

ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2007

It's not just a game



Holiday shoppers go crazy for Xbox, Wii, PS3

Photo: Associated Press Illustration: David Poe/Lariat Staff

By Bryant Clark
Reporter

With the peak of the holiday shopping season upon us, difficult decisions can plague even the best gift givers. One of the most confusing markets happens to be the video game genre.

With so many consoles, games and accessories, how is anyone supposed to know what is worth the money? No one wants to make a costly mistake in purchasing a bogus game or worse, receive a lackluster gift.

To help gift givers through the decision making process this holiday, the Xbox 360, Wii and PlayStation 3 specs have been broken down.

Xbox 360

Microsoft's Xbox 360 sales increased with the latest release of retail figures in Japan. The recent success is partially attributed to the holiday discounts for video game consoles and accessories.

Amazon.com offered a discount on Halo 3 Legendary Edition for \$79 in lieu of the regular \$129 listing, just in time for the Thanksgiving weekend shopping surge.

Best Buy offers an HD DVD Bun-



Associated Press

dle with the purchase of a 360. It includes the premium system, the HD DVD player for the 360, an additional wireless controller, Forza Motorsport 2 and Marvel: Ultimate Alliance for \$580.

Justin Seaman, a shift director at Game Crazy in Bellmead, warned consumers of problems with the 360.

"There have been cases of the red ring of death for the 360. Microsoft's warranty last three years, which is longer than most markets," Seaman said. "They've changed a lot with their system. They've added different processors and CPU's. They've changed the power supply as well."

When a 360 experiences a general hardware failure, three flashing red lights appear on the front of the console. This term has been coined the "red ring of death." Different hardware systems can fail leaving the console unusable.

Tim Brown, a sales associate at Special FX in Richland Mall, said he has received a lot of complaints about the 360. He keeps encouraging consumers that not all is lost with a problematic 360.

"If you do get the three red rings, at least you know you're under the warranty. If it's anything else, you're out of luck," Brown said.

Crawford freshman C.K. King has a premium edition Xbox 360.

King said he enjoys the 360 because it has a large selection of quality games, as well as great online

multi player options. "In my personal opinion, the 360 gets you the most bang for your buck," he said.

However, King's experience with the 360 hasn't been perfect.

Some of the early-release models of the 360 had a problem with overheating, including his. Fortunately, Microsoft's customer support has been accommodating.

"The repairs are being completely paid for by Microsoft," King said. "They even gave me one free month of Xbox Live Gold."

According to GameTrailers.com, popular games selling this season are Mass Effect, Assassin's Creed or The Orange Box this holiday season.

Some unique titles are scheduled to be released for the 360 in 2008.

Alan Wake is a third-person adventure game that can best be explained as half game, half movie. Designed by the developers of the Max Payne games, Remedy Entertainment says it should be somewhat similar in nature. The game boasts itself as a psychological thriller.

Grand Theft Auto IV, Devil May Cry 4, Ninja Gaiden 2 and Fable 2 look to build upon their past success as staples in the game industry on the 360 next year.

There is also some good news for Halo 3 and Ace Combat fans.

Microsoft announced this week that it would sell a new Halo 3 map pack for 800 Microsoft Points. The map pack, scheduled to be released in December, will include three addi-

tional maps.

Namco, publisher of Ace Combat 6, released five new plane variants for use in game.

Atlus U.S.A. Inc. announced this week it will publish titles for the 360. The first titles to be published include new strategy RPG games. Atlus' current success has been recognized with the release of Trauma Center series for the Nintendo Wii.

Wii

Shoppers last year had a difficult time finding a Wii for purchase with Nintendo having created an imbalance of supply and demand for the Wii. The desire for Nintendo Wii's is still unmatched by any other game system.

According to a recent survey by Weekly Reader Research and retailer Game Crazy, the Wii was on 32 percent of 8 to 17-year-olds' wish lists, making it the top-requested game system on holiday wish lists.

The Sony PlayStation 3 was on 19 percent, and Microsoft's Xbox 360 was on 17 percent for 8 to 17-year-olds' wish lists.

Walmart.com happens to be offering two holiday bundles for the Wii.

The Customer Choice Bundle

Please see GAMES, page 8



Associated Press

Third-party e-mail providers become popular

By Anita Pere
Staff writer

Outsourcing may be popular for some entities, but would it work for university technology services?

Many colleges, including Dartmouth University, Cornell University, Ohio State University and Connecticut University are considering taking system wide e-mail to the next level by outsourcing to a third-party e-mail provider, according to a report by InsideHigherEd.com.

Google and Microsoft remain the most popular choices for e-mail outsourcing for colleges.

Arizona State University led the developing trend, adapting to an exterior e-mail system with Google Apps Education Edition. So far, the university has had success with the system.

But Baylor IT officials aren't seriously considering e-mail outsourcing at this time, but merely "cautiously observing," according to Patti Orr, vice president for information technology.

Becky King, assistant vice president of information technology, and Orr shared a concern about the quality of service these e-mail sites would provide.

"It's generally been our belief that service to our students, faculty and staff wouldn't be as good if (e-mail is) outsourced," King said.

Baylor account holders could no longer call Baylor ITS for support with e-mail problems and inquiries.

Orr wondered if help with these companies would compare to the infamously bad and time-consuming tech support of computer companies. At least with university e-mail on Baylor servers, IT officials know the limits of service provision, Orr said.

"You're putting a lot of trust in that (outside) group to always provide A+ service," she said.

Orr and King perceived security as another possible downside of third-party

Please see E-MAIL, page 3

Senior killed in 3-vehicle collision

By Ida Jamshidi
Assistant city editor

Houston senior Megan Marie Small was killed Sunday in a three-vehicle collision while driving on Highway 6 north of Calvert in Robertson County.

Small was driving a 2000 Chevrolet Camaro northbound on Highway 6 and was struck by a 2002 GMC pick-up headed southbound, the spokeswoman said.

The pick-up was driven by 20-year-old Jason Reed Vestal of Carbon. Reed is in guarded con-

dition with incapacitating injuries.

Laura Ruth Gleffe, a 20-year-old from Houston was following Small in a 2000 Volkswagen Beetle, according to the Texas DPS spokeswoman. Gleffe was treated and released.

The spokeswoman said an investigation is being conducted as to the cause of the accident.

Dr. Gouri Jas, associate professor of chemistry and biochemistry, said Small was one of the brightest young students in his biochemistry class.

Jas said that based on con-

versations with Small, she was intending to go to a pharmacy school.

"The tragic event took a bright, young, ambitious student from us," Jas said.

Wichita, Kan., senior Chris Pankow knew Small through class and said she was fun and entertaining to be around.

He said Small had a "work before play mentality."

"She was someone who was very studious," he said. "She was hard-working."

Pankow recalled the gift he received from Small on his last

birthday. He said she was good at giving birthday presents.

"She knows I don't drink, so she got me some sparkling grape juice and she wrapped it in a brown paper sack."

"She'll be sadly missed," he added.

Students who would like to talk with a counselor may call the Counseling Center at 710-2467 or University Ministries at 710-3517.

Funeral arrangements are still pending.

Grace Maalouf, editor in chief, contributed to this story.

Local churches look after environment

By Jackie Hyland
Reporter

He's got the whole world in his hands while churches around the world are trying to get rid of their environmental footprints.

Christian stewardship of the environment has become one of the main issues at the forefront of church concerns. Even here in Waco, there are environmental movements where Christians believe that taking care of the Earth is a responsibility they are

to honor as followers of Christ.

Organizations such as National Council of Churches of Christ Eco-Justice Programs, What Would Jesus Drive?, Earth Ministry, Evangelical Environmental Network and Network Alliance of Congregations Caring for the Earth are just a few coalitions of Christians that have banded together in support of environmental stewardship.

According to the American Baptist Policy Statement on Ecology, "Our responsibility as stewards is one of the most basic

relationships we have with God. It implies a great degree of caring for God's creation and all God's creatures."

This year University Baptist Church has taken direct "green" initiatives. Headed by Dallas junior Robert Kent, the UBC Green Team has promoted preservation of the environment through their mission that, "as a community of faith, we can and should think about and act upon our responsibility toward the living environment. As followers of Christ, we desire to

redeem all of creation, not merely for self-preservation, but as an act of worship that brings honor and glory to the Creator."

"Ben Dudley, the community pastor, contacted me in August looking for someone to head up environmental group at the church and I said I would like to do that," Kent said. "At first I was just someone to take out the recycling, but I thought there's a lot more we could do than just recycle."

Please see CHURCH, page 8



Stephanie Jeter/Lariat staff

On the flip side

Carrollton sophomore Courtney Burge and Denton freshman Taylor Follis practice Tuesday at the Marrs McLean Gymnasium for the ROTC Christmas party, where they and 10 others will have a choreographed swing dance to Glenn Miller's "In The Mood."

Baylor got sacked by missing out on Singletary hire

When Kevin Steele was fired in 2002 after an abysmal four-year tenure at Baylor, Bears fans were optimistic that maybe there was a possibility in turning around a program that was considered the laughingstock of the Big 12 Conference.

The Baylor faithful pleaded to bring back Mike Singletary, the face of Baylor football, to the sidelines of Floyd Casey Stadium.

"Samurai Mike" was overlooked by Steele's eventual successor Guy Morriss, and well, we know how that turned out.

But after Morriss was fired at the beginning of last week, the Bears were fortunate enough to get a mulligan on the opportunity to hire Singletary.

With a father who is a die-hard Chicago Bears fan, I have heard countless stories of the "Monsters of the Midway." And although at the ripe age of 19,

I never personally watched Singletary cause havoc to opposing offenses, the NFL Network and YouTube have filled me in on Singletary's staggering Hall of Fame career.

The commander of Baylor's defense in the late 1970s to early 1980s, Singletary is a proven motivator, leader and an all-around respected man. But above all, Singletary knows what it takes to win.

So was I disappointed when I discovered on that dismal Thanksgiving Day that Baylor was letting a legend slip through its hands? More like devastated.

Despite numerous rumors of what caused Singletary and Baylor to go separate ways, the exact details of the situation have not been released. They might never be.

So as much as I would like to take my shots at an athletic director who graduated from a

sports take



BY JUSTIN BAER

university in Canada that does not even have a football team and a board of regents who hikes my tuition every 10 minutes, I simply can't. Because I do not know who is to blame for letting who I (among the majority of students, alums and fans) believe was the best candidate capable of igniting a spark into a downtrodden football program get away.

Some critics argue that the 10-time NFL Pro Bowler doesn't have the experience as a head coach or a coordinator. So instead, we hire coaches who have had mediocre success?

Baylor's line of coaches since Grant Teaff has been unsuccessfully cyclical. Why not go out on a limb and do whatever you can to bring in a guy like Singletary, who did so much for this program in the past? It's not like our football team has anything else to lose.

Part of the NFL fraternity, Singletary would have the ability to surround himself with brilliant minds by bringing in a top-notch coaching staff.

Yes, he wouldn't be available until after the San Francisco 49ers close out their season in January, but I would rather be without a head coach for a month than hire another semi-successful coach for five years.

Singletary called out the state of Baylor football in an interview with the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* Thursday after it was announced he would not be coming to Baylor.

"If you're talking a national championship — that's one of the things that I mentioned — then I want to talk to you. If you're talking just competing, I don't want to be a part of that. But if you're thinking other things, I've got to get back to what I'm doing and be focused on that."

Some may label what the three-time All-American did as throwing Baylor under the bus; I call it a wake-up call.

Other than a new practice facility that came from private donations and a corny pre-game introduction this season that was a parody of the movie *300*, what has Baylor done in the past 20 years to illustrate that they are committed to a successful football program?

Hiring Singletary would bring in a man who could competitively recruit in a state that has a bottomless pit of talent. (See the University of Kansas

and University of Missouri's rosters for further proof.)

Not only that, the hiring of Singletary would exemplify the idea that maybe Baylor does care about football.

There has got to be a way to fill the often half-empty stands of Floyd Casey Stadium. Bringing in a man that Bears and Wacoans could both be excited about it is a good start.

So as I watch the coaching search unravel before my eyes in the upcoming days, will I automatically condemn the new coach that inherits the football program?

Not necessarily. Just know that he is going to be compared to the success that Mike Singletary has if and when he becomes a head coach somewhere else down the road.

Justin Baer is a sophomore business journalism major from Midlothian.

Editorial

Museum has edifice complex

Who doesn't love a statue? You know Baylor does. We've got Judge Baylor, Judge Burleson, the Immortal Ten and the latest installation, the bear outside of the McLane Student Life Center. These statues are Baylor's pride and part of what make our campus one of the most beautiful around.

It seems Waco is finally taking notice of the prominent way we show our pride. But the city is talking of taking it to new heights ... literally.

Officials at the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum have proposed a 55- to 67-foot statue of a Ranger to be placed near Interstate 35 overlooking the Brazos River to celebrate the museum's 40th anniversary. Hopefully, the new statue will not only be looking over Waco but looking out for Waco by fall of 2008.

When the *Lariat* editorial board learned that the statue would not bear the likeness of Nolan Ryan, but rather a cowboy dressed in 1880s attire carrying a Colt .45 revolver and a Remington rifle, we admit we were a bit skeptical at first. But the Waco City Council gave its informal blessing last month for the \$650,000 privately funded project, and the wheels are already in motion.

Sculptor David Adickes, who created the 67-foot-tall Sam Houston statue on Interstate 45 at Huntsville, has agreed to take on the Waco Texas Ranger project. But unfortunately, Adickes refuses to make the statue taller than Sam Houston.

However, to spoil the fun, an advisory board of business and community leaders voted recently to recom-



mend that the council reject building the statue, complaining that it will bring a negative image to Waco.

The question is not whether funds can be raised for this kind of project, as the museum has already come up with \$400,000. The question is whether the city will allow the statue to be placed on city land and how big it will actually be.

With the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum attracting more than 60,000 people a year, it seems reasonable to want to celebrate. But

the advisory board plans to ruin the party by holding a public meeting to discuss the statue on Dec. 10.

We urge Wacoans and the Baylor community to get behind this project because outside of a statue of Chuck Norris, there's nothing that says "don't mess with Texas" more than a 67-foot Texas Ranger statue.

Actually, to be sure that the statue becomes the pride of the Waco skyline, we should start a petition to demolish the Alico building.

The statue will also make for stiff

competition as the most absurd feature of Central Texas. The monolithic domes located in the town of Italy are a close second.

It seems only natural to spawn a statue similar that of the father of Texas, Stephen F. Austin, the unofficial creator of the Rangers whose statue is located in Brazoria County.

Whichever way you look at it, the prospect of an imposing 60-foot John Wayne look-alike surveying the city being a source of pride for Waco is, perhaps, a matter of perspective.

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.

Peace and love politics would be wonderful combination in Washington

I think Elvis Costello probably said it best when he sang, "There's one thing I wanna know: What's so funny 'bout peace, love and understanding?" Preach it, brother.

That single was released nearly 30 years ago, and yet it seems Americans are still asking the same question.

We're stuck in a war we can't get out of (and don't even know why we were in it in the first place), and love is definitely the last thing on politicians' minds as the jabs and accusations fly back and forth. And consider-

ing these two situations alone, understanding seems completely out of the question.

But last month, it became apparent that the Senate officially condemns peace, love and understanding when they shot down an interesting proposal from Democratic New York Senators Hillary Clinton and Charles Schumer.

The proposal would have earmarked \$1 million to go toward a commemorative Woodstock museum in Bethel, New York. Woodstock was the land of love, hippies, music and people for

point of view



BY AMANDA ROBISON

peace. So it obviously excited me to hear that the seemingly hardened Hillary would support such an idea.

The thought occurred to me, if only more politicians had the same appreciation for the Woodstock ideology, the world

would probably be a much lovelier place.

Just imagine ... maybe the Democrats and Republicans in Congress would join hands, sing their proposals around campfires and braid each other's hair with flowers.

And the country would be led by peace-and-love-loving politicians like Clinton apparently is. Or maybe not.

Actually, definitely not, because Senate Republicans were quick to deny the earmarked funds and obliterate all hope outright.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., called the proposal "a shining example of what's wrong with Washington on pork-barrel, out-of-control spending."

McCain seems to be confused, because in my humble opinion, a better example of "out-of-control spending" would probably be the trillions of dollars we are currently spending (of other people's money) on a war that is killing our friends and family members, all for an unclear cause.

In fact, compared to that, just a measly million dollars to

remember an event that brought people together under the banner of peace and love seems like pocket change.

Either way, it was a nice, albeit fleeting thought that maybe our politicians do recognize that peace, love and understanding are lacking in our country. So hats off for at least putting peace out there.

Maybe they'll buy some more weapons with the money instead, and maybe then McCain would be happy.

Amanda Robison is a senior journalism major from Waco.

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EASY # 17
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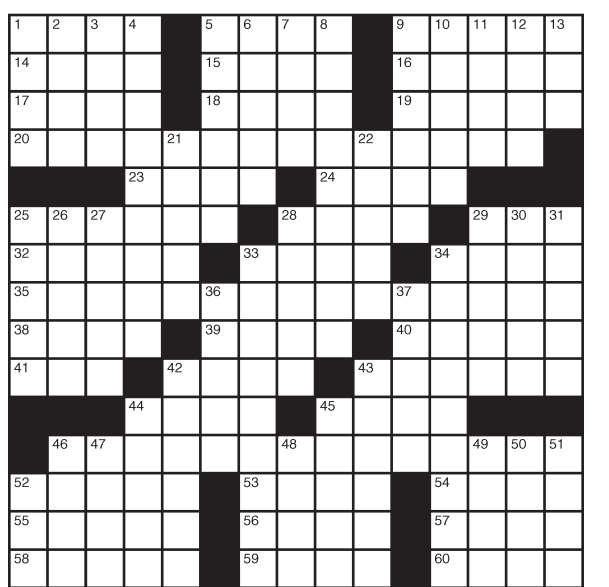
THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS**
- 1 Genesis character
 - 5 Opposite of fem.
 - 9 Chubby, and then some
 - 14 Medicinal fluids
 - 15 Singer Fitzgerald
 - 16 Convened again
 - 17 Sharp taste
 - 18 Con job
 - 19 Saudis
 - 20 Perry Mason's admission?
 - 23 "The Virginian" author
 - 24 Govern
 - 25 Impassive
 - 28 Rhine tributary
 - 29 Roast hosts, briefly
 - 32 Imminent danger
 - 33 "My Friend"
 - 34 Flue collection
 - 35 Aesop's admission?
 - 38 Dove sounds
 - 39 Privy to
 - 40 Actress Eve
 - 41 Raggedy doll
 - 42 Garbage vessel
 - 43 Magician's word
 - 44 Recipe directive
 - 45 Hunter's quarry

- 46 Captain Bligh's admission?
 - 52 Villain's look
 - 53 Ditch around a castle
 - 54 Astronomer Sagan
 - 55 Bare
 - 56 Take apart
 - 57 One-celled plant
 - 58 Color shades
 - 59 Observed
 - 60 Antique autos
- DOWN**
- 1 Spumante
 - 2 Fizzled out
 - 3 Florence's river
 - 4 Flowering trees
 - 5 Engaged, as gears
 - 6 Old highway to Fairbanks
 - 7 Eastern European
 - 8 Film set employees
 - 9 Delphi attraction
 - 10 "Mr. Television"
 - 11 Biblical twin
 - 12 Kemo
 - 13 UFO passengers
 - 21 Tough fabric
 - 22 Surrounding glows
 - 25 Virgo star
 - 26 Grand National

- Park
- 27 "Citizen Kane" director Welles
- 28 Traffic director
- 29 Sulking periods
- 30 Ajax competitor
- 31 Shorthand, for short
- 33 Know-nothing
- 34 Public conveyance
- 36 Lawful
- 37 Destiny
- 42 Baby birds?
- 43 Running-back
- 44 One cubic meter
- 45 Open space in a forest
- 46 Division word
- 47 Nasty
- 48 Unaided
- 49 Bargain basement event
- 50 Cogito sum
- 51 Ruer's word
- 52 Mach+ jet



By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR
11/28/07

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

Santa's Workshop to benefit 1,013 children

By Victoria Marie S. Bongat
Reporter

Although it has seen a decline in the number of toys donated this year, Santa's Workshop will return to Baylor for its 15th year from 10 a.m. to noon Friday with a sufficient number of toys.

"While it is true that we have only had about 350 toys donated to this point, we have also had more than \$1,700 donated," said Karen Klinger, assistant director of organizations, service and administration in Student Activities. "Those funds that have been donated will go toward the purchase of toys to supplement the donated gifts." Klinger said she does not expect there will be any kind of toy shortage.

Santa's Workshop is a chance to donate new toys of equal or lesser value than \$10 that are not battery-operated and are appropriate for children between the ages of 3 and 5. Donations will be accepted until 5 p.m. Thurs-

day. "Santa's Workshop is our effort to positively impact the Waco community by providing local Headstart and Jumpstart children with a meaningful holiday experience," Klinger said. "Santa's Workshop provides participating children with a free lunch, a goody bag, an opportunity to interact with Baylor students, meet Clifford the Big Red Dog and Bruiser Bear, receive a gift, and meet Santa and Mrs. Claus."

Waco junior and Santa's Workshop volunteer coordinator Clara Dutton said this year's Santa's Workshop will be bigger and more organized. Santa's Workshop started in 1992 and has consistently grown every year.

"Last year we had a little over 800 children participate," Klinger said. "This year, we will have 1,013 children on campus on Friday."

Dutton said Santa's Workshop is a unique event at Baylor.

"Once you see it, you can't think it wasn't worth it," she said. "We not only collect toys, but (we also) bring kids to campus, our home."

The Office of Student Activities runs Santa's Workshop, with the help of Aramark and several other event sponsors, and a steering committee that is composed of nine students who volunteered.

But Santa's Workshop is considerably dependent on individual students.

"People call us on their own accord for no other reason than they want to help," Dutton said.

There are several opportunities to earn service hours. At 3 p.m. Thursday, volunteers will decorate, fill goody bags and set up tables in the McLane Student Life Center gym.

At 5 p.m. and during Christmas on Fifth Street, they will wrap all of the toys in the Beckham room, which is on the second floor of the Bill Daniel Student Union Building, near the

Barfield drawing room.

She said students should stop by and wrap a few gifts while they're enjoying the rest of the Christmas activities. At 9 a.m. Friday, volunteers will finish setting up.

The actual event lasts from 10 a.m. to noon, but volunteers are welcome to come for just an hour if they have a break between classes. From 12 to 1 p.m., volunteers will be tearing down.

When asked about the greater need for donations, Dutton said, "Around the holidays, we have so many different drives going on at the same time."

She said students tell themselves they will donate, but they forget when they go home for Thanksgiving.

"The effort to go to the toy store just to get that is too much for some busy Baylor students," Dutton said.

If not enough toys are collected by Friday's workshop, the lack of toys will not deprive

local children of their Christmas gifts.

"Some of these toys are going to kids who won't be there," Dutton said. "We've got a lot of money donations."

She said the committee received Wal-Mart gift cards and other financial donations, which they will use to buy more toys, if necessary.

"We have had more cash donations this year rather than actual toys," she said.

Klinger said a little more than 500 toys were donated last year, but there were far fewer in financial contributions. After the event, volunteers will deliver toys to more than 150 additional kids who are not able to attend.

Gift wrapping will be held at 5:30 p.m. Thursday in the Beckham Room of the Bill Daniel Student Center.

To volunteer and to gather additional details, contact Michelle_Martinez2@baylor.edu or Karin_Klinger@baylor.edu.

BEAR BRIEFS

Holiday Art and Crafts Fair 2007 will be held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, November 28, to Thursday in the SUB Den. This event is sponsored by Student Activities. For additional information, contact Gretel_Hill@baylor.edu.

Baylor's Heavenly Voices Gospel Choir Concert will be held at 7 p.m. Saturday at First Baptist Woodway. The Heavenly Voices Gospel Choir is releasing its first CD, "Heirs of the Covenant." CDs will be on sale for \$10. Admission is free. For additional information, contact Deandre_Upshaw@baylor.edu.

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

CONTACT US

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Newsroom	710-1712
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Israelis, Palestinians agree on new negotiation plan for Palestinian state

By Anne Gearan
The Associated Press

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Sealing their pledge with an awkward handshake, Israeli and Palestinian leaders resolved Tuesday to immediately restart moribund peace talks. President Bush said he will devote himself to ending the six-decade conflict in the 14 months he has left in office.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, troubled leaders with fragile mandates for peace, told international backers and skeptical Arab neighbors that they are ready for hard bargaining toward an independent Palestinian homeland, a deal that has long eluded Mideast leaders and American presidents.

The launch of the first direct peace talks in nearly seven years was the centerpiece of a 44-nation conference Bush convened amid low expectations in this pretty, historic waterfront city east of Washington.

Reading glasses on his nose, Bush opened the one-day session by reading the just-completed text of a joint agreement that had taken weeks of contentious negotiating but set only the vaguest terms for the talks to come.

"This is the beginning of the process, not the end of it," Bush said.

The two sides understand that they need a deal, Bush said, and that they need one another.

"I pledge to devote my effort during my time as president to do all I can to help you achieve this ambitious goal," Bush told Abbas and Olmert as the three stood together in the U.S. Naval



Associated Press

President Bush, center, looks on as Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, left, and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas shake hands Tuesday at the opening session of the Mideast conference at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md.

Academy's majestic Memorial Hall.

"I give you my personal commitment to support your work with the resources and resolve of the American government."

Bush has held Mideast peace-making at arms' length for most of his nearly seven years in office, arguing that conditions in Israel and the Palestinian territories were not right for a more energetic role. Arab allies, among others, have warned that the Palestinian plight underlies other conflicts and feeds griev-

ances across the Middle East, and have urged the White House to do more.

Bush seemed to be answering that criticism Tuesday, giving detailed reasons that the time is now. He said Israeli and Palestinian leaders are ready to make peace, there is a wider and unifying fight against extremism fed by the Palestinian conflict and the world understands the urgency of acting now.

Later, in an interview with The Associated Press, Bush spoke of the importance of giv-

ing beleaguered Palestinians something positive to look forward to — and he sketched a grim alternative.

Without a hopeful vision, he said, "it is conceivable that we could lose an entire generation — or a lot of a generation — to radicals and extremists."

"There has to be something more positive. And that is on the horizon today," the president said.

Bush planned to play host to Olmert and Abbas at the White House for a third day of meet-

ings on Wednesday, including a rare session with both Mideast leaders at once.

Negotiating teams will hold their first session in the region in just two weeks, on Dec. 12, and Olmert and Abbas plan to continue one-on-one discussions they began earlier this year. In addition, many of the same nations and organizations attending Tuesday's conference will gather again on Dec. 17 in Paris to raise money for the perpetually cash-strapped Palestinians.

The bland language of the agreement released Tuesday reflected the difficulty of the task ahead. The document skirts the fundamental differences that have led to the collapse of all previous peace efforts: the borders of a Palestinian state, the status of disputed Jerusalem and the rights of Palestinian refugees and their descendants.

The agreement also commits the United States to be an arbiter of whether both sides are living up to promises unfulfilled in the past, such as corralling militants and freezing construction of Jewish settlements. Israel has resisted outside monitoring.

"I had many good reasons not to come here," Olmert told diplomats including those from Arab states that do not recognize Israel. "Memory of failures in the near and distant past weighs heavy upon us."

Speaking in Hebrew, the Israeli leader decried "dreadful terrorism perpetrated by Palestinian groups."

Abbas, speaking in Arabic, recited a familiar list of demands. These included calls for Israel to end the expansion of Jewish settlements on land that could be

part of an eventual state called Palestine and to release some of the thousands of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails.

"Neither we nor you must beg for peace from the other," Abbas said. "It is a joint interest for us and you."

"Peace and freedom is a right for us," he said, "just as peace and security is a right for you and us."

Olmert did promise that the negotiations will address all issues "which thus far have been evaded. We will not avoid any subject. While this will be an extremely difficult process for many of us, it is nevertheless inevitable."

For his part, Abbas made an impassioned appeal to Israelis to support the peace process, saying that war and terrorism "belong to the past."

The three leaders gripped hands and gave a stiff smile, then quickly left the conference. Hours of closed-door speeches about the importance and challenges of peace came next, part of the U.S. program to draw potential supporters and potential spoilers into one fold, but the leaders were not there to listen.

To attract Arab backing, the Bush administration included a session in the conference devoted to "comprehensive" peace questions — a coded reference to other Arab disputes with Israel. Syria came to the conference intending to raise its claim to the strategic Golan Heights, seized by Israel in 1967, and Lebanon wanted to talk about its border dispute with Israel. Rice told reporters that Syria and Lebanon spoke up, but she gave no details.

E-MAIL from page 1

"We're very concerned about our constituent's data," King said.

Orr thought the standards of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which requires universities to highly hold the privacy of educational records, may be infringed. She

worried that other e-mail providers may give up student information more readily than the university. But also important to the outsourcing debate is the fact that some information services are already in the hands of non-Baylor parties. King said a contractor is hired to wire new or renovated buildings for Internet service. Some systems run "application service provider mode," meaning these services

operate solely by off-site service provisions.

For example, Paciolan manages online purchases for tickets for Baylor events.

The company supervises ticketing for many schools in the Big 12, said King. TouchNet conducts business for the university associated with billing and invoices, but "the TouchNet system is integrated with the university student system," King said.

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Abbie Rosen/Lariat staff

Dr. Corey Carbonara, communications studies professor, lectured Tuesday on the impact of new creation techniques for digital content and the digital media revolution.

Digital technology a piece of art in digital media, professor says

By Caroline Korsawe
Reporter

Just as digital cameras improved imaging with better technology, digital cinema will bring about an improved cinematic experience for the viewer, demonstrating that technology is steadily advancing.

Dr. Corey Carbonara, professor of communications studies, gave a sabbatical presentation Tuesday based on his research.

Carbonara is involved in many organizations, including numerous state, national and international engineering committees, working groups, subcommittees and panels of the Federal Communications Commission and Advanced Television Systems Committee.

Moreover, Carbonara serves as a U.S. delegate to the International Telecommunication Union and is now working on research projects with NASA regarding imaging technologies for the International Space Station.

Texas Monthly distinguished Carbonara in its March 2000 issue as one of the "most powerful Texans in high-tech."

In his presentation, Carbonara highlighted the role of high-definition television technology in the rise of digital media.

He focused on the impact new digital

content creation techniques will have on the motion picture production process.

Carbonara said with a film like *Superman*, it becomes evident how much films have changed, especially in the last decade.

"It is indicative of the changes in production with higher resolution of imaging and display," Carbonara said.

He said he believes technology can be seen as another character.

He and his research partner, communication studies professor Dr. Michael Korpi, believe it is necessary to not only train leaders who will run these industries in the future, but artists as well.

Carbonara said their goal is to maintain this capability of constantly staying as close and as tight to the changes in the industry as possible. Thus, they can look at them from a technology business perspective, as well as from a cultural and artistic line. Carbonara stressed the importance of embracing an artist's role in technology.

"To say that you are not interested about the technology today, to me, is not fully embracing the art. To fully embrace the art, you really have to embrace the tools of the artist," he said. "We want the students to get out of this an ability to have knowledge that gives them the confidence of being able to tell stories using their talents in a way that has a lot

of redeeming value."

The downside of technology's enhancement is a possible manipulation, which comes with this development, Carbonara said.

He added that in contrast to other schools, Baylor emphasizes storytelling, technology and the creation of leaders.

"We want our students to make a difference in the world. To make a difference is having the knowledge of the business, having the knowledge of the art and having the knowledge of the technology," he said.

His speech made an impact in the mind of Chelan, Wash., senior Emerald Smith.

"It was interesting to see the difference between film distribution going all the way back to when you first had a camera to what finally ends up on the screen, as opposed to high definition production where you skip steps," Smith said.

Smith said she believes film will turn completely digital in the next 10 years, making things cheaper and simplifying matters for independent productions to get more widespread distribution.

Killeen junior Frank Greene was impressed by Carbonara's speech and sizable knowledge.

He said he was impressed by how much progression was made moving from film to digital.

Study reveals personality, stress among factors for illness

By Shannon Daily
and Caitlin Forehand
Reporters

Anything from a fear of needles to simple stubbornness can keep people away from the doctor.

A study released Friday by BioMed Central, a peer-reviewed journal publisher, suggested certain personality traits may play a role in willingness to report health problems.

People who are socially inhibited or are advancing in age are less likely to report

influenza-like illness, the study state. However, people with asthma or a higher perceived stress reported their symptoms more often.

The study also suggested people with more social ties may be less likely to get upper respiratory illnesses.

This could occur because sociable people had better and closer relationships, which increase positive affect, promote positive health practices and provide social support in stressful situations, according to the study.

"I guess that would make

sense, because people who are stressed have a lot going on," Dallas junior Kate Cockcroft said. "They need to function well, so they're going to be more aware if they're not. It hinders their ability to perform well and get everything done. It distracts them, and that would make them just more stressed," said Cockcroft, a psychology major.

According to the study, future research on the topic should address psychological factors as well as personality variables.

But the trend is biological, not psychological, said Hugh

Riley, a full-time lecturer in the psychology department.

"There's a strong correlation between stress and the immune system. Those whose immune systems are down because of stress are more likely to get sick with the flu," Riley said. "Final exams come around and students get sick."

Dr. Wade Rowatt, an assistant professor of psychology and neuroscience, said there have been many studies linking personality traits such as neuroticism to illness.

"People who are generally neurotic tend to experience

more illnesses, and that's overlapping the social inhibition that was mentioned in the study," Rowatt said.

Rowatt also said studies have suggested that a person's outlook on life - negative versus positive - may have an effect.

"In general, optimists are healthier than pessimists," Rowatt said. "People who are more emotionally stable are generally healthier. For some reason, neurotics and pessimists ruminate more, have a more gloomy outlook."

But the study shouldn't be considered the highest author-

ity on the subject, Rowatt said.

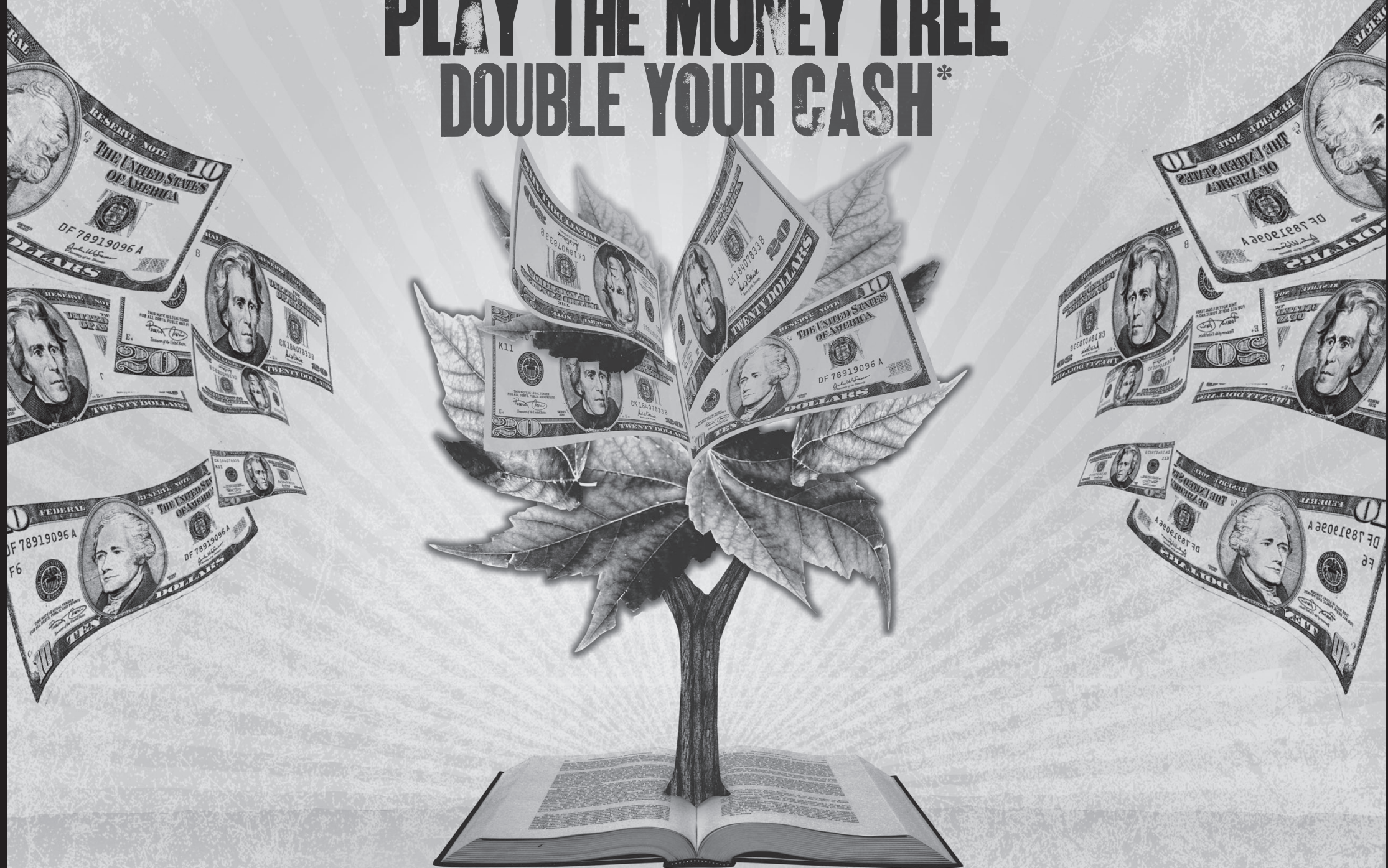
"It's important to realize that experiments are better than correlational studies; you can't infer causation from correlation," Rowatt said.

He also said while the study touches on several well-known ideas linking personality to illness, an experiment is still needed.

Nancy Keating, director for nurses at the Health Center, said she hasn't noticed these trends among Baylor students.

"I'm not saying it's wrong; we just haven't seen it here," Keating said.

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Golf teams look toward break to recharge

By Garrett Turner
Reporter

The beginning of winter marks the end of another fall golf season. This year, men's golf head coach Greg Priest said, the team isn't where it wants to be though he said they did do well.

For Priest, the problem doesn't lie with individuals producing. Senior Colton Williams and freshman Cody Paladino have done enough for the team, he said.

Between both of them, they hold seven top 15 finishes in tournament play this fall. In fact, Priest thinks it's really great that a true freshman like Paladino can produce that well.

"(Paladino) is a true freshman that's had a chance to win three golf tournaments," Priest said. "He's had a great year so far. He works hard and it has paid off for him."

The problem lies in the team effort as a whole.

"We've had some good effort. We just got to get better at the bottom of the lineup," Priest said.

The men's golf team is still young, which Priest said could be the root of the team's problems this fall.

After winning the Saint Mary's Invitational to kick off the season, the team failed to place in the top three in any of its final four tournaments.

While it did achieve some encouraging overall results considering the team's prevailing youth, Priest said Baylor will strive for more in the upcoming spring season.

"Overall, we had a lot of guys who didn't have a lot of tournament experience," Priest said. "This fall semester definitely helped."

Priest isn't the only one feeling the frustration of having an inexperienced team. Women's

golf head coach Sylvia Ferdon said has been the worst fall season her team has had in its 11-year history.

"We were underachievers," Ferdon said. "This is the best way I can describe it. I think our talent didn't come out and we have to accept the responsibility of working harder and figuring out how to become more competitive."

Sophomore Hannah Burke said the reason for the abysmal performance was the group's youth and lack of experience, but Ferdon refuses to lean on that as a crutch.

"We're young, but I don't want to use that as an excuse," Ferdon said. "We have two freshmen that have regional and national experience. They've gotten baptized very quickly. They're going to have to keep learning and be ready to play."

Ferdon said four members of the team suffered through the deaths of significant others this

fall. Ferdon said it was "unheard of" and that it's been an emotional roller coaster ride for the team this semester, but they must keep working hard so they can each reach individual success.

For Burke, individual success is like a fly at a picnic dinner: It just won't go away.

Burke is currently ranked 17th in Baylor's region and her stroke average of 74.13 is decimal points away from being within the top 50 in the nation.

Burke has a chance to give Ferdon something she's never had before: an All-American on her team.

For this to happen, Burke said she must work on her short game over break and stay injury free.

The Baylor team has an advantage living in Texas. The state's weather will allow the team to practice over the

lengthy winter break. Ferdon said this gives them an advantage on those Big 12 and Big 10 teams up north, which they will face in their next tournament Feb. 18 in Parrish, Fla.

"We're not going to waste any time in the off-season," Ferdon said. "I hope to see my team practicing hard to get the advantage over those teams."

For the men's team, Priest is focusing on conditioning and developing strength over the break to be able to develop stamina for those longer courses.

"We'll take a break and then come back and practice," Priest said. "We will have to get those competitive juices flowing again."

According to both coaches, they will need to have some top-five finishes to go to nationals, their primary goal while trying hard to tweak and better their swings during the upcoming break.



Baylor Photography

Sophomore Hannah Burke led the Lady Bears in 2007 with a stroke average of 74.13.

Pinkel, Mangino share Big 12 coaching award

By R.B. Fallstrom
The Associated Press

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Gary Pinkel beat Mark Mangino on the field, vaulting Missouri to No. 1 for the first time since 1960. At the polls, though, he tied for first with the Kansas coach.

Pinkel, who has the Tigers one victory short of the national championship game, and Mangino, who led Kansas to No. 2 and 11 straight season-opening victories before a 36-28 loss to Missouri on Saturday, were named co-Big 12 coaches of the year on Tuesday by The Associated Press.

In balloting by a panel of conference media, both coaches received 10 votes.

The voting perhaps reflected a nod to degree of difficulty. Missouri (11-1, 7-1 Big 12) won eight games last year and went to the Sun Bowl. Kansas (11-1, 7-1) was picked to finish fourth in the Big 12 North and didn't

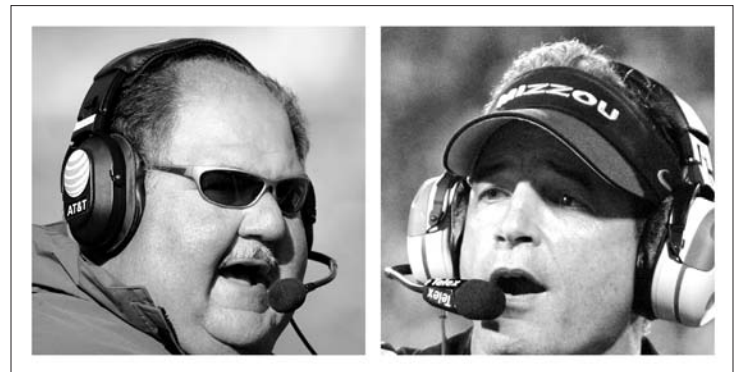
crack the Top 25 until after its fifth win.

"This season has been very rewarding for all of us at KU," Mangino said. "And the best part of it is, it's not over yet. We still have a lot of work to be done."

Missouri will be playing its fourth bowl game in five years under Pinkel. The Tigers have the No. 6 scoring offense in the nation with a 41.9-point average and a fast-improving defense that ranked first in the conference after struggling in the early going.

It's been a dream season for Missouri and the 55-year-old Pinkel, 48-35 in his seventh season. Pinkel got the news the Tigers were No. 1 during a team banquet on Sunday, the day after the win over Kansas gave the Tigers their first Big 12 North title.

Missouri plays Oklahoma Saturday in the conference championship game in San Antonio, Texas.



The Associated Press

Kansas coach Mark Mangino, left, and Missouri coach Gary Pinkel tied Tuesday for The Associated Press 2007 Big-12 coach of the year honors. Pinkel and Mangino each received 10 votes.

Pinkel remembered that about 500 fans were in attendance and that "everybody went crazy." He briefly mentioned it again to players in a meeting, with a much longer warning.

"I also said what I told them last week and the week before and the week before and the week before, that it would be wise to focus on the task at hand," Pinkel said. "I know that's redundant and boring, but that's how we have an opportunity to play our best game and that's all I'm looking for."

Pinkel was a no-nonsense

taskmaster when he arrived at Missouri, and his sometimes brusque manner combined with a 5-6 record in 2004 led to clashes with media and boosters.

Support from athletic director Mike Alden gave him the opportunity to build a program that's now among the elite.

"He never wavered once in all the tough times we've gone through," Pinkel said. "We were strong enough to weather the storm. I feel very fortunate they believed in me to keep me and my staff around."

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Allison brings hustle, muscle

By Justin Baer
Sports writer

The No. 10 Lady Bears make their first road trip of the season when they travel to Southeast Missouri State University Thursday to take on the Redhawks.

It will be a good test to see how the Lady Bears (5-0), particularly freshmen Melissa Jones and Kelli Griffin, fare away from the Ferrell Center.

But for Rachel Allison, it's just an opportunity to play in front of a bus load of friends and family from back home. Literally.

Allison's parents have rented a charter bus to make the three-hour trek from the junior's home in Jonesboro, Ark., to Cape Girardeau, Mo.

"I am excited because a lot of old coaches have not seen me

(play) in person because Waco is so far," Allison said. "It's a great opportunity to kind of play at home. It will be nice to see some of those familiar faces that I haven't seen in two or three years."

With long golden locks and blue eyes, it's easy to mistake Allison as your average Baylor student. Don't be fooled. This innocent-looking young woman transforms into a ferocious competitor when she steps on to the hardwood.

"Basically, I work hard every play," she said. "I have done that the past two years. I am going to continue to do so until my time here is up."

Allison provides solid size at 6-feet tall, but it does not compare to some of the opposing players she sometimes faces, who can often be six inches taller than she is.

Still, Allison finds a way to be a dominant player for the No. 10 Lady Bears.

"She is the best defensive post player in this conference, period," head coach Kim Mulkey said. "She is an undersized post player that guards bigger players but holds her own. She is underrated and overlooked. It's about time people start recognizing her."

So how does Allison do it? One word: Determination.

Just watch her play; it's evident that Allison wears her emotions on her sleeve. Allison will voice her displeasures to the referee if a call goes the opposite way.

At the same time, when Baylor puts together a strong rally, the once Northeast Arkansas Athlete of the Year will pump her fist in exhilaration, as was the case in Sunday's comeback vic-

tory against the University of California.

But her emotional persona is not what solidifies her ability to compete with the best of them. For all 40 minutes of the game, Allison plays with the utmost intensity, Mulkey said.

"She is very, very competitive," Mulkey said. "She demands a lot of herself. Rachel is the kind of player that makes coaches look good. 'The intensity in which she plays the game is contagious.'"

That same intensity is what helped Allison lead Team USA to a bronze medal over the summer in Taiwan at the Jones Cup Tournament. During the tour, in which Allison teamed alongside Baylor teammate Jhasmin Player, Allison led the team in scoring (10.8 points per game) and rebounding (7.0 rebounds per game).



Rachel Allison posts up against UT-Pan American in a Nov. 15 win. Allison is averaging 22 minutes per game and is fourth on the team with more than 10 points per contest.

"I would put her up against anybody," Player said. "She is going to gamble. But you have to let her, because six times out of 10 she is going to get the

ball. "She starts our breaks, whether it is a steal or a rebound, she is the one that gets our breaks going," Player said.

Briles interviews for coaching job

By Stephen Hawkins
The Associated Press

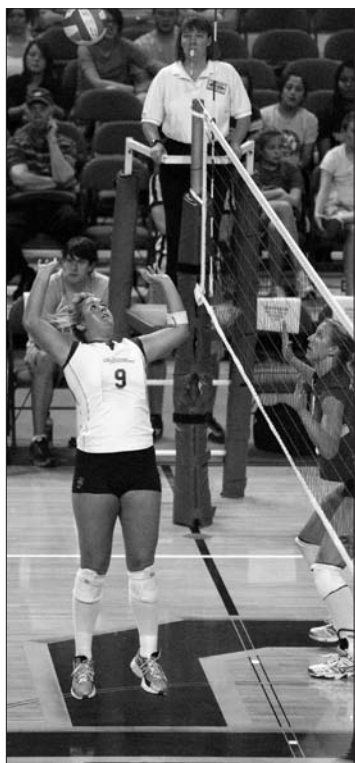
FORT WORTH — Houston coach Art Briles interviewed Tuesday with Baylor about the Bears' coaching vacancy.

Briles, who has led the Cougars to four bowls in five seasons, returned to Houston after meeting with Baylor athletic director Ian McCaw in Dallas.

Briles had not been offered the job, though he still appeared to be a front-runner to replace the fired Guy Morriss.

Briles is 34-28 in five seasons at Houston. The Cougars (8-4) have already accepted an invitation to play in the Texas Bowl on Dec. 28 in Houston against an undetermined Big 12 opponent. Houston had only two winning seasons since 1990 when Briles arrived.

Before going to Houston, where he was a four-year letterman as a receiver and played in the 1976 Cotton Bowl, Briles spent three seasons as running backs coach at Texas Tech. His previous head coaching job had been at Stephenville High, where in 12 seasons he was 136-29-2 and won four Texas state championships.



Taylor Barnes defends against the Iowa State Cyclones in a Sept. 12 loss (30-23, 30-27, 31-29).

Volleyball to learn from losses

By Brian Bateman
Sports writer

Losing seven matches in a row is never the goal of a team - especially at the end of the season.

The Lady Bears did just that. Three separate streaks punctuated the season, culminating in a 14-17 record.

But the volleyball team found a sugar coating on the season. "I think we did an incredible job for how young we were," sophomore setter Taylor Barnes said.

With two freshmen, four sophomores and two seniors starting, the Lady Bears posted a 14-17 record, including a 6-14 Big 12 record.

"We're one of those teams in the Big 12 that's right in the middle," sophomore Katie Sanders said. "We're changing a lot in our program. We have two freshmen, four sophomores and two seniors starting."

Those two freshmen, libero Sarah Grace and outside-hitter Ashlie Christenson, were named to the Big 12 All-Freshmen team Monday.

But those awards were given after the season finished, and it took the freshmen a while to get there. And with that much youth on a team, streaks are common, and Baylor is no exception.

A trip to New York started the season, and Baylor fell just shy of Stony Brook University, taking second place in the tournament.

The Lady Bears started conference play weak, winning just two of their first nine matches. Injuries and off-field troubles kept returning starters off the court.

"It's kind of bittersweet," sophomore Anna Breyfogle said. "You never want someone to be hurt, but getting someone else in gives them experience."

That experience paid off well for the Lady Bears, as they captured five straight matches. But the streaky club fell again, losing the final seven including four straight 3-2 heartbreakers against the University of Missouri, Iowa State University, No. 12 Kansas State University and No. 22 University of Oklahoma.

Added to that were three shutout losses to No. 3 University of Texas, No.

1 University of Nebraska and Texas A&M University.

"I think it's just because we're so young," Breyfogle said. "(The freshmen have) proven themselves now, but they just didn't have the experience."

Even though they came out with seven straight losses, four of them were against nationally ranked teams.

And that bodes well for next season as the Lady Bears hope to make the NCAA tournament.

"We realized how good we were at the end of the season. If we had played as well as we did earlier, then we would be in the tournament right now," Barnes said.

Teams qualify for the post-season tournament by posting a .500 record and playing a strong preseason schedule. The Lady Bears finished just two games under .500, which makes those four 3-2 losses even more difficult to bear.

"If we had won just two of those four 3-2 losses, we would be in the tournament," Sanders said.

But the Lady Bears have moved on and hope for a strong show next fall.

"We just have to work really hard right now," Barnes said.

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KOT to light the tree

Clay Walker, Chris Rice to perform during Christmas on Fifth Street

By Kelli Boesel Reporter

Kappa Omega Tau's 42nd annual Christmas Tree Lighting will offer students, faculty and friends a chance to get into the Christmas spirit Thursday night and enjoy free concerts and hot chocolate, all to benefit multiple sclerosis.

"We decided we wanted to do it for a fundraiser, so we decided to do it for multiple sclerosis," said Tyler junior Andrew Meads, a chair for the event.

The idea to make the lighting into philanthropy is new this year for KOT, said Nacogdoches junior Ben Wright.

"A lot of people that we are close to, that we know, have MS," Wright said. "So I thought it would be a good fit."

The fraternity set its fundraising goal at \$50,000 and is more than halfway there through corporate, member and family donations and door-to-door contributions.

Students can donate in two ways. All proceeds from the T-shirt and fleece sales will benefit MS. Also, the MS Society from Dallas will set up donation boxes at the event.

"If they buy a T-shirt, it's a straight donation," Wright said. "We're not taking any profits."

A family who has been directly affected by MS, the Camerons, were invited to read the Christmas story this year.

"Their dad passed away from MS," Wright said. "So it was kind of neat because we're doing the event for multiple sclerosis and here's a past KOT that passed away from it."

Country artist Clay Walker will headline the concert at the



Abbie Rosen/Lariat staff

Van Horn junior Ross Mitchell, a Kappa Omega Tau chair for the Christmas Tree Lighting, helps trim the tree Tuesday in Burleson Quadrangle.

tree lighting.

Walker was diagnosed with MS 10 years ago. He will donate a large percentage of his artist fee to the cause, said Chicago junior Kyle Phillip.

Walker has had 11 No. 1 hits and has released 10 albums. At the concert he will be playing some of his greatest hits, but he will also play songs from his Christmas album, Meads said.

Christian artist Chris Rice will also perform Thursday night. Meads said the fraternity wanted to bring in a variety of artists for the concert.

"Clay Walker will attract a certain group," Meads said. "And Chris Rice is going to attract another group. So you're getting the best of both worlds."

Phillip said it was also important to have a Christian artist perform at the tree lighting.

"We still really wanted to have a Christian artist," Phillip said. "Because that is what the Christmas story is about: Jesus Christ coming into this world and saving us."

The central event of the eve-

ning is the Christmas tree lighting, and the tree needed to be "incredible," Wright said.

"We got a 35-foot tree shipped in from Canada," he said. "It came down in a refrigerated truck."

One of the traditions in KOT is to guard the tree throughout the nights before the event.

"We sleep out in the quad a few nights before it starts," Phillip said. "So guys will hang out late and a lot of them will bring their sleeping bags, pitch a tent and sleep out there before and then wake up the next morning and everyone is walking around you to class."

The tree lighting and concert are part of the festivities of Christmas on Fifth Street. The chairs said planning for the events started in April.

The festivities start at 6 p.m. Thursday in Burleson quadrangle.

Chris Rice will perform at 7 p.m. and Clay Walker will perform at 8:30 p.m.

"It's a great time to relax before finals," Phillip said.

Broadway negotiations a bust

By Michael Kuchwara The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Talks ended Tuesday morning between striking Broadway stagehands and theater producers without a deal to end the labor dispute that has darkened theaters for more than two weeks.

"There is no deal," said Bruce Cohen, a spokesman for Local 1, the stagehands' union, at about 7:30 a.m. "There are no talks scheduled." He said it was "not a breakdown" in negotiations.

A spokeswoman for the League of American Theatres and Producers could not immediately confirm that talks had ended Tuesday.

The two sides returned to the bargaining table Monday, 12 hours after ending a marathon negotiating session aimed at settling a labor dispute that has kept most of Broadway dark for more than two weeks.

A long Sunday meeting between Local 1 and the League of American Theatres and Producers spilled into the early morning hours of Monday.

Both sides resumed their talks Monday evening and continued until past dawn, fueled by pizza and soda deliveries.

Renewed efforts to end the work stoppage came at the end of the Thanksgiving holiday week, usually one of the best times of the year for Broadway.

Not so this year, with most of Broadway, including such big hits as *Wicked*, *Jersey Boys*, *The Lion King*, *Mamma Mia!* and *The Phantom of the Opera*, shut down since the stagehands walked out Nov. 10.

Both Local 1 and the league have been under pressure to find a solution to the conflict as box-office losses climb and people begin to feel the effects of no paychecks. Theater-related businesses have been hurt,

too. City Comptroller William Thompson has estimated the economic impact of the strike at \$2 million a day, including theatergoers total spending on tickets, dining, shopping and other activities.

The complicated contract dispute has focused on how many stagehands are required to open a Broadway show and keep it running.

That means moving scenery, lights, sound systems and props into the theater; and keeping everything functioning well for the life of the production.

Eight shows remain open including *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* at the St. James Theatre. The limited-run musical originally had been shut by the strike but was reopened last week by court order. The \$6 million production can continue uninterrupted for the rest of its holiday run. The engagement ends Jan. 6.

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Billy Joel
Tuesday @ American Airlines Center

Cary Brothers
Dec. 5 @ House of Blues

Stevie Wonder
Dec. 5 & 6 @ Nokia Theatre

Chrisette Michele
Dec. 11 @ House of Blues

Duran Duran
Dec. 12 @ Nokia Theatre

Modest Mouse
Dec. 14 @ Nokia Theatre

AUSTIN

Jose Gonzalez
Thursday @ The Parish Room

Avenged Sevenfold
Saturday @ La Zona Rosa

Cary Brothers
Friday @ The Parish Room

Lifehouse / Good Charlotte / Sean Kingston / Baby Bash / Boys Like Girls / Three Days Grace
Dec. 8 @ Austin Music Hall

Iron and Wine
Dec. 11 @ Austin Music Hall

Toadies
Dec. 14 @ Austin Music Hall

Robert Earl Keen
Dec. 28 @ La Zona Rosa

WACO

Billy Joe Shaver
Dec. 9 @ Hog Creek Icehouse

Pat Green
Dec. 31 @ Heart O' Texas Coliseum

Bill Daniel Student Center. Burleson Quadrangle.
Marrs McLean Gym. Vera Daniel Plaza. 5th Street.

Activities Featured:

- Annual KOT Christmas Tree Lighting
- Annie Moses Band Concert
- Free Carriage Rides
- Live Nativity & Petting Zoo
- Pictures with Santa
- Kids Creation Station
- Free Coffee, Hot Coco, and Cider

Christmas on 5th Street
Thursday, Nov. 29th
6:00pm - 10:00pm

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CHURCH from page 1

From the ambition of one student and the encouragement of the church leadership, the UBC Green Team was created.

"There was no focused attention to environmental programs at UBC, and so really we saw the Green Team as an awareness group where we put attention toward stewardship so we can maybe share our ethic and theology behind it," Dudley said.

The Green Team meets once a week to discuss the relationship between Christianity and

the environment with recent discussions on Noah's connection to climate change, importance of organic food and the Genesis model of stewardship.

"Evangelical Christians are confused about what stewardship is," Kent said. It's not about worshipping the planet, but that stewardship is an act of worship for our creator.

The team has also provided eco-opportunities for those who attend UBC but are not yet active in the team itself. They host "Ride Your Bike to Church Day," where UBC attendees meet at the Bill and Eva Williams Bear Habitat Complex and ride their bikes to church together.

They are also trying to reduce waste by replacing the church's styrofoam coffee cups with reusable

ceramic mugs and by selling reusable canvas shopping bags.

A series of environmental awareness videos, or "Green TV", are shown once every month about an opportunity or a tip on how to be more environmentally responsible.

The Green Team's long-term goals are considerably larger than what it has done so far. There has been discussion of increasing UBC's energy independence, perhaps using solar panels.

According to Kent, they are also currently in the research phase of a project to offset the carbon emissions of travel to and from church. More importantly, Kent said, the team is interested in promoting a culture of stewardship.

Other churches in Waco expressed some environmental concern but no defined programs.

Antioch Community Church administrative pastor Jeff Abshire said Antioch doesn't have any environmental programs, but it does participate in paper recycling. According to Abshire, Antioch doesn't have a collective stance about environmental stewardship.

Jerry Opperman, administrator at St. Peter's Catholic Church, said St. Peter's is involved in Catholic Social Justice that supports green causes. While they don't have any environmental specific programs within their church right now, Opperman said he is hopeful that students and members of St. Peter's are going to be more involved in environmental stewardship in the future.

"A lot of people are concerned with the environment, especially within the younger generation," Chris Fillingham, associate pastor at DaySpring Baptist Church,

said. "We don't have a lot of environmental programs so the members can be involved in our community, but we do have people who are involved in the World Hunger Farm and I know that people are concerned about this issue and it is deeply connected to their faith."

In 2002, the Christian Center for Ethics published articles in a series entitled *Moral Landscape of Creation* and other materials that addressed this issue of stewardship. According to Dr. Robert Kruschwitz, director of the Christian Center for Ethics, many churches in and around the Waco area have used these articles for studies within their church.

"My sense this is a kind of an awakening for Baptists and evangelicals and Christians more generally," Kruschwitz said. "Part of the reason we've been slow

to respond is because we live in part of the country that is a large energy producer and environmentalism has been seen as anti-business, or we at least too quickly bought into those ideas, and we live in a part of the country with just a lot of space and resources."

Kruschwitz said he was excited that the green movement is now more rapidly catching on among churches.

Colorado Springs, Colo., junior Andrew Wooldridge is a member of Baylor's Environmental Concern Organization and said he believes that Christians have a huge part in taking care of the environment.

"I think churches and Christians should be at the forefront of the environmental movement," Wooldridge said. "We should be intelligent, responsible users of creation."

GAMES from page 1

includes the console, one Wiimote, one Nunchuck controller, one additional accessory, Mario Party 8 and six additional games that can be chosen from a selection of 21 titles. The bundle is listed for \$677.

The Family Fun Bundle comes with the console, one Wiimote, one Nunchuck controller, the Legend of Zelda, Wii Playground, Super Monkey Ball, Sonic & The Secret Rings, MLB Power Pro's and Cars. This package is listed at \$548.

Seaman said he has seen consumers push for the Wii this holiday season.

"The Wii is definitely taking the top in sales," Seaman said.

"If you want something for the family or want something to test the market, go with the Wii," he said. "People who are trying to get something for the holidays seem to be going with the Wii."

Spring senior Brian Lundy said he thinks his Wii is a better buy than the Xbox 360 or PlayStation 3 consoles.

"It's drastically less expensive than the other two competitive systems, and it has an interactive game play," Lundy said.

According to GameTrailers.com, gift givers should consider

purchasing Super Mario Galaxy, Metroid Prime 3: Corruption or Fire Emblem: Radiant Dawn this holiday season.

Brown said the demand for Wii accessories has been the biggest surprise this year.

"The most highly demanded game is Super Mario Galaxy. People also come in trying to purchase the Wii Zapper. Wii sales have been a riot," Brown said.

The most anticipated games for the Wii are Super Smash Bros. Brawl, Star Wars: The Force Unleashed, and Mario Kart Wii, all of which are scheduled to be released sometime next year.

The Wii Fit has also received much anticipation, even though it is not strictly a game. According to Nintendo, it's a floorboard used for fitness exercises and yoga as well as games.

Nintendo is highlighting its newest addition, the Wii Zapper. This product houses the Wiimote and Nunchuck into a gun used for shooting games. Nintendo also plans to package the Wii Wheel with the new Mario Kart.

Consumers became concerned when they learned people playing Wiis had let the controller slip and smash into their televisions. Nintendo designed new Wiimote straps and have since offered non-slip jackets to consumers, free of charge.

PlayStation 3



Associated Press

Sony's PlayStation 3 outsold Nintendo's Wii for the second straight week in Japan after almost a year of steady support from consumers in the country.

In addition to the console, sales for the PS3 controller ranked No. 1 among controllers following a Black Friday discount at Amazon.com. The controller, which is usually listed at \$49.99, was reduced to \$19.99. As a result, the six-axis controller was the number one selling video game product as well. Amazon has now raised the price to \$39.99.

Nintendo continues to beat Sony in handheld sales, and with the amount of money Sony put into developing the powerful PS3, it's time it paid off.

Circuitcity.com sells the 40-gigabyte PS3 along with the Blu-Ray edition of Spider-Man 3.

Brown said the PS3 is great for your usual market of gamers.

"The PS3 tries to gear towards teenagers and people 20 to 30 years of age. If you can afford it for someone in that range, they'll enjoy it," Brown said.

However, Seaman said he

thinks the differences between the 360 and the PS3 aren't that important.

"There's not a real big difference between PS3 and 360. That's the easiest way to sum it up. If you're looking for an all-purpose system, I'd probably suggest the 360 if price is a concern," Seaman said.

PS3's normally sell for either \$399 or \$499 depending on the size of the hard drive.

Monument, Colo., junior Dan Cline has a 40GB PS3 and hasn't had any problems with his purchase.

"I haven't found anything that the PS3 could improve on. I think it's great how it is now," Cline said.

The main reason he purchased the PS3 over the Xbox 360 was so he could watch movies in High Definition with the Blu-Ray format.

"I think the PS3 is better than the Wii but is about the same as the Xbox 360," he said. "I still think you won't regret having a PS3."

According to GameTrailers.com, popular games selling this season are Call of Duty 4: Modern Warfare, Ninja Gaiden Sigma or Rock Band this holiday season.

PS3 owners can look forward to familiar titles in 2008. Grand Theft Auto IV, Devil May Cry 4, Metal Gear Solid 4, Final Fan-

tasy XII and Tekken 6 all look to be hits, says IGN Entertainment's Web site. If these games are released when scheduled, this could boost sales for Sony. The PS3 hasn't seen many hits for PS3-only games. Metal Gear and Final Fantasy could be the blockbusters Sony had been waiting for.

As for what's next for the PS3, Sony also cut the price for the

development kit for PS3's. Sony's game division said the new price for a development kit in North America is \$10,250. This will make it easier for developers to publish more games for the system.

Sony also unveiled firmware 2.01 to the PS3 hardware. According to Sony, the new firmware is said to improve consistency with the remote start feature.

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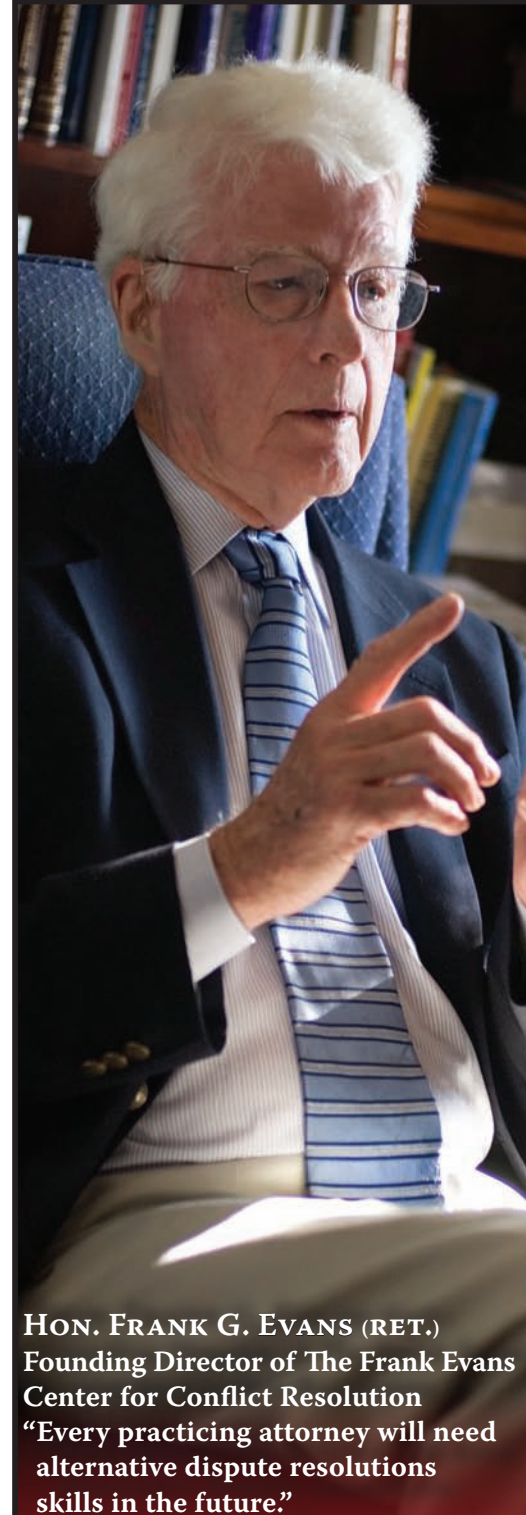
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