


**SPORTS** Page 5

**Under the lights**

Baylor basketball hits the court tonight for its only exhibition game of the season against ACU

**NEWS** Page 3

**Behind bars**

Man sentenced to 37 years for attempting to blow up the Los Angeles airport in 2000

**A&E** Page 4

**T-Swift sings again**

Taylor Swift gets rave reviews for her most recent pop-country album "Red"


**In Print**
**>> TAKE NOTES**

Plan your weekend in Waco with our weekly entertainment calendar

Page 4

**>> ON HOME TURF**

BU soccer puts its undefeated home streak on the line Friday against TCU

Page 5

**>> DEBATE BOOST**

Find out if one PoliSci professor thinks the debates will impact the final push in the 2012 election.

Page 3

**On the Web**

**Don't Feed The Bears**

Listen to the Lariat's sports desk break down last weekend's football game against Texas and talk about this week in Baylor athletics. Only on

[baylorlariat.com](http://baylorlariat.com)
**Viewpoints**

*"Rather than handing out PLUS loans that are seemingly detrimental to many families, the government should consider dispersing that money in a more responsible manner to help students pay for college expenses."*

Page 2

**Bear Briefs**

*The place to go to know the places to go*

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## Baylor teams up with MCC

 By TRAVIS TAYLOR  
REPORTER

Some students are spending time on two different campuses this semester as part of The Baylor@MCC Program, a co-enrollment initiative that was implemented this fall.

The program, which allows students who were wait-listed at Baylor the opportunity to attend both Baylor and McLennan Community College, currently has more than 45 students enrolled and expects to grow in the next few years.

Dr. Elizabeth Palacios, dean for student development and a member of the Baylor@MCC task force, said the program is a success so far.

"Quite frankly, they're doing great," Palacios said.

Palacios said the program is one of the biggest things Baylor

and MCC have collaborated on, and it is ultimately the students who are benefiting from the program.

"It's when we start centering on students; not that they are TSTC students or MCC students or Baylor students, it's that they are students," Palacios said.

Palacios said she believed the cooperation between schools that has resulted from this program is the best she's seen in 30 years.

Brittany Ladd, a Denton freshman who is enrolled in the Baylor@MCC program, said while going to school on two different campuses can be difficult, students from the program have banded together to help each other out.

"Thankfully, everyone got together and the people who had cars offered to carpool," Ladd

SEE MCC, page 6



ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Playin' with the pros**

Chicago Bulls forward Taj Gibson, center, battles Oklahoma City Thunder guard DeAndre Liggins (25) for the ball as forward and former Baylor player Perry Jones III (3) watches during the second half of an NBA preseason basketball game Tuesday in Chicago.

## Q&A: helping college costs

 By JUSTIN POPE  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

President Barack Obama has rallied college students at dozens of campuses, touted his record on student aid and needed Republican challenger Mitt Romney for advising students to "borrow money if you have to from your parents." Romney counters that despite the flood of federal financial aid unleashed during Obama's term, college costs and student debt have only grown.

Here are some questions and answers about the complicated landscape of college costs and the presidential campaign.

Q. What's happened to college costs under Obama?

A. They've gone up — a lot, at least at four-year schools. Since the 2008-2009 academic year in which he took office, the average public four-year college has increased its tuition list price 26 percent. That's an increase of about \$1,800, to \$8,655, according to figures released Wednesday by the College Board.

Largely because of a massive increase in federal aid under Obama, the net price has gone up considerably less than the sticker price. The net price is \$2,910 this year, or \$570 more than the year he took office. At community colleges, aid covers on average all costs.

Q. Can either candidate do anything about the increasing prices colleges are charging?

A. Both say they'll try. Obama has proposed a \$1 billion "Race to the Top"-style contest to reward states for reforms, and said he could cut off aid to colleges that don't take steps to improve productivity. He's called for working with the states to cut tuition inflation in half within 10 years. A Romney campaign paper says Washington will no longer write a "blank check to universities to reward their tuition increases" and to support schools pursuing new

SEE COSTS, page 6


 By MELISSA RAYWORTH  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Tiny zombies invade streets on Halloween

Prepare yourself this Halloween for a procession of pint-sized trick-or-treaters like none you've encountered before.

If the companies that gamble on offering the right mix of costumes are correct, visitors to your doorstep will include a grisly array of waist-high killer clowns brandishing blood-soaked machetes, deranged convicts and zombie ninjas armed with knives.

Add to that the full roster of fictional killers who gave people nightmares during the '80s and '90s — Freddy Krueger, Michael Myers, Jason Voorhees from "Friday the 13th" and Chucky, the murderous doll from "Child's Play" — now available in sizes that can fit a 5-year-old.

These costumes make last year's popular "Scream" mask filled with fake blood seem almost tame.

Earlier this month, Amber Boettcher brought her 6-year-old daughter Addi to a Halloween store near their home in southeastern Minnesota. They were looking for pompoms to add to Addi's homemade costume. But their shopping trip ended abruptly when Addi saw the array of gory outfits on sale for kids.

"She freaked out," Boettcher says. "The store was so gross and scary that we left."

Gory Halloween costumes aren't new, of course. And Halloween decorations have gotten just as intense: Spirit Halloween offers a disturbingly realistic mechanical version of the possessed girl from "The Exorcist"

 f o r  
your

front lawn, and PaperMart offers plastic severed hands splattered with fake blood packaged as though they've been wrapped at a butcher shop, perfect for decorating the buffet table at a Halloween party.

But in a year when Abraham Lincoln was depicted as a vampire hunter and zombies are everywhere, gory costumes that were once reserved for preteens and teens are now available in ever-smaller sizes.

One example among many: The national chain Party City's "Boys Skinned Alive" costume will fit, according to the company's website, "most children over 4."

Even costumes that were once benign now have violent twists: The sweet, simple "sock monkey" is now a bloody zombie sock monkey with razor-sharp teeth, sold in sizes small enough for kindergarteners.

"For the last couple of years, darker is where it's been at," says Melissa Sprich, vice president of Halloween merchandising for Party City. For babies and toddlers, Sprich says "darker" may mean dressing as a devil this year, rather than a cheerful dinosaur. But for all other ages, many parents are seeking vampires, zombies and "the Freddie, Jasons and Chuckys" even for kids too young to see those characters on screen.

The companies that license these characters' images determine how small the costumes can run, with some drawing the line for horror characters at sizes 6-8 or 10-12. But while "6-8" technically refers to ages 6-8, many boys wear that size at age 5.

David J. Skal, who has chronicled America's fascination with horror since the 1990s in numerous books, including "The Monster

SEE ZOMBIES, page 6

## Faith and culture take the stage

 By LINDA NGUYEN  
STAFF WRITER

The Baylor Institute for Faith and Learning will host the annual Symposium on Faith and Culture titled "Technology and Human Flourishing," which will begin at 1 p.m. today in the Bill Daniel Student Center and end Saturday evening. The symposium will be held in the Bill Daniel Student Center and Cashion Academic Building.

The symposium will look at the role of technology in today's culture and will feature speakers from Baylor as well as professors from around the country.

Dr. Lori Baker, associate professor of anthropology at Baylor will speak about her work as director of Reuniting Families, which is a program that helps communities identify the bodies of undocumented immigrants who die crossing the U.S. border and reunite their remains with their families.

Baker said her faith influenced her to pursue her work reuniting the families.

"I am driven by my faith in my choices of research topics," Baker said. "Because of my faith, I got involved in human rights work years ago. I wanted to do more using my forensic science skills and felt a calling to help with the identification of deceased immigrants."

Another speaker from Baylor is Dr. S. Kay Toombs, associate professor emeritus of philosophy, who will speak about how technology relates to people's lives and needs.

Toombs is part of an agrarian-based Christian community that focuses on sustainable living in terms of growing the food they eat and providing for their material needs.

"I am going to explore how new technology, Internet, cell-phones, social media have changed the way we relate to nature, to the land, and to each other

SEE STAGE, page 6

# PLUS loans putting parents in financial trouble

## Editorial

College is expensive; we all know this.

For many of us, our parents strive to do all that they can to make our scholastic dreams come true by taking out loans. A recent investigative report published by ProPublica and The Chronicle of Higher Education found that a government loan called the Parent PLUS loan has seemed to harm more than it helped — not only the students' financial stability but that of the parents' as well.

Applying for these loans takes mere minutes. The U.S. Department of Education, which runs the program, is qualifying applicants with no regard for their ability to repay.

They approve people with no verification of employment, income check and no knowledge of how much other debt they have taken on. All an applicant has to do is pass a simple credit check and as long as an adverse credit history is not found, they are usually approved in a matter of hours.

Last year the government handed out \$10.6 billion in PLUS loans to almost a million families, averaging roughly \$11,000 each per year. Even adjusted for inflation, that is \$6.3 billion more than the PLUS loans disbursed in 2000.

There is no cap for the amount that can be borrowed through a PLUS loan. Parents can take out as much as the gap between other financial aid and the cost of attendance. There is a fixed interest

rate of 7.9 percent, which is much higher than that of many other loans. Because these loans are remarkable easy to obtain in large amounts, parents are all too often overreaching, causing the loans to hurt the very people that they are intended to help.

Many colleges, including Baylor, firmly recommend the PLUS loan option to students in need. We believe that they do this because they are trying hard to increase admissions, and these loosely administered loans help colleges to achieve that goal.

Paying these loans back is much more challenging than acquiring them. Many parents are loaded with their children's college debt, even upon retirement. Not only are these loans next to impossible to shed in bankruptcy, but if a borrower defaults on a PLUS loan, the government can seize tax refunds and garnish wages or Social Security. It is not fair that parents are bearing such hefty financial burdens for trying to provide their children with a decent education.

For PLUS loans, the government produces nothing more than its projections for budgetary purposes; it does not keep tabs on how many borrowers have defaulted on loans, or any of the related details as it does with other federal education loans.

The Department of Education defends its dedication to the PLUS loan system by saying that the priority is making sure college isn't just for the wealthy and that it is a family's responsibility to make responsible decisions about its fi-

nances and what it can reasonably pay back. What they don't take into account is the "curb appeal" of offering a seemingly unlimited loan to a family that is in no position to repay that loan.

By taking on the PLUS loans, parents are finding themselves debating whether to raid their retirements, sell their houses or continue working far beyond capable ages in order to pay off the loans. Government assistance is supposed to lessen the financial strain of college on families, but instead PLUS loans are making the strain more than many people are capable of bearing.

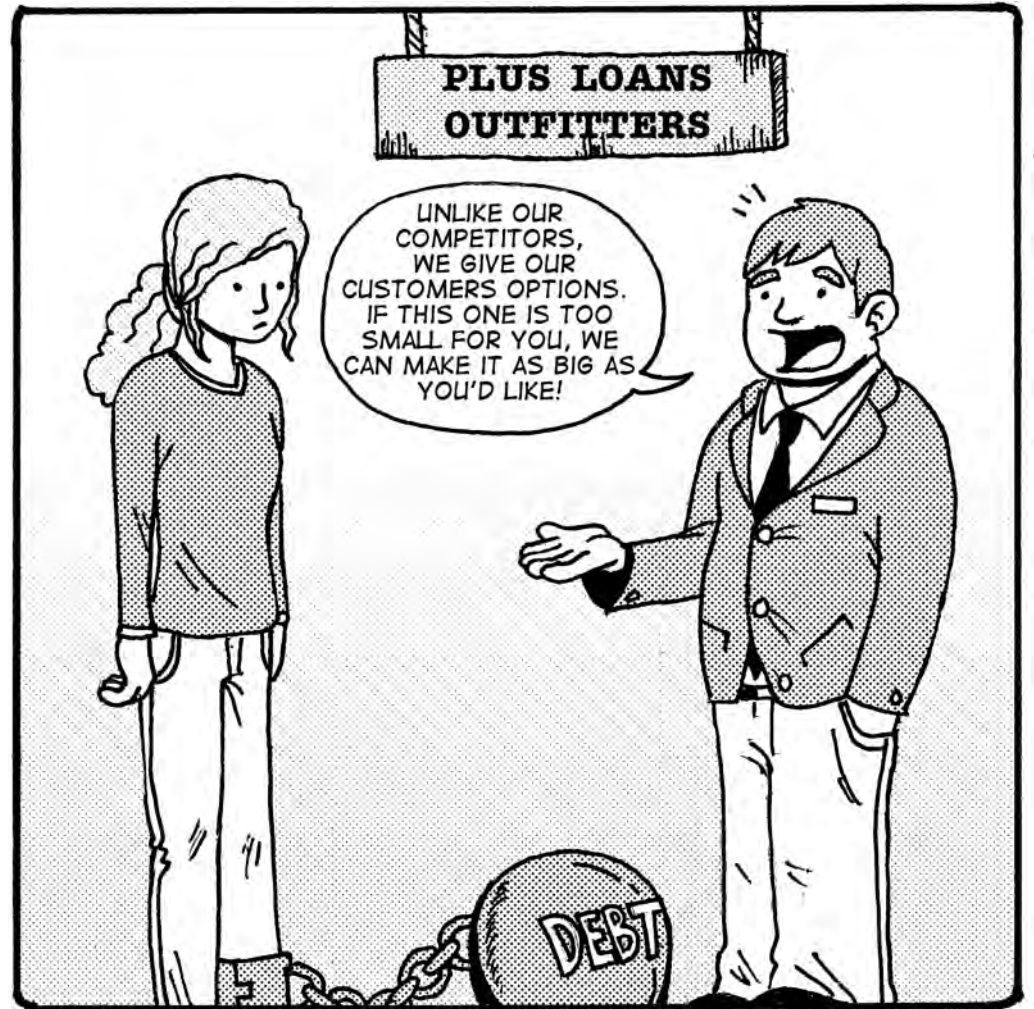
In defense of the Department of Education, it has recently altered how it defines adverse credit history, adding unpaid collections accounts or charged-off debt as grounds for denial.

By doing this, department officials are hoping that it will help diminish the number of people from taking on debt they are unable to afford while protecting taxpayer dollars.

While this is a step in the right direction, this new definition still only examines the applicant's credit history; it does not account their ability to repay the loans.

Even then, the borrowers who are denied can appeal the decision and still get the loans if they are able to convince the Department of Education that they have extenuating circumstances, or they can reapply with a co-signer.

The current PLUS loan limits for undergraduate students seem arbitrary. They do not account for the student or their fam-



@asherfreeman

ily's ability to repay the loans. We feel that rather than handing out PLUS loans that are seemingly detrimental to many families, the government should consider dispersing that money in a more responsible manner to help students pay for college expenses.

The Department of Education should hold those PLUS loan applicants to the same approval standards as those of other government funded aid in order to prevent sending families into downward financial spirals.

For more information on the

study of Parent PLUS loans by The Chronicle of Higher Education and ProPublica as well as a list of colleges where borrowers took out the highest amount of PLUS loans per year, visit www.baylorlariat.com.

## A letter to 'Informed Voter'

### Lariat Letters

After a full Tuesday of classes, I noticed a piece of paper beneath my car's windshield wiper.

Perplexed, I checked to see if it was a ticket. What I found was no ticket. Instead it was a note that read, "Gas was \$1.84 4 years ago before we stopped drilling oil on public lands - Informed Voter."

Most would find this to be random, but on the rear windshield of my car is an Obama 2012 sticker and no other vehicle had any such note. Typically, I entertain conversation on the subject, but alas I know not who to speak to. This column is my solution.

Campaigns often find themselves amid negative ads and hoity toity rhetoric. In the second presidential debate, the moderator posed a question concerning gas prices to Romney who asserted, "Oil production is down 14 percent this year on federal land, and gas production is down 9 percent. Why? Because the president cut in half the number of licenses and permits for drilling on federal lands and in federal waters."

In fact, this topic led to one of the more heated verbal altercations of the debate; hence, strong emotions have stirred within supporters of both candidates.

This note conveyed I am uninformed based on who I support, which could not be further from the truth; I appreciate facts.

Romney had his numbers straight when he mentioned oil production was down 14 percent and gas production 9 percent, if he had been referring to 2011

alone. What the governor conveniently excluded was that oil production from lands under federal jurisdiction increased during the Obama administration. I sup-

*"We should hold ourselves to a higher standard of conduct"*

port the President's decision to decrease, by 61 percent, the number of offshore oil leases allowed; consider the Deepwater Horizon disaster for justification.

That oil spill was the largest in history, exceeding the hundreds of thousands of crude oil barrels spilled during the Exxon Valdez disaster in only four days' time, as it would proceed to do in the remaining 83 days of the spill.

With this being the case, increasing offshore leases for more oil rigs is not the solution we seek to our energy woes, and President Obama understands this.

Furthermore, domestic oil production and the price of gasoline are not lone factors.

The gasoline market is complex. The four gas types you see at the pump are not the only kind out there. In Texas there are more than 96 grades of gasoline, each a different chemical mixture tailored to a designated region.

This also affects the price of the commodity, the more variants the higher the price. As for the cost of gasoline, excluding taxes, prices in the United States are in step with other countries in the world.

The President of the United States has limited control on the direct price we pay at the pump; his primary control is the federal excise tax, presently at 18 cents a

gallon.

The federal government is not the sole entity capable of establishing the excise tax either; states too levy these averaging in about 20 cents per gallon, Texas's rate being a penny less. Thus, as states increasing excise taxes, such as New York, Connecticut, and California, the national average goes up. This is excluding pricing factors of the private sector, where oil companies have made record profits in the last four years. Therefore, these claims by the Romney campaign bringing their supporters to believe the President is to blame for their energy woes are mistaken.

To address the act of placing this note on my car, snide remarks anonymously directed at me for supporting the president's reelection is unbecoming of a Baylor student.

The language was not malicious but passive aggressive. Political discourse is healthy for democracy but acts like this stymie efforts exerted by others.

We should hold ourselves to a higher standard of conduct inside and outside the classroom, especially to one another.

One last point and this may well just be an ideal of where I come from, but when you make a statement, affirm your opinion and sign your name, and if you unwilling to do that, rethink whether or not you ought to be making that statement at all.

Trenton Garza  
Junior, political science  
Bushland

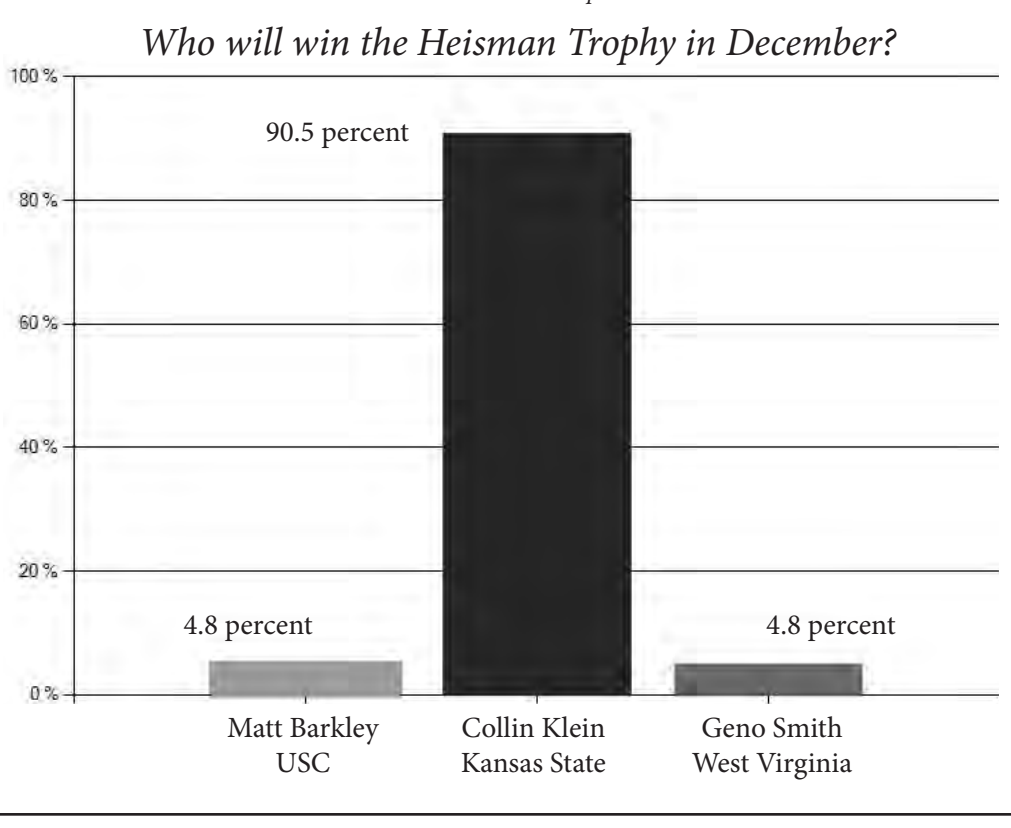
*Editor's note: Garza did in fact include a copy of his signature with the letter he sent the Lariat.*

### Heisman Survey

The Lariat asked and you answered. Here are the results of our Heisman Trophy Survey.

Collin Klein of Kansas State University blew out Matt Barkley of the University of Southern California and Geno Smith of West Virginia with 90.5 percent of the vote.

Barkley and Smith both received only 4.8 percent. There were no other write-ins.



**Clarification**

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](mailto:Lariat_letters@baylor.edu) or by calling 254-710-4099.

SUMNER, Texas — In a story Oct. 17, The Associated Press reported that landowners were filing lawsuits to fight TransCanada's land condemnations. Attorneys for some of the landowners say the lawsuits are in the process of being filed but are not yet complete. Other landowners are appealing lawsuits filed against them by TransCanada to fight the company's condemnation of their land.

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**Opinion**

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.

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# Why the undecided vote matters in 2012 election

By LINDA WILKINS  
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

Dr. Dave Bridge has taught at Baylor for three years as an assistant professor in the political science department. In 2010, he graduated from the University of Southern California with a doctorate in politics and international relations. Currently, he teaches

**Q&A**

American politics and a class that focuses on campaigns and elections. Bridge

gives his opinion of the state of the presidential race in the second installment of the Lariat's election Q-and-A series.

**Q:** In each of the four debates — the three presidential debates and the vice-presidential debate — the candidates provided much information concerning their standpoint and each other's standpoint on numerous topics. How should voters approach the information provided by the debates?

**A:** Most voters' minds are already made up. The debates are primarily targeted at undecided voters and, more specifically, undecided voters in swing states such as Iowa, Nevada and Ohio. It depends on individual voters' preferences as well. Some are looking at the candidates' policies, some are interested in charisma, and some are looking at whether the candidate looks and sounds presidential. Voters should decide what they are looking for and decide for themselves who they feel is best suited.

**Q:** What do the polls indicate about who won each debate?

**A:** The polls showed a clear victory for Romney in the first debate. In the second debate, Obama might have done better than Romney, but his advance in the polls was not as much as Romney in the

first debate. He may have gained only a slight advantage. For the vice-presidential debate and the third presidential debate, the polls showed that these debates were more of a draw.

**Q:** Undecided voters currently represent 2 percent of voters, according to a Rasmussen Report poll. Since the debates are targeted toward undecided voters, what are the implications of the polls concerning the possible outcome of the election in terms of undecided voters?

**A:** It is difficult to know how undecided voters were affected. There is such a small number of undecided voters, and it is difficult to specifically target undecided voters. What really matters is the location of the undecided voters. Swing voters in Ohio, Virginia or Iowa are more important to provide a victory for a candidate than undecided voters in Texas or New York.

**Q:** Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Michigan, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Wisconsin are considered swing states. The debates are meant to target voters in swing states, but what is the importance of swing states such as these?

**A:** In a winner-take-all system, it's about winning individual states.

We already know Texas is going red, and New York is going blue. However, we don't know how Ohio is going to vote. Those states that are still up in the air are the states the candidates are focusing on. The electoral college could end in a tie based on what the polls are showing and based on how the states swing. The polls show some states have swung a little more towards Romney, so a tie, while unlikely, is still possible.

**Q:** The debates are meant to provide voters with information regarding each candidate. How would you summarize the candidates' main indictment of the opposing candidate?

**A:** The distinction is clearer when it comes to domestic policy, which was seen in the first debate and quite a bit in the second debate. In the final presidential debate, there were more points they agreed on than in the first. The main concern of the average citizen is the state of jobs in the economy. The first debate offered voters two clear options.

**Q:** Have the debates provided clear positions of the candidates?

**A:** Their positions are not necessarily clear, but they are more publicized. People have more of an idea about what Romney is campaigning on and what Obama is campaigning on.



Republican presidential candidate and former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney and President Barack Obama talk after the first presidential debate, held Oct. 3 at the University of Denver in Denver, Colo.



U.S. Attorney Jenny Durkan (left), arrives to talk to reporters Wednesday, in Seattle, after Algerian terrorist Ahmed Ressay was sentenced to 37 years in prison for plotting to bomb Los Angeles International Airport around the turn of the new millennium.

## Terrorist sentenced to 37 years for Los Angeles airport bomb threat

By GENE JOHNSON  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEATTLE — An Algerian man whose sentence for plotting to blow up the Los Angeles airport around the turn of the new millennium was thrown out for being too lenient was ordered Wednesday to spend 37 years in prison.

Ahmed Ressay, who had trained with al-Qaida in Afghanistan, was arrested in December 1999 when a customs agent noticed that he appeared suspicious as he drove off a ferry from Canada onto Washington's Olympic Peninsula. A resulting search turned up a trunk full of explosives.

Ressay's capture, after a brief foot chase, prompted fears of a terrorist attack and the cancellation of Seattle's New Year's Eve fireworks. U.S. District Judge John C. Coughenour had twice ordered him to serve 22-year terms, but both times the sentences were rejected on appeal.

This time, Ressay's attorneys

conceded that he should face at least three decades to satisfy the appeals courts, but no more than 34 years.

The Justice Department, which previously sought sentences of 35 years and of life in prison, recommended a life sentence again because of the mass murder Ressay intended to inflict. In those pre-Sept. 11 days, it was "a virtually unimaginable horror," Assistant U.S. Attorney Helen Brunner told the court.

"If Mr. Ressay had succeeded," she said, "it is likely hundreds if not thousands of innocent lives would have been lost."

Brunner also argued that Ressay continues to pose a threat, as evidenced by his recantation of prior cooperation, which forced the government to dismiss charges against two coconspirators. Ressay's lawyer, Thomas Hillier, disagreed, pointing to a letter Ressay sent the judge this week in which he wrote: "I am against killing innocent people of any gender, color

or religion. I apologize for my actions."

Ressay, who made a similar statement to the court in 2003, did not speak at the hearing Wednesday. Prosecutors and defense attorneys said they would review the ruling, and neither indicated whether they would appeal. U.S. Attorney Jenny Durkan said that regardless of whether she agreed with the judge, the case represented a victory for the rule of law.

"We afforded a man who sought to do us the greatest harm the full due process of the law," she said.

Coughenour read his lengthy sentencing order from the bench, noting that of the 4,000 to 5,000 sentences he had handed down in his 31-year career, Ressay's case was the only one he could remember in which the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals deemed him too lenient. Nevertheless he thanked the appeals judges for their guidance, saying that some cases are so long and difficult that a trial judge can lose perspective.

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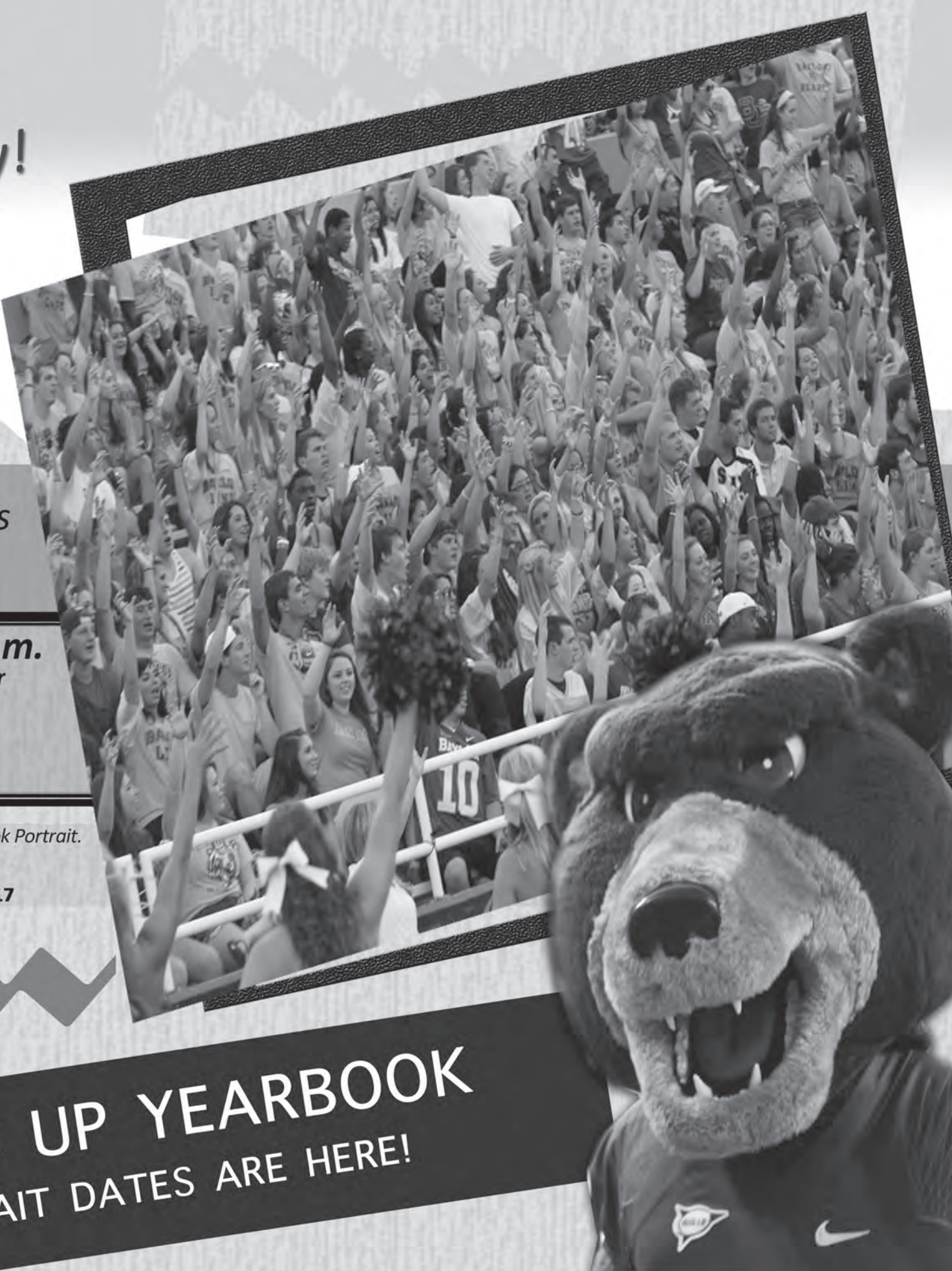
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# Taylor Swift's 'Red' mixes maturity and ... dubstep?

By ALEXANDRA BARCA  
UWIRE

## ALBUM REVIEW

Taylor Swift's fourth studio effort, "Red," makes a statement as bold as its namesake color: As Swift matures into a woman, her talent is here to stay.

With an eclectic mix of radio-ready pop songs, twangy country tunes and heartbreaking ballads, Swift proves her range both lyrically and musically.

Although she teamed up with several co-writers for this album, the lyrics are still signature Swift.

The ballad "All Too Well" begins as a flashback to happier times in a relationship and then builds until she is nearly screaming about what went wrong. The words thread a beautiful narrative as she uses images like a forgotten scarf that reminds her lover of their past.

In other songs such as "I Almost Do," she brings depth to her words by repeating the first few lines again at the end, now holding a deeper meaning after Swift crooned about her desire to contact an ex-lover.

Once again, she covers the entire spectrum of love and relationships from pure bliss in "Stay Stay Stay" to the final

stand in a dysfunctional union in "The Last Time."

But it is in the duet "The Last Time," with Snow Patrol lead vocalist Gary Lightbody where Swift falters, pairing her thin falsetto with his deep, complex tone. Her voice, along with the truly powerful lyrics, are drowned out in the process.

But the other duet, "Everything Has Changed," featuring Ed Sheeran may be the standout of the album. Swift and Sheeran's tender voices mold into one another, and the lyrics are propelled into the spotlight. As they sing about an instant connection with a new lover, a listener can't help but think this one is about her current beau, Connor Kennedy.

Another ballad about the start of a relationship, "Begin Again," also seems to be about her famous, albeit young boyfriend as she speaks about a relationship blossoming eight months after a breakup (Swift presumably dated Jake Gyllenhaal eight months ago).

Although many of these songs are emotional ballads with mature lyrics reminiscent of many tracks off her somber second

album, "Fearless," Swift has not forgotten her younger fan base.

Following up on her first foray into the pop genre, 2010's "Speak Now," Swift includes punchy pop songs such as hit singles "We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together," and "Red," along with lesser known tracks "Holy Ground" and "Starlight."

But she also captures her former curly-haired teen with songs like "Stay Stay Stay," which has the same country sound and upbeat lyrical riffs as songs off her self-titled debut album, which was released when she was just 16 years old.

While Swift pulls inspiration and musical styling from each of her past albums, she still pushes her own limitations and dabbles in a genre no one ever thought she could: dubstep.

In her hit single "I Knew You Were Trouble," Swift melds her high-pitched lines with a beat produced by Max Martin and Shellback and created a dance-club worthy hit.

Many people might ask why she is straying from what she knows and what she does well, but the answer is quite simple: because she can.

Swift's likability as a celebrity allows her



ASSOCIATED PRESS


Taylor Swift performs on ABC's "Good Morning America" on Tuesday in New York.

to experiment.

Her fan base is so loyal that they will follow her into any genre she explores. With "I Knew You Were Trouble," Swift is able to pull off a massive departure from her country roots.

And her loyal fans will thank her.

With catchy hits like this and the titular "Red" juxtaposed against deeper, tear-inducing tracks like "Sad Beautiful Tragic," it is safe to say Swift has perfected the ability to produce a hit album with substance.



**This Week In the Arts**

**Today:**  
Francesca Arnone and Jeffrey Peterson faculty recital. 7:30 p.m. Jones Concert Hall. No charge.

Baylor's A Cappella Choir. 7:30 p.m. Jones Concert Hall. No charge.

Trick-or-treat in the dorms for faculty and staff children. 6:30 p.m. North and South Russell.

**Today - Sunday:**  
"All Hallowed." 7:30 p.m. Today - Saturday and 2:30 p.m. Sunday. Waco Civic Theatre, 1517 Lake Air Drive. Entry \$15 and \$13 for students or seniors.

**Saturday**  
Travis Tritt. 6 p.m. Hog Creek Icehouse. 170 Branson Trail in Speegleville. Tickets \$25 or \$50 for VIP tickets.

**Wes Butler with Orchestra.** 7:30 p.m. Common Grounds, 1123 S. Eighth St. Tickets \$5.

**Autumn Celebration.** 10 a.m. Governor Bill and Vara Daniel Historic Village, Mayborn Museum, 1700 S. University Parks Drive. Tickets \$6, \$5 for senior adults and \$4 for children 18 months to 12 years.

**Saturday-Sunday:**  
An Event for the Elegant Bride. 1 p.m. Chisholm Hall in the Waco Convention Center. 100 Washington Ave. Tickets \$10 at the door.

**Sunday:**  
Bella Voce, chamber choir for women's voices concert. 3:30 p.m. Seventh and James Baptist Church of Waco. No charge.

**2012 Pumpkin Event.** 3 p.m. Art Center Waco, 1300 College Drive. No charge, with food and drink for sale.

**Monday:**  
Showing of "The Dark Knight Rises"—Pre-DVD Release. 8 p.m. Tickets can be picked up in the SUB for no charge, while they last. \$1 concessions will be sold.

**Monday - Tuesday:**  
"Bring on the Talent Central Texas" talent show. Waco Civic Theatre. 1517 Lake Air Drive. \$3 for Monday, \$8 or \$5 with four canned goods for Tuesday's finals. Proceeds benefit Caritas of Waco and the Waco Civic Theatre.

**Wednesday**  
Zoo Boo. 6 p.m.

Cameron Park Zoo, 1701 N. Fourth St. \$9 for adults, \$6 for children 4 to 12 years and free for 3 and younger.

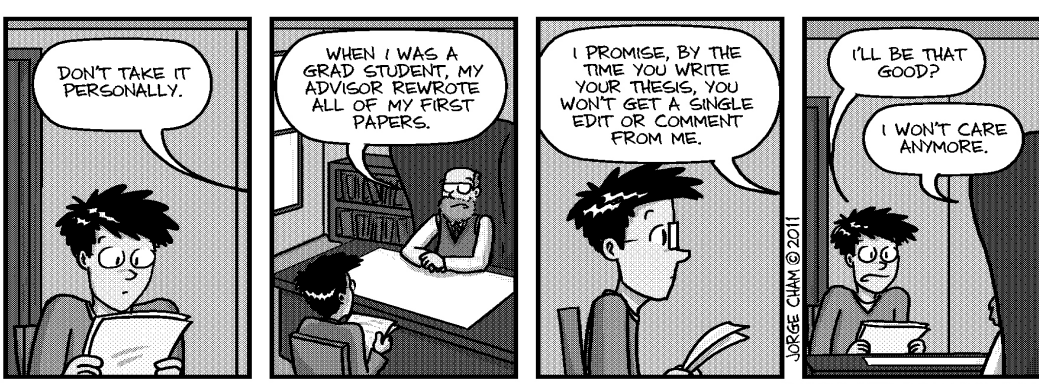
**Through Friday:**  
"Free Association" by Jennifer Leigh Jones. Croft Art Gallery, 712 Austin Ave. No charge.

**Through Nov. 11:**  
Faith & Family by Sedrick Huckabee. Martin Museum of Art Gallery I. No charge.

Fireflies: Photographs of Children by Keith Carter. Martin Museum of Art Gallery II. No charge.

**Through Jan. 4:**  
1319 Arthouse: works by 17 local and area artists. 1319 Austin Ave.

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Level: Difficult

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## DAILY PUZZLES

Answers at www.baylorlariat.com      McClatchy-Tribune

**Across**

- 1 The grand concert one has 47 strings
- 5 Teen hangout
- 9 \_\_\_ poll
- 14 French possessive
- 15 Chills and fever
- 16 "The Voice" judge Green
- 17 Holdup device?
- 18 Party person
- 19 Communications device
- 20 Question cads in their cups?
- 23 Response to "Are you serious?"
- 24 Gardner of old films
- 25 Wow
- 28 Burden beasts of burden?
- 32 Western landscape feature
- 36 Vessel designation
- 37 Weigh station visitors
- 38 New Testament book
- 39 Variable-yield investment option
- 42 Passed-down tales
- 43 CBS newswoman O'Donnell
- 45 Summer baby
- 46 Termini
- 47 Stumble over plumbing gunk?
- 51 Brahms's A?
- 52 View from Marseille
- 53 To-do
- 58 Proper sort ... or a cry upon solving each of this puzzle's theme answers?
- 62 Canceled a reservation, maybe
- 64 Waikiki's whereabouts
- 65 Yankee great, familiarly, with "The"
- 66 Window box bloom
- 67 "Exodus" novelist
- 68 US Open stadium
- 69 Post with carvings
- 70 Passé demo item
- 71 Scholarship factor

**Down**

- 1 "Satisfied now?"
- 2 "\_\_\_ friend unbosoms freely ...": Penn

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# No. 18 Baylor returns to the hardwood

By KRISTA PIRLIE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Elite Eight rings are set aside, Adidas shoes are laced up and neon is put on as the No. 18 Baylor men's basketball team takes the floor at the Ferrell tonight against Abilene Christian in its only exhibition game before the start of the 2012-2013 season.

"You can beat up on each other for so long but then, you know, eventually want to take it out on somebody else," junior guard Brady Heslip said. "I think we're all ready to do that, so we're really looking forward to the opportunity to just play."

After the Bears' game against ACU, the team has a two-week break before the season officially begins Nov. 9.

"Yeah, I'm kind of glad they scheduled it like that, you know?" senior point guard Pierre Jackson said. "We all anxious to get on the court. Were playing in front of everybody at the Ferrell, so I'm ready and excited. I think the team is too."

Head coach Scott Drew is back for his 10th season at Baylor with perhaps the hardest schedule and the deepest team.

"I think they're more ready to play than us coaches because we know there's a lot more that we need to work on," Drew said.

The biggest concern for the Bears' is the frontcourt. Baylor's two returning frontcourt players, senior J'Mison Morgan and junior Cory Jefferson, have a combined 15 career starts.

"We know what we have," Jefferson said. "We're not doubting ourselves at all."

Along with the two veterans are third-year senior Jacob Neubert, sophomore Logan Lowrey and freshmen Isaiah Austin, Rico Gathers, Taurean Prince and Chad Rykhook. Each of these players will most likely get the chance to go off a back pick set by Heslip toward

the rim to throw down an alley-oop from senior point guard Pierre Jackson.

"Practice makes perfect," Jackson said. "We've put a couple sets in. Getting that ready for Isaiah and Rico and whoever else is going to be catching. I can throw them, you know, it just depends on if they're going to catch them. They've been doing well in practice though."

As far as the backcourt goes, the Bears returned every guard from last year's Elite Eight team and added a top 75 national recruit: Jackson, senior A.J. Walton, Heslip, junior Gary Franklin, sophomore Deuce Bello and freshman L.J. Rose. With so much depth, Baylor could run a two-, three- or four-guard front.

"Oh man, that's going to be a big plus," Jackson said. "You know, everybody thinks that's one of our best strengths. You know, they talk about me and Brady a lot, but AJ's been a great help for me; just being that he'd been here two years already before I got here. He's just like a big brother to me. He still helps me out to this day. We got Gary Franklin. He's ready to step up. He didn't really get that much time last year. And y'all know Brady. We already know what he's going to do."

This is the opposite of where Baylor started out the season last year.

"Well the good thing is coaches would rather be experienced in the backcourt because the guards are the ones that really dictate the tempo," Drew said. "You have Pierre, you have Brady, you have Gary, you have A.J. I mean they're all juniors and seniors, and they bring a lot of experience to the table. Then you have Deuce who played minutes last year, critical minutes down the stretch and then L.J. Rose, a talented freshman, so we do like some of the options we have in the backcourt."

The team has only had eight or

nine practices so far, and, due to injuries, Wednesday was the first practice in which the whole team was healthy enough to compete. With five freshmen on board, Drew said that he would not know who the usual starting rotation would be until closer to the season.

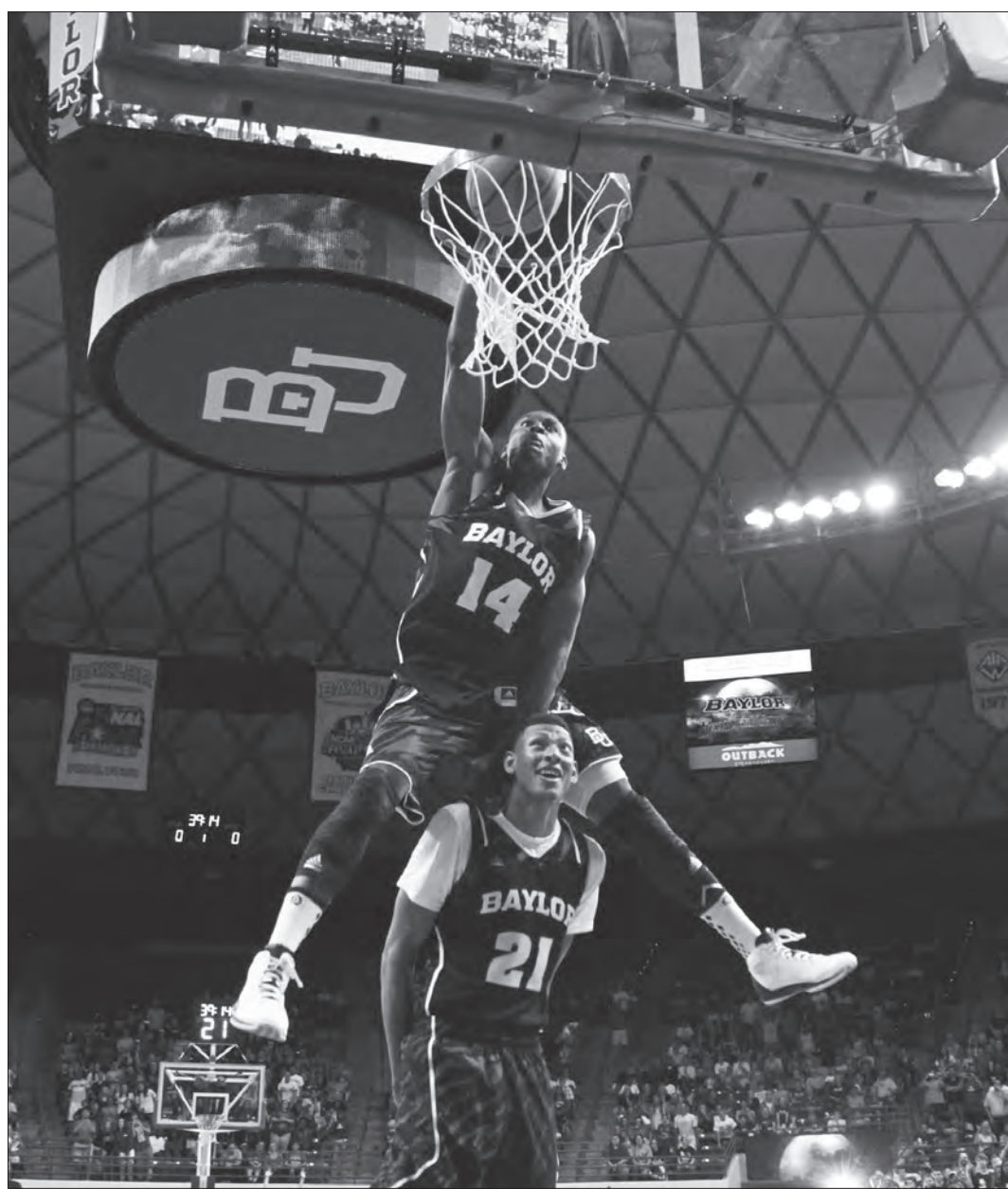
"It's one thing to know who your five most talented players are, it's another thing to find out who plays best together," Drew said. "At the end of the day it's about winning and who plays well with one another and complements one another."

Another facet of the game that should complement the Bears is the style of defense they play. Baylor is known for its long arms in the frontcourt in a 2-3 zone; however, with the experience and speed in the backcourt, a man defense looks to be more compatible.

"Initially, we have a lot of depth and experience in that backcourt which might lend more in man to man defense if you're playing smaller," Drew said. "Later on, as some of the freshmen come along, then maybe the zone comes back in. We'll have both. At the end of the day, whatever's working, that's what we'll go with."

The coaches are more worried about what Baylor brings to the hardwood than anything ACU offers. Since some athletes play better under the lights while others play better in practice, Drew can analyze his team before the season begins.

"What the game will do is it will give us a chance to see what players play like under the lights and allow them to get some nerves out of the way," Drew said. "And then from there, when you're competing with your own team, sometimes you don't see some weaknesses because you're physical in practice, and then all of a sudden in the game you find out you're not physical enough. Or maybe we think we're better defensively than we really are, etc. So the big thing in playing



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

No. 14 guard Deuce Bello dunks over No. 21 center Isaiah Austin to dunk the ball in the dunking competition during Moonlight Madness in the Ferrell Center on Oct. 12. Moonlight Madness marked the beginning of basketball practice for Baylor University.

against someone else is we'll get to see what areas are stronger than what we thought and what areas are weaker than what we thought and plus we get a scrimmage also to find out before Lehigh."

As for the players, they just

want to play ball in the Ferrell.

"I'm just eager to get on the floor, just play in the Ferrell again," Heslip said. "It's a great feeling you can't really talk about. You just have to embrace it. I'm just looking forward to going out there with

these guys that I've been working hard with all offseason and practicing with each and every day so it's going to be fun for us to go out there and play against some competition."

## Last on the list: TCU

By GREG DEVRIES  
SPORTS WRITER

With just one regular season game remaining, the No. 15 Baylor women's soccer team is ready for a postseason run.

The team will likely be seated No. 2 in the Big 12 tournament, but standing in its way is the TCU Horned Frogs.

The Horned Frogs are 6-8-3 on the year and just 1-4-2 in conference play, but a lot is riding on this game.

If the Bears win, they secure second place in the Big 12 tournament.

A combination of wins from Texas Tech and TCU will result in a third-place conference finish for Baylor. All in all, a lot is riding on this game for both teams.

"This is the last game, but we are not just going to ride it out from here on out," junior midfielder Kat Ludlow said. "We want to put all of our effort into this game and then it's the Big 12 tournament. But we're not worrying about that right now. It's TCU and then the Big 12."

The Bears are riding a three-

game winning streak and an unbeaten streak at home that stretches back to Aug. 26.

Baylor has won all of its games at home and will look to keep the momentum going into the postseason.

"We always want to win, but we never put the emphasis on the result," senior defender Carlie Davis said. "Obviously it would be good to get the win to have some momentum going into the Big 12 tournament. Whatever happens, we're going to prepare the same way."

The Horned Frogs are coming off their first Big 12 win. TCU beat Texas, and is making a push to be the last team into the Big 12 tournament.

"They've got a new coaching staff, new players," head coach Marci Jobson said. "We've obviously scouted them, and they've got some really good pieces that we're definitely going to have to take care of, but we've got to go after this team."

One of the pieces that the Bears will need to account for is TCU senior midfielder Monica Alvarado. Alvarado leads the Horned Frogs



SARAH GEORGE | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

No. 6 midfielder Kat Ludlow drives the ball down the field during the matchup against Kansas University last Friday in Waco.

in goals with six, and she is capable of putting up a lot of shots.

To counter this, Baylor will play its trademark aggressive marking defense.

"People get frustrated when they play us because it's not what

they're used to. They don't practice against it. They don't play against it. It's new, it's frustrating, and it's awesome because it gets in their heads," Ludlow said.

The game is at 7 p.m. Friday in Waco.

## Volleyball falls in Austin to UT 3-1

By DANIEL HILL  
SPORTS WRITER

The No. 8 Texas Longhorns outlasted the Baylor Bears in Austin 3-1 (25-18, 20-25, 25-9, 25-22). For the first time since 2006, the Baylor volleyball team won a set in Austin against the Texas Longhorns Tuesday evening.

After playing close in a competitive first set loss, the Bears found their stride against Texas and played a brilliant second set to top Texas 25-20.

After halftime, Texas took no prisoners in the third set as they jumped out to a 9-0 lead to remind the Bears what the No. 8 team in the nation looks like.

Baylor fought back in the third set and eventually trailed 16-9. Texas took off from there and ended up winning the third set over Baylor, 25-9.

With Texas leading the match two sets to one, Baylor started the fourth set in aggressive fashion

and quickly established a 3-0 lead. From there the competitiveness of the match escalated, and soon Baylor only held a 7-6 lead. Junior outside hitter Zoe Adom stepped up for the Bears to lead them to a 15-12 advantage, and she tallied seven kills.

With freshman outside hitter Thea Munch-Soegaard serving, Baylor built a 20-17 lead and forced Texas to call a timeout. Texas would not relent and battled back to trail Baylor by only one point, 20-19.

Texas and Baylor kept trading points and with a 22-21 lead, Baylor called a timeout. Texas evened the score with Baylor at 22-22. Then Texas won three straight points to win the fourth set and the match 25-22.

Adom led the Bears with 13 kills and also totaled four digs and one block while hitting .545.

The Baylor Bears now have a 16-8 overall record and are 3-6 within the Big 12 Conference.

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**MCC** from Page 1

said. Ladd said the program offers her the chance to experience more of Waco.

"It's a good opportunity to step outside the Baylor Bubble and see parts of Waco outside the campus," Ladd said.

Ladd added that the faculty and staff on both campuses have done a good job working with students in the program.

Dr. Fred Hills, dean of arts and sciences at MCC and another member of the task force, said the program offers a number of advantages for MCC, including providing a transition point for MCC students who want to transfer to Baylor, as well as allowing more cooperation between the two campuses.

"From our perspective, it opens up doors to our big neighbor down the river," Hills said.

Hills added the program gives students a more cost-effective way to receive a Baylor education.

The program was implemented this semester by a task force that included administrators and faculty from Baylor and MCC.

The Baylor@MCC task force, which handled the logistics of the program such as sharing records between the two schools, coordinating financial aid and advising, and planning for transportation and housing, began meeting in 2010.

In October 2011, a Memorandum of Understanding between Baylor and MCC was signed by the two school presidents, Ken Starr and Johnette McKown. The memorandum stated that the program would remain in effect until August 2016.

Students of the program are housed in the Kokernot and Mar-

tin residence halls on Baylor's campus, and attend Baylor classes on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and MCC classes on Tuesday and Thursday.

Lauren Kim, a Riverside, Calif. freshman who is enrolled in the program, said experiencing two schools first would make it easier when she becomes a full-time Baylor student.

"If I'm able to navigate two campuses, two libraries, and two professors, then I'll be able to do it here," Kim said.

Kim added that MCC and Baylor offered two different perspectives on college life.

Dr. Donald Balmos, vice president of instruction at MCC and a member of the task force, said the program is helping to diversify MCC, which draws the majority of its students from the local area.

"The more students we bring in from a variety of backgrounds, the more diversity you have and a better learning environment is created," Balmos said.

While the Baylor@MCC program is unique to Baylor in that it brings together a two-year state institution with a four-year private university, Balmos said this type of program is not new. It is similar to the Texas A&M Blinn Transfer Enrollment at A&M which is a program that allows for co-enrollment at Texas A&M University and Blinn College in Brenham.

The University of Texas also runs a similar program in conjunction with Austin Community College.

"We've had people on both sides who were willing to think outside the box," Diana Ramey, associate vice president of enrollment management at Baylor, said.

**STAGE** from Page 1

and consider the effects it has on our abilities to sustain the environment and sustain our culture," Toombs said.

Dr. Ralph Wood, university professor of theology and literature, will talk about the role of modern technology in people's lives.

"More specifically, what is the proper relation between technics and human life?" Wood said. "What good or ill do they bring to human beings? These questions require answers, but they can't be answered from within the world of technics. You've got to have a viewpoint, a stance beyond it, and

I will argue that this vantage point should be theological."

The symposium will also feature professors from a variety of other institutions across the country.

Dr. Ian Hutchinson, professor of nuclear science and engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will speak about scientism and technology.

"Scientism refers to the erroneous belief that science is all the real knowledge there is," Hutchinson said. "This is an opinion that is widespread in our culture. It is a distorted influence on what we think about many things. It dis-

torts science and non-sciences disciplines like history, the arts, humanities, and it also distorts the understanding of the relationship between science and religion, notably Christianity. That's one of the main reasons I'm interested in it."

Hutchinson said that he will talk about scientism and how scientism is related to technology. "Technopoly" is a word coined by Neil Postman that refers to an out-of-control self-actuation of technology.

"It has a kind of troubling influence on society where people are looking more and more to technology for answers to problems,"

Hutchinson said. "Technology itself is being elevated to the status of something that is self-defining."

The symposium talks are free for Baylor faculty, staff and students. To register, go to the Institute for Faith and Learning website. Registration is \$175 and student registration for non-Baylor students is \$75, which includes all events and meals.

A complete schedule and list of speakers and presenters at the conference can also be found on the website, <http://www.baylor.edu/ifl/index.php?id=88447>.

**ZOMBIE** from Page 1

Show," says he's surprised at the level of "monster-ization of children" we're seeing this year.

He points out that for centuries, frightening masks and "scary stories have been used to pass on a kind of coming-of-age message to children that the world is not always a safe and welcoming place." Perhaps, he says, this year parents are especially preoccupied with just how unwelcoming the world seems.

Researching his history of Halloween, "Death Makes a Holiday," Skal spoke with people who grew up during the Great Depression, and remembered dressing up as what they called "hobos and bums." At that time, he says, "people were very concerned that the whole social fabric was coming apart. The idea of the rise of the unwashed masses kind of has a parallel with our fascination with zombies."

Chris Alexander, editor-in-chief of the long-running horror magazine Fangoria, says in the 1930s, characters we now see as relatively harmless like Franken-

stein's monster or Count Dracula were unsettling moviegoers just like Chuckie or Michael Myers.

But, Alexander points out, those characters were effectively defanged through decades of adaptation before they became dress-up fodder for preschoolers.

Frankenstein's monster morphed into bumbling Herman Munster and Dracula eventually translated into Count von Count on "Sesame Street."

No such softening has happened with characters like child-killer Freddy Krueger: They are realistically depicted in latex and fabric, then wrapped around little trick-or-treaters.

Even Alexander, who edits a horror magazine and makes low-budget horror films, says the current crop of costumes is too gory for him to consider buying for his own 5-year-old.

"My office is a nightmare come to life," he says, "but I would never dress my child up as Freddy Krueger or Jason. ... I'm quite shocked when I see it."

**COSTS** from Page 1

models to drive down costs.

Q. What's Obama's record on student aid?

A. Obama can rightly claim he's transformed the federal financial aid system. Partly that means more money — Washington is on track to disburse almost \$50 billion more this year than in 2008-2009. Spending on Pell Grants for low-income students has nearly doubled to about \$35 billion, supporting about 10 million students, up from 6 million when he took office, and he successfully pushed Congress to postpone a scheduled doubling of the interest rate on subsidized Stafford loans.

But he's also made structural changes. Obama stopped subsidizing banks to make student loans, and now almost all student loans come directly from the government. Much of the estimated \$60 billion in savings over 10 years is channeled back into other student aid programs. A new income-based repayment program caps loan repayments for 1.1 million recent borrowers at 15 percent of

discretionary income and forgives their debts after 25 years. The program will soon become a 10 percent cap and forgiveness after 20 years.

Q. What would Romney do as president?

A. He's pledged to reverse Obama's "nationalization" of the federal student loan market and return private lenders to the process. He wants to consolidate what he calls "duplicative" student aid programs but hasn't specified which ones.

Q. What is the problem with Pell Grant funding and what will the candidates do about it?

A. Congress has essentially laid out a schedule of Pell awards where the maximum rises to \$6,030 in coming years, but hasn't provided full funding for that commitment. There's a shortfall averaging roughly \$8 billion annually starting in 2014. Obama's latest budget proposal calls for filling the immediate shortfall but not tightening eligibility requirements.

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