



ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2007



Associated Press

Firefighters watch a back fire Tuesday on a hillside in Jamul, Calif. Deadly, wind-whipped wildfires have triggered the largest evacuation in state history, prompting some 500,000 people to flee ahead of flames that have destroyed more than 1,600 homes and continued Wednesday to threaten tens of thousands more.

San Diego family loses possessions, not faith

By Tessa Shockey
Reporter

Kimber Fowler's world went up in smoke this week, and only the chimney, porcelain doll heads and doorknobs remained.

This San Diego junior's house was one of the thousands that were destroyed in this week's California wildfires.

"We weren't able to get out anything. We lost all our pictures and videos," Fowler said. Fowler said that 79 houses burned in her neighborhood of 300.

Fowler said a blown trans-

former in a park five miles from her house caused the fire in her neighborhood. Within an hour, it had reached the Fowlers' house.

The Fowlers asked a firefighter if their house was still standing. After hearing their address, the firefighter told the Fowlers in tears, "I am so sorry there are not enough of us. We tried so hard." The Fowlers' house was one of the first to go in the area.

Fowler's parents were visiting her in Texas at the time. Their alarm system called them at 6 a.m. Central Time to say their heat detector had gone off, but

there was nothing they could do. What awaited the Fowlers back in San Diego was staggering.

"If you didn't know something was there, you wouldn't even know there was furniture in there," Fowler said. "Actually, we only have the chimney; it's the only thing left standing."

Mr. and Mrs. Fowler have only what was in their suitcases for their Texas trip.

Fowler said her family has received an outpouring of support from her family, friends, church and Kappa Delta sorority.

Fowler said that Highland

Baptist Church, her home church in Waco has been supportive and even sent the Fowlers a check.

Fowler's sorority sent 200 T-shirts for her family to wear.

"Right now we are so hurt, but we understand God has a divine will, even though we don't see it right now. It's hard to see through that through the smoke, no pun intended," Fowler said. "If I didn't have my faith, I wouldn't have anything."

One thing Fowler has treasured is verses sent from friends.

"I can't take this one out. I

keep it in my pocket for strength. 'You know have sorrow, your joy no one will take from you (John 16:23).'"

"Even though it felt like someone has kicked me in the stomach, I have a peace because I know so many people are praying for me by name," Fowler said.

The Fowlers are staying in a hotel and will have to rebuild from the bottom up.

The severity of what happened still seems surreal to Fowler.

"You always think it won't happen to me; it's not supposed

to happen to me, and it does," Fowler said.

Fowler said these days have been the most emotional days of her life. She had to cope with losing keepsakes from her childhood.

"I collected pigs, and my entire pig collection was gone," Fowler said. Fowler's mother went to their house to see what was left.

"Some things look like they've never been burned, like our plastic chairs by the pool.

Please see FIRE, page 4

Festival tries to foster new playwrights

By Rea Corbin
Reporter

The third semiannual Horton Foote American Playwrights Festival begins today in the Hooper-Schaefer Fine Arts Center with panels, play readings and performances.

The honoree for this year's festival is Tina Howe, an award-winning playwright who has received an Obie Award for Distinguished Playwriting. A student production of her play *Museum* opened last week and will be part of the festival. *Museum* was chosen based on many factors, such as producibility and its ability to foster discussion.

"We could never do a professional production," said Stan Denman, chairman of the department of theatre arts. He said Howe specifically requested a student production of one of her plays due to her interest in fostering student opportunity.

Three of her plays will be read by professional actors for an audience.

A play reading is more relaxed than a full production, Denman said. The actors come in and sit in front of the audience. Each actor has a copy of the script which they can set on a music stand while they read, said festival coordinator Sherry Ward. One person reads each part, including a person reading the stage directions.



Laurisa Lopez/Lariat Staff

Students perform Tina Howe's *Museum* at dress rehearsal Oct. 18. Howe is being honored at this year's Horton Foote American Playwrights Festival.

In the Pulitzer Prize-nominated *Painting Churches*, Margaret is a painter on the brink of a prestigious show and attempts to come to terms with her parents through her portrait of them. The full reading will be at 2 p.m. today.

The first act of *Birth and After Birth* will be read at 10 a.m. Friday. The play is the story of two couples, one with a 4-year-old and the other cultural anthropologists, each with different ideas of child-rearing. Denman said *Birth and After Birth* represents the nonrealistic elements typical of Howe's work.

The Divine Fallacy, one of Howe's many short plays, will be read at 11 a.m. Friday.

Please see FESTIVAL, page 7

Baylor police officer nabs Skinny's robbery suspect

By Anita Pere
Staff writer

Only feet from campus, Baylor Police Lt. Robert Young arrested Terrell Henry on a charge of aggravated robbery just after 2 a.m. Tuesday.

A man fitting Henry's description robbed Skinny's convenience store at 12th and Speight Avenue at knife point, Baylor Police Chief Jim Doak said. At approximately 2 a.m., only moments after the event, Young arrested the man in an alley off Speight Street, between Eighth and Ninth streets.

If convicted, the man could face up to 99 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine for aggravated robbery, Doak said. Aggravated robbery is a first-degree felony.

Doak said Young became aware of the robbery when he heard an announcement on the police radio. "They gave the suspect's description, you know, general description of the clothing he was wearing ... general height, weight, just ballpark. That's all you can do in this situation," Doak said.

But this limited description was enough to help Young catch the suspect, because he was



Henry

not wearing the same clothes that the clerk described at the time of the robbery, Doak said. His clothes were later found in the H-E-B grocery store across the street from the convenience store.

Young was driving on Speight Avenue when he saw the man fitting the description walking in the street. The man slipped into the alley, and "started walking briskly," prompting Young to park the police vehicle and ask the man to stop. Doak said. The suspect kept walking but then cooperated with Young. The lieutenant requested backup, and two Baylor police officers and one Waco police officer answered Young's call.

The officers then discovered the suspect possessed a 12-inch knife. Doak said he couldn't be more pleased with Young's keen observation and careful maneuvers to arrest the alleged robber while keeping himself safe.

"It was just an outstanding bit of police observation on his part," Doak said. Doak also said Young did everything right in this risky situation. He said he's glad Young, who has worked on the Baylor police force for 13 years, trusted his intuition.

"He's made a significant number of arrests over the years," including catching car burglars in the act, Doak said. "There's not much that happens out here he's not aware of."

Rodrick Wayne Puryear, who could not be reached for comment, was working at the convenience store when the robbery took place.

Report card gives BU a C-

By Kathleen Williams
Reporter

The grades are in, and Baylor received a C- on the college sustainability report card.

The report card measures green initiatives and policies on campuses by grading in eight categories. Categories include climate change and energy, food and recycling, green building, investment priorities and transportation.

Last year Baylor scored a D+, but radiation specialist Alan Stover said the grading scale's getting harder.

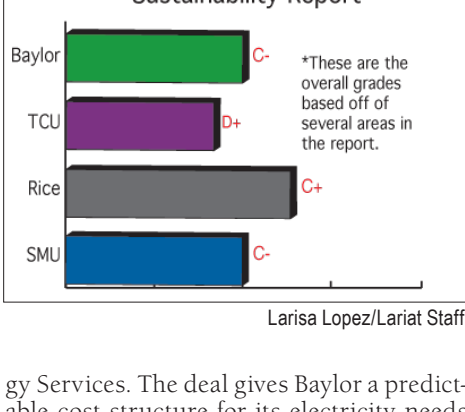
In the category of food and recycling, Baylor's C grade remained constant from

last year, even though Baylor has taken significantly more action to improve this area of sustainability.

While last year Baylor only composted food waste, this year Baylor's donated 9,000 pounds of recycled coffee grounds to the World Hunger Relief Farm. Baylor is also purchases most of its dairy products from local farms. Baylor's also trying to expand its recycling to include materials beyond paper and cardboard.

According to the report card, Baylor is considered a leader in the category of investment priorities. "We're leading because we've been smart by investing in renewable energy," Stover said.

Baylor's key investment in renewable energy is its agreement with Integritys Ener-



Larisa Lopez/Lariat Staff

gy Services. The deal gives Baylor a predictable cost structure for its electricity needs for the next 10 years. Baylor expects to save about \$2 million annually by using wind

Please see REPORT, page 8

Minority professors underrepresented

By Sommer Ingram
Staff writer

According to the column, Non-white Americans are still significantly underrepresented as recipients of Ph.D.s in the United States, according to the American Historical Association, and the Association aims to encourage administrators at universities across the country to change this precedent.

The American Historical

Association published a column in its October issue addressing the issue of equity for minority historians in the academic workplace.

According to faculty distribution statistics, Baylor has between 800-900 faculty members with only 15 African Americans and even fewer Hispanics.

"Baylor, like most private

Please see MINORITY, page 8

Editorial

Poverty solution means limiting our pollution

Everyone knows poverty is a global problem. Celebrities such as Brad Pitt and U2's Bono have made movements such as the ONE campaign well-known and popular. An issue that goes under the radar, however, is the sustained degradation of the environment and how it compounds the problem of poverty.

According to the World Health Organization, a quarter of all diseases affecting humankind are attributable to environmental risks, with children being more vulnerable than adults. Twenty-five percent of deaths in developing countries are linked to environmental factors compared to the 17 percent of deaths in developed countries.

For years, wealthy countries have been encouraging migration of environmentally degrading industries to Third World countries because it is cheaper to move an industry than to pay for the environmentally friendly technology people in rich countries demand. Rainforests are cleared to make way for grazing animals to be slaughtered for fast-food meat. Land is being exhausted by the production of cash crops for the wealthier parts of the world as well.

Part of the problem lies within global institutions that have encouraged these countries to concentrate on producing cash crops for export by using environmentally damaging methods. This causes reduced biodiversity and requires countries to spend money on environmentally damaging pesticides and fertilizers.

Poverty is the No. 1 contributing health concern for many poor nations. According to the Worldwatch Institute, the amount needed for basic health and nutrition in developing countries is \$13 billion. We currently spend \$17 billion each year on pet food in Europe and the U.S. Where are our priorities?

According to a study by the UN Environment Programme, the Dandora Municipal Dumping Site in Nairobi, one of Africa's largest waste dumps, has been deemed a serious threat to children. People from nearby slums rely on the dump site every day to find food, recyclables and other valuables they can sell for an income. Half of children tested had a concentration of lead in their bloodstream exceeding internationally accepted levels. Also, almost half of them were suffering from respiratory diseases caused by smoke from burning waste.

If this sounds unacceptable or unbelievable, look at what's happening in our own state. The Houston ship channel, the largest petrochemical complex in the United States, pumps known cancer-causing chemicals like benzene and 1-3 butadiene, into the air. A Rice University study released in 2006 showed that Houston has a higher concentration of benzene and 1-3 butadiene than anywhere else in the United States – at least 20 times higher than any other city in America.

The University of Texas released a study showing that children who live within two miles of the ship channel have a 56 percent greater risk of getting leukemia than kids who live elsewhere. The chemicals in the air can also cause respiratory diseases and birth defects. It comes as no surprise that many of the people who live near the ship channel are poor.

Currently, laws in Texas and the U.S. that limit the amount of hazardous air pollutants these companies pump into the air are not effective enough in combating these dangers. But there is an effort under way to change that.

The first step in the right direction for the U.S. is to demand that laws be made to counteract the pollution problem. This isn't likely to happen under the current administration, but keep that in mind when the presidential election comes around next year. The second step is to support the efforts of environmentally minded organizations as well as groups that combat poverty.

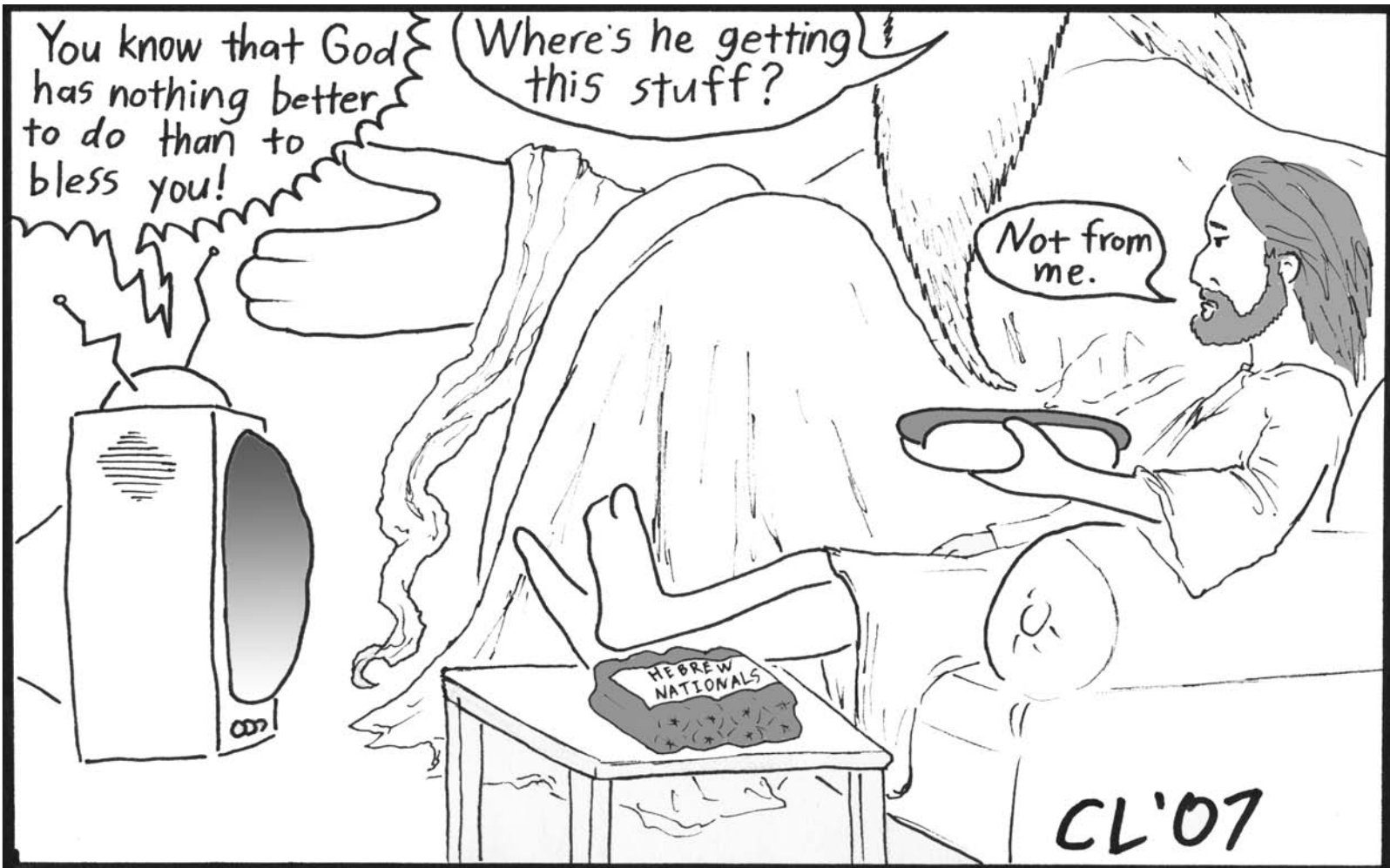
The connection between poverty and environmental degradation is clear. It is crucial that we work to solve these problems simultaneously.

Opinion policy

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

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

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.



The gospel of sunshine as told by Joel Osteen

Joel Osteen, pastor of Lakewood Mega-Church in Houston, has written a new book, *Becoming a Better You: Seven Keys to Improving Your Life Every Day*.

This book, like his previous one, *Your Best Life Now*, provides a road-map to navigate through life's trials using seven steps.

Apparently, it's also Christian. Maybe someone should tell Osteen that using the number seven isn't the blueprint for holiness.

Sprinkled within the text are interfaith buzzwords like blessings, peace and joy.

It's kind of hard to argue with a guy who promises I'll be rich, happy and successful, but I'm going to give it a shot. After all, Osteen's uplifting message gave me the confidence to do anything.

I'm not sure what Bible Osteen has been thumbing through, but the one I read says a lot more about Jesus caring about suffering, pain and poverty than about you and me being monetarily successful.

Proverbs 9:22 says it is better to be poor than a liar. It is easier, however, to be rich when you tell such

point of view
BY CLAIRE ST. AMANT

enticing untruths.

It's no wonder Osteen's church is a former sports arena. He's putting on one hell of a show.

Tens of thousands flock to the state-of-the-art stadium each week, and thousands more watch on satellite broadcasts around the world.

Everyone wants to see the guy who made Jesus into a millionaire.

It's funny, really, that a savior who was homeless, rejected and crucified would serve as the supposed model for Osteen's health, wealth and prosperity gospel.

Osteen has hijacked the concept that God wants the best for us (which he does) and has turned it into a dogmatic certainty.

2 Corinthians 9:22 says, "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became

point of view
BY BRAD BRIGGS

Which group draws most of the ire from non-Christians?

Well, if you are the average Baylor student, you need only look in the mirror – only 3 percent of people expressed positive views of evangelicals.

But don't use this as an excuse to get all high and mighty and cry about how our society is hostile toward Christianity, and that increased persecution is a sign of the end times and that if prayer would not have ever been taken out of schools and blah blah blah...

Just consider this: Half of young Christians themselves echoed the same sentiments – that they "perceive Christianity to be judgmental, hypocritical and too political."

I often find myself within this camp.

poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich."

Am I the only one who doesn't think we're talking about money here?

I, like Osteen, have never been to seminary, but in light of my king, who rejected the world's wealth, made fools of the proud and esteemed the humble, I'm willing to bet he's talking about a richness of life that transcends bank accounts.

The peace which passes all understanding, the knowledge and love of God – these are the riches offered to those who love and follow him.

In Osteen's world, we all get to be successful by the world's standards.

I hate to break it to you, but life isn't like little league baseball. Not everyone gets to stand on the podium and receive a medal at the end of the season. We live in a fallen world.

Yes, God wants us to be healthy and happy, but people still get sick and depressed. God promises comfort through the trials, but not always removal of the trials.

Osteen's message of unending blessings neglects the idea of a suffering servant.

Naturally, given a choice I think we'd all go for unending blessings. But God isn't in the business of giving us what we want.

Osteen's eternal optimism has some merit. Ultimately, God will win. Ultimately, we will all find peace, joy and happiness.

But there's a whole lot of life in between now and "ultimately" that Osteen neglects to mention.

He selects Scripture like he's picking out produce, only grabbing hold of the shiny red apples and leaving the bruised fruit untouched at the bottom of the pile.

God's word isn't all sunshine and rainbows, but as Osteen frequently says himself while being interviewed, people don't want to be beaten down by a message of gloom and doom.

I've come to realize that Osteen's right, and his message is a lot easier to stomach than God's.

Who needs Jesus when you've got Joel?

Claire St. Amant is a senior professional writing major from Katy.

Christian right causing rest of us to lose faith

I believe it was Gandhi that once said, "I like your Christ. I do not like your Christians. Your Christians are so unlike your Christ."

I've always thought about those words and what they meant to me in my own experiences with other Christians.

Then when I read a survey by the Barna Group, a Christian research organization, my worst suspicions were confirmed.

The survey was about how young people view Christianity, and it showed that among 16-29-year-olds, young people have never been more critical and skeptical of Christianity.

When asked to choose their perceptions of Christians from a list of 10 positive and 10 negative, nine out of the top 12 perceptions were negative.

The survey cited feelings of disengagement and disillusionment among young people as a primary reason for this.

Whereas a decade ago, the majority of non-Christians had a favorable view of Christians, that rate now sits at 16 percent.

Simply put, I think the church as an institution, our leaders – perhaps even some of our parents – have failed us.

Over the past few decades, while mainline Protestantism was growing out of touch with modernity, evangelicals became too radicalized and began to turn many people off. Suddenly, seeking people were forced to choose. Well, many young people have chosen now, and they choose neither.

Respondents to this poll gave deeply intimate stories of experiences that have turned them off to Christianity – not broad, sweeping generalizations. Finally, there is statistical evidence for what we have already known all along but were just afraid to admit to ourselves.

This shouldn't be too surprising. Yes, we live in a post-modern society, and it shouldn't be a shock that young people are so detached.

But supposing you are a Christian, the fact of the matter is that what's being done in our name (particularly by the Christian far right) is killing Christianity. Since they are often the people who hijack the

dialogue and speak loudest, they are the ones the public most often sees.

Consider this a plea to those so-called Christians. The next time you malevolently condemn homosexuals, try to get creationism into classrooms or join the cries for war, just remember: The rest of us are watching.

For the rest of us, we should make it a fundamental aspect of our faith to oppose these markedly un-Christian actions that turn people off to Christianity.

It's good to know the observations of someone outside the faith. We must always be looking for the plank in our own eye, before we look for the splinter in others.

It helps us to take inventory of ourselves and learn what we can be doing better to let the world know what we are really about.

Gandhi also said that what passes as Christianity these days is a negation of the Sermon on the Mount.

I think he was right. Brad Briggs is a senior journalism major from Mesquite.

The Baylor Lariat

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V. EASY

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THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

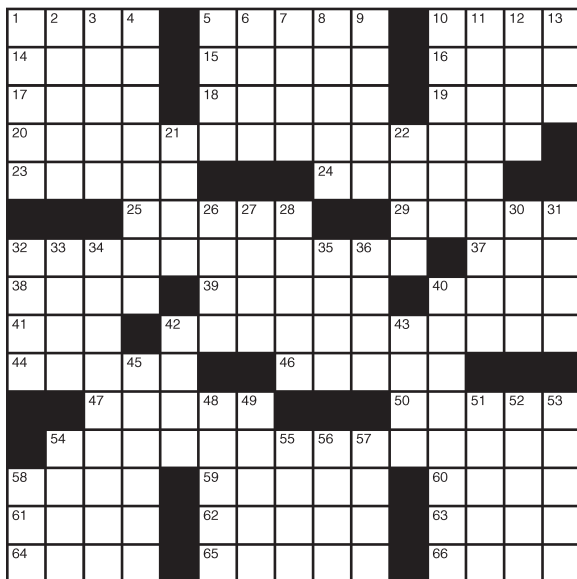
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45 Play the flute
48 Hoosier cager
49 Trapper's device
51 French farewell
52 Pre-stereo recordings
53 Late-night bite
54 Sticky semiliquid
55 Grave
56 Vein pursuits
57 Junction point
58 Fifth of MV



By Jim Page
New York, NY

10/16/07

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

Henry Hoops scores on and off the court

By Christine Sracic
Contributor

Being a dedicated alumnus means giving back, not only to your university, but to the community as well. Kevin Henry, who received his master's degree in sports management from Baylor in 2006, has taken alumni community involvement to a whole new level.

President and executive director of the nonprofit association Game Plan 4 Life, Henry has helped thousands of children throughout Central Texas pursue their passion for sports and education through competitive basketball camps, clinics and traveling teams.

Although Game Plan 4 Life wasn't technically founded until December 2005, Henry said it was in the making for quite a long time.

"We started the Henry Hoops Basketball Training program in November 2002. I walked into a little gym in Woodway and asked if I could use the gym to give private lessons," Henry said. "The gentleman at the desk gave me the OK, and it continued to grow from there."

Henry Hoops is a beneficiary of the Game Plan 4 Life organization. Donations given to Game Plan 4 Life help fund scholarships awarded to players who have a love for the sport, but not necessarily the funds. This, said Henry, is the heart of the program.

Money makes participation possible

"Our events cost money, and for some families, this wasn't a problem. But for others, it became an issue. There were several kids who wanted to participate in the program, but they simply couldn't afford it," Henry said.

"We had some families that would offer to help cover the cost for a couple of kids that really wanted to attend, but that was just a short-term fix."

The solution to this problem was influenced by the parents of the campers. Several parents informed Henry that if Henry Hoops was a nonprofit, they'd be willing to donate more money if, as a result, they received a tax deduction.

The idea was just what Henry Hoops needed.

"I contacted a local CPA and lawyer, and the three of us plowed through the 30-page

nonprofit application," Henry said. "It was the hardest thing I've ever done. It took about 10 months for the entire process to come to fruition. It was a huge step for the program, and I was ready for the challenge."

The newly appointed nonprofit title opened more doors for Henry than he imagined. Being given the opportunity to solicit sponsors and donations from individuals and companies, Henry was able to turn his vision — helping children of all ages follow their dreams — into a reality.

Henry Hoops is now able to offer a scholarship application to each player in need.

The scholarships promote the four areas of Game Plan 4 Life: discipline, education, community service and athletic participation. Henry said that they pay attention to applicants' community involvement and their grades, not just the fact that they want to play basketball.

Hoops promotes healthy lifestyle

Henry, who is also the director of student-athlete development at Baylor, said that although the program has continued to grow, their mission has remained unaltered.

"We are still in the business to help the young people of this area," Henry said. "Our mission has not changed since we began in 2002. We have given an opportunity to kids that would like to continue playing the game of basketball."

Henry said his program helps create opportunities for kids to play basketball year-round.

"Central Texas is a baseball-driven area,"

he said. "Football's always been important in Texas. Now, we are able to offer basketball events to kids before, during and after their other seasons."

Game Plan 4 Life and Henry Hoops strive to complete youth development that will enhance the character of each player through commitment and teamwork.

Aaron Kolar, a sophomore at Texas State University, participated in the Henry Hoops program from 2002 until 2006. After he graduated from high school, he remained involved with the program by returning to Waco during the summers to coach the teams.

"Coach Henry offers such a unique view of basketball since he's played for so



Courtesy photo

Keith Cobb soars to the basket for a fast break lay-up at Henry Hoops.

many years," Kolar said. "He takes what he learned during his years of playing and passes it on to his players. The program can improve your life. I've been involved with the program for nearly eight years, and I have seen Coach Henry impact lives."

Kolar said the program not only helps improve players' basketball skills, but it also offers an all-encompassing approach to living healthier lifestyles. Kolar said the eating habits and workouts he learned from Henry have stuck with him, even after finishing the program.

Kolar said Henry possesses a unique passion for each and every one of his players.

"Coach Henry will sit down with you for hours at a time, just talking to you about whatever you want," Kolar said. "He was always available if I had questions. He wants to know what's going on in the players' lives. If you have a problem, he wants to help. He honestly cares about every one of his players."

Participating in Henry Hoops proved worthwhile for Kolar. When he was in high school, he was given the opportunity to play with the Baylor basketball team for a summer with players he admires, such as Twenty Carter. He also received a student-athlete grant from Texas State.

"Henry Hoops and Game Plan 4 Life are programs that teach you much more

than just basketball," Kolar said. "Every player involved knows this."

Everyone benefits, not just students

While the players experience growth from participating in Henry Hoops, the coaches feel the same way, too.

Baylor Barbee, who graduated from Baylor in 2006 with a master's degree in sports management, was a fellow classmate of Henry's during their master's program. Henry informed Barbee of his work with Game Plan 4 Life. Barbee was looking for an internship before graduation, and Henry Hoops was the perfect fit.

Barbee's internship involved coaching, directing camps and clinics and traveling with the competing teams.

The fact that the players are able to play against teams from all over the state, he said, is the best preparation for their futures.

"It gives kids the opportunities to compete against players of higher levels of competition. This way, they're able to prepare themselves for their future basketball careers, where they'll play against players from across the state and country, not just from Central Texas," Barbee said.

Barbee also said he enjoyed working with the players who received scholarships, because he felt they showed a great sense of appreciation and motivation.

BEAR BRIEFS

The Division of Student Life is sponsoring a Careers in Student Affairs workshop panel from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. today in the Alexander Reading Room. Please RSVP to Ronda_Kruse@baylor.edu.

Minority Association of Pre-Health Students MCAT Auction is at 6 p.m. today in E125 Baylor Sciences Building. Various items will be available for purchase to raise money for the winter semi-formal.

Gamma Alpha Omega is hosting a Q&A session with Anthony Pena, Central-Texas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce representative, to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. The event is at 7:30 p.m. today in the Cowden Room in the Bill Daniel Student Center.

61-Voice ensemble a cappella choir led by director of choral activities Donald Bailey is at 7:30 p.m. today in Jones Concert Hall at the Glennis McCrary Music Building. The event is free and open to the public.

Baylor Dining and Facility Services survey ends Friday. Students who take the survey will be randomly selected to win a video iPod and two iTunes gift certificates. The online survey is available at www.college-survey.com/baylor and will take eight to 10 minutes to complete. Answers are confidential.

Freshman Frontier tickets are on sale today at the ticket office of the Bill Daniel Student Center. The costume party is put on by the Freshman Leadership Organization and is from 8 to 11 p.m. Saturday.

Hispanic Heritage Month Banquet tickets are \$10 and on sale today in the ticket office of the Bill Daniel Student Center. The Hispanic Student Association in conjunction with Multicultural Activities will host the banquet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Barfield Drawing Room. Dinner will be served. For more information contact Taryn_Ozuna@baylor.edu.

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

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Microsoft, Google compete for attention, stock in Facebook

By Michael Liedtke
The Associate Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Rapidly rising Internet star Facebook Inc. has sold a 1.6 percent stake to Microsoft Corp. for \$240 million, spurning a competing offer from online search leader Google Inc.

The deal announced Wednesday after several weeks of negotiation values Palo Alto-based Facebook at \$15 billion — less than four years after Mark Zuckerberg started the online social networking site in his Harvard University dorm room.

Microsoft also will sell Internet ads for Facebook as the site expands outside the United States, broadening an existing marketing relationship that began last year.

Besides validating Zuckerberg's decision to rebuff a \$1 billion takeover offer from Yahoo Inc. last year, Microsoft's money should be more than enough to pay for Facebook's ambitious expansion plans until the privately held company goes public.

Zuckerberg, 23, has indicated he would like to hold off on an initial public offering for at least two more years. In the meantime, Facebook hopes to become an advertising magnet by substantially increasing its current audience of nearly 50 million active users, who connect with friends on the site through messaging, photo-sharing and other tools.

The Facebook investment represents a coup for Microsoft because it provides the world's

largest software maker with a toehold on one of the Internet's hottest platforms and a potentially lucrative forum for selling online ads.

Redmond, Wash.-based Microsoft has been trying to become a bigger force in Internet advertising for several years, only to watch Google deepen its dominance of the space.

In its fiscal year ending in June, Microsoft's online ad revenue rose 21 percent to \$1.84 billion. Over the same period, Google's ad revenue totaled \$13.3 billion.

With the Facebook investment, Microsoft dealt a rare setback to Google, which had previously trumped its bitter rival in earlier bidding battles involving AOL and Internet ad service DoubleClick Inc.

"Making this investment ... is a great win for not only for our two companies, but also our collective users and advertisers," Kevin Johnson, president of Microsoft's platforms and services division, said in a statement.

The coup shows Microsoft is getting more savvy about the Internet, said Matt Rosoff, an analyst for the research group Directions on Microsoft. "I think they understand it now and they're proceeding correctly. Two years ago, I would have said they don't get it at all."

Tim Armstrong, who oversees Google's North American advertising, declined to comment on the Facebook negotiations during a meeting held with analysts Wednesday at the company's Mountain View headquarters.

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Baylor leaders bound to hone skills in classroom

By Kimi Willingham
Reporter

New Student Programs will implement a new leadership development class in the spring of 2008 for all students chosen as BaylorBound leaders.

The BaylorBound leadership position is a summer-long commitment that runs from early June through early August with two weeks vacation.

Over the summer BaylorBound staff aids New Student Programs with orientation and Baylor Line camps.

Elisa Dunman, director of New Student Programs, said she believes the new class will create a bond among BaylorBound leaders before the summer begins.

“This year we are excited about having the leadership development class as a way for the group to come together during the spring,” Dunman said.

The goal of the class is to prepare students who are placed in positions of leadership and to better equip them with the strategies needed when dealing with people.

According to the course



Courtesy photo

Kala Woodbridge (front) enthusiastically leads incoming students in chants and cheers last summer during Baylor Line Camp.

description online, the class focuses on topics such as philosophy of leadership, the role of

power and authority in leadership and goal setting for leadership development.

In addition to helping New Student Programs with orientation and camps, BaylorBound

leaders also help train Welcome Week leaders.

Colleyville senior Brad Underwood served as a Welcome Week leader in the summer of 2006.

He said BaylorBound leaders taught Welcome Week leaders icebreaker games and emphasized maintaining relationships with their group of students throughout the school year.

Underwood said the leadership class is a good idea, but the believes experience is key when learning leadership techniques.

“You learn leadership through experience,” he said.

Devine senior Johnna McGill served as BaylorBound leader in the summer of 2006 and said she would have loved to have the opportunity to take this leadership class.

She suggested that the position of a BaylorBound leader is centered on student relationships.

“The best BaylorBound leader is willing to represent Baylor and serve students,” she said.

Dunman said he believes learning leadership techniques are vital when working with others, especially in a college setting.

“The summer will then become an incredible opportunity to put their learning into practice,” Dunman said.

When selecting potential candidates for BaylorBound staff, New Student Programs staff looks for all types of personalities, Dunman said.

Hurst junior Julia Johnson served as a BaylorBound leader in the summer of 2006. She said she learned a lot about herself and others through the experience.

“I learned we could accomplish more than we thought possible as long as we supported one another,” Johnson said.

The leadership development class, she said, will unite BaylorBound leaders, not only with positive people management skills, but because they will be “starting from the ground floor and working up together.”

There will be an interest meeting at 4 p.m. today in the Gold Room of the Bill Daniel Student Center for students interested in applying to be a BaylorBound leader this summer.

Applications are available at www.baylor.edu/baylorbound/ apply. The deadline to apply is Nov. 9.

For Waco’s homeless, Friday Morning Breakfast is served

By Alyson Martin
Contributor

Crawling out of bed before sunrise is typically not on the agenda of most college students.

However, several Baylor students are kicking off their covers before 6 a.m. on Fridays to cook and serve breakfast for homeless people.

These students are taking the early morning initiative to make sure the less fortunate begin their day with the most important meal every Friday.

Mission Waco has involved First Lutheran Church in this event to provide a filling meal for the homeless and to allow students to engage in more than community service.

Students and members from several organizations around campus participate to earn service hours or to just to give something back to the Waco community.

“I usually attend the breakfast to receive service credit hours for my sorority, but once I am there, that is the last thing on my mind,” said Pasadena junior Lyndsey Arce. “This is the best type of service to me because it comes straight from your heart.”

Every week there are an estimated 80 to 100 people of all ages that gather for each Friday Morning Breakfast at First Lutheran.

Seats fill up quickly in the cafeteria, but students make sure every person gets at least

one plate.

The students are asked to bring various traditional breakfast items to cook for the guests. Precooked sausage links, warm biscuits, gallons of orange juice and dozens of eggs are typically piled up in extra-large quantities to prepare for the breakfast.

Students try to hold their yawns and shake the sleepiness off when arriving in the morning. Eyes are met with a few homeless when walking up to the church doors. This is their signal to get to work and get cooking.

“The potential effort it takes getting to the church is kind of a chore, but once I am there it ends up being the best part of my week,” said Houston junior Bianca Esquivela. “I love being

in the kitchen cooking, and it especially makes me happy to know that I made someone’s day by just making them breakfast.”

By 7 a.m. the kitchen is stacked with all kinds of breakfast food. A group of students usually takes on a particular cooking, baking or cleaning task to ensure that the breakfast runs smoothly.

The ovens are surrounded by multiple baking trays and students placing biscuits and sausages into orderly cooking positions.

Other students stand by the stove scrambling dozens of eggs in huge black skilletes. Everybody is busy.

By this time, numerous homeless people have let themselves through the church doors. The

food is in the oven and the students and breakfast guests have time to talk to one another. Friday Morning Breakfast not only provides a hot meal, but also allows people to have conversations they may not experience on a daily basis.

“I have been doing this for nine years and am so proud that my church said yes to Friday Morning Breakfast,” said Terri Holtkamp of The Homeless Board Association. “It puts a smile on these people’s faces and gives them a chance to talk to the students and with each other.”

Right before breakfast is served, a prayer is conducted hand-in-hand in a circle with both the students and the homeless people.

Then the students break off and begin to serve each person a plate of food. Friday Morning Breakfast concludes with many thankful “goodbyes” and full stomachs for those who appreciate it the most.

They can start out their day with a good meal, and the students will not be late to their first Friday morning class.

“Friday Morning Breakfast seems like a really good experience for those who don’t either have time for the poverty simulation or extensive community service hours,” said Lewisville junior Jennifer Quider. “I could definitely see myself becoming interested in a program like this one because the feedback is far greater than any other average organization.”

Wildfire damages reach \$1 billion

By Gillian Flaccus
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — The devastating wildfires in Southern California have caused at least \$1 billion in damage in San Diego County alone, officials said Wednesday, as easing wind gave firefighters hope that they could begin to gain ground against the flames.

Authorities were investigating arson as a possible cause of at least one of the wildfires. FBI evidence response teams recovered materials they hoped would identify the source of the fires that have burned for four days.

The FBI said a house was not searched, correcting earlier reports from a law enforcement official.

Richard Kolko, an FBI spokesman in Washington, said the evidence response teams “have been working with other federal, state and local authorities” to identify the source of the fires.

The fires have destroyed 1,500 homes and caused at least a half-million people to flee — the largest evacuation in state history.

At least 1,200 of the damaged homes were in San Diego County, and officials believe that number will rise.

“Clearly, this is going to be a \$1 billion or more disaster,” Ron Lane, San Diego County’s director of emergency services, told reporters during a news conference.

Bush plans to visit the state today.

FIRE from page 1

And then you turn around and the house is demolished,” Fowler said.

“My mom handed me a tiny porcelain pig that had made it. I don’t even recognize it, but it healed a little piece of me,” Fowler said. “It is so evident that God knows what you need, and the means of getting your feet on the ground.”

The Fowlers also made it out with Mrs. Fowler’s car, a porcelain cup that made it through an earthquake, charred remnants of their porcelain doll collection, door knobs and wire hangers.

“It has been unbelievably remarkable how God can shine through a dark situation. And for other people searching in the darkness, hopefully they can look at our family and be like, ‘They have peace. I want that peace,’” Fowler said.

Fowler is missing classes this week and next week to be with her family.

“I want to thank my teachers. They have been nothing but supportive,” Fowler said.

Fowler’s fiancé, San Diego senior Brian Ozols’ home was spared in the inferno.

“Brian was just devastated for me,” Fowler said. “When the people you love hurt, you hurt too.”

Former Baylor student and San Diego native Kevin Huang had a close call with the fires.

“My whole back yard was on fire,” Huang said. The

houses down the road on the cul de sac were demolished, Huang said.

“My parents woke up, grabbed some stuff and left,” Huang said.

The Huangs made it out with passports, pictures and IDs. Although the Huangs are not certain, they believe their house made it through the inferno. The Huangs are staying with a family member in the area.

An uncle drove as far as he could and asked a police officer if the house had made it, and as far as the Huangs know, their house is still standing. Huang said the wind died down just in time for things to burn out.

“When I got the call yesterday, I was pretty much planning on not having a house,” Huang said. “What are the chances?”

Brawley, Calif., junior Matt Hanks said his family was spared due to several miles of desert that separate them from San Diego proper.

“I actually saw one fire start. I climbed a hill and I got to see them put it out. There have been ones on the hill by my house,” Hanks said.

Hanks said that Brawley hospitals have been flooded with evacuated victims from San Diego. Fowler has experienced firsthand the smoke-blackened sun that the world has seen in pictures.

“God gave us sorrow, and God gives us joy; you’ve got to use both,” Fowler said. “That doesn’t mean it is easy.”

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Emphasis on leadership key for struggling Bears

By Brian Bateman
Sports writer

Inexperience and youth are frequently tossed about in an effort to describe Baylor's Big 12 conference woes.

But a migraine headache, a 48-point loss and a fiery defense look to change that.

Sophomore quarterback Blake Szymanski's assumed concussion — now classified as migraine headaches — took him out of the loss to the University of Kansas on Oct. 13 and led to senior transfer Michael Machen's start Saturday against the University of Texas.

"It's not his first rodeo," offensive coordinator Lee Hays said of Machen. "He's got the confidence and motivation a quarterback needs."

And for Machen, who has played minor league baseball with a Cleveland Indians' farm team, college football with the University of Alabama, Kent State University and now Baylor, not much can rattle him.

"I've seen more stuff than (the other quarterbacks)," Machen said, adding, "I'm not going to down-talk any other guys, but that experience is very valuable in college football."

So when the 26-year-old

found himself listed as the starter against the perennial powerhouse Texas Longhorns, it didn't cause him much concern.

Passing for a touchdown, 231 yards helping to keep the Bears within striking distance until the fourth quarter, Machen calmly led the offense throughout the day.

"Mike Machen actually came out and kind of gave us a motivating speech," defensive end Leon Freeman said. "He brings a lot of confidence to the team. I haven't watched him too much in practice, but he helps out our defense, keeping us off the field."

Last year, Machen had to face nearly the same situation. Stepping in for the injured starter, he had to face No. 20 Virginia Tech University's top-ranked defense.

And variables that far north can cause chaos on the field.

"The weather up there is ridiculous," Machen said. "A couple years ago we played Akron and it was minus-10 degrees outside. That's one of the things I liked when I came here. The weather was nice."

That has given Hays something he hasn't had since Shawn Bell was injured last year — an experienced player on which to



Laurisa Lopez/Lariat staff

Senior defensive lineman Geoff Nelson (57) hangs on to University of Texas quarterback Colt McCoy Saturday in a 31-10 loss. Nelson is credited with 2.5 tackles for loss and 1.5 sacks this season.

rely.

"He knows this is his last shot," Hays said. "Mike's always an option in rain or bad weather conditions. He can wrap his whole hand around my head. He's got a great grip in the rain."

Machen's experience has helped him throughout his career, but he isn't the only experienced player on the team.

Defensive end Leon Freeman is helping to keep the team afloat in the torrid waters of the Big 12.

Against Texas, Freeman wrangled Colt McCoy twice, sacking him on his way to four solo tackles, including three tackles for loss.

And while he's not the loudest leader on the defense, his work on the field is beginning

to speak for him.

"We've kind of been waiting on Leon to play at that level," head coach Guy Morriss said. "I don't think we've seen the best of Leon yet."

Freeman calls himself a "lead-by-example type guy," partially because of his military background.

Serving a six-month tour in Iraq, his combat experience

gives him another type of leadership — fear.

"I think most of the team is scared of Leon," Machen said.

Machen and Freeman might be the most visible leaders on the squad, but many others are doing their part.

Cornerbacks Josh Bell and Alton Widemon have combined for 68 tackles and an interception, while strong safety Brandon Stiggers has 44 tackles, two interceptions and two fumble recoveries including the 60-yard return against Texas.

Defensive end Geoff Nelson, who has taken somewhat of a backseat to Freeman on the defensive line, has 2.5 tackles-for-loss, including 1.5 sacks.

With a 3-5 record, the recent transfusion of leadership will need to pay off quickly if the Bears hope to make a bowl game.

But Morriss hopes the change in leadership will bode well for the Bears, and now.

"I know that all summer long he was like the pied piper with all the young receivers following him around. Even some defensive guys were coming up and congratulating him," Morriss said.

"I think he's got the attention of the entire football team."

Baylor student finds joy, fulfillment in passion for disc golf

By Garrett Turner
Reporter

Tiger Woods. Phil Mickelson. Vijay Singh. But Ryan Weaver? Weaver, a Belton junior, plays golf with a disc rather than a ball.

With a steady arm, his gaze focused and his motion flawless, Weaver throws his disc in one single motion, weaving it through a maze of trees as if the target has a magnetic force pulling it to his desired destination.

After the disc lands right

where Weaver intended, it is as if this spectacular shot is an everyday occurrence in Weaver's game of disc golf.

Golf without a ball might seem hard to imagine, but Weaver enjoys this game every other day at Cameron Park.

"It's a really good way to get away from school and hang out," Weaver said.

To describe Weaver's passion for disc golf as "hanging out" is an understatement according to his roommate Landon Kunde, a Chicago, Ill. junior.

"A passion? It's more like a

lifestyle for him," Kunde said.

Each Innova-brand disc in Weaver's bag of 15 has a specific function.

"They all fly with different speeds and different characteristics," Weaver said. "The sport can get very technical, but for the average player they can go get a disc and just let it fly."

Weaver says disc golf presents many draws. For him, the first benefit is the simplicity of the sport. Even though the game can be technical, anyone can enjoy it with a single disc.

Belton junior Evan Martin

said that before he played disc golf it was intimidating for him.

"After I started playing, I got to experience the simplicity and fun of this game," Martin said.

It's also cheap. Golf today can be very expensive with all the fees involved. In disc golf, discs can be found for as low as \$5.

Another huge benefit for Weaver is the recreational aspect. Weaver says relationships can develop easily through this sport due to the light competitive spirit.

People play against themselves so they won't be wrapped up in the competition. Rather, they focus on trying to improve their own game. With Baylor students spending hours in classrooms or in the library studying, being outside can be a nice change.

"The outdoor draw is huge," Weaver said. "I can take advantage of a beautiful park while playing a sport I love."

Cameron Park provides a nice course where Weaver and his friends spend a lot of their time. Every Wednesday and

Saturday there are local tournaments at Cameron Park.

In fact, the first time Weaver ever played in a tournament at Cameron Park he won \$40 just for doing something he loves.

The best thing disc golf has to offer Weaver is the feeling he gets when he sets up his shot perfectly, he said.

"I love the control of the disk. The flight of the disk is very pure. There are not many better feelings than watching a well-placed shot land in the exact place you want it to," Weaver said.

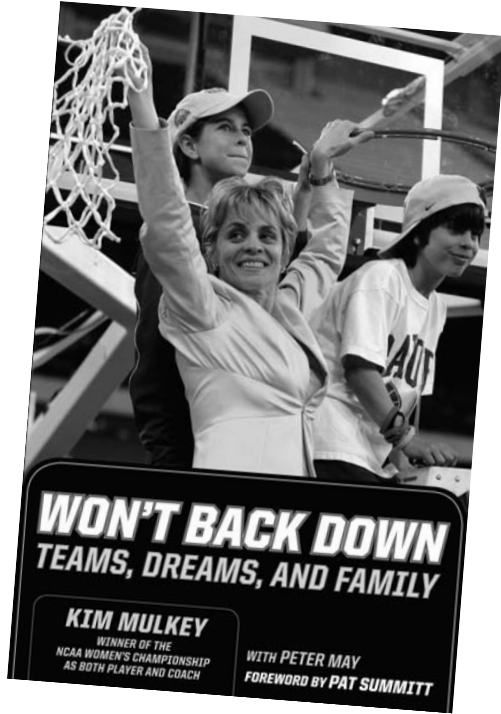


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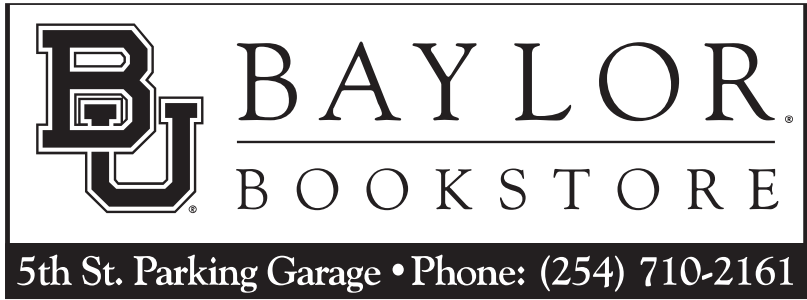
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Soccer offense glad to have Sherrell

By Justin Baer
Sports writer

Mesquite senior Megan Sherrell is a prime example that change can be a good thing. After playing defense for her first three years at Baylor, Sherrell moved to the offensive side of the ball this season to help alleviate the losses of Anna Shuch and Missy McConnell to graduation. With the way Sherrell's season is going, the only bad part about the switch is the four-year starter for Baylor didn't make the move to offense earlier in her college career.

In what has become a common occurrence, Sherrell has elevated her game when her team has needed her the most. In the midst of a six-game winless streak, Sherrell scored three goals last week against the University of Nebraska to propel the Lady Bears (7-8-2) to their first Big 12 conference victory of the season in a 4-1 victory over the Cornhuskers. Tuesday, Sherrell was named the Big 12 Conference Offensive Player of the Week for her hat trick against the Huskers.



Stephanie Jeter/Lariat staff
Senior Megan Sherrell practices Wednesday in preparation for Friday's contest against Texas Tech University, her last at home.

"It's fantastic," head coach George Van Linder said. "She likes to lead by example. She is doing all the things to make herself a great player. "It's a great honor for her, and it took a lot of hard work." On Sept. 16, the Lady Bears

capped off one of their most dismal road trips of the year when they suffered a 3-0 loss at the hands of Long Beach State University. As if losing its second consecutive game was not bad enough, Baylor lost the services of junior forward Amanda McGrath. McGrath, who appeared to be having the similar type of success she had when she exploded onto their scene her freshman year at Baylor, was second on the team with eight points at the time of her injury. After the injury occurred, Sherrell said she knew she would have to step up to make up for the loss of McGrath. And by the way her numbers are looking so far this season, she has done exactly that.

"We have had a lot of injuries, so everyone has to pick it up," Sherrell said. "It's just part of the game. I don't think it was just Amanda getting hurt; we just all know we have to step it up." After Sherrell's offensive explosion last weekend, the West Mesquite High School graduate has now moved in to the top 10 list for goals scored by a Baylor player in a season

with nine. Sherrell leads the Lady Bears with 25 points as well, but with her work ethic, it doesn't come as a surprise to Rose Zapata that Sherrell has helped with the absence of McGrath.

"She is the hardest worker on this team," the Livermore, Calif. senior said. "She has been the one getting all the points, all the assists and creating all the opportunities for everyone else to score.

"So it's obvious she has stepped up and filled that hole."

Friday, Sherrell will step on to the pitch for the final time at Betty Lou Mays Soccer Field when the Lady Bears take on Texas Tech University.

Some are saying she will be remembered as one of the most impactful and aggressive players in the program's young history.

As for Sherrell, she just wants to continue what has gotten her to this point — playing her hardest.

"I am going to go all out, 110 percent. I am going to go down swinging, so it should be fun," Sherrell said.



Laurisa Lopez/Lariat staff
Bailey, Colo., freshman Kristen McGlynn lifts weights with teammates Tuesday at the McLane Student Life Center. The team is competing in the Big 12 Cross Country Championships Friday in Lubbock.

BU cross country preps for finale

By Selena Mejia
Reporter

For the first time in Big 12 history, Texas Tech University will host the Big 12 Cross Country Championships Friday at Rawls Golf Course in Lubbock.

The University of Colorado has dominated the Big 12 for the past 11 years as the Buffaloes have won every title in the men's division since the development of the Big 12. The Lady Buffaloes have captured 11, falling short only to Kansas State in 1998.

The top mens and womens teams are deemed league champions and awarded an automatic bid in the NCAA championship meet. The top 15 individuals in each race are given all-conference honors.

The majority of the men's cross country team are freshmen and sophomores, putting a gulf of experience between the Bears and the rest of the field.

"We're kind of underrated right now," Willis junior Jacob Jones said. "Everyone just sees us as a young team."

This season the men have yet to collectively place at the same meet.

"We've all had good races, just at different moments," Jones said. "We're excited to get out there and do it."

Last season Baylor placed eighth in the Big 12 Cross Country Championships.

Cross country head coach Todd Harbour acknowledged the youth of the men's team but expects them to do well in the

championship. "We are going to compete hard. We expect them to do the very best they can," Harbour said.

Running on a golf course is a team preference according to Harbour because it offers a softer surface and is less strenuous on the legs.

Unlike other sports, cross country's season standings are not taken into account when going into the championship.

"Our season comes down to one opportunity," Harbour said. "This is it. We have to be our best that day."

The women's team, on the other hand, has experience on their side. In past years the Lady Bears have come close to victory but fell just short.

"It's the type of race we're capable of winning," Harbour said.

Running at this particular course is going to be a first for Lyndsy Bedell, but she said it's wide open and has lots of rolling hills.

"We will get to preview the day before," the Plano junior said on the team's opportunity to test out the running surface before the race.

This year's team has a motto of their own — One Heart.

As the girls pass each other on the course during a meet, they throw up their index finger, signaling to their teammate that they are running for one purpose, as a team, as one heart.

"It's not just us, we're part of a bigger picture," Bedell said.

Broosova mops up competition in Lubbock

By Caroline Korsawe
Reporter

Sophomore Lenka Broosova won both the individual and doubles title Tuesday at the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Southwest Regional in Lubbock after defeating teammate Taylor Ormond in straight sets, 6-3, 6-3.

It is Broosova's second individual title and first doubles title of the season.

Together with Baylor's No. 1 singles player, Zuzana Zemenova, Broosova claimed the team's first doubles title in an enthralling and tight race for the crown.

Although they were down three match points, they captured victory with a 9-8 win over Texas Christian University's Macall Harkins and Anna Sydorska.

Zemenova already has several singles titles under her belt, but this was her first doubles title.

"I feel great. It was the first time I won the doubles title. Our victory will enable us to compete at the National Indoor next week," Zemenova said.

Head coach Joey Scrivano was impressed by Zemenova's performance because she hasn't played much doubles.

"I was pleased with the way (Zemenova) played because people don't think of her as a doubles player," Scrivano said.

Broosova said she was especially excited about her doubles title because it caught her by surprise. In the singles competition Broosova was seeded No. 2 and

high expectations abounded. Although the conditions were tough, Broosova said it was an all-around great tournament.

"It was really windy and it was cold every single day," she said. "I was struggling in the beginning and didn't play my best. But my assistant coach helped me.

"She told me it doesn't matter how good you play, but how well you adjust to the conditions."

Not only was this a successful tournament for Broosova, but for the remaining players as well. Baylor women's tennis dominated this year's tournament with four players in the quarterfinals and three players in the semifinals of the singles competition.

"I am really impressed," Broosova said. "We improved so much since the Baylor Invite. The hard work is paying off. This year we were just dominating."

Scrivano said the team's performance was its most impressive of the year. Last year, the team wasn't able to win the singles or doubles title, whereas this year the freshmen made a sizeable impact in victory.

"It really shows what depth we have," Scrivano said. "It was our most impressive performance. Collectively, the team is on the same page. They want to do well as a team. I cannot be happier with their performance."

Scrivano said that although it was a great tournament, the team can't get ahead of themselves because it is still early in the season.

Hamilton, Ontario, freshman



Courtesy photo
Sophomore Lenka Broosova pounds a backhand return during the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's Southwest Regional in Lubbock this week. Broosova swept the competition, winning both the singles and doubles titles.

Taylor Ormond reached her first final for the Bears although she said the windy conditions were unfavorable.

Making her way to the finals, Ormond defeated teammate Karolina Filipiak in the semifinals, who unexpectedly won against nationally ranked No. 19 University of Texas' Vanja Corovic.

Her appearance in the final allows her to participate at the National Indoor. "I am really glad I can go. It's a big deal to

me. I am glad I am going with Lenka and (Zemenova) because they are more experienced," Ormond said.

Baylor women's tennis will continue action next week as Zemenova, Broosova and Ormond travel to the National Indoor in Columbus, Ohio, for the first time, facing 32 of the nation's best nationally ranked players. As a team, women's tennis will compete Nov. 2 at the Palm Springs Desert Classic in Palm Springs, Calif.

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VS. KU

‘Museum’ playwright to participate in Foote festival

Honoree Tina Howe to view Baylor’s production of her play

By Chris Stone Reporter

“When I was a little girl, my mother would say to me, ‘Go to the museum and play,’” said 2007 Horton Foote American Playwrights Festival honoree Tina Howe.

Howe, author of Baylor Theatre’s current production, *Museum*, will participate in an academic symposium, discussion panel and play readings during the festival.

She also will attend today’s performance of *Museum* at 7 p.m.

Howe is the third Horton Foote honoree, selected by a committee which includes past honorees and Baylor faculty members.

Writing about a museum came naturally to Howe, who grew up three blocks from New York City’s Metropolitan Museum of Art.

“As a child, my brother and I would roam around Egyptian

mummies, knights in armor, impressionist paintings, Greek statues and Etruscan marbles,” Howe said.

Howe’s works include *The Art of Dining*, *Painting Churches*, *Coastal Disturbances* and many others, and she’s received honors such as an Obie Award for Distinguished Playwriting and an Outer Critics Circle award.

“She’s been a household name as far as playwrights go for over 30 years,” said Sherri Ward, Horton Foote festival coordinator.

Though her career is chock-full of success, things haven’t always been easy for Howe. She attended private girls’ schools, and Howe said she never made the connection between homework and class work.

“I was always a very bad student because I was a dreamer and I was a class clown,” she said. “I never paid attention (in

class) and I never knew that I was supposed to do anything once I left.”

A self-described bad test-taker, Howe said she applied to 14 colleges and only got into one — Bucknell University, where she stayed for two years.

“I transferred to Sara Lawrence College, which saved my life,” she said. “Sara Lawrence is a very artsy school.”

It was at Sara Lawrence where Howe wrote her first play.

She began writing the play in frustration, while having trouble with a short story assignment from her creative writing class.

“I would get so tied up in the language that I couldn’t get to the story,” she said. “If you write a play, you don’t have to describe anything. It was so liberating. So much of playwriting is what you don’t say — it’s what you leave out that is the best.”

Howe studied French and went to Paris for summer student programs while in school. After graduation, Howe moved to Paris to live for a year.

“I loved writing and I loved literature, but I also loved France,” Howe said. “I didn’t really learn much in college. I think my real education happened that year

when I lived in Paris.”

While in Paris, Howe saw *The Bald Soprano* and *The Lesson*, by the famous playwright Eugene Ionesco, which she said changed her life.

“They were so eccentric, so original, so hilarious and so familiar to me,” she said.

Howe also began work on her first full-length play while in Paris. She said many of her characters are drawn from her own experience, both real and imaginary.

Howe said her favorite character is Elizabeth Barrow Colt from *The Art of Dining*.

In one scene, Colt, a writer, goes to dinner with a publisher and nervously spills one bowl of soup on her dress, then drops lipstick in another bowl.

Colt is also near-sighted and frequently borrows someone else’s glasses, but ends up crawling on her hands and knees to the kitchen, which she mistook for the ladies’ room.

“It’s this completely comic, absurd view of the woman as an artist,” Howe said. “She is based very much on me. She’s always been my favorite character because she’s such a mess and she’s so funny.”

Howe said when people wonder where her ideas come from, she tells them they are all true, but they also are all made up.

Howe said she often draws from real experiences, yet her work is not autobiographical.

“With *Museum*, I knew I wanted to write a play in a very unlikely setting,” she said. “I chose the museum because nothing happens in a museum, and I thought if I can make a museum dramatic, then that will be a real achievement.”

Waco sophomore Hayley Rainer, assistant stage manager for Baylor’s production of *Museum*, said knowing Howe will be watching the production is a little nerve-racking.

“For the most part, I’m just excited,” Rainer said. “I think it will be really good to have her see it and then give us feedback.”

Howe’s award-winning career as a playwright has earned her positions teaching graduate classes at Hunter College, though she never earned a master’s degree.

She said everything she learned about playwriting has been self-taught. Howe also said she writes every day from 9:30

a.m. to 3 p.m., but only works on one play at a time.

“What we need more than anything is a place to practice our work,” she said.

Howe advises her graduate students (and anyone with a passion for theatre arts) to begin where they are, banding together with peers and community.

Howe said she didn’t start at the top though.

“So many of the jobs I had were just jobs to pay the rent,” she said. “The amazing thing about playwriting is that you get to embroider your fantasies and rewrite your actual history. It’s the most astonishing way of making a living.”

Ward said there were still a few tickets available for Thursday’s performance of *Museum*.

“It’s a rare opportunity for someone to sit in a play with the playwright present,” Ward said.

She also said it was Howe’s idea to see a student production of her play.

She said festival honorees usually see professional productions of their work.

Ward said Howe has been “an ideal honoree because she’s been so enthusiastic about coming here and about sharing with

FESTIVAL from page 1

The festival organizers chose plays for the readings based on their representation of the honoree’s work, Denman said. To choose an honoree each year, the festival organizers confer with past guests, Denman said. This year they spoke with Horton Foote and 2005 honoree Romulus Linney, in addition to using their own knowledge of contemporary writers.

The organizers ultimately chose Howe, Denman said, because they try to maintain variety in the festival’s honorees. Considering the first festival in 2004 honored Horton Foote, Denman said it became a “regional festival, with a regional audience and a regional playwright.”

Linney, the festival’s second honoree, is from Appalachia and his plays often focus on that region, Denman said. Linney’s *Heathen Valley*, though still a regional play, differed from Foote’s plays.

“It was not quite as folksy,” Denman said. “He was one step removed.”

Howe is yet another step out. Her plays are less realistic and more “cosmopolitan,” Denman said.

Denman said he and Marion Castleberry, professor of theatre, co-founded the festival. Both wanted to start similar festivals: Castleberry wanted to honor Horton Foote in some way and Denman said he always wanted to have an American playwrights festival.

The first Horton Foote American Playwrights Festival was held in the spring of 2004 and included a professional production of Foote’s play, *The Traveling Lady*. Foote is a Texas playwright who has written for stage, film and television. His awards include two Academy Awards, a Pulitzer Prize, an Emmy and more. He has also been inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame and the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Before starting the festival, Castleberry and Denman met



Laurisa Lopez/Lariat staff

Cast members in Baylor’s production of *Museum* eye a sculpture on the set on Sept. 18.

with Foote to gauge his interest. Foote was interested, said Denman, and knew of Baylor because he was from Texas.

And Foote already had a connection to Baylor because his great-great-grandfather Albert Clinton Horton gave \$5,000 to originally help establish Baylor as a university. He also served on the board of trustees.

Foote agreed to the festival, but had two requirements, Denman said. The first requirement was that Baylor use the festival to foster new playwrights, and the second was to include professional productions of Foote’s work. But for professional productions, Baylor needed an actor’s equity company, Denman said, so The American Actor’s Company was formed.

There was an earlier American Actor’s Company, Denman said, which was founded in 1938 and included Horton Foote.

“We thought that would be a terrific name,” Denman said. With Foote’s blessing, the company chose the same name.

A professional production will be part of the festival this year, though not by the American Actor’s Company. The Slant Theatre Project will perform *The Horton Foote Project*, a special production of Foote’s *Orphan’s Home Cycle*, a collection which consists of nine plays.

Five of the plays were selected to create *The Horton Foote Project: Roots in a Parched Ground, Lily Dale, Courtship, Valentine’s Day and 1918*.

The festival will also include

panel discussions and a Master Class presented by Howe as well as a performance by the Guerilla Troupe. The troupe will perform at 9 and 11 p.m. in Jesse H. Jones Theatre in the Hooper-Schaefer Fine Arts Center. Tickets are \$3.

Their performance will be slightly shorter than usual, but will still include improvisation, comedy games and audience participation, said Austin senior Michael Summers, who is a member of the Troupe and a theatre major. Summers also plans to attend festival events. He said many theatre classes will be canceled to allow students to attend events.

With Tina Howe in attendance, Summers said he was excited about the Festival.

“To be able to ask her questions about the show that you wouldn’t usually get to ask is a really cool experience,” he said.

Panel discussions will focus on aspects of the plays of both Howe and Foote. Other topics include “Power and Identity in American Playmaking” and “No Business like American Show Business.”

All daytime events on Thursday and Friday are open to faculty, staff and students for free.

Museum will be performed at 7 p.m. today and 7:30 p.m. Saturday. *The Horton Foote Project* will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Friday and 3 p.m. Saturday.

Tickets are \$15, or \$10 with a student ID, and can be purchased at the Hooper-Schaefer Fine Arts Center box office.



TODAY

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 9:30 - 10:45 a.m. | Academic Symposium — Session I
“Horton Foote Pannel” |
| 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. | Academic Symposium — Session II
“Hearing American Voices” |
| 2 - 3:30 p.m. | Reading — Painting Churches (Jones Theatre) |
| 3:45 - 4:35 p.m. | Academic Symposium — Session III
“Power and Identity in American Playmaking” |
| 7 p.m. | Performance of Museum (Mabee Theatre) *Admission charge* |

FRIDAY

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 9 - 9:50 a.m. | Academic Symposium — Session IV
“No Business Like American Show Business” |
| 10 - 10:50 a.m. | Reading — Birth and Afterbirth, Act I (Jones Theatre) |
| 11 - 11:20 a.m. | Reading — Divine Fallacy (Jones Theatre) |
| 1 - 1:50 p.m. | Academic Symposium - Session V
“Staging Modern America” |
| 2 - 3:15 p.m. | Academic Symposium — Session VI
“Dark Play: Perspectives on Tina Howe’s Dramaturgy” |
| 3:30 - 5 p.m. | A Conversation with Tina Howe and Crystal Brian |
| 7:30 p.m. | Performance of Horton Foote Project (Theatre 11) *Admission charge* |
| 9 p.m. | Guerilla Troupe Performance (Jones Theatre) *Admission charge* |

SATURDAY

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1:00 - 2:15 p.m. | Academic Symposium — Session VII
“Staging Post-Modern America” |
| 3:00 p.m. | Performance of Horton Foote Project (Theatre 11) *Admission charge* |
| 7:30 p.m. | Performance of Museum (Mabee Theatre) *Admission charge* |

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Court may eliminate appeal delays

AUSTIN — The state’s highest criminal court should accept all death penalty filings by e-mail to help eliminate potentially deadly administrative delays, hundreds of the state’s top defense attorneys said Wednesday in a petition asking that the Court of Criminal Appeals change its rules.

The Texas court is one of the few in the nation that does not accept filings electronically.

Calls to the court were not

immediately returned to The Associated Press.

The request comes after presiding Judge Sharon Keller refused to allow the court to stay open past 5 p.m., even though attorneys for death row inmate Michael Richard had called and asked for an extra 20 minutes to get their appeal to the court offices.

While other judges on the nine-member court waited after hours in anticipation of the appeal,

Richard’s attorneys were hit with computer problems as they prepared an appeal in response to a U.S. Supreme Court announcement that they would review the constitutionality of lethal injection. Their appeal never got to the court and Richard was executed hours later.

“E-filing is just a small step to address our massively dysfunctional death penalty system,” said Austin attorney Chuck Herring.

REPORT from page 1

power once the contract begins in July 2008. Baylor’s investment brings wind-generated electricity to the Texas power grid from which Baylor draws. Without this Baylor investment, some of that power would have been created by non-renewable fuel.

Baylor received a B in transportation, a new category on the sustainability report card this year. Stovall said Baylor is doing well in transportation because “we use ultra-low sulfur diesel for our shuttle services and electrical vehicles for our physical plant.” Baylor also has a high number of bicycle racks and a campus designed for cyclists and pedestrians.

“These issues are important to the administration, especially President Lilley,” Baylor’s vice president for information technology and dean of libraries Pattie Orr said.

Orr heads a group on campus that recently began addressing the improvement of sustainability of Baylor’s campus. Orr said many people across campus wanted to improve sustainability, but a united campus wide effort didn’t previously exist.

One of the first things Orr noticed upon arriving at Baylor last summer was the absence of duplex printing. Once Baylor researched the costs associated with duplex printing, duplexers were put on all printers in the library.

“It makes a huge difference,” Orr said.

Baylor has already exceeded its conservation predictions by saving 319,000 pages this year by switching to duplex printing.

While Baylor’s transition to

duplex printing improves sustainability, Baylor doesn’t currently use paper with recycled content. Orr hopes to begin using partially recycled paper even though the costs are higher.

Baylor’s sustainability committee, headed by Orr, contains student-body president Travis Plummer and representatives from all administrative areas on campus, including Faculty Senate, dining services, the student-run Environmental Concerns Organization, staff council and custodial services.

The group’s first meeting was last week, and members shared their current sustainability initiatives and barriers they face in improving Baylor’s sustainability.

Orr said the committee will meet regularly and formulate a plan on how to advance Baylor’s sustainability.

“Having a structure like this and being able to talk to one another’s really going to improve things.”

While Baylor received a D in the green building category, the George W. Truett Theological Seminary is preparing its facilities for LEED-EB certification. LEED certification’s based on a set of criteria dealing with basic energy conservation. Truett Seminary’s making changes to its facilities to increase energy conservation, recycling and handicap accessibility.

Assistant director of Baylor Libraries Beth Tice said Baylor hasn’t previously used LEED standards in the construction of any of its buildings.

Tice said the university wide committee is broken into subgroups that tackle the four specific sustainability issues of communication, recycling, policy and research. The policy committee’s

looking at Baylor’s current sustainability policies and accessing what can be changed.

“The policy right now is to recycle paper and cardboard only. The hope is that we can look at this policy and move toward a more comprehensive plan that includes plastic and aluminum,” Tice said.

This spring, Baylor is participating in Recyclemania, a recycling competition held by Recyclemania.com in which college campuses compete to see which can recycle the most material. Tice said she hopes the competition will excite students and raise sustainability awareness on campus.

IT technology specialist Carl Flynn said the new sustainability committee is moving in the right direction because groups on campus often sponsor events individually to help out, “but there’s been no effort to bring everyone together on this issue.”

Flynn also runs PawPrints and is part of the university wide sustainability committee.

Flynn said Baylor is being more responsible with printing because of new duplexers and WebRelease printing, a conservationist technology.

WebRelease, the portion of PawPrints that requires students to enter their ID and password before printing documents, ensures people pick up their printed items. WebRelease has decreased the piles of excess paper found at printers in the libraries and computer labs.

“If we all work together to set a vision, we can turn this around in a short period of time and have a coherent sustainability effort at Baylor, and that’s what we need to be doing as a Christian university,” Flynn said.

MINORITY from page 1

universities, always has room to grow in the area of diversifying and including more minorities in staff,” Jerry Park, assistant professor of sociology, said. “Compared to schools even five or six years ago, Baylor is still very traditional in figures with staff. In terms of gender, we are pretty well-proportioned, with the national average of about 35 percent women. But when it comes to race, it is a completely different story.”

Using resources from the National Study of Postsecondary Faculty, *US News & World Report* and Baylor Web site statistics, Park said that in the fall of 2006, 92 percent of the staff were white as opposed to the national average of 78 percent three years before.

“Even with this three-year difference, Baylor was still behind in terms of non-white faculty members,” he said. “If we’re comparing ourselves with other research universities of the country, Baylor is substantially lacking.”

In its column, the American Historical Association intended to guide the practices of administrators in universities when dealing with minority faculty members in all departments, not just history.

The next generation of college students will increase significantly in minority ratio, while the number of non-white faculty is projected to shrink. The decreasing number makes the task of recruiting graduate students of color even trickier.

“There may be some important relationship that these statistics might suggest for Baylor,” Park said. “If the 8 percent of African-American students only see 2 percent of their faculty as the same race as they are, it may discourage them from going on to get their Ph.D.s in their chosen field of study.”

Often, the needs of the community that minority students come from may contribute to their decision to continue their education, especially those of the African-American background, Park said.

“My suspicion is that there may not be an obvious reason for an African-American to get, say, a Ph.D. in physics, because they don’t see any direct correlation with how they can take that back and help their community,” Park said. “There are social problems in the community that they would probably like to address, and a lot of Ph.D.s are in areas that aren’t seen as being able to help them directly give back.”

Possibly more impacting than the social problems of various communities is the fact that teenagers still very much employ the use of role models in decisions regarding their future, Park said. “I am totally in the camp that argues that role modeling is of the utmost importance,” Park said. “Race is still an important identifier in America, and it definitely makes a big difference as far as encouraging teenagers to apply to college and go on to earn a Ph.D.”

Students agree that a small number of minority faculty members contributes to the reluctant attitude often associated with minority students and higher education.

“Just by being here for so long, I’ve seen how, as students, we form cliques with people that look just like us,” San Antonio senior Bryant Livingston said. “We feel more comfortable that way. So it makes sense that if we had more minority staff then minority students would feel more at ease.”

The problem of fewer and fewer minorities receiving Ph.D.s begins as early as the application process for undergraduate studies.

Many universities have Early Action decisions that allow prospective students to apply as early as the summer before their senior year. Park said that these decisions might be detrimental to minority students.

“Some of these kids may be coming from unprivileged backgrounds and are more reluctant to put their chips in at the beginning and say they definitely want to go to college,” he said. “They’ll be more likely to play it safe and wait until they know they can get financial aid. But if colleges have already made these Early Action decisions, they are leaving out a large chunk of the student population who are probably minorities.”

In response to recent legislation discouraging universities from specifically targeting minority students for recruit through financial aid policies, associate professor of history Dr. Keith Francis said universities should take other proactive steps to create a campus open to promoting diversity.

“You have to provide a larger number of scholarships because money is the problem,” he said. “You’ve also got to have events that make minorities feel at home, whether it’s by the implementation of fraternities and sororities, or the recognition of events like Black History Month. It’s not very difficult or stunningly hard, but it is absolutely necessary.”

Though it has some way to go, Francis said, Baylor is making progress. The academic support the Paul L. Foster Student Success Center for Success provides is a key component that will help keep minority students in universities once they are here. As for the staff, he said, administrators are well aware of the problem.

“If Baylor is serious about 2012, and I do believe that administration is, then it will have to recruit more minority faculty,” Francis said. “No one will take us seriously with the low numbers we have now.”

Arlington freshman Kelly Bernard said that along with making the number minority faculty more proportionate to the national average, Baylor should work toward becoming a culturally attractive campus.

“Our campus is working on having events that are guided toward different cultures,” she said. “At the same time, though, we should work on unifying the cultures so we won’t be so separated.”

Taylor Branch is the author of the best-selling trilogy *America in the King Years*, detailing the leadership of Martin Luther King, Jr. in the American Civil Rights movement. The first volume, *Parting the Waters: America in the King Years, 1954-63*, won the Pulitzer Prize for History and was a Finalist for the National Book Award. Volumes two and three, *Pillar of Fire: America in the King Years, 1963-65* and *At Canaan’s Edge: America in the King Years, 1965-68* document the later years of King’s life, including his enduring commitment to nonviolence and his assassination in 1968.

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