



ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2007

Questions continue to arise in coal debates

Independent studies conflict on effects of proposed facilities

By Kate Boswell
Staff writer

Gov. Rick Perry's October 2005 executive order to fast-track permits for 18 coal-fired power plants met with immediate controversy, which has reached a fever pitch in Central Texas.

State District Judge Stephen Yelenosky's Tuesday ruling stated that Perry does not have the constitutional authority to issue such an order, and Wednesday, a panel of judges agreed with environmental groups who re-

quested more time to prepare their opposition case.

One of the complaints on this issue has been the lack of clear and objective information. A quick Internet search will reveal that even the stated number of proposed plants varies, depending on who the source is.

"It looks to me like we have two political campaigns here," said Michael E. Webber, associate director for Center for International Policy at the University of Texas. "A lot of the facts are being misinterpreted or are misleading."

What is certain is that TXU is has a proposition to build 11 coal-fired plants. Nine of these are in Central Texas and four in McLennan County.

TXU has named Texas' growing demand for energy as the reason for the construction of the new plants.

The company cites a study by the North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC) that says electric demand will increase by 19 percent over the next 10 years, but that the confirmed power capacity will only increase by 6 percent. Texas is listed as one of the areas where demand is expected to outstrip confirmed power capacity.

TXU spokesman Tom Kleckner said this urgent need for power is the reason behind Perry's executive order.

"Because the governor recognizes the same need for power to reach the state's growing energy

demand that we did," he said. "One of the things his order did was eliminate all the administrative processes. It maintained the same time for public input and technical review, which are the most important parts of the process."

Others have criticized the fast-tracking of the permits, which allow six of the proposed plants to be reviewed together as one plant.

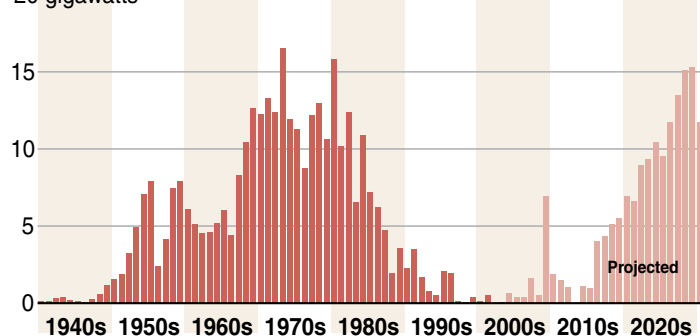
"I'd like to see people step away from a sense that we have to hurry," Webber said.

He emphasized the need for objective facts and a reasoned decision, and pointed out that Texas could help reduce its cur-

Back to the future

New U.S. electric power generation from coal has fallen since the 1980s, but is projected to rise in the next few decades.

Added electric capacity from coal power plants each year: 20 gigawatts



Source: Energy Information Administration, U.S. Dept. of Energy
Graphic: The Philadelphia Inquirer

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Keeping it all in perspective

NFL champion keeps strong roots in Texas, with Baylor football

By Will Parchman
Sports writer

Fred Miller looked cautiously down the gun barrel, pulled back hard on the trigger and waited.

He immediately heard the familiar thud and watched as the grazing deer fell sleepily to the ground.

Watching him in his element just outside his Aldine home, you'd never know the man with a penchant for hunting is one of Baylor football's most decorated graduates, winning a Super Bowl with the St. Louis Rams in 1999. You'd never know Miller spent two weeks immersed in the Super Bowl XLI media blitz as a member of the NFC Champion Chicago Bears not three weeks ago.

Out there he's not the starting right tackle for one of the most successful teams in football. Out here he's home. Out here he's just Fred, and that's just fine with him.

"For me it's all about getting outside and relaxing and enjoying the moment," said Miller, who was born and raised just outside of Houston. "It's not that you're killing something. It's being outside and enjoying the moment and concentrating on what you're doing. It's going out there and having fun and just being in nature."

Miller, the 34-year-old veteran who preps himself with a solitary prayer at his locker before each game, is one of a select few Baylor players to make it in the NFL. Being from Baylor and clinging to its Christian ideals, he said, has been a challenge in itself.

"It's definitely tough being a Christian in the NFL," Miller said. "But it's hard no matter where you're at. I think it's glamorized because people see our lives on TV, but ordinary people go through some of the

same struggles we do."

Miller's life as a football player sprouted from humble beginnings. He caught the NFL's intoxicating aroma early in Houston area Pee Wee Football leagues, and he soon discovered he had raw athleticism few could claim.

"That really started things going for me because I fell in love with football. It was first sport I played. I was really a tall skinny kid more fit for basketball. Fortunately, I put on weight and muscle and kept working hard at it."

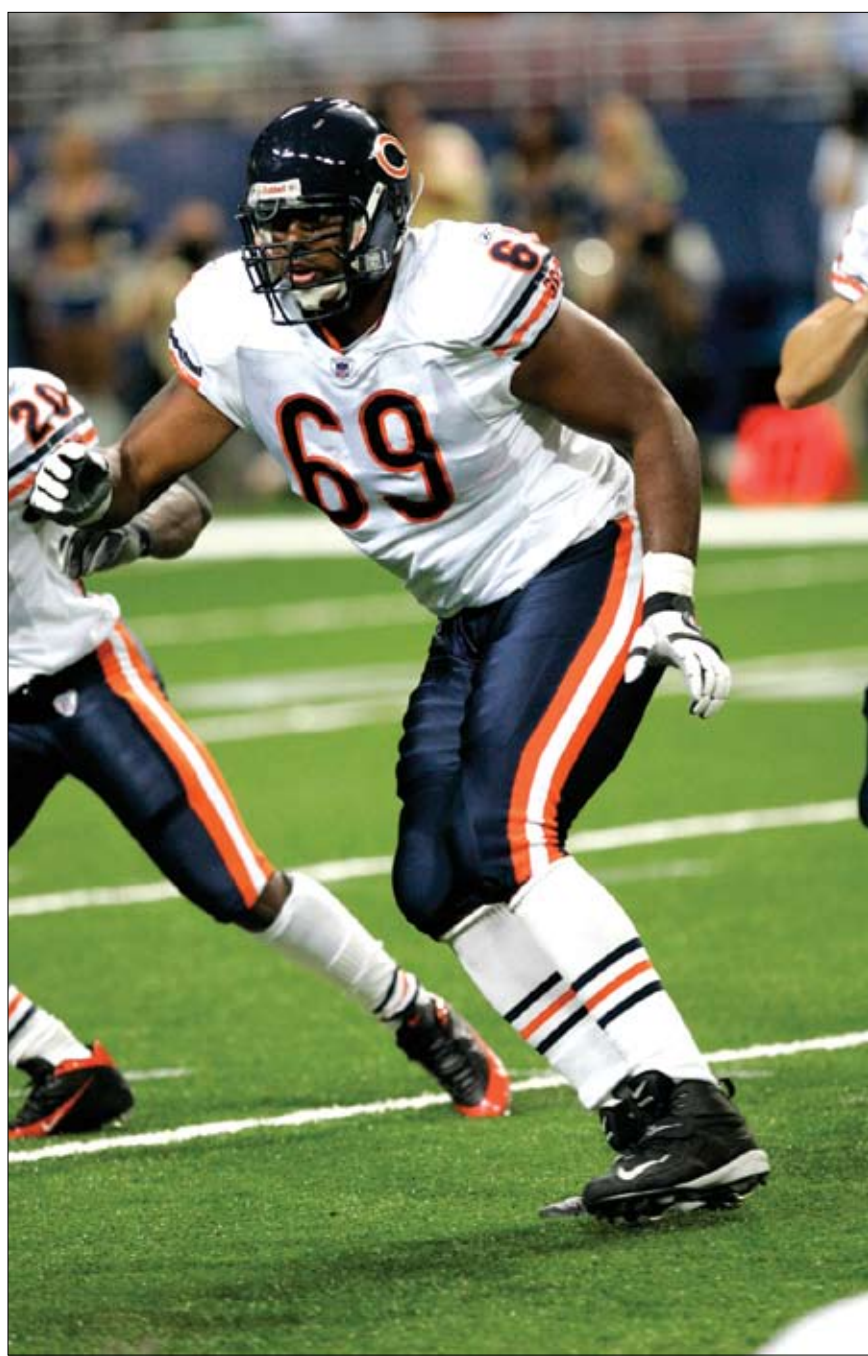
Miller became a standout high school athlete at Eisenhower High School, and as his skills grew, so did he. He sprouted gangly arms and legs which soon grew to the size of tree trunks. At 6-foot-7 and putting on more weight by the week, size was one of the many things that drew Baylor to Miller.

"The main thing I remember about Fred was that he was a man mountain," said John Morris, one of Baylor's radio commentators during Miller's career. "He was just huge and he had the perfect prototype size guy to be an offensive tackle. But more than that, he had great feet. He was very athletic."

Miller insists that there was never any other choice for him than Baylor. Then-head Coach Grant Teaff agrees. But one thing the two could never have predicted was that Miller would turn into one of the most efficient offensive linemen the Baylor Bears had ever seen.

"We bet on the future with him," Teaff said. "He was tall, but he was not a very big guy, and his weight wasn't anything where we needed it to be at the college level. But the minute I met his parents and saw the kind of people they were, I discovered he was a person of real character and integrity. He knew he would work, and we felt like we could grow him to be a size person. That's why

Please see MILLER, page 6



Courtesy photo/ Bill Smith

Former Baylor football player Fred Miller eyes the defense Dec. 11 against the St. Louis Rams in St. Louis. Miller played in his second Super Bowl on Feb. 4 against the Indianapolis Colts.

Senate passes smoke bill

By Jon Schroeder
Staff writer

Student Senate passed a resolution Thursday recommending that smoking be banned within 30 feet of all on-campus building entrances.

By a vote of 20-4, with one abstention, the senate passed a resolution formally requesting the ban.

Vincent Harris, a Fairfax, Va., freshman and resolution sponsor, said he thinks this recommendation will become a part of Campus Living and Learning policy in the near future.

"The vote shows the large degree of support for a safer, cleaner Baylor," he said.

In other business, with a vote of 21-6, with no abstentions, the Student Senate bylaws were amended Thursday to create the new activity planning committee, which will streamline the allocation and event planning process for small organizations and events.

Dubbed the "fast-track" bill by student senators, the amendment allows allocations under \$2,500 to skip some of the Student Senate red tape, getting money to organizations faster and providing experience to help provide guidance in planning the event.

To qualify for the fast-track program, the organization must be holding an all-university event, which is "well advertised

Please see BILLS, page 5

Students popular target for break-ins

By Melissa Limmer
Staff Writer

Students have a new reason to watch where they park after a string of car burglaries this week.

Steve Anderson, spokesman for the Waco Police Department, said four car burglaries were reported Thursday in the area of Pascal Court and the 2500 block of Third Street.

These latest incidents make 11 car burglaries that occurred in the area this week.

Anderson said there was no evidence to link the burglaries

and that it would be "an awful big assumption" to assume the incidents were committed by a single individual. No one has been arrested in connection with the crimes.

Austin sophomore Carolyn Lynch said she discovered her 2002 Ford Explorer had been broken into around 7 a.m. Thursday.

She said the keyless entry on the driver's side door had been tampered with, and the back side passenger window had been smashed in.

Please see CARS, page 5



Ashley Westbrook/Lariat staff

Four vehicles were burglarized Wednesday evening, bringing to 11 the total number of cars broken into in the past week.

BU raises awareness about eating disorders

By Sapna Prasad
Reporter

For the 2005-2006 academic year, Baylor Health Center reported that 8.6 percent of 535 students they saw struggled with an eating disorder.

The Health Center noted that this percentage fails to include the number of students who aren't seeking help for anorexia, bulimia or compulsive over eating, the three basic classifications of eating disorders.

In conjunction with National Eating Disorder Awareness Week, from Monday to March 2, "Baylor Know Your Body I.Q."

will address the education and awareness of eating disorders through a variety of daily activities, documentaries and motivational speakers.

Seven influential women on campus, named Team BODY I.Q., created "Baylor Know Your Body I.Q.," said Van Smith-Davis, team member and fitness coordinator.

Smith-Davis said the team's mission is to increase awareness and education of eating disorders among the Baylor and Waco communities, while focusing on how the media impacts

Please see EATING, page 5

Coaching losses hurt Morriss, but he'll bounce back

After losing five assistant coaches this offseason and three in the last two months, Baylor football head Coach Guy Morriss has to be a little frustrated.

But having lost 10 assistants in his four years at Baylor and seven of the eight who were on his original staff, Morriss has plenty of experience plugging holes.

And for the most part, he's done a great job of doing just that.

Morriss has had to deal with more staff changes than most college head coaches.

And many of those who left on their own accord were very good coaches.

Special teams Coach Mark Nelson is one of the best in the nation.

Cornerbacks Coach Wesley McGriff is as charismatic as they come on the recruiting trail and was a fine coach as well.

But in all of the instances, with the exception of Nelson's vacancy being filled by Chris Lancaster—who has since been let go—Morriss has been able to find a quality replacement for the coaches he's lost.

When Morriss arrived on campus in 2002, one of the things people were most excited about was the staff he assembled.

Today, all but one of those

sports take



BY DANIEL YOUNGBLOOD

coaches are gone. But I think you'd have to say his current staff is better than the one he came to Baylor with.

This is especially true on the recruiting side.

Morriss' original staff included solid recruiters in McGriff, Nelson and Lancaster, but there weren't quite as excited about

selling Baylor to high school athletes.

With the hiring of special teams Coach Casey Dunn, inside receivers Coach Jason Phillips, cornerbacks Coach Clay Jennings and running backs Coach Cornell Jackson this offseason, Baylor has added knowledgeable game-day coaches with a talent and zeal for recruiting.

Morriss did the same thing last year by adding a relative unknown at the college level in former high school head coach and Baylor graduate Gary Joe Kinne.

If there's one thing that can be said for Morriss, he's a problem solver.

Many coaches are stubborn to a fault and will stick with their system regardless of results. Morriss, on the other hand, acknowledges failures and does his best to fix them.

After three years of extreme offensive struggles under former offensive coordinator Brent Pease, Morriss decided to make a drastic change.

He brought in Division II offensive coordinator Lee Hays to install the spread offense, a move many Baylor fans questioned.

While it took a while to show, Hays' offense gave this team an identity and was working well with Shawn Bell under center.

It's moves like this that lead me to believe Baylor will win under Morriss, if he's given the chance.

One of the reasons defensive coordinator Bill Bradley gave for taking the assistant secondary coach job with the San Diego Chargers was "better job security in terms of time."

If the job security of Morriss and the new staff he's assembled is really in jeopardy, Baylor will be losing a fine set of coaches.

I just hope they'll have enough time here to see the fruits of their labor.

Daniel Youngblood is a senior journalism major from Fort Worth.

Editorial

Worthy chaplain overlooked

After nearly two years of outstanding service, the higher-ups at Baylor have decided not to retain interim university chaplain Byron Weathersbee permanently.

We're curious as to the reason why he was not retained since many believe like he was doing an outstanding job.

Weathersbee has been a great representative of Baylor. He's worked hard to make Chapel as enjoyable as possible, and he's been an excellent leader of university ministries.

Chapel has come a long way in the last few years, and Weathersbee has undoubtedly been a part of its success. More people seemed to be engaged in Chapel than ever before and the quality of speakers has noticeably improved in the time he's served.

Sadly, we may never know the reason why Weathersbee didn't get the job because it is against Baylor policy for staff to comment on personnel decisions.

But what we do know is that he personifies as much of the Baylor spirit as possible. He helped establish University Baptist Church in Waco and has also volunteered as the baseball team's chaplain for more than a decade. Perhaps he will be remembered best for helping to guide students through one of the roughest spots for the university in recent memory when, in the fall, three deaths occurred within a short



amount of time. He was instrumental in helping to heal the wounds in the aftermath of those tragic events.

Many viewed Weathersbee as a shoe-in for the permanent chaplain position, someone who could provide stability to the position that has been a revolving door the last few years.

Other positions have been routinely filled by placeholders such as

when Dr. Samuel "Dub" Oliver was permanently named vice president for student life. When Weathersbee was appointed, Oliver said, "Byron knows Baylor and Baylor students well, and I am excited that our community will experience his gifts through his service as interim university chaplain."

Weathersbee makes it a point to stay in close contact with students,

as a member of the faculty and as a premarriage counselor for engaged couples.

It's simply unfair that a man of his talent won't be retained. While we're confident that administrators will do an acceptable job selecting a new chaplain, it will be Baylor's loss when Weathersbee moves on to other endeavors.

Lack of action on war begs the question: Are we tuning out?

The time for talk is over. It's time to put up or shut up.

I'm tired of all of the half-measures regarding the war in Iraq. Both sides of the political spectrum are guilty of this, and what's worse: Nobody is pressing for any kind of real change.

Sure a politician or two might offer up a strongly worded bill calling for an escalation or withdrawal, but it's merely posturing at this point.

They know everyone lacks the political will to do anything, so by offering up a tersely worded piece of legislation, they can set themselves apart.

But I'll say it now and get it out on the table: We all have blood on our hands. Whether we supported this war or opposed it in the beginning is irrelevant.

The majority of us oppose it now according to the polls, but I'm beginning to question that.

If we really opposed it, we would be doing more than complaining about it.

Part of the problem may be our lack of quality information about what's really going on over there.

On this opinion page lately, people have given their takes on the news. That's fine; I have no problem with that. It's good to see people engaged in what's going on. But it's one thing to be sick of what the news is covering and another thing to do something about it.

We all know about criticism of the media's "fluff" coverage of Anna Nicole Smith's death or Britney Spears shaving her head. I don't know what's worse: The fact that the media is covering filth like this or the fact that when any regular news is reported, nobody watches.

Part of that may be our

point of view



BY BRAD BRIGGS

fault, but it doesn't help when we are systematically deceived by the government and media throughout the duration of this conflict.

So many things have happened since this war's inception that deserve more time in the news instead of the brain-dead content we are fed on a daily basis. One little known story amid the mass of newsworthy items slipping through our consciousness is the amount of civilian deaths in this war.

A well-known British Medical Journal, *The Lancet*, published a

follow-up study to a previous study where it was estimated in 2004 that there had been more than 100,000 deaths as a result of the war. The new study conducted two years later, estimated that the number had risen to 600,000 deaths. The study claimed that the new findings correlated with the previous statistics.

Of course, the findings were summarily dismissed by the Bush administration and echoed by most of the mainstream media. The report came under vague criticisms from the administration—like that the study's methods weren't scientifically based and that it was politically motivated. However, when one digs deeper, it can be found that the study used the most accurate techniques available for estimating war-time casualties.

A random sampling of households based on levels of violence throughout the country was taken, and families were asked if someone had died. An overwhelming amount of the time, residents who had people that died were even able to produce a death certificate.

The Lancet has acknowledged that the figure is not meant to be completely accurate but merely a scientific estimation. But that's more than former U.S. Central Command General Tommy Fanks, and former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld could say at the time of invasion when they said, "We don't do body counts."

How can you vehemently deny and attempt to discredit the study's findings without doing any studies of your own? If you are going to do that, at least give us something better to

go off of, but until then, I'll stick with the scientific experts.

As one of my professors mentioned in class, we may have just recently crossed the 3,000 mark in U.S. casualties, but the people in the Middle East don't keep score that way.

With all that has been going on lately, it would be too cliché of me to mention how many of our founding fathers are rolling over in their graves right now, but it may still be worth bringing up until somebody, somewhere, does something.

Many pundits like to pontificate about this war's parallels to Vietnam. I can't disagree more with them on at least one level. Back then, we had young people taking to the streets. My question now is, where have all the voices gone?

Brad Briggs is a junior journalism major from Mesquite.

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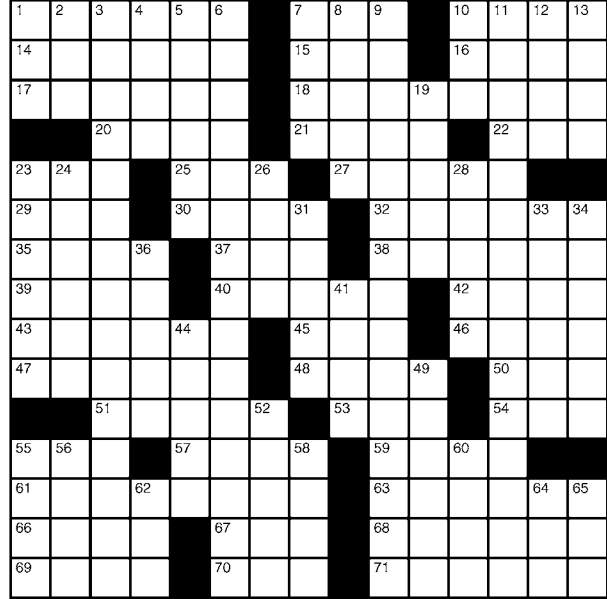
THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS**
- 1 Braque's art
 - 7 The Racer's Edge
 - 10 Raw minerals
 - 14 Military city of old
 - 15 Cyclades island
 - 16 Demolish
 - 17 Norse heaven
 - 18 Mingle
 - 20 Smile radiantly
 - 21 M. Le Pew
 - 22 Mr. Rogers
 - 23 Vane dir.
 - 25 Dined
 - 27 To the point
 - 29 Earmark
 - 30 Idyllic garden
 - 32 Dorothy's fellow traveler
 - 35 Jessica of "Dark Angel"
 - 37 ___ culpa
 - 38 Guy of "Factory Girl"
 - 39 Beach bucket
 - 40 Basra native
 - 42 Mine sites
 - 43 Fell behind
 - 45 Album track
 - 46 Sooty matter
 - 47 Preserve a corpse

- 48 Hollow tube
 - 50 "Norma ___"
 - 51 "Miami Vice" co-star
 - 53 Lobster catcher
 - 54 Past one's prime
 - 55 High School subj.
 - 57 Ms. St. Vincent Millay
 - 59 Those other guys
 - 61 ___ pinscher
 - 63 Guard duty
 - 66 Bolt holder
 - 67 Luau strings
 - 68 Dis-compose?
 - 69 Pinto rival of the '70s
 - 70 Morning drops
 - 71 Abounded
- DOWN**
- 1 Dixie letters
 - 2 FedEx rival
 - 3 First word relay
 - 4 "Dies ___" (Day of Wrath)
 - 5 Attack from the air
 - 6 Second word relay
 - 7 Pass over
 - 8 Religious principle
 - 9 Third word relay
 - 10 Legendary Bruin
 - 11 Fourth word relay

- 12 Pinza of "South Pacific"
- 13 Lolita-ish
- 19 Nightmarish
- 23 Paper binder
- 24 "Peace" salutation
- 26 Stag, for example
- 28 Loses one's cool
- 31 Equality group est. in 1909
- 33 Based on fact
- 34 Settled in
- 36 Like pond scum
- 41 Tidbit of wit
- 44 Mr. Fudd
- 49 Fuel ingredient
- 52 Plumber's helper
- 55 1999 Ron Howard film
- 56 Nary a one
- 58 From scratch
- 60 Diminutive suffix
- 62 Zeta follower
- 64 Hydrogen's number
- 65 Digital display letters



By John Underwood
New York, NY

2/23/07

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

Expert views vary on border reform

By Star De La Cruz Reporter

While some Americans are in debate for the government to pardon illegal immigrants, Texas legislators are taking the lead by proposing stricter immigration laws.

"The federal government is doing a good thing in educating (illegal immigrants) and it would be a shame for the state of Texas to reverse the federal bill which would give illegal high school graduates the opportunity to go to college," said Susan Nelson, an immigration lawyer and Baylor alumna.

Nelson is referring to House Bills 104 and 141, which would amend the law that allows immigrant students to pay in-state tuition, forcing universities to reject anyone who is in the country illegally. There are about 400 international students at Baylor, some of which could be affected by these bills.

Maureen Ndoto, a senior from Kenya, said many foreign students come to the U.S. with student visas they end up dropping out of college because of high tuition and are forced to work.

"I think it's very hypocritical when people blame immigrants of stealing American jobs because they (Americans) don't want to do certain jobs and here are those who are willing to do it for minimum wage," Ndoto said.

Dr. John Pisciotta, economics professor, disagrees. He said without the thousands of illegal immigrants the country's economy and wages would adjust, and Americans would take the jobs that presently employ illegal immigrants.

Juan Hernandez, former cabinet member for Mexican President Vicente Fox, visited Chapel Feb. 12. He began his speech by asking students to accompany him in his prayer for the illegal immigrants in danger. He said the United States is in need of 400,000 employees every year and about 320,000 immigrants cross the border from Mexico to work in the United States. Later Hernandez encouraged students to take out their cell phones and

call Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi to voice their opinions on immigration reform laws.

Pisciotta said it was inappropriate for Hernandez to speak and pray the way he did. He also said asking the students to pray for the mistreatment of illegal immigrants was "utterly absurd."

Some of the other proposed bills concerning immigration include making it a crime to rent housing to illegal immigrants, deny children of illegal immigrants from receiving certain state benefits and imposing an 8 percent fee on money transfers between Texas and Mexico. According to the *Dallas Morning News*, in November 2006 the city of Dallas adopted a policy that made English the official language.

The policy also led to a law that banned apartments from renting to illegal immigrants.

"It's sad to try to enforce the immigration laws now when the U.S. government has not implemented it before," Pisciotta said.

"Now it has caused an enforcement nightmare, and it's a tragedy for families."

Texas is also challenging long-standing federal policies.

United States citizenship is granted to babies born on American soil regardless of their parents' immigration status, but House Bill 28 would take away many rights to children of illegal immigrants. Nelson said she understands the economic motives behind this bill because many legal citizens don't want to pay for benefits for illegal immigrants. Hernandez said immigration helps protect the pension systems, keeps down inflation, improves the quality of life and it is the best anti-poverty program.

"There are certain industries who enjoy the benefits of cheap labor," Pisciotta said. "In political terms, our country prides itself in following the rule of law, so when the government allows immigration outside our legal system, it is a negative impact to our country."

"The underlying cause of our immigration problem is the failure of our national government," Pisciotta said.



Chris Weeks/Lariat Staff

Luis Matias-Cruz, Spanish and economics lecturer, speaks about economics and rebellions in Southern Mexico at Thursday's Global Issues Lectures Series in Draper Academic Building.

Lecturer details poverty issues

By Star De La Cruz Reporter

The increasing number of Mexican immigrants are mainly coming from three states in Mexico, said Luis Matias-Cruz, Spanish and economics lecturer.

Matias-Cruz spoke at Thursday's Global Issues Lecture Series titled "Economics and Rebellions in Southern Mexico: Elements of a Political Economy of Dignity."

Among the issues discussed were the three states located in southern Mexico which have been suffering economic and violence crises since 1994.

"Last summer, the U.S. government issued a warning for U.S. citizens not to visit these southern Mexican states because of the violence, and this warning is not yet over," Matias-Cruz said.

He also said that because of the uprising of rebels, it has become difficult for families to bring up their children and live peacefully.

"What this rebellion and economic crisis in Mexico means to the United States is that immi-

gration will continue to increase in part because of the people fleeing from the violence of rebels in southern Mexico," Matias-Cruz said.

Matias-Cruz described the current situation in southern Mexico as poverty-stricken and filled with indigenous people and anti-government rebellions.

To summarize why so many rebelled against the government, he said the uprising occurred the same day NAFTA was signed in 1993.

"They felt that NAFTA was a death sentence that meant starvation and no future," Matias-Cruz said.

He explained that the indigenous were most affected because their lands were taken away and given to the wealthy and powerful.

The government permitted such actions and therefore the rebellion against the government was more than justified.

Matias-Cruz showed a picture of Subcomandante Marcos, a Zapatista movement leader and his former university professor.

Matias-Cruz said that after the Zapatista movement was reborn over a decade ago, its

support has increased nationally and internationally.

"The Zapatistas even have their own schools, and without the government support, it teaches indigenous language and a system of true justice that should be implemented in the Mexican government," Matias-Cruz said.

Dr. Lizbeth Souza-Fuertes, coordinator for the Global Series Lecture Series, said the military dictatorships in South America, the rebellions and government repressions in southern Mexico have caused people to leave their native lands forever in search for the "American Dream."

"I can understand why families have run away from the violence and come to find refuge in the U.S.," Souza-Fuertes said.

When thinking about the military dictatorships and the civil wars in the region's past, "we are left to wonder if Latin America will ever be peaceful," Souza-Fuertes said.

El Paso freshman Oscar Silvas said the lecture taught him to have an awareness of different cultures and that conflict can occur in all societies, both nationally and internationally.

BEAR BRIEFS

Win free Sing tickets
Student government wants students to fill out the Campus Improvements survey online so they can be entered for a chance to win either two free All-University Sing tickets or Bearbucks. Surveys must be completed today at bin.baylor.edu.

Eating Disorder Week

Monday
National Eating Disorder Awareness Week will begin at 2 p.m. with a showing of "The Strength to Resist: Media's Impact on Women and Girls," (shown every half hour) at the Bill Daniel Student Center. Also on Monday, a walk-through visual "Room with a View" will be on display all day at the McLane Student Life Center.

The HBO documentary "Thin," will be shown at 7 p.m. in the Bill Daniel Student Center. Special guest Dawn Montaner of Lifelines Foundation for Eating Disorders will be in attendance.

Tuesday
"Healthy Eating Day" will take place at all residential dining facilities.

Wednesday
An evening with Leslie Goldman of the American Medical Association will begin at 7 p.m. in B110 Baylor Sciences Building. Reception will follow.

Thursday
"Inside an Eating Disorder" will be presented at noon in the Bill Daniel Student Center. To receive a free brown bag lunch provided by Baylor Dining Services, RSVP at 710-6631 or e-mail Van_Davis@baylor.edu by Tuesday.

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

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Philosophy and religion conference to address God's omniscience

By Perla Sanchez Reporter

The annual Philosophy of Religion Conference's keynote address will be delivered at 4 p.m. today in 510 Cashion Academic Center.

Dr. Peter van Inwagen will give this year's keynote address entitled, "What Does an Omniscient Being Know about the Future?"

Van Inwagen is the John

Cardinal O'Hara Professor of Philosophy at the University of Notre Dame.

He received his bachelor of science degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and his doctorate in philosophy from the University of Rochester.

Van Inwagen has delivered many lectures and is the author of several publications about philosophical theology.

Some of Van Inwagen's published works include *An*

Essay on Free Will and Metaphysics (Dimensions of Philosophy Series).

Dr. Jonathan L. Kvanvig, a distinguished professor of philosophy, is in charge of organizing this year's conference.

"He's one of the most important philosophers of religion in the world," Kvanvig said.

Bradley Brummeler, a doctoral graduate student from Grand Rapids, Mich., said the conference is a place where scholars

can present research and get feedback from one another.

It is the conference's second year, and it was held at the University of Missouri last year.

The conference will continue through Saturday.

It will feature panel discussions and major presentations on topics such as the problem of evil and the "grammar of goodness."

However, the discussions and presentations are closed to

the public.

Today's keynote address is the only part of the conference open to the public.

Brummeler said the keynote address today will question what is "entailed by God's omniscience."

He also said van Inwagen will consider if there are things even a divine being can't know.

"I think it should interest many students given it is a largely Christian institution with

many serious Christian students who want to know more about God and how he relates to us," said Jonathan Sands-Wise, a Waco graduate student.

Kvanvig believes that the keynote address is important to the Baylor community because of the connection between his talk and Baylor 2012.

"It's a good way of connecting one's faith with intellectual pursuits at the university," Kvanvig said.

Soldier gets 100 years for rape and murder of 14-year-old girl

By Rose French The Associated Press

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. — A U.S. soldier was sentenced to 100 years in prison Thursday for the gang rape and murder of an Iraqi girl and the killing of her family last year.

Sgt. Paul E. Cortez, 24, also was given a dishonorable discharge. He will be eligible for parole in 10 years under the terms of his plea agreement.

Cortez, of Barstow, Calif., pleaded guilty this week to four counts of felony murder, rape and conspiracy to rape in a case considered among the worst atrocities by U.S. military personnel in Iraq.

In his plea agreement, he said he conspired with three other soldiers from the Fort Campbell-based 101st Airborne Division to rape 14-year-old Abeer Qassim al-Janabi. The girl, her parents and a younger sister were all killed.

Earlier Thursday, tears rolled down Cortez's face as he apologized for the rape and murders. He said he could not explain why he took part.

"I still don't have an answer," Cortez told the judge. "I don't know why. I wish I hadn't. The

lives of four innocent people were taken. I want to apologize for all of the pain and suffering I have caused the al-Janabi family."

The military judge hearing the case, Col. Stephen R. Henley, issued a sentence of life in prison without parole, the maximum for the charges. Under military law, the defendant is given the lesser sentence unless he violates terms of the plea agreement, which requires Cortez to testify against others charged in the case.

Psychologist Charles Figley testified that Cortez and the other soldiers likely suffered stress brought on by fatigue and trauma.

"It eats you up," Figley said. "It's a horrible thing. This is not unique. We've seen this in other wars."

Five soldiers who served with Cortez in Iraq testified that his actions were out of character and described the hardships of war they experienced, including sleep deprivation and the lack of running water.

"I just never would have seen it coming," said Staff Sgt. Tim Briggs, who has known Cortez for five years and served with him in Iraq.

Prosecutors said the stress was no excuse for the actions of Cortez and the other soldiers from the 101st Airborne Division, based at Fort Campbell.

On Wednesday, Cortez described raping the girl in her family's home in Mahmoudiya last March, along with Spc. James Barker, 24. Barker pleaded guilty in November to rape and murder and was sentenced to 90 years in military prison.

Barker has said in a sworn statement that the soldiers drank whiskey and played cards while plotting the assault.

Cortez said this week that former private Steven D. Green, who grew up in Midland, Texas, raped the girl before he did. Then Green shot her father, mother and sister before shooting the teen in the head, Cortez said.

He also testified that the soldiers tried to burn the girl's body. They burned their own clothes and threw the murder weapon, an AK-47, into a canal in an effort to dispose of the evidence.

Cortez was found not guilty of more serious charges of premeditated murder and conspiracy to premeditated murder.

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CARS from page 1

Lynch's driver's license and \$40 in cash were stolen from the car.

"I feel pretty safe on my cul-de-sac," Lynch said. "It is usually pretty well lit. I didn't expect

that to happen."

Henry Witt, owner of Affiliated Auto Glass, said "Baylor kids definitely get picked on" when it comes to car burglaries.

They're targeted because college students usually drive sportier cars with nicer stereos

and stereos are the most common thing burglars steal, Witt said.

He also suggested that students can prevent break-ins by having their windows tinted. Witt said tinted windows are 75 percent more likely to get

broken into.

Witt also said the passenger or driver side front door is most often the window a burglar will break.

The cost to have a window replaced at Affiliated Auto Glass can be as high as \$125.

COAL from page 1

rent energy demand with conservation.

"These plants are here for decades," he said. "I'm not saying coal is the wrong choice, but we just don't know."

Webber said tactics such as energy-efficient appliances and public awareness campaigns helped reduce energy use in California and that simple adjustments could do the same in Texas.

He said that Austin Energy was considering "smart meters," which can track when the most energy is used. Companies can then manage energy use by charging more for electricity during peak hours.

"There's no single answer about what's best and what we need," Webber said. "We just don't have answers, at least not in a scientifically rigorous or objective form. None of us do."

Others have cast TXU's motivations in a darker light, such as the Texas Clean Air Cities Coalition, a group made up of 36 cities, counties and school boards, of which Waco is one.

"TXU's motives are something other than trying to provide you with affordable power," coalition attorney Stephen Susman, of the Houston-based law firm Susman Godfrey, told a cheering crowd in the Waco Convention Center Tuesday night. "We intend to prove that the idea of building these 11 plants in one year had nothing to do with providing affordable energy for Texas. It was all about locking competitors out of the Texas market."

Dr. Max Shauck, director of the Institute of Aviation Sciences at Baylor, said there has been conjecture that a possible carbon tax is playing a part in the issue. He said because of concerns about global warming, there may be a tax imposed on the pollutant.

"One of the conjectures about this rush to build all the plants is that they want to get these plants built and grandfathered in before the carbon tax," he said. "The tax would make building these inefficient and highly polluting plants much more expensive."

Susman said he believes that TXU intends to gain as many credits as possible, through building new plants, before new federal regulations go in.

"The more (pollution) they put in the atmosphere before federal regulations go in, the more carbon credits they get," Susman said.

Another factor is non-attainment, which Shauck said is a technical status given to an area when it has exceeded safe pollution levels.

"It means you've exceeded certain levels of one of the pollutants and in this case it's going to be ozone, because we are most in danger of exceeding the ozone standard here," he said.

The consequences of non-attainment for Waco are two-fold, Shauck said.

"That criteria is set because (the federal government) has determined that above that level there are health hazards," he said.

Pollutants such as nitrogen oxide, sulfur dioxide, volatile organic compounds and others can become health hazards.

Shauck said though health consequences are the most important, there are also economic consequences.

"For example, new industry that might exacerbate that situation would only be allowed to come in if they could get trade-offs from existing industry," he said. "If they want to come in and start the business, they would have to go into another business and buy (pollution) credits. The other business would have to agree to reduce their pollution by that amount."

Shauck and his research team conducted a study on behalf of the city of Waco that measured the effects the proposed plants would have on the Waco area.

They used an airplane with specialized equipment to measure the air quality around the Waco area. Shauck, who has been air sampling in Waco since 1976, said this method is often more accurate than modeling since it deals with specific, rather than conjectured, data.

According to Sergio Alvarez, Shauck's research assistant, the plane also has an advantage over ground stations.

"They're in a fixed location, so if the wind blows from a different direction and the air pollution is being put out by a certain facility, that monitor might not measure it," he said. "That's the advantage of having an aircraft. You can measure and track a specific plume from a facility or urban area."

Plumes, pollution from factory stacks that is carried by wind, can travel from another city or facility and bring an area close to non-attainment, Shauck said. The power plants can bring the area the rest of the way.

Shauck said the study's conclusions were clear, though it was started late in the season. Since ozone is what Shauck calls a "photochemical cocktail" created from a combination of nitrogen oxides and volatile organic chemicals in conjunction with sunlight and elevated temperatures, the weather plays a large factor.

"The real question is how much effect does a power plant have? How much does it increase the ozone?" he said. "And, even late in the season when we didn't have the kind of temperatures that are productive of ozone, we saw a significant increase in the amount of ozone as a result from the (nitrogen oxide) from the power plant. It

was definitive."

TXU says the new plants will help, not harm Texas pollution levels.

"We have modeling data that was done by independent organization called (Texas Emissions Reductions Plan)," Kleckner said.

He said the data showed that the new plants are 80 percent cleaner than coal plants currently used.

"It did show that there would be a minimal impact in the Waco area, but they did not take into account other companies shutting down their older units like we're doing," he said. "If other companies would shut down their older units it would help."

However, TXU says there is no better alternative to these plants.

"Coal is an easy way to meet the growing demand for energy," Kleckner said. "We can build the plants more quickly than nuclear ones."

He said that while TXU is looking at nuclear power, it will be a long time before it's a viable replacement. He said that Texas is already overly dependant on natural gas and that the fuel's volatility makes the state vulnerable to swings.

"The alternative is continuing to run older, less efficient, dirtier gas plants," he said, adding that 69 of those plants are already in non-attainment zones. "And to meet the demand if we can't build these, then we're looking at unmothballing 40 to 50-year-old gas plants, and our coal plants are cleaner than many of those gas plants."

According to Webber, the most important thing in this issue is that everyone slow down and think.

"We need to have an honest evaluation of options," he said. "Coal has some merits which need to be considered honestly, and it also has some problems which need to be considered."

EATING from page 1

our body image.

"Each of these women has a personal connection to eating disorders and each of them is truly passionate about making a difference in our community," Smith-Davis said.

Dr. Cynthia Wall, staff psychologist, will share her knowledge of the psycho-social factors that are an inherent component of eating disorders. Wall said eating disorders affect people on a deeper level than most of us realize, often resulting in low self-esteem, denial or even fear of letting go of the disease.

While men do struggle with various forms of eating disorders, Wall said her discussion will primarily focus on women.

Wall said the incidence of eating disorders in men is steadily increasing as they are becoming more influenced by cultural icons, but 90 to 95 percent of those who suffer from eating disorders are still female.

Wall will discuss what it means to be a woman in today's media-oriented society, where "image is everything."

"It is my hope to liberate these women, our students, from the chains of expectation the media places on them,"

Wall said.

Dawn Montaner, director of Lifelines Foundation for Eating Disorders, will moderate two showings of the HBO documentary *Thin*, which follows the lives of four women as they undergo rehabilitation at one of the country's leading eating disorder treatment facilities.

Montaner said she wants to emphasize the importance of "being comfortable in your own skin."

"It's not about what's on the outside," she said, "It's about who you are in that skin on the inside."

Montaner established Lifelines Foundation for Eating Disorders after she discovered that her youngest daughter had bulimia.

She said there was no support network for her family, but through her foundation she is able to travel around Texas, presenting various educational materials in schools and lobbying with the state legislators.

Montaner said the biggest battle is that people look at eating disorders like they look at alcoholism and drug abuse but fail to realize that eating disorders are a diagnosed mental illness.

"It's not just about what size jeans you wear, though it may start like that," she said.

BILLS from page 1

and promoted to the entire student body," and the event must be held on campus.

Four out of five members of the activity planning committee are required to approve the bill to move it into the process. Two non-voting students experienced in event planning will also sit on the committee.

Waco senior John Nicholson, one of the by-law's authors, called the new process a "less intimidating" way for smaller organizations to get money for events.

In the past, he said, too much of Student Senate's time, which could have been spent advocating for students, has been wasted on allocations.

He said the change is based

upon a working system at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, but he also consulted student leaders at Texas A&M University, the University of Texas and Texas Christian University about similar policies.

"The whole goal of this thing is to make sure the events student life money is paying into are the best they can be," Kansas City junior Thomas Herndon said. "It's really another resource students can utilize for putting on campus programming to make it the best they can be."

In other business, an amendment which would have added an ethics statement to the Student Senate by-laws was tabled until next week's meeting.

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Talented triumvirate paves way for Baylor's future

By Daniel Youngblood
Sports editor

In baseball, there are few can't-miss prospects.

But that knowledge didn't keep head Coach Steve Smith from getting excited when right fielder Aaron Miller, first baseman Dustin Dickerson and starting pitcher Kendall Volz passed up minor league contracts to play college ball for the Bears.

And those three men — the most celebrated members of a freshman class that *Baseball America* ranked the nation's best — have already given Smith reason to believe his excitement is justified.

Dickerson and Miller boast the team's first and third-best batting averages, and Volz has a 1-0 record and 1.64 ERA in his two career starts.

In the two weeks since the season began, the three have already become integral parts of the team.

Smith said he has no problem putting so much responsibility on his prized freshmen.

"It's actually kind of fun because they have so much upside. You know every day you come to the ballpark, you've got



Freshmen Aaron Miller (from left), Kendall Volz and Dustin Dickerson were the most prized recruits in a class that was ranked the nation's best. All three have been depended on heavily this season, and they're among the team leaders in a number of statistical categories.

Abbie Rosen/
Lariat staff

a chance to see something special," he said. "It can be special in a good way or special in a not-so-good way, but more times than not these talented kids will do something positive."

Miller, who's hitting .323 on the season with six RBIs, said he doesn't know what it's like not to be called on to perform.

"(High expectations) are what we all came here for," Miller said. "We've all been put in that situation so much in our lives

that it would be uncomfortable not to be.

"Coming out here, getting in the lineup and producing early is what I expect out of myself and what others expect out of me," he said.

While he's since hit better, Miller's college career didn't start off the way he'd hoped. In the Bears' first three games at the Houston College Classic, Miller was held to two hits in 10 at bats with three strikeouts.

He said he's become a more confident player since then.

"We all came in a little nervous, especially playing at Houston in front of 15,000 fans," he said. "Being in my hometown and playing in front of my family, I was a bit of a wreck. But once I remembered it's just a game, it helped calm things down."

For Dickerson, who's hitting .333 on the season with seven RBIs, the transition has

been a bit easier.

Dickerson's has been a steady performer for the Bears and has given Smith many quality at-bats. His four strikeouts are fewest on the team among players with 20 or more at-bats — a stat that's rarely led by a freshman.

"Dustin is the most disciplined of all the young hitters," Smith said. "He's shown a lot of maturity at the plate."

Volz has taken to his role just as well as Miller and Dickerson

have taken to theirs. Since a rocky relief outing at the Houston College Classic, where he gave up three earned runs in 1 2/3 innings, Volz has been almost perfect. In his two starts, he's allowed just five hits and two runs in 11 innings.

"It's a blessing to come out and be successful so far," Volz said. "I'm just glad I have gotten the chance and that I'm helping the team win."

One of the reasons he's been so successful is his excellent command of the strike zone. Smith said that's rare in a freshman.

"I don't remember any of our young freshmen pitchers, including Kip (Wells) and Jason (Jennings), having, as freshmen, as good command with the fastball as Kendall has shown so far," he said.

Miller, Dickerson and Volz are just three of seven freshmen getting extensive playing time for a young Baylor squad, but they're expected to anchor the team for years to come.

"We're all going to enjoy watching them play the next few years," Smith said. "There are going to be a lot of exciting things happen in the program while they're here."

MILLER from page 1

he's still playing."

The list of achievements Miller earned over the course of his Baylor career is a long one. His selections to the East-West Shrine Game and the Hula Bowl following his senior year in 1995 were the icing on a career where Miller started 41 of his 44 games and was a two-time All-Southwest Conference selection.

"He had all the tools, and watching him in college, you knew he was going to get a shot (in the NFL)," Morris said. "But to his credit, nothing was handed to him. He had to work for absolutely everything he got."

Miller wasn't a long shot in the NFL, but as a fifth-round selection he wasn't a sure thing either.

Thanks to his tireless effort in both the weight room and on the practice field, Baylor fans and Miller supporters didn't have to wonder about his future for long.

"I got to be with him during his last college game in the Hula Bowl and we talked about working through pain and having mental toughness," Teaff said. "He's done that and that's one of the many reasons why he's still playing."

As early as his rookie season in 1996, he proved to be one of the most durable offensive linemen in the league.

He started every game asked of him and fought through a horde of mental injuries.

Since then, he's missed only a handful of starts in his last seven seasons, anchoring several of the NFL's most distinguished offensive lines with three different teams.

Miller said while missing out on his second Super Bowl ring was a disappointment this year, going to the league's most-lauded game twice in his 11-year career is enough to make him thankful.

"All the people who have been in your life — coached you, mentored you and parented you — you feel a little bit of everyone earned a piece of that," Miller said. "So it wasn't just for me."

In an age where glamour and glitz are sprawled across the headlines of the sports pages, especially where the NFL is concerned, Miller stands in stoic defiance.

In 2001, He donated more than \$1 million to the Nurses for Newborns Foundation, a group designed to help prevent infant mortality and child abuse through education. The contribution remains one of the largest single charitable financial donations in NFL history.

Ever the philanthropist, Miller was at it again last year when he donated \$300,000 to Baylor's athletic department.

Teaff suggested Miller's disposition could be due to the nature of his position on the offensive line; he paves

the way for the glory of others, allowing himself a place in the shadows.

For Miller, though, it wasn't a question of whether to give. He was simply repaying the school that had given him so much.

"I feel like it's our duty to give back with what we've been blessed with," Miller said. "Baylor has given me so much and helped lay a foundation for me as a man, and I just try to help give back to the university as much as I can."

Morris said he's seen plenty of players cycle through Baylor's football program over the last 20 years, but Miller's generosity is unmatched.

"I think Fred's a guy that has a big heart," Morris said. "You have to appreciate the way he's given back to Baylor. There are a lot of guys that move on and forget about Baylor, but he's been one of the top guys giving back to the university."

After he gave back to Baylor, one of the first men to shake Miller's hand was Teaff.

"It all just comes along with territory with the kind of person he is," Teaff said. "He thinks about others, appreciates what he's had and has always felt like he wanted to give back."

Miller is unsure about his career after football, which he admits is closing rapidly. Whether it's entrepreneurship, real estate or even heading into the football coaching ranks, Miller said his career has been a wild ride, and he doesn't regret one minute.

"Even if I don't play another down, I'd still feel that I had a great career," Miller said. "Sometimes I wonder, 'What have I done to deserve all this? I'm not any different than the next guy.' I've had a very blessed career."

Even though Miller appreciates his time in the NFL, he said he will welcome retirement with open arms.

"As you get older, every step — from high school to college to the pros — it's less fun and more of a job," Miller said. "Being that football is my job now, there's times when it's fun, like in the locker room when guys are playing their games. Those are the times you remember. But when you're out there on field, it's work and making sure you don't let down the next guy. That's why I love the outdoors."

So as Miller starts to gather up the fallen deer, the product of his labor, he doesn't think about his football career or the collective month he's spent immersed in Super Bowl fanfare. He is simply enjoying the moment, enjoying the life that awaits him after his football career is over.

In a way, Miller's life as a Texas hunter in the off-season mirrors his life as an All-Pro offensive tackle.

In both settings, he is truly at home.

Bears ready for rematch with Aggies

By Justin Baer
Sports writer

With only three games left before the Big 12 Championship, the Baylor men's basketball team looks to avenge a January 61-51 loss to Texas A&M University when it travels to College Station Saturday for a 12:30 p.m. tip-off against a streaking hot Aggie team.

A&M (23-4, 11-2) is coming off of a lopsided 66-46 victory over Oklahoma State Wednesday, and with the Aggies trying to prove to the rest of the nation they are worthy of a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament, Acie Law IV and company will likely be ready for Scott Drew's young Bears (13-13, 3-10) when they come to Reed Arena.

When the two last met Jan. 9 at the Ferrell Special Events Center, the Bears and Aggies battled back and forth all game until Law put the Bears away in the games final minutes — something he's done to several Big 12 teams this season.

Law, who is averaging 19.2 points per game in conference play, has been considered by many as one of the top point guards in the up-and-coming NBA draft.

"He is a great player; he likes to take over games," freshman guard Tweety Carter said. "Going into the game, we are going to be prepared for him. Hope-



Freshman guard Tweety Carter drives past a Nebraska defender Wednesday in Baylor's 63-59 win at the Ferrell Special Events Center. The Bears face Texas A&M University at 12:30 p.m. Saturday at Reed Arena in College Station.

David Poe/
Lariat staff

fully we can contain him and keep him from doing what he does."

However, Law has the ability to score from all over the court. He's known for getting around guards and driving the paint.

As Kevin Rogers noted, it is going to take all five players on the court to stop Law, whether it's by drawing a charge or altering his shot somehow.

"When the game is on the line in the last five minutes you know Acie Law is going to do

what he does best, and that's take over games," Rogers said. "He has done it all year and that's just the type of player he is. It is going to take a team to contain him."

Unfortunately for the Bears, Law isn't the only weapon Coach Billy Gillispie has.

With senior Tim Bush out for the season, Baylor big men such as Rogers, Mamadou Diene and Josh Lomers will have their hands full with the Aggies' dominating front line of 6-foot-

10 Antanas Kavaliauskas and 6-foot-9 Joseph Jones who have combined for a total of 25.2 points and 13.0 rebounds per game this season.

"Those big guys are no joke. With Joseph, (Kavaliauskas) and a few guys off the bench like Pompey and Brian Davis, those guys all play hard. They are very good and very talented. It is going to be a big challenge for our big guys to help contain those guys," Rogers said.

Even though the Bears may not be in contention for an NCAA Tournament bid, they refuse to roll over and blow off the rest of the season.

"The one thing that has been great about these young guys is that they are really resilient," assistant coach Matt Driscoll said. "They have done a great job understanding where we are, and understanding the shortcomings we have put ourselves in, and in the same breath knowing we can win every time we go out there."

"It really is a testament to their inside drive."

Sophomore guard Curtis Jerrells said the Bears are determined to prove to the Big 12 that they're better than their record indicates. He said there's no better way to do this than to go into Reed Arena on Saturday and upset the Aggies.

The game will be televised on ESPN Plus.

Track hits road for Iowa, indoor championships

Lequalan McDonald
Reporter

The Baylor track and field team will compete in the 2007 Big 12 Indoor Championship held at the Lied Athletic Center in Ames, Iowa, this weekend starting Friday. Finals will be held on Saturday.

The No. 4 ranked men's team enter the weekend with the top times in the 200-meter dash (20.85, 21.12), 400-meter dash (46.80, 46.80, 48.63), and the 4x400 meter relay (3:05.14). The women have a top time in the distance medley relay (11:10.71).

Some of those times have already assured Baylor spots in the NCAA Indoor Championships.

The men's 4x400 meter relay posted the nation's fastest time of 3:05.14.

The men's team will be led this weekend by senior Reggie Witherspoon and sophomore Jacob Norman.

Witherspoon won the 200, the 400 and was a part of the winning 4x400 meter relay last year in the Big 12 Indoor Championship on the way to earning Big 12 Male Indoor Athlete of the Year honors.

Witherspoon has already won the 200, the 400 and helped win the 4x400 meter relay this season — the 400 during the Lobo Invitational and the 200 at the Arkansas Invitational.

"I'm just trying to do better than last year," Witherspoon said. "I'm not worried about

what place I get as much as what time I get."

Witherspoon and freshman Trey Harts own the top two times in the conference in the 200, and Baylor has the top three times in the 400, and six of the top nine in total.

Like Witherspoon, Norman is a returning champion. Last year, Norman won the 60-meter dash at the Championship. This year, in his first competition since a hip injury, Norman has the second-fastest time in the 60 (6.72).

Norman is coming off arthroscopic hip surgery.

"I'm just trying to come back strong from the injury," Norman said.

"It's God's blessing if I win coming off of the surgery."

The women will also be competing.

"We haven't ran the times we needed to run, but we will," senior Lauren Tillman said. "We feel good about this weekend."

The women have their share of top times, too.

Sophomore Carla Grace has top times in the 60 and the 200, while Tillman and sophomore Katrina Taylor both have top-five times in the 600-yard at the Sooner Open.

Tillman said a lot of hard work has been put in for the indoor championship, and things will come together in Ames.

"We placed third last year. We can win it this time," Witherspoon said. "There are really no favorites this year, so we are in the hunt."

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Courtesy photo/Heather Ann

Ethan Durelle, a band made up of four Baylor alumni, has performed at hundreds of concerts and events in cities across Texas and the U.S. The band's next Waco concert is on March 30 at Mission Waco's Jubilee Theatre.

Making it big isn't all easy, but band says it's worth it

By Aileen Wong
Reporter

One man's laughter made children cry.

Another man is a pastor at a church for the homeless.

Both contributed to the creation of Ethan Durelle's band name.

Ethan comes from a short story that one of the band members read. The man was a dark character, selfish and mean. The second part of the band name was inspired by the last name of the pastor of Church Under the Bridge, Jimmy Dorrell.

It's the juxtaposition of selfishness versus charity, guitarist Chris Mann said.

PART 3 IN A 3-PART SERIES MUSICIANS ON THE ROAD TO THE TOP

The band is made up of four Baylor graduates: Mann; Evan Lecker, the guitarist and lead vocalist; Jeff Weathers, the drummer; and T.J. McLemore, the bassist.

Ethan Durelle formed in fall 2000 when Weathers and Mann were at Baylor.

"Chris and I played together in high school, and he and I had a natural chemistry playing together," Weathers said.

Mann and Weathers then met Lecker during the same fall.

"Baylor was a weird place to find people," Weathers said.

"Evan came in to join the band and was a good guitar player."

A year later, McLemore joined the band as the bassist.

The band members said they have been through obstacles

that many starting artists don't anticipate in the rise to stardom. They said they face challenges in the music business, like running a band, booking and promoting shows and writing and recording music.

"It starts out so easy and simple — until you realize how complicated it is," Weathers said.

"The first recording can kill a band. There's the classic issue of artistic differences."

Each member of the band grew up listening to the same core of music, but they also listened to very different things like jazz, classical and motown.

Despite their differences, they have found common ground to create a self-described "post punk jazz-fused lounge rock."

"I wouldn't want to not be playing," Mann said. "I would cut my arm off."

This summer, there were rumors that the band broke up because it wasn't playing as much as usual. Instead, each of the members was going through a major change — such as marriages and graduations — and the band needed to step back from the music. They were also working regular hours and not playing very many shows.

"This past summer could have been the end," McLemore said. "Instead it brought us together."

Now, the members of Ethan Durelle said they have seen the fruits of their labor.

"Whatever success we have is humbling because we haven't done anything to deserve it," McLemore said. "We're getting to do what we love."

The band doesn't define its success by its popularity. It is more interested in defining success by doing what they love

and impacting others.

"We want to encourage growth and make an impact in the music community," Weathers said. "We'd like to be an influence in a very dark industry."

Ethan Durelle, who is signed with Esotype Records, has put out four different albums, including *Capgun Sessions Demo* in 2002 and *White Knuckles on Turned Wheels* in 2003.

It released the hit song "Televisions in the Wall" on Esotype Records' *Compilation One: A Symposium on the Real Life Threats of You and Me* in 2004.

Ethan Durelle has seven shows lined up through May and will perform March 30 at The Jubilee Theatre in Waco.

Over the course of its career, the band has played at hundreds of venues in Texas, including Dallas' Deep Ellum and Austin's Sixth Street.

They've also performed at festivals, including Cornerstone Festival 2002, 2003 and 2004, Northgate Festival 2005 and on Northgate's main stage in 2006, as well as at numerous Baylor events, such as Diadeloso, Welcome Week and Brothers Under Christ's Island Party.

It has also opened for well-known bands such as Switchfoot, Eisley, Lovedrug, Action Action, Cool Hand Luke, Stavesacre, Joy Electric, Embodiment and Radiant.

The band members started a new record a year and a half ago and are currently in the mixing process. They hope to release their untitled album sometime this year.

To find out more about Ethan Durelle, visit www.ethandurelle.net or www.myspace.com/ethandurelle.

Fall Out Boy's album fails to achieve its past heights

Critic says band's newest, 'Infinity on High,' departs from its earlier days of creativity

By Kathryn Waggoner
Contributor

I was pulling for this album. I really was.

But besides the first four tracks, the rest of the recordings epitomize the typical album record executives push for.

It's as if someone put Fall Out Boy in a microwave, pushed the "cookie-cutter" button and out came its new album, *Infinity on High*.

ALBUM REVIEW

For those who have followed the band since its debut album, *Take This to Your Grave* in 2003, you'll notice its sound has gradually shifted from edgy to average. This shift became noticeable when record executives produced its fourth album, *From Under the Cork Tree*, a few years ago. While songs like "Dance, Dance" dominated the Billboard Charts, the sound in the ears of many hardcore fans was already becoming "too commercial."

Since its debut on MTV, Fall Out Boy has become to teenage girls what NSync was in the 1990s.

Since the band's fame has greatly increased since its debut, there is still a definite market for the new album. So, if you were one who set your ring tone to "Sugar, We're Going Down" after it hit mainstream radio in 2005, you will adore the monotonous phrasing and mediocre instrumental arrangement this band has apparently patented.

When Jay Z is the first thing you hear after you push play, you know this album will be different.

Infinity on High is just another album by another band that became famous all too quickly. Is



Courtesy photo

Fall Out Boy released 'Infinity on High,' the band's fourth album, on Feb. 6th.

it bearable? Yes. Is it a reflection of the band's signature essence? Somewhat. Is it innovative? No.

The album obviously still contains some of the "whiz-kid" humor that is identifiable with the band. And the talent of the band's lead singer, Patrick Stump, is undeniable.

The problem is, however, that the record lacks their once celebrated hooks, compelling melodies and original choruses.

Not only do many of the songs resemble one another, but the simplicity of the musical arrangement is so droning it could easily put an insomniac to sleep.

In contrast to the commonality of the rest of the album, "Thriller," "The Take Over, The Breaks Over," "This Ain't A Scene, It's an Arms Race," and "I'm Like a Lawyer With The Way I'm Always Trying To Get You Off" redeems some musical integrity for the band.

The first track lyrics saying, "So long live the car crash

hearts. Our hearts beat for the diehards" ironically alludes to their devoted fans, who have followed it since the band's beginning.

"This Ain't A Scene, It's an Arms Race" recently debuted as the most downloaded song on iTunes, so there must be something there.

I don't know if it's the cache of drum arrangements or the anthem-like lyrics that make this song so catchy and captivating, but this is the one song that saves some face for an otherwise "MTV-victimized" album.

One anonymous critic from iTunes harshly, if not accurately, says, "Fall Out Boy should definitely take music more seriously next time (they produce an album), instead of deciding what pair of women's jeans they're going to wear."

Though it includes a few above average tracks, this album will definitely not be played in my CD player.

Grade: C

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Political activism at Baylor

From the 1960s to 2007, have we become apathetic to the real issues?

Baylor home to alphabet soup of real issues

Life isn't perfect. There's always something that makes us want to pull out our hair and run around the room screaming at the top of our lungs.

Even though we're in the Baylor Bubble, there are issues all around. All of these issues may not be political, but that doesn't make them any less important.

In case you need help getting started, here's an alphabet of issues that either drive students, faculty or the administration crazy.

Don't just read them, but do something to help or raise awareness. Write a letter, make a call, visit a Web site or just let your voice be heard.

—Jill Auxier, features editor

A **Alumni Association** — The contention between the association and some regents have students nervous. Read about it at www.baylor.edu/Lariat.

B **Bush Library** — Do you want Baylor to get the Bush library? What benefits or repercussions will it bring? E-mail us at Lariat_letters@baylor.edu.

C **Coal plants** — What do you think about them? Get involved in the coal plant debate by checking out the student group COALition.

D **Drainage** — Who hasn't had their jeans soaked up to their knees after walking to class on a rainy day? Tell the administration your feelings.

E **Eating disorders** — Next week is National Eating Disorder Awareness Week. Find out how to get involved at www.baylor.edu/counseling_center.

F **Facebook** — We're all addicted. In the library, in class, when we're studying for finance, it's a disease. Should it be banned by Baylor's filter?

G **Grackles** — These birds not only create problems for Baylor, but the entire Waco area is disrupted by their presence. How can we get rid of them?

H **Hazing** — Is it really a problem? Visit www.baylor.edu/student_activities/hazing for information about what hazing is, how to stop it and report it.

I **Institute for Studies of Religion** — Get involved with their surveys. Contact them at (254) 710-7555 to find out if you can help out with their research.

J **Join** — Be involved with student government and let your opinions be heard. No more complaining without action: www.baylor.edu/sg.

K **Kittens** — Help save the stray kittens in the Waco area from all the crazy drivers. Contact the Humane Society at (254) 754-1454.

L **Lilley** — How's he doing? Why don't you send him some words of encouragement or criticism? Find out more at www.baylor.edu/president.

M **Minority issues** — Last semester diversity issues permeated the paper. Contact student government to find out more about diversity forums.

N **Non-Baptist students groups** — Should they be allowed to meet on campus? Let the regents know your thoughts by talking to student government.

O **On-campus housing** — Do we really need more? Again, let the regents know your thoughts on what Baylor needs.

P **Parking** — Will the new parking garage alleviate our parking woes? Visit www.baylor.edu/parking to track the progress.

Q **Quietness** — What's appropriate library etiquette? The library comment box is waiting to hear about your study preferences.



Texas Collection

Baylor students joined about 2 million Americans across the nation to protest the Vietnam War in 1969 on Baylor campus. This Peace Moratorium on Oct. 15, 1969, is believed to be the largest demonstration in American history according to BBC News. Student activism has changed throughout the years and is now portrayed in different ways thanks to technological advances.

Students show activism in unique ways

By Katy Matlock
Contributor

Arguably the most famous era of political activism among college students was the 1960s. Nearly 50 years later, today's generation of college students is addressing political issues and causes in new ways from their role in a global society.

"I don't think it's fair to compare our ideas of activism to the ones before us," said Chelsea Saylor, a Tyler sophomore and vice president of Baylor Republicans.

"Our ideas are different, and our world view is different," Saylor said. "It's a much larger view of the world, and at the same time a much more personal view of the world."

She thinks the way students look at politics has changed.

"Students view politics as more of a mindset now," she said.

Dr. Dwight Allman, associate professor in the political science department, defined political activism as activity, usually in concert with others, which is directed toward the achievement of specific public ends or purposes and which typically involves participants with one of the institutions of government.

Allman, the graduate program director in the department, offered the example of helping in a political candidate's campaign versus participating in Steppin' Out, which, "although commendable," is not political activism.

In the political science department, many students participate in some sort of political activity during their undergraduate years, Allman said.

"My impression, however, is that the majority of even political science majors in any given year are not much involved in political activism," he said.

Fort Worth senior Courtney Ray said she is sometimes disappointed with the student body's level of activism. Ray described students who are politically active as "pockets" within the larger student population. As a member of Students for Social Justice she tries to raise awareness on campus, Ray said. The focus, however, is not political.

"We're not trying to make a political statement," she said. "We're trying to make a statement about humanity."

Ray said causes that are labeled as "liberal" can scare conservative students away from supporting them.

Caleb Gallifont, internal relations representative to the student body external vice president, said solutions don't necessarily have to be partisan.



Melea Burke/Lariat staff

Plano sophomore Stephanie Formas (from left), Austin sophomore Taylor Kulhanek and DeSoto sophomore Zach Krohn dressed in green to show their support Tuesday at the Texas Clean Air Coalition meeting at the Waco Convention Center.

"I think you have to debunk any misconceptions or false stigmas about political activism and keep it more in the role of a person responding to what they really care about," Gallifont, a Phoenix sophomore, said.

Sometimes Baylor students can suffer from Baylor Bubble syndrome, said San Antonio senior Nicole Stutes.

"(Waco) is not their community," Stutes said. "There's no motivation to get involved in the politics or the community outreach."

Alexandra Neville, president of Baylor Democrats, encourages students to keep themselves updated on current events.

"To be politically active you have to be aware of what's going on around you," Neville, a San Antonio junior, said.

External Vice President Alan Marshall said the EVP office is making students aware of what's going on in the greater Waco community.

"I think it's very important for students to be active on their college campuses in a political way," said Marshall, a Cuneo senior.

"I think that's the essence of democracy and the American spirit," he said.

Dr. Jon Singletary, assistant professor in the School of Social Work, said he sometimes falsely assumes Baylor students aren't politically active. Singletary, director of the Center for Family and Community Ministries, defined political activism under the larger umbrella of advocacy.

"(Advocacy) is a process of helping empower community members to gain the voice and power they need to improve their living situation," he said.

Singletary said there's a legislative side and a community side to advocacy. He defined raising awareness among students and within churches

as a form of activism. Even if it's just helping students think about issues, "the conversations are just as important (as actions)," he said.

With this definition, Singletary said he sees many students and faculty participating in both aspects of activism.

"I'm continually impressed with Baylor students," Singletary said. "I assume they have this apathy of the bubble, but when we have conversations, I'm continually impressed."

Garland sophomore Bryan Fonville said there's a minority of students who are politically active, but certain causes can increase the student body's political involvement.

"Every once in a while an issue strikes a chord that causes a significant movement towards the issue," Fonville said.

Baylor students have recently responded to the community's concern about Texas Utilities' interest in building several coal-power plants in the area. Fonville created a group in response to the concern. The group, COALition, currently has 677 members in its online Facebook group.

"I've been very impressed with the student response," Fonville, chief of staff to the EVP, said.

Social networking sites such as Facebook and MySpace exemplify one of the most notable differences between previous generations' activism and today's. These sites help students organize to support an issue, Lloyd Franklin, a Grand Prairie sophomore and EVP external relations representative, said. The problem with sites them is that they can put the student in a passive role, Franklin said.

"Students are learning to be engaged in electronic advocacy," Singletary said.

"This can make public conversation difficult, but just because we don't see it publicly doesn't mean there's not an exciting conversation happening," he said.

"We just have to learn to think in new ways," he said.

Saylor said apathy among students is not the problem.

"People are interested and aware," she said. "They care. We just need people willing to take the initiative."

In 1964, *The Baylor Lariat* ran an editorial about campus organizations' presidential campaign activities.

In it, the editorial board wrote, "College is a time of training for life outside in the world, and training for political responsibility is part of college life."

After nearly five decades of social and technological changes, the challenge still appears timely for Baylor students.

R **Regents** — Do they listen to the students? Write a letter to them or to us at the Lariat about your thoughts.

S **Smoking on campus** — The Student Senate recommendation to limit smoking on-campus passed. Let Dr. Frank Shushok know how you feel.

T **2012** — It delegates the direction of our university, but how important is it? Sound off to the Lariat your opinions on Brooks Village and more.

U **Underage drinking** — Are Waco Police creaking down hard enough? Find out more at www.tabc.state.tx.us.

V **Voting** — Whether it's student government or local elections, is anyone voting? We are the future. Vote in the next election.

W **Women's issues** — Is there a double-standard for men and women at Baylor? Check out the gender studies minor in the degree catalog.

X **Xenophobia** — Fear of foreigners? Find out about study abroad trips at www.baylor.edu/study_abroad.

Y **Youth** — The Focus program at Mission Waco and MCYC needs mentors. Contact Mission Waco at 753-4900 or MCYC at 756-6292.

Z **Zzzzz** — Are students sacrificing sleep for grades? Contact the counseling center for information about healthy lifestyles.