

**SPORTS** Page 5

**Another one bites the dust**

The No. 1 Lady Bears take down Oklahoma Monday on the road 86-64

**NEWS** Page 3

**Head-to-head battle**

Students and professors put their smarts to the test Thursday in the BIC Bowl

**A&E** Page 4

**The results are in**

Kappa Sigma and K Omega Tau fraternities tie for first place in Sing



The right to bear arms equals safety to some but fear to others

## Concealed carry takes center stage on campus

### Students' take

By ALEXA BRACKIN  
NEWS EDITOR

Students have engaged in a verbal gunfight that has resulted from the proposal of The Campus Personal Protection Act, introduced by Texas State Sen. Brian Birdwell in early January.

The bill has already resulted in a petition by Baylor professors. Now, students are going vocal.

"I think everyone should have the right to carry a concealed handgun anywhere they want," Brownsville senior Ruben Pizana said. "But there are restrictions for a reason. I think the concealed carry process should be at least five times harder."

Pizana, who competes in long-range silhouette shooting and speed shooting competitions, said the current test to obtain a concealed handgun license is too lenient, and as of right now he is not comfortable with the idea of concealed carry on campus.

Many students believe that having guns on campus will only add to any potential violence if it were to break out.

"In Texas, I'm aware that people carry concealed all the time, but I don't think it's a good idea to have that many concealed guns in such a small space such as a university campus,"

Nashville sophomore Brette Moseley said.

"I'm aware you have to take a certification course, but people in their 20s still have not fully gotten the calm, cool and collected thing down yet.

If a fight were to start and people get hot-headed and they realize, 'Oh, I have a gun on me' and they try to use it as a scare factor, where does the scare stop so that people don't get hurt?"

In a public petition letter to Birdwell, Baylor professors expressed concern for their safety in a class-

SEE **STUDENTS**, page 6

### Professors' perspective

By LINDA WILKINS  
CITY EDITOR

The talk of concealed carry on college campuses has sparked a debate among Baylor professors.

State Sen. Brian Birdwell submitted Senate Bill 182 on Jan. 17, which would allow concealed carry on college campuses. Private universities will have the option to opt out.

Dr. Earl Grinols, Distinguished Professor of Economics at Baylor, said he agrees with the bill Birdwell proposed.

"My view is simple," Grinols said. "The issue boils down to the probabilities."

Grinols said the probability of a person with the intent to kill students on campus is small. The main question is how that probability would change if the bill passes.

Grinols said if a criminal with a weapon and an intent to kill were to enter a classroom with students who are unarmed, then no one could defend themselves. However, if a criminal enters a classroom where at least one student or faculty member is armed, then someone could defend the classroom.

Grinols also said if criminals knows people in a classroom could be armed, then they are less likely to enter the classroom. If they know no one should have a gun in the classroom, the probability of them going into the classroom and injuring someone is higher.

"The probabilities of all of these events are tiny, but move in a good direction because of Birdwell's bill," Grinols said. He said the bill is likely to save lives.

Grinols said he read about the letter Dr. Blake Burleson, associate dean for undergraduate studies of arts and sciences, and Dr. Robin Wallace, musicology professor, wrote and submitted to Birdwell's office. The letter, which was signed by 120 faculty members at Baylor, explains why the professors are opposed to allowing concealed carry on college campuses. Grinols said they are reacting based on their emotions.

"They are engaging in emotionalism," Grinols said.

SEE **PROFESSORS**, page 6

## Texas officials put in Hot Seat to talk about education

By TAYLOR REXRODE  
STAFF WRITER

The Hot Seat series brought together Wacoans and Texas officials to discuss the 83rd legislative session last Saturday.

The forum let any topic be brought to the table, but much of the discussion with state officials revolved around the heated topic of education.

The series was presented by the Texas Tribune and hosted in the Stone Room of the Ferrell Center.

Evan Smith, Editor in Chief

and CEO of Texas Tribune, moderated the event, asking questions of State Sen. Brian Birdwell and State Rep. Kyle Kacal and State Rep. Charles Anderson, all republicans.

The Texas public education system has been a controversial issue within the past few years. After the Republican-controlled Texas Legislature cut \$5.4 billion in public education and grant programming in 2011, around 600 school districts filed a lawsuit to prove schools were inadequately funded under the state constitution. A judge ruled the budget

cuts were unconstitutional, but the state plans to appeal, meaning that there may not be a resolution until 2014.

In the meantime, Wacoans who saw school closures in Waco ISD asked their representatives for answers about where the Texas education system is heading.

Kacal opted to focus on what would happen in the session instead of what is uncertain in education.

"Obviously, we have an issue," Kacal said. "The responsible thing for us to do is wait. It would be crazy to jump out there. We need

to find out exactly where we are going."

Birdwell and Anderson agreed. Anderson thinks the Legislature should wait and let the appeals process make their decision before moving forward.

"It's prudent to go slowly to let these issues ripen," Anderson said.

However, they did say that the Legislature should be able to increase funding to meet the growth in enrollment at a minimum.

Birdwell tried to explain the challenges of meeting the needs of a growing population.

"I don't know what we'll end up doing," Birdwell said. "When the economy turns and we don't see as much revenue coming in, it makes very tough decisions trickle down into the communities."

With the emergence of the STAAR test and end-of-course exams, Waco community members voiced concerns about these standardized tests and the need for technical training for students who do not want to pursue a college degree.

Birdwell says changes to the standardized testing system would be "graduated," starting

first with the Senate Bill 135, which removed the requirement to count end-of-course exams toward 15 percent of a student's final grade.

"We are spending so much time testing that it has become its own encumbrance," Birdwell said. "But the end-of-course exam isn't so much about how we want to evaluate each individual student, it's to make sure that we at the state level have a structure in place where we can evaluate our system."

SEE **TALK**, page 6



# Concealed carry on campus not wise choice

## Editorial

Before we begin, it must be stated that this is not a unanimously written editorial.

The Lariat editorial board, whose voice is supposed to be represented in this space, could not come to a unanimous decision on the issue of allowing concealed handguns on campus.

That is why it is the official position of the Lariat editorial board that Baylor University, through the Office of Institutional Research and Testing, should make it a priority to survey the campus to see where we all stand on the issue. It should then make those findings public as soon as possible and send them to area lawmakers.

So here is the position that the majority of the editorial board (which includes gun owners) agreed on — concealed handguns have no place on a college campus.

They don't belong here any more than they belong in educational institutions or bars or liquor stores.

Those are places we have agreed as a state and a country are inappropriate places to carry a firearm.

A university campus is also one of those places. Universities are places of learning and of study.

They're also places where, unfortunately, tragedies happen. The shooter in the tower at the University of Texas, the Virginia Tech massacre, the 2003 Denney murder that shut down Baylor basketball and other shooters have rocked campuses across the country.

That does not mean that more guns are the solution.

Imagine a Baylor with concealed handguns widely carried on campus. The faculty has them, the staff has them and students have them.

Now imagine a student is seen carrying a rifle on campus, between the Dutton Avenue Parking Garage to the Castellaw Communications Building. A well-meaning defender of the public draws down on him and fires. They perceive a threat and act without hesitation.

The police arrive and identify the student — a film student, a senior. They also identify the gun — a prop gun used in a project. If that seems far-fetched, you should know that this fall, a film student caused a stir while bringing a prop rifle from a WWII period piece back to his car.

The cry will invariably go up that concealed handgun license holders (CHLs) are responsible gun owners, that they have training, that they are trusted by society to fill that role.

Yes, absolutely. They have all of that, but let us look for a moment to the unfortunate case of Todd Canady last July.

He had a CHL and he was a "responsible gun owner" in Dallas. One day while reaching for his wallet, he heard an ear-splitting bang and felt a sharp pain in his leg. His handgun had gone off, injuring himself and three others, including a young child.

There is a fallacy in American logic when speaking about gun control. We assume that tragedies only happen when someone with severe mental troubles or a criminal record gets a gun. We assume

that everyone who owns a gun is a "responsible gun owner" who can do no wrong with a firearm.

In fact, according to the Texas Department of Public Safety, 120 CHL holders were convicted of crimes in 2011. Compared to the more than 62,000 total arrests that's not much, but people are slipping through the gaps.

Also, there are responsible people who own guns, but that does not mean that they are immune from accidents or pure human stupidity. They are fallible and the potential for mistakes exists.

But most people aren't responsible. If you thought hard enough, you could name several people who are not responsible enough to carry a gun. They probably qualify to have a CHL or even have one.

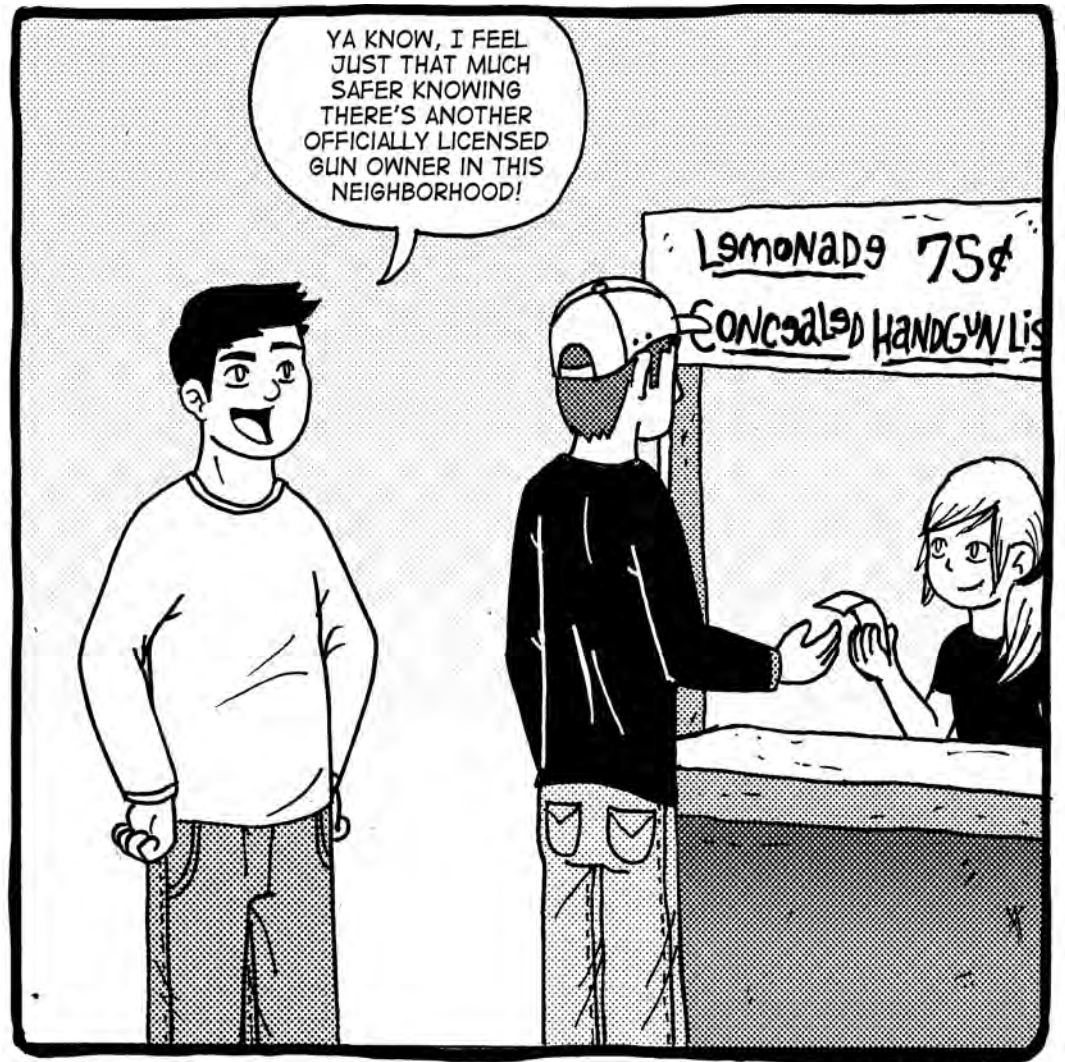
But accidents are highly unlikely. So unlikely that it's ridiculous to even think about, right?

In the past 10 years there have been 10 shootings on college campuses. Only two of those were considered mass shootings by the FBI. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there were 613 accidental firearm fatalities in 2007 alone.

In short, an accidental discharge is a whole lot more likely than a mass shooting.

For CHL holders to be effective in a situation like a campus shooting, you must make snap decisions. You have to make the decision to take a life in a few milliseconds.

Police and members of the military are trained to act this quickly — to reduce dangerous situations to simple terms and address them. They also wear uniforms and serve the public interest. They should be commended for taking that awful



ASHER FREEMAN

burden for us, and we should not aspire to that in our everyday life.

The average citizen does not have the level of mental and technical training of sanctioned law enforcement officials. Furthermore, the idea that those without this training, but the ability and willingness to use deadly force move

among us unmarked is terrifying.

The average person, lacking the mental training of police and army operatives, may waste precious time weighing the options in a deadly situation. That makes them useless in the situations that require quick action against a shooter. But that's

not something to be ashamed of, in fact, it's what makes humanity beautiful.

The inability to take a life without thinking is something to cultivate — that gentleness, that mercy, that courage is the very thing that our society needs.

# Concealed carry can prevent tragedy, train police

After reading the Feb. 19 article "Professors unite against concealed carry," about how opposed the faculty at Baylor is to concealed carry, I felt a rebuttal was called for, and some misconceptions need to be corrected.

After all, isn't proper academic rigor focused on objectively evaluating facts, not making decisions based on mere emotion?

First, a simple correction: The bill introduced by Sen. Birdwell was Sen. Bill 182, not 128. That's an understandable typo, but it did make it more difficult to get the facts of what is being proposed.

Starting with the bill as it reads now, there is complete freedom for Baylor (as a private institution of higher learning) to prohibit carry.

Silly though it may be to trumpet the exercise of one right while restricting another, Baylor is private property and liberty demands that the university has the right to



Cole Combs | Guest contributor

refuse.

Now, to dispel some misconceptions about how much life would change were Baylor to allow concealed carry. As Dr. Blake Burleson, senior lecturer in the religion department and Dr. Robin Wallace, musicology professor,

were quoted in the article, I feel some of their comments in particular should be responded to.

The implication in the first reason given by Dr. Burleson is honestly insulting. To imply that free exchange of ideas would be impaired by allowing students and faculty to carry is to imply that someone is right now only one heated exchange of words away from a rampage, and the only thing preventing them from unleashing horror is that they don't have a firearm right that second.

Really? If there is someone in a classroom who is that unstable, then take action now. They need help.

Secondly, the entire point of concealed carry is that the firearm is concealed. Many a day have I walked through Walmart, a movie theater or innumerable other public places while carrying a firearm. How many people were aware of

this?

Granted, some wardrobe adjustments must be made, but Dr. Burleson could be standing next to someone with a CHL at any gas station and never know it.

As to Wallace's comment regarding a safe environment; no, you don't create a safe environment by denying concealed carry. You instead create the illusion of one. I have been a teacher, so I understand he means an environment where students will actually engage with the material being taught, and not feel as though they are being judged negatively for the ideas they bring to the discussion.

Unfortunately, that is a sort of mental safety which is irrelevant to the discussion. The practice of carrying a concealed firearm creates a real, physical safe environment. And again, the very nature of a concealed firearm means there will

be no impact on the environment in his classroom, except for the off chance that a student will be able to prevent a tragedy when the illusion of safety is physically intruded upon.

Finally, to address Baylor Police Chief Doak's sentiments. His concern is a valid one, but not particularly powerful. I spent almost 10 years in the U.S. Army as an infantryman where I deployed twice to Iraq and engaged in heavy combat. The chief expresses concern that his officers would have trouble differentiating between an active shooter and a student who is trying to defend themselves and their classmates.

That would be a tricky one. I have fought in cities in Iraq, where insurgents look just like everyone else, where there are women and children crowding the streets, but the enemy may open fire at any moment.

The truly sad part of the chief's argument is that the fact that his officers might have to train harder and learn to exercise proper target identification is a meek excuse.

One would think that active shooter exercises would be common training for university police, and that a chief who had doubts about his officers' competence to properly respond would encourage students to take an active part in their own defense.

I somehow doubt the Waco Fire Department would discourage people from utilizing fire extinguishers, and instead encourage people to just let things burn until the fire trucks get there.

*Cole Combs is a graduate student in the Baylor School of Law and a U.S. Army veteran. He is a guest contributor for the Lariat.*

<p><b>Want to see more about what our readers think about concealed carry on Baylor's campus?</b></p> <p><b>Look for additional letters to the editor that will be posted on our website under the Opinions tab.</b></p>	<p><b>Letters to the editor</b></p> <p>Letters to the editor should include the writer's name, hometown, major, graduation year and phone number. Non-student writers should include their address. Please try to limit your response to 300 words. Once submitted, each letter is given a headline that is intended to capture the main point of the letter and is in no way intended as a statement of fact.</p> <p>Letters that focus on an issue affecting students or faculty may be considered for a guest column at the editor's discretion. All submissions become the property of The Baylor Lariat.</p> <p>The Lariat reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, length, libel and style. Letters should be e-mailed to <a href="mailto:Lariat_Letters@baylor.edu">Lariat_Letters@baylor.edu</a>.</p>	<p><b>Want to share your views?</b></p> <p>The Lariat is hosting an opinion survey for students, faculty, staff and community members to write in their opinions about concealed carry. You may find the survey on the front page of our website.</p> <p>The survey will close tomorrow at 8:00 p.m. Once closed, survey results will be posted on our website under the Opinions tab and will appear on this page.</p>	<p><b>Corrections</b></p> <p>In the story "Student board works to go green," which ran Friday, Creation Week was incorrectly reported to run April 22 - 25. Creation Week will actually run from April 22 - 26.</p> <p>Furthermore, in the Feb. 19 article "Professors unite against concealed carry," the bill was incorrectly called Sen. Bill 128. It is Sen. Bill 182.</p> <p>The Lariat regrets the errors.</p> <p>The Baylor Lariat is committed to ensuring fair and accurate reporting and will correct errors of substance on Page 2.</p> <p>Corrections can be submitted to the editor by sending an e-mail to <a href="mailto:Lariat_letters@baylor.edu">Lariat_letters@baylor.edu</a> or by calling 254-710-1712.</p>
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The Baylor Lariat welcomes reader viewpoints through letters to the editor and guest columns. Opinions expressed in the Lariat are not necessarily those of the Baylor administration, the Baylor Board of Regents or the Student Publications Board.

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# Concealed carry do's, don'ts

## Baylor no stranger to gun debate

BY KATE MCGUIRE,  
TAYLOR REXRODE  
AND LINDA WILKINS  
LARIAT STAFF

A concealed carry bill has caused controversy and spurred reactions from Baylor and others in the community.

Senate Bill 182, proposed on Jan. 17, would allow students who have a concealed handgun license to carry concealed weapons on campus.

"My number one responsibility is to protect your right, even if you disagree or don't express the opportunity to use it," said State Sen. Brian Birdwell, R-Waco.

Birdwell quoted the Texas State Constitution to support his position on the bill.

"Article 1 Section 23 of the state constitution is the mirror of the US Constitution second amendment which says, 'the right to keep and bear arms,' which is the right to self preservation as your God-given constitutional right," Birdwell said. "My intention of this bill is to assure that right and ensure that folks have that opportunity."

Birdwell said he intends to continue to push his bill into a Senate vote in an interview with the Lariat. The bill has yet to come to a vote in the Senate but Birdwell will continue to push for the bill's implementation in Texas. Birdwell gave an example of the effects of the bill's implementation:

"When you go to Kroger or HEB and you walk around with people with their CHL licenses, does it disrupt your grocery shopping experience?" Birdwell said. "No, it doesn't. My duty as an elected official is to trust you with your constitutional right. That's exactly what I intend to do."

Baylor Police Chief Jim Doak declined comment on the current status of the bill, the safety of the students or how it affects his job. However, as the Lariat previously reported on Feb. 19, Doak said the job of the trained officers could be made more difficult if the bill were passed.

"Officers are not going to target a person just because they have a gun but in a situation with live gunfire, there is very little room left for thought," Doak said in the article.

Waco Police Sgt. W. Patrick Swanton did not comment on whether the proposed bill is a concern for police but said if a student is caught in a situation where multiple firearms are present, then that person must drop their weapon.

Swanton said the point of the Waco police is to follow the laws implemented by the state.

"Our concern is those who are carrying guns illegally," Swanton said, "We usually don't have problems with people who are licensed

**Locations you may carry:**

- On the person's own premises
- Inside a person's motor vehicle or watercraft
- Any other place that is not specifically stated against in the Texas Concealed Handgun Law pamphlet.

**Locations you may NOT carry:**

- On the physical premises of a school or educational institution, any grounds or building on which an activity sponsored by a school or educational institution is being conducted, or a passenger transportation vehicle of a school or educational institution, whether the school or educational institution is public or private, unless pursuant to written regulations or written authorization of the institution.
- On the premises of a polling place on the day of an election or while early voting is in progress.
- On the premises of any government court or offices utilized by the court, unless pursuant to written regulations or written authorization of the court.
- On the premises of a racetrack.
- In or into a secured area of an airport.
- Within 1,000 feet of premises of a death sentence area.
- In a correctional facility.
- In a hospital unless they have written authorization of the hospital.
- In an amusement park.
- In a church, synagogue, or other established place of religious worship.
- Any business/residence that has proper signage that concealed carry is not allowed.

**Requirements to get license:**

- An original (first-time) CHL applicant must complete a minimum 10-hour class, taught by a DPS certified CHL instructor. The class includes classroom and a proficiency demonstration (shooting).
- Legal resident of state for 6 months prior to date of application.
- Is at least 21 years of age, unless a member or veteran of the United States armed forces or National Guard.
- Has not been convicted of a felony.
- Is not charged with any Class A or Class B misdemeanor or equivalent offense.
- Is not a fugitive from justice.
- Is not a chemically dependent person.
- Is capable of exercising sound judgment with respect to the proper use and storage of a handgun.
- Is fully qualified under applicable federal and state law to purchase a handgun.
- Is not currently restricted under a court protective order or subject to a restraining order.
- Cannot be a member of a criminal street gang and/or engaged in any other criminal activity.

**Examination for license:**

- A total of 50 rounds are fired during the course of the qualification test. A score of 70%, or 175 points of a possible 250, is required to pass. The target used is a B-27, which is a human-shaped silhouette target measuring 45 by 24 inches.
- A written examination with multiple choice and true/false questions.

All information provided by [www.txdps.state.tx.us](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us)

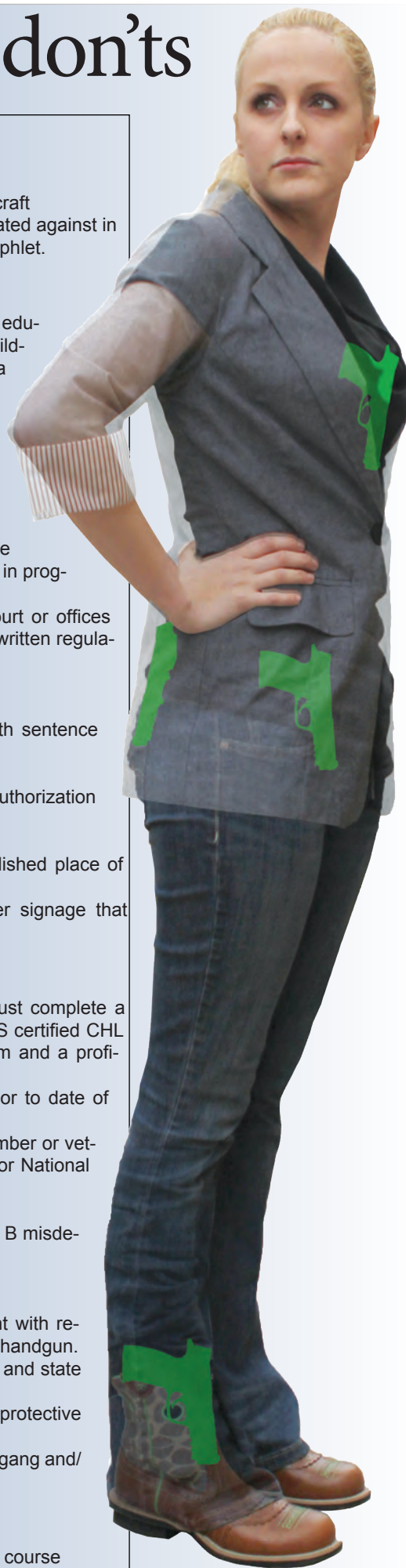


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MATT HELLMAN

This illustration demonstrates all the places on a person's body where he or she can carry a concealed weapon according to Texas law.

handgun carriers."

Lori Fogleman, Baylor's director of media communications, said new challenges would arise if the bill passes.

"Permitting guns would introduce new challenges for campus safety," Fogleman said. "Right now the university continues to monitor the bill and its progress."

This is not the first time Baylor officials have responded to a concealed carry bill in Texas. As the Lariat previously reported, House Bill 86 filed by State Rep. David

Simpson in 2011 "would prohibit a public university or private or independent institution of higher education from adopting any rule, regulation or other provision prohibiting license holders from carrying handguns on the campus of the institution."

Simpson's bill also allowed for private institutions to opt out of the handgun regulation if they chose. There were two other bills that were in existence at the time that included similar legislation. The House Bill 750 by State Rep.

Joe Driver and Senate Bill 354 by State Sen. Jeff Wentworth both required private institutions like Baylor to consult with faculty, students and staff before making rules against concealed carry.

During this instance, Judge Ken Starr traveled to Austin to express his opposition to Simpson's bill. At the time he told the Lariat that Baylor would opt out of any concealed carry legislation that is passed. None of these bills passed to become legislation.

# Italy hits political gridlock after national elections

BY COLLEEN BARRY  
AND FRANCES D'EMILIO  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ROME — Italy faced political paralysis Monday as near-complete results in crucial national elections showed no clear winner and raised the possibility of a hung parliament.

The uncertainty bodes ill for the nation's efforts to pass the tough reforms it needs to snuff out its economic crisis and prevent a new round of global financial turmoil.

The chaotic election scenes in the eurozone's third-biggest economy quickly snaked around globe — sending the Dow Jones index plunging more than 200 points in its sharpest drop since November and causing Tokyo's red-hot benchmark index to sink nearly 2 percent at open.

A major factor in the murky result was the astonishing vote haul of comic-turned-political leader Beppe Grillo, whose 5 Star Movement has capitalized on a wave of voter disgust with the ruling political class.

That has coupled with the surprise return as a political force of billionaire media mogul Silvio Berlusconi, who was driven from the premiership at the end of 2011, to roil the Italian ballot.

Berlusconi's alliance was neck-and-neck with center-left leader Pier Luigi Bersani's coalition for both Parliament's lower house and the Senate.

The ballot was so close that final official results were not expected until daytime Tuesday, at earliest.

The decisions Italy's government makes over the next several months promise to have a deep impact on whether Europe can decisively stem its financial crisis. As the eurozone's third-largest economy, its problems can rattle market confidence in the whole bloc and analysts have worried it could fall back into old spending habits.

The unfolding uncertainty raised the possibility of new elections in the coming months, the worst possible outcome for markets that are looking to Italy to stay the course with painful but necessary reform.

While Italy's postwar history has largely been one of revolving-door governments, it has never seen a hung parliament. Experts said that's likely to change now.

"This has never happened before," said James Walston, a political science professor at American University of Rome.

He predicted such a swirl of political chaos that new elections may need to be called as soon as the new legislature chooses the nation's next president this spring.

The Italian election has been one of the most fluid in the last two decades thanks to the emergence of Grillo's 5 Star Movement, which has thrived with anger at politics as usual.

The movement came against a backdrop of harsh austerity measures imposed by technocrat Premier Mario Monti — who has fared miserably in the elections.

While Grillo trailed the alliances of the two biggest mainstream forces, his movement looked set to become the biggest single party in Parliament's lower house — a stunning result for a protest campaign that is just over three years old.

Many eligible voters didn't cast ballots, and a low turnout is generally seen as penalizing established parties. The turnout, at under 75 percent — in a nation where it has historically been above 80 percent — was the lowest in national elections since the republic was formed after World War II.

Disgust with traditional party politics likely turned off voters, although snow and rain — this was Italy's first winter time national vote — also could be a factor.

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As the eurozone's third-largest economy, its problems can rattle market confidence in the whole bloc and analysts have worried it could fall back into old spending habits.

Bersani, a former communist, has reform credentials as the architect of a series of liberalization measures and has shown a willingness to join with Monti, if necessary. But he could be hamstrung by the more left-wing of his party.

His party would have to win both houses to form a stable government, and given the uncertainty of possible alliances, a clear picture of prospects for a new Italian government could take days. It is all but impossible that Bersani would team up in a "grand coalition" with his arch-enemy Berlusconi.

Grillo's camp also played down the prospect of cooperation with the ex-premier, who has been embroiled in sex and corruption scandals.

"Dialogue with Berlusconi? It is very difficult to imagine that Berlusconi would propose useful ideas (for the movement)," said 5 Star Movement candidate Alessandro Di Battista at Rome headquarters. "It never happened until now, but miracles happen."

Italy's borrowing costs have reflected the optimism that the country will stick to its reform plans.

The interest rate on Italy's 10-year bonds, an indicator of investor confidence in a country's ability to manage its debt, fell to 4.19 percent in afternoon trading Monday.

Last summer, at the height of concern over Italy's economy, that interest rate was hovering at about 6.36 percent.

Milan's stock exchange closed slightly higher, with the benchmark FTSE MIB up 0.73 percent to 16,351 points.

# Tense trial begins over BP oil spill

BY MICHAEL KUNZELMAN  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ORLEANS — BP put profits ahead of safety and bears most of the blame for the disastrous 2010 spill in the Gulf of Mexico, a U.S. Justice Department attorney charged Monday at the opening of a trial that could result in the oil company and its partners being forced to pay tens of billions of dollars more in damages.

The London-based oil giant acknowledged it made "errors in judgment" before the deadly blow-out, but it also cast blame on the owner of the drilling rig and the contractor involved in cementing the well. It denied it was grossly negligent, as the government contended.

The high-stakes civil case went to trial after attempts to reach an 11th-hour settlement failed.

Eleven workers were killed when the Deepwater Horizon rig leased by the BP exploded on April 20, 2010. An estimated 172 million gallons of crude gushed

into the Gulf over the three months that followed in the worst offshore oil spill in U.S. history.

Justice Department attorney Mike Underhill said the catastrophe resulted from BP's "culture of corporate recklessness."

"The evidence will show that BP put profits before people, profits before safety and profits before the environment," Underhill said in opening statements. He added: "Despite BP's attempts to shift the blame to other parties, by far the primary fault for this disaster belongs to BP."

BP attorney Mike Brock acknowledged that the oil company made mistakes. But he accused rig owner Transocean Ltd. of failing to properly maintain the rig's blowout preventer, which had a dead battery, and he claimed cement contractor Halliburton used a "bad slurry" that failed to prevent oil and gas from traveling up the well.

BP has already pleaded guilty to manslaughter and other criminal charges and has racked up more than \$24 billion in spill-related



GERALD HERBERT | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Protestors from the National Audubon Institute, the Gulf Restoration Network and other organizations stand outside Federal Court on Monday for the first day of the Gulf oil spill settlement trial in New Orleans.

expenses, including cleanup costs, compensation for businesses and individuals, and \$4 billion in criminal penalties.

But the federal government, Gulf Coast states and individuals and businesses hope to convince a federal judge that the company and its partners in the ill-fated drilling project are liable for much more in civil damages under the Clean Water Act and other environmental regulations.

One of the biggest questions facing U.S. District Judge Carl Barbier, who is hearing the case without a jury, is whether BP acted with gross negligence.

Under the Clean Water Act, a polluter can be forced to pay a minimum of \$1,100 per barrel of

spilled oil; the fines nearly quadruple to about \$4,300 a barrel for companies found grossly negligent, meaning BP could be on the hook for nearly \$18 billion.

The judge plans to hold the trial in at least two phases. The first phase, which could last three months, is designed to determine what caused the blowout and assign percentages of blame to the companies involved. The second phase will determine how much crude spilled into the Gulf.

During opening arguments, BP and its partners pointed the finger at each other in a tangle of accusations and counter-accusations. But BP got the worst of it, from its partners and the plaintiffs in the case.

# Students to take on professors in BIC Bowl trivia competition

BY JOSH DAY  
REPORTER

For one night, it's students versus students versus faculty in an outright, full-scale pursuit — of trivia.

The Baylor Interdisciplinary Core will host the Third Annual BIC Bowl at 6 p.m. Thursday in 100 Morrison Hall.

The BIC Bowl is a trivia tournament with questions ranging from topics on pop culture to world culture.

There is no cost to enter and pizza will be provided.

Teams of four to six players can still sign up until today by sending an email to Brennan\_Saddler@baylor.edu, but the tournament rules require that at least one person on the team is a member of BIC, as some questions will be related to BIC texts.

Each student team will compete against each other in a tournament-style bracket until one team

remains, at which point the final team will compete against a team of professors.

The BIC Bowl began in 2011 as an idea from the BIC Leadership Council.

"It arose as a way to both foster education and a little bit of healthy competition among the students and also the faculty," said Melanie Nogalski, coordinator of BIC.

Last year's BIC Bowl featured an online video with Dr. Lynn Tatum, BIC senior lecturer, playfully asserting the professoriate team's dominance over the undergraduates.

"You are going to be intellectual mincemeat," Tatum said reading a prepared statement from his colleagues.

Played-for-comedy boos were dubbed over his taunts to the student competitors.

The professors are still the reigning champions of the BIC Bowl, having won the previous two.





The Baylor Jazz Ensemble will have a concert at 7:30 p.m. tonight in Jones Concert Hall.

## Jazz ensemble chooses unconventional pieces

By **CONNOR YEARSLEY**  
CONTRIBUTOR

Tonight Baylor Jazz Ensemble concert will include everything from Count Basie to Radiohead.

The concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. in Jones Concert Hall in the Glennis McCrary Music Building and is free and open to the public.

"This is a concert where there will be literally something for almost everybody," said Alex Parker, senior lecturer and director of jazz studies.

In its first concert of the semester, the ensemble will perform Maria Schneider's "The Pretty Road," which Parker said will be somewhat unconventional.

"It's a little different than most stuff you hear," Parker said.

Parker, who often has a hard time choosing a favorite piece from the programs he selects, said "The Pretty Road" is his favorite from this group of musical pieces.

"I love that tune," he said.

The piece will partially feature guest vocalist and Woodway senior, Megan Gackle and guest accordionist Travis Worsham, Joaquin master's candidate in piano performance.

"When soloing here, I just try to convey the melody and musical meaning in the most effective and moving way possible," Worsham said.

Although Worsham is an experienced musician, he said this is his first experience with the accordion, which he described as a tricky instrument. "It's been a lot of fun," he said.

The accordion part was written into the piece and is the only piece on the program that will utilize the instrument.

Worsham thinks "The Pretty Road" will be the audience's favorite piece. "It has everything—great melody—combines old classic sounds with new experimental sounds, soars and climaxes in all the right places," he said. "It's a perfect tune."

Boerne senior Jordan Neumann, drummer in the ensemble, also said "The Pretty Road" is his favorite piece from the concert because it's just "really pretty."

The middle section of the piece was composed at Baylor when Schneider was visiting in December 2005.

Also on the program is Michael Philip Mossman's "Cubauza," a salsa that both Parker and Neumann said they suspect will be a crowd pleaser. "I think the audience's favorite song will be 'Cubauza' because it will make them want to dance," Neumann said.

Parker said the program still presents its challenges to the 17-member ensemble.

He said he thinks the two most difficult pieces are Sammy Nestico's "Magic Flea," because it's fast and technically challenging, and "The Pretty Road," because it requires a lot of finesse.

Bill Holman's baseball-inspired "No Joy In Mudville" will place emphasis on the ensemble's saxophone section.

Also, Nelson Riddle's arrangement of "When You're Smiling" will shine the spotlight on guest vocalist Lonnie Reed.

Fred Strum's arrangement of English rock band Radiohead's "Bodysnatchers" and John Clayton's arrangement of "Day By Day" will also be performed.

Parker said he is excited for the concert and the opportunity to perform for people.

"I'm excited for all of them," Parker said. "It's just fun to play. That's why we do what we do."

Neumann said he is also looking forward to the concert.

"I feel like Michael J. Fox in 'Homeward Bound' when he finally returns home," Neumann said.

Parker said the program helps the ensemble learn many different styles of music and work on improvisation and playing as a team. He said he's confident in the ensemble's preparedness.

"They're ready to go," he said. "It's going to be fun. Just don't tell them that, because there's always something to be improved on, but they're doing well," he said.

Parker encourages people to come support student musicians and see them learn their craft.

"This will be a great one to come to," he said. "We want to entertain."

# Sing results shock with first-place tie

By **KATE MCGUIRE**  
STAFF WRITER

All-University Sing audiences were surprised when judges announced a tie for first place.

During Saturday's Sing finale, both Kappa Sigma and Kappa Omega Tau won first place.

Woodway senior Stephen Harrison, Sing chair for Kappa Sigma, said he was practically shaking while pumping a trophy in the air.

"It feels incredible," Harrison said. "We put a lot of hard work into this. But I'm a little shocked at the results because it's usually first, second and third but this year there was a tie."

Overall, the eight groups moving on to Pigskin are Alpha Tau Omega, Chi Omega/Phi Gamma Delta, Kappa Omega Tau, Kappa Sigma, Phi Kappa Chi, Pi Beta Phi, Sing Alliance and Zeta Tau Alpha.

After the groups finished performing, participants waited for the results to be announced.

Behind the curtains, the results were about to come in for those who will go on to perform in Pigskin. Groups were huddled together, some holding hands and praying. Some were giving hugs to other Sing chairs to congratulate them on their hard work and their groups' performance.

Tiptoeing around, hands clasped to mouth, lungs breathing hard, were all signs of anxiety coming from the Sing chairs backstage. Anticipation was a general feeling among the group's chairs.

"I was really excited to hear the results," said Kingwood junior



The representatives of Kappa Omega Tau and Kappa Sigma fraternities stand with their trophy after they tied for first place at the end of All-University Sing on Saturday evening in Waco Hall.

Ryan McMillan, Sing chair for Sing Alliance. "Waiting backstage was really exciting. All groups were huddled together."

But once all eight groups who moved on were called, the 10 other groups who did not move on started to tear up or put on a brave face while exiting quietly.

Afterwards, the results for the groups who placed third, second, and first place were announced.

Phi Kappa Chi placed third. Then a tie was called for first place. Kappa Omega Tau and Kappa Sigma were announced as the first-place winners.

Cheers of celebration accompanied with hugs, tears of happiness, pictures and screams followed the announcement.

Other groups reflected on how they performed this year and the process they went through.

"I think we did great," Cedar Park junior Emily Peterson, Sing chair for Chi Omega/Phi Gamma Delta said, "We were super proud and had a blast doing it and we're very excited to be performing in Pigskin."

Other groups said the same for their performance.

"When we went through our practices everyone seemed to enjoy the theme and we wanted to keep it fun, I think we did outstanding this year," said Plano senior Stephan Mulenpoh, Sing Chair for Delta Tau Delta.

Baton Rouge, La., senior Claire Clinkingbeard, Sing chair for Sing Alliance, said she believed every-

one performed at their very best.

"Everyone did a great job, this was probably the best Sing I've seen in my four years here," Clinkingbeard said. "It's definitely different but both men's groups deserved it. They were the projected winners."

Sing 2013 was filled with 18 upbeat groups that worked extremely hard for the past year to put together performances for a panel of judges.

It has been a year-long process for all the Sing chairs who were selected after Sing last year. They immediately began to develop the new themes and work on choreographing the performance.

"Doing sing chair was a great experience that I can take into the business world from everything I learned," Mulenpoh said.

# 'Hairspray' production well done but lacks historically correct fashion choices

By **ASHLEY DAVIS**  
COPY EDITOR

I had the pleasure of seeing the last performance of McLennan Community College Theater's production of "Hairspray" on Sunday afternoon in the Ball Performing Arts Center on the MCC campus.

The play was directed by MCC theater director and choreographer Jerry MacLaughlin.

It is no secret that this play is probably one of the most well known since Adam Shankman remade the film, which came out in 2007. "Hairspray," set in 1962 Baltimore, Md., is about a plump girl (Tracy Turnblad) who makes it on to a local dance show and becomes an instant celebrity. She soon makes it her mission to integrate the show and win the show's pageant contest. The musical is a social commentary on race relations during the height of the Civil Rights Movement.

I am pleased to give the MCC

Theater four stars for this production for its organization, excellent vocals, choreography and stage direction.

My only complaint is with some aspects of the costuming. "Hairspray" is set in the early '60s, a time period with a distinct style and fashion sense that has influenced countless recent trends. However in the play, 60s fashion was not strictly adhered to and seemed, at times, to not even be consulted.

Upon research of previous productions of the play and a look back at early '60s fashion, the time period of the play calls for plain slacks and slick hair for the men and simple geometric dresses and curled hair for the women, or full skirted dresses on formal occasions. Think Jackie Kennedy and "Grease" for a reference. What I saw in the play was half accurate.

While the actors playing the white characters on the Corny Collins Show were dressed appropriately, many of the people play-

## PLAY REVIEW



ing the black actors in the play's "Negro Day," a segment in The Corny Collins Show, were dressed in mismatching plaids and oversized tunics.

Not only is this grossly inaccurate to the time period of the play, it exacerbated an already obvious difference in social class between the black and the white characters. Not to mention mixing plaids is a horrible fashion faux pas that transcends race, time and any conceivably liberal interpretation of the costuming of the play.

The disparity between the races (which is what half the play is already about) was overemphasized in the clothing and was ultimately detrimental to the overall effect.

This major inconsistency in

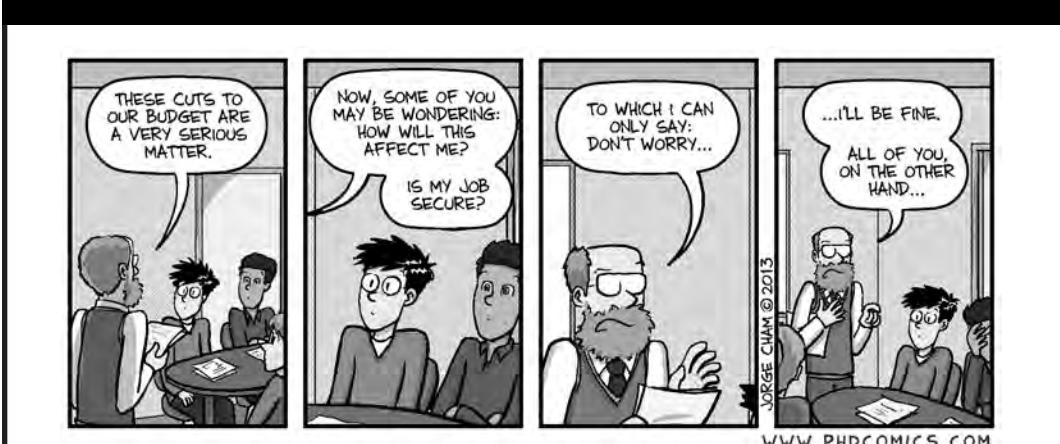
costuming is the main reason the production gets four stars rather than five.

The play is already about tense race relations between whites and blacks, which was reflected in the media as well as in real life. This aspect of the play did not need to be reflected in the clothing as well. It doesn't take much research to know what black people wore in the '60s and if there was any doubt, past productions of the play should have been consulted.

There were also some understandably censored lines in the play that veered from the comedic effect the script is supposed to have. However, as the original script of the play is quite raunchy in its innuendos and puns, for the sake of a family audience, the script was rightfully altered.

However, overall the play was very entertaining, witty and showcased many talented performers that MCC, Baylor and the Waco community are lucky to have.

## Piled Higher & Deeper Ph D.



**SUDOKU**  
THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Difficulty: Easy

7			5			8		
2			1			3		
9	5		2					
			1			6	5	
8	9					7		2
	3	1			2			
				6		8	4	
		7		2				9
		4		3				7

## DAILY PUZZLES

Answers at [www.baylorlariat.com](http://www.baylorlariat.com)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16		
17					18					19		
	20				21				22			
23				24					25			26
27			28					29	30			
31								32				33
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40	41	42			43		44		45	46	47	48
49				50	51				52	53		
54							55				56	
							57			58	59	
61							62			63		64
65							66			67		
68							69			70		

Across

- Leftover bit
- Kitchen meas.
- Highland tongue
- Thrill to pieces
- Commuter's option
- Cuts short
- "Understood!"
- Egg on
- Debt-heavy corp. takeovers
- Pittsburgh fan base, collectively
- A pop
- Confirmation or bar mitzvah
- Tons of, casually
- Philatelist's pride
- Pet welfare org.
- Tie up loose ends?
- Shed a few tears
- "Bus Stop" playwright
- Radar's favorite drink
- Butter on the farm?
- Windy City trains
- Solemn promises
- Annual political speech
- Appeared on TV
- Penlight batteries
- AFL affiliate
- Commercial interruptions literally found in this puzzle's three other longest answers
- Just as you see it
- City near Sacramento
- Young neigh sayers
- Adjust, as strings
- Close
- Slippery as \_\_\_
- Israel's only female prime minister
- Nile threats
- Toy bear named for a president

Down

- Line piece: Abbr.
- Places to hide skeletons?
- Dilapidated dwelling
- End in \_\_\_: come out even
- He refused to grow up
- Faithfully following
- Oil units
- Talk with one's hands
- Earnest request
- Nixon attorney general Richardson
- Like some of Michael Jackson's moves
- Advertiser
- Twisty curve
- DMV certificate
- Dr. Mom's specialty
- "This is your brain on drugs," e.g.
- Unspecified quantity
- 12th century opener
- Deighton who wrote the "Hook, Line and Sinker" trilogy
- 40-Across mate
- Prefix with thermal
- Santa's helper
- Pet on your lap, maybe
- Author Fleming
- Cape Town's country: Abbr.
- Being debated
- Bond's is shaken, not stirred
- Comedy genre
- Got a giggle out of
- Raised, as a flag
- Nestlé's \_\_\_Caps
- Movie trailer, e.g.
- Boston summer hrs.
- Nuns' clothing
- Kernel holder
- Rick's love in "Casablanca"
- Fireworks responses
- Top-shelf
- Way to check your balance, briefly
- Sneaky





ALONZO ADAMS | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Senior forward Brooklyn Pope fights an Oklahoma player for a loose ball Monday night in Norman. The Lady Bears went on to win the game 86-64.

## Griner, Baylor go on road, earn win over Oklahoma

BY PARMIDA SCHAHHOSSEINI  
SPORTS WRITER

The No. 1 Baylor Lady Bears defeated Oklahoma 86-64 Monday, extending the nation's largest winning streak to 25 games. Baylor finished the game with six players in double digits as it found its rhythm in the second half and began widening the gap.

Senior center Brittney Griner's impact on the team was cemented in this game as Baylor struggled when Griner was on the bench due to foul trouble. She recorded another double-double with 15 points, 15 rebounds, seven blocks and five assists. Griner also moved up to the fourth highest scorer in NCAA history with 3,045 career points.

"It's crazy. I haven't really been keeping up with it," Griner said. "Every game somebody will tell me, 'Hey, you just moved up.' Everybody is trying to calculate how can I be the number one and I'm like, 'y'all stop. I'm just playing.'"

Baylor started the game with a turnover but had its way in the early minutes as it scored the first six points.

Beginning with their transition offense, senior forward Brooklyn Pope's jumper scored the first points of the game.

Griner followed by being physical early on as she made her way inside the paint to score and draw the foul. After back-to-back turnovers, junior guard Odyssey Sims led a 6-0 run.

However, Griner and Pope got into foul trouble early, forcing head

coach Kim Mulkey to bench them.

Despite a 22-6 deficit for the Sooners, they began taking advantage of Griner's absence. The Sooners went on a 9-0 run and kept Baylor without a field goal for nearly six minutes. Without Griner on the defensive end, Oklahoma was more aggressive and took more chances, forcing their way into the paint. Senior forward Destiny Williams ended the scoring drought with a field goal.

The Sooners went on a 14-3 run as they attacked the paint. Baylor couldn't get anything going offensively and had bad shots. Oklahoma came back to put the score within four, but freshman guard Alexis Prince caused some damage off the bench with her 10 first-half points.

With Griner on the bench, Oklahoma got a boost of confidence and it allowed its offense to attack and play physical inside the paint. Oklahoma began driving the ball inside, taking shots it wouldn't normally take with Griner crowding the paint. Her absence caused a void on both sides of the floor because it put more pressure on the other players. Without Griner in the game, it evened up the playing field, allowing Oklahoma to run its offense.

Griner's value on the team was on full display in the second half as Baylor began the half with eight quick points. Baylor went on to outscore Oklahoma 16-4 as it made its run using athleticism to tire out the opponent. However, Oklahoma responded with a 9-0 run beginning with a layup.

Sims made her presence known, recording four steals and being physical. Sims' speed in the second half was a factor as she began pushing the ball inside, giving Baylor more looks offensively. Mulkey's message of staying focused was made clear.

"I can say honestly that I'm trying everything possible," Mulkey said. "I'm talking to them about it, I'm presenting things, situations that have happened throughout my career as a player and as a coach, because I feel like if you address it ahead of time and someone should beat you, then at least you presented it to the team."

Baylor began to create separation when it got its fast break offense going. Griner made a crisp pass to senior guard Jordan Madden.

When the offense got going, Oklahoma tried to respond, but with Griner in the game, the Sooners weren't able to generate enough to make a difference in the game. On the topic of staying focused, Mulkey had strong words.

"When you're a competitor you want to win every basketball game," Mulkey said. "I do understand that if you're in a race and there's two or three of you fighting to win the championship, that in itself brings out the best in you. When you're wrapped up in a championship, sometimes you become bored and complacent. It's only natural to not maybe be as intense, but you can be focused, you can play as well and if you're a true competitor you dig deep within and you find a way to win a basketball game."

## Pistorius uncertain about future workout schedule

BY RAF CASERT  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

JOHANNESBURG — Oscar Pistorius on Monday informed South African authorities that he wants to resume athletic training while on bail for the murder case against him, a government official said.

A spokeswoman for the Olympic runner, however, denied that he was making immediate plans to return to the track while awaiting trial for the Feb. 14 shooting death of his girlfriend, Reeva Steenkamp.

"Absolutely not," spokeswoman Janine Hills said. "He is currently in mourning and his focus is not on his sports."

The double-amputee Paralympian discussed bail terms with his probation officer and a correctional official at the Pretoria Magistrate's Court in the capital, according to correctional officials. The guidelines will determine his daily routine until his next court appearance on June 4.

"It's his wish to continue to practice," James Smalberger, chief deputy commissioner of the department of correctional services, said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press.

Smalberger said the issue came up because authorities need to

know his movements whenever he leaves the home where he is staying.

The timing of any resumption of training was uncertain.

Pistorius' longtime coach, Ampie Louw, declined to comment on any training plans for the runner, referring questions to a spokeswoman for the athlete's family.

Louw had said when the runner was in detention that he wanted to put him back into training in the event that he was granted bail.

He had also said Pistorius could be "heartbroken" and unwilling to immediately run again.

Pistorius, who was released on bail Friday, is staying at the house of his uncle, Arnold, in the affluent suburb of Waterkloof in Pretoria. He faces life imprisonment if convicted.

Pistorius is charged with premeditated murder in the killing of Steenkamp in the early hours of Valentine's Day.

Prosecutors say the pair had an argument before Steenkamp was killed; Pistorius says he mistook her for an intruder and shot her accidentally.

Smalberger said officials will visit Pistorius at his uncle's home at least four times a month, and that the runner indicated his interest

in training again. More planning must occur before the start of any training.

"We want a training program from his coach so that we have backup for his movements," Smalberger said.

"He's not under house arrest, but his movements need to be known to us so that we don't pitch there and he's not there," he said. "We agree on 'free time' normally during the course of the day, and in the evening we expect him to be home."

Pistorius' 2013 season had been geared towards the Aug. 10-18 World Championships in Moscow, where the South African 4x400 relay team will be trying for another medal to add to the silver it won at the 2011 edition.

Chief Magistrate Desmond Nair had set Pistorius' bail at 1 million rand, which is the equivalent of \$113,000.

The 26-year-old track star was also ordered to hand over his passports, turn in any guns he owns and keep away from his upscale home in a gated community in Pretoria, the scene of the crime.

He cannot leave the district of Pretoria without his probation officer's permission and is not allowed to consume drugs or alcohol, the magistrate said.

## Season looking bleak for Bears after loss in Norman

BY DANIEL HILL  
SPORTS WRITER

Baylor's 90-76 loss to the Oklahoma Sooners on Saturday puts the team in a tough situation. The loss brings the Bears' record to 16-11 overall and 7-7 in the Big 12 Conference. This places the team at No. 6 in the Big 12.

Losing to the Sooners decreased the Bears' chances of being selected for the NCAA Tournament.

With just a .500 record in conference, Baylor has a daunting challenge ahead for the remainder of the season if they want to pull off a coveted NCAA Tournament bid.

At the moment, it's more likely that the Bears will end up in the NIT.

The Bears got off to a dismal start against Oklahoma and were trailing 47-21 after the first half.

After the game, Baylor head coach Scott Drew felt the need to apologize to Baylor fans everywhere for the team's performance in Norman.

"I want to start out by apologizing to Baylor Nation," Drew said. "[That was] the worst job of coaching I have done this year in the first half. I apologize for the team's effort and lack of focus and intensity in the first half. Baylor deserves better than that."

Three Baylor players ended up with double-digit scoring performances, but the scoring numbers are hollow considering the shooting percentages.

Baylor shot just 37.1 percent from the field as a team. The Bears allowed Oklahoma to shoot 50 percent from behind the 3-point line and 22 of 49 from the field.

Senior point guard Pierre Jackson scored 28 points on eight-of-23 shooting from the field. Jackson was three of 13 from behind the 3-point line.

"The loss was really tough," Jackson said. "We settled for a lot of jumpers when we have been practicing going to the rack. They were just executing and we did not do enough to stop them."

Seven-foot-1 freshman center Isaiah Austin had four rebounds in 24 minutes of play. Austin shot 41 percent from the field on seven of 17 field goal attempts for 15 points.



SUE OIGROCKI | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Freshman center Isaiah Austin goes up to block Oklahoma forward Romeo Osby Saturday in Norman. The Bears lost the game 90-76.

Junior guard Brady Heslip played 26 minutes and produced 11 points on four-of-10 shooting.

In the second half, the Bears scored an impressive 55 points, but it was too little, too late.

The Bears outscored Oklahoma in the second half, but the 26-point deficit from the first half was too much to overcome.

"I think we just need to play with intensity from the jump," Heslip said. "In the second half, we came fired up and we were just running around and making things happen by getting tips, getting loose balls. We just cannot come out acting stagnant, acting like we are here. We have got to come out hungry and intense on defense, bouncing around and having more energy."

The good news for the Bears is that the schedule presents them with key matchups for the remainder of the season.

The Bears have a road test at 7 p.m. Wednesday at West Virginia. Baylor faces No. 13 Kansas State in a marquee matchup in Waco on

Saturday.

The Wildcats present the Bears with an opportunity to defeat a top-ranked team and gain some momentum heading into the Big 12 tournament.

The Bears' next to last game of the season is on the road against Texas on March 4. The game will be televised nationally on ESPN Big Monday.

In the regular season finale, the highest-ranked team in the Big 12 comes to Waco. On March 9, the No. 6 Kansas Jayhawks visit the Ferrell Center.

If Baylor can take care of business on the road and upset both Kansas State and Kansas, then the Bears will have vastly bolstered their résumé for the NCAA tournament. The schedule is tough for Baylor, which could be either a blessing and a curse.

The schedule gives the Bears a chance to slip up on the road, but it also presents them with a golden opportunity to gain national attention by scoring major upset wins at home.

Want to know what the bible says about these things?

February 27th 7:00PM

DATING MARRIAGE AND SEX

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BAYLOR UNIVERSITY



**STUDENTS** from Page 1

room that permitted concealed carry.

"This bill would be allowing concealed carry. Meaning professors aren't going to see the weapons," Shallowater graduate student Travis Jones said in response to the professors. "Not allowing concealed carry on campus does not necessarily stop students from illegally carrying concealed weapons on campus as it is."

The majority of students interviewed for this story were opposed to the legalization of concealed carry on campus, many of which stated that due to their lack of familiarity with guns, they would not feel safe.

"People having guns on campus would make me feel less safe," Danville, N.Y. senior Ashley Koerner said. "I really don't feel like there is a need for guns on Baylor campus."

Waco junior Trenton Garza, president of the Texas College Democrats, said that because the

population of students on campus who would be eligible to get a CHL is so small due to the age restriction of 21 and older, the bill would not affect many students in the first place and thus should not set a major legal standard.

"As of now, current policy states that universities can set up their own policies regarding concealed carry," Garza said. "Thus far, no school has chosen to do so. The Constitution doesn't specifically give us the right to concealed carry. That is why states are able to regulate it."

Pizana said that he thinks if the bill were to pass, the number of students who get their CHL will go up.

"It's one of those things, if you tell them they can't they are going to try," Pizana said. "By having such a heated debate about campus carry, if the law passes, students are going to want to get certified just because."

According to people who are in favor of the legislation, their main concern is their individual safety. They say that carrying their guns, or knowing that there are licensed gun carriers around them, makes them feel safer.

"Concealed carry is meant to arm people who know what they are doing behind the barrel of a gun," Houston junior Lauren Linthicum said. "These people have proven to be knowledgeable and responsible gun owners. They have a greater understanding of what it means to have a weapon and what their responsibilities are."

Many students who have their CHL said they are comfortable around guns and know the physical and emotional demands of carrying a concealed weapon.

"I believe I would be capable of protecting myself and others because I know how to use my weapon properly," Linthicum said. "I know that being a carrier means

it is my responsibility to protect myself and those around me in the event of danger."

McLennan County Sheriff Parnell McNamara has stated, "Cowards love gun-free zones." He explained that they tend to choose the most vulnerable places because they can do the most damage.

"I think it's a good idea with all things that are going on, that the more people who have these concealed carry weapons (on campus), it lets others who want to cause trouble stay off campus," Nashville, Tenn., junior Morgan Evans, president for the Baylor Marksmen Association, said.

Five states, Colorado, Mississippi, Oregon, Utah and Wisconsin, currently have provisions allowing concealed carry on public campuses. While the states differ in their exact rules of on-campus carry, Wisconsin has a provision that allows campuses to prohibit weapons inside campus buildings

if signs are posted at every entrance explicitly stating the prohibition at every entrance.

"I would support something like Wisconsin has to let student have guns on campus grounds and in their cars but students should not be allowed to take them in their campus buildings," Moseley said. "I support the idea of a safe environment in the high-pressure situation of a classroom."

This is not the first time that Baylor students and administration has been up in arms over the concealed carry issue. In 2011, Texas State Rep. David Simpson introduced a similar bill to the Texas House of Representatives that would have required both public and private institutions to allow concealed carry.

The bill did not pass, but it did ignite President Ken Starr to make a trek to Austin to rally against the bill on behalf of the Baylor administration.

The current bill would most likely not affect Baylor, as Starr stated in 2011 that the university would not allow on campus carry, but some students feel that Baylor should rethink this decision.

"Baylor University needs to take this bill very seriously and consider all options. We are just as big as public schools, so we should take it seriously like any other school," Evans said.

Jones said that Baylor should revisit the issue of concealed carry on campus if the bill is passed.

"It deserves to be treated with a more open mind than it has been so far," he said. "Unfortunately gun control issues are only ever discussed in the wake of major disasters such as Virginia Tech. They are never talked about when a student uses a weapon for self defense."

**PROFESSORS** from Page 1

Grinols said he believes if they were to think about the probabilities then they could realize they are actually hurting people by writing the letter.

As the Lariat previously reported, one argument against the bill was the quality of education would decrease because potential professors would not want to teach at a school where guns are allowed.

Grinols said he disagrees with this statement.

"I think they are wrong," Grinols said. "These same professors go to shopping malls and other public places all the time. People are now allowed to carry there, so they are going places where permits are already allowed."

He also said if concealed weapon carriers pull their guns on a shooter on campus and the campus police arrive, then the police will pull out their weapons and tell everyone else to drop theirs. He said they could easily determine who is a concealed carrier and who the actual shooter is because the concealed carriers would put their weapons down.

Grinols said he has studied national crime data which shows crime rates do not increase with the allowance of concealed carry.

"I can tell you that right to carry reduces crimes or has no impact on the crime records I have," he said. "The logic is that criminals tend to go places where they know they can engage in their criminal activity. I know crime impact is zero or helpful."

In addition to Grinols, another Baylor professor, who asked not to be named, said he agrees with Birdwell's bill.

"I am personally in favor of concealed carry everywhere," he said. He also said he understands there needs to be a need for concealed carry in certain locations.

He said he attended concealed handgun license classes and has had his permit for six months. He said participants in those classes are made aware of legal restrictions such as where they are not allowed to carry. He said the burdens of having a concealed license are also explained in the class.

"Being in Texas, you actually go out to the range and practice," he said. "It's a very practical course."

The professor said obtaining a concealed handgun license does not involve only a class and includes a background check as well. He said this background check is more extensive than a background check to purchase a weapon. To get a concealed carry permit, people are fingerprinted whereas to purchase a gun they are not.

The professor said he didn't agree with the letter written by Burleson and Wallace.

"I will say that I understand this is a difficult issue and I understand there are several different parties involved," he said. "I don't know that it's a wise policy to announce that college campuses are gun-free zones. That allows the danger to increase on college campuses."

At the time of publication, there were other professors interviewed who support the bill but who declined comment.

Although these two professors support the bill, there are several others that disagree with it.

Dr. Robert Kruschwitz, professor of philosophy and the director of the Center for Christian Ethics, said he is opposed to the bill.

"There's a lot of things that people have a moral right to do, but for good reason we limit how they can do that and why they can do that," Kruschwitz said.

He said the use of weapons on colleges and universities should be regulated.

"I want to emphasize that it seems to me that the way to think about the issue is to look at the push for freedom or to look at safety," he said.

Kruschwitz, who signed the letter by Burleson and Wallace, said he believes requiring people to taking training classes in order to get a license is good, but he does not think that the class makes the people experts.

"I don't think that it means they are as well versed as using those weapons as say policemen," he said "Campuses are safe because they have their own police forces and they've had training in how to use them in dangerous situations."

Dr. Susan Bratton, a professor in the department of environmental science, also said she disagrees with the bill and the professional security on campus has a good presence.

"In the case of an emergency, we can depend on them," she said.

Bratton also said the controversy over the topic is not focused on higher education.

"It's a case of individual rights," she said. "We would really do better for the university if we ask what is appropriate in this setting and what's best for everyone in the long run."

Dr. Heidi Bostic, professor of French and the chair of the department of modern foreign languages, said she also disagrees with the bill.

"Allowing concealed carry will not make campuses more peaceful or safe," she said.

Bostic said college campuses

have an environment that must be safe. She also said concealed carry would not support free speech because people would worry whether someone has a concealed weapon.

Dr. George Cobb, professor of environmental science, said he does not believe people should have that potential escalating capability in a university environment. He said more people would be able to initiate violence if the bill is passed.

Dr. Stan Denman, professor and chairman of the department of theater arts, said the pressure of working with other people on a college campus can lead to volatile situations.

Denman also said he believes the background checks for the concealed carry permits cannot predict the future.

"You can train someone to use a gun, you can give them all kinds of background checks," Denman said. "It's not a crystal ball. It doesn't tell you whether there is mental illness in their future."

Dr. Keith Sanford, an associate professor in the psychology department, also said the training does not prevent people from having a psychological condition.

"How much can I be guaranteed that person is not going to have a mental response," Sanford said.

Dr. Curt Nichols, assistant professor of political science, wrote in an email to the Lariat he believes people should read the bill to understand its context. In addition, he said if the bill passes, then Baylor most likely still won't allow concealed carry on campus.

"If Senate Bill 182 passes in its current form, Baylor won't have to allow conceal carry on campus," Nichols said. "They can still elect to criminalize carrying weapons into buildings on campus - via criminal trespass. Therefore, my prediction is if the current bill passes, nothing will change at Baylor."

Nichols also said Baylor could develop a compromise where students and faculty with military or law enforcement experience could be allowed to carry on college campuses.

"If the bill passes, Baylor should take a close look at the liability waiver language within it," Nichols said. "It may be possible to gain broad institutional liability protection by allowing very limited individual conceal carry privileges — say to trained faculty and staff volunteers along with trained students who have military or law enforcement experience. This is the kind of compromise I could support — if the bill passes."



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

State representatives Charles "Doc" Anderson, R-Waco, Kyle Kacal, R-College Station, and State Sen. Brian Birdwell participate in The Hot Seat: A Conversation Series about the 83rd Legislative Session in the Stone Room of the Ferrell Center hosted by the Texas Tribune and Baylor University on Friday in the Stone room of the Ferrell Center.

**TALK** from Page 1

As for the need for technical skill teaching, Anderson says he feels "disconcerted" with the traditional subject requirements at school.

"It's unfair and discriminates against students," Anderson said. "The worst part is we chase youngsters out. Some people aren't wired for algebra two, and yet

we tell them they must pass this test otherwise you're not going to graduate. I'm hopeful there is some consensus to look into that and I encourage technical education."

The discussion also touched on the opposition of Medicaid expansion and the officials supported starting more transportation and water projects using the Rainy Day

Fund. Bushland junior Trenton Garza was disappointed that the education discussion did not touch on Birdwell's bill for higher education and concealed carry. "I would have really liked to see Senator Birdwell's perspective on his bill," Garza said.

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