt Russell
- Cori Simpson
- Jacqueline Simpson
- Ashley Sullivan
- Matt Tadlock
- Kira Taniguchi
- Ryan Tatum
- Star Tiko-Okoye
- Jennifer Trammell

Voting starts at 8 a.m. today and ends at 5 p.m. Thursday.

[bin.baylor.edu](http://bin.baylor.edu)



Melea Burke/Lariat staff

The Baylor softball team huddles with senior pitcher Lisa Ferguson during the Lady Bears' 4-3 win over Oklahoma State University on Saturday. Baylor begins a two-game series with the No. 2 University of Oklahoma at 5 p.m. today in Norman, Okla.

## BU ready for clash of Big 12 titans

By Will Parchman  
Sports writer

Progressing deeper and deeper into its conference schedule, the No. 9 Baylor softball team is discovering more about itself with each passing week.

Perhaps the biggest resounding truth embedded within the Lady Bears current nine-game conference winning streak is a team cohesiveness that has the entire team excited.

"I think we expect to win. Our team unity is amazing right now," said freshman pitcher Kirsten Shortridge, who's posted a 13-3 record with a 2.00 ERA this season. "That's the thing about our team. We always play the team that's on our jersey. We play Baylor."

Baylor's greatest struggles this season have come at neutral sites, but the team doesn't have any more of those games scheduled until the post-season.

The softball team was slated to begin a six-game road trip with a game against the University of North Texas Tuesday

night in Denton, but the game was canceled due to rain. The team's road swing will be its second of at least five games this month.

In addition to their nine-game winning streak in conference, the Lady Bears have built up a 13-game winning streak overall. They haven't lost a game since March 17, and they've won several close games during that stretch.

On Saturday, Baylor entered the final inning down 3-1 to Oklahoma State University but scored three seventh-inning runs to take the game.

"I don't think this team ever doubts themselves," head Coach Glenn Moore said. "They're a little more patient than I'd like them to be sometimes, but they believe it can happen at any time. When you get to the middle of our lineup, it's a murderers row there."

The middle of the lineup for Moore features seniors Chelsi Lake and Ashley Monceaux and sophomore stand-out Brette Reagan, all of whom have a significant amount of power from the plate.

The three have combined to hit 31 of the team's 45 home runs and account for over half of the team's RBI production.

Even so, by the time the team returns home to face the University of Missouri on April 28, they will have played 10 of their last 12 games on the road, where they have a 6-1 record at non-neutral sites this season.

Moore said he sees the danger in letting road weariness dictate the course of a promising season.

"We've gotten used to the road, we've been on it so much lately," Moore said. "But we've played pretty well on the road, so we'll take this one just like the others and hopefully have some success up there."

By "up there," Moore is referring to a mid-week, two-game series with No. 2 University of Oklahoma in Norman, Okla., beginning today.

Oklahoma represents one of the final, and perhaps biggest, hurdles Baylor has yet to cross in the Big 12.

"I think this team has adapted to going anywhere and playing our game and not so much

that we're in another team's backyard," Monceaux said. "It hasn't been a concern lately that we're on the road, as long as we keep being successful on it."

If Baylor can sweep Oklahoma and keep its slim lead on Missouri in the Big 12, it will be one step closer to winning a Big 12 and perhaps even NCAA Championship, which Monceaux said is within the team's grasp.

"We saw in the beginning that this was a different team than any other," she said. "And because we're doing so well right now we expect to carry it on through the end of the year."

Moore agreed that winning in Oklahoma could mean an even easier road to a No. 1 seed in the Big 12 tournament in May.

"We've built a little bit of a cushion, but it's a big, big game," Moore said of his team's two-game lead over Missouri in the Big 12. "Every game we've played against the top teams becomes our biggest to date. It would send a huge message if we'd go up there and win a couple games."

## Bears drop to 3rd at Big 12 tournament

By Justin Baer  
Sports Writer

Going into the final day of the Big 12 Championship at the Ridge-wood Country Club in Waco, the Lady Bears find themselves tied for third place, eight strokes behind Oklahoma State University.

The Bears shot a second-round 311 amid tough weather conditions to bring their two-day total up to 619.

Freshman Hannah Burke and junior Sian Reddick are currently atop the Lady Bears' leader board at 10-over-par (154) to place them tied for ninth overall.

Freshman Natalie Hocutt is right behind them at 11-over-par (155), and she will head into the third and final day tied for 13th overall.

"We played well today," Burke said. "I just had one bad hole, but I came back from it and played pretty solid. The weather conditions were pretty tough, so you just had to hang in there."

And while Burke said it would be great for the team to overtake Texas A&M University, which is currently four strokes ahead of Baylor, Burke realizes that the Bears destiny is in their own hands.

"It would be nice to beat A&M because of the big rivalry, but they shot pretty well today," the Hertfordshire, England, native said. "I think we are just trying to finish as high as possible. We need to go out there Wednesday and play a good game really. We have got it in us. We just have to go out there and focus on our own game and

see what scores we can post."

During the first round of play, the Lady Bears posted an overall score of 308, which was good enough to tie for second with Oklahoma State. But after battling rainy weather the second day, Baylor finished three strokes worse than day one of action.

"Today the conditions were a lot tougher," said Hocutt, who dropped eight spots in the leader board after finishing fifth place on day one. "I didn't play that bad; it could have been a lot worse. I missed a couple of shots, and it turned into more shots. It was just a tough day today."

Although Hocutt did drop in the standings, she believes not only can she personally bounce back from yesterday, but so can the team as a whole.

"I need to play my own game," the Houston native said. "I just need to stay focused on what I need to do right then and there, and I think we will be allright."

Meanwhile, senior Anna Rehnholm finds herself in a position she is not used to — at the bottom of the standings for the Lady Bears with a score of 16-over-par. Although she did admit the course is not so easy this week, she knows it is not an excuse for her play so far.

"Personally I am not happy with my performance at all," Rehnholm said. "The course is playing really hard, but it's kind of hard to accept a high score."

Rehnholm and the Lady Bears will continue their quest for the Big 12 title when they tee off at 8:30 a.m. today.



Freshman golfer Hannah Burke puts during one of Baylor's spring tournaments. Heading into the final day of the Baylor-hosted Big 12 tournament Burke and junior teammate Sian Reddick are leading the Bears at 10-over-par. The pair is tied for ninth overall.

Baylor Photography

## NBA suspends veteran referee

By Brian Mahoney  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Joey Crawford is done ejecting players and coaches this season. On Tuesday, he was the one getting tossed.

The veteran NBA referee was suspended indefinitely by commissioner David Stern for his conduct toward Tim Duncan, who contends the official challenged him to a fight during a game in Dallas.

Crawford has worked more postseason games than any active ref. His suspension will last at least through the NBA finals, and he will have to meet with Stern to discuss reinstatement.

"Especially in light of similar prior acts by this official, a significant suspension is warranted," Stern said in a statement. "Although Joey is consistently rated as one of our top referees, he must be held accountable for his actions on the floor."

Crawford ejected Duncan from San Antonio's loss after calling a second technical foul

on the Spurs star while he was laughing on the bench.

"He looked at me and said, 'Do you want to fight? Do you want to fight?'" Duncan said. "If he wants to fight, we can fight. I don't have any problem with him, but we can do it if he wants to. I have no reason why in the middle of a game he would yell at me, 'Do you want to fight?'"

Crawford was cited for "improper conduct" and "inappropriate comments made to Duncan during the game." Stern said Crawford's actions "failed to meet the standards of professionalism and game management we expect of NBA referees."

The NBA also fined Duncan \$25,000 for verbal abuse of an official. Crawford said Duncan referred to him with an expletive.

Crawford was the first referee suspended since Rodney Mott was banned three games on Jan. 12 for an obscene gesture toward a fan and using inappropriate language in Portland.

Joey Crawford is in his 31st

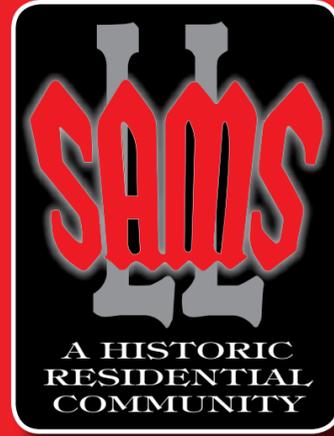
season as an NBA referee. He has officiated more than 2,000 games during the regular season and 266 in the playoffs, including 38 in the NBA finals.

But his temper has gotten him noticed before, especially in Game 2 of the 2003 Western Conference finals, a matchup involving the same teams as in Sunday's game. Crawford called four technical fouls in the first 10-plus minutes, leading to ejections of then-Mavs coach Don Nelson and assistant Del Harris.

Crawford also called a technical in a recent game against Duncan, who said Sunday that Crawford has a "personal vendetta against me."

Duncan was called for his first technical foul Sunday with 2:20 remaining in the third quarter for arguing about an offensive foul. Crawford hit him with the second technical 1:16 later.

With Duncan gone, the Mavericks rallied to beat the Spurs, ending San Antonio's chance of earning the No. 2 seed in the Western Conference.



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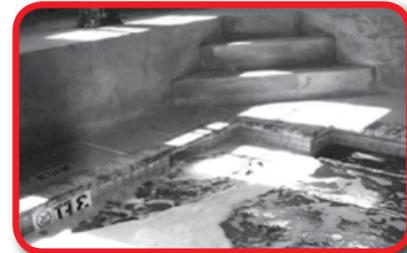


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# Teen remake unexpectedly enjoyable

By Amber Orand  
Contributor

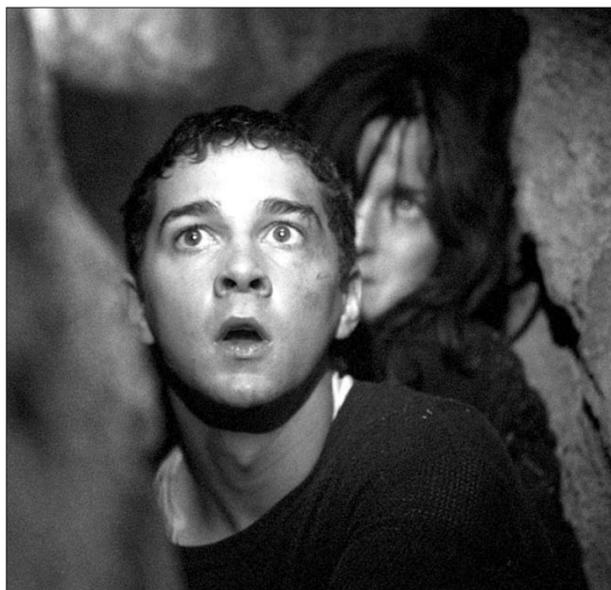
Perhaps it was because of my low expectations for *Disturbia*, but I was pleasantly surprised by the updated retelling of *Rear Window*, starring "it boy" Shia LaBeouf.

## MOVIE REVIEW

While *Disturbia* is no cinematic masterpiece, it is a tightly constructed and entertaining teen thriller with a leading actor whose star is deservedly on the rise.

The worst thing about *Disturbia* is definitely that silly title, which, along with the words "updated retelling of *Rear Window*" seem designed to keep grown-ups far away from any theater showing this movie. Modernizing one of Hitchcock's classics into a high-tech teen flick sounds like an absolutely terrible idea, but the imaginative update actually works quite well.

Kale Brecht (LaBeouf) is a happy, nice teenager with a healthy home life, until his father is killed in a horrific car accident. After his father's death, Kale becomes sullen and withdrawn. One aggressive outburst at school later, he's been sentenced to three months house arrest. Therefore, it isn't a broken leg keeping our hero from



McClatchy

Shia LaBeouf and Sarah Roemer star in the new DreamWorks Pictures movie *Disturbia*. The film opened in theaters Friday. It topped box office sales this weekend, bringing in \$22.2 million.

leaving his house, as in *Rear Window*; it's an electronic monitoring bracelet.

After his mom (Carrie-Ann Moss) takes away his TV and video game console, Kale has to find creative ways to entertain himself.

Kale enlists the help of his buddy Ronnie (Aaron Yoo) in spying on the neighbors, including the scantily clad new girl in

town, Ashley (Sarah Roemer). When Kale begins to suspect another neighbor, Mr. Taylor (David Morse), of kidnapping and murder, Ashley and Ronnie act as Kale's eyes and ears in the outside world as he begins to do a little electronic monitoring of his own.

Despite the predictable plot, director D. J. Caruso (whose credits are mostly in television

directing, including *The Shield*) never lets the movie meander. The trio of friends stalks the bad guy, sexual tension builds between Kale and Ashley and the goofy, girl-crazed Ronnie serves as comic relief.

Caruso uses humor well, inserting it where needed to break tense moments or round out characters' personalities.

*Disturbia* has several laugh-out-loud funny scenes. Morse is appropriately sinister and the teenagers appropriately likeable.

The film's wobbliest point is its treatment of Ashley. She is a shallowly written character, with corny dialogue in forced, pseudo-sultry situations. Some of her scenes are reminiscent of an '80s teen sex comedy unsuccessfully trying to pay homage to *Lolita*.

*Disturbia* is definitely geared to the younger set: Characters' cell phone ringtones are used for punches of drama or humor; the movie is chock-full of product placements of things like sugary snacks, portable music systems and video games; and LaBeouf is best-known for his work in Disney offerings (*Even Stevens*, *Holes*, *The Greatest Game Ever Played*).

But LaBeouf's talent and charisma, along with a healthy dose of suspense and just a little bit of gore, make *Disturbia* a fun, guilty pleasure.

Grade: B+



File photo

Progressive indie rock band Ethan Durelle prides itself on lyrics that are full of symbolism, hidden meaning and a Christian message.

# Concert to benefit Invisible Children

By Ashlie Young  
Reporter

Ethan Durelle, Whitney Whyte, James Callihan and Austin Pitzer will perform at 8:30 p.m. today at Common Grounds to benefit Invisible Children, an organization dedicated to helping Ugandan citizens.

Baylor grad student Jeff Weathers, Ethan Durelle's drummer, encouraged students to come to the concert, especially those who haven't been exposed to social issues like this tragedy.

"Many people have been sheltered and don't see the horrible things going on," Weathers said. "People talk about helping, but when it comes down to really doing something, many don't. We can begin right here, right now."

Along with the concert, attendees can bring clothing to paint to support Invisible Children and Displace Me.

Displace Me is a nationwide event that will begin April 28. Participants sign up on the Invisible Children Web site to be displaced in one of 15 cities in the United States, including Austin.

Kingwood sophomore Kaley Eggers is a student who plans to participate.

"We as Baylor students are

blessed with so much," Eggers said. "We have endless opportunities to give back — chances to make a positive impact. Participating in Displace Me is a chance to help our brothers and sisters on the other side of the globe. We are telling our government we are concerned about Uganda. They deserve to know they are cared for."

Kerrville senior Brice Crozier travels around Texas in a van promoting Invisible Children and recruiting people for Displace Me.

"People that want to be involved don't have to do anything drastic," Crozier said. "Locally is the best way to get involved, donating money and time. They can help organize transportation to Displace Me locations or raise money for schools in Uganda."

Crozier also said the best way to make a difference right now is to participate in Displace Me because the organization needs as many people as possible to show the government that it wants something done about Uganda.

Tonight's show is free and open to everyone. Donations are encouraged and will benefit Invisible Children and Displace Me.

For more information, go to [www.invisiblechildren.com](http://www.invisiblechildren.com).

# Concert band to play diverse repertoire

By Brian Bateman  
Reporter

The Baylor Concert Band will perform at 6:30 p.m. today in Jones Concert Hall in the Glenis McCrary Music Building.

With classes canceled Thursday for Diadeloso, the concert will be the first campus activity of the mid-week break, showcasing the organization's work for the majority of the spring.

"It's the end goal for the whole semester," Colin McKenzie, assistant director of bands,

said. "It's a harder repertoire than most other universities."

The repertoire includes a song reminiscent of a slow-moving liquid, selections from a comedic musical and Irish tunes.

The 100-member ensemble will begin with Henry Filmore's "Lassus Trombone," a ragtime piece. Barry Kraus, associate director of bands, will be the guest conductor.

"One of the unique things is its usage of trombone smears and glissandos," Kraus said. "It's representative of molasses."

After lulling the audience, the ensemble will switch gears, shifting to a medley of tunes from the popular Broadway musical *Wicked*. A spoof of *The Wizard of Oz* based on a book by Gregory Maguire, *Wicked* tells the witch's saga as a political dissenter in the wizard's corrupt autocracy, McKenzie said.

"It's really quite clever," he said.

After the comical medley, the concert shifts to an Irish composition by Percy Grainger and then to one of the Deep South's

anthems, "Ol' Man River," from the 1927 musical *Show Boat*.

Keron Jackson, a former Baylor student and a current understudy for the Dallas Opera Co., will perform the baritone solo.

"He's received an offer to appear on a PBS series of great performances," McKenzie said, adding, "We're excited to have a vocal soloist sing with the Concert Band."

The concert will conclude with selections from *Carmina Burana*.

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**WAGE** from page 1

is in Guatemala, a country that's known for corruption and poverty," he said. "That's a pretty sobering reality."  
 Offit said while we have had a great increase of wealth in our country as a whole, equality has decreased.  
 "When adjusted for inflation, minimum wage now is at its lowest level since 1955," he said.  
 Offit said he believes that while increasing wages for service workers is a matter of justice, it also makes economic sense.  
 "The Economic Policy Institute in Washington, D.C., has done research that says raising wages would alleviate poverty and not cause job loss," he said. "Many say otherwise, but that's

the beauty of economics — it isn't an entirely predictable science or we'd all be happy and rich."  
 Odegaard said while the final outcome cannot be projected with perfect accuracy, previous instances with contract-controlled employees — like Baylor — showed a "zero net effect on poverty," meaning that nothing was lost or gained in terms of the level of poverty, and people actually lost jobs.  
 In other universities where a "living wage" has been established, such as Harvard, the employees were not paid by a private contractor, but the university itself, Odegaard said. Staff in Dining Facilities, Housekeeping and Facility Services are technically employees of Aramark and Crothall, not Baylor.

Dr. Jonathan Tran, assistant professor of Christian ethics, spoke about the role of Baylor and Christendom in general as "seeing and showing others how to see." Tran emphasized the issue of invisibility of service workers on campus.  
 "I've been here a year and I still don't know who cleans Tidwell," he said. "As Christians we need to train ourselves to see the people that societal conventions have rendered invisible," he added.  
 Dr. Tony Talbert, associate dean and associate professor in the School of Education, also spoke on the panel.  
 "The adequate wage is actually inadequate," he said. "And even though the term 'living wage' offends people, that's really what we're talking about."

Speaking from an educational perspective, Talbert said, the entire family is affected by low wages.  
 "Poverty deeply impacts the success of students in our public and private school systems," he said. Dr. Suzy Weems, professor and chair in family and consumer sciences, spoke on the health plight of poverty.  
 "Children who go to school hungry perform poorly," she said.  
 Dr. Dub Oliver, vice president for student life, was scheduled to speak but was in New Mexico for the funeral of Court Franklin, a senior who died last week.  
 Dr. Marc Ellis, director of the Center for Jewish Studies, was also on the panel but had a scheduling conflict.

**SHOT** from page 1

crying, bawling."  
 Professor Carolyn Rude, chairwoman of the university's English department, said Cho's writing was so disturbing that he had been referred to the university's counseling service.  
 "Sometimes, in creative writing, people reveal things and you never know if it's creative or if they're describing things, if they're imagining things or just how real it might be," Rude said.  
 "But we're all alert to not ignore things like this."  
 She said she did not know when he was referred for counseling, or what the outcome was.  
 Rude refused to release any of his writings or his grades, citing privacy laws. The counseling service refused to comment.  
 Cho, who arrived in the

United States as boy from South Korea in 1992 and was raised in suburban Washington, D.C., where his parents worked at a dry cleaners, left a note in his dorm room that was found after the bloodbath.  
 A government official, who spoke of condition of anonymity because he had not been authorized to discuss details of the case, said the note had been described to him as "anti-woman, anti-rich kid."  
 The **Chicago Tribune** reported on its Web site that the note railed against "rich kids," "debauchery" and "deceitful charlatans" on campus.  
 ABC, citing law enforcement sources, said that the note, several pages long, explains Cho's actions and says, "You caused me to do this."  
 Citing unidentified sources, the **Tribune** also said Cho had recently set a fire in a dorm room and had stalked some women.

**LONDON** from page 1

of accepting younger trainees because religion can be a huge struggle for undergraduate and graduate students.  
 Hooda said her Muslim friends were defensive at first and many of them felt they had to act differently around her.  
 Friends characterize Hooda as a lifelong learner and coffee connoisseur.  
 Rozmin Ladha, a Euleses senior, has known Hooda since elementary school. Ladha said she goes straight to Hooda when she has questions about Islamism.  
 Ladha said she loves talking to Hooda even though she is at such a high spiritual level, because Hooda doesn't lose the human element that makes her approachable.  
 "She has blind faith, but it's not blind because she knows it's the truth," Ladha said.  
 Hooda can often be found immersed in a **Harry Potter** book while sipping a drink from Starbucks.  
 As a middle child, Hooda said, she often felt misunderstood, so she turned to writing as her cure-all.  
 "I get enlightened through writing," Hooda said.

"I have to see it to believe it."  
 Hooda is a member of Baylor Women's League, the Waco chapter of Amnesty International and is a BIC student.  
 Dr. Andrew Christian Van Gorder, professor of world religions, described his interactions with Hooda as delightful.  
 "She was an energetic and engaged student who contributed so much to the class with her thoughtful comments and questions," he said.  
 Van Gorder said Hooda often stopped by after class to continue discussions that had begun in class.  
 "She validated the opinions of others, but was not afraid to confidently state her own views about issues, even when they were controversial," Van Gorder said.  
 Hooda will go back to London this summer, after which she will apply to be a mentor for the next year's participants. She said the program has given her perspective on being Muslim at Baylor, and said she welcomes the conservative balance because it keeps her questioning her faith.  
 "I've never felt that I've had so much purpose in life," Hooda said.

**LOANS** from page 1

practices "may be fine and legal," said Lori Scott Fogleman, director of media relations, but if there is ever a "perpetuation of anything illegal, Baylor doesn't want to be a part of it."  
 The loan group is one of 27 on Baylor's preferred lender list, eight of which are alternative or private loans and 19 of which are government subsidized loans. The group is the only lender on this list that shared revenue with Baylor. Students are not required to select a lender from this list.  
 Education Finance Partners approached Baylor to be on the preferred lenders list, Diaz said. In order to do so, the company first had to complete Baylor's Request for Proposal survey and be reviewed by a nine-member committee.  
 After a three-month process in which the loan group scored "very well, because of their strong customer service," Diaz said, the loan group was placed on the list.  
 Other factors included in the survey were borrower benefits and pricing, default aversion, loan delivery flexibility, diversification, value added products and life of loan servicing.

Diaz said Education Finance Partners is on the alternative or private loan list. Diaz said these loans are a "last resort" if students still need money to supplement their Baylor tuition. Private loans in general have higher interest rates and usually require a co-signer and credit check.  
 "It was a good program to start with," Diaz said, because instead of investing in direct marketing campaigns, it used some of its revenue to go back to students.  
 Diaz said the problem in the investigations and controversy surrounding student loan programs is dedicated and conscientious administrators "have been placed in a bad light."  
 "Those (financial aid administrators) are the people that most passionately help our students," she said.  
 In an e-mail statement to faculty and staff, President John Lilley said, "The financial aid professionals at Baylor maintain a consistently high level of personal and professional integrity ... we are proud of all of our financial aid staff and are committed to helping students from all financial backgrounds achieve their dream of gaining a Baylor education."

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**CLOSED** from page 1

then you haven't seen anything yet."  
 In Rapid City, S.D., schools were locked down after receiving reports of a man with a gun in a parking lot at Central High.  
 No shots were fired and no injuries were reported, police said.  
 The high school students were taken to the nearby Rush-

more Plaza Civic Center, where parents were allowed to pick up their children.  
 In Austin, authorities evacuated buildings at St. Edward's University after a threatening note was found, a school official said.  
 Police secured the campus perimeter and were searching the buildings, St. Edward's University spokeswoman Mischelle Amador said. She declined to say where the note was found

and said its contents were "non-specific."  
 Amador said the university's reaction was not influenced by Monday's attack at Virginia Tech.  
 "No matter what day or when this would have happened, we will always take the necessary precautions to protect our students, our faculty, our staff, the entire university community," she said.  
 Seven North Dakota State

University buildings were evacuated after a duffel bag was found outside a bus shelter in the main part of the campus. NDSU spokesman Dave Wahlberg said the shootings in Virginia reinforced the need to "err on the side of safety."  
 In Bloomfield Hills, Mich., police attributed a 30-minute lock-down at the exclusive Cranbrook Schools complex in response to jittery nerves following the Virginia slayings.

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