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Making milestones

Brittney Griner breaks the NCAA record for total career blocks. Find out how she affects the court defensively

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It all adds up

Baylor accounting students land in the top five of a national accounting competition

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Ready, set, sing

Don't miss today's opening performance of the Baylor Opera's 'Dialogues of Carmelites'



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Bear Briefs

The place to go to know the places to go

Be a poet

The Union Board presents the Acoustic Cafe: Spoken Word at 8 p.m. Thursday in the Bill Daniel Student Center Den. This evening will be filled with poetry, spoken word and refreshments.

Change the world

Join the Academy for Leader Development in welcoming the founder of Shoot4Life Ministries and Ghana's national coordinator for Young Leaders International Vincent Asamoah to speak at 6 p.m. today in Powell Chapel in Truett Seminary. He will speak on how he started his basketball outreach and his leadership methodology.



Smash and dash

Local cemetery plagued by vandalism

By Rob Bradfield CONSULTING EDITOR

Over the weekend, vandals in Oakwood Cemetery caused up to \$200,000 worth of damage to historic graves. The defaced monuments included those of former Texas Gov. Richard Coke and Madison Cooper, author of the best-selling novel "Sironia, Texas." According to police, the damage was done between 9 p.m. Friday and 7 a.m. Saturday.

"We think it was more than one suspect because of the amount of damage and the weight of the objects damaged," Sgt. W. Patrick Swanton of the Waco Police Department said.

The grave of Coke is a pillar topped by a statue of the governor in life. On either side were busts of the governor's sons, both of whom died relatively young.

Monday morning the busts still lay on the ground, their faces broken. A statue of St. Francis lay nearby, and back across the lawns to the gate were a scattering of cracked and broken headstones.

"The citizenry is angered," Swanton said,



TRAVIS TAYLOR | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Grave markers in the Oakwood Cemetery on La Salle Avenue were vandalized on Saturday.

commenting on the community reaction on the Waco PD website. "It's a sacred place and things like that aren't supposed to happen

David Evans, superintendent and executive secretary of the Oakwood Cemetery Association, said the vandalism was restricted to the older portion of the cemetery and some of the graves were more than 100 years

"The ones that can be repaired will be re-

SEE SMASH, page 6

Alumni Association president under fire

By Sierra Baumbach STAFF WRITER

The 258th State District Judge Elizabeth E. Coker, who is also president of the Baylor Alumni Association, is under review by the Texas Commission on Judicial Conduct for a text message allegedly sent during court that was thought to aid the prosecution in a felony charge of injury to a child.

According to an article published on Jan. 18 in the Houston Chronicle, the text was allegedly sent five months ago from Coker at the bench to assistant prosecutor Kaycee Jones, who was not working on the case but was in the courtroom.

She then passed the information in the text to lead prosecutor Beverly Arm-

The contents of the note said, "Judge says ... baby pooped on (Reeves) - if he threw a dog off the bed because the dog peed on bed what would he do if baby pooped on him?" This appeared to prompt a question in favor of the prosecution, the Chronicle reported.

The defendant, David Reeves, had earlier testimony in the trial that showed after Reeves became angry when a new puppy soiled his bed, he threw the animal off of the bed. Additional testimony showed that Reeves' baby had severe diarrhea the night the child was injured, according to the Chronicle article.

"The prosecutor who received the communication was not assigned to the court in which the trial was held and was not participating in the trial of the case. However, it appears that the substance of the communication from the judge was indirectly communicated to the prosecutor who was trying the case," Polk County Criminal District Attorney William Lee Hon wrote In an e-mail to the Lariat.

According to the Chronicle article, Polk County Investigator David Wells was sitting beside Jones in the gallery.

Jones asked to borrow Wells' notepad and it was from this exchange that Wells discovered the interaction between Coker and Iones

Wells reported the interaction to Hon. "Following a jury trial conducted in August of 2012, it was reported to me by a member of my staff that there had been a communication during the trial between the presiding judge and an assistant pros-

the case," Hon told the Lariat. Following an internal inquiry within the office, Hon said it was determined that the communication did not influence any line of questioning or strategy employed during the trial, nor did it influence the ultimate outcome of the trial.

ecutor regarding possible testimony in

The defendant was acquitted of all charges against him.

Hon said that because of the investigation, it would be inappropriate for him to comment on the precise details of the communication or the administrative steps which were taken after the investigation began.

"The office will cooperate fully, however, in response to any such investigation," Hon wrote in the email.

Coker declined to comment on the investigation.

Attempts to get in contact with other

SEE **TRIAL**, page 6

Alumni honored in Hall of Fame

By KATE McGuire STAFF WRITER

Making a difference in the world is a small accomplishment for those honored at Baylor Alumni Association Hall of Fame.

Last week the Baylor Alumni Association held their third annual Hall of Fame ceremony, where they honored countless alumni for their impact on Baylor and the world around them.

Instead of giving out the awards separately, like the BAA has done in the past, they have held a Hall of Fame these last three years.

"We wanted one huge banquet and everyone was very receptive of that," said Judge Elizabeth Coker, BAA president.

Robert Griffin III was absent because he was recovering from his torn ACL injury but was given the Distinguished Baylor Black Alumni Award. The award is only three years old, and Griffin is the youngest recipient. The president of the Baylor Black Alumni Club, Marie Brown, presented the award, which was then received by his mother's friends.

"Robert always said, 'No pres-

sure, no diamonds.' He always kept focused, he was a very positive person. He knew that God was in control," said Alice Brown, friend of Griffin's mother.

"He exemplified hard work. He made an impact in every facet here. I've seen how his impact has grown so fast," Joannie Shedrick, friend of Griffin's mother, said.

The Distinguished Alumni Award, the most prestigious of all the awards, was given to James R. Daniel, '62, Jennifer Hilton Sampson, '92, and Nick Strimple, '69.

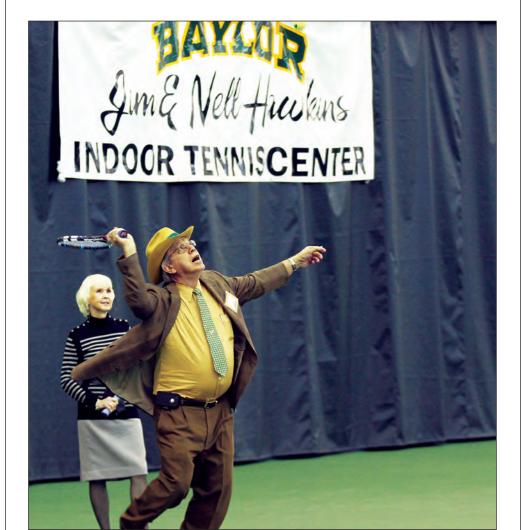
According to the BAA Hall of Fame program, this award recognizes those whose service in their careers merit honor and acclaim through their peers and colleagues.

Daniel, Vice Chairman of BancFirst Co., has worked on numerous projects for Baylor as well as in his own career with medical health care providers.

"Baylor will teach you more than how to make a living, it will teach you how to make a life," he said in his acceptance speech.

The second honoree was Sampson, the first female and SEE ALUMNI, page 6

MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR The Nelson-Dudley-Boulet family received the First Families of Baylor Award during the Annual Baylor Alumni Association Hall of Fame Awards dinner Friday in the Waco Convention Center.



TRAVIS TAYLOR | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Serving up a new Tennis Center

Jim Hawkins hits a ceremonial first serve to dedicate the opening of the Hawkins Indoor Tennis Center as his wife watches on Friday.

Boy Scouts considering retreat from no -gays policy

By David Crary ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — The Boy Scouts of America may soon give sponsors of troops the authority to decide whether to accept gays as scouts and leaders - a potentially dramatic retreat from a nationwide no-gays policy that has provoked relentless protests. Under the change now being

discussed, the different religious and civic groups that sponsor Scout units would be able to decide for themselves how to address the issue - either maintaining an exclusion of gays, as is now

required of all units, or opening up their membership.

Gay-rights activists were elated at the prospect of change, sensing another milestone to go along with recent advances for same-sex marriage and the end of the ban

SEE **SCOUTS**, page 6

The Baylor University Undergraduate Catalog contains the following information regarding Chapel:

Chapel requirement is two semesters for an entering freshman and for a student who transfers to Baylor from another institution and who is classified by Baylor at the time of transfer as either a freshman or sophomore.

Entering freshmen who begin in a fall semester must take Chapel during that semester.

Chapel requirement is at least one semester for a student who transfers to Baylor from another institution and who is classified by Baylor at the time of transfer as either a junior or senior.

Credit for Chapel requires attendance of at least three-fourths of all meetings.

Most students must attend 21 of the 28 Chapel Sessions (MW)each semester

First-year students involved in University 1000 during the fall semester must attend 26 of the 34 sessions (you may miss eight chapels and/ or University 1000 sessions).



Chapel: Give students some credit

Editorial

Chapel: As undergraduates, we've all been through it.

Every undergraduate at Baylor is required to attend Chapel in some form, although the requirements vary. Chapel, a time of worship every Monday and Wednesday, is one of the oldest and most valued Baylor traditions. It has been a part of student life for more than 160 years.

Although Chapel is a valued tradition, it is taking up time that many students can't easily sacrifice. It's also taking money. There is a class fee of \$65 for attending Chapel.

Although the course is a university requirement that costs students time and money, it does not actually contribute to the 124-hour minimum requirement for all students to graduate.

We believe this practice should be re-evaluated, as it is becoming increasingly difficult for students to graduate in four years while completing the university requirements as well as those included in each degree plan.

It works like this: Chapel is a pass/fail class.

If the student shows up and swipes their Baylor ID card going in and out of the assigned Chapel time and misses no more than eight sessions, then the student gets credit for the course. However, this is an empty credit. Bearweb lists Chapel as an undergraduate course with zero credit hours and zero quality (GPA) points.

It would be difficult to offer quality points for Chapel due to the organization of the course.

With classes containing at potentially hundreds of people every day and no real way to regulate workflow, there is no chance of giving out assignments in an organized fashion or even grade students based on performance and enthusiasm, as there are simply too many students present.

Furthermore, as the Chapel requirements aren't strictly academic in nature anyway, to offer Chapel for quality points might artificially inflate students' GPAs, which could in turn damage Baylor's academic reputation.

Instead, Chapel should be considered a credit hour that does not contribute to students' GPAs, to reflect the time they invested in attending Chapel. It is a fair compromise between keeping up Baylor's academic reputation and recognizing the time students invest.

Chapel is an hour-long commitment two days a week, which takes up as much time as some other classes that students must take and can edge out classes students need to take instead because of its time commitment. If it takes students' time and money, the course should be offered for credit, instead of as a compulsory univer-

Furthermore, Baylor's student body is not exclusively Christian. Chapel is a worship service that contains and promotes Christian values in keeping with the mission of the university. This is all well and good for those students who genuinely appreciate the opportunity to worship during the school day. However, the problem with requiring it for all without offering it for credit is that it is very hard to engage students who may not be invested in sincere worship and also know they will have nothing to show for it at the end of the

Offering Chapel as a credit hour would ultimately benefit both students and the university. Students will have something to show for their time-and-money commitment, and the University should see students more engaged in an activity that they know could benefit them spiritually and in terms of

Don't read 'em and weep: Contribute to the Lariat instead

It's a new year. Things are

changing. We're changing, too.

The Lariat itself has been around for a long time, but most of our current staff have not. As a college newspaper, we have a very high turnover rate. Staff members graduate and move on, find jobs. Some staff members only remain for a semester before moving on. New semesters can see a staff with few returning members. For example, the staff five years ago was very different from the staff now.

In fact, the staff this semester is even different than that of last semester, a few short months ago. People have left, others have been hired, and some of those who remain have changed jobs.

Every now and then, I'll hear "Oh, I won't talk to the Lariat. A few years back, they misquoted



Caroline Brewton | Editor in chief

me." In one case, a certain professor's grudge extended 28 years. I won't name names, but this person refused to comment in the paper because of a mistake made in the very distant past.

It's understandable. No one wants to be misquoted, especially in a public forum. Perhaps the misquote makes you look bad. Newsprint can be unforgiving that way. And we don't run corrections as front-page stories; they run on page two, as they have traditionally. This structure can leave some feeling disenfranchised, especially if they feel they have been roughly treated by a reporter.

To those who have had a bad experience with the Lariat in the past, I first want to extend a sincere apology on behalf of the paper. We are well-intentioned, but we are also students. We're still learning, and mistakes do happen. All media sometimes make mistakes. The Lariat does it, but so do outlets such as the New York Times. To correct mistakes is the purpose of editor's notes, corrections and clarifications. If a mistake is made, we will run a correction or clarification on page two to remedy it as soon as we are made aware.

With that said, to hold a grudge that extends for decades makes little sense. The staff that offended you has long since moved on. We're a fresh crop of young journalists who are eager to report the news.

Please keep that in mind if you are asked to contribute an interview or comment on an event. We are students who want to make a difference by getting news out using the best sources we can. Before you write off the Lariat, please consider that we are a different paper than we used to be, and we just want to get better. Please give us that opportunity.

Caroline is a junior journalism major from Beaumont. She is the editor- in-chief of the Lariat.

Millennials need good jobs, but must do the work to get them

Picture this:

As you sit on the couch, watching daytime television and eating cereal, you begin to wonder how this all happened and if this is how you're going to spend the rest of your life.

To make matters worse, your mother comes in screaming, telling to you to finish the dishes, as you think to yourself that you have to get out of there.

No, this is not some child in high school wanting to move out. This is a picture of an unemployed college graduate.

This is a sad reality many college students are facing after grad-

In an article published in December of last year, the Huffington Post, said the youth unemployment rate is higher than the national average. To make things worse, many of the people who are employed are doing low-wage jobs such as being a waiter or waitress.

Many people are beginning to wonder if college is even worth it.

There a time when education was not a big deal, since only a few went to college. Howtimes ever, have changed. Many

people are going to college, hoping that it will pay off in

the future and that they can get a high-paying job. More people are going to college and getting degrees, meaning that there is extra competition in the post-college job market. However, not only are we com-

peting against students from other schools in our own country, we are now competing against people from all over the world. While some people complain

about this, there really is not much We can't control the economy.

Big corporations outsource jobs. It happens. However, we can change our behavioral patterns and embrace the competition.

There is a common misconception that millennials are spoiled kids who feel as if they are entitled to everything, including a job. Is it

There are articles stating that our generation has a terrible work ethic, lacks passion and has poor problem-solving abilities, among other things. This should not offend anybody, because partially it's

We must break the stereotype. Those doing the hiring are looking for the best as the market gets ever more competitive. It is our job to break the millennial norm and work harder than everyone else. We are not entitled to

It can be frustrating hearing that, because some of us do work hard, staying up endless nights studying, making sure we get that A on an exam or project.

However, education should be more than just a grade. Having a good GPA is great, but what you learn and what you can do is what matters in the work force. We need to stand out and tell the hiring managers that our generation does work hard, and that an entire generation can't be characterized by a certain few.

Better yet, we need to show them, because words don't mean much if you don't follow through

While we do need to embrace the competition, many jobs out there are lower-wage jobs because companies know if we don't take

> them, people in other countries will.

> > This is what

is bothersome because ition is rising and the number of loans students take out is skyrocketing. College tuition is rising faster than the inflation rate which causes some concern. So while people think we

feel "entitled," it is a reality that we do need jobs with decent wages to pay off our loans and to live comfortably after graduation.

While our generation has a bad reputation, companies and hiring managers need to realize that not every millennial is the same. Some do work hard and have a passion for learning.

We are living in a world filled with information and technology, and millennials know how to dissect that information and how to do it quickly. This could be an advantage because we already know how to function in a fast-paced environment.

We don't need to be coddled. We don't' need to be held.

We need to go out there and compete.

We can't let the criticism hurt us and we must not be sensitive. We should only be using that to make ourselves better. Winning will not only give us the ultimate prize, a job, but it will make us feel better about the millennial stereotype, knowing we achieved something on our own and grew up.

Parmida is a junior journalism major from Wurzburg, Germany. She is a sports writer for the Baylor



For daily updates, follow us on Twitter: @bulariat

Corrections

In the January 24 edition of the Baylor Lariat, a story titled "Dean of nursing school appointed as trustee" contained a sentence that read:

"[Shelly] Conroy has more than 25 years of experience in higher education, health care administration, and nursing and health care research."

Visit us at www.BaylorLariat.com

The sentence should read: Conroy has more than 35 years of experience in higher education, health care administration, and nursing and health care research.

The Lariat regrets the error.

In a January 23 article titled "Student Government kicks off first meeting of spring," Brian Kim, the student government internal

Delivery

Justin Mottley

*Denotes member

of editorial board

vice president, was incorrectly identified as the president.

The Baylor Lariat is committed to ensuring fair and accurate reporting and will correct errors of substance on Page 2.

Corrections can be submitted to the editor by sending an e-mail to Lariat_letters@baylor.edu or by calling 254-710-4099.

> **Opinion** The Baylor Lariat

welcomes reader

viewpoints through letters to the editor

and guest columns.

Opinions expressed in

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Charges dropped against one in shooting

By Juan A. Lozano ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON — Prosecutors on Monday dropped charges against a 22-year-old man who authorities initially believed was involved in a shooting that wounded him and two others at a Houston-area community college.

Carlton Berry was arrested soon after the Jan. 22 shootings at Lone Star College and charged with two counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

But authorities later accused another man, Trey Foster, 22, of being the shooter.

Foster has been charged with two counts of aggravated assault and faces a charge of resisting arrest in an earlier case.

He was arrested Friday in the Dallas suburb of Plano.

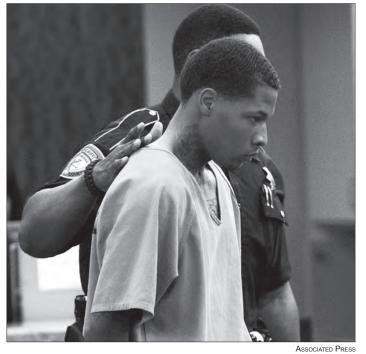
Harris County Sheriff Adrian Garcia defended his agency's initial arrest of Berry, saying two of the victims initially indicated that Barry was the shooter.

He also said Berry at first refused to talk to investigators, and it was only after he was charged that he pointed authorities to Foster.

"I support my investigators. I continue to support them," Garcia said. "I remain proud of their thoroughness and their relentless pursuit of the truth. They did what they were supposed to do."

Investigators say the shooting happened after 25-year-old Jody Neal bumped into Foster while Foster was walking with Berry. Foster and Neal argued but went their separate ways.

But when the two ran into each other 30 minutes later, they argued again and Foster fired at Neal, wounding him in the abdo-



Trey Foster leaves the courtroom after his appearance in the 228th State District Court at the Harris County Criminal Courthouse Monday in Houston. Authorities took Foster, 22, into custody Friday as a suspect in the shooting that took place on the Lone Star College campus.

men and leg. Berry also was shot and wounded, and a maintenance worker for the college, Bobby Cliburn, 55, was hit in the leg.

Authorities say at least 10 shots were fired, causing panic and a leading to a campus lockdown. Berry's attorney, Robert A. Jones, said his client never should have been charged or jailed because the evidence showed he was a victim.

Berry was shot in the left hip, which Jones said was an indication that Berry might have been facing away or running away from the shooter.

"He said that continually, whenever (authorities) talked to him, that he didn't do anything. But that wasn't enough. Then they started their investigation based upon his statement and they realized he didn't do anything," Jones

Prosecutor Alison Baimbridge said authorities dropped the charges in the interest of justice. She said that as with any investigation, the more witness interviews and evidence collecting that are done, authorities are "better able to determine who was where, what actually occurred."

Charges were formally dropped during a court hearing Monday, and Berry was later released from jail. Foster made his initial court appearance Monday. He is being held on bonds totaling \$100,000, and if he posts them, a judge ordered him subject to GPS monitoring and a curfew.

Quanell X, a community activist and a spokesman for Foster's family, said Foster told him Berry had nothing to do with the shooting. Berry and Foster apparently knew each other from school.

"It was inappropriate and wrong for Trey to have a pistol on campus," he said.

Quanell X said Foster legally bought the .40-caliber handgun authorities say was used in the shooting at a sporting goods store in Houston. Foster took a class for a concealed handgun license but had not completed the process to get a license, he said.

Garcia said investigators confirmed Foster bought the gun at the store, but noted there are questions about whether he should have been allowed to do so because of his criminal history.

Jess Myers, a spokesman for the sporting goods store, St. Paul, Minn.-based Gander Mountain, said the company couldn't provide firearms purchase records or comment on an ongoing investigation.

"Gander Mountain operates in strict compliance with all local, state and federal laws regarding firearms ownership and fully cooperates with law enforcement," Myers said in an email.

Quanell X said Foster bought the gun to defend himself after he was shot in the face a couple of years ago and had recently been receiving threats. He said Foster panicked during the shooting.

Baylor students show talent in accounting competition

By Linda Nguyen A&E EDITOR

Baylor accounting students are xTREME.

A Baylor accounting team was one of five teams nationally to qualify to compete in PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) national xTREME games in xTAX or xTREME Taxation.

The team, which consisted of Waco senior Reenal Bhakta, Edmond, Okla. sophomore Kendall Buskirk, Richardson senior Lauren Farish, Austin sophomore Brianna Goulet and Dallas junior Meredith Wachel, won \$1,000 for being the top team at Baylor and \$10,000 for being one of the top five teams nationally.

On Thursday and Friday, the team of students traveled to Washington, D.C., to compete in the national competition.

The other teams to qualify for the xTAX national competition were Binghampton University, Pennsylvania State University, University of Wisconsin and Oklahoma State University.

Elonda Benton, a PricewaterhouseCoopers campus sourcing manager, said the team competed against 460 other teams from across the country in order to qualify for the national competition.

"The xTAX competition is a case competition that is focused on a tax case," Benton said. "The focus of the competition is to give students exposure to real-life business scenarios. At the same time, we are looking to raise awareness on campus, awareness to the accounting profession as a whole, and also to give some insight as a whole to what it's like to work at PwC."

Wachel said the first stage of qualifying for the national competition was the Baylor competition, where they competed against other Baylor teams.

"First, we were given a case and we had to look over the case and put together a proposal," Wachel said. "We presented our proposal to the judges at Baylor. They saw 10 different teams and chose us as the winner."

Wachel said a video of their presentation was sent to the national competition where judges evaluated their presentation. The team was chosen to advance to the national competition.

Wachel said the team gave their presentation Friday morning over a case they were given prior to the competition date.

"They gave us a new case," Wachel said. "We changed the presentation format of our old case, but it was essentially the same information just with new judges."

The competition concluded with a lunch and presentation about PricewaterhouseCoopers and the first place team was announced. Although Baylor did not place first in the competition, the team members agreed they grew professionally as individuals and as a team from the competition. Oklahoma State University, the only other Big 12 school in attendance, won first place.

Goulet said the competition opened her eyes to accounting.

"It's been so cool," Goulet said. "When we first competed in the Baylor competition, I did it for fun, but when we won at Baylor, it was exciting. There were 460 teams that competed and the top five went to D.C. The whole thing was an amazing experience. It's so unique. I'm never going to have another experience like that."

Goulet said she was able to network with teams from other areas of the country at the national com-

"We got to meet lots of teams from different areas," Goulet said.

Goulet said although the team did not place first in the competition, the overall experience was worth all their hard work.

Wachel also said she enjoyed the experience competing in the xTAX competitions.

"Overall, it was just a very positive experience," Wachel said. "I loved my team and I think we bonded more than just working together. We enjoyed what we did."

Phi Iota Alpha fraternity to address Latino stereotypes in public forum

By Kate McGuire STAFF WRITER

Phi Iota Alpha, the Latin American fraternity at Baylor, is hosting a Latino forum "An Educated Latino's Journey," tonight at 7:30 p.m. in 103 Cashion Academic Center.

This forum will discuss many issues that have been circulating the Baylor campus such as possible faculty discrimination on campus, Latino stereotypes and awareness of minorities on campus.

Houston senior Francisco Solorzano is a member of Phi Iota Alpha who is assisting his fratering into the de-humanizing of our people," Solorzano said. During Rush Week the fra-

nity in the forum. "We will be div-

ternity showed the film "A Better Life," which recounts the journey of a Hispanic gardener who wants his son to have everything he couldn't have.

"A lot of what happens in the movie happens at Baylor," Solorzano said.

Race relations at universities across the nation have recieved much coverage recently after a sorority at Penn State posted racist photos on Facebook in December.

University/ Baylor University controversy over racist Mexican photos and this recent viewing of "A Better Life," Solorzano said this forum is much needed. "We will be educating as well as

After the Pennsylvania State

tackling Latino stereotypes," Solorzano said. The forum will include maintenance staff and landscaping staff from Baylor's faculty. They will discuss their experiences as a minority on campus. "We hope this will spark more

conversation between students and faculty and address these issues that are kept in the dark," he said.

Texas cancer-fighting agency weathers backlash from severe state audit

By PAUL J. WEBER

ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN- The beleaguered \$3 billion cancer-fighting agency in Texas approved lucrative taxpayer-funded projects despite unfavorable marks from scientists, kept sloppy records and allowed imprudent relationships between top agency executives and recipients of multimillion-dollar grants, according to a scathing state audit released Monday.

The report is the latest black eye for the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas,

have vowed this legislative session to reform the troubled agency. Just three years after debuting to widespread acclaim and hiring Nobel laureates, CPRIT has become a national embarrassment that's under criminal investigation.

"The report ... serves as another reminder that CPRIT is in need of significant change," said Republican state House Speaker Joe Straus, whose power includes appointing members of the agency's governing

Findings by the State Auditor's

the attention of Texas prosecutors, and also exposed new problems. Among them are irregularities discovered with a \$25 million statewide clinical trial network - unlike any in the county — that the agency long hailed as a symbol of the potential and impact of CPRIT.

Auditors bluntly stated that CPRIT "did not have adequate documentation" to support the grant to the Clinical Trials Network of Texas.

They also revealed that the CTNet proposal not only received

and will likely serve as a 99-page Office revealed fresh details into poor marks from independent fessional judgment in monitoring report's conclusions. blueprint for state lawmakers who known controversies that caught peer reviewers — whose opinions CTNeT's use of grant funds and are supposed to guide the agency about which projects are funded - but also received a score lower than nine other similar, but rejected, applications. The report also criticized CPRIT for letting agency executives and two members of a key review board council have "business and professional relationships" with the operation

> "Those weaknesses concern the appropriateness of CPRIT's decision to award a grant to CTNeT and CPRIT's individual and pro-

of CTNeT.

compliance with grant requirements," the report said.

Auditors also discovered grant recipients that failed to acquire matching funds from outside sources, a requirement lawmakers built in to help secure the state's investment.

State Auditor John Keel launched the audit in June, though each of CPRIT's top three executives resigned before the findings were published. Interim executives at the agency told auditors they generally agreed with the

"The report paints a picture of an agency in the early stages of its development," interim executive director Wayne Roberts told Keel in a letter.

CPRIT's problems started in May with the departure of Dr. Alfred Gilman, the former chief scientific officer and a Nobel laureate. Gilman had clashed with executive director Bill Gimson over agency priorities, accusing him of letting politics trump science. Dozens of scientific peer reviewers loyal to Gilman also severed ties with the agency.



BU reacts to new director with curiosity and nostalgia

By Taylor Rexrode STAFF WRITER

The new "Star Wars" director I.I. Abrams is.

Disney and Lucasfilm announced Saturday that J. J. Abrams will direct the new "Star Wars Episode VII". Abrams is best known for his involvement in television shows, including "Lost" and "Felicity," both of which he co-created. He has also directed films such as "Super 8," "Star Trek" and "Mission Impossible III."

Chris Hansen, associate professor and director of film and digital media, said he is excited about Abrams taking on the next chapter of the "Star Wars" saga.

"He knows how to do a big film well," Hansen said. "They have

a great screenwriter and a great director to develop a great story. That bodes well.'

Michael Arndt was announced last November as the screenwriter for "Episode VII." Arndt won the Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay in 2006 for his origin a l

script "Little Sunshine" and has written the script for the upcoming "Hunger Games: Catching Fire."

"I think that what excites me, is the collaboration," Hansen said. "Abrams knows how

> to work with multiple storylines and Michael Arndt is, to undermy standing, supposed to develop storyline for a new trilogy. They are devel-

larger story." The Woodlands junior Josh Foster said he remembers

oping a

at his grandparents' house years ago and feeling the excitement of the sci-fi classic.

"I definitely like the epic feeling," Foster said. "It's interesting that everything is on a galactic scale. It's all about the little kid desire to fight with swords and beat the bad guy."

With a definite sequel on the horizon, Foster hopes Abrams can live up to the expectation of recreating intergalactic magic.

"Like any other person doing a film, there is good and bad," Foster said. "Assuming he brings the same method he did with 'Star Trek,' I think it will go well. It will be nice to have a new story to continue everything."

Cypress junior Caitlin Nowak started watching the movies during high school.

She said she looks forward to seeing what Abrams brings to the table.

"I think it's a good choice," Nowak said. "He's known for being a little bit daring. He's not afraid to play with special effects and 'Star Wars' needs that out-there think-

Walt Disney Co. purchased Lucasfilm in December for \$2.21 billion. Hansen sees Disney's spin on "Star Wars" as a way to boost the morale of fans who saw a slump with Episode I, II and III.

"I saw the three films out of obligation, but they were a disappointment," Hansen said. "To hear that he sold Lucasfilm and that other people would be making 'Star Wars' films, it re-energized me as a fan."

Nowak agrees that Disney's ac-

quisition of Lucasfilm will help the "Star Wars" fandom.

"If fans realize that the same company that makes 'Captain America' and 'The Avengers' is making 'Star Wars,' maybe they will feel better about it," Nowak said. "Some will be excited for the side stories that will come out and some won't like it."

According to the International Movie Database, Jedi fans will have to wait until 2015 to see what Abrams and Arndt do.

Until then, it is unlikely Abrams will let any secrets out.

"He's trying to maintain an element of surprise with the new 'Star Trek' and it should be the same with 'Star Wars," Hansen said. "I'm excited about the prospect of Abrams directing the film."

'Carmelites' examines persecution during French Revolution

By Rebecca Fiedler REPORTER

This week, the story of "Dialogues of the Carmelites," an opera by Francis Poulenc, will unravel on the Baylor campus. It tells the tale of a convent of nuns standing up for what they believe in during the Reign of Terror in the French Revolution.

The Baylor School of Music, the Vocal Division and the Baylor Symphony Orchestra will bring Poulenc's classic opera to life.

The opera is performed under the musical direction and conduction of Jeffrey Peterson and stage direction of Octavio Cardenas, and will take place at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday in Jones Theatre at Hooper-Schaefer Fine

Putting on the show will have been no small feat.

"There have been a lot of hands going into this production," said Amanda Lassetter, the show's stage manager. Octavio Cardenas, co-director of the production, assistant professor in the Baylor School of Music and director of Baylor Opera, said he loves working with and training the students involved.

"You have to take more time with them to explain to them how to use the voice and the body and how to relate to each other," Cardenas said. "So we had to be a little slow on the way I approach it. It's very different than the way I would approach working with a professional, but it's a lot of fun."

As opposed to other operas, Cardenas said "Dialogues of the Carmelites" is a challenging one for the students to perform. It doesn't have a lot of melodies like a traditional opera and is very conversational.

"The music follows the inflections of the voice," Cardenas said.

Cardenas said the music flows more like a real dialogue would, similar to the chant of a Catholic priest, and that there are no set musical numbers.

"Instead of having a lot of tunes

that you can hum, it doesn't work like a traditional opera," he said.

watching the "Star Wars" films

Cardenas compared the opera with "Les Miserables," a popular Broadway musical whose story also takes place in the strife of the French Revolution.

Cardenas said "Les Miserables" is more commercial than Poulenc's opera because it has more melodies and is simpler to a certain degree.

Cardenas said the music is not as challenging as that of "Dialogues of the Carmelites."

The voice has to be trained for

the kind of music of "Dialogue of the Carmelites," while a student might find it easier to prepare for "Les Miserables," Cardenas said. The music that Baylor students will be singing this week for the

he said. "That would be a little weird,"

show isn't something a person

would be singing while in their car,

Cardenas said this would be a good opera for Christians to see, as it's about martyrdom and takes



Baylor Opera Theater presents Dialogues of the Carmelites, an opera by the French composer Francis Poulenc. The performance is scheduled for today, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

place in a time when Christianity was not allowed to be professed in

Waco junior Hannah Powers, who plays a nun named Sister Valentine, said she has never personally been afraid of death, but the characters of the opera go through a big spiritual struggle because they're giving up their lives for the Lord. They're faced with death, but they're not supposed to be afraid of death because they have God. That's what they live for.

"It's kind of this idea that, you know, Christ gives you strength and not being afraid of that, but in reality I'm glad that I don't have to face that," Powers said. "That is kind of a neat thing when you think about how much faith you have to have."

Cardenas encouraged Baylor students to come and see the show which will be sung in English, according to the wishes of Francis Poulenc. Cardenas said that students won't find it as boring as they may expect.

"The last scene is a very, very, very beautiful scene," he said. "I won't tell you what happens at the end, but the end is epic."

Tickets are available through the Baylor Theatre box office and are \$15. Students may call the box office for more information or visit www.baylor.edu/theatre.

Dessert recipe not for faint of heart, combines cookies and brownies

By Linda Nguyen A&E EDITOR

Difficulty:

Moderately Easy

I was craving a whole lot of sugar a few days ago, so I had the bright idea to make something super unhealthy. These brownies are the perfect combination of cookie, Oreo and brownie. I admit I got lazy and just bought a tub of cookie dough for the bottom layer. I found this recipe at www.whatsgabycooking.com. You can also use premade cookie dough and brownie mix instead of making them from scratch.



The inside of a slutty brownie. The layers of chocolate chip cookie, Oreos and brownies can be seen.

Slutty Brownies

16 brownies

Yield: 1 9x9 brownie pan or

Ingredients:

For the Brownie layer:

- 10 tbsp unsalted butter
- 1 1/4 cups white sugar • 3/4 cup cocoa powder
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 large eggs • 1/2 cup All Purpose flour

For the Oreo layer:

• 1 package of Oreo (regular stuffed or double stuffed)

For the Cookie Dough layer:

- 1/2 cup unsalted butter (at room temp)
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 3/4 cup white sugar

• 1 1/4 tsp vanilla extract

- 1 1/4 cups All Purpose flour • 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp baking soda • 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1 cup semi-sweet chocolate

Instructions:

For the Brownie layer:

In a medium sauce pan, melt the butter over medium high heat. Add the sugar and cocoa powder once the butter is melted. Whisk to combine and remove from heat. Add the salt, vanilla and eggs and continuously whisk until the eggs are combined. Add the flour and continue to mix. Set batter aside.

For the Cookie Dough layer: Cream together the butter and

sugars in a mixer. Add the eggs and vanilla, making sure to scrape down the sides of the mixing bowl. Add the flour, salt, baking soda and baking powder and mix on low until everything is incorporated. Fold in the chocolate chips. Set dough

Assembly:

1. Pre-heat the oven to 350 de-

2. Line the bottom of a 9x9 baking pan with tin foil and then spray the tin foil with a layer of baking

3. Layer the cookie dough on the bottom of a 9x9 baking pan,

Answers at www.baylorlariat.com

of the slutty brownies.

- 4. Layer as many oreos that will fit on top of the cookie dough. One single layer will do.
- 5. Pour the brownie batter on top of the oreo layer and make sure it's evenly layers on top.

6. Bake for 30-35 minutes. Test with a knife to see if the center is done. If the knife comes out clean, let the brownies rest before serving. If the knife comes out with batter still on it, allow the brownies to bake about 5 minutes more.

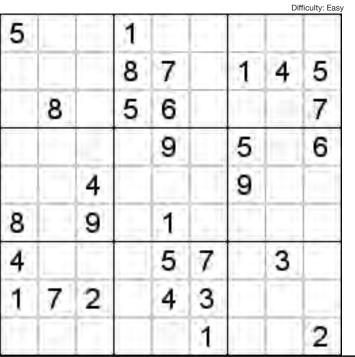
Piled Higher & Deeper Ph D.











DAILY PUZZLES

Across

1 Paper used for envelopes

7 Teensy kitchen invader 10 Thick-bodied river fish

14 Lessened

15 Critical hosp. area 16 Take down with a wrecking ball

17 Trade for cash 18 Musical based on ABBA songs

20 Golfer Snead's nickname 22 "I don't care which'

23 Naval petty officer

27 Lasting mark 30 __ and gown

33 John, Paul, George or Ringo 34 Go without food

36 "True __": Wayne film 39 CFO's degree

40 One on a board 43 Swiss peak

44 Gas in a sign 45 Knocks for a loop 46 Scallion relative

48 Space-saving abbr. 50 Team statistic

51 Finale

54 Selling fast 56 Whale or dolphin

63 Campbell's soup slogan, and a hint to the puzzle theme found in

18-, 20-, 40- and 56-Across 66 "Seinfeld" woman

67 Albany's canal 68 Actress Hagen

69 Sticky-toed lizards 70 Tadpole's breathing organ 71 LPGA star Se Ri 72 Be agreeable

Down

1 Red planet 2 III-fated Biblical brother

3 Diddly, to Dalí 4 To-do list entry

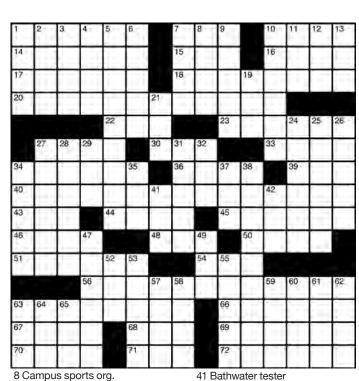
5 Oscar winner for "Cat Ballou" 6 Part of FDA: Abbr.

7 Gets in one's sights, with "at"

pressing down to form the bottom

I gave these brownies a difficulty of two out of five stars because it took me an hour to thaw out the cookie dough, but overall a fairly easy recipe.

McClatchy-Tribune



8 Campus sports org. 9 Tot's belly

10 Tot's drawing tool 11 Clumsy actor

12 Special forces weapon

13 Arthur who played Maude 19 Marseille Mrs.

21 The Big Apple, initially 24 Latin ballroom dances

25 Orange-yellow gemstones 26 Gets warmer, in a game 27 Taken in a break-in

28 Slept next to the trail, say 29 Upper limb 31 Sales rep

32 Opposite of post-

38 Stretch the truth

34 Weighing device 35 Somme summer 37 Global currency org 42 Dairy farm sound 47 Late-night host Jimmy 49 Revolutionary Guevara

52 Inveterate faultfinder 53 Word with hug or therapy 55 Alpha's opposite

57 Teensy amount 58 Fargo's st.

59 Apples with screens 60 Karaoke prop 61 Many a folk song, composer-

wise: Abbr. 62 "__ we forget" 63 Ryan of "Sleepless in Seattle"

64 Hosp. scan 65 1,000 G's

Griner breaks blocks record, scoring record to follow

By Parmida Schahhosseini

Opposing teams fear her. She has become the face of women's college basketball, and she is now an NCAA record holder.

That defensive pressure comes from senior center Brittney Griner, who is a force to be reckoned with on the court not just because dunks or the amount of offense she brings to the games. The intangibles are what make the difference.

"Griner, best player in the country, bar none," West Virginia head coach Mike Carey said. "She's gotten better every year and she's under control at all times. As a coach, you think she's going over somebody's back. She's really not. She's jumping over them."

The six time Big 12 Player of the Week is the lone collegiate player to make the USA Basketball roster. Griner also holds the NCAA record for career dunks at 11 and the NCAA record for blocked shots at 665. Griner is also the first player to score over 2,000 points and record 500 blocked shots, which displays her effect on both the offense and the defense.

On the offensive side of the field. Griner is ninth in the nation in points per game with 21.5 and 408 points this season. She is also ranked sixth in the nation, and first in the Big 12, in field goal percentage at 59 percent, making 170 out

But Griner doesn't do it all herself. She has a great supporting cast to help her out. They play as one unified squad.

Griner opens up the field for her other teammates to score, and they help her with assists or shooting, which takes some of the pressure off of her. Playing team basketball is a skill that she has acquired while playing under head coach Kim Mulkey.

"Last year, I guess I started getting even more patient," Griner said after the National Championship game against Notre Dame. "I couldn't get my hands on the ball, keep moving. Whatever I can do, I will do. I took it a play at a time, post up strong when I had to. Did whatever I could to help my team

defense is what stands out. Not only does she hold the NCAA record for career blocks, but also she is a big reason as to why Baylor only allowed one team to shoot over 50 percent in 235 games.

However, Griner's effect on the

Many teams have to change their offense because they have to deal with having a talented 6-foot-8inch center protecting the basket. Because of Griner's presence, teams settle for more outside shots against the Bears.

This season, teams have shot 414 shots from 3-point range against the Lady Bears, but the rest of the Big 12 averages 316.1 3-point attempts, with Kansas allowing only 220 attempts. This is the pressure that Baylor's defense puts on opposing teams. The key to her success is the versatility she brings. This allows for head coach Kim Mulkey to draw up creative plays. Griner draws two or three people allowing other players to have more open looks.

"She didn't really know a whole lot of moves," Mulkey said earlier this season about Griner's first days at Baylor. "She just turned, shot, dunked, jump shot. But she's learned how to read the defender; she's learned how to feel the defender. Brittney is an athlete in that body. If I wanted to draw up 3-point plays, Brittney Griner could shoot 3-point shots, easily. If I wanted to draw up something where I give her the ball and set screens and say take them off the



Senior center Brittney Griner shoots over a number of Iowa State defenders last Wednesday in Ames, Iowa. The Lady Bears won the game 66-51. Griner finished the game with 22 points, eight rebounds and six blocks.

dribble, Brittney Griner can do

Griner has 2,835 career points

and needs two points to break the Big 12 scoring record, held by Oklahoma State's Andrea Riley. She will likely break this record during Baylor's next game at 7 p.m. Wednesday against Texas Tech.

Life handed Ruiz golf balls, he became one of Mexico's best

By Ryan Daugherty REPORTER

The Baylor men's golf team includes nine talented golfers, all of whom are ready to start the approaching season.

Among these golfers is senior Jerry Ruiz.

For three years, Jerry has represented Baylor both on and off the green as a student athlete who does what it takes to succeed.

Now as a senior, Ruiz looks to finish his collegiate golfing career

Ruiz was born in Puebla, Mexico on Dec. 11, 1990.

He played soccer early on but it wasn't until he was 6 years old that he was introduced to golf.

"It was actually a friend of mine," Ruiz said. "When I was in elementary school, my best friend used to take golf lessons. I went with him over the summer and we just went to play a lot. A professor tried to get my dad to pay for lessons. Somehow it happened and I ended up playing."

It didn't take long for Ruiz to pick up the sport.

In fact, he was already competing in tournaments the same year he was introduced to it.

"My first tournament I was really young, I was 6 years old at the time. I actually got third place. It was at such a young age and then I actually got to win a tournament really soon in my career," Ruiz said.

In June of 2009, Ruiz competed in the Mexican National Match

He won this tournament, which solidified him as a top five golfer in all of Mexico.

The tournament not only solidified his ranking, but it also earned him an invitation to the Starburst Junior Golf Classic in Waco.

Ruiz won the event, tallying a final score of -6 and it may have been his most important victory

"I like to think the reason I came to Baylor was because I won the Starburst when I came to

"He is by far the best ball striker I have ever seen that isn't a pro. *If he could putt the* way he hits the ball, he would already be a pro."

Matthew Seligmann | Men's golf

Waco," Ruiz said.

He also had other colleges in mind, including the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Pepperdine, Charleston Southern, and Loyola Marymount.

During the spring of 2011, Ruiz posted his career best all-around performance at the Charleston Shootout in South Carolina placing third overall for his first topfive finish.

The tournament was held in the same state where he had attended high school for two years.



Jerry Ruiz | Men's Golf

Every golfer on the team realizes how talented Ruiz is.

When asked about his skill set, fellow senior golfer and best friend Matthew Seligmann gave Ruiz extremely high praise.

"He is by far the best ball striker I have ever seen that isn't a pro," Seligmann said. "If he could putt the way he hits the ball, he would already be a pro." While Ruiz is a highly devoted

golfer, he is just as devoted academically. Ruiz, a business major, has

been named First Team Academic All Big 12 in two consecutive seasons and was a member of the Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll for four straight years.

"Studying has always been big just because it's most likely what I'm going to be doing the rest of my life," Ruiz said. "Ever since I was growing up, it was always a big deal with my dad, not to make good grades, but to learn."

Ruiz's academic success is noticed by many of his teammates including sophomore golfer Niclas Mansson.

"He's one of the smartest guys on the team and the team GPA leader," Mansson said. Ruiz plans on golfing after

Baylor, but intends to work in the sporting industry as well.

"I'm doing the S3 Major so it's

really closely related to sports obviously. I would like to stay in the sporting industry and maybe try to work with the PGA or some other sports organization," Ruiz said.

The season is just around the corner, but Ruiz will actually be watching from the sideline because he is redshirting this semester.

"The reason I'm redshirting is to get everything to work the way it should be, getting little details to work for me instead of against me,"

Because he is redshirting, Ruiz is unable to compete in any tournaments this semester, but he is still able to practice with the team.

He still believes his teammates will fare well in the upcoming UTSA Oak Hills Invitational in San Antonio.

"Yeah, I mean the team is pretty strong," Ruiz said. "Almost everybody that's travelling has played there before so I think it's a good advantage to know the course. It's kind of tricky so I feel like they have good chances of winning."

Concussion research, players call NFL future into question

By Daniel Hill SPORTS WRITER

President Barack Obama has two daughters, but if he had a son, he said that he is not sure if he'd let him play football.

Although Obama is a football fan, he worries about the general safety of the sport.

Obama told The New Republic that he "would have to think long and hard" before letting his son play football.

Obama also said the game is most likely going to change in the future for safety reasons.

"I think that those of us who love the sport are going to have to wrestle with the fact that it will probably change gradually to try to reduce some of the violence," Obama said. "In some cases, that may make it a little bit less exciting, but it will be a whole lot better for the players, and those of us who are fans maybe won't have to examine

SPORTS TAKE

our consciences quite as much."

Baltimore Ravens safety Bernard Pollard spoke out about the cloudy future of football to CBSSports.com. He boldly predicted that the NFL wouldn't even be around in 30 years.

'Thirty years from now, I don't think it will be in existence," Pollard said. "I could be wrong. It's just my opinion, but I think with the direction things are going—where [NFL rules makers] want to lighten up, and they're throwing flags and everything else-there's going to come a point where fans are going to get fed up with it."

Football has never been a safe sport. Even though concussions and head injuries are at the forefront of player safety initiatives, the NFL is still filled with concussions.

For the past three seasons, the number of concussions in the NFL

has continued to rise. This could be because athletic trainers and medical personnel are more aware of the dangers of concussions, but it also could be that the NFL is just becoming more and more dangerous.

In 2009, the NFL averaged 5.4 concussions per week. That number increased to 7.6 per week in 2010 and to 8.4 per week in 2011. In spite of new rules prior to the

2011 season that were implemented strictly to enhance player safety and avoid concussions, the number of concussions per week is still trending upward.

The NFL voted in March of 2011 to move the kickoff up to the 35-yard line and to limit players on the kicking team to a five-yard running start. The logic behind this was two-fold. The limited fiveyard running start would decrease the amount of speed a player can gain before colliding with another

More importantly, the closer

kickoff would allow for more touchbacks, which equates to less contact and physical punishment on the play.

NFL referees also have been influenced to throw more penalty flags on helmet-to-helmet hits. With the speed of the game, it's impossible to judge what is actually a helmet-to-helmet hit without the use of instant replay. This means that when a player legally lays a crushing blow on an opponent, referees are more inclined to throw a penalty flag.

Even with all of the concussion testing and brain research, much of the science behind concussions, brain trauma and the development of chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE) remains widely un-

In the last two years, six former or current NFL players have committed suicide. It's unclear how brain trauma and concussions play into the finality of suicide, but it is widely suggested that brain trauma can result in depression and memory loss.

Ultimately, how sustainable is the NFL? With the hits becoming more and more violent, and with players getting bigger, faster and stronger every year, how can the NFL survive long-term with such violence? Bernard Pollard thinks it might take something horribly tragic before the NFL will act upon the state of the game and make genuine changes to aid player

"The only thing I'm waiting for ... and, Lord, I hope it doesn't happen ... is a guy dying on the field," Pollard said. "We've had everything else happen there except for a death. We understand what we signed up for, and it sucks."

NFL players understand the inherent risks of their chosen profession. Nobody forces them to play football. At some point, the NFL is going to have to force players to legally accept the risks associated with playing football.

Lawsuits by former NFL players are hanging over the NFL's head. With these lawsuits pending, the NFL is trying to do everything in its power to make football safe.

Nothing can make football a safe game. There will always be physical athletes forcing violent collisions. The NFL can't take away the heart and soul of the game just to make it safer.

If the NFL continues on its current path of instituting every rule possible to protect players in a violent game, then eventually the NFL product will just look like the Pro

Players won't hit at the line of scrimmage and defenders will pretend to tackle the person with the ball. Nobody wants to watch that. The NFL has to embrace the physicality of the game and assume the risks that run along with promoting a violent sport.

Bears in the bright lights

Both Pierre Jackson and Brittney Griner have been named Big 12 Player of the Week. Jackson becomes just the seventh Bear to win both Big 12 Newcomer of the Week and Player of the week in men's basketball. It is Griner's sixth time to win the award this season.

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Officials defend teachers carrying guns

By Jim Vertuno ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN — Superintendents of three small rural school districts that allow some teachers to carry guns told Texas lawmakers Monday that the practice provides a critical measure of safety for students in the event of a campus shooting, but a law enforcement expert said it also could put those teachers at "high risk" of being mistakenly shot by responding of-

Lawmakers are grappling with the idea of allowing more nonlaw enforcement personnel to bring guns into classrooms in the wake of last month's shootings at a Connecticut elementary school. The rural school officials testified during a joint hearing of the Senate education and agriculture, rural affairs and homeland security committees - the first such hearing to take public testimony on the

David Thweatt, superintendent of Harrold Independent School District near the Oklahoma border, said some teachers and ad-

ministrators who have concealed handgun licenses are allowed to bring their weapons to class. The goal, he said, is to minimize the damage a gunman can do inside a school in the time it takes police officers to arrive.

"If you can stop it in its inception, you have an obligation to do that," Thweatt said.

The Van school district east of Dallas voted last week to allow concealed handguns in classrooms. Superintendent Don Dunn said it was in direct response to the shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School in which 26 people were killed, including 20 children.

Although each of the Van district elementary, middle and high school campuses are within 2 miles of the Van police department, officials calculated it would take at least five minutes for police to respond to an emergency call of a shooter on campus.

"We are completely defenseless during that five-minute gap. At least we have a chance to protect our kids," Dunn said. "We are not the police. We are not asking them to be the police. We are asking them to fill that gap until the police get there."

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst is pushing a plan to provide statepaid special weapons, tactics and response training for teachers and administrators if school districts ask for it. That idea has been opposed by the Texas State Teachers Association. The state's largest teachers group said educators should not be asked to double as a professional security force.

But lawmakers heard from another expert who argued teachers with guns drawn could find themselves the targets of police answering an emergency call.

'They are at high risk of being shot. That's the reality of the scenario and the danger police officers are in," said Pete Blair, associate professor of criminal justice at Texas State University and researcher for the school's Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training program.

Texas Department of Public Safety Director Steve McCraw, while saying Texas should be proactive in trying to protect students, had a similar warning that armed

teachers could find themselves being shot at by police. Officers are trained to "neutralize the threat," McCraw said.

"Anytime you arrive on the scene and you as a police officer are, you are taught and trained to look for anybody with a weapon,"

Sen. Dan Patrick, R-Houston, chairman of the Senate Committee on Education, which held the joint hearing with the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Rural Affairs and Homeland Security, suggested the teachers would likely be in a defensive position and not roaming the halls with a gun drawn to be mistakenly targeted by police.

The testimony Monday signaled a division between small, rural districts and larger urban ones on letting more guns in classrooms. Representatives from Dallas and Austin schools, which have their own police departments, said school safety should be left to school, city and county law en-

Three Houston-area lawmakers want to set up special taxing districts to pay for school security. The districts could use the money for anything they want related to security, from surveillance cameras and metal detectors to armed

That plan has been criticized as unfair to poorer school districts, which may not be able to raise as much money as wealthier ones, and from fiscal conservatives who reject the idea of creating new

Lawmakers also are considering a measure to allow concealed weapons license holders to bring their guns into college buildings and classrooms.

A similar bill failed to pass in 2011, but supporters say gunfire last week at Houston-area community college shows the need to allow students to defend themselves. Three people were wounded and one man has been charged with aggravated assault with a deadly



The towboat Natures Way Endeavor banks a barge against the western bank of the Mississippi River on Monday as an 18-wheeler crosses the

Barge hits Miss. River Bridge; oil cleanup ongoing

By Holbrook Mohr ASSOCIATED PRESS

VICKSBURG, Miss. — Experts say the stretch of Mississippi River where vessel traffic was halted after a barge hit a railroad bridge on Sunday is one of the most dangerous along the 2,500-mile-long

Late Monday, cleanup crews were skimming oily water near Vicksburg, a day after a barge struck a bridge, rupturing a compartment holding 80,000 gallons

Authorities said that the oil was being contained and there was no evidence of it washing ashore downriver. Orange boom was stretched across part of the river downstream from the barge, and small boats patrolled the area as oil was pumped from the ruptured tank into another tank on the same barge. Officials hope to eventually transfer all the oil to another barge.

Tugs were holding the barge at the bank on the Louisiana side of the river, directly across from Vicksburg's Riverwalk and Lady Luck casinos.

Coast Guard spokesman Lt. Ryan Gomez said a tug was pushing two tank barges when the collision occurred about 1:30 a.m. Sunday. Both barges were damaged, but only one leaked. Authorities declared the bridge safe after an inspection.

Gomez said United States Environmental Services, an oil spill response company, was collecting oily water.

Officials did not yet have an estimate of how much oil had been pumped out, or how much spilled into the Mississippi.

Another Coast Guard spokesman, Petty Officer 3rd Class Jonathan Lally, said the oil was contained and skimmers would work through the night collecting it. He said a flyover by a Coast Guard helicopter from Vicksburg 50 miles to the south found no evidence of shoreline impact.

Authorities said a major environmental disaster was unlikely as the swift current dispersed the oil.

TRIAL from Page 1 ———

members of the Baylor Alumni Association went unanswered.

Multiple faculty members at the Baylor Law School declined comment when asked about the ethics

However, Deborah Rhode, Ernest W. McFarland Professor of Law at Stanford University, offered an explanation of why Coker may be under investigation.

"Conferring on any subject in court without the knowledge of all parties is wrong," Rhode said. "Even when the contact is indirect, it's still problematic. A judge should be neutral and not confer with anyone about a trial outside of the parties involved. It undermines the title."

Coker transferred from Sam Houston State University to Baylor her where she graduated from in 1989. She got her Juris Doctorate from Baylor Law in 1992.

She is a second generation Baylor graduate and a third generation Texas judge.

Coker was a lifetime member of the BAA and was asked to serve on the board in 2009.

She was asked to serve as the BAA president a year later.

SCOUTS from Page 1—

during concealed-weapons training for the teachers in West Valley City, Utah, on Dec. 27, 2012.

on gays serving openly in the mili-

Clark Aposhian, president of Utah Shooting Sport Council, demonstrates with a plastic gun, rear, while Joanna

Baginska, a fourth-grade teacher from Odyssey Charted School in American Fork, Utah, aims a 40 cal. Sig Sauer

However, Southern Baptist leaders - who consider homosexuality a sin — were furious about the possible change and said its approval might encourage Southern Baptist churches to support other boys' organizations instead of the

Monday's announcement of the possible change comes after years of protests over the no-gays policy - including petition campaigns that have prompted some corporations to suspend donations to the Boy Scouts.

Under the proposed change, said BSA spokesman Deron Smith, "the Boy Scouts would not, under any circumstances, dictate a position to units, members, or parents."

Smith said the change could be announced as early as next week, after BSA's national board concludes a regularly scheduled meeting on Feb. 6. The meeting will be closed to the public.

The BSA, which celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2010, has long excluded both gays and atheists. Smith said a change in the policy toward atheists was not being considered, and that the BSA



Jennifer Tyrrell, right, arrives with her family for a meeting on July 18, 2012, at the Boys Scouts of America national offices in Irving. The Ohio woman was ousted as a den mother because she is a lesbian.

continued to view "Duty to God" as one of its basic principles.

Protests over the no-gays policy gained momentum in 2000, when the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the BSA's right to exclude gays. Scout units lost sponsorships by public schools and other entities that adhered to nondiscrimination policies, and several local Scout councils made public their displeasure with the policy.

More recently, pressure surfaced on the Scouts' own national executive board. Two high-powered members — Ernst & Young CEO James Turley and AT&T CEO Randall Stephenson - indicated they would try to work from within to change the membership policy, which stood in contrast to their own companies' non-discrimination policies. Amid petition campaigns, ship-

ping giant UPS Inc. and drug-manufacturer Merck announced that they were halting donations from their charitable foundations to the

Boy Scouts as long as the no-gays policy was in force. Also, local Scout officials drew

widespread criticism in recent months for ousting Jennifer Tyrrell, a lesbian mom, as a den leader of her son's Cub Scout pack in Ohio and for refusing to approve an Eagle Scout application by Ryan Andresen, a California teen who came out as gay last fall.

Tyrrell said she's thrilled for parents and their children who've been excluded from scouting and "for those who are in Scouts and hiding who they are."

"For me it's not just about the Boy Scouts of America, it's about equality," she told The Associated Press. "This is a step toward equality in all aspects."

Many of the protest campaigns, including one seeking Tyrrell's reinstatement, had been waged with help from the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation.

"The Boy Scouts of America have heard from scouts, corporations and millions of Americans that discriminating against gay scouts and scout leaders is wrong," said Herndon Graddick, GLAAD's president. "Scouting is a valuable institution, and this change will only strengthen its core principles of fairness and respect."

Among those urging the Boy Scouts to keep the no-gays policy was Tony Perkins, president of the conservative Family Research

"The Boy Scouts of America board would be making a serious mistake to bow to the strong-arm tactics of LGBT activists and open the organization to homosexuality," Perkins said. "The Boy Scouts should stand firm in their timeless values and respect the right of parents to discuss these sexual topics with their children."

The Scouts had reaffirmed the no-gays policy as recently as last year, and appeared to have strong backing from conservative religious denominations — notably the Mormons, Roman Catholics and Southern Baptists - which sponsor large numbers of Scout units. Under the proposed change, they could continue excluding

Prior to Monday's announcement, the BSA conferred with some leaders of these religious groups, including the Rev. Frank Page, who leads the Southern Baptist Executive Committee.

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paired and we have already started working on those," Evans said.

Evans also said specialists in historical restoration have been contacted to work on the more difficult monuments.

Oakwood Cemetery will also

be stepping up security to prevent future vandalism.

"We've discussed all kinds of things like adding more cameras and things like that," Evans said.

Waco PD has not arrested anyone in connection with the vandal-

ism but is actively pursuing leads. Any citizens with information are encouraged to contact the Waco police department and may do so anonymously

ALUMNI from Page 1

youngest person to become the president and CFO of United Way of Metropolitan Dallas.

The last recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award was Strimple. Strimple is the associate professor of choral and sacred music at the University of Southern California. While in Prague as a guest conductor, he fell in love with Holocaust music and has since found a love for its melody. He was presented this award by the former Ambassador to Sweden, Lyndon L. Olson.

Nelson-Dudley-Boulet Family received the First Families of Baylor Award. They have sent six generations of 28 family members to Baylor, with the most recent

family graduating in 2005. "We stand on the shoulders of those who have come before. Tonight I thank those," Jim Nelson, '68, J.D.

Lori Thompson Coulter, '97, and Kellie Key Fischer, '95, received the Herbert H. Reynolds award. This award is given to alumni under 40 years old who have distinguished themselves in their fields.

"Baylor has always been welcoming to me. I bow my head to the mention of its name," Dr. Brian McCall, '81, chancellor for the Texas State University System, said. He received the Price Daniel Distinguished Public Service Award.

Other awards include the

George W. Truett Distinguished Church Service Award presented to Joel T. Allison, '70, president and CFO of the Baylor Health Care System, the Abner V. McCall Humanitarian Award and the Abner V. McCall Religious Liberty Award were presented to Dr. John Wood, '53, and J. Brent Walker.

While the night was filled with celebration, a common theme seemed to resonate with all the awardees as Hilton Sampson said, "Luck is when preparation meets opportunity. There will be bumps in the road. Look at those bumps and growl at them like a bear."

