



**A&E Page B6**  
**A little different**  
 Explore and understand the culture of self proclaimed "Hipsters" on Baylor campus

**NEWS Page B8**  
**Brand spankin' new**  
 Crews have started demolition on the rockwall in the SLC, so be on the lookout for some new scenery

**SPORTS Page B1**  
**Looking ahead**  
 Get up to date on the state of BU football and take a look at how the program has grown

**In Print**

>> **NEW IN TOWN**  
 The first Waco Independent Music Expo will hit Waco in March  
**Page B8**

>> **DOMINATION**  
 Get all the details on the men's basketball victory against Oklahoma State  
**Page B3**

>> **APPLY NOW**  
 Today is the last day to put in an application for student government  
**Page A10**

**On the Web**



Watch artist Harrison Connally explore the connection between woodworking, life and faith through Goodhand, his woodworking business inspired by the "good hand of God."  
 Only on [baylorlariat.com](http://baylorlariat.com)

Check out the Lariat's best images from the Bears' victory over UCLA in the Holiday Bowl.  
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**Viewpoints**

*"We must not wait for someone's deteriorated mental health to reveal itself in another mass shooting...If mental health directives only target violent offenders, the damage has already been done. We need preventative care in order to stop these things before they happen."*

**Page A2**



## The hunt for new student regent begins

By KATE MCGUIRE  
 STAFF WRITER

The position of student regent is up for grabs.

The open application for a new student regent for the 2013-2014 school year is under way. The Baylor Board of Regents introduced the position of student regent last year.

The student regent is a non-voting regent who is allowed to be present during non-executive board meetings. Because this position represents the students of Baylor, this regent will have the opportunity to raise thoughts or questions about issues concerning students and the campus, according to the student regent application. The Baylor student body president works with the student government to bring up ideas that will benefit the campus and its students. While the two positions are almost the same, each has a different agenda.

The application states that students must be in good academic standing,

and must be knowledgeable of Baylor's mission, goals, aspirations and visions. Applicants must also be Christians who have accepted Christ as their savior. A regent must not only represent the students, but also must have a good reputation with the faculty and staff of Baylor and stand for everything Baylor represents to society.

The applications are due by 5 p.m. Friday in the Vice

President for Student Life office on the first floor of the McLane Student Life Center.

Student Body President Kelly Rapp was designated the first student regent for the 2012-13 school year.

"We decided to appoint Kelly once the decision had been made to have a student regent. He has done a great job of being what a student regent should be," said Dr. Kevin Jackson, vice president for student

life. The board is debating whether the future student regent

also may be able to serve in other positions within student government.

"Right now the board is deciding whether the regent can be student body president as well," Jackson said.

Regardless of the Board's decision, the student body president and student regent will work closely together to bring up important issues to the board of regents.

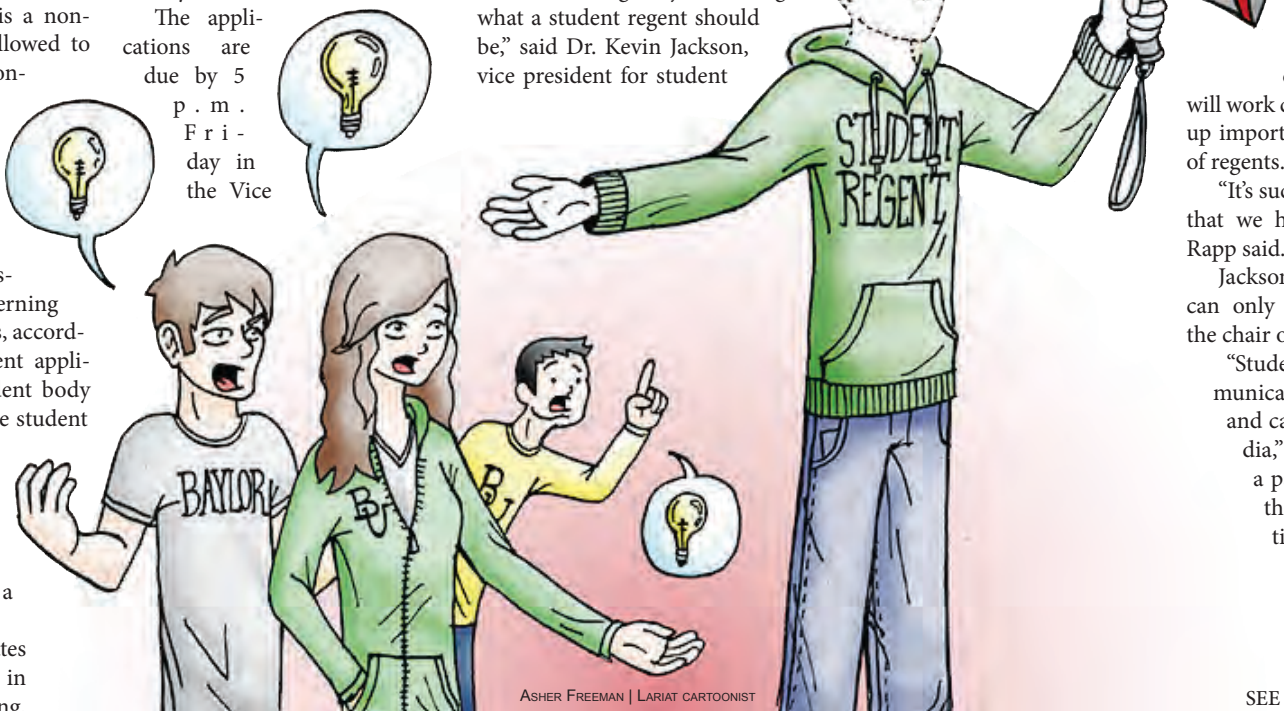
"It's such an exciting time now that we have a student regent," Rapp said.

Jackson said the student regent can only communicate through the chair of the board.

"Student regents are not communicative through the chair and cannot report to the media," Jackson said. "There is a part of confidentiality in this student regent position."

Rapp can only comment as student body president and cannot discuss what matters

SEE **REGENT**, page A11



ASHER FREEMAN | LARIAT CARTOONIST

## Baylor departments are busy moving into BRIC

By LINDA NGUYEN  
 A&E EDITOR

Baylor research is expanding as Baylor departments and faculty begin to move into the new Baylor Research and Innovation Collaborative building. Baylor Research and Innovation Collaborative is a partnership between Baylor, Texas State Technical College and local businesses.

Baylor electrical engineering, Center for Astrophysics, Space Physics and Engineering Research and Baylor Center for Spatial Research are the departments and institutes beginning to relocate their research labs to the new BRIC building located at U.S. Highway 77 and Orchard Lane.

Dr. Truell Hyde, vice provost for research and director of CASPER, said he is excited for the Baylor Research Innovation Collaborative.

"It's basically a brand-new paradigm different from anything anyone else has done," Hyde said. "Inside the building is about 340,000 square feet, which is about the size of the science building if you delete the atrium." Hyde said the building will

house engineering research, CASPER, Baylor Center for Spatial Research and an Innovative Business Accelerator as well as local businesses.

The Innovative Business Accelerator is run out of the School of Business. It can provide marketing plans, business plans or digital media plans that companies moving into town might need to get started.

The electrical engineering department was one of the first groups to move into their new

research labs in the BRIC building. Research was originally spread between the Engineering Research Annex and the Rogers Engineering and Computer Science Building.

Dr. Kwang Lee, department of electrical engineering chair, said the new building will allow the department to expand its research labs and attract new faculty members.

"The last couple years, we've

SEE **BRIC**, page A11



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

The Beck Group began renovating the BRIC building with lab facilities and other interior areas. By the end of January 2013, Baylor intends to have approximately 100 faculty and staff members working and operating in the building.

## Baylor among best schools for African-Americans

By SIERRA BAUMBACH  
 STAFF WRITER

Baylor was recently named one of the best schools in the nation for African-Americans.

M. Clayton & Associates, a company that has studied colleges and universities across the nation to find institutions committed to helping African-American students graduate, published a new list that named the "88 Best Colleges for African-Americans." More than 800 schools were judged off of criteria that included a minimum graduation rate of 40 percent for African-American students, an African-American student population of at least 6.5

percent and a high graduation rate for African-Americans based on ACT scores and compared against the company's determined ACT score for graduation. Baylor African-American students' average scores were 23.3

**OTHER MAJOR UNIVERSITIES THAT MADE THE LIST**

- UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
- GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY
- SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
- TEXAS LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY
- THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS - TYLER
- VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY
- XAVIER UNIVERSITY
- YALE UNIVERSITY

for ACT and 1066 for SAT.

Baylor was one of only four Texas colleges to make the list, the other three were

Rice University Texas Lutheran University, and The University of

SEE **BEST**, page A11



COURTESY PHOTO

Moultrie, Ga., doctoral student Shawn Sutherland won \$25,000 on the game show "Who Wants to be a Millionaire."

## Million or bust

BU student goes big and goes home on 'Who Wants to be a Millionaire'

By TAYLOR REXRODE  
 STAFF WRITER

Would you like to phone a friend? Final answer?

Moultrie, Ga., doctoral student Shawn Sutherland competed and won \$25,000 on "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire" Dec. 17 as the self-proclaimed "biggest fan" of the program.

Sutherland, who will receive his doctorate degree in mathematics this May, has watched the show since it began airing in August 1999, specifically since the fifth episode out of over a thousand episodes.

"I saw a question for \$16,000," Sutherland said, wearing his "Who Wants to Be A Millionaire" T-shirt. "I didn't know it was for \$16,000. I just saw a lady agonizing over a multiple-choice question and I was thinking, 'Oh, well it's D: To Kill A Mockingbird. \$16,000 for that? I was hooked immediately.'"

When he decided to audition for the show on July 23, 2012, he did not agonize over preparation. According to the "Millionaire" website, applicants must pass a 30-question audition test. Sutherland had taken the audition test six times since 2004, failing all attempts except the final one. Within those six years, Suther-

land studied more than 11,000 past "Millionaire" questions.

Joshua Sutherland, Shawn's twin and fellow doctoral student in the mathematics department, accompanied Shawn on his auditions for "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire" in 2006.

"We drove about seven hours away for an audition in Memphis," Joshua Sutherland said. "He's a ridiculously big fan of the show. One time he jumped over a lady to get a shirt and he has five different magnets from participating in the auditions."

When Sutherland found out he had made it on the show, he said he knew would never walk away with the money when he could continue to play the game instead.

"I went in with the mindset of 'Million or Bust,'" Sutherland said. "None of the producers believed me."

Sutherland's mother, Trish Sutherland, took the journey with him to New York City, where the segment was recorded. Producers saw Sutherland's excitement for the show and recognized an opportunity for great television.

"One of the traditional pieces of advice they give you when you go on a game show is to be your-

SEE **MILLION**, page A11



# Gun control measures help ensure public safety

## Editorial

It is shocking how many mass shootings have occurred in the past year. The shootings listed below caught the attention of the media and the nation, inspiring discussion on regulating the sale of firearms in America:

- Newtown, Conn. — Adam Lanza killed his mother, 20 children and six adults at a nearby elementary school in December. He then committed suicide.

- Minneapolis, Minn. — In September, Andrew Engeldinger killed seven people, including himself, after learning he was fired.

- Oak Creek, Wis. — U.S. Army veteran Wade Michael Page killed seven people in a Sikh temple and died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound during a shootout with police.

- Aurora, Colo. — A man opened fire in a crowded movie theater during a showing of "The Dark Night Rises" in July, killing 12 and injuring 58 people.

- Seattle, Wash. — Ian Stawicki gunned down four people at a café, one person while stealing her car and then shot himself as police closed in during May.

- Oakland, Calif. — One L. Goh, who was declared incom-

petent to stand trial, shot seven people at Oikos University nursing school in April.

- Norcross, Ga. — Jeong Soo Paek shot two of his sisters and their husbands at a sauna before committing suicide in February.

The body count from these incidents alone, discounting other criminal and domestic violence, is 73. The year 2012 had the most mass shootings since 1982, according to the Mother Jones' Investigation of Mass Shootings 1982-2012, the investigation that goes the farthest back in history compared to other lists of mass shootings found online.

A new plan for gun control inspired by these events, which was introduced by President Obama, involves three steps: an assault weapons ban, a 10-round cap on magazines and universal background checks on everyone seeking to buy a gun as well as an increased effort in mental health services to detect potentially violent patients. This plan has met fierce opposition by the National Rifle Association, politicians and some citizens who argue that such regulation infringes on Americans' Second Amendment rights.

The Second Amendment, which argues for the necessity of a "well-regulated militia" to a free state, protects the people from an

infringement on the right to keep and bear arms.

First, it is important to understand that this new regulatory effort doesn't ban all guns, just assault weapons, which will still be allowed. An "assault weapon" is a semi-automatic firearm that possesses certain features similar to a military weapon, including guns like the AK-47 or a .22 caliber Ruger.

The 10-round cap simply limits the number of rounds that can be fired from magazines, instead of banning guns that require them entirely, and is another measure designed to prevent mass casualties if the weapon in question falls into the hands of an unsavory character.

Furthermore, the third step, which targets guns in the hands of those who are mentally unstable, would further prevent the problem of unstable individuals with access to deadly weapons.

This third step that is the crucial factor in why the measures should be supported. Because many of the examples above involve some mental instability, mandatory universal background checks for gun buyers is a common-sense measure that we wholeheartedly support.

It is obvious that something needs to be done about the increasingly problematic way that

mentally ill or unstable people are able to obtain guns.

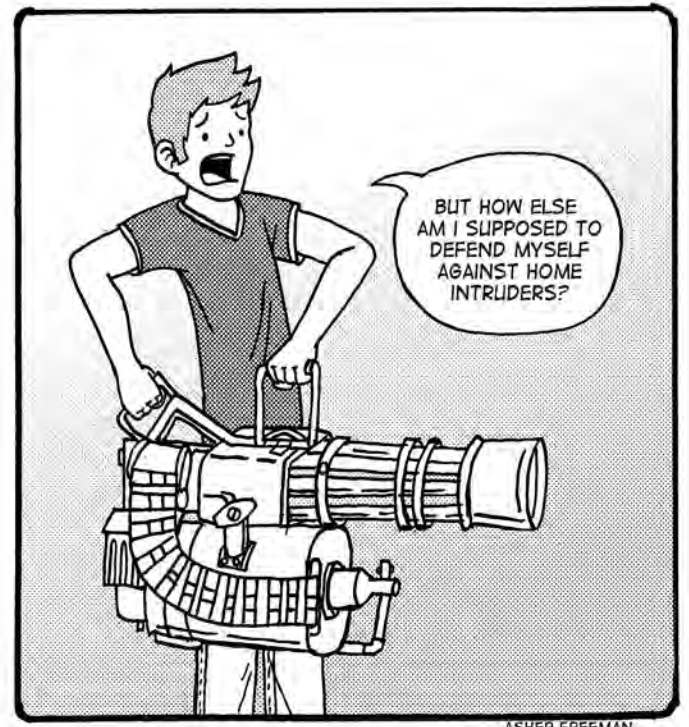
A push for stricter health care policies and more attentive rehab systems is the most plausible solution to the dozens of tragedies that seem to have become more frequent. In Obama's plan for executive gun control actions, this includes funding to expand mental health programs for young people and clarifying the Affordable Care Act to allow doctors to ask patients about guns or weapons in their homes.

The government would also emphasize no federal law prohibits health care providers from reporting threats of violence to authorities. Obama's plan also includes directives to clarify what health benefits and services can be covered by Medicaid.

Some of the perpetrators of the mass shootings listed above were affected by depression or schizophrenia. Five of the seven listed above committed suicide, also indicating mental disturbance.

We must not wait for someone's deteriorated mental health to reveal itself in another mass shooting.

It is essential that these directives be applied to all citizens under government-run health care programs or else they are not preemptive at all. If mental health



directives only target violent offenders, the damage has already been done. We need preventative care in order to stop these things before they happen.

While the new restrictions will not meet the approval of all, they are sensible measures aimed at compromise. It is clear from the number and scope of shootings in 2012 alone that some change in the way we buy and sell guns

must occur to avoid these horrible tragedies.

For any changes to be possible, compromises must be made, starting with a united effort to balance the integrity of the second amendment with the rights of innocent people who must be protected. The Lariat supports the gun control measures mentioned above as a fair balance between the two interests.

## Gun owners must first think about the morality of defense

Guns have been a part of my life for as long as I can remember. My family uses them for hunting, recreation, sport and protection. From a very young age, I believed that guns were a natural part of everyone's life.

One of the earliest memories I have of a gun is sitting on the back porch with my cousins at night and waiting for the coyotes to come out so we could shoot them.

I can remember very vividly my grandfather sitting at the table in the game room and cleaning all of his guns once every month or so. Most of the men in my family have a holster on their hip, and there is a gun in every closet in my house.

Needless to say, guns have always been a huge part of my life and remain so.

When it came time for me to get my first gun, I was so wrapped up in choosing the perfect gun, how it shot, what color grip I would add, and so on, that I essentially became numb to the fact that I was going to possess an instrument that could potentially take the life of another human being.

When this became apparent to me, I set out to learn everything I could about being both well-armed and well-educated.

In my family, gun safety was always promoted. Every kid knew how to properly handle a firearm, whether it was a handgun, shotgun or rifle.

While gun safety is important, I was already confident that I would not have a problem with this aspect of owning a gun. I was more concerned about the mental aspects of being a gun owner.

My uncle, who is a Jefferson County sheriff's deputy, asked

me some questions that made me think about this. He asked questions that, as I attempted to answer, struck me to my core. I was asked, "Why do you need a gun?" "Do you believe that there are situations that make it OK to kill another person?" and "Do you feel that you possess the ability to aim at a person and take a lethal shot?"

If I am held against my will, I will not go anywhere at gunpoint. If an attacker wants to take me somewhere, his or her motivation is to do something bad that he can't do where I am at the time.

I will always shoot to kill. I will not give someone a second chance to get to me by not shooting to kill.

Lastly, I will fight back in defense of others or myself against attack, even if it means the loss of my own life or the person I'm defending.

However harsh, these decisions force me to confront what could happen if I were to protect myself with a gun. I was once told that if you do not carefully evaluate your capabilities and set limitations, then you put yourself and others at great risk. Choosing to carry a gun for self-defense was a very thought-provoking journey for me, which ultimately I am very happy to have made.

Now, not only am I confident in my ability to protect myself and not shy away from any potential situation, I am able to enjoy using guns as a hobby much more.

For those that are interested in taking control of your own self-defense, I encourage you to do a little research and set your own guidelines and limitations as well as getting familiar with gun laws.

That way, when you are confronted with the barrel of an attacker's gun, you can respond without having to make weighty moral decisions in a split second that could cost you your life.

Alexa Brackin is a junior journalism major from Nederland. She is the news editor for the Baylor Lariat.



The easy answer was "Of course," but the more I thought about the reality of these questions, which involved shooting real people instead of animals, the more I began struggling.

For me, the journey to finding answers was a very personal one that forced me to examine my faith and morality.

Ultimately, I chose that I would be prepared to defend my own life or that of my family or any other innocent person, even if it resulted in the death of another person.

In order to put the situation in context for myself, I adopted a set of guidelines to follow if I were ever put in a life or death situation.



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## Higher-education bubble is preventable

As our economy recovers from the bursting of the housing bubble, some warn another is looming on the horizon.

The phrase "higher-education bubble" was first popularized by Glenn Reynolds, a distinguished professor of law at the University of Tennessee. In his book, "The Higher-Education Bubble," he defines the term:

"Bubbles form when too many people expect values to go up forever."

How do we properly value education against its cost? We all know that tuition prices across the nation are rising and have been for years.

Data from College Board's Trends in Student Aid, one of the most comprehensive sources of statistics on college pricing, indicate that financial aid per student in constant (inflation-adjusted) dollars has been consistently rising as well.

Because salaries for highly educated professionals have risen rapidly in recent years, an increase in college pricing is somewhat justified. Robert Archibald, chancellor professor of economics at the College of William and Mary, said this:

"Everyone has three objectives for higher education: lower tuition, higher quality, and less government spending on subsidies. The unfortunate truth is that we can have any two of these, but we can't have all three. If we man-

date low tuition, we have to give on one of the other two."

Tamar Lewin of the New York Times takes a different position, attributing much of the rising education cost to unnecessary increases in administrative staff in colleges across the country.



Students have a responsibility to make smart decisions in order to sustain the value of education. College is still worth it; however, if we are not careful, we can make the mistake of overvaluing our education. Maximizing future benefit requires more than sitting through classes.

We are not entitled to a job offer or high salaries once we graduate. In order to deserve these things, we must continue to work hard in classes and focus on enriching ourselves outside the

classroom, building time management and communication skills.

According to multiple studies, students at college spend less time studying today than 60 years ago. Social development is a crucial aspect of the college experience, but it is not the reason tax dollars are funding federal student loan and grant programs.

Nor is enrolling in college an automatic guarantee to future success. According to the American Enterprise Institute,

"Data from the National Center for Education Statistics show that only 58 percent of new college students who began in 2004 had graduated six years later."

The 42 percent of students who dropped out (roughly 2/3 of which cited reasons not related to tuition prices) are left holding thousands in student loans with no diploma to show for it.

For these people, it may have been better if they had considered an alternative to college.

For those of us that are already here, we need to continually strive to merit the generosity we have been given and work to achieve the success we dream of.

Danny Huizinga is a sophomore Baylor Business Fellow from Chicago. He manages the political blog Consider Again. Read other works by Danny at www.consideragain.com.

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MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

Houston freshman Lindsey Fahrenthold climbs Baylor's rock wall in the McLean Student Life Center on Aug. 24. Renovations have begun on the rock wall to improve the safety of the 13-year-old structure.

## SLC under construction; rock wall set to get face-lift

By SIERRA BAUMBACH  
STAFF WRITER

When visiting the McLane Student Life Center within the next few months, students may notice a slight change in scenery.

Renovation on the rock wall began over the winter break and is currently in the demolition stage, with construction crews from QuadTex working to strip away the layers of plywood, concrete and mesh that hold the wall together.

After administrators recognized that over 50 percent of the plywood and concrete frame was stripped from the constant rearrangement of rock holds plans to rebuild the 13-year-old structure were put into action along with a new design that will fit updated safety requirements.

"There are so many people that don't know about the safety

standards," said Kim Scott, director of campus recreation. "One of the things I am proudest of is that in 13 years, we have had only one injury where a student had to get stitches, and by maintaining safety standards, we hope to maintain that number."

With the two-year inspection date looming over their heads, administrators had to act quickly on the plan to rebuild.

"We have an estimation of about three to four weeks for the demolition and then after they will clean up, the construction crew can come in and begin rebuilding from the slab up," Scott said.

The new wall will have two parts. The free-standing rock wall will be a solid rock that features both a real rock side, made to imitate real mountain climbing, and a side that will feature man made rocks that will be similar to the previous wall. Apart from the

freestanding wall, the new design will also incorporate bouldering space along the café wall. The free-standing rock wall will stand at 52 feet, earning the title of "tallest free-standing collegiate rock wall."

"The renovation is bittersweet," said Hewitt senior Sarah Groman, president of the Rock Climbing Club. "The new design will be beneficial to those who are advanced as well as beginners. There are a couple of different styles, where the old one only had one style. It will be good to be able to practice on such a versatile space."

Pictures of the upcoming changes are currently being showcased in the SLC, where students may go to get a sneak peek of the future rock wall. Complete renovation details are not yet available, but the construction is set to be finished in late April, just in time for Diadeloso.

## Personalized bricks to line path at new Baylor Stadium

By SIERRA BAUMBACH  
STAFF WRITER

With construction of the Baylor Stadium under way, fans now have a chance to help piece the stadium together.

Baylor Bricks is a new marketing campaign set up by University Development that allows fans to purchase bricks to be inlaid in the stadium's walkway.

The brick campaign is one that is evident in other Baylor staples such as the Bill and Eva Williams Bear Habitat and the Dutch Schroeder Athletic Plaza.

"The bricks are something we have done in the past as we have opened venues and facilities," said Nick Joos, executive associate athletic director for external affairs. "It's something we try to incorpo-

rate throughout the campus, including the stadium site."

Engraved bricks will pave the walkway to the new stadium. The South Plaza Premier Paver, with a price tag of \$1,250, will form the interlocking BU symbol in a prominent spot in the stadium.

"These campaigns have been successful in the past," Joos said. "It's a great way for

fans of all ages, and people with any affinity to Baylor to support

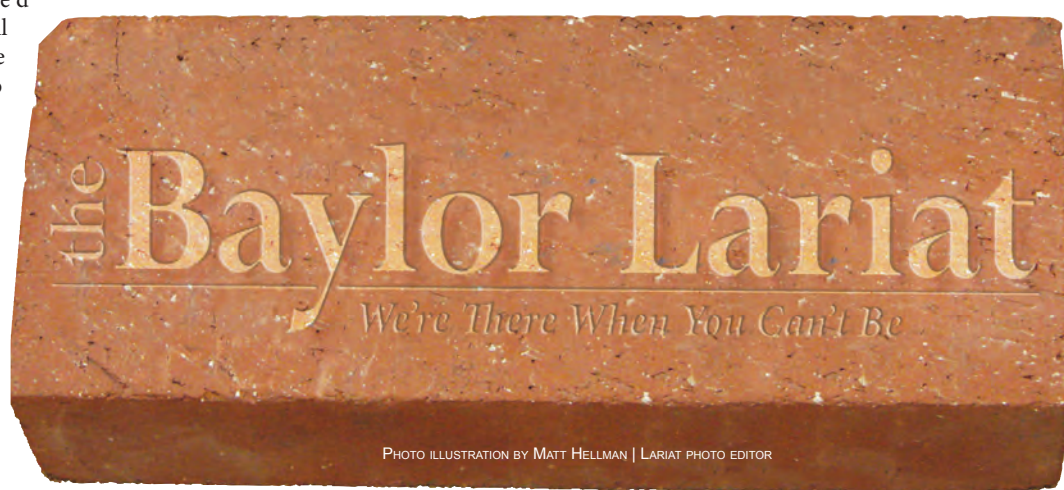


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

the school and gives them a chance to be part of something that will be

remembered for years."

Bricks are sold on a first-come,

first-served basis with the only limited supply being the South

Plaza Premier Paver, selling until all bricks are sold or until opening day of the stadium. Bricks bought sooner will be located closer to the field.

"There were over 200 bricks sold within the first 48 hours of sales," said Greg Davis, senior director of development. "Those numbers have only risen and will rise until the very last minute."

The money raised by the bricks will help financially support the stadium and is expected to cover any remaining costs.

"It's just a unique way for the

Baylor Nation to tie back-in and remain a part of Baylor even after they've left," Joos said.

Four varieties of brick are being sold. The least expensive, starting at \$175, comes with a 4 x 8 brick with 1-3 lines of customized text. A \$350 option features an 8 x 8 square brick with up to 6 lines of customization and a \$500 BU Logo brick that is 8 x 8 brick featuring the interlocking BU logo and 1-4 lines of customized text. The most expensive brick is \$1,250 in the South Plaza Premier, which is an 8 x 8 brick with 1-6 lines of text that will form the interlocking BU design.

For more information on buying a brick for the new Baylor stadium, go to [www.baylor.edu/stadiumbricks](http://www.baylor.edu/stadiumbricks).

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# Dr Pepper Hour celebrates 60th anniversary

By TAYLOR REXRODE  
STAFF WRITER

Dr Pepper Hour is officially 60 years old.

Students celebrated the 60th anniversary of Dr Pepper Hour Jan. 15. Students, faculty and staff had the opportunity to gather together under a glowing Dr Pepper Hour banner and share memories of the beloved soft drink.

Students took in the sights around them as they entered Barfield Drawing Room. A photo booth stood in one corner for attendees to take photos with classic soda bottle props. Treats such as a Baylor green-and-gold cake and bear-shaped cookies were laid out next to the original Dr Pepper floats. The Dr Pepper Museum table laid out a timeline of the Dr Pepper bottle evolution and held a drawing for free tickets to the museum.

Jordy Dickey, assistant director of the Student Union, planned the community gathering months in advance.

"Coming into this role, I've been dreaming and thinking about this for a couple years now," Dickey said. "We wanted a fun kind of feel that was modern but brought in

elements of the classic tradition. It was a joint team that thought together how we wanted to make it fun."

Dickey worked alongside Jennifer Cook, coordinator of Student Union for Events, and Holly Smith, graduate apprentice for Student Union Programming Board, as well as other students and administrators who had a hand in making the commemorative event come to life.

The tradition of Dr Pepper Hour started in 1952 as Coffee Matinee Hour under Marie Mathis, assistant to the dean of the student union.

She wanted students and Baylor faculty to meet together and socialize in a carefree environment. A year later the coffee matinee changed into Coke Hour where Coca-Cola was added to vanilla ice cream to create a float. When Dr Pepper became Baylor's official beverage in July 1997, the university began creating Dr Pepper floats, which have remained a Dr Pepper Hour tradition.

Joy Summar-Smith, associate director of the Dr Pepper Museum, attended the event and spoke of her love for Dr Pepper and the Dr Pepper Hour.

"I love the pride that the Waco community takes in Dr Pepper and how it has spread onto Baylor campus," Summar-Smith said. "And I love those 23 different flavors that make a unique combination. Before I even started working at the museum I was a Dr Pepper fan."

Bedford sophomore Cameron Melton shared her favorite memory of Dr Pepper Hour.

"It was when I wanted to learn about studying abroad," Melton said. "Every culture you could imagine was there. I had a Dr Pepper and we were all drinking it together. The Dr Pepper seemed to unite everyone."

Bushland junior Trenton Garza likes seeing friends every Tuesday at Dr Pepper Hour.

"It's always fun to run into friends that I may not be able to see on a daily basis," Garza said. "Dr Pepper Hour always invites the Baylor community together. It reminds you of being a unified Baylor family."

To experience more Dr Pepper Hour memories, students, faculty and staff can visit the BU Student Activities Twitter page @BaylorSA or post their own memory by tagging #DPH60.



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

Baylor students create carry-out bags filled with candy during the 60th Anniversary of Dr Pepper Hour last Tuesday, in Barfield Drawing Room.



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## Mideast Israel elections underway

Yair Lapid gestures as he delivers a speech today at his "Yesh Atid" party in Tel-Aviv. The party, formed just over a year ago, outdid forecasts by far and are predicted to capture as many as 19 seats, becoming parliament's second-largest party, after Netanyahu's Likud-Beiteinu bloc, which won 31, according to the exit polls.

## Baylor bears down on fitness and health

By TAYLOR REXRODE  
STAFF WRITER

The Baylor fitness department will host the Health and Fitness Expo from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 2 in the Barfield Drawing Room of the Bill Daniel Student Center.

Educational sessions spanning a variety of topics from fitness to nutrition will be available to attendees and are taught by Baylor faculty.

Participants can choose to attend four sessions out of 12 offered.

The list of sessions has not yet been posted and will be available online before the event.

Students and faculty will also go to a Fitness Bash, where all participants will engage in group fitness activities such as zumba, pilates and yoga.

Students and faculty that are interested in the event may register at the McLane Student Life Center front desk before Sunday for \$12, which pays for four educational sessions, the Fitness Bash, lunch and a T-shirt.

Registration between Monday and Feb. 2 will cost \$15 and does not include lunch or a T-shirt.

Becky Louber, a facilities graduate assistant, worked alongside Van Davis, assistant director for

fitness and nutrition education, to coordinate the event.

Louber encourages all faculty and staff seeking a healthier lifestyle to attend the expo whether or not they are experienced in fitness and healthy dieting.

"It's encouraged as a way to get information about fitness," Louber said.

"We have a lot of opportunities for activities at Baylor. I think it's a good way to share knowledge across campus, especially at the beginning of the year when everyone is making resolutions," she said.

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# BU professor finds calling in cell phone addiction research

By SIERRA BAUMBACH  
STAFF WRITER

Smartphone users and compulsive shoppers might be more similar than once thought.

Dr. James Roberts, professor of marketing and the W.A. Mays professor of entrepreneurship, recently published a study that compared cell phone addiction to compulsive buying.

The study explored the idea that cell phone use is similar to being a "shopaholic," the need for a cell phone fueled by materialism and the appearance of wealth that materials can suggest.

The study, which has been published in numerous journals and featured on shows such as the O'Reilly Factor and websites like the Daily

Mail, is only one of more than 75 studies addressing sales and compulsive consumerism that Roberts has published throughout his career.

"When I first arrived at Baylor I did a lot of research in the area of personal selling and it wasn't really my passion," Roberts said. "Then I was driven to the question of what drives compulsive buying, and so that started it off and since about 15 years ago I have started studying issues related to consumer behavior."

Roberts, who is a Minnesota native, earned his doctorate of Business from Nebraska State University in 1991 and began teaching at Baylor the same year.

"I interviewed with a bunch of schools and Baylor was one of them," Roberts said. "Some of the people who interviewed me were some of the leading researchers in the field and I thought, 'What a

great place to start,' and it just turned out to be a real good match."

In 1992, Roberts published his first paper, "Diagnosing Consumer Information Problems: An Investigation of Deception in the Mail-Order Video Camcorder Market."

"I've been pretty successful in that everything I have written has been published at some level," Roberts said. "There are good journals, medium journals, and of course not so good journals."

Out of his 75 published articles, two of them have been named "Paper of the Year" within their respective journals.

"When you publish your article in a paper, it goes through an editorial board that is built of people who have agreed to sort through and decide which papers to publish," Roberts said of the process for how the paper of the year is chosen. "Paper of the year is just an honor that says not only

*"The book [Shiny Objects] ... talks about how our love of money impacts our life and all those things we do that has a negative effect on us."*

Dr. James Roberts | professor of marketing

are you published but you were the best paper out of that given year's journals."



Roberts

Partnering with others in the field of consumer science, Roberts has done few papers on his own, choosing to build both professional and personal relationships with others through his studies.

"Jim and I met years ago at a conference and we just hit it off," Dr. Steve Pirog, co-author of "A preliminary investigation of materialism and impulsiveness as predictors of technological addictions among young adults," and associate professor and chair of department of marketing at Seton Hall University, said. "He's fun to work with and we always started off with a few laughs and talked about the important things before getting down to business. His human approach and his discipline, while still old school, focuses on how marketing affects us socially and his research is simply cutting edge. He's like the Van Gogh in the area of research."

Roberts also released a book in November 2011, "Shiny Objects: Why We Spend Money We Don't Have in Search of Happiness We Can't Buy," which was featured on The CBS Early Show, America's Morning News and numerous other media outlets.

"The book is about 15 years worth of research where I studied compulsive buying, materialism and credit card abuse," Roberts said. "It talks about how our love of money impacts our life and all those things we do that has a negative effect on us."

Continuing with his research on cell phones and the effect it has on everyday life, Roberts is currently working on a study that will narrow down the activities that may cause addiction to mobile devices.



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Ana Leal, left, embraces Lone Star College student Sabrina Cuellar after she was evacuated and picked up by her mother, Maria Cuellar, right, from the campus following a shooting on Tuesday at the north Harris County school in Houston. Authorities say the shooting was the result of an altercation between two people, and at least one was a student.

# Fight escalates at Lone Star College; three wounded in campus shooting

By JUAN A. LOZANO AND  
MICHAEL GRACZYK  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON — A fight between two people erupted in gunfire Tuesday at a Houston-area community college, catching a maintenance man in the crossfire and leaving students and others cowering in classrooms.

No one was killed, but the volley of gunshots heard shortly after noon sparked fear of another campus massacre just more than a month after 26 people were killed at an elementary school in Newtown, Conn.

The shooting happened outside between an academic building and the library where Luis Resendiz, 22, was studying on the second floor.

An employee called police and then herded the 30 to 40 people in the library into a small room and told them to crouch down, he said.

Keisha Cohn, 27, was in a building about 50 feet away and began

running as soon as she heard the shots.

"To stay where I was wasn't an option," said Cohn, who fled to a building that houses computers and study areas. All the students eventually were evacuated, running out of buildings as police officers led them to safety.

Authorities offered no details about what led to the fight. One of the people involved had a student ID, and both people were wounded and hospitalized, Harris County Sheriff's Maj. Armando Tello said. A fourth person also was taken to a hospital for a medical condition, he said.

Mark Zaragosa said he had just come out of an EMT class when he saw two people who were injured and stopped to help them.

"The two people that I took care of had just minor injuries," he told KHOU-TV. "One gentleman had a gunshot to the knee and the (other) actually had an entry wound to the lower buttocks area."

The shooting last month at

Sandy Hook Elementary School heightened security concerns at campuses across the country.

Resendiz said the Connecticut shooting was the first thing he thought of when he heard gunfire and he wondered if a similar situation was happening on his campus.

"I didn't think something like this could happen. You don't think about it happening to you," he said.

Several school districts in Texas have either implemented or are considering a plan to allow faculty to carry guns on campus.

While guns are not allowed on college campuses, the Texas Legislature this year may debate a bill that would allow them.

Richard Carpenter, chancellor of the Lone Star College System, said the campus is a gun-free zone that "has been safe for 40 years."

"We think it's still safe," he added. He also described the maintenance man, who was said to be in his 50s and listed in stable condition, as "in good shape."

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# Psychologist weighs in with study tips and debunks myths

By LINDA NGUYEN  
A&E EDITOR

As we swing in to the spring semester, cognitive psychologist Dr. Charles Weaver gives the Lariat his professional take on what study methods work and which ones don't.

**Q:** What are some good general study tips for students?

**A:** Probably the two or three most important things would be to first, study in what we would call a distributed way. To prepare a little bit every day or a lot each day rather than try to cram all your study time in to a day or two before the test. Cramming will work if you just need to remember information for a day or so, but if you want to remember information in the long term, spacing it out in the way we just described is by far the best way to do it. Second big tip would be to take the opportunity to test yourself even if that cuts into your study time. If you have 10 hours to prepare for a test, you're better off studying five hours, testing yourself for five hours than you would be studying all 10 hours. Studying is not as effective as test-

**Q&A**

taking for learning. That's probably one of the most counterintuitive things we've learned in the past 10 years. Testing has huge benefits for learning as long as you test yourself honestly.

**Q:** Do you see anything in your classes that confirms your findings about studying?

**A:** Students repeatedly suffer from what researchers call the "illusion of knowing."

That'll happen for example when you make flash cards. If you look at the front end where the question is and take a peak of the back at the answer and tell yourself "Oh yeah, I would have recognized that" that's going to lead to a tremendous overconfidence on the part of the students. You see students think test-taking strategies are more important than they are. They're really not. What students ought to focus on isn't how am I going to be tested but how can I maximally learn? And the last thing you see, and it's not unique to students, cognitive effort is aversive to most people. Given a choice between reading "War and Peace" and watching "Gilligan's Island," we all watch "Gilligan's



Weaver

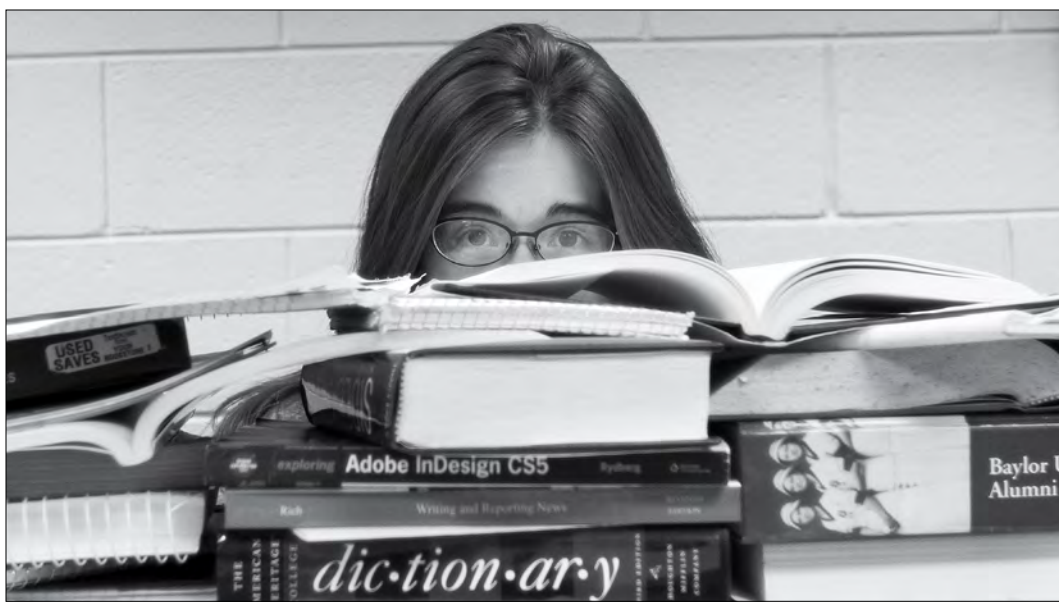


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

Island." People just don't like to engage in cognitive effort, me included. Almost anything you do to make studying easier is going to impair your long term attention.

**Q:** What do you recommend to a student who feels overwhelmed by a class or doesn't believe they can make a good score in the class?

**A:** They need to break things down into manageable goals. Students that come to Baylor that say my goal is to become a neurologist, there's really nothing you can really do in the next five minutes that will help you do that, but if you

break that into goals and say OK, to do that I have to get into medical school, to do that I have to keep my grades up, to keep my grades up I have to study every day, put time and effort into that and I can do that. Break it down into manageable chunks, manageable goals, something you can check to see you're making progress. Students also ought to be a bit more realistic. Students come into college with a tremendous variety of academic experiences and someone who has avoided science their entire life is going to struggle in a pre-med bi-

ology class the same way someone who has never practiced a violin is going to struggle if they tried to join the Baylor orchestra. Doesn't mean students can't make A's and B's, but it means some are better prepared to do that than others.

**Q:** Sometimes students may feel intimidated knocking on a professor's door or really don't know what to ask or where to start. What do you suggest to those students?

**A:** That's a perfectly OK thing to say. We can be intimidating people. We try not to be and Baylor prides itself on having faculty that is ac-

cessible. Quite honestly, for almost all of us, teaching is the fun part of our job, so get over it, knock on doors, send emails. No professor is going to feel put upon by a student doing that. We actually enjoy doing that.

**Q:** When a student first comes in, knocks on the door, what do they say?

**A:** The student ought to ask what kind of questions they have before they get in. What specifically is it that they don't understand, express it as best they can, but we're also used to students saying "I got lost at the very beginning and I have no idea what's going on. I am almost too lost to ask a meaningful question" and then we'll ask you guys questions and back it up to the point where we say, 'Ah see what you don't get is this, and we'll go from there.'

Professors and students have slightly different goals. Professors want students to master knowledge. You can do things that elevate your test scores short-term, but professors generally put things into place to prevent that. It makes studying harder but long term retention better.

Some of the questions and answers for this Q&A were shortened or omitted for length. The full version of this interview can be found online at [www.baylorlariat.com](http://www.baylorlariat.com).

# Dallas stepmom gets 85 years in dehydration death of stepson

By NOMAAN MERCHANT  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS — A Dallas woman whose 10-year-old stepson died after she denied him water, even as temperatures soared over 100 degrees, was sentenced Tuesday to 85 years in prison.

Tina Marie Alberson did not react as her sentence was announced. She was convicted last week of reckless injury to a child, a second-degree felony, in the July 2011 death of Jonathan James.

Jonathan's mother, Krista Bishop, and other relatives said they

were pleased with the verdict.

"We got what we needed," Bishop told reporters outside the court.

Police had thought Jonathan's death was heat-related until the medical examiner's report indicated otherwise.

Alberson, who testified in her own defense, told jurors that she limited Jonathan's water intake a few times as punishment for misbehaving, and that she saw him drinking water when he wasn't in "time-out." She said she saw no sign that he was in medical distress.

The boy's twin brother, now 12,

testified that Jonathan repeatedly asked for water and pretended to use the bathroom so that he could sneak a drink from the faucet before their stepmother ordered him out.

Joseph James told jurors he was concerned for his brother's health but was too afraid of Alberson to do anything.

During the sentencing phase, the twins' maternal grandmother, Sue Shotwell, testified that they didn't like to go to Alberson's house and that Jonathan couldn't understand why he was always in trouble with his stepmother.

"There was a time he came home with a red mark around his neck and he asked him what happened and he said, 'Tina,'" Shotwell said Tuesday.

"We trusted you with our baby," she said in a statement to the court after the sentence was handed down. "If I could speak for Jonathan right now, I would know — you would know — that he still loves you."

Alberson is expected to be eligible for parole after serving one-quarter of her sentence, or a little more than 20 years, according to Debbie Denmon, spokeswoman

for the Dallas County District Attorney's office. Alberson's attorney, Bill Fay, said he planned to appeal the conviction and sentence, but wouldn't say on what grounds.

"I can't comment about a case that's still pending," Fay said.

The boy's father, Michael Ray James, testified against Alberson because he said he wanted to see "that justice gets done." James, 43, will be tried for felony injury to a child next month.

Shotwell said she's forgiven Alberson but many members of the family, including Jonathan's mother, have not. She said they re-

member Jonathan as an active little boy who wanted to wake up before dawn so he could ride his bike.

"I had to remind him that everyone else was asleep but us, and that he had to be very quiet outside, which he couldn't do," Shotwell said.

While in jail, Denmon said, Alberson became friends with an inmate involved in a high-profile child injury case: Elizabeth Escalona, who was sentenced to 99 years in prison last year for gluing her toddler's hands to a wall and attacking her over potty training problems.

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# Famous chemist seeks to inspire students at Baylor

By TAYLOR REXRODE  
STAFF WRITER

World renowned chemist Dr. John L. Wood will join the Baylor faculty this fall as the new Robert A. Welch Distinguished Professor of Chemistry.

Wood has performed groundbreaking research that has been used to help better understand and treat cancer and other diseases. He specializes in the synthesis of small molecules used in pharmaceutical agents.

Dr. Patrick Farmer, chair of the chemistry and biochemistry department, said Baylor has tried to get Wood to bring his laboratory to Baylor for years.

"He came and visited a long time ago," Farmer said. "And we have had him back about three times on different visits as a Welch chair candidate. He has a great career and is really well known. In his own particular field, he is a star."

Wood realized he had a passion for chemistry while he was an undergrad at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

"Chemistry was one thing I was considering," Wood said. "I was assigned an adviser in the chemistry department who recommended research. I was paying my way through college and being a lab assistant helped pay my way. I found that I really enjoyed it."

Wood graduated summa cum laude in 1985 from the University of Colorado at Boulder with a bachelor's degree in chemistry. He then continued his studies at the University of Pennsylvania where he received his doctorate in organic chemistry in 1991. He became an American Cancer Society Postdoctoral Fellow at Harvard in 1993.

However, Wood found that performing the research was not his favorite part of working in a lab.

He enjoyed being able to teach other scientists his methods while allowing them to find their own ways of solving scientific, medical problems.

Wood went on to teach as a tenured professor of chemistry at

Yale University from 1998 to 2006 and then moved to his home state of Colorado to teach as the A.I. Meyer Professor of Chemistry at Colorado State University.

In his plans to come to Baylor, Wood said he wants to teach chemistry courses along with running his laboratory. According to Farmer, he may begin teaching as early as spring 2014.

"The part of my job I like the most is watching people learn," Wood said. "Welch professors were traditionally research positions, but that is

counter to my position. I think if you improve undergraduate research and interaction, you will improve the university as a whole. I like interacting with undergraduate students and watching them get introduced to the excitement."

Dr. Lee Nordt, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, linked Wood and the Welch chair position to Baylor's Pro Futuris plan.

"If you look at Pro Futuris as a guide," Nordt said, "there is a lot of verbiage about the need to build in the health sciences. One-third of our incoming freshman class declares a health science major, so we are going to make a concerted effort toward building health sciences for the next 10 years."

Wood's position will not only improve the lives of students and faculty within the science building but will help bring national attention to Baylor as a research institution.

"The Welch chair position was originally meant to bring in a researcher," Farmer said. "A researcher who was going to raise the quality and stature of the university and provide a research core that the department could build around. John really fits the bill."

The Welch Foundation, founded in 1952, has helped strengthen chemistry research in Texas through research grants, departmental programs, endowed chairs and other special projects.

With funds from the foundation, Baylor and other Texas universities are able to bring in top chemists from around the world to their research facilities.



Wood



TRAVIS TAYLOR | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

## Prospective bears raise their claws

High school students from Malakoff, learn how to do a Sic 'Em on Tuesday with Judge Baylor at Founders Mall.

# Vouchers could save Texas \$2 billion

ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — Texas public schools could save up to \$2 billion annually if the state allows families to use public funding on private schooling, a school vouchers advocate testified Tuesday at the ongoing school finance trial.

Joseph Bast, president of the conservative, Chicago-based think tank the Heartland Institute, acknowledged however that no Texas government entity agreed with his cost-savings analysis and said that some experts estimate such a program actually costs public schools money in the short term.

He co-authored a report on a taxpayer savings grant proposal with John Merrifield, an economics professor at the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Bast said the taxpayer savings grant proposal is similar to a voucher program and that key beneficiaries of such initiatives would be "primarily low-income families."

"If you're low income, you're pretty much trapped in the public school that's in your direct area," Bast said, adding that teachers would benefit from increased competition for their services.

More than 600 school districts across Texas have sued the state, claiming that \$5.4 billion in cuts to public education and grant programs imposed by the Legislature in 2011 have made funding for schools so inadequate and inequitable that it violates the Texas Constitution.

*"If you're low income, you're pretty much trapped in the public school that's in your direct area."*

Joseph Bast | president of the Heartland Institute

The trial began in October before state District Judge John Dietz. The court is now hearing testimony from experts called by a group known as Texans for Real Efficiency and Equality in Education. Rather than argue that schools are underfunded, the group says pouring more money into public education may not improve classroom learning if the overall system is inefficient and otherwise flawed.

Bast estimated that approxi-

mately 6 percent of Texas public school students would move into private schools if a tax grant program offering families private school vouchers were available. He said the state saves \$7,750 when a student leaves the system.

That led him to the assertion that schools could save as much as \$2 billion per year under such a program.

On cross examination, Bast acknowledged he has not graduated from college and holds no degrees in economics, although he considers himself an economist. He also said the report he co-authored wasn't peer reviewed.

Bast agreed that Texas' non-partisan Legislative Budget Board concluded that a taxpayer savings grant proposal would likely cost the state money in its first two years of operation. He acknowledged no other Texas state institution concurs with his cost-saving estimates.

Robyn Wolters, director of human resources and professional staffing for Irving Independent School District in suburban Dallas, testified later about how onerous Texas rules governing teacher contracts can be.

She said the regulations were

especially strict when school districts don't want to renew the contracts of, or otherwise dismiss, underperforming teachers.

Wolters said coping with employment regulations were very time consuming and expensive and that they pull school principals away from their regular duties in order to compile all the necessary documentation.

They also often involve attorney fees, and there's a 90-day period when individuals that the district wants to terminate are typically on paid administrative leave, she said.

Wolters said costs can sometimes play a part in the decision to pursue termination or non-renewal. She said district staff members sometimes have to weigh the cost of continuing with the process against the harm of having the employee return for another year.

On cross examination, however, Wolters agreed that due process rights are important and that all employees should be entitled to an appeal process.

Asked whether all of the Irving district's financial woes would be eliminated if rules regarding teacher contracts and dismissals were eliminated, Wolters said they would not.

# Texas lawmakers propose tax plan to fund armed guards in schools

By JIM VERTUNO  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — Texas voters could decide whether to tax themselves to pay for armed guards or other public school safety measures under a plan outlined Tuesday by three Houston-area state lawmakers.

The Texas School District Safety Act is the latest attempt to beef

up security at public schools after last month's mass shooting at an elementary school in Newtown, Conn. Schools typically pay for security measures out of their general budgets.

The plan broadly outlined Tuesday by Sens. Tommy Williams and John Whitmire and Rep. Dan Huberty would allow local schools to set up special taxing districts — if approved by local voters — to raise

the money. Williams and Huberty are Republicans; Whitmire is a Democrat.

Williams, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, called the plan "a Texas solution to save lives without sacrificing freedoms" or instituting new gun control measures. The plan is separate from Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst's call to have the state pay for special weapons and tactical response training for

teachers and other school workers.

The Texas PTA called the School District Safety Act a "promising" plan that will "hopefully serve to shift the focus away from arming teachers and principals in our schools, a strategy the Texas PTA does not support."

The three lawmakers said school districts would have a dedicated source of money to pay for school safety measures.

But because it may levy new property or sales taxes, the plan may also require an amendment to the state constitution, Williams said. If approved, Williams and Whitmire said they would encourage school districts to contract with local law enforcement for security rather than try to create new, independent police agencies.

"We're not looking for school districts to have SWAT teams and

tanks," Williams said.

The plan was announced on the same day a shooting on a community college campus in Harris County wounded three people and sent students scrambling for cover.

Whitmire said that while the original plan was to include only public school districts, lawmakers could consider whether to expand it to include higher education campuses.

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**Welcome to the ZETA Family!**



# Baylor assistant professor leads chelation research team

## Tonya N. Davis, Ph.D. helps disprove reliability of common treatment in children with autism

By KATE MCGUIRE  
STAFF WRITER

New research from Baylor's Center for Autism finds chelation, a commonly-used therapy for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders which is known to remove metals from the body, is not as effective nor as reliable as was previously thought according to a Baylor professor.

Tonya N. Davis, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Education Department and lead researcher for the review of the treatment of chelation in children with ASD found that chelation therapy may be reliable in adults who have been exposed to metals such as mercury or lead, but can, and has been fatal when administered to children

with ASD.

Chelation is an agent that, when added to the body's bloodstream, removes heavy metals, which decreases the amount of toxins in the body.

The goal of the study is "to serve as a base of information for people who might be considering chelation as a treatment," Davis said.

The researchers began with the idea that because mercury poisoning may be a cause of ASD, and chelation could remove metals from the body, chelation may help the symptoms of ASD.

The team of ten researchers, three of whom are Baylor affiliated, evaluated the effects of chelation by comparing five different studies and published their findings in Research in Autism Spectrum

Disorders.

"Chelation is a medical procedure that has been used outside the world of autism. It has very recently been applied to kids with autism," Davis said.

Both Davis and Copeland found that chelation is used in adult patients who work in toxin-polluted environments and may help their symptoms but when administered to children, the results can be fatal.

"It tries to remove toxins from the body. Chelation works for adults who may work in factories where exposure to chemicals is possible, but doctors are using this treatment in children without the proper evidence," said Daelynn Copeland, a researcher from the review who is working toward a

doctorate in Educational Psychology.

The researchers findings were quite surprising, Copeland said.

According to the researchers' findings, four out of five studies showed mixed results, whereas only one study reviewed proved chelation is a treatment with positive results for children with ASD.

Davis said she was surprised that so few studies had been published on the effects of chelation on ASD.

"I knew countless children who have used this, but we only found five studies. We had found some pretty significant results because there was a lot of risk with children," Davis said.

A reason for the lack of studies may be that since chelation can

have such harmful effects, many researchers don't want to risk the possibility of bringing harm to their patients by using it, Copeland said.

The actual studies used in the review involved 82 children ranging in age from three to 14 years old that received chelation therapy.

Each study reviewed by the team had to pass a level of certainty, this means that if the evidence to support their claim did not match the actual results the studies were deemed insufficient.

The team did not have expectation coming into their study but were shocked by the fact that a commonly used treatment was not as effective as previously thought.

"I'm surprised at families who put their support in chelation ther-

apy, regardless of the evidence that it does not work," Copeland said.

This could be due to parents who want to try every option available.

These parents need to be looking at the right kinds of treatment and put their dollars towards that, Copeland said.

Davis said she would like those who are curious about such research or have questions to visit the Center for Autism Research, which located is in Baylor's School of Education Learning Resource Center in Draper Hall.

The results of researcher's review is published in Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders, found online at <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1750946712000724>.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this March 2010 file photo, volunteers pass through the first full body scanner, which uses backscatter technology, installed at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago. Those airport scanners with their all-too revealing body images will soon be going away.

# TSA to remove controversial scanners from airport check-ins

By JOSHUA FREED  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Those airport scanners with their all-too revealing body images will soon be going away.

The Transportation Security Administration says the scanners that used a low-dose X-ray will be gone by June because the company that makes them can't fix the privacy issues. The other airport body scanners, which produce a generic outline instead of a naked image, are staying.

The government rapidly stepped up its use of body scanners after a man snuck explosives onto a flight bound for Detroit on Christmas day in 2009.

At first, both types of scanners showed travelers naked. The idea was that security workers could spot both metallic objects like guns as well as non-metallic items such

as plastic explosives. The scanners also showed every other detail of the passenger's body, too.

The TSA defended the scanners, saying the images couldn't be stored and were seen only by a security worker who didn't interact with the passenger. But the scans still raised privacy concerns. Congress ordered that the scanners either produce a more generic image or be removed by June.

On Thursday Rapiscan, the maker of the X-ray, or backscatter, scanner, acknowledged that it wouldn't be able to meet the June deadline. The TSA said Friday that it ended its contract for the software with Rapiscan.

The agency's statement also said the remaining scanners will move travelers through more quickly, meaning faster lanes at the airport. Those scanners, made by L-3 Communications, used millimeter

waves to make an image.

The company was able to come up with software that no longer produced a naked image of a traveler's body.

The TSA will remove all 174 backscatter scanners from the 30 airports they're used in now. Another 76 are in storage.

It has 669 of the millimeter wave machines it is keeping, plus options for 60 more, TSA spokesman David Castelveter said.

Not all of the machines will be replaced. Castelveter said that some airports that now have backscatter scanners will go back to having metal detectors. That's what most airports used before scanners were introduced.

The Rapiscan scanners have been on their way out for months, in slow motion.

The government hadn't bought any since 2011.

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# Student Government kicks off first meeting of spring

## President invites students to apply for senate vacancies

By BROOKE BAILEY  
REPORTER

Student Government set goals to pass more bills this year at their first Senate meeting last Thursday.

Colorado Springs, Colo. sophomore Chaplain Meagan Rowell encouraged Senate members to start the year off with patience. Rowell reminded Senators to listen and be slow to anger using James 1:19 as a guidepost.

"There is a whole whiteboard of ideas," said Arlington sophomore Dominic Edwards. Edwards is the public relations chair.

Issues the senate will examine this year include upcoming legislation concerning the adoption of a plus/minus grading scale.

Big Sandy senior Miriam Hobma said research suggests Baylor's current grading system depreciates its ranking academically in comparison with other schools. Hobma serves as the Senate's Operations

and Procedures Chair.

Baylor's grading scale is strictly a plus system, whereas most schools have adopted a plus and minus system. Grades like B-minus and C-minus would be assigned to students.

The A minus-grade option decreases inflation in grades and is believed to accurately represent a student's academic standing.

The Senate will vote on the bill proposed by the Academic Affairs Committee 5 p.m., Thursday at Cashion 203 at the weekly meeting.

The empty seats on the Senate floor were addressed Thursday evening as well. The Senate consists of 52 representatives, and six spots remain open.

Houston senior President Brian Kim encouraged Senate members to recruit individuals who would be good for the positions. Hobma said filling these positions was a top priority.

Applications close today, and

interviews to fill these positions will be taking place soon.

In light of the vacancies, three members were sworn in to Senate positions last Thursday. Lewisville senior Nick Norris took his place as Chief Justice, and Colorado Springs, Colo. junior Katie Coast and Fremont, Calif. freshman Andrea Hanna joined senior Vice President Briana Treadaway's cabinet. Treadaway said Coast and Hanna are both excited about working in the VP cabinet.

Edwards encouraged students to attend Senate meetings.

"It's something that some people may yawn at, but it's something that I think is really important," Edwards said.

Students can voice their concerns at the Senate's weekly meetings.

"Sometimes it's just good to see what your representatives are doing," Edwards said. "Senate meetings are a great place to do that."



Colorado Springs, Colo. junior Katie Coast and Fremont, Calif. freshman Andrea Hannah are sworn into senior Vice President Briana Treadaway's cabinet Thursday at the first senate meeting of the spring semester.

# Roe v. Wade, 40 years later

By JOHN HANNA  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOPEKA, Kan. — Abortion opponents marked the 40th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision Tuesday with workshops, prayers and calls for more limits on the rights established by the Supreme Court in the landmark ruling that still defines one of the nation's most intractable debates.

Many in the anti-abortion movement looked to Kansas, where Republican Gov. Sam Brownback signed a series of tough anti-abortion measures during his first two years in office.

Other states with GOP governors and Republican-controlled legislatures have taken similar steps.

"There's joy in what you're doing and keep it up," Brownback urged hundreds of fellow abortion opponents at a rally outside the Kansas Statehouse.

Abortion-rights groups observed a quieter anniversary — a possible reflection of the reality that it's far rarer for lawmakers to expand access to abortion. The National Organization for Women planned a candlelight vigil at the Supreme Court to commemorate the 1973 decision, which created a constitutional right to abortions in some circumstances and prevented states from banning the practice.

President Barack Obama issued a statement reaffirming the decision's commitment to "reproductive freedom" and the principle that "government should not intrude on our most private family matters, and women should be able to make their own choices about their bodies and their health care."

The ruling "should be honored," said Rep. Emily Perry, a lawyer and Democrat from the Kansas City suburb of Mission who supports abortion rights.

In Topeka, at least 1,000 people rallied with Brownback and anti-abortion legislators. The Kansas governor has called on state lawmakers to create "a culture of life." He is expected to support whatever further restrictions they approve.

Kansans for Life, the most influential of the state's anti-abortion groups, plans to ask lawmakers to enact legislation ensuring that the state doesn't finance abortions even indirectly, such as through tax breaks or by allowing doctors-in-training at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City, Kan., to perform them on the center's time.

The group also wants to strengthen a state law dictating what information must be provided to abortion patients, banning abortions because of the fetus' gender and allowing wrongful-death lawsuits when a fetus dies because of an accident.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Freak train accident spares passengers

A train sits beneath the carriage of another train after a train crash on Tuesday at a station in Alfarelos, Portugal. Emergency services say a high-speed intercity train rear-ended a local train waiting to enter a station in central Portugal, derailing several carriages leaving a pile of wreckage on Portugal's main north-south line, slightly injuring 21 people.

# Parents get custody of kids living in old bus

By MICHAEL GRACZYK  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CONROE, Texas — Nearly a year after their two children were found living virtually unsupervised in an old school bus in Southeast Texas, the parents regained full custody of their kids Tuesday when a judge dismissed a child welfare case against them.

"It feels really good," said Sherrie Shorten, of Splendora, after she and her husband, Mark, stood before Judge Jerry Winfree at a hearing that lasted only a few minutes. "This is just one more thing we've gotten resolved."

"If you love your family, you never give up," Mark Shorten said outside the courtroom, standing close to his two children, Jessica, 12, and Chance, 6. "You do what it takes. ... It takes a lot of faith in God, belief in your family and a good attorney. You just work the problem, just don't give up, hunker down and work the problem."

The Shortens last March were serving 18-month federal prison terms for conspiracy to embezzle Hurricane Ike benefits in Louisiana when a postal worker repeatedly spotted the disheveled children in the Montgomery County neighborhood about 35 miles northeast of Houston. Child welfare officials were notified and took Jessica and Chance into foster custody.

There were no front wheels on the bus and the section of the vehicle from the windshield and engine firewall had been removed. Extensive media coverage of the case showed the bus sitting in a trash-filled yard. Despite its worn appearance, the bus inside had been renovated, furnished, had hot and cold water and a bathroom, and was air-conditioned. The family moved it from Louisiana after their home there was flooded from Hurricane Ike. It was intended as a temporary home until they could build on the lot.

The Shortens had arranged with an aunt to care for the children while they were imprisoned but the woman told authorities her 12-hour workdays and caring for the children had overwhelmed her.

"CPS was absolutely right to take them kids when it did," the family's attorney, Chris Branson, said. "The aunt obviously dropped the ball and was neglecting these kids and it was the proper thing to take these kids into custody. However, the parents got out of jail, they fixed the problem, they cleaned up the property and the situation should have been over at that point." Sherrie Shorten and her husband also have been fulfilling a care plan and attending counseling and therapy. The family was reunited last September under CPS watch, and still lives on the bus.

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**REGENT** from Page 1

the board is working on, but he gave insight as to what the student government plans to be working on in the next year.

“We have a couple of initiatives we are working on in maintaining and upholding Baylor’s mission – Pro Futuris,” Rapp said. “We want Baylor to become more global and we are constantly trying to reach, to gain student input.”

**BRIC** from Page 1

been hiring new faculty and expanding our research labs,” Lee said.

Lee said after the Baylor Board of Regents approved the electrical engineering department’s Ph.D. program in 2010, the university approved the hiring of 10 new faculty members to expand the program.

“Whenever new faculty comes in, they need a research lab,” Lee said. “Rogers doesn’t have that, so tentatively, the university allowed us to use the engineering research annex, but now that BRIC is completed, we are moving into the second floor.”

Lee said the building research labs are larger than the previous research labs they have used.

“It will be a first-class research facility,” Lee said.

Hyde said the building will also include a symposium space for the partners as well as Baylor faculty who need meeting space to bring in national and international research meetings.

“There’s space for about 300 people plus breakout space,” Hyde said.

Hyde said there is 40,000 square feet for TSTC’s advanced workforce training program and 50,000 square feet for industry partners to become part of the collaboration.

“As far as we can tell, the ability to provide research and development, business incubation, workforce development and actual industry support through industrial partners is unique,” Hyde said. “We’re programming the building so the research coming out will bump into the businesses and industry. It’s synergy, which was the same idea behind the science department having all the departments in one building and the atrium to connect them all. It’s an interesting experiment.”

Hyde said the institutes in the building are all interdisciplinary involving different academic departments.

“For example, CASPER has faculty from the School of Business, School of Engineering, College of Arts and Science, School of Education, and also faculty from German China, countries in South America and all over,” Hyde said.

Hyde said the building was built as a research-only building.

“There won’t be formal classes, but I think the best place for students to learn is in a research lab one-on-one with a faculty member,” Hyde said.

**BEST** from Page 1

Texas-Tyler. Baylor was also the only Big 12 member.

Baylor offers many programs that focus on the African-American population. These programs include the African Student Association, the Association of Black Students at Baylor and the Department of Multicultural Affairs.

“I definitely agree that Baylor is one of the best universities for African-Americans,” Beaumont sophomore Ambreea Warren said. “Baylor has plenty of resources and programs that give not only African-Americans, but all minorities opportunities to further succeed while pursuing secondary education.”

Memphis, Tenn., junior Valerie Soyinka said the Multicultural Office highlights the importance of diversity.

“Baylor has a lot of activities going on for MLK week,” Soyinka said. “Baylor really makes African-American students feel at home.”

Such events include the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Luncheon and the Celebration Dinner put on by the Department of Multicultural Affairs.

Baylor will also be hosting GospelFest and the Black Heritage Banquet in February.

“As an executive board member of the Association of Black Students and a member of Baylor’s chapter of NAACP, we strive to keep the African-American community active on campus by having events that root back to our culture,” Warren said. “Baylor’s small campus allows everyone from all different cultures to interact and learn from one another.”



MONICA LAKE | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

**Wheeling out service**

Heart of Texas Urban Gardening Coalition coordinated gardening projects throughout the city of Waco on Monday as a part of the Martin Luther King Day of Service.

**MILLION** from Page 1

self but 10 percent bigger,” Sutherland said. “They said, ‘Shawn, you can probably ratchet it down to 90 percent. They had no idea what to do with me.’”

Before getting on set, Sutherland pointed out photographs of past “Millionaire” winners — from John Carpenter to Nancy Christy — lining the hallway that led up to the green room. He met Meredith Vieira, Emmy award-winning host of the game show.

“Meredith was really nervous,” Sutherland said. “I had come in saying, ‘It’s totally not about the money.’ She just looks at me and tells me between questions, ‘No, seriously. Walk away.’ She was really nice and seemed to genuinely care.”

Shawn Sutherland worked his way up to the \$250,000 question. The question asked for the name

of the “Friends” cast member who had a museum in the Metropolitan Museum of Art as a child. He guessed “Lisa Kudrow” as his final answer but the correct answer was “Jennifer Aniston.”

Despite losing all but \$25,000, he does not feel regret.

“I would never be able to forgive myself if I walked away,” Sutherland said. “I had to go for it all the way.”

“I thought he had a really good shot,” Joshua Sutherland said. “But I knew he would never walk away. I didn’t expect him to win but he had as good of a shot as anyone. He was exceptionally prepared.”

Joshua Sutherland says that he plans to accompany his brother to his audition for “American Ninja Warrior” and “Big Brother” in the coming year.

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