

ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2008

Va. pastor to lead BGCT

By Anabelle Garay
The Associated Press

DALLAS — A Virginia pastor with Texas ties was chosen Tuesday to lead the largest state Baptist convention in the nation.

The Rev. Randel Everett, 58, was elected as the new executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas by a 78-6 vote. The state convention's search committee nominated him after considering 6 to 10 candidates, officials said.

Everett said he wants to continue the good works of the 2.3 million member convention and focus on the needy.

"I want to be an advocate for the poor around the state," said Everett, who grew up in Fort Worth and also earned a doctorate from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth. "We need to go where people are hurting."

Everett said he thrives on the diversity Texas offers, with its various ethnic groups and mix of rural and urban churches.

"I think the Hispanic community is a huge part of who we are as Texas Baptists," Everett said.

Everett is the senior pastor of First Baptist Church in Newport News, Va., and is the former president of the John Leland Center for Theological Studies in Arlington, Va. He served on the staff of churches in Texas, Arkansas, Florida and Virginia.

Search committee members



Associated Press

Randel Everett speaks Tuesday, during the Baptist General Convention of Texas meeting in Farmers Branch, Texas.

ton, Va. He served on the staff of churches in Texas, Arkansas, Florida and Virginia.

Search committee members

Please see **BGCT**, page 10

Lilley meets with Sen. Hutchison in D.C.

Baylor president lobbies for university research funding

By Victoria Mgbemena
Staff writer

President Lilley met with Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, in Washington D.C. Wednesday morning to discuss the university's federal priorities for the 2009 fiscal year.

Lilley, along with chief of staff Karla Leeper and vice provost for research Truell Hyde, sat down with Hutchison at 10:30 a.m. in Hutchi-

son's Washington office on Capitol Hill to discuss the funding needs for the university for the upcoming year.

The meeting was informal and lasted about a half an hour, said Matt Mackowiak, Texas Press Secretary at the U.S. Senate.

"The process is in the very beginning stages at this time," Mackowiak said. "Meetings with members of the delegation occur many times a year. Organizations and entities file appropriations requests that the Senate then votes on. Baylor has set out what they would like to see funded and the subcommittees will go

through a process to figure out what can be funded."

Congress passes 13 appropriations bills per year that grant federal funds to government agencies, organizations and departments pending a review of the President's budget request.

Officials typically meet with members of the delegation to discuss needs on behalf of their respective organization for the upcoming fiscal year that will then be decided upon by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Mackowiak said that the

Please see **LOBBY**, page 10



Associated Press

Democratic presidential hopeful Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., makes remarks during an outdoor rally Wednesday, in San Marcos.

Texans rally behind Democrats

Former president Bill Clinton, husband of presidential candidate Sen. Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., and presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., hold strong rallies in Austin and San Marcos.



Associated Press

Former president Bill Clinton speaks to a crowd of thousands at the University of Texas-Austin Wednesday, where he spoke in support of his wife Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y.'s presidential campaign.

Obama focuses on education, McCain

By Ashley Killough
Reporter

SAN MARCOS — The waves ripple through the crowd. Thousands cheered and chanted. The funky jazz band jammed on the brightly lit stage, while a podium decorated with a Texas flag stood waiting for the star of the show.

"It's like a Barack concert." Brandon Wilcox of New Braunfels said. Country music blared as the tall Illinois senator gracefully took the stage. The energetic audience went wild.

"Y'all do it big in Texas," Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., said. "What an unbelievable crowd."

In Sewell Park on the campus of Texas State University, the crowd was spilling over the banks of the San Marcos River.

"This is nuts," Wilcox said.

Obama called the support his campaign is receiving among young people "unprecedented."

Texas State student Chris Marple said he has been an Obama supporter since the Senator entered the race and he waited an hour and a half to hear him speak.

"It really excites me," he said. "(The crowd) is pretty impressive."

Like people shouting amen at church, Obama's message of "We cannot wait" was

Please see **OBAMA**, page 10

Look for the *Baylor Lariat's* full coverage of former Ark. Gov. and Republican presidential candidate **Mike Huckabee's** visit to Waco today in Thursday's paper and online at www.baylor.edu/lariat.

For more information on all of the presidential candidates and their platforms, see the *Lariat's* website.

Jeff Leslie/*Lariat* Staff

Clinton supports wife, fiscal reform

By Anita Pere
Staff writer

AUSTIN — At a rally Wednesday evening at the University of Texas-Austin, Bill Clinton presented a persuasive argument of support for his wife and presidential candidate, Sen. Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y.

Christine Guedri, a Spanish and Portuguese graduate student, said she thinks Bill's talk may have persuaded democratic voters still torn between Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., and Hillary to cast ballots for Hillary in the Texas primary March 4.

Guedri thought the rally was benefi-

cial for the college community.

"There's been a lot of Obama support. It's been very visible, very vocal, and this is the first time really on campus we've had more support for Hillary," she said.

Bill addressed the crowd of about 20,000 for more than one hour, playing-up Hillary's merits and her heart, which he believes are vested in the right place — the welfare of Americans.

The former president peppered his speech with his stories of personal encounters and metaphors, all included to underscore the wants and needs of the American people, such as universal

Please see **CLINTON**, page 10

Candidates agree policies on immigration must change

By Elizabeth Herring
Reporter

One thing all the presidential candidates agree on is 700 miles of chain-link fencing.

Each candidate views illegal immigration as a crisis that is in need of the \$3 billion boost in border security the Senate voted for in May 2006. But the candidates are vague on how and when this funding is going to change the problems in the ailing immigration system, even if it eventually passes through the House of

Representatives and becomes a law.

"There are a lot of concerns and uncertainty about what the future may bring," said Luis Matias-Cruz, a professor in the Latin American studies department.

Many of the election year proposals are similar, Matias-Cruz said. They all support comprehensive reform on border security.

Matias-Cruz said he believes employers of illegal immigrants should be fined so that they stop encouraging illegal immigration.

Right now there is no policy

to protect the children of parents who are deported, and families are not kept together.

"People live in fear that at any time immigration enforcement will appear in their workplaces and deport them," Matias-Cruz said.

If a candidate or policy could get to the root of illegal immigration, change could occur, he said.

"In Mexico, (trade agreements) are creating sources of marginalization," he said. "They become marginalized when they cannot find a way to live with dignity."

There are "pushing effects" in immigration, which drive a younger Mexican generation to come to the United States so that they can become the people they want to be, Matias-Cruz said.

A plan is needed to support initiatives to improve the Mexican economy, Matias-Cruz said. Many immigrants from Mexico to the United States dream of going back to Mexico one day, he said. The money they earn here



is being sent back to Mexico, to their villages.

Many times the money is sent to better the village, to give them a water well or to rebuild the towns. The money also is sent to feed their families, to keep them clothed and to keep their children in school.

Immigrants send their money back to Mexico in hopes that their villages do not die. They do not want their children to have to risk what they did, Matias-Cruz said.

He said he does not believe that stimulating the manufac-

turing sector in Mexico will do much to help Mexican workers at home. An investment in rural agriculture, he said, would slow the number of illegal immigrants coming to the United States.

Rural farmers cannot compete, under the North American Free Trade Agreement, with large-scale agriculture in the United States.

Sen. Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., wants "reform that respects our immigrant heritage and honors the rule of law," according to her Web site. She wants laws that are

Please see **POLICY**, page 10

Mexico's struggle justified but comes at high cost

Mexico, according to a folk song, is *lindo y querido*. This "lovely and loved" country is probably thought of as such by college students only in the springtime. You've heard of this phenomenon: Mexico as spring break central.

However, there have been a series of groundbreaking political events in Mexico that have sparked a controversy in the past two months. It's my understanding that word on the campus about it is seemingly nonexistent.

Feeling guilty, Bears? Don't. News about Mexico is, unfortunately, a scarce commodity in the States, especially taking into account the recent plethora of articles dealing with the presidential race.

Let's become aware. In mid-

January, Mexican President Felipe Calderón sent the Mexican Federal Military to a number of border towns to eradicate the problem of police corruption and quell relentless drug trafficking into the United States.

Sending the military to patrol the streets as a police force may seem a frightening and extreme act, but I believe it is the single course of action necessary to deal with this colossal problem.

A sense of uneasiness usually arises when I see the words "military force" in a paragraph dealing with policies of a Latin American nation; this region of the world is notorious for military states and guerilla insurrections.

However, I was not uneasy when I heard this news because Mexico is an anomaly.

point of view



BY LUIS NOBLE

Mexico stands apart for three reasons: 1) not once in the near century after the Mexican Revolution has the Mexican Federal Military fought a major battle, 2) the 70-year rule of a single political party was strictly under civilian leadership and 3) the military has continuously diminished in size and power since the revolution.

For a long-standing semi-authoritarian regime turned democracy, remarkable is an understatement.

Calderón made the right move because corruption of the police force in Mexico — specifically in border cities — is an issue that has most likely impeded the success of attempts to prevent drug trafficking.

The previous attempts to crack down on drug traffickers led to the cartels nailing a death list of clean police officials to a church door in Ciudad Juárez. A number of the officials on the list were assassinated in the weeks following the incident.

There is evidence that the new plan is working. In fear for their continuing existence, cartels have begun attacking police and military groups. These attacks have, unfortunately, taken place on the streets of the border cities.

The loss of civilian lives has

created an uproar against Calderón's orders.

Amnesty International has released a public statement against the current circumstances stating that it is not the military's job to fight crime. They're right, it is not a job. It is the military's duty.

There is no other capable or willing organization that can do it. The police force has proven incapable not only because of corruption, but because of a lack of weaponry and training necessary to fight the well-armed drug cartels.

If the federal government in Mexico does not take control of the situation it can easily lead to the creation of a lawless, tyrannical state.

It is apparent that Amnesty International has completely

ignored both the history of the nation's military and the overwhelming corruption plaguing the state with grand, sweeping statements.

Though the civilian deaths which have resulted are tragic, I do not believe that Calderón should have abstained from implementing these orders.

Mexico needs to put an end to its corruption and its production of drugs to be the stable democracy it strives to become. There are absolutely no other options to achieve this goal.

So this spring, give Mexico some thought. It's both *lindo y querido* or it's attempting to be.

Luis Noble is a senior political science major from El Paso and a photographer for The Baylor Lariat.

Editorial

BU right to refuse theater

In theory, when someone is willing to raise funds for a new building on campus, it should be an easy acceptance. However, just as there is no such thing as a free lunch, there is also no such thing as a free building.

In an article in Thursday's issue of *The Baylor Lariat*, alumnus Albert Ratcliff expressed disappointment that his offer to help raise funds for the construction of a new theater on campus was not accepted by President John Lilley.

In a letter to Ratcliff explaining his position, Lilley said the theater, which would be built in honor of former theater director Paul Baker, didn't fit in with the current master plan for campus.

Although Lilley didn't mention this point, the theater would resurrect an old controversy over Baker's exit from the university after the 1962 production of *A Long Day's Journey Into Night*, which included drug use, profanity and sexual content. After then-president Abner McCall shut down production of the play, Baker and other theater faculty members left Baylor in protest.

Part of Ratcliff's proposal for the construction calls for Baker to return to direct the first production, as well as potentially naming the theater after him. While attempting to repair severed alumni relationships is a noble task, in this setting there are more things to consider than hurt feelings and donated funds.

Logistically, land on campus is pretty tight, and the construction of a new theater modeled after the one Baker used in the '60s would in effect mean another building would have to



go. Even though the administration hasn't had a problem with demolishing perfectly good structures in the past, it is sensible that administrators are rethinking that strategy.

The football practice facility, which took over the area previously occupied by an outdoor pool, a soccer complex, and a marina, is progressing slowly and expensively, and not exactly as "free" as was imagined when the funds were donated.

Baylor is not made of money, despite the green and gold we sport.

By constructing a new theater on campus, some unlucky department, team or organization would be homeless. Considering we already have a

School of Social Work that meets in a parking garage and a geology building on the way to replace one that was recently razed, it is safe to say we can't afford another departmental diaspora.

The current theater could use some updating, but Ratcliff's proposal calls for not only reconstruction but relocation.

Lilley has said campus plans to update the theater will not cause it to be moved, thus solving the space problem.

Ratcliff's generosity to Baylor and the theater department is greatly appreciated, but such appreciation doesn't always transfer into action.

There are other factors in this decision that complicate what on the surface sounds like a no-brainer.

Ratcliff's subsequent proposal to the city of Waco and Mayor Virginia DuPuy is a more logical one. Considering the downtown building campaign, it makes perfect sense to place the theater in the area.

Unlike campus, downtown is aching for promising new ventures to get on board with. Unlike campus, downtown has a plethora of space and few barriers to construction.

A location in Waco would not only benefit the city, but it would also create a new reason for students to take a trip across the overpass.

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, 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.

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

Corrections policy

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

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

Letters to the editor

Time teaches political wisdom

Re: the Feb. 27 column "Huckabee owes it to all conservatives to withdraw."

Brad, as a junior history major you are not old enough to realize the history of your comments. Study some political history; discover how critical it is for this process to be about the individual before the party.

Learn how your voice (you

were allowed to have your voice printed for all to read — your opinion and vote counts, even at this late of hour) is significant.

Suppose your history class determined for you that the senior and more popular history major had the final word in a competition.

He and "they" want you to be silent and bow down before the competition is over — simply because it appears you can't pos-

sibly win.

Huckabee is a wise man to show us all how to have self-respect in the face of political posturing and game play. McCain and the Republican party can withstand the conservative call to forthrightness and integrity.

Let's get things in the open light. Special interests, hidden from the public at large, have had their way far too long.

I believe Huckabee has the

character and integrity to finally bring our political and figures to accountability.

Glenn W. Harrell
Gray, GA

Media should keep questioning

Re: the Feb. 26 editorial "Media part of problem in lacrosse case."

Although the media went

hog-wild when the Duke story broke, they've since gone almost somnolent.

Even now there are new revelations about that case, the latest being that university officials apparently knew right from the very start that the charges were false and the accused were innocent — and yet refused to defend them and actually pushed for a trial. Why? Apparently for the sake of Duke's PR and standing

with the community.

Which was more important to the university administration: the students' welfare, or the Duke corporation? That kind of news, if true, calls out for analysis and discussion. And yet the media appears disinterested now that the story is no longer of the tabloid variety.

Randolph Parrish
Scottsdale, Ariz.

The Baylor Lariat

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THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

- Sugar-coated
- Part of a traffic trio
- Algonquian language
- Severity
- First-rate
- Resistance units
- Start of a quip
- Corn holders
- Mild expletive
- Exemplar
- Patella's place
- City in GA
- Lip curlers
- Doc's org.
- Cut with an ax
- Bond foe
- Part 2 of quip
- Clip alternative
- Grant of TV
- Kiddy
- More glacial
- Nomad
- Part 3 of quip
- Andrews movie
- Snakelike fish
- Commercial bits
- Finished putting on, as

DOWN

- Alum
- Former Italian bread
- Not "fer"
- Line dance
- Unit of work
- Dune material
- Lugs
- Readily available
- Kitchen implements
- Domestic pest
- River to the Gulf of Lion
- Fire remnant
- Back-and-forth curves
- Edmonton hockey

player

- To this, that or it
- Give a right
- A way away
- Sushi bar soup
- "The King and I" heroine
- Intelligence
- Ritzy rocks
- Sty dweller
- Gyro bread
- Obscene
- Love god
- Little piggy
- Payments for releases
- CSA commander
- Milk curdler
- Ill-mannered individuals
- Of an arm bone
- Small crown
- Same here
- Taj
- Comment after a close call
- Mongolian desert
- Adam's grandson
- Transmitted
- Links org.

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By Alan P. Olschwang
Huntington Beach, CA

2/28/08

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

Starbucks closes for brief training

By Shannon Daily
Staff Writer

Coffee lovers nationwide were forced to find their favorite beverage somewhere other than Starbucks for a three-hour period on Tuesday.

Howard Schultz, founder and chairman of Starbucks Corporation, had Starbucks nationwide shut their doors for a few short hours so their baristas could take part in an intensive training course to streamline their practices and ideologies.

Edward Jackson, a barista at the Starbucks in Bellmead, said when Howard Schultz took over as president and CEO of the corporation he wasn't satisfied with the quality of drinks Starbucks was providing customers as a whole, so he decided to make a change.

"Hopefully now they'll be getting better drinks and better service. Hopefully they were getting good drinks anyway," Jackson said.

While it may be too early to tell a difference, "I think people were coming in today just to see what's different," he said. "Regulars knew what was going on. It was an inconvenience, but they understood."

Jackson said the training mostly focused on getting all of the employees on the same page as far as drink-making practices.

"There was too big of a variance, and small things really affect the taste of coffee," Jackson said.

Jackson also said even though the monetary effects of closing all of the stores for three hours wouldn't be good, he thought in the long run the training would be beneficial.

Employees of the Starbucks in the Central Texas MarketPlace also re-trained for how to make the drinks.

They also spent a good amount of time talking about the ideology behind the Starbucks Corporation, barista Kim Lewis said.

"We're working on transforming the philosophy of our store, making it more idealistic," Lewis said. "That was [Schultz's] purpose in coming back."

Lewis said she believes that Starbucks' fall out of the Fortune 500 companies had to do with the company getting away from its original practices and moving into other industries, such as the movie industry with the movie they co-produced, *Akeelah and the Bee*.

"The company had become much more market-based," Lewis said. "People's perceptions had changed. Stores should have more community, a more independent coffeehouse feel."

Micah Haerther, another barista at the MarketPlace Starbucks, said he had noticed a



David Poe/Lariat staff

Starbucks nationwide closed Tuesday for a three-hour training period. The focus of the training was to standardize drink-making techniques and familiarize employees with Starbucks ideology. Starbucks on campus are licensed, not corporate stores, and were therefore not affected by the training session.

large change in the feel of the coffeehouse since he was hired.

He noted that recently even new employee training put more emphasis on speed and getting out drinks than establishing relationships with customers.

"You want to have conversations. You want to make people feel comfortable," Haerther said. "We had great relationships with our customers before, but I feel that's gone downhill."

Haerther said he hopes the

changes the corporation is making will help get things back to the way they should be.

"The mentality in the store changed. It'll be nice to get back to that," Haerther said.

Locations on Baylor's campus

don't fall under the umbrella of stores doing training.

The Baylor Starbucks are license stores, not corporate stores, meaning they aren't a part of the corporate chain based in Seattle.

Mission Waco's World Cup Cafe to extend business hours

Lee Ann Marcel
Reporter

Mission Waco's World Cup Café will open its doors a little later, just for students, to help support people locally and abroad.

The new hours will be 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday to help promote the new Fair Trade market.

Guests will be welcomed to

grab coffee and dessert as well as browse through the market for shopping.

The new Fair Trade market offers a variety of goods from around the world, ranging from purses, earrings, candles and even woven flip-flops.

A majority of the items are "economically friendly."

Many of the items are made from materials found in each country. Purses are made from

old candy wrappers found in the garbage dumps of Guatemala and Mexico. Metal wall art has been fashioned by artisans in Haiti.

There are also tribal masks that have been made by physically handicapped workers.

"I can visualize the money going to the needy in Mexico, Haiti and India," said Laura Mitchell, coordinator of the Fair Trade Market.

The countries that have created the art have nowhere else to sell their goods because no one has the money to buy them.

Thus the Fair Trade Market buys these items and then brings them here to the U.S.

The World Cup Café is also offering only coffee to drink during the new hours, though cupcakes and other dessert-like options will be provided.

"Baylor students should come

and suggest other items that we should offer," Mitchell said.

World Cup Café began three years ago. The café helps train its employees for restaurant experience.

The employees are mostly lower-income people and ex-addicts.

"They have been clean and sober and living for the Lord," Miles said.

Not only does the café benefit

the workers, but the community as well.

"For a while there was no place to go eat down here," said Anthony Miles, Mission Waco's food service director.

The menu changes now and offers lower prices for the community.

The World Cup Café is located at 1321 N. 15th Street.

For more information, call 254-757-1748.

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House approves new taxes for oil companies

By H. Josef Hebert
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The House approved \$18 billion in new taxes on the largest oil companies Wednesday as Democrats cited record oil prices and rising gasoline costs in a time of economic troubles.

The money collected over 10 years would provide tax breaks for wind, solar and other alternative energy sources and for energy conservation.

The legislation would cost the five largest oil companies an average of \$1.8 billion a year over that period, according an analysis by the House Ways and Means Committee. Those companies earned \$123 billion last year.

Senate Democratic leaders said they would put the bill on a fast track and try to avoid a Republican filibuster. The White House said the bill unfairly takes aim at the oil industry. President

Bush is expected to veto the legislation if it passes Congress.

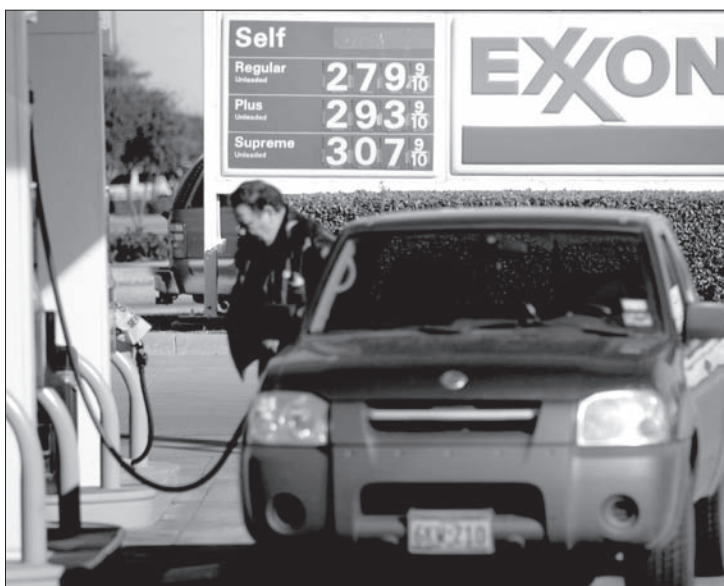
House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Md., noted it was two years ago, when oil cost \$55 a barrel, when Bush said oil companies need no government subsidies to pursue more oil or gas.

“With the price of oil hovering around \$100 do we really believe this incentive is justified?” asked Hoyer. “Do these companies need taxpayer subsidies to look for new product? They don’t need any incentive.”

Republicans said the measure unfairly targeted a single industry.

“It punishes the oil and gas industry. This is wrongheaded. It will result in higher prices at the gasoline pump. It’s spiteful and wrong,” said Rep. Jim McCrery, R-La.

The top Republican on the Ways and Means Committee, which developed the tax proposals, he cited statistics that show that oil companies already pay



Associated Press

A customer pumps fuel at an Exxon gas station in Dallas Feb. 1. Exxon Mobil Corp. posted the largest annual profit by a U.S. company, \$40.6 billion, on Friday.

more taxes than many other industries.

Hoyer acknowledged “this legislation alone will not bring down gas prices.” But he said the measure will provide a needed boost to alternative energy industries — solar, wind, biofuels, and geothermal — and help promote energy conservation.

“That may bring down gas prices three years from now, 10 years from now,” he said.

The bill would roll back two

lucrative tax breaks for the five largest U.S. oil companies. One helps manufacturers compete against foreign companies; the other gives American companies a tax credit related to oil and gas extraction outside the country.

The bill would offer tax credits for more energy efficient homes and a credit for “plug-in” gas-electric hybrid cars that would capture electricity off the power grid, once such cars become available in showrooms.

Beijing works to supply water for Olympics

By Henry Sanderson
The Associated Press

BEIJING — When 16,000 athletes and officials show up this summer, they will be able to turn the taps and get drinkable water — something few Beijing residents ever have enjoyed.

But to keep those taps flowing for the Olympics, the city is draining surrounding regions, depriving poor farmers of water.

Though the Chinese capital’s filthy air makes headlines, water may be its most desperate environmental challenge. Explosive growth combined with a persistent drought mean the city of 17 million people is fast running

out of water.

Meanwhile, rainfall has been below average since 1999. The result: Water resources per person are 1/30th of the world average, lower even than Israel.

“To ensure the supply for a short period of time shouldn’t be a problem, but to keep the long-term sustainable use of resources is a challenge,” said Ma Jun, an environmentalist who has written about China’s water issues.

In an attempt to ease the water woes, China has turned to a grand engineering feat. Workers are digging up the countryside south of Beijing for a canal that will bring water from China’s longest river, the Yangtze, and its

tributaries to the arid north by 2010.

The first part of the project is being accelerated to meet anticipated demand from Olympic visitors.

By April, the canal is to begin bringing 80 billion gallons a year — an amount equal to the annual water use of Tucson, Ariz. — from four reservoirs in nearby Hebei province.

“I think one of the things the Olympics is showing is it’s desperation time and Beijing has the power,” said James Nickum, an expert on Chinese water policy issues at Tokyo Jogakkan College in Japan.

In mountainous Chicheng

county, about 70 miles northwest of Beijing, dried-out corn stalks stick out of the windblown earth.

Farmers limit themselves to two buckets of water a day from icy wells. They are prohibited from tapping what’s left in the local reservoir.

The farmers have been ordered to grow only corn, which requires less water but also fetches a lower price than rice or vegetables.

The government offered about \$30 in compensation, but farmers say not everyone received it. Too poor to buy coal, they carry discarded corn stalks home on their backs for fuel to heat their homes.

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Men’s, women’s track to compete for Big 12 title

By Joe Holloway
Reporter

The men’s and women’s track teams travel to Lincoln, Neb. today to compete in the Big 12 Indoor Championship.

The No. 19 Bears and the No. 24 Lady Bears will face stiff opposition as nine of the 12 schools in the conference boast top-40 rankings in both men’s and women’s competition.

“It’s an outstanding conference,” head coach Todd Harbour said. “It’s a great opportunity to get up there and compete.”

The women hope to do especially well. They recently moved up two spots in the rankings and are the fourth highest ranked team in the Big 12, behind No. 6 Texas A&M University, No. 10 University of Kansas and No. 12 University of Texas.

“The ladies are right up there,” Harbour said. “I think our ladies are looking really good.”

Last year’s Big 12 Freshman of the Year, All-American sophomore Nicole Jones won the 1,000 meter last year and hopes to repeat her success at this year’s meet.

“I have aspirations to win it all four years,” she said. “I feel confident and strong.”

Jones also said that as a team she expects the women to give a good performance.

“We have more depth than we’ve ever had going into the conference,” she said. “We have a really good shot at doing extremely well.”

Depth on the men’s side is an entirely different story.

Hampered by injuries, the men have dropped from a No. 10 ranking at the beginning of the year to No. 19.

“The guys are a little banged

up,” Harbour said. “We have two All-Americans who aren’t running this weekend.”

Sophomore LeJerald Betters is one of the All-Americans that the Bears do have ready to compete.

“We’ve had a lot of key injuries on the team,” Betters said. “We’re really just trying to stay healthy.”

Betters took third in last year’s 400-meter run behind teammates Reggie Witherspoon and Quentin Iglehart-Summers.

Witherspoon has since graduated and Iglehart-Summers is out with a foot injury.

“I was most excited about racing Quentin,” Betters said. “But he isn’t running.”

Even with the injuries, Betters remains optimistic.

“As far as depth, we have very little,” he said. “But if everybody does everything like we’re supposed to, anything is possible.”

Other than Iglehart-Summers, Betters cited Texas A&M and Texas Tech as teams he was most excited about facing, particularly in the 4x400 meter relay. Baylor won the relay last year.

“They have relay teams that are pretty strong,” he said. “We have a streak that we’re trying to keep going. I feel pretty confident.”

Coach Harbour echoed Betters’ optimism but said that this year the Bears might have a stronger showing at the NCAA Indoor Championship, which will be held in Fayetteville, Ark. March 14 and 15.

“We’re ready,” Harbour said. “We wish we were a little healthier. This year we may actually have a higher finish at nationals than in conference. Anything is possible.”

Pro league heads resist steroids law

By Joseph White
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — David Stern was not about to back down.

Summoned again to Capitol Hill to discuss whether Congress should get into the business of legislating drug testing in the major professional sports leagues, the NBA commissioner took exception to lawmakers’ remarks and stood up for his colleagues from the NFL, NHL and major league baseball.

“This is an area where federal legislation is not necessary,” Stern told the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection.

As big as Wednesday’s hearing was — it produced the rare sight of the four commissioners and their respective sports’ union heads sitting at the same table — it was upstaged by news from another panel.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform asked the Justice Department to investigate whether Roger Clemens lied under oath when he denied using steroids and human growth hormone at a Feb. 5 sworn deposition and at a Feb. 13 hearing.

No players were present at Wednesday’s hearing. The commissioners sat side-by-side with their sport’s union chiefs: Bud Selig was inches away from Donald Fehr; Stern was next to

Billy Hunter. Then there was the NFL’s Roger Goodell and Gene Upshaw, and the NHL’s Gary Bettman and Paul Kelly.

All tried to persuade skeptical lawmakers that their respective leagues had taken steps to thwart steroids use and were anxiously awaiting a dependable way to detect human growth hormone, preferably through a urine test and not a blood test.

“In spite of the fact that they want to pronounce that they have it under control, I still think that it’s not fully under control,” said the subcommittee’s chairman, Rep. Bobby Rush, D-Ill. “And we have to do more.”

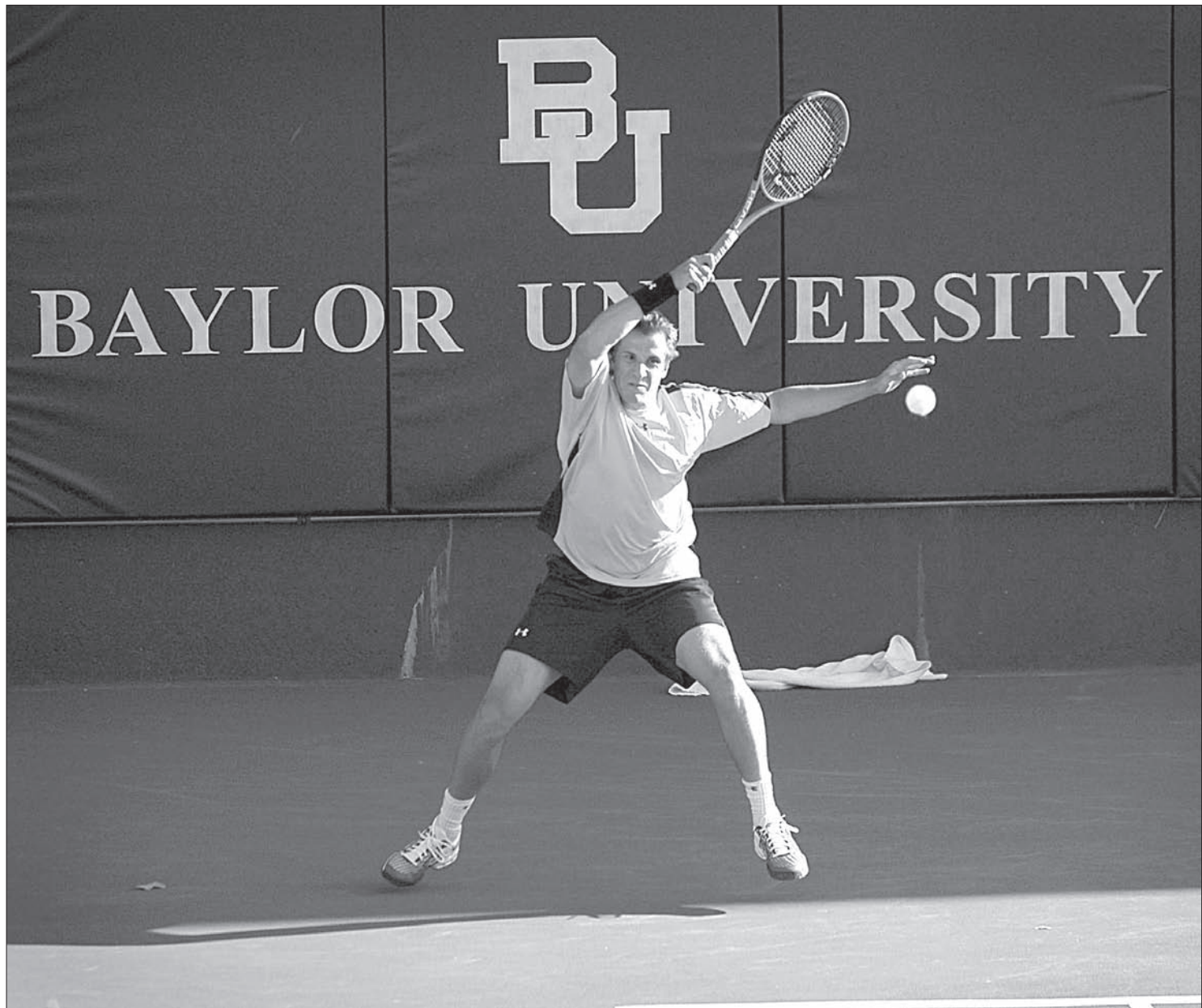
Baseball had the most to prove, having implemented a stringent steroids policy only in the last few years.

The NFL began addressing the problem some two decades ago, while the NBA and NHL say the nature of their sports is such that steroids use is virtually nonexistent.

All four leagues have toughened their drug policies since 2005, when many of the same witnesses testified before the same subcommittee.

Several bills were introduced in the House and Senate after that session, but none came close to becoming law.

“Let’s get it right this time. ... Let’s go ahead and get something into law that is acceptable,” Texas Republican Joe Barton said. “It’s no fun having this hearing every two to three years.”



David Poe/Lariat staff

Buseck, Germany, senior Lars Poerschke hits a forehand against No. 2 Ohio State University Justin Kronauge. With 5-3 up in the second set, Poerschke retired due to an ankle injury. Baylor lost 4-2 Wednesday at the Baylor Tennis Center.

Men’s tennis falls to No. 2 Ohio State

By Brian Bateman
Sports writer

Traveling Buckeye fans were greeted with a rare occurrence Wednesday night — a Baylor men’s tennis loss at the Baylor Tennis Center.

No. 2 Ohio State University (12-1) and a momentum-swinging injury to top-ranked Lars Poerschke tossed the match to the Buckeyes side, with a 4-2 victory over No. 9 Baylor (9-3).

With two points already in the Bears’ pocket, Buseck, Germany, senior Poerschke up a break in the second and two other Bears following suit, the match seemed well in hand.

Then Poerschke charged the net and injured his ankle. He underwent an MRI Wednesday night, but his status was unknown at the time of publication.

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Double win for Baylor against Colorado Buffaloes

Tisdale scores 30 points to lead team to victory, 76-62

By Justin Baer
Sports writer

All eyes were glued to the match-up between Rachel Allison and Jackie McFarland Wednesday night at the Ferrell Center.

The two were teammates on Team USA over the summer as part of the Jones Cup Invitational in Taiwan.

But neither McFarland, a 2007 First-Team All-Big 12 selection, nor Allison, the leading scorer and rebounder on the USA team that captured bronze in Taiwan, were the deciding factors in Wednesday's 76-62 victory for Baylor.

"I think it was pretty rough because she would defend me pretty hard on the (offensive) end," said Allison, who finished the game with 13 points. "I just did the best I could on her, because I had played against her this summer and I knew some of her tendencies."

But as much as the pre-game hype there was surrounding McFarland and Allison, it was senior guard Angela Tisdale, who led the No. 8 Lady Bears (24-3, 12-2) with 30 points to their 17th-straight victory at home.

Seventeen of Tisdale's 30 points, her second-highest output of the season, came from the free-throw line.

The 17 made free throws were a record against a Colorado team, but it was Tisdale's ability to create plays for her teammates that garnered the attention of Colorado's head coach.

"Baylor is a tough team to guard because they have Tisdale," Kathy McConnell-Miller said. "She has the ability to break the defense down and find the open player."

The Lady Bears had to overcome a lackadaisical performance in the first half, as the Lady Bears shot 31.4 percent from the field.

Still, Baylor took a 30-24 lead into the locker room at halftime.



Luis Noble/Lariat staff

Austin senior Angela Tisdale pushes past No. 45 University of Colorado Jackie McFarland. Baylor defeated the Buffaloes, 76-62 Wednesday night at the Ferrell Center.

But as un-Baylor-like the Lady Bears played in the first half, head coach Kim Mulkey said all credit is due to the Buffaloes' zone defense that stifled Baylor.

"You have to remember that team was ranked in the top 25," Mulkey said. "They have beaten three ranked teams. We just missed a lot of point blank shots early. We just kept trying and trying, and it seemed like the more we tried the more we would miss. But we never got rattled."

Whatever Mulkey's half-time adjustments were, they were effective. Baylor shot 56.5 percent from the field in the second half to collect its 20th 10-plus point victory of the year.

Freshman Kelli Griffin had a season-high 11 points, which all came in the second half after Jessica Morrow left the game with a foot injury, which was initially reported as a day-to-day injury.

"I thought her decision-making with the ball was awesome,"

Mulkey said of the Houston native. "When Jessica went down, you had to get points from somebody else. I thought she put in her share of points to help us stay in the lead and help us win a basketball game."

With the victory, Mulkey's squad remains in the driver's seat of the Big 12 Conference with two games remaining on the schedule. With both Kansas State University and the University of Oklahoma winning their respective games, Baylor is still one game ahead of the second-place teams.

But all Baylor needs to do now for its second Big 12 Championship is win either at College Station against Texas A&M University Saturday or defeat the Oklahoma State University Cowgirls next Wednesday at home.

The Lady Bears first chance to clinch the conference title will be televised live from Reed Arena at 1 p.m. on Fox Sports Net.

Victory gives Baylor its first 19-win season since 2000-01

By Pat Graham
The Associated Press

BOULDER, Colo. — Kevin Rogers scored 24 points, Henry Dugat finished with 21, including a season-high five 3-pointers, and Baylor won in Boulder for the first time in nearly 57 years, beating Colorado 68-57 on Wednesday night.

The victory gives Baylor its first 19-win season since 2000-01.

Baylor (19-8, 7-6 Big 12) entered the game 1-7 lifetime against Colorado in Boulder, its lone win coming on December 15, 1951. The Bears were 0-5 in Boulder since the inception of the Big 12 before their win Wednesday.

Rogers also grabbed 11 rebounds, giving him his fourth straight double-double, and 11th of the season.

The Buffaloes (10-17, 2-11) dropped their fourth straight game, and have now lost 10 of their last 11 contests.

Richard Roby led Colorado in scoring with 17 points. Roby remains third on the team's

all-time scoring list, 33 points away from tying Cliff Meely for second place. Roby trails leader Donnie Boyce by 88 points.

Levi Knutson finished with 11 points and Marcus Hall had 10 along with seven assists.

Baylor led by as many as 20 points in the second half, but Colorado trimmed it to 63-54 on a basket by Knutson with 1:10 remaining. However, the Bears went 5-for-7 from the free throw line over the final 1:30 to seal their second straight win.

The Bears improved to 5-4 on the road in 2007-08. Before this season, they were 2-37 on the road over the last five years.



Associated Press

Baylor's Kevin Rogers (23) is fouled by Colorado senior Richard Roby (23) on an attempted dunk during the first half of Wednesday's game at the Coors Events Center in Boulder, Colo. Baylor won, 68-57.

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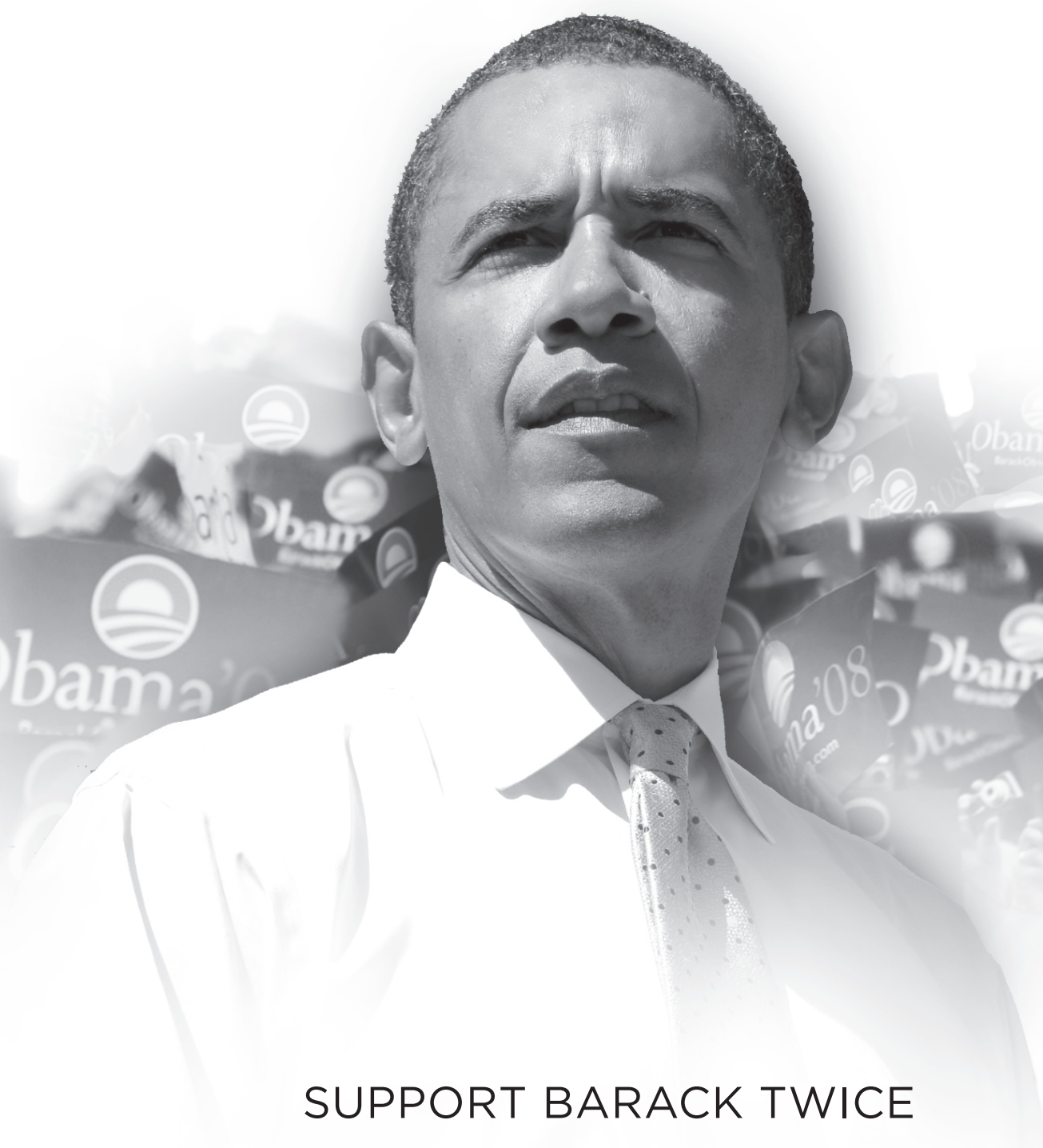


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Uncle Dan's serves smoky barbecue with local flavor

By Amy McGaughey
Contributor

When you walk into a barbecue restaurant, you expect to first be lulled into a drooling stupor by the seductive smells of smoky meat.

But when I walked into Uncle Dan's BBQ Friday night, my ears were the first to be alarmed. (Not to be outdone, the smoked meats wooed my nose immediately after.)

Uncle Dan's has worked its way to the pinnacle of Central Texas barbecue since its opening 30 years ago. Its devotees return again and again for the food and the come-as-you-are atmosphere.

Friday nights present an extra treat, though, because diners enjoy live piano accompaniment along with their meal.

A woman performs tunes from Elvis' "Always on My Mind" to "Memory" from *Cats* on a beige upright piano.

Good music only heightens the experience of a good meal. And personally, I love a sing-along with dinner.

At the Lake Air Drive location, patrons are served cafeteria-style. The wooden Uncle Dan's menu hangs at the begin-



Alex Song/Lariat staff

Uncle Dan's BBQ restaurant, located at 1001 Lake Air Drive, has provided Waco and surrounding communities with smoky barbecue six days a week for the past 30 years.

ning of the line above the trays and bottled beverages.

One server takes each customer's order, then weighs out the appropriate amount of meat and sends it down the line.

Customers can then choose a sauce (one is spicy and the other is for the less adventurous crowd), sides and dessert before paying at the festively-decorated cashier at the far end.

Uncle Dan's signature dish is the Texas Tater. This isn't your normal barbecue baked potato, and it's not for the faint of heart. It starts with a baked potato (or half of one, for those of us with less ambitious appetites) softened with dollops of butter and sour cream. Some cheese is sprinkled on top, followed by barbecue sauce and chopped brisket so tender it's practically

melting. The Texas Tater is best eaten all mixed together, to create a complete balance of flavors.

But it's hard to pick a favorite dish at Uncle Dan's. The rest of the menu is full of meats, sides and desserts to satisfy nearly any craving.

Uncle Dan's meat selection includes sausage, turkey, catfish, two kinds of ribs, two kinds of

chicken and three kinds of brisket. Each moist bite is rich with the smoky taste of hickory and other Texas hardwoods and nothing else to muddle the natural flavors.

The sides don't just play a supporting role. The potato salad — your choice of white or yellow — is silky and rich, speckled with herbs. And the cole slaw is bursting with crisp, fresh herbs, cabbage and tangy dressing.

Craving something else? Uncle Dan's also makes mashed potatoes, beans, fruit salad and macaroni and cheese are from scratch daily.

A meal at Uncle Dan's isn't complete without a sticky-sweet dessert. Whether you're in the mood for cheesecake, chocolate pie, banana pudding or cherry cobbler in a cup, Uncle Dan's has your sweet tooth covered.

Like a booth table? You're in luck at Uncle Dan's. Every table is a booth, complete with a black bandana table top and a mini grill-shaped condiment holder.

The rest of the restaurant is decorated with an eclectic mix of country kitsch and local sports legends. The entry hall has autographed photographs from Baylor and Waco sport-

ing legends and current Baylor personalities. There is also a bulletin board for local business cards and announcements at the end nearest the dining area.

Uncle Dan's also offers catering and drive-through options, as well as a separate cafeteria line for to-go meals.

There are also two larger rooms for private parties, which are offered for little or no charge with prior reservations.

Or, if you or a loved one lives too far to drive to Uncle Dan's, you can take advantage of their Cross Country Q service, which ships packaged Uncle Dan's favorites to anywhere in the United States.

Uncle Dan's Lake Air Drive restaurant is located at 1001 Lake Air Drive, just off of Valley Mills Drive.

Hours of operation are Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., and the drive-through window is open until 9 p.m. For more information, call Uncle Dan's at 772-3532.

Whether you're craving dynamite barbecue or just a delightful atmosphere, Uncle Dan's BBQ is one Waco classic that's sure to win your heart — and your stomach.

Grade: A+

Writers approve 3-year contract

By Lynn Elber
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Members of the Writers Guild of America have overwhelmingly approved a new contract with Hollywood studios that increases payment for shows offered on the Internet, the union said Tuesday.

The deal was endorsed by 93.6 percent of the 4,060 votes cast in Los Angeles and New York.

"This contract is a new beginning for writers in the digital age," said Patric M. Verrone, president of the guild's western branch.

"It ensures that guild members will be fairly compensated for the content they create for the Internet, and it also covers the reuse on new media plat-

forms of the work they have done in film since 1971 and in TV since 1977."

The term of the three-year deal runs from this Feb. 13 to May 1, 2011.

"We're very happy with the turnout," said guild spokesman Neal Sacharow. "We had terrific (voting) turnout and better than 90 percent approval from the membership in each case."

The contract was approved through a mail-in ballot that came after members were briefed two weeks ago and agreed to end the 100-day strike.

Under the contract, writers will get a maximum flat fee of about \$1,200 for programs streamed on the Internet during the deal's first two years and then get 2 percent of a distributor's gross in year three.

The deal also establishes guild jurisdiction for shows made for the Internet and other new media.

The writers strike halted most TV production and took an estimated \$2.5 billion toll on the Los Angeles area economy.

The guild has about 10,500 members who were affected by the walkout.

Jonathan Handel, an entertainment lawyer and a former associate counsel for the writers guild, said he was surprised by the relatively low number of guild members who voted.

"I think a lot of people are not happy with the deal but realized it's the best they could get," he said.

Still, he said, it "ties a bow on a difficult period for Hollywood labor."

Returning Spring Shows

ABC:

Samantha Who? — April 7
Boston Legal — April 8
Desperate Housewives — April 13
Brothers & Sisters — April 20
Ugly Betty — April 24
Grey's Anatomy — April 24

ABC also says *Women's Murder Club* will return at some point this spring, and *Dirty Sexy Money*, *Private Practice* and *Pushing Daisies* will return in the fall.

Fox:

Til Death — March 25
Bones — April 14
House — April 28
24 won't return until January 2009. There's no decision on the fate of "Prison Break."

CBS:

How I Met Your Mother — March 17
The Big Bang Theory — March 17
Two and a Half Men — March 17
CSI: Miami — March 24
Cold Case — March 30
Criminal Minds — April 2
CSI: New York — April 2
CSI — April 3
Without a Trace — April 3
Ghost Whisperer — April 4
Numb3rs — April 4
NCIS — April 8
Moonlight — April 11
Rules of Engagement — April 14

CBS says *Shark* will be back at some point. There's no word on *The Unit* or *Cane*.

NBC:

My Name is Earl — April 3
30 Rock — April 10
The Office — April 10
Scrubs — April 10
ER — April 10
Law & Order: SVU — April 15

Chuck, *Heroes* and *Life* were all renewed for next season, but won't be back until the fall.

CW:

Everybody Hates Chris — Sunday
Aliens in America — Sunday
The Game — March 23
Smallville — April 17
Gossip Girl — April 21
Reaper — April 22
Supernatural — April 24



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