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THE BAYLOR LARIAT

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2008

Debate heats up Austin

Democratic candidates duked it out Thursday with no clear winner

By Claire St. Amant
City editor

AUSTIN — In the lone debate in the lone star state, democratic presidential candidates Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., and Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., chose to emphasize their similarities rather than their differences.

The tone of the debate was markedly amicable. Despite weeks of critical comments from both candidates, the harshest

criticisms were reserved for the Bush administration. Obama and Clinton were quick to point out contrasts between themselves and Bush, highlighting diplomatic policies and immigration reform.

“The Bush administration has done so much damage to American foreign relations,” Obama said, referencing Bush’s refusal to meet with leaders of America’s “enemies.”

In one of the few contrasts of the debate, Clinton said she would have preconditions in order to meet with Raul Castro, the proposed successor to Fidel Castro in Cuba, while Obama said he would meet without

them.

The candidates found common ground, though, on the need to open lines of communication with Cuba and other countries such as Iran and North Korea.

“I do think we should be eliminating the (foreign) policy of the Bush administration, which has been very narrowly defined, and frankly against our interests, because we have failed to reach out to countries,” Clinton said.

Clinton spoke passionately and enthusiastically, not at all appearing as a candidate, as

CNN senior political analyst Bill Schneider said, at what could be her “end game.”

Super delegate Senfronia Thompson, a Texas state representative and pledged Clinton supporter, said Clinton showed “significant improvement” from past debates.

“This time around she showed a lot of passion,” Thompson said. “It was 180 degrees different than her past performances.”

In a turning point in the debate, CNN moderator John King, effectively called the candidates out for such civility in the wake of a heated fight for the

Please see **DEBATE**, page 5



Associated Press

Democratic presidential hopeful, Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., looks on as Democratic presidential hopeful, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., responds to a question Thursday during a Democratic presidential debate in Austin.



David Poe/Lariat staff

Busting a move

KOT performs “From the Bayou to the Big Easy” Thursday as part of All-University Sing in Waco Hall. Sing performances are held at 6:30 p.m. today, Saturday and Sunday, as well as Feb. 28 through March 1 in Waco Hall. For in-depth Sing coverage, see page 6.

Bears need win against No. 22 K-State

Saturday’s contest could sway decision for NCAA tournament selection committee

By Will Parchman
Sports editor

Men’s basketball head coach Scott Drew doesn’t have many answers for Baylor’s current slide, but he knows things have to change — and fast.

With Baylor falling quickly in the Big 12 standings — they now straddle the top and bottom halves at No. 6 — Baylor’s margin for error has been completely eliminated.

Sitting at 17-8 and 5-6 in the Big 12, every Baylor game becomes a precious audition

tape for the NCAA Tournament’s selection committee. Absorbing a fifth straight loss could sink Baylor’s once-lofty post-season hopes for good.

“It’s good to know the big picture ... and the importance of each game, but at the same time, every game — and right now there’s only five of them left — they’re all huge,” Drew said.

That makes Baylor’s home match-up with No. 22 Kansas State University (18-7, 8-3) at 7 p.m. Saturday the most critical of the season thus far.

A loss Saturday could sink the Bears deeper in the Big 12 standings and loosen their grip on a spot in the Big 12’s top six, the perceived cut-off point for the NCAA Tournament.

“Not all of that is just attrib-

uted to us. You have to give the teams we’re playing credit,” Drew said. “Early in the year some teams missed free throws, they missed shots, and now we’re playing some teams that are making free throws and making tough shots, so I think it’s a two-way street.”

The Bears’ resume was sullied on the road Tuesday night in a heartbreaking 92-91 overtime loss to the University of Oklahoma. Baylor mounted a 12-2 run in the final minutes of regulation to even the game and send it into overtime. Leading by three with seven seconds left, Sooner guard Tony Crocker leaned into an Aaron Bruce challenge, hit the shot and his free throw and

Please see **K-STATE**, page 7



Reserve, La., sophomore guard Twenty Carter brings the ball up the court during the Bears Feb. 16 loss to the University of Texas (82-77).

Alex Song/
Lariat staff

Professors may develop new test for blood-sugar

By Shannon Daily
Staff writer

Two Baylor researchers are literally bleeding for their work.

The two men, Dr. Randall Jean, an associate professor, and Dr. Robert Marks, a distinguished professor, both in the department of electrical and computer engineering, are working to develop a non-invasive test for blood-sugar levels.

But for now the technology is still at its early stages.

To start off the test they’ve developed, the subject places his or her thumb in a small sensor that emits electromagnetic waves. Then, that electromagnetic energy interacts with the subject’s thumb, which changes the way the energy moves through the sensor.

The machine then reads those changes in energy, which, if everything goes according to plan, eventually will lead to the subject being able to read his or her own sugar level.

Melanie McClung, a graduate student in bio-medical engineering who is working on the project, said right now they’re taking actual glucose levels using finger-prick tests and trying to calibrate the machine to get it to match the results.

They’re also working on developing a better sensor and a better machine to read the data, McClung said.

Both Jean and Marks have done the finger-prick tests on themselves multiple times.

The researchers have completed studies to show that this works for a number of different people, Jean said.

“Now we need to verify that this’ll work for anybody,” he said.

The latest test was administered to around 20 subjects and the results came out “very, very well,”

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Jean



Marks

Coach Carter: the use of knowledge is power

By Elizabeth Herring
Reporter

“Let’s get ready to rumble!” the music cheered as Coach Ken Carter entered the banquet, whistle blaring, on the fifth floor of Cashion Academic Center. He threw prizes and gave high-fives to the audience.

“I know what a lot of you are thinking: that’s not Samuel L. Jackson” Carter said as he began

his speech addressed to the 21st Annual Black Heritage Banquet hosted by the Association of Black Students.

The theme of Black Heritage Month has been overcoming obstacles. Houston junior Breia Fisher said she hopes that this event will help students gain some “insight into the importance of celebrating Black Heritage not only today, but all year long.”

Carter spoke about being

involved in life. He said everyone should be on a team that can keep everyone around them accountable. He also talked about the importance of integrity.

Houston senior Ashley Francis said Coach Carter “exemplified overcoming obstacles” and that is why ABS chose him as their speaker.

He told the audience to write down their future plans and goals. “When you write things

down, they’re ten times more likely to come true,” Carter said.

Carter grew up in a small Mississippi town called McComb. He came from a poor family and grew up with only two sets of clothes.

He had to fight for everything he wanted. He wrote down all his goals and aspirations and he accomplished what he set out to

Please see **COACH**, page 5



Coach Ken Carter speaks Thursday on the fifth floor of Cashion Academic Center.

Alex Song/
Lariat staff

State decision may pose threat to study of science

Inside the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills science standards is a provision that requires students to “analyze, review, and critique scientific explanations, including hypotheses and theories, as to their strengths and weaknesses using scientific evidence and information.”

This entirely sensible requirement is in danger from anti-evolutionists on the Texas State Board of Education.

Not content to keep their faith and misgivings with science to themselves, the creationists in charge of Texas students’ education have adopted a new strategy. What is their proposed solution to eradicate evolution from the classroom? More evolution! Well, not exactly.

They want to teach an attenuated, scientifically flawed and troubled theory of evolution, and they will try to sneak their bogus objections and fabricated controversies into the curriculum by hiding behind the “strengths and weaknesses” clause.

To understand why they’re using this approach, it’s useful to look at the history of creationism.

Back in the early 20th century, creationists had an easier time arguing their case. Merely asserting the incompatibility of science and a literal interpretation of the Bible was enough to keep Darwin out of the classroom.

In 1968, the Supreme Court ruled anti-evolution laws uncon-



point of view

BY CODY COBB

stitutional. In 1975, a similar ruling required “equal time” between evolution and creationism in the classroom. To survive, the creationists had to evolve: they stripped overt biblical references from their writings, changed “God” to “Creator” and rebranded themselves Creation Scientists. Their scientific conclusions preceded their biblical views so, they argued, Creation Science can be taught in the classroom.

The Supreme Court ended this ruse in 1987 with *Edwards v. Aguillard*, which correctly identified the religious nature of Creation Science and its inherent violation of the establishment clause.

Around this time, a funny thing happened. A manuscript called *Biology and Origins* received a face-lift. Newly retitled *Of Pandas and People*, the pre-Edwards terminology of “intelligent creator” and “creation” inside were replaced with “intelligent agency” and “intelligent design,” leaving the context unchanged.

This new species of creationism was coined Intelligent Design, but it suffered a humiliating defeat in 2005 when a federal judge ruled the concept was

inherently religious and therefore unsuitable for the classroom. This pressure spurred the growth of a new survival strategy.

Now, instead of teaching the Bible, science derived from the Bible or all the same arguments with fancy new names, today’s creationists have adopted a superficially reasonable position: teach the controversy.

Nothing has changed but the name. The paradigm of creationism has been the same in every guise: evolution cannot possibly explain X, therefore (synonym for God) did it.

The ‘teach the controversy’ plan’s only novelty is the omission of the final clause, but the

goal is the same. After undermining science in the schools, creationists will have no trouble convincing people, “All that stuff science can’t explain? God did it.”

And that’s the present danger we face. The existing standards require students to analyze, review and critique scientific explanations.

The current state board wants to alter the state’s science standards to allow non-scientific critiques of evolution into the classroom.

Their methods and motives are clear. For Texas Christians who respect science and the constitution, now is the time to be outraged.

Cody Cobb is a senior biochemistry major from Spring.

Editorial

Activism making an impact

We all know them: the kid in your math class in the Ron Paul shirt, the girl at work who has a crush on Obama and that guy in your Poli Sci class who just can’t stop talking about John McCain.

You may think, sure, political activism is nice, but does it really make a difference? Does anyone notice?

Apparently the answer to both questions is a resounding yes.

Sen. Barack Obama opened a Waco campaign office last week and Sen. Hillary Clinton is scheduled to follow suit sometime this week. There’s no word on whether any Republican candidates are planning on opening offices, but we can hope.

According to a Feb. 14 story in *The Baylor Lariat*, Obama’s Waco office is one of only 10 offices the campaign will establish nationwide.

You may well ask: Why Waco? According to the same article, Waco appeared on the radar at Obama’s national headquarters due to the large number of political groups around town, both on campus and off.

A representative from Clinton’s campaign told *The Baylor Lariat* Tuesday that the decision to open a field office here had nothing to do with Obama’s campaign office.

Instead, she said the political activity here encouraged voting and this made Waco an important stop on the campaign trail.

That means that our interest and activity in politics, however insignificant it may seem to you, is what caught the interest of not one, but two national candidates.



Whether you like these candidates or not, you should be excited that they’re here. More campaign offices mean more chances for voters to make informed decisions and for students to get involved in the campaigns. At this stage in the election, Texas is shaping up to be an important state. There are 228 Democratic delegates up for grabs, and that means, come election time, it will be a battleground.

For those already interested in politics, these offices offer a good chance to get involved at the ground level. For those not interested already,

maybe it’s time to get excited. This is a chance for your vote to actually make a difference.

If there’s a candidate here you’re excited about, go by their office and get involved.

If no one here interests you, see what you can do to encourage other candidates to bring their offices to Waco. The primary is in two weeks, but it’s not too late.

However, it’s important to remember that all the campaign offices in the world won’t do any good if we don’t actually exercise our right to vote. If

you’re voting by absentee ballot, the county you are registered in must receive your application for a ballot by mail by Feb. 26. There’s still time! If you miss the primary this time around, please vote in the election in November.

After all, when the day is over, a T-shirt is just a T-shirt, no matter whose face is on it. It’s the person wearing the shirt that makes a difference.

Let’s make sure that Baylor’s (and Waco’s) political activism is more than skin deep.

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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, 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 discretion.

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

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Letters to the editor

Guns can aid campus safety

I was shocked and saddened when the news broke last week that a shooter at Northern Illinois University had opened fire and killed five innocent students before taking his own life. The natural reaction should be to do something to make school campuses safer.

While there have been many different proposals made about how to increase safety on school campuses, only one of them will be easy to implement, cost nothing and make a huge impact: allow concealed handgun

licensees to carry their weapons on school premises.

Opponents of such a plan say that more guns on campuses will inevitably lead to more violence, but they are totally disregarding the vital statistics that say otherwise.

Nine universities in the state of Utah and two other universities have allowed concealed carry licensees to carry on campus for a combined 60 semesters and no incidents of gun violence, gun theft or any other gun-related crime have been reported.

According to the *San Antonio*

Express News, concealed carry license holders in the state of Texas are 14 times less likely to commit a crime, a clip that exceeds that law enforcement officers.

The most important viewpoint to understand, however, is that of the criminal. Laws clearly don’t deter criminals because by their very nature they are law-breakers.

The black market for guns is so prevalent in the United States that anyone could obtain a gun and simply bypass every law pertaining to them.

Increasing law enforcement

on school campuses and optimizing emergency response systems could conceivably reduce the death toll, but like at Northern Illinois where a system had been implemented, it will not deter a criminal from opening fire on innocent students.

This is no doubt a controversial issue, but when people stop allowing their emotions to make decisions for them and start looking at real statistics and using logical reasoning, it becomes clear that we need to allow these responsible citizens to do their part to make our campuses safer.

Justin Ersch
Finance, Entrepreneurship & Real Estate, 2008

Evolution taught too often

As a former biology major at Baylor University, I was always a bit uneasy about the rampant evolution taught in my classes.

When anyone would bring up a Christian point of view, it was generally met with a smile and nod and a “yes, some people think that,” but I had only one professor who actually presented a creationist view to the class.

While I understand Baylor’s

position in needing professors to research in the subject they were hired for (the excuse claimed in the Dembski fiasco, which was the most striking incidence of anti-intelligent design policy at Baylor), I’m a little confused as to why a good Southern Baptist university doesn’t seek out individuals specifically for the purpose of researching intelligent design.

I would like to see Baylor’s science departments contribute Christian thought to their disciplines as other departments at Baylor have done.

Helen Hurley
Alumna 2007

The Baylor Lariat

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THE Daily Crossword

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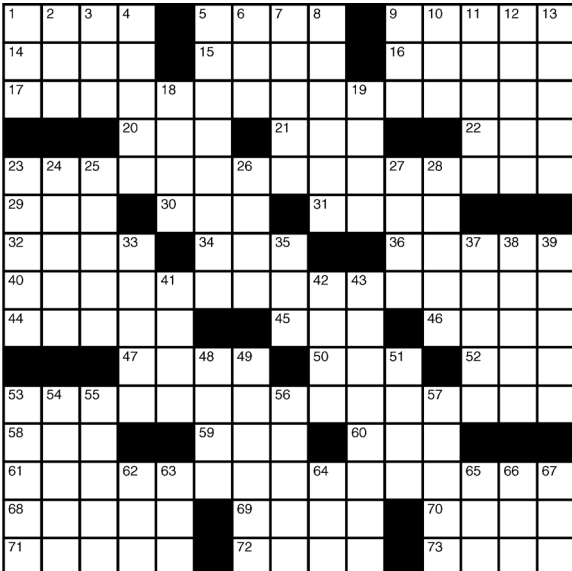
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- Sick and tired
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By Willy A. Wiseman
New York, NY

2/22/08

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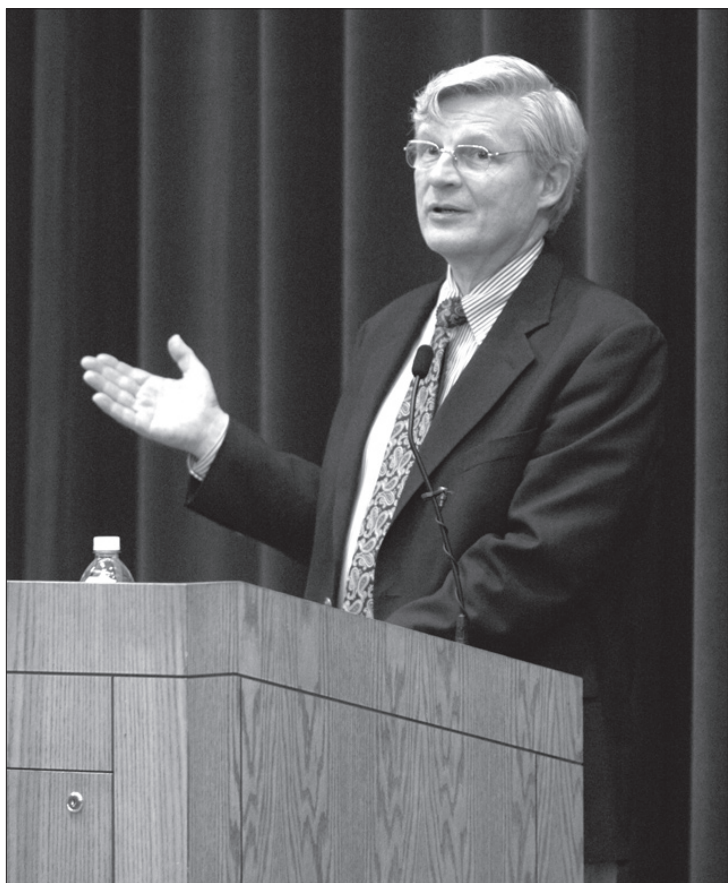
Church and state friends, speaker explains

By Stephen Jablonski
Reporter

The separation of church and state likely conjures notions of a secular government. Peter A. Lillback, president and professor of historical theology at Westminster Theological Seminary, argues that this was not the intention of our forefathers. Lillback lectured February 21 at the SBC Theatre in the Mayborn Museum, presented by the Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion. Lillback addressed the false connotation behind the phrase "separation of church and state," as refined in his book, "Wall of Misconception: Does the Separation of Church and State Mean the Separation of God and Government?" "The problem is that phrase has been picked up and used for constitutional interpretation of the first amendment, (and) that our courts have started to describe the wall as a high and impregnable wall," Lillback said. "Instead of being a wall that separates friends, it's been made a wall of hostility." Lillback said that our founding fathers did not envision a secular government, and that the Constitution itself con-

cludes with the words "in the year of our Lord, 1787." He said he believes this is constitutionally correct. "I'm wanting to argue that a faith-friendly government is permissible in light of our first amendment, even while I recognize our constitution makes it very clear that there should be no test of religion for anyone who fulfills an office," Lillback said. "And that's the balance of a true American pluralism." Dr. Byron Johnson, co-director of the Institute for Studies of Religion and professor of sociology, said this is not a lecture that has typically taken place at Baylor. "The lecture kind of runs counter to the conventional wisdom that has been apart of Baylor for many years," Johnson said. "That doesn't mean that many people at Baylor would disagree. I think that many people would agree with the content ... but I do think that there will still be people at Baylor who won't receive that content very well." Johnson said Baylor University has had "a very vocal history of strict separation." Dr. William H. Bellinger, chairman and professor of the department of religion, upholds this history.

"The separation of church and state is an important principle in Baptist tradition. Some emphasize that church should not dictate to state. I believe that it is at least as important that state not meddle in church life," Bellinger said. "So for the health of both, separation of church and state is essential." Johnson said he hopes Baylor, as an educational institution, will hold more debates that will cause people to think. "We believe it's the role of the university to bring in scholars from all kinds of persuasions and let their voices be heard and then let people debate what these scholars are saying," Johnson said. "It's just the part of being a great university." Lillback said he agrees with the necessity of scholarly discussion. "We can test ideas to see if Christianity is a world view or just a private faith. If it's not a world view, it will not be able to engage other philosophical positions. If it can engage them and demonstrate a coherent, cohesive claim to interpret reality then you're saying it is a philosophical model that belongs in a university; it takes on alternate perspective," Lillback said.



Alex Song/Lariat staff

Peter A. Lillback, president and professor of historical theology at Westminster Theological Seminary spoke Thursday evening about separation of church and state.

Mayborn museum parking to accommodate students

By Sommer Ingram
Staff writer

The senate voted unanimously to pass a parking resolution stating that there should be a designated area for student parking at the Mayborn Museum. Currently, there are only spots for faculty and visitors. Some classes such as Environmental Science require students to travel to the museum, and if they drive then they get fined for parking in the only spots available to them. "People really push exhibits that are over there on campus

but it forces students to walk or park a long distance away and then walk," said Bush Prairie, Wash., junior Chase McVicker. "I think we could get more students over there with student parking spaces." Senate also passed a parking resolution regarding the visitor parking lots and visitor decals on campus. Since signs posted at visitor parking lots don't mandate that a visitor decal is required, many students, and even visitors, park there thinking they don't need a decal and are ticketed. "Every other type of parking says that a decal is required, but visitor's parking does not," said

James Nortey, chief justice of the supreme court. "It's conceivable that students would think they can park there, because administration hasn't made the rules clear. This resolution would help fix that problem." Upperclass students who live off campus often make this mistake, reasoning that since they live off campus and don't have a student decal, the few times they drive to campus they can be considered visitors. Even students who temporarily have a different car are penalized for parking in visitor parking lots without a decal. "My car has a student decal on it, but one time I borrowed

my mom's for the weekend," Pflugerville junior Laura Rivers said. "I parked in visitors parking because in her car, I thought I technically was a visitor. I ended up getting and having to pay for a ticket because I didn't have a decal. No one knows you even need one because it's not advertised anywhere." The support resolution would require that signs at the visitor parking locations indicate that a visitor parking decal is required in order to park there. Senate passed a joint resolution in which they recommended that fax machines be provided for students' use free of charge, and that copy machines

allow for the use of paw prints as well. Student Senate also approved the appointment of Houston freshman Jacob Vonnannon to the external vice president's cabinet at Thursday night's meeting. Senate also unanimously passed a support resolution for the student body of Northern Illinois University in the wake of the recent tragic events on their campus. The resolution sent a message of encouragement and support to the students and faculty members there from the student body of Baylor University.

Nigerian religious conflict topic of speech

Belinda Colunga
Reporter

She found the brutalized bodies of her two children, Dr. Christian van Gorder said. This was the tragic ending of a woman and her family who attempted to escape the bullets flying passed her. The reason? Their religion. "You're fighting for your faith. You fight for the most important thing in your world," he said. van Gorder, an associate professor of world religions, revealed the situation in Nigeria to a group of students Thursday in Drake Academic Building. He spoke in reference to the Muslim and Christian riots that have plagued the poor communities in Nigeria for more than 20 years. "It's important because this situation in Nigeria is difficult ... and the factors that created the deaths are still in place," van Gorder said. According to statistical analysis he presented, more than 100,000 Christians and Mus-

lims have been killed because of religious conflict. Although each group, if asked, will say it's the dominant group, the truth is 50 percent of the people are Muslim and 40 percent are Christian, he said. The other 10 percent are adherents to tribal religions, but the internal war is between the Christians and Muslims, van Gorder said. "Nigeria is an amazing place in terms of religious fervor," van Gorder said. "It's the most religious country in the world." The causes for religious persecution among Christians and Muslims may include historical animosity and political, economic, and social power struggle, van Gorder said. To get a sense of how intense the battles are, van Gorder showed pictures of people fighting with machetes, while another picture illustrated the result of it. A young boy's arm was chopped in half. "As we've seen from developing conflict in the Middle East,

poverty and religious conflict isn't stagnant," San Antonio senior Alex Moorman said. "The people that are dying in Nigeria are human just like you and I, that want to live their lives." Many have already fled the region, van Gorder said. Van Gorder explained the tragic events that took place in the five regions of Nigeria: Kafanchan, Kano, Kaduna, Jos and Yelwa. War among the Nigerian people is prevalent in each of these places. Churches are burned down, people are decapitated or hacked to death with machetes, and then dragged through the streets, he said. In March 1996, Muslims attacked Christians simply for reciting a poem because they believe it's promoting their religion. People are also killed on the spot if they can't recite the Lord's Prayer, he said. While in America beauty contests are seen as a way of honoring young girls and women for their talents and minds, in Jos they're viewed as promoting

"nakedness" and the spreading of AIDS. "It's important for people, like myself, that live such safe, secure lives to be concerned about people less fortunate than ourselves," Moorman said. "He's bringing light to an issue that needs to be addressed by the international community." But the international community has yet to provide some form solution to this situation. "The Nigerian government is trying to keep it internal," van Gorder said. Therefore, religious conflict continues as long as no one does anything about it, not even the Nigerian government, van Gorder said. Many events are kept hidden from the media and many are never reported, he said. "I didn't know very much about Nigeria or how long it had been going on," Dr. George Gawrych, associate professor of history, said. While Nigerians continue fighting for their faith, their life expectancy decreases to 47 years of age, van Gorder said.

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Haley Elmers	BB Sanford
Barb Erben	Emily Saultz
Callie Finkle	Amanda Schneck
Sarah Glover	Hannah Schubert
Danielle Grootemaat	Sarah Shelton
Lauren Guy	Alyssa Tedder
Amy Hause	Megan Tilley
Lindsey Hawkins	Linh Tran
Alex Hefner	Caitlyn Trice
Hilary Hershberger	Ashley Walker
Caitlin Holland	Laura Walters
Laura Howard	Lena Waters
Katey Ison	Ellen Wiech
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