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Bases loaded
Baylor baseball heads to Lawrence, Kan., for a three-game series

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Ring by Spring continues
Unofficial tradition carries on through unexpected spouses met during Baylor years

A&E Page B10

Have a hot cup of joe
Baristas in Waco lay down the ins and outs of 'coffee culture,' a growing trend among coffee lovers

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First offense DWI stresses bankrolls

By MADISON FERRIL
REPORTER

You've had a few too many drinks and decided to drive home. You feel fine and your apartment's only a few miles away.

As you make your way down the road, you see the red and blue lights in your rear view mirror. You pull over, and after failing a Breathalyzer test, you're charged with Driving While Under the Influence (DWI).

So what does this mean for you or your parent's bank account?

Baylor Police Department chief Jim Doak said by the end of the process, a DWI charge will end up costing more than \$10,000.

"It's a high cost for one night of foolishness," Doak said. "It takes a long time to undo."

Doak said he has given many students DWIs and it's not an uncommon occurrence. Eight students have received DWIs this semester from Baylor Police Department.

In Texas, DWI is classified as a Class B misdemeanor on first offense if Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) is 0.08 percent or lower, and a Class A misdemeanor if BAC is 0.15 percent or above. These standards became effective in 2011.

Texas also has an Admin-

istrative License Revocation (ALR) program. If someone fails a breath test, his or her license is automatically suspended for 90 days. Someone can refuse to take a breath test, but if they do, their license is suspended for 180 days. A \$125 reinstatement fee is required before someone can get their license back.

Waco Police Department Sgt. W. Patrick Swanton said there is no set sentence for someone who receives a DWI.

"There's a variety of factors that go into deciding a charge," Swanton said.

Swanton said someone could receive jail time, a fine or jail time and a fine.

Someone who receives a DWI must appear in court, and therefore have to hire a criminal defense lawyer.

Attorney Russell Hunt Sr. said attorneys can charge anywhere from hundreds of dollars to thousands of dollars.

"My typical fee for a first-time adult DWI is \$5,000," Hunt said.

Hunt said once he receives a DWI case, he goes to the district attorney and tries to get the charges refused or dismissed. A refusal means the prosecutor decides not to try a case before the case is filed. A dismissal means the prosecutor can dismiss a case with the signature of a judge.

"If there's no way to get the charges refused or dismissed, we try to get a plea bargain," Hunt said.

A plea bargain means someone pleads guilty or no contest to a charge in exchange for a lighter sentence. No contest means the person did not dispute or admit to the charges against them.

"An average plea bargain is about 18 months probation and a \$2,000 fine, of which our client will pay \$1,000," Hunt said. "They'll also have to pay court fees, which are around \$300."

In addition to the fines and court costs, the state of Texas requires an annual fee of \$1,000 for three years after the case is over.

If the case goes to trial, Hunt said he charges an extra \$5,000.

If a student lives outside of Waco or McLennan County, they and their parents may have to consider cost of travel to and from Waco.

Peter Miller, the deputy director of McLennan County Community Supervision and Corrections Department, said the court can charge fees such as restitution for an accident or damages in addition to the fine and monthly probation fee. He said auto insurance rates also increase due to a DWI charge.

Miller said the average length

SEE DWI, page 9



TRAVIS TAYLOR | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Grillin' some grub

Brentwood, Tenn., senior Brandon Seibert roasts a marshmallow Thursday at Vitek's BBQ Restaurant. Vitek's gave out free Gut-Paks in celebration of winning the College Eats National Championship.

Rhode Island 10th state to pass gay marriage bill



CHARLES KRUPA | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rhode Island Gov. Lincoln Chafee holds up a gay marriage bill after signing it into law outside the State House Thursday in Providence, R.I.

By DAVID KLEPPER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Rhode Island on Thursday became the nation's 10th state to allow gay and lesbian couples to wed, as a 16-year effort to extend marriage rights in this heavily Roman Catholic state ended with the triumphant cheers of hundreds of gays, lesbians, their families and friends.

Gov. Lincoln Chafee signed the bill into law on the Statehouse steps Thursday evening following a final 56-15 vote in the House. The first weddings will take place Aug. 1, when the law takes effect.

"I've been waiting 32 years for this day, and I never thought it would come in my lifetime," said Raymond Beausejour, a 66-year-old gay North

Providence man who has been with his partner for 32 years. "For the first time in my life, I feel welcome in my own state."

After Chafee signed the bill, the hundreds of people who gathered on the Statehouse grounds erupted into cheers as a chorus sang "Chapel of Love."

"Now, at long last, you are free to marry the person that you love," Chafee told the crowd.

The day was bittersweet for Deborah Tevyaw, whose wife, state corrections officer Pat Baker, succumbed to lung cancer two years ago. Months before she died, Baker, relying on an oxygen tank, angrily told lawmakers it was unfair that Tevyaw wasn't considered her wife in Rhode Island despite their marriage in Massachusetts.

"I'm ecstatic, but sad she's not here

to see this," Tevyaw said. "I'm sure she's watching, but she's not here next to me. Before she died, she told me, 'I started this, and now I'm leaving it in your hands.' We worked hard for this. There were petitions, door knocking, phone calls. I think people decided, 'just let people be happy.'"

Once consigned to the political fringe, gay marriage advocates succeeded this year thanks to a sprawling lobbying effort that included support from organized labor leaders, religious clergy, leaders including Chafee and Providence Mayor Angel Taveras and hundreds of volunteers. Their efforts overcame the opposition of the Catholic church and lawmakers including Senate President Teresa Paiva Weed, who voted no but allowed the issue to come to a vote anyway.

Supporters framed the issue as

one of civil rights, arguing in daylong legislative hearings that gay and lesbian couples deserve the same rights and protections given to opposite-sex married couples. The Catholic church was the most significant opponent, with Bishop Thomas Tobin urging lawmakers to defeat what he called an "immoral and unnecessary" change to traditional marriage law.

On Thursday, Tobin repeated his opposition, writing in a letter to the state's Catholics that "homosexual acts are ... always sinful."

"Catholics should examine their consciences very carefully before deciding whether or not to endorse same-sex relationships or attend same-sex ceremonies," Tobin wrote. "... To do so might harm their rela-

SEE MARRIAGE, page 9

Benefits of FAFSA hampered by delays in filing tax forms

By SANMAI GBANDI
AND ASHLEY PEREYRA
REPORTERS

Completing the Free Application of Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is an integral part of helping to pay for college for most students. However, not many of them actually do it themselves.

Houston senior Amanda Padilla said her parents have completed her FAFSA application every year that she has gone to Baylor.

"I started to do it sometimes, but for the most part I just know it's going to be a hassle," Padilla said. "So I let my parents do it."

New Orleans junior Taylor Jones works on the FAFSA application with her parents, and she said she understands the need students have for financial aid to be able to pay for college.

"College education is expensive," Jones said. "I feel like it's one of the fastest increasing sectors of our economy, so if you qualify

for government aid, why wouldn't you take it?"

In order to begin a FAFSA form, students and/or their parents need two sets of completed tax return information—their parents' and their own from the current year. If that is not available, then use the information from the taxes that have submitted or will be submitted. The correct information can be updated on the FAFSA website using a pin number once the parent's current tax information becomes available.

A pin number can be an important tool as it is the fastest way to sign the application. Students and parents apply for their own pin numbers on the Federal Student Aid Website. The pin not only works as an identifier, but it allows access to the online student aid report and corrections can be made if needed.

Once pin numbers have been acquired, completing the application online becomes a simple

process.

For Baylor students, the application for the 2013-2014 school year was available to submit after January 1.

The priority deadline to submit the FAFSA to Baylor was March 1. Students who file for aid before the FAFSA deadline are given priority in considerations for financial aid. After the March 1 deadline, funds will be distributed based on availability.

Although completing the FAFSA application can be simple, things like late tax returns can lead to a more complicated and sometimes frustrating process.

According to the Department of Education, this year there was a major delay on processing tax returns. Jeff Baker, director of policy liaison and implementation with the U.S. Department of Education, issued a statement on March 13 and said the delays had the potential to impact students

SEE FAFSA, page 9



TRAVIS TAYLOR | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Miami, Fla., sophomore Julian LeFort works in the Starbucks located in Moody Library as part of the work-study program to help pay for his tuition.

Work-study helps cost of college

By MADISON FERRIL
REPORTER

For students who are a part of the work-study program, the added element of work can provide help with bills and give students extra spending money for a few hours outside of class per week.

Federal work-study requires the college to pay students federal

minimum wage, which is currently \$7.25 an hour. Students cannot earn more than their work-study award in a semester. Baylor also offers jobs to students who do not receive federal work-study, but they must wait three weeks after the school year begins to apply for student worker positions.

Houston senior Sabrina Bosiaci, the student manager at Pen-

land Dining Hall, said she does a little bit of everything at her job, from supervising student workers to creating schedules and filling out paperwork. She makes \$8.05 an hour. She said students who work for Baylor Dining Services receive a 10 cent raise for each year they work and a 25 cent raise

SEE WORK-STUDY, page 9



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Religion, public health come together for BU researcher

By LINDA NGUYEN
A&E EDITOR

Baylor is home to renowned researchers and scholars. Scattered around the university, they produce research and papers, many of which define their fields.

One such scholar is Dr. Jeff Levin, professor of epidemiology and population health. His research looks at how religion affects public health and he is considered by some as the "Father of Epidemiology and Religion."

Levin came to Baylor in 2009 with an appointment at the Institute for the Studies of Religion.

"What's unique about my position here, I'm trained in biomedical sciences and in health," Levin said. "I function as a social scientist but my background is in the humanities. What's unique about here, I do medical research but I work in an institute with sociologists."

He said being at Baylor has been a great fit for him and his research.

"I appreciate there are few places, maybe Baylor is it, where I can conduct with the research I do with the colleagues I do, focused on religion," Levin said.

Research

Levin said his current research has three main foci: analyzing data from global health surveys to identify religious determinants of physical and mental health, studying healing and the work of healers and outlining the public policy implications of faith-based resources for the public health sector.

He said part of his research involves working with larger data sets.

"I've been working on these huge data sets," Levin said. "I haven't done real data collection. Especially the last couple years. I've done a number of analyses of data."

His research with healers is something he said has always been one of his interests.

"I've known a lot of these folks, interviewed a lot of these folks," Levin said. "Maybe they are healers, maybe they aren't but it's been really fascinating. I've written some historical pieces on healing."

His third main area of focus looks at the more political, policy-oriented side of research. He looks at the public policy implications for faith in public health.

"I've written some public policy-oriented pieces trying to promote the idea that religious organizations, religious institu-

tions have something to offer to strength the public health infrastructure of health," Levin said.

In his time at Baylor, Levin has published several scientific articles as well as two books.

Dr. Larry Dossey, internal medicine doctor and New York Times bestselling author, said he has worked with Levin throughout his career.

"We go back about 20 years," Dossey said. "I have written several books of the role of spirituality and health. One of my books was about healing which wound up in the New York Times bestseller list. That book brought me and Jeff together. It was almost an automatic friendship as far as professional and personal interests are concerned."

Dossey said he has tremendous respect for Levin.

"He is one of those rare individuals who has almost single-handedly created a field of interest in academia," Dossey said.

Medical Humanities

Levin is also a professor of medical humanities. Dr. Lauren Barron, clinical professor and associated director of medical humanities, has worked with Levin through the department.

"He writes prolifically on the intersection of faith and health," Barron said. "The fact that we have this renowned scholar right in the middle of Baylor who is doing extremely influential work in the field of religion and health; it's extraordinary to have a scholar of his caliber at Baylor."

She described him as charming and intelligent. She said he is a pioneer in the field of epidemiology and religion.

"I guess something that sums him up is his willingness to come speak to my class and share," Barron said. "He's generous with his experiences and expertise. And in a way that's engaging and exciting. He's very unique and I think his presence at Baylor is an amazing gift."

Barron said unlike many other professors at Baylor, she does not hold a Ph.D.

but rather an MD and she said sometimes, scholars of his caliber aren't the best communicators.

"He strikes me as someone who loves people and looks for ways to help share his experience and expertise," Barron said.

Barron said the first time she had lunch with him, she was intimidated by his accomplishments and academic stature, but that was immediately gone when she met him.

"He was extraordinarily warm, engaging, chatty, relaxed, passionate," she said. "He was warm and kind and interested in the program and very generous in his willingness to share his work and expertise."

Personal Life

Along with his accomplishments in academia, he has also found a way to balance family life and work.

"That's not a challenge," Levin said. "My wife is also on staff here, Dr. Lea Steele. We're a two-epidemiologist-family. I think for both of us, our work is very important to us. The fact that we're both epidemiologists, I don't have to compartmentalize work and home. It's not a challenge. I love being a professor."

Steele, a research professor of biomedical studies, said Levin has eclectic interests inside and outside of academia.

"He is funny and he's just so smart," Steele said. "He's very unique in the way he thinks about things. He's definitely outside the box in how he approaches intellectual, personal challenges. He's got a lot of interests. He's a film buff. He just knows a lot about a lot of things. He knows a lot about country music. I think of him as mostly an intellectual but he has great instincts in a lot of areas."

She said she hopes Levin's unique career path will inspire students.

"I think it will help students," Steele said. "Because students don't really know there are fields you go into that can reconcile and allow you to pursue how science and faith are connected."

She said being at Baylor has been a great opportunity for Levin to pursue the kind of work he's interested in.

"This is unique in the world," Steele said. "It's the only place where you get scholars in different disciplines look at their disciplines as it compares to faith. All kinds of great scholars. The Institute for the Studies of Religion is such a great place for his love."



COURTESY PHOTO

Dr. Jeff Levin and his wife, Dr. Lea Steele, are both epidemiologists at Baylor. Levin is considered the "Father of the Epidemiology of Religion."

Academic Background

Levin graduated from Duke University and went to University of North Carolina Chapel Hill to study epidemiology in graduate school. He said the origins of his research over religion and public health stemmed from a term paper in a class on social and cultural factors in health.

"The professor said, 'This is interesting, you ought to write it up as an article for a journal,'" Levin said.

Levin said he then went back to the library to search the literature again to ensure he hadn't forgotten anything.

"I started searching the literature," he said. "I found more and more studies. Over the next four to five years, I would go to the library. In 1987, I had discovered over 200 of these studies, wrote it all up and ended up sending it to a medical journal. This was the first literature review that suggested religion was related to health. That kind of got me started."

He said he didn't set out to find this field, but he is glad to have been able to contribute.

"There's also a helpful and inspiring message," Levin said. "The ideas you have and the research you do can potentially create a field that other people will gravi-

tate to. Decades down the road, there could be a new field of study. In a way, this is how science and biomedicine advance. It's kind of been rewarding. That's how it starts, as a graduate student who wrote up a term paper."

Levin said for now, he's focusing on his third focus of research. He said he would like to be involved in the public policy making process in Washington.

"I want my work to count for something other than a long list of publications," Levin said. "I want to reach people with decision making authority."

Levin said if he had a piece of advice to give to students he would say to "follow your heart."

"This is a decision that will affect you for the rest of your life," Levin said. "It should be something that energizes you so even if you weren't a doctor, you'd want to read about. The same thing when it comes to research. Pick a topic that hasn't been researched to death. It's easy to pick a subject where there's a huge infrastructure down. Follow your heart. It's your life."

This story was shortened for print. For the full version of the story, visit www.baylorlariat.com.

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Hearing wedding bells: The Ring by Spring tradition

By SARAH FORSMAN
REPORTER

It was a nice day in April. The sun shone down on an emerald green pasture spotted with golden-rod and oak trees. Guests followed a grassy trail that had been carved by golf carts giving the elderly and stiletto-clad women rides to their seats. The guests soon took their designated places to watch a Baylor woman get her Ring by Spring.

Leawood, Kan., senior Leigh Sunderland said she met her future husband in a lab at Baylor.

"I met Blake in summer school during Chemistry lab," Sunderland said. "Blake was trying to finish his lab he could get into. I had been trying to get into."



Courtesy Art

that lab for two previous semesters. He was across the lab bench and he had seen me at church, so he struck up a conversation."

Despite the diamond ring on her finger, Sunderland said their romance took a while to get started.

"He asked me out at the end of that summer session, but I turned him down," Sunderland said. "So we didn't date until a year later."

This chance encounter, then rejection, then acceptance, and finally engagement, all add up to the one thing that all Baylor women are presumed to desire: a Ring by Spring.

"I had heard if you go to school at Baylor, you'll get your Ring by Spring," Sunderland said. "People would always say to me, 'I met my husband at Baylor.' You're always supposed to be watching. I always thought that was so dumb. My junior year, I really didn't think I was going to meet my husband at Baylor, but then it happened to me."

So what exactly is Ring by Spring?

"Sounds like something a Mrs. Degree would come up with," said John Ginn, a 1986 Baylor graduate.

There is no textbook definition of Ring by Spring, or as some call it, a Mrs. Degree, but what is available is only a word of

mouth passed on from one love-sick college girl to another.

Ring by Spring is a saying for young college women who want to get engaged before they graduate from college, and in the opinions of some, solely go to college for this purpose.

"People always used to say to me, 'I met my husband at Baylor.' You're always supposed to be watching. I always thought that was so dumb. My junior year, I really didn't think I'd meet my husband at Baylor, but then it happened to me."

Leigh Sunderland | Leawood, Kan. senior

Many of these women believe that college is where they will find their future spouses — and marry them — before they graduate in the spring.

"It wasn't a big deal," said Cathy Gray, Baylor class of 1988.

Gray, now a resident of Sulphur Springs, transferred into Baylor after attending two years of school at Texas Tech University.

After transferring, she met her future husband at one of Baylor's oldest traditions: Sing.

"It was my senior year, my last semester at Baylor," Gray said. "My roommate was trying to talk me into trying out for Sing and I didn't want to because I was an elementary education major. I was student teaching that semester plus I was taking a night class because I needed one more class to graduate. She just wouldn't let up. She was like, 'You really need to do this, it'll be

so much fun.' So basically she drug me there to try out."

Gray's partner for the Sing practices and performances would later become her husband.

"So Darren supposedly said, 'I want her to be my partner' when I walked in," Gray smiled. "I ended up being his partner. It was Sing and you practiced a lot so we were together a lot. We had our first date probably a week later."

Gray insisted that she had never heard of Ring by Spring in her days at Baylor.

"We talked about getting married a lot but he never would officially ask me," Gray laughed. "We knew we were going to get married, but he just wouldn't give me a ring and it was driving me nuts."

After graduating, Cathy and Darren Gray got engaged and were married in July of 1989.

It is possible that, like the Grays, Ring by Spring emerged from the large number of couples who seem to get married right out of college. But according to data from the Pew Research Center, many college educated people are delaying marriage until they are close to age 30.

According to college students, the most widely held belief on the origin of Ring by Spring can be found in the roots of Christianity, and some may argue, the origin of man. In the book of Genesis, God creates a woman named Eve to be the help mate for the first man, Adam.

Genesis 2:24 states that, "a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and the two are united into one."

A large number of Christian women take from verses like this that getting married is a necessary part of their religion—as well as becoming an adult.

Due to the emphasis on marriage in at least some branches of



Ring by Spring a positive or negative tradition?

The opinions on Ring by Spring vary. On March 29, Susan A. Patton, a 1977 Princeton graduate, wrote a letter to The Daily Princetonian urging

Christianity, it makes sense that Ring by Spring is a popular saying in many Christian-based schools such as Notre Dame, Liberty University, Oklahoma Baptist University, and of course, Baylor.

"I had kind of heard of the tradition of Ring by Spring," Cleburne freshman Allie Wheat said. "It's always a joke of Ring by Spring, and girls trying to get it. It was never necessarily my goal to try and get a Ring by Spring."

Wheat said she felt strongly that Christianity influences marriage.

"The way society has made it, it's almost like you need to go to college and get established in a career before you can get married," Wheat said. "They've also made it seem like some of the Christian morals that were so common back then aren't so common today."

Wheat has been dating Preston Hughes, also a freshman from Cleburne, Texas, for two and a half years. They are engaged to be married at 19 years old.

"We definitely have prayed about our relationship and we felt that this is the right thing for us to do," Wheat said. "The way we got together was totally a God thing."

With people like Wheat getting married so young, at least according to the national standard, is

Courtesy Art

women to marry before they leave college. Patton's letter caused an outcry among many feminists.

These feminists, and others who share the same view, believe that Ring by Spring interferes with women successfully completing their collegiate studies and becoming independent.

While those like Patton, who approve of Ring by Spring, believe that women will never have so many eligible and like-minded men from which to select a mate, and that it would be foolish to not take advantage of the opportunity.

Regardless of all of the opinions and statistics and what many may think of Ring by Spring, the words spoken by the bride-to-be, Sunderland, are an example of the thoughts of those who follow through with this unofficial Baylor tradition.

"I think we were just ready," Sunderland said. "And maybe some people aren't. If you really focus on maturing in Jesus and setting a foundation for the rest of your life, come senior year, you just might be ready to settle down."

LARIAT WALL OF FAME



#Baylor Lariat



Willie Brown
Georgetown, Texas
Environmental Studies (JR)



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Malia Gandt
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Travis Taylor | Lariat Photographer
Baylor students participate in a Harlem Shake Video on Founders Mall on Friday, Feb. 15, 2013.



Travis Taylor | Lariat Photographer
Amarillo sophomore Chase Fairly participates in a Kayak Roll Clinic at the McLane Student Life Center on Monday, Feb. 25, 2013.



Travis Taylor | Lariat Photographer
Austin junior David Fountain participates in the President's Cup at the Hart Patterson Track and Field Complex on Wednesday, March 6, 2013.



Monica Lake | Lariat Photographer
Baylor Theatre's "The 39 Steps" reworks a Hitchcockian plot into a parody comedy that will open Tuesday, March 19 at Hooper-Schaefer Fine Arts Center.



Travis Taylor | Lariat Photographer
Workers clear out the inside of a damaged home in West on Monday, April 29, 2013.

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Monica Lake | Lariat Photographer
Student organizations compete with Michael Jackson-themed step routines in Stomp-Fest 2013, hosted by Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.



Monica Lake | Lariat Photographer
No. 35 forward Taurean Prince shoots and scores in the game against Hardin-Simmons on January 19, 2013.



Matt Hellman | Lariat Photo Editor
Waco soph. Arden McCormack, Fulshear senior Mitchell Frank, McKinney soph. Dillon Stull and Sugar Land junior Abby Scheller represent the student body during the Homecoming 2012 Extravaganza on Nov. 2, 2012, at Fountain Mall.



Matt Hellman | Lariat Photo Editor
Afghanistan veterans of the 96th Trans returned to Fort Hood Sunday afternoon and were reunited with their families for the first time in a year.



Monica Lake | Lariat Photographer
Countless firefighters on motorcycles known as the Patriot Guard Riders led the procession towards the Ferrell Center.

War vets fire opinions on open carry bill, gun restrictions

By TORI HITTNER
GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

It's a straight shot north on I-35 until you reach exit 343 toward Elm Mott. Hang a right at the corner Dairy Queen and drive half a mile until you see the old white sign. You can't miss it.

Tucked away on a nondescript side road, the small building doesn't look like much at first. Your initial reaction of indifference won't last long.

The sloping parking lot gives way to a single door with a bold print sign reading "Bar Entrance." A handful of glinting motorcycles rest under the awning, an intimidating concentration of streamlined metal and muscle. Inside, smoky haze drifts around neon signs and simple tables and chairs. Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers blare in the background, filling the room with assertions that they "won't back down."

This startling oasis of motorcycles and classic rock is the American Legion Post 121 of Waco. It may seem like an unlikely venue, but it's home to elementary school programs, ice cream socials and oratorical scholarship contests. It's also home to some very special people.

The American Legion Unit 121 consists of a diverse group of veterans from the Waco area who provide vital support for each other in life after combat. These men and women aim to make their community a better place and consistently offer their time and services to those in need. Underneath the tough exterior of denim and leather lies a bond of friendship and compassion that not only brings solidarity into their own lives, but joy into the community, as well.

The tough biker personas may be convincing, but they're not meant to be. It is simply how these veterans cope with the calamities they have seen. In light of the recent tragedies that devastated the nation, it stands to reason that if we are looking for opinions on key issues such as gun control, we need look no further than our very own veterans. They are the ones who have seen firsthand what firearms—and the people wielding them—can do. They're the ones who fought so that we as Americans could even have this discussion and make new laws in order to enact change. They're the ones we should turn to when faced with important issues regarding the handling of weapons.

It is no secret that Texas has been a historically pro-Second Amendment state. Texas boasts some of the most lenient gun restrictions in the Union, yet is one of the few remaining states to restrict the open carry of firearms. Unsurprisingly, multiple open carry bills have been proposed in the past decade, but have had little success. The congressional session of 2013 seems likely to push another open carry bill through committee—perhaps all the way to the House floor.

Reps. George Lavender and Chris Paddie co-wrote and sponsor the 2013 bill, dubbed "HB 700." Essentially, the bill seeks to modify existing Texas law that prohibits the unconcealed carry of a firearm in public. The proposed changes include the words "and unconcealed" after any law pertaining to "concealed" firearms, defining a legal unconcealed firearm as a "loaded or unloaded handgun carried upon the person in a shoulder or belt holster." Holsters must have at

least two points of resistance and be either wholly or partially visible. Having recently been introduced to the House Committee on Homeland Security and Public Safety, the bill, if pushed through, must be put on the legislative calendar and then reach the floor for a full vote of the House.

Not all are in favor of the bill, however. In light of recent firearm-related national tragedies, many citizens question whether the expansion of gun rights is prudent. Like the state of Texas itself, the local veterans of Unit 121 were divided over the issue of open carry.

Billy Elkins, 64, the commander of Unit 121, would be the first to welcome you into the Post. His easy smile and affable personality could make anyone feel at home. His unwavering convictions would also make him a force to be reckoned with.

"The Second Amendment is there for a reason: to protect ourselves. I've got to protect my family too."

Harold Shilling | Vietnam veteran

Elkins did not hesitate to support the idea of open carry. "The more visible the better. If you're in a store and a thief walks in and sees a gun, they're going to think twice before they rob the store."

Having served 21 years in the Army and Reserves, Elkins finds the proposed bill to be a natural extension of the Second Amendment. "That's what we fought for," Elkins said. "That's what we went to Vietnam, Korea, World War I, World War II, Desert Storm, Afghanistan, and Iraq for: for our rights, to keep America free."

Fellow veteran Brent Dodd, 40, heartily agreed. "I fought for my rights. I fought for my kids' rights. And I don't like them infringing upon."

Dodd served in both the Navy and Reserves and raised his sons to hold a healthy "respect" for firearms, teaching the boys proper care and handling. According to Dodd, open carry is not only practical but necessary for protection.

"The law-abiding citizens that actually go and take the courses and are legal to carry are not the ones committing the crimes," Dodd said. "So it's actually going to be a protection for them. If you can open carry, just the sight of it—you'd never have to pull it. If they can see it, they're not going to mess with you. They're not going to mess with anyone around you."

Vietnam veteran Harold Shilling echoed the sentiments of his fellow Legionnaires, supporting the idea of open carry in Texas. Shilling claimed that "at 64, I've seen a lot." And seen a lot he has. After two years in the Army, Shilling returned to Waco where he worked for the Texas Department of Transportation. Only a handful of years later, he witnessed another "gruesome" tragedy that remains "embedded" in his memory: the aftermath of the raid upon the Branch Davidian compound. It was traumatic events such as this that shaped Shilling's opinion regarding open carry.

"You can't stop a man with a gun with a knife. But if he knows that you have a gun and he has a gun, he's not as apt," Shilling said.

"The Second Amendment is there for a reason: to protect ourselves. I've got to protect my family, too."

Not all the Legionnaires were so in favor of open carry. Both Chad Williams, 43, and Lee Mitchell, 57, urged caution when debating gun rights. Williams, who quipped he had been a "passer, not a catcher" of bullets as a Navy Seabee, believes that "any gun that has the capacity of over ten rounds needs to be off the market." Military experience taught him that guns are dangerous tools made even more deadly in the hands of the wrong people.

"There are a lot of people out here who will be willing to shoot you over spilled milk," Williams said. "We'll have more murders."

Mitchell, too, cited human error and unpredictability as reasons open carry may not be the safest option. After 20 years of service in the Army, "I know how people are with their tempers. I could see where it could be a deterrent, but I can also see that it could lead to bad things happening if people can't control their tempers."

The veterans at Post 121 may not all have agreed on the overall prudence of the open carry bill, but they seemed to unknowingly find something the public has yet to learn: compromise. Though spoken to separately, the Legionnaires found common ground in several key areas.

Nearly every contacted veteran asserted that our most concentrated efforts for reform should be focused on the people themselves, not their weapons.

"It's the person, not the gun," Elkins said. "Guns don't kill people. People kill people. The guns don't do it unless you have a person pulling the trigger. They could come and take every gun the honest person has and there are still going to be guns on the street. And they're going to be with the bad guys."

Williams and Mitchell, though opposed to open carry, voiced thoughts similar to their post commander.

"We need to increase background checks and try to catch people...before they get the gun," Mitchell pointed out. "It seems like all of the problems we've had with guns have been people that never should have had the guns in the first place. If we would have had the background checks in place that were effective, these may not have happened."

No matter what the ultimate decision in Texas, fellow Legionnaire Williams believes that the national gun debate will be "a never-ending battle."

Ana Martinez, 43, knows from personal experience that gun policy changes must be made.

A small arms specialist in the Army during Desert Storm, Martinez believes that "anyone who owns a weapon should have some kind of military background training more than just that for a CHL [concealed handgun license]." Martinez said she understands that there will be those who "fall through the cracks" of any policy, but strongly suggests we try to make a difference by spreading gun safety education among the public.

"It's a hard question, and I don't think there's a right answer," Martinez said. "I've seen good things and bad things. There's a lot of power in carrying a weapon, but there's also a lot of responsibility."

A patchwork of American gun laws

State laws on the sale and ownership of guns vary widely. A look at some specific laws and how states rank overall:

Large capacity magazines

Ban large capacity ammunition magazines



Waiting periods

Time of one to 14 days between purchase and transfer of gun* to owner



Open carrying of handguns

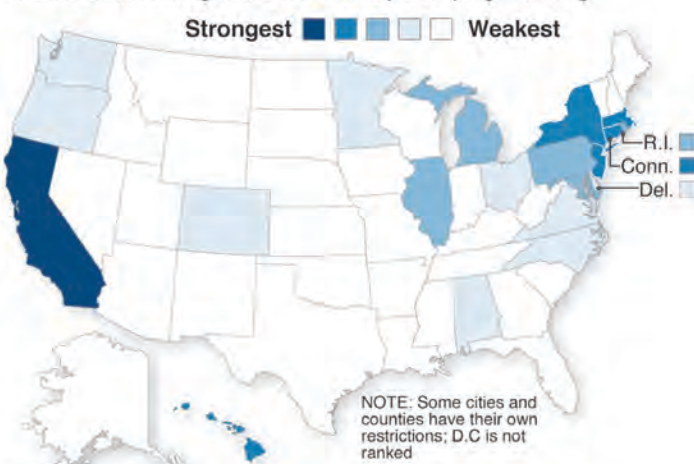
Allow open carrying of handguns on person in public without permit or license



Background checks Required by federal law if firearm is purchased from a licensed dealer; does not apply to private sales, which critics say account for about 40 percent of all gun buys

Ranking states on the overall strength of their gun laws

California has the strongest; Arizona, Alaska and Utah the weakest, according to the 2011 Brady Campaign ranking



Source: Center to Prevent Gun Violence, Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, Los Angeles Times
Graphic: Judy Treible © 2013 MCT

Shots fired in Houston area airport; suspect killed on site

By MICHAEL GRACZYK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON — A man who had fired a gun inside a ticketing area at Houston's largest airport was killed after being confronted by a law enforcement official during an incident that sent people in the terminal scrambling and screaming, police said Thursday.

It's unclear if the man fatally shot himself or was killed by a Homeland Security agent who had confronted him, said Houston police spokesman Kase Smith. The man's name was not released by police, but they said he was about 30-years-old.

Police say the man walked into the ticketing area in Terminal B at Bush Intercontinental Airport around 1:35 p.m. and fired at least one shot into the air. The agent, who was in his office, came out and confronted the man, telling him to drop his weapon, but the man refused, police said.

"The suspect then turned toward the special agent. The special agent, fearing for his safety and all the passengers in the terminal, discharged his weapon at the same time it appears the suspect may have shot himself," Smith said.

The man died at the scene. An autopsy will be conducted Friday.

Police would not say what kind of weapon the man had.

The terminal was closed immediately after the shooting. But later Thursday, parts of the terminal



Airport security members divert traffic at Terminal B at Bush Intercontinental Airport on Thursday after shots were fired.

were reopened to passengers. The rest of the airport remained open after the shooting.

Darian Ward, a spokeswoman for the Houston Airport System, said some passengers who were scheduled to leave from Terminal B were rerouted to other terminals.

Dale Howard, of Tomball, was at the baggage handling area of the airport waiting for his sister to arrive on an incoming flight when he heard two shots fired from the floor above. A few seconds later, he said he heard three more shots.

"People were screaming. I knew exactly what it was — gunfire," Howard said.

Police from an adjacent station rushed in, and Howard said he di-

rected them to the floor above.

Greg Newburn, who was in the terminal waiting for a flight to Oklahoma City, said he was sitting in a cafe area when he heard two gunshots and after a pause, several more.

"It seemed like quite a few shots. Everyone was scrambling, running left and running right, turning tables up and hiding behind tables. Nobody knew what was happening. I couldn't tell where the shots were coming from," he said.

Newburn, from Gainesville, Fla., said it took him a few seconds to realize that the shots had come from the ticketing area, near the security checkpoint.



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

Blown away

Students from various Waco elementary schools gather at the Dr Pepper Museum to commemorate the 60th anniversary of a tornado that devastated the city in 1953. The disaster killed 114 people and injured nearly 600 others. The tornado rated an F5 of the Fujita scale, damaging nearly 1,000 buildings and destroying 600 more.

Going back to Baylor?

VISTA lets volunteers go back to college ... kind of

By KARA BLOMQUIST
REPORTER

Serve America while still staying at Baylor: AmeriCorps VISTA members placed on Baylor's campus have the opportunity to do just that.

AmeriCorps VISTA, Volunteers in Service to America, is a national program created to fight poverty. VISTA members serve for one year at either a nonprofit organization or a government agency. There are two available VISTA positions at Baylor, and only college graduates are eligible for the program. Benefits of the position include a modest living allowance and health care.

The AmeriCorps VISTA members placed at Baylor will work with the Office of Community Engagement and Service. The contract for both jobs is from July 2013-July 2014. Current VISTA members say their time at Baylor serving the university and the Waco community through AmeriCorps VISTA has taught them a lot.

Poverty education AmeriCorps VISTA member Chloe Toohey graduated from Centre College, a small liberal arts university in Kentucky, in May 2012 and said she wasn't sure what her next step should be.

"I was like, 'Hmm, what am I doing with my life?'" she said. "I wanted

"What appealed to me was the fact that I could serve at Baylor and really make an impact on the community that I had grown fond of through four years at Baylor."

Randall Fowler | VISTA member



COURTESY ART

Chloe Toohey, poverty education AmeriCorps VISTA member, joined the program after graduating from Centre College, a small liberal arts university in Kentucky. She is currently serving at Baylor.

to take a year off before going back to school, and I wanted to have a meaningful experience during that year."

Toohey said she was attracted to the VISTA position at Baylor because it incorporated many of her interests.

"I really like how it melded the passions I had for not only poverty and homelessness, but also my passion for student affairs and pursuing that professionalism," she said. "This was an invaluable experience to have under my belt."

AmeriCorps VISTA member for community development Randall Fowler, a Baylor alumnus, said the fact that the job was at Baylor is what initially attracted him to the position.

"Really what appealed to me was the fact that I could serve at Baylor and really make an impact on the community that I had grown fond of through four years at Baylor," he said. "I learned to love Waco and really liked this place. So it was really a way for me to get plugged in here."

Fowler said his work with both the community and student organizations on campus has helped him expand his worldview.

"It's been really cool to be able to get the bigger picture, for me, and be able to learn more about Baylor and learn more about service and help connect student groups together," he said.

Fowler will be taking his widened worldview to Amman, Jordan, where he will teach English as a part of the Fulbright program. He applied

to the program last year but was put on the alternate list.

"So I decided to do this and then reapplied this year and got in," he said. "I joke that AmeriCorps made all the difference."

Graduates who aren't sure of their future plans should consider applying for an AmeriCorps position, Fowler said.

One of the open positions at Baylor involves working with the re-entry of ex-offenders into society and working with the Parent Resource Centers in Waco ISD, said Mary Katherine Leslie-Van Hook, project coordinator and office manager for the Office of Community Engagement and Service.

The other VISTA member will work with the Heart of Texas Urban Gardening Coalition, she said. This person will also help with the Campus Kitchens Project at Baylor.

Leslie-Van Hook said applicants should apply as soon as possible. The deadline is May 10.

"We are already looking at applicants right now," she said. Students can find more information at: <https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/search.do>.



COURTESY ART

AmeriCorps VISTA member for community development and alumnus Randall Fowler, left, said he chose to come back to serve at Baylor after his graduation.

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WORK-STUDY from Page 1

for each promotion.

"I'm clocked in for 15 hours each week, but I also do a bit of work outside of hours answering emails and things like that," Bosiaccki said.

Bosiacki said her shift starts at 3:30 in the afternoon and she tries to get everyone out by 8:30 p.m. The latest she has ever had to stay is 9:15.

"I live on campus, so the money I make at my job is just spending money, like if I need groceries or want to go shopping," Bosiaccki said.

Bosiacki said she would recommend a work-study job to students because of the convenience of on-campus jobs and the opportunities to move up.

"If you're going to work, you may as well do it on campus," Bosiaccki said.

Baylor limits student hours to 20 hours per week while they are enrolled in classes to "protect the academic interests of the student." In an email, the Student Financial Aid Office said students are allowed to work more than 20 hours per week, but they must be paid for overtime, which is one and a half times their usual pay. Media communications director Lori Fogleman said students can work overtime in instances of single events or short-term need by a department.

Payroll alerts the financial aid office if a student works overtime, and the financial aid office contacts the department to make sure the student is receiving overtime pay. They said they might recommend the department hire additional students if a student is regularly working over 20 hours per week.

According to the Student Financial Aid Office, students get paid every two weeks, though the federal requirements state students must only be paid once a month. Students cannot receive their work-study amount before classes begin. The Student Financial Aid Office could not be reached for comment about why some student salaries are capped.

Fogleman said the recommended student wage is \$7.25 per hour.

"Departments work with financial aid if there is a compelling need for a higher wage," Fogleman said.

Garland senior Chloe Rose, a forensic anthropology major, works as a student supervisor for



TRAVIS TAYLOR | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Grapevine freshman Austen Shearouse referees at an intramural softball game for his work study job.

Baylor Catering. She helps create student schedules, does paperwork at the Aramark office and helps train new employees.

She generally works 15-30 hours per week, depending on the number of events going on during a given week. If she works more than 20 hours in a week, she receives overtime pay.

She currently makes \$7.80 per hour, and said students who work for the catering service receive a 15 cent raise each semester they work. She said she also received a raise when she became a student supervisor.

"The latest I've ever had to stay after an event during the school week was until about 11 or 11:30," Rose said. "They're good about letting students go early. They understand we have tests and classes and things like that."

Rose said the latest she's ever had to work is 2 a.m. after a football game.

"We started work late in the afternoon, and the football game starts at about 6 or 7, so it's not like we work all day," Rose said.

She said she generally makes enough per month to pay her rent, electricity and credit card bill. Her

parents help her pay for gas and groceries.

"Most people don't know catering has seasons," Rose said. "From about December to February, there's not a lot going on so my parents have to help me out more."

Pickton junior Alyssa Miller said she works for the Executive office in the Sid Richardson building. She usually works 15 hours a week and receives minimum wage for her work. She said working as an office assistant does not provide opportunities for raises.

"I worked at Brookshire's last semester in addition to my office job and school," Miller said.

She said she did not return to her job at Brookshire's this semester, so her parents help her pay bills.

"I usually make just enough to cover my rent," Miller said. "I was supposed to have another person in my room at my apartment, but she ended up not being able to move in with me. So I pay half the rent myself."

These experiences do not describe those of all students who participate in work-study, but they provide a snapshot of those students who choose to do so.

MARRIAGE from Page 1

relationship with god."

The Rhode Island legislation states that religious institutions may set their own rules regarding who is eligible to marry within the faith and specifies that no religious leader is obligated to officiate at any marriage ceremony and no religious group is required to provide facilities or services related to a gay marriage. While ministers already cannot be forced to marry anyone, the exemption helped assuage concerns from some lawmakers that clergy could face lawsuits for abiding by their religious convictions.

Under the new law, civil unions will no longer be available to same-sex couples as of Aug. 1, though the state would continue to recognize existing civil unions. Lawmakers approved civil unions two years ago, though few couples have sought them.

DWI from Page 1

of probation for a DWI is less than two years.

"The sentence lengths vary now," Miller said. "But the average probation sentence for a DWI is 12-18 months."

Miller said in addition to the monthly probation fees, a first offender must take a DWI class, which costs \$75. Multiple offenders have to pay up to \$300 for the class. A person on probation must notify a probation officer of all non-essential travel at least 48 hours before they intend to leave the county. All changes of residence, job, or employment must be reported to the probation officer within 72 hours.

Fees must be mailed in or taken directly to the McLennan County C.S.C.D. office, open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. There's no online payment system and all mailed in payments must be cashier's check or money order.

The state of Texas requires anyone convicted of a DWI to file a Financial Responsibility Insurance Certificate, also known as an SR-22, which costs about \$70 per month. Lesser alcohol charges, such as minor in possession or minor consuming alcohol, are Class C misdemeanors and come with their own set of rules. Class C misdemeanors are fineable-only offenses. If someone is charged, they could pay a fine up to \$500. Justice of the Peace Kristi DeCluitt said students must take an alcohol awareness course and perform

"Today a dream has come true. No more hiding in the shadows. No more being ashamed of who we are."

Frank Ferri | Representative of R.I.

Delaware could be the next state to approve gay marriage. Legislation legalizing same-sex marriage has narrowly passed the Delaware House and now awaits a vote in the state Senate.

Advocates in Rhode Island say that while they're proud the state is the 10th to legalize gay marriage, they expect other states to follow quickly as support for same-sex marriage grows around the country. According to a November Gallup poll, 53 percent of Americans

support giving gay and lesbian couples the right to marry, up from 27 percent in 1996.

Rep. Frank Ferri, D-Warwick, who lobbied for gay marriage before becoming a lawmaker himself, recalled that years ago he asked a sitting lawmaker if he would consider supporting same-sex marriage. "He said, 'I'll pour gasoline on my head and light myself on fire before that bill passes,'" Ferri recalled. That has changed, said Ferri, who is gay. Ferri said he hopes House Speaker Gordon Fox — who is gay — can marry him and his partner on Aug. 1, the day the new law takes effect, which also happens to be the couple's 32nd anniversary.

"Today a dream has come true," he said. "No more hiding in the shadows. No more being ashamed of who we are."

8'0"	FINES: \$2,000-4,000	8'0"
7'5"	ATTORNEY FEES: \$5,000	7'5"
7'0"	PROBATION: \$990 PAID OVER 18 MONTHS	7'0"
6'5"	COURT FEES: \$300	6'5"
6'0"	SR-22: \$1,680 PAID OVER 2 YEARS	6'0"
5'5"	LICENSE REINSTATEMENT FEE: \$125	5'5"
5'0"	FEES FOR 3 YEARS AFTER	5'0"
4'5"	DWI: \$1,000 PER YEAR	4'5"
4'0"		4'0"
3'5"		3'5"
3'0"		3'0"

COSTS OF DWI

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF TRAVIS TAYLOR | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

eight hours of community service on first offense. "Some students ask for more community service in lieu of the fine," DeCluitt said.

Doak said a student could file for an expunction, or removal of a charge, if they receive a minor in possession or minor consuming alcohol charge, but they may have to hire a lawyer, which would be more expensive than the ticket itself. The court also requires filing fees. Ac-

ording to the McLennan County District Clerk Fees, the cost to file an expunction is \$258, plus \$18.50 for every agency the order is sent to. A charge could disqualify a student from certain jobs, such as federal law enforcement.

"It's not devastating, but it's costly and embarrassing," Doak said. "I've never had a student come to me and tell me they're proud of their charges."

FAFSA from Page 1

and their college enrollment decisions. The IRS data retrieval form was rendered useless for the people this delay affected. The retrieval form simplifies the FAFSA application process as it takes information directly from the IRS.

The retrieval form was implemented into the FAFSA process in January 2010. The Department of Education realized that there was a need to simplify and streamline the FAFSA process in order to make it easier for families applying for aid.

The IRS issued a statement on the delays last month. They said that they were aware of a limited number of software company products that affected some taxpayers who filed form 8863, Education credits, between Feb. 14 and Feb. 22.

This caused those tax returns to require more review by the IRS.

The FAFSA website also acknowledged the delay.

In Baker's statement, he listed what to do until the tax returns were in. The current federal deadline for the FAFSA is June 30. However, in Texas, it depends on the school.

For example, Baylor has set a priority deadline of March 1.

As Baker said, a student can file an initial FAFSA with their copy of the tax return but without the processed return. After the tax return comes in, then the student can update their FAFSA with final, correct information.

If tax returns are late, the Department of Education said there are a number of ways

to approach this problem.

"We offer a tool online, and it's called the FAFSA forecaster," Christine Isett, the Department of Education representative said. "And students are still able to apply the previous year's tax information in there to get a better idea of an estimate of what they may be eligible for. Also, they can work with their financial aid office. The financial aid office can help them complete their FAFSA."

Isett said despite the delays, the correct information needs to be put onto the form.

"The FAFSA does require that you provide current year tax information," she said. "Although there are delays, we know eventually that information needs to be provided for verification purposes."

FAFSA TO DO LIST

- 1 You will need: PIN, Social Security Number, tax return Do taxes of parent and student.
- 2 Create a FAFSA pin number for parent and student.
- 3 Go to FAFSA website and begin application.
- 4 If taxes have been completed and returned, use IRS retrieval form. If not, complete form with a copy of taxes you have filed or will file.
- 5 Once the IRS returns your taxes, update your FAFSA by logging in.

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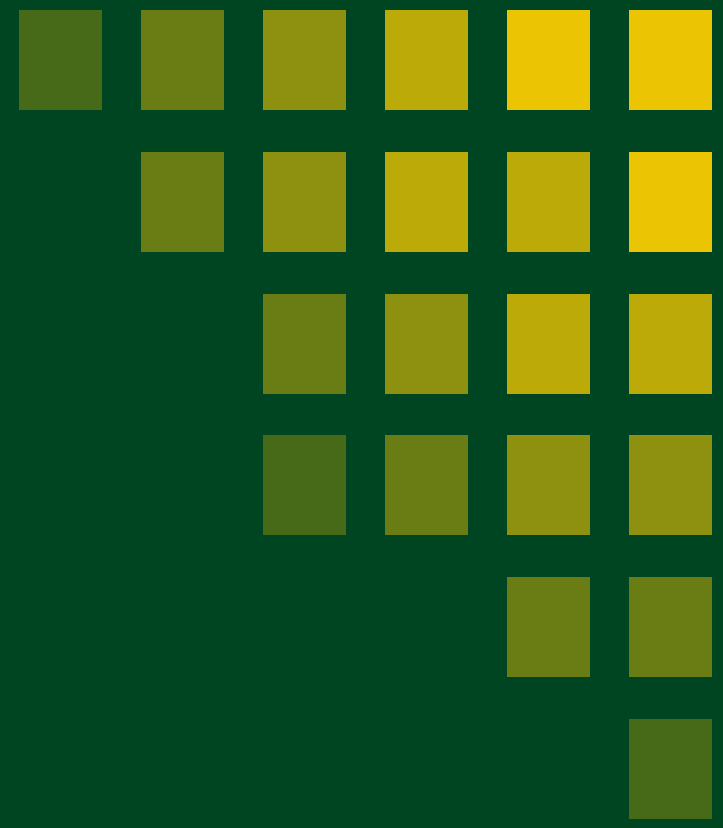
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