ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2007

Regents increase tuition by 6.5 percent

By Grace Maalouf Editor in Chief

The Baylor Board of Regents voted to raise undergraduate tuition by 6.5 percent next year during a conference call Monday that would increase undergraduate tuition for 2008-09 fulltime students to \$23,644 from \$22,220

This was announced in an e-mail President John Lilley sent to faculty and staff at 5:30 p.m.

The general student fee will increase 6.61 percent to \$2,420. Room rates will increase by $\overline{5}.99$ percent, and board rates for undergraduates will rise 2.75 percent. Incoming freshmen will pay 6.09 percent more in tuition, fees, room and board than this year's freshmen class.

Graduate student tuition will go up 6.59 percent and tuition for students at George W. Truett Theological Seminary will rise by 6.43 percent. Tuition for law students will rise by 6.48 percent.

Baylor tuition has risen steadily over the past few years, including an 8 percent increase in 2006-2007, a 6.4 percent increase in 2005-2006, 9.1 percent in 2004-2005 and 6.69 percent in

The board often decides tuition increases at its meeting held during Baylor Homecoming weekend, which this year is the first weekend of

Reagan Ramsower, vice president for finance and administration, said he requested the meeting be moved up in the year so that tuition information would be available before Baylor's early admissions deadline, which is Nov. 1.

'We wanted to come out early and let people know what the tuition would be," he said.

The board of regents recently decided to eliminate its annual September meeting, which is why the meeting took place by conference call, Ram-

Lilley said in a news release that the tuition increase will help fund current operations, new initiatives, faculty hires, the improvement of campus facilities and a variety of major strategic plan-

ning proposals approved this summer.

Ramsower said new faculty hires were authorized to improve the student-faculty ratio and allow some professors to do research. He said the university needs "some faculty in certain areas because Baylor has the opportunity to excel and demonstrate world-class leadership in those dis-

The increase also will help pay for a raise pool for faculty and staff, Ramsower said. He said it will help cover the cost of "inflationary increases in

utility," capital expenditures and travel expenses. Ramsower said recent construction on Brooks

Please see TUITION, page 6

Faculty Senate focuses on involvement

Committee discusses 15-minute intervals, hiring process, tenure and promotion guidelines

By Anita Pere Staff writer

The Faculty Senate addressed possible 15minute passing times between classes, a new measure requiring a criminal background check on all potential faculty members and tenure and promotion guidelines for faculty during a meeting

Matthew Cordon, Faculty Senate chairman, said the Faculty Senate "wants to take on a problem-solving role" this year. He noted the senate's work with the administration on the hiring process and the construction of committees.

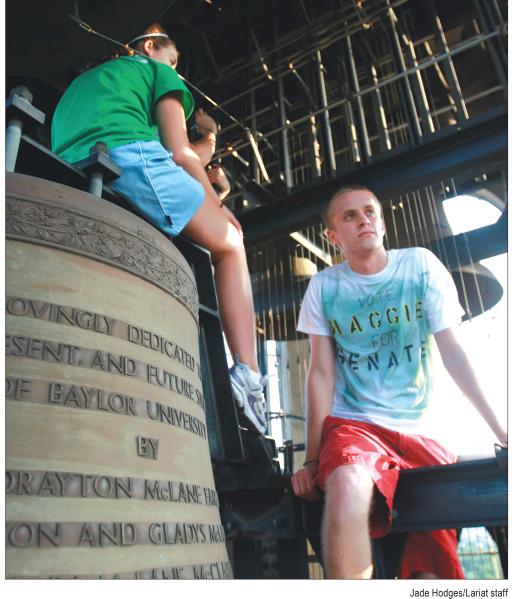
Dr. Randall O'Brien, executive vice president and provost, brought up the prospect of 15-minute intervals between classes. The 10-minute passing times "were designed when we had many thousand fewer students," O'Brien said.

A committee composed of students, faculty and staff have devised a new plan for 15-minute

The proposed blueprint would shave five minutes from Tuesday and Thursday classes. Monday, Wednesday and Friday classes would stay the same length but the class times would change accordingly. The plan could be installed as soon as next summer, according to a document O'Brien handed out during the meeting. The tenure and promotion changes that were

discussed aim to keep the policies together but

Please see **SENATE**, page 6



Jade Hodges/Lariat staff

The bell tolls for thee

Edmond freshman Maggie Courtney and Belton freshman Brian Longley sit on Burleson Bell. Courtney and Longley attended Lynette Geary's memorial recital at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday at the top of Pat Neff in the McLane

Drew forms foundation for successful season

By Will Parchman Sports editor

Scott Drew strides into the media room like any other day, his infectious smile lighting the room, his upbeat tempo adding a dimension of frivolity to what is otherwise a very serious business.

Instead of talking basketball, the Baylor head coach's immediate conversation turns to news, football, anything but the macabre.

To know Drew is to know a man who wouldn't be caught doing anything else. In a scant four years, he has built a men's basketball program

almost Division One coach would be proud to call his own. He's managed to grow thick trees through narrow the cracks of what was once a dirty, corrupt

pavement. "The pro-

gram was basically under water, and a lot of people wouldn't have taken the school into consideration because of that," Austin junior guard Curtis Jerrells said. "I think guys are coming in here and seeing that we haven't really done anything in the winning column, but we've got good guys here. They're willing to leave some of the big schools behind and pick a school like Baylor and help us come up.'

Drew's emphasis on building Baylor's burgeoning men's basketball program from the inside out with "high-character guys," as he often calls them, is giving way to one of the most talented teams in the Big 12.

How did this happen? How did

Drew make a mountain out of a Texas-sized crater?

Most of the answers lie in his recruiting successes. The verbal commitment of Anthony Jones last weekend, potentially the highest -rated recruit ever to step on campus in Drew's tenure, adds to the building mystique of the program Drew is creating almost from the ground up.

"We're pretty excited," Jerrells said. "A lot of people didn't think he would come here, but he enjoyed his stay, really liked the guys, liked the

Please see **DREW**, page 6

Burleson announced chaplain

Day Spring pastor selected by unanimous vote

By Shannon Daily Reporter

The vote was unanimous. The yearlong search for the new university chaplain is finally over. Dr. Burt L. Burleson, a 1980 Baylor graduate, has returned to his alma mater to serve as a spiritual leader to students, faculty and staff.

Throughout the selection process, the selection

committee looked for several important things in the new chaplain – someone who was compassionate, creative, academic and genuine.

"A jack-of-all trades if you will," said San Antonio senior Travis Plummer, one of the student representatives of the committee

"I feel like Dr. Burleson is qualified in numerous ways. I sincerely believe that this is the man God wanted put on campus," Plummer said.

"He was compassionate, relatable, approachable, considerate and intellectual, but not in an over you head kind of way," Plummer said.

A passion for spiritual formation, meaning to grow in the spirit and likeness of Christ, was also

Dr. Dub Oliver, vice president for student life, said that this passion was exactly what they found in Burleson.

"Burt has a great deal of experience, and a focus on spiritual formation. He's a gifted pastor and he's known as someone who's very creative. That's something that's very desirable for us," Oli-

"He's a very warm and very genuine personality and personhood. He relates well to everyone he interacts with," Oliver said.

As of Oct. 1, Burleson will take the lead in areas such as Chapel, Christian student ministries, resident chaplains and mission opportunities for the "I'm just absolutely thrilled. Having grown up

in Baptist life, this is just something where I get to do the thing I love the most," Burleson said.

A father of two, Burleson has been the pastor of Day Spring Baptist Church in Waco since 1995.

"I'm still pastoring at Day Spring and I'm trying stay focused on these folks," Burleson said of his upcoming transition to his new position.

"There are a lot of things I'm looking forward to. It's a big change for me going from a fairly small

Please see VOTE, page 6

Bush plans to cut U.S. troops in Iraq by 30,000

By Matthew Lee The Associated Press

WASHINGTON – President Bush will tell the nation this week he plans to reduce the American troop presence in Iraq by about 30,000 by next summer, but will condition those and further cuts on continued progress, The Associated Press has learned.

In a prime time television address, probably Thursday, Bush will endorse the recommendations of his top general and top diplomat in Iraq, following their appearance at two days of hearings in Congress, administration officials said. The White House plans to issue a written status report on the so-called "surge" on Friday, they said. The officials spoke on condition of ano-

nymity because Bush's speech is not yet finally drafted. Bush was practicing the speech and putting the final touches on it even as the U.S. commanding general, David Petraeus, and U.S. Ambassador Ryan Crocker were still presenting their arguments on Capitol Hill.

The reductions envisioned by the White House mirror those proposed by Petraeus and would leave approximately 130,000 U.S. troops on the ground by August, roughly the same level that existed before Bush ordered the buildup early this year, the offi-

In the speech, the president will say he understands the deep concerns Americans have about U.S. involvement in Iraq and their desire to bring the troops home, they

Please see TROOPS, page 6



The Associated Press

President Bush speaks Tuesday during a meeting with Congressional leaders in the Cabinet Room of the White House in Washington.

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Campus construction becoming a tradition at Baylor

They should have issued us hard hats when we got to Baylor. With all the tuition dollars our parents pay for us to go here, I'd think it's the least they could

Plus, construction hats are all yellow-y and golden. That's half of our school colors, if you didn't notice. We could wear our construction hats to football games and further reinforce the notion that it's going to be a rebuilding

See, I'm not terribly upset about construction. You'd just think that was one of the imperatives for Baylor 2012: Always be building something. In the small print, it says: Do it in as inconvenient an area as possible.

You freshman may not care. For all you're concerned, it's just a way of life down here to have the streets (that we are not allowed to drive on) torn up and orange mesh fences erected at random.

For myself as a freshman, I had to deal with the Bear Pit. Back when my Pops went here, the Bear Pit was primitive, gritty and earthen -a real domicile for a wild, untamed mascot like our

They used to make Chamber pledges clean it while the upperclassman sprayed the whole place down with hoses. The upperclassmen would also "accidentally" spray the pledges sometimes, which back in the



day was called "fun" but is now called "hazing."

But when I showed up in 2004, they decided to rip the whole thing up and replace it with an educational and animal-rights-appropriate "bear habitat." This new habitat is clean and sterile. We have also not won many football games since it has arrived, which makes me wish for the magical presence of the old nasty pit. That thing got us the Cotton Bowl, I'm pretty

The worst part about the new pit was the noise. Jackhammers, jackhammers, all the time, especially in the morning. This was unfortunate because the working hours of construction men and the sleeping hours of freshmen coincide almost exactly.

Our bears didn't have to endure the construction noise; they were taken to a temporary lodging away from campus. This was more for our safety than theirs. Our bears are extremely clever. If they had figured out how to eat the construction men and then operate the jackhammers, then boy, it would be cur-

tains for all of us.

I thought I had gotten used to all the construction noise. Then one Saturday morning, it got bad. Real bad. I wasn't sure, but I could have sworn they were playing tubas while working, which is a terrible idea.

After my roommate and I cursed power tools and tried to clench our pillows around our ears for more sleep, I drowsily went to the window to see what the heck they were doing. Then I realized I had slept through homecoming.

Now, being a senior, I am much older and wiser. Smarter, too. I have better school spirit, and I've decided to live off-cam-

I chose University Place, which is renowned for its porch swings and a laundry room that you must pay money to use.

However, the construction followed me. They decided to tear down the old buildings next to my complex and start building more impressive Baylor facilities, which I won't be able to ever use since I'm graduating

Honestly, I really shouldn't complain. I hope you younger students can enjoy your new buildings and be happy with them. But I just can't help myself. Someone's got to give some constructive criticism around here.

Ben Humeniuk is a senior English major from Brownwood.

Editorial

Iraq report a surging failure

The nation was watching Monday, waiting to catch a glimmer of hope when Gen. David Petraeus, the senior military commander in Iraq, gave his highly anticipated report to Congress. But instead, the entire script of the event played out like a scene we have already seen before.

In his testimony, Petraeus expressed his opinion that the troop surge in Iraq is working and that U.S. forces were meeting most of their military objectives in Iraq. The general then gave figures detailing what he said were decreasing levels of violence both in Baghdad and in the surround-

The problem, however, is that Petraeus' statistics have come into question lately, with some critics accusing him of not counting certain types of intersectarian killings.

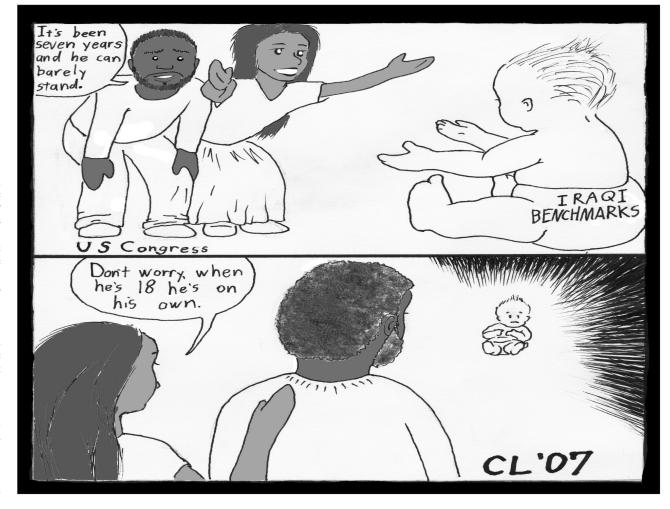
And while there is some measurable military progress, this was bound to happen by stepping up the American presence by 30,000 troops.

The question is: Will U.S. forces be able to sustain the improvements in security once we begin withdrawing?

Petraeus has recommended that the 30,000 troops remain until next July. This will likely be the case when the President addresses the nation on Thursday, where he is expected to announce a cut in forces. After that, we'll probably be back to square one as far as troop levels go.

This is obviously not the news we were hoping for, especially after the American public clearly expressed its desire for change in the 2006 midterm

Despite the verbal sparring over



who has the correct numbers, it is important to keep in mind that the whole point of the surge was to buy time for Iraqi lawmakers to achieve the political goals necessary to unify the country.

This has failed to happen yet, so any military progress is rather nebulous at this point.

The recent report from the Government Accountability Office paints a picture of the political progress that is less than encouraging. Out of 18 benchmarks set by Congress, Iraq has only met three completely as well as only partially satisfying two others.

Petraeus expressed his frustration with what he termed to sometimes be

"uneven" progress. He also expressed confidence in the possibility of achieving the objectives in Iraq, but that it would be "neither quick nor easy." The general may be a fine military commander, but this is the same line we've been hearing for months and years on end. In fact, it sounds an awful lot like the op-ed piece the general wrote for the Washington Post shortly before the 2004 elections.

Petraeus gives President Bush an easy target to hide behind. A politically savvy general is much harder to criticize than an inept president.

But if Bush would have listened to people who were willing to be forthright and honest in the run up to the war, like now-retired Gen. Eric Shinseki, who said that "something on the order of several hundred thousand soldiers" would be needed to stabilize the country, we would likely not be dealing with the same levels of violence seen there today

Just when it looked like the time on President Bush's strategy was going to run out and we may have begun to see signs of a withdrawal on the horizon, the tables look like they have been turned once again. And it's become apparent that the problem of Iraq may very well be inherited by the next

Here's hoping the next one gets it

Opinion policy

The Baylor Lariat welcomes reader viewpoints through letters to the editor and guest col-Opinions expressed in the

Lariat are not necessarily those of the Baylor administration, the Baylor Board of Regents or the Student Publications Board. Letters to the editor should include the writer's name, major,

graduation year, phone number and student identification number. Non-student writers should include their address. Letters that focus on an issue affecting students or faculty

may be considered for a guest column at the editor's discre-All submissions become the

property of The Baylor Lariat. The Lariat reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, length, libel and style. Letters should be e-mailed

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

Corrections policy

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

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

Honor the Texas flag by keeping God out of pledge of allegiance

I love how my state fights for my religious freedom. În case you didn't pick up on it, that statement is pure sarcasm.

It appears that the state Legislature thinks it prudent to add the words "one state, under God" to the Texas pledge of alle-

That's right –we have a pledge of allegiance for the Texas flag. Ouick, everyone say the new

version together. What? You don't know it? Well, shame on you. Not only are you a bad Texan, but also a bad Christian (the two are connected, you see). There are several things

wrong with this picture. First of all, let's pretend I care that we have a pledge for the Texas flag in the first place.

With all due respect to the

big guy, we were doing just fine without his name in the pledge I honestly don't think God cares if he is in our state's pledge. But apparently some religious conservatives do, and they feel like they can pigeonhole God and connect him to patriotism for our Texas

Not surprisingly, the law was challenged in court. And while it was an atheist family who filed the suit, the framing of this as an atheist vs. Christian issue is disingenuous.

Did the Legislature not think this would be challenged? Of course they did; that was the whole point. The fundamentalist element

of the political landscape loves nothing more than a "got ya" moment to complain about in



their culture wars.

They turn to complaining about how the "atheists and secular progressives" can't deal with the fact that this is a "Christian nation.'

Everybody forgets who put this little phrase into the pledge in the first place.

And while it is somewhat true that we are historically Christian, many of the founders were far from orthodox Christians, despite what revisionist versions of history may say otherwise. Jefferson, Washington and

Madison to name a few, believed in the importance of religion in society, but they were also Deists. They were men of reason and science.

Yes, they attended religious services together but they were also skeptical about basic Christian doctrines such as the Trinity and the divinity of Christ.

Jefferson was so bold as to even publish his own edited version of the Gospels, without all the stuff about Jesus being God. And don't even get me started about Thomas Paine.

The point is that these men were extremely leery about organized religion and perhaps rightfully so, since the religious institutions of their day were hardly

bastions of righteousness.

Why would the Legislature be so intent on adding these four words? Well, it's part of a string of religiously-based legislation the state feels it needs to pass instead of other, more important

Take, for example, the Religious Viewpoint Anti-Discrimination Act which was recently

Its point is to ensure that our Christian kids in public schools don't get "oppressed" and can express their religious views through things like prayers in morning announcements, proselytizing speeches at graduation ceremonies and the like.

That way all of the atheists, liberal principals and school boards, the American Civil

Liberties Union and judges" can't stop little Johnny or Susie from sharing their faith

on the state's time anymore. You know, my math must be bad, because I thought you usually had to be a minority group

to be oppressed. I won't go into my opinion about the constitutionality of these laws - my opinion won't change whether the courts decide if they pass the endorsement test, the captive audience

test or any other test. But as a Christian who not only believes in separation of church and state, but also tolerance, I would just as soon not have "under God" in my state's pledge.

Brad Briggs is a senior journalism major from Mesquite.

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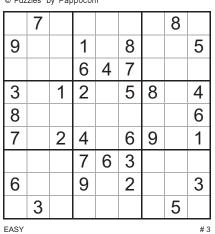
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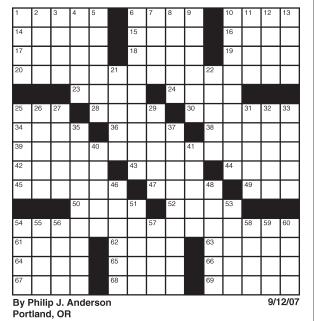
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Project Promise grant renewed

Education program offers at-risk students chance to realize dreams

By Tessa Shockey

They are first-generation college students. They come from low socioeconomic families that gave them no hope of a higher education. Project Promise has given them an opportunity, and they have jumped on it.

Project Promise is a program for the enrichment of gifted students in the Waco Independent School District and is part of the University for Young People's summer program.

The Center for Community Learning and Enrichment recently renewed the Project Promise grant, which it received from the City of Waco's scholarship program. Since 1999, the City of Waco has funded the

By Kelli Boesel

Reporter

scholarship with money from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Project Promise allows these at-risk students to take classes on Baylor's campus during the

The grant also covers transportation to and from the Baylor campus, meals in Penland Residence Hall cafeteria and school supplies.

"We have touched over 200 children," said Dr. Mary Witte, director of the Center for Community Learning and Enrichment. "This is what our goal of the grant is: to help these student aspire to higher educa-

Witte is a senior lecturer in the curriculum and instruction department. Witte said Project Promise has taken students on tours of Texas A&M and the University of Texas as well as

Baylor professors usually teach the classes while Baylor students act as mentors.

Bridgeport junior Lauren Green was a mentor this summer for Project Promise.

"I had a group of middleschoolers. There were 11 in my group, and I helped them get to their classes," Green said.

Green said the students in her mentor group expressed a desire to go to college, and many wanted to go to Baylor. "It's good for them to have exposure to college, and I think that will have a big impact,'

The students come back every summer, and this fall the mentor program is going to be expanded so mentors can stay involved in their students' life.

"The plan is to start getting together once a month and keeping up with the students,' Green said.

Project Promise currently has 66 students, who will stay in the program until they grad-

So far, every child enrolled in Project Promise has gone on to some form of higher education, including community college, technical school and universities.

Three Project Promise students are currently at Baylor. Other students have gone to Brigham Young University, Texas A&M, Texas Christian University, Texas State, Texas State Technical College and the University of Texas at Arlington.

"They feel they can go on to higher education," said Dr. Susan Johnsen, principal investigator of the grant.

Zachary Gamez enrolled in the program in its pilot year as a middle-schooler. Now, he is a sophomore engineering major at Baylor. Gamez has hopes of owning his own engineering business.

'Classes with Project Promise in some ways sparked my interest (in engineering)," Gamez

BEAR BRIEFS

Baylor Activities Council has extended its deadline for submitting applications to 5 p.m. today. For more information, contact Lizet_Rivera@baylor.edu.

Habitat for Humanity will have an interest meeting at 6 p.m. today in Kayser Auditorium. For more information, visit www.baylorhabitat.org.

Baylor Neuroscience Society will hold an interest meeting at 6 p.m. today in A235 Baylor Sciences Building. For more information, contact Allison_Strickland@ baylor.edu.

Sigma Nu and Student Life will present Mental Health Summit from 6 to 8 p.m. today in the Barfield Drawing Room of the Bill Daniel Student Center.

Panhellenic open house will be from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday in the Stacy Riddle Forum. For more information, contact Tam_ Dunn@baylor.edu.

Acoustic Cafe, presented by B.R.A.N. will be held from 8 to 10 p.m. Thursday in the Bill Daniel Student Center Den. For more information, call Student Activities at 710-2371.

The Study Abroad Photo Contest is now accepting entries until 5 p.m. Sept. 28. Applicants must

have participated in a Baylor study abroad program. Entry forms are available in 204 Poage Library. Please send all questions or comments to Photo_Contest@ baylor.edu.

Battle of the Bands registration ends Oct. 1. The event is hosted by Kappa Delta. Students interested in entering should submit a demo to Student Activities and complete a registration form.

Bring David Matthews Band to Baylor by texting DMB to 959. Students will receive a code that can be used to text entries up to 50 times a day. Baylor will win a free concert if it has the most entries when the competition ends Oct. 15. Visit www.attblueroom.com to enter online. For more information, contact Kirk_Wakefield@ baylor.edu.

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

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By changing the way Wesley is studied, you see the man had a "deep, robust vision of God." Abraham said. By looking at Wesley's doctrine of perfection, we see there is more to salvation than God forgiving us.

Abraham said he thinks that we need to look at Wesley, as a saint, father and great evangelist. He said Wesley enabled people to find God for themselves and come to their own understanding of God.

"We have used Wesley to our own ends and projected into Wesley what we have loved in life," Abraham said.

More than 100 faculty and students gathered to hear Abraham. Burleson senior, Galan Hughes, said he came to the lecture because of interest in the topic.

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Lecturer declares Wesleyan theology dead "background music" of studying Wesley. J. Abraham

Wesleyan theology is dead. Up from the ashes comes a different, historical way of looking at John Wesley. Dr. William J. Abraham, an

Albert Cook Outler professor of Wesley studies and Altshuler distinguished professor at Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University, spoke Tuesday in Miller Chapel on the death of Wesleyan theology and the rebirth of John Wesley as a spiritual father to millions. Wesley was the founder of

the Methodist denomination and Albertson said an "outpouring of interest in Wesleyan theology' was brought on by Albert Cook Outler when he published Wesley's original works in single volume form. Since then, Wesleyan

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Logan Snow, Houston

Katie Jo Baumgardner,



Laurisa Lopez/

lectures

Tuesday in

Miller Chapel

on the death

of traditional

Wesleyan

theology has grown into more of a personal doctrine than a church doctrine, he said.

"There are as many John Wesleys as there are students of Wesley," Abraham said.

Albertson said he thinks the broadening and personalizing of Wesley. We need to rethink the

CAIRO, Egypt - Osama

bin Laden urged sympathizers

to join the "caravan" of mar-

tyrs as he praised one of the

Sept. 11 suicide hijackers in a

new video that emerged Tuesday

to mark the sixth anniversary of

the attacks on the World Trade

video every year on the anniver-

sary, with the last testament of

one of the 19 hijackers involved

in the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

This year's video showed hijack-

er Waleed al-Shehri addressing

the camera and warning the U.S.:

Al-Qaida traditionally issues a

Center and Pentagon.

By Lee Keath

The Associated Press

Wesleyan theology has ultimately led to its death within the Methodist church. Abraham said he sees the

death of Wesleyan theology as a chance to celebrate a life well lived and find the real historical

Bin Laden lauds hijacker in new video

beard and the same clothes - a white robe and cap and beige cloak - that he had in Saturday's

But it was not known if the audiotape was recently made. In the past, al-Qaida has used footage and audio of bin Laden taped long ago for release later.

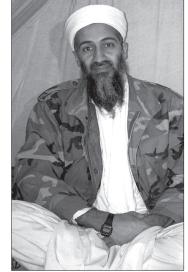
In the tape, bin Laden praised al-Shehri, saying he "recognized the truth" that Arab rulers were "vassals" of the West and had "abandoned the balance of (Islamic) revelation."

It is true that this young man was little in years, but the faith in his heart was big," he said

'So there is a huge difference between the path of the kings, presidents and hypocritical Ulama (Islamic scholars) and the path of these noble young men," like al-Shehri, bin Laden said. "The formers' lot is to spoil and enjoy themselves whereas the latters' lot is to destroy themselves for Allah's Word to be Supreme.'

"It remains for us to do our part. So I tell every young man among the youth of Islam: It is your duty to join the caravan (of martyrs) until the sufficiency is complete and the march to aid the High and Omnipotent continues," he said.

"We shall come at you from your Brandon Baker, San Antonio front and back, your right and Keely Terrell, Waco The new message, which AP Sarah Beth Haigler, San Antonio Television News obtained from the IntelCenter monitoring Becka Bovio, San Antonio group in suburban Washington, Tyler Walton, San Antonio came days after the world got its first current look at bin Laden Michael Wright, Houston in nearly three years, with the release of a video Saturday in on the Internet. Virtuous Filler, Katv which the terror leader addressed the American people. Michael Home, hometown Later in the day it appeared unknown on militant Web sites, with a Matthew Moore, Ruston, La. note from al-Qaiada's media production wing al-Sahab saying it



This undated photo shows al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden in Afghanistan. Bin Laden addressed Americans on the sixth anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks with a new video.

was intentionally sent to television stations before being placed

It begins with an audiotape introduction by bin Laden. While his voice is heard, the video shows a still image of him, raising his finger. In the image, bin Laden has the same dyed-black

Meet the Author

September 13th, 2007 4:00-5:30 pm. **Baylor University bookstore**

Baylor professor and author Greg Garrett signs his newest book, The Gospel according to Hollywood at Baylor University bookstore on September 13th, 2007 from elements in dozens of classic and recent films, including Pulp Fiction, The Matrix, the Harry Potter series, Spider-Man, Jaws, and The Godfather, just to name a few. It is sure to fascinate movie buffs everywhere! The store is located at Baylor University Parking Facility, 1201 South 5th Street, Waco, TX 76706. Don't miss it!

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Smith grabs touchdown, new beginning at BU

By Brian Bateman Sports writer

All week long, Baylor students cram formulas and definitions into their brains. When the weekend finally arrives, the books sit on the desk and the games come out.

But for some, the weekend is where learning begins.

Meet Ernest Smith, a sophomore who is learning his role as a Baylor wide receiver.

"He's a student of the game," former high school head coach Jabar Juluke said, adding, "a very intelligent young man on

A New Orleans native, Smith has had to adapt to life's audibles just as he does on the field.

Smith started his football career at Edna Karr High School playing quarterback, finding himself third-string in his sophomore season

Analyzing the situation, Smith approached Juluke and asked to move to wide receiver. Agreeing, Juluke said his athleticism could be better used there.

"You get to dominate oneon-one with somebody. I want to win everytime against that defensive back," Smith said.

Rivals.com, a major recruiting Web site agreed, naming

Smith a three-star receiver and the nation's No. 40 wide receiver in the 2006 class.

"He had all the physical tools," Juluke said. "He was an important part of our offense."

With 185 pounds on his 6-foot-3 frame and the ability to run a 4.5-second 40-yard dash, Smith joined Juluke on the recruiting trail, traveling all over the Southeastern Conference.

With offers from the University of Alabama, the University of Mississippi and Auburn University, Smith looked to stay at home with the regional conference

"My dad loved (Louisiana State University) and we loved to see LSU and Auburn play," Smith said.

In the fall of 2005, everything was going well for Smith. It was his senior year, college scouts were following him and after two years of injury, he was finally a starting wide receiver.

But Hurricane Katrina had other plans.

Blowing into New Orleans two years ago last month, the storm severely damaged the city but spared his school. A separated roof, mildewed chairs and shattered windows were all that needed replacing.

"We're on the west ring, so we Johnson, my teammate at John

didn't get any water, just wind damage," Juluke said.

But while the school was in tact, the football team would take a blow when Smith moved to Tyler.

"It was devastating losing him. We had huge expectations for him, as he did for himself," Juluke said.

But it was chance that brought him to Tyler, not choice.

"My dad was in the Superdome and the bus took him to Tyler," Smith said.
"I wanted to play wherever

"I wanted to play wherever my dad was. He did everything he could to get me on the field as quickly as possible," Smith said. And that meant playing

football every Friday at Trinity Mother Francis Rose stadium. Playing for John Tyler High School, he helped the Lions make the playoffs for the first time in five years.

After returning to New Orleans for the spring, Smith flipped his decision to join the SEC and become a member of the Big 12 instead. Without the ability to send videos to interested schools, he narrowed his choice to two.

"I was looking at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and Baylor," he said. "Adrian

Tyler, was looking at Baylor. (Former Baylor) coach (Chris) Lancaster came and talked to my dad, showed a lot of love."

Waco then became his third residence in two years.

Smith played limited minutes last year behind Trent Shelton and Dominique Zeigler, running plays in all but two games.

But with Baylor's best receiving duo transplanted to the NFL, Smith and the rest of the receiving corps are getting a chance to grow. With height to spare, Smith's growth will be in weight.

"Ernest came up and game me a hug and said, 'Thanks for believing in me,'" offensive coordinator Lee Hays said. "I'd like to take credit for that, but it wasn't me. That was Blake (Szymanski's) call." Smith is averaging 14.7 yards

touchdown against Rice. On first-and-goal, Szymanski threw a fade, but Smith didn't pull it in. On second down, Szymanski ran the same play.

With his second-chance score, Smith had his first col-

per catch, including a 19-yard

legiate touchdown, adding six points to the Bears' win.
"I want to win. If you don't

want to, then there's something wrong with you," Smith said.

Jade Hodges/Lariat sta

Sophomore wide receiver Ernest Smith leaps to make a reception in the first quarter Saturday in a 42-17 win over the Rice University Owls. Smith's father was displaced from his home in 2005 following Hurricane Katrina.

Texas-Oklahoma rivalry takes bloody turn over T-shirt dispute

The Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — To hear Oklahoma football fans tell it, some things just aren't done in the heart of Sooner Nation, and one of them is to walk into a bar wearing a Texas Longhorns T-shirt

That's exactly what touched off a bloody skirmish that left a Texas-shirt-wearing fan nearly castrated and an Oklahoma fan facing aggravated assault charges that could put him in prison for up to five years.

The shocking case has set off a raging debate in this footballcrazed region about the extreme passions behind a bitter rivalry. Some legal observers have even questioned whether this case could ever truly have an impartial jury.

"I've actually heard callers on talk radio say that this guy deserved what he got for wearing a Texas T-shirt into a bar in the middle of Sooner country," said Irven Box, an attorney in this city 20 miles from Oklaho-

ma's campus in Norman.

According to police, 32-yearold Texas fan Brian Christopher
Thomas walked into Henry Hudson's Pub on June 17 wearing a
Longhorns T-shirt and quickly
became the focus of football
"trash talk" from another regular, 53-year-old Oklahoma fan
Allen Michael Beckett.

Thomas told police that when he decided to leave and went to the bar to pay his tab, Beckett grabbed him in the crotch, pulled him to the ground and wouldn't let go, even as bar patrons tried to break it up.

When the two men were separated, Thomas looked down and realized the extent of his injuries.

"He could see both of his testicles hanging on the outside of his body," said Thomas' attorney, Carl Hughes. "He was wearing a pair of white shorts, which made it that much worse."

It took more than 60 stitches to close the wound, and police interviewed Thomas at a nearby hospital emergency room.

Beckett's attorney, Billy Bock, concedes that his client commented about Thomas' shirt, but said it was just good-natured

ribbing and that he apologized to Thomas when it appeared to upset the Texas fan. Later, Bock said Thomas approached his client at the bar and threatened him

"My client is a little man, and this guy (Thomas) is 30 to 40 pounds bigger than him," Bock said. "He's bigger, stronger, younger and probably faster, and he aggressively leaned in and touched my client and threatened to beat him up. ... My guy was defending himself and just

took control of the situation."
Thomas' attorney disputes

Beckett's version.

"That's total malarkey,"
Hughes said. "My client never said a word to him. He got up to pay and when he paid and left a

tip, the guy grabbed him."

Beckett, a 53-year-old church deacon, federal auditor and former Army combat veteran, has pleaded not guilty.

His next court appearance comes Oct. 4, two days before the Sooners and Horns tangle in their annual football game at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas.

Thomas, who once lived in Houston and became a Texas fan during the heyday of star running back Earl Campbell, is still recovering from his injuries but has returned to work as a meat cutter at a Sam's Club warehouse store.

Like Beckett and Thomas, many fans of the two college squads never attended either university, but have come to identify so closely with these teams that they attach banners to their cars, wear team colors on game day and even have programmed their car horns to play school fight songs.

Dallas police Sgt. Andy Harvey, a 12-year veteran of the force, said it's not uncommon for fights to break out between fans of the two schools.

"People are passionate about their teams and their universities, and that's a good thing," he said, "but when you mix a real passionate sports fan and then get a little alcohol in there, sometimes it's not a good mix."

Assistant District Attorney Scott Rowland said the rivalry will have no bearing on the way the case is prosecuted.



BU faculty, alumni go off-Broadway

By Rea Corbin

Past and present members of the Baylor theatre department are about to step off-Broadway and into The Coffee Trees.

Dr. Marion Castleberry, associate professor of theatre arts, will be directing the Arthur Giron play, The Coffee Trees.

Five Baylor alumni and one professor will be participating in the production.

This is the second time in recent years Baylor has been involved with an off-Broadway production, said Sherry Ward.

audience development director. In March 2006, Castleberry also directed Horton Foote's The Traveling Lady at the Ensemble Studio Theatre in New York City. The production was nominated for the Drama Desk award for Outstanding Revival of a Play.

Dr. Stan Denman, directing chairman, said this "distinguished" nomination opened up more doors for Baylor Theatre's continued professional work.

Castleberry's association with the Ensemble Studio Theatre "was the biggest influence on this project," Denman said.

Not only did the theater support The Traveling Lady, it also held a reading of The Coffee Trees, sparking interest in the play.

O n e person interested was Eric Parness, managing director of the Resonance Ensemble Theatre. Castle-

berry said

Castleberry

the theater is a new comany "dedicated to performing classical works and new works that have been

inspired by those works. Parness wanted to put on The Coffee Trees along with The Cherry Orchard by Anton Chekhov, which was the inspiration for Giron's play. The theme of The Cherry Orchard carries through to The Coffee Trees. Both plays examine the effects of a changing society on a collection of people. In The Coffee Trees, a Guatemalan family struggles to find a place on a post-war coffee plantation, rather than the Russian countryside.

Assistant professor Stephen Pounders is participating in both productions. When he is not playing Manny in The Coffee Trees, he is the stage manager for The Cherry Orchard.

'This role is keeping me just as busy as The Coffee Trees, but it's fascinating to watch both plays in progress," Pounders said.

Pounders acts regularly in the Dallas and Fort Worth areas, and according to Denman "has a bit of a following in Dallas."

Castleberry and Giron have known each other for more than 15 years, Castleberry said, but working together on an off-Broadway production was a new

Giron also wrote Flight, which was put on by Baylor theatre students in 2004. Baylor alumnus Steven Day, now Castleberry's assistant director, directed Flight at Baylor.

Acting in the play with Pounders is Baylor alumna Elizabeth Davis, who plays Barbara. Baylor alumni Stew Awalt, Sarah Brown and Bobby Bradley are stage manager, prop designer and lighting designer, respectively. In the past, Pounders has taught classes for all the alumni in the production except Day.

"It's important to recognize that they are now colleagues, not students," Pounders said.
"It's actually not a difficult transition to make. I'm usually humbled to see how far my students have surpassed anything I might have taught them."

Castleberry sees work on this level as rewarding "not only for us, but for our students and the university as a whole.' Performances like The Cof-

fee Trees and The Traveling Lady enhance the reputation of the Baylor theatre department on a national level, Denman said. "It takes a high caliber of fac-

ulty to be able to put on a production in New York City and still compete with professionals," Denman said.

The Coffee Trees opens Sept. 28 at Theatre Row's Beckett Theatre in Manhattan.

CONCERTCONNECTIO

WACO

Green River Ordinance Thursday @ 8 p.m. Common Grounds

David Allan Coe Saturday @ 7 p.m. Hog Creek Ice House

AUSTIN

Spoon Thursday @ 8 p.m. La Zona Rosa

Paolo Nutini Friday @ 8:30 p.m. Stubb's

Robert Earl Keen Friday @ 10 p.m. The Parish

Saturday @ 9 p.m. The White Stripes

Blonde Redhead

Sunday @ 7 p.m. Stubb's

DALLAS

The Killers Thursday @ 8 p.m. Nokia Theatre

Wilco Friday @ 7:30 p.m. Palladium Ballroom

The National / St. Vincent Friday @ 8 p.m.

Granada Theatre

Common Saturday @ 8 p.m.

House of Blues Clay Walker

Saturday @ 10:30 p.m. Billy Bob's **Arctic Monkeys**

Sunday @7:30 p.m. Palladium Ballroom

Muse Sunday @ 8 p.m. Nokia Theatre

Stephen Marley Sunday @ 8 p.m. Granada Theatre

Are some pop culture crimes too heinous to forgive and forget?

By Aaron Sagers McClatchy Newspapers

I am an incredibly forgiving person. In fact, I fancy myself a benevolent and kind-hearted media consumer willing to absolve the career sins of celebs and pop-makers. Up to a point.

But when I'm in a movie theater and Vince Gill is strumming a guitar, shilling for Fruit Of The Loom undies alongside a grown man dressed as an apple, smiting is more on my mind than

forgiveness. Honestly, I'm willing to entertain the notion that Vince is hamming it up in the "Daddy Was The Apple Of My Eye" song when he sings, "No castle in the South of France/but what we had were underpants" (at least, I really want to believe he's just being funny). But still, even if this is just a paycheck job for Gill, what has the Okie sacrificed in his pop-culture cred?

When an actor, musician, author or any entertainer delivers a heaping helping of schlock - regardless of whether it's just for the cash or a serious artistic endeavor – they trade in some of their worth and relevancy.

And if they sin enough in the public's collective all-seeing, all-judging eyes, our love for them will dry up, as will their

Of course, everyone makes mistakes. Kelly Clarkson's new album, the hit-less My December, hasn't met with a lot of warm fuzzies from the public, yet she's got enough credit built up from 'American Idol" and the "Since U Been Gone"-spawning album "Breakaway" that she could still bounce back next time she comes out of the recording stu-

Listeners could forgive her and her career will likely sur-

Audiences will also feel forgiving towards esteemed and revered pop that has shifted downwards in quality over the

For instance, several laughlite episodes of The Simpsons are easily ignored after nearly two decades of quality.

Beyond their work, our pop figures must also obtain forgiveness from the public for personal transgressions before their career can recover and thrive once more.

While I'd say it looks bad for Britney Spears, Lindsay Lohan and other celebutards who burn bridges faster than they can shoot a Jager-bomb, hope still springs for them.

After all, Hugh Grant is more of a lovable fop after his divine date, and Robert Downey, Jr., triumphantly rose from the ashes without snorting them first.
But like I said, there are lim-

its. Perhaps it's my Catholic

upbringing, but I believe in forgiving, but not quite forgetting. No matter how good he may be in Hairspray, John Travolta has been absolved for his crimes

against pop so many times that, according to Kentucky state law, execution is legally allowed if he appears in a Wild Hogs sequel. Finally, for those entertainers whose pop-culture crimes are so reprehensible but who have

penance is in order to earn forgiveness. For instance, Scott Baio and the Coreys followed Hulk Hogan

potential for career redemption,

back into the popular consciousness with reality-TV shows after serving time for ... well, who has time to add up their entertainment crimes?

Which makes me wonder, is it time to lift the long-standing probation on the newly-re-reformed Van Halen – again? Can 3:10 to Yuma wipe clean Russell Crowe's lousy streak? Will the world ever forgive Dennis Rodman for being himself?

I don't know, but I do know someone should tell Garth Brooks we're finally ready to forget In The Life Of Chris Gaines as long as he doesn't sell tightywhities with a dude dressed as a bunch of grapes.



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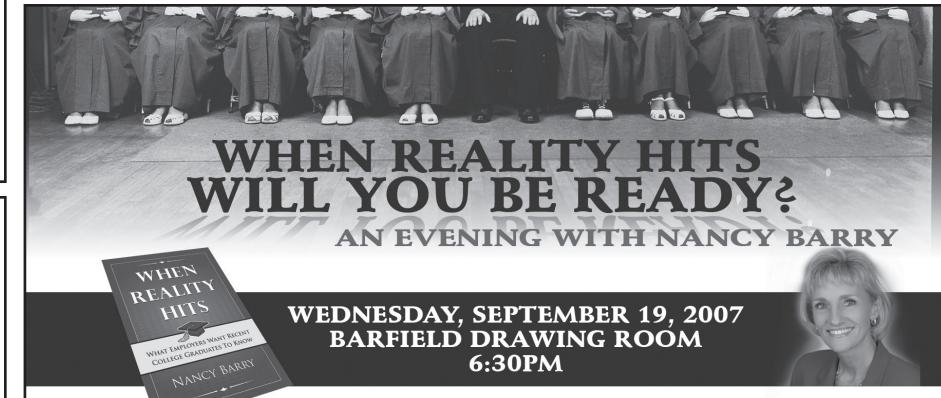
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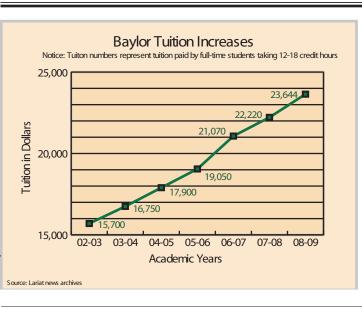
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TUITION from page 1

Village was not a cause of the rise in tuition, since that construction is basically paid for by its residents.

The ongoing rises in tuition can be attributed partly to increases in utility bills as the university expands, but also to inflation and faculty and staff raises, Ramsower said.

Student reactions to news

of the tuition increase were mixed.

"I think it's okay, because they have a plan with the eventual goal of Baylor 2012," said

Waco senior Zain Lalani.

But Tyler senior Danielle Stevens said she "shouldn't be paying Ivy-League prices for a good education."

"If I decide to do graduate work, I will think about transferring schools," she said.

Ramsower said it's "always important for a university to be very sensitive to the amount it charges to students." He added that students themselves are usually very sensitive to this amount.

"I believe that Baylor provides an education and a value that is greater than our cost," Ramsower said.

VOTE from page 1

church to a campus like Baylor's," Burleson said.

Despite the change, Burleson is confident in his decision. "I experienced a great sense of confirmation. A kind of joy around the whole process," he said of his appointment.

The university was filled by interim chaplain Dr. Byron Weathersbee from 2005 until this past June.

Weathersbee now works as a full-time lecturer in the health and human performance department.

The previous chaplain, Dr. Todd Lake who served from 1999 to 2005 before taking a position at Belmont University as vice president for Spiritual Development.

Each person who goes in that role has a different set of gifts and strengths, Oliver said. "There's great appreciation for everything that Dr. Weathersbee, and Dr. Lake before him, brought to the position," Oliver said.

"I'm just thankful that the Lord has led in this and that Burt has agreed to join with us - it's going to be great," Oliver said.

TROOPS from page 1

said

Bush will say that after hearing from Petraeus and Crocker, he has decided on a way forward that will reduce the number of troops but not abandon Iraq, they said.

The address will stake out a conciliatory tone toward Congress but Bush will place more conditions on the pace of reductions to the pre-buildup

level of 130,000 than Petraeus did.

At the White House Tuesday afternoon, Bush met with House and Senate lawmakers of both parties and he publicly pledged to consider their input. "It's very important before I make up mind that I consult with leaders of the House and the Senate," he said.

Bush will also adopt Petraeus' call for more time to determine the timing and scale of withdrawals below the 130,000 mark and offer to report to

Congress in March about such plans, one official said.

White House press secretary Tony Snow said Petraeus and Crocker had presented compelling arguments about "what appears to be trend lines that are pointing to success" and that "if you've got something that is succeeding, you want more of it."

He denied, however, that he was offering a preview of what Bush would tell the nation. "Whether the president agrees or disagrees, we're going to

SENATE from page 1

make the procedures of each separate. President John Lilley officially requested the formation of a committee for tenure and promotions recommendations, according to the 2007-2008 Tenure and Promotion Policy and Procedures Revision Process official document.

The suggestions of past university tenure committees were considered.

The senate hopes to revamp the hiring process in order for "Baylor University to become more competitive, responsive and efficient in the faculty job market," as quoted from the 2007-2008 Statement of Intent.

Jaffus Hardrick, assistant vice provost, and Charlie Beckenhauer, general counsel, addressed the senate about the approved concept concerning running criminal background checks on all potential faculty starting next spring. This drew some faculty debate over priva-

cy issues and risk management.
"Homeland security is saying
now that universities are very
vulnerable," said Hardrick.

The Faculty Senate has many goals for this year, including establishing a committee to evaluate administration members and a committee to examine issues pertaining to class lecturers. The senate also plans to take on a leadership role in the United Way campaign and strengthen the bond between the senate and other representational groups on campus, O'Brien said.

DREW from page 1

coaches. When people come up, we make them feel at home. I think that he's comfortable with us, and he really liked us."

Jones, a 6-foot-9 senior forward from Houston Yates High School, is currently Rivals.com's No. 46 ranked player nationally and the eighth-best small forward. A four-star prospect, Jones verbally decommitted from Texas A&M University in the spring.

Jerrells can understand Jones' decision to choose Baylor even if many outsiders can't. Once a sought-after recruit himself, Jerrells was a piece of Drew's foundational recruiting class in 2005. Drew had just five scholarship players the year before, and Jerrells jumped on an opportunity to play for an upbeat coach he saw doing big things.

Alongside Jerrells in that class was Dallas-area forward Kevin Rogers and Houston-area guard Henry Dugat. Drew said that class helped the program in more ways than one.

"That class really got our name out across the state that they're not only great players but high-character players," Drew said. "They covered three major areas, and lot of people across the state raised some eyebrows."

Jerrells, Rogers and Dugat represent three of the biggest recruiting hot beds in the state, giving Drew a distinct advantage when it comes to spreading the word about Baylor's program.

"Players recruit players," Drew said. "Once you have a good player come into your program, that attracts the next player. You start with the founda-

tion, and the more and more players you get, the more you can build."

If Jerrells, Rogers and Dugat represent Drew's foundation, the rest of his house is beginning to resemble a four-story mansion.

Baylor freshman LaceDarius Dunn and sophomore Tweety Carter, the leading scorer in U.S. high school basketball history, were both Rivals Top-50 recruits. Sophomore center Josh Lomers was a Top-100 recruit.

HoopScoopOnline.com declared junior center Mamadou Diene would have ranked as one of the top 40 high school players in 2004 had he played in the U.S. Both Dugat and Rogers were consensus Top-100 recruits in 2005.

Guard Aaron Bruce, the team's lone senior starter, was the best freshman scorer in the country three years ago.

There is little question that talent-wise, the Bears are as good as they've been in a long time. There is even talk that Baylor might have the best collection of guards in the entire conference.

Drew's final frontier, though, seems to be actually winning games. Baylor has finished next to last in the Big 12 the last two years despite the talent Drew has gathered.

If he can get over that hump, the method to Drew's highly controlled madness could become crystal clear much sooner than nearly anyone anticipated when he arrived.

"I feel like I came to this school because I wanted to be a part of something good, something new," Jerrells said. "It's a challenge and we're all ready for it, and some of the other guys we've got who have committed are thinking the same thing."

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