

ROUNDING UP CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1900

THE BAYLOR LARIAT

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2007

Islam
looks
for BU
voiceRamadan sparks
nationwide controversy;
BU tackles local aspectBy Christopher Stone
Reporter

Public schools and universities nationwide faced controversy for accommodating Muslim students during Ramadan, the Islamic holy month.

In one case, the University of Michigan-Dearborn used \$25,000 to install footbaths in restrooms where students can wash before praying.

In another, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to review a case in which New York City public schools were allowed to display a star and crescent during Ramadan while banning a nativity scene at Christmas.

These cases add attention to the ongoing battle defining separation of church and state in public institutions. But at private, Baptist Baylor, the argument is different.

"I'm a Baylor Bear, but I'm also a Muslim," Dallas senior Hoda Said said.

Said is a co-founder of the Islamic Studies Project, an unofficial organization meant to foster dialogue between Muslims



Associated Press

Students gathered September 19 in the Center for Jewish Studies for the Baylor Fast-a-thon, sponsored by the Islamic Studies Project, to celebrate Ramadan.

and people of other faiths.

"Our mission is to educate people about the myths and realities of Islam," she said. "We feel there are so many misconceptions and that people are taught such a skewed and biased view of Islam."

Even though Baylor doesn't recognize her organization, Said said ISP does everything official organizations do, including

service projects, officer elections, campuswide lectures and regular meetings.

Muslims as well as Jews, non-Baptist Christians and people of other faiths should be allowed to have an officially recognized voice on campus, Said said.

"I don't think we can really call ourselves educated people when we are going to confine

ourselves to certain ideas," she said. "Baylor would be a better place if everybody could have a voice."

Director of Student Activities Scott Wade said he agreed that dialogue is important and should be encouraged on a number of subjects at academic institutions.

"One such place where this kind of dialogue is currently

being fostered is at the Frankly Speaking programs offered by the Department of Multicultural Activities," Wade said.

Frankly Speaking is an open forum for debate and conversation held every Wednesday in the Fentress room of the Bill Daniel Student Center. The topic for "Frankly Speaking"

Please see ISLAM, page 6

Baylor
alumna
likely
leaderJoy Fenner candidate
for Baptist General
Convention presidentBy Shannon Daily
Reporter

Joy Fenner, honorary alumna for Truett Seminary and former member of the board of advocates for the Baylor School of Social Work, may soon be named the first woman president

of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

As of Monday, Fenner's only opponent was Rev. David L. Lowrie Jr., pastor of First

Baptist Church in Canyon who concedes that he is unlikely to be elected.

Of the 5,600 congregations that form the BGCT, less than 1 percent of the pastors are women.

The naming of the first Hispanic and first black presidents of the BGCT have already taken place in recent years.

"Women have been a part of the founding and the history of our convention; they have just not had that leadership role," Fenner told Matt Curry of the Associated Press. "The Baptist General Convention of Texas would not be where it is today without the women of our churches standing alongside our men."

While Fenner continued to say she was reluctant to accept the nomination, those who have known her through the course of her career have complete confidence in her stepping into this position.

David George, president of the Woman's Missionary Union Foundation of which Fenner is the vice chairwoman of the board, agreed that Fenner would "make an outstanding president."

Fenner is a volunteer for both the WMU and during her time on the board of advocates for the School of Social Work. This really gives a sense of her commitment, George said. Fenner joined the original board of advocates for the School of Social Work in 2000, Dyer said. She only recently rotated off of the board. Dyer served as the director for the Texas WMU from 1981-2001, according to *The Baptist Standard*.

She is a strong and mission-oriented woman and has been her whole life, said Frances Shaw, a long-time friend of Fenner's.

The two women met while working with the Girl's Auxiliary at First Baptist Church in Marshall.

"We had weekly meetings; she also did the summer camp and I took our girls," Shaw said of their work with the intermediate girls.

The women continued to live together for a period of five years while working in Dallas. Fenner then met her husband, Charlie, and moved with him to Japan for 13 years to work as missionaries.

The Associated Press contributed to this article.



Fenner

BU students provide crisis intervention

By Tessa Shockey
Reporter

The piercing ring of the hotline phone could jolt anyone from a deep REM cycle sleep.

It is this distinctive ring that calls Baylor students Maggie Ellor and Leah Smith, and in an instant they are on their way to Hillcrest or Providence to advocate for a survivor of sexual assault. Ellor, a Chicago junior, and Smith, a Houston senior, volunteer with the non-profit Waco Advocacy Center for Crime Victims and Children as advocates providing crisis intervention for victims of sexual assault.

"It was a requirement that I stumbled into, and it became

one of the most meaningful experiences I've ever had," Ellor said.

Ellor and Smith volunteered for their practice class as part of their social work major.

To be an advocate, volunteers like Ellor and Smith must take a 30-hour training program. The program teaches how to answer the hotline phone and how to deal with different types of crises. Ellor and Smith learned about making hospital calls, filling out paperwork and Texas laws related to victims of assault.

Ellor and Smith deal mostly with women in their teens and 20s. The youngest survivor Ellor dealt with was 7, and the oldest was 82. Only one of 10

rape victims will ever report being raped, and men report less than women, according to the center.

Ellor and Smith are given hotline phones that Providence, Hillcrest or the survivor will call. Advocates are on call one night a week and one weekend a month.

When the phone rings it may be someone wanting information about the advocacy center or the hospital calling to report a survivor.

The calls can come at any time of the night.

"The first few times I didn't sleep very much just because I was nervous about not waking up to the phone," Houston senior Smith said. "It took

some practice knowing what you're doing and remembering things."

Ellor agreed that being on-call can cause some long, sleepless nights.

"You don't sleep very soundly, because a lot of people are worried if they go to sleep they won't hear the phone ring," Ellor said. "For me, I know it took a long time to fall asleep because I knew I was going to get woken up, and so it was an internal battle."

When Ellor and Smith arrive at the hospital, they check to see if the police have been notified of the incident. The police have to get approval from the District Attorney's office to conduct an exam.

Please see CRISIS, page 6



Associated Press

A memorial was placed at the tree where University of Memphis football player Taylor Bradford's car hit a tree after he was shot Sunday evening.

Memphis U athlete fatally shot

By Woody Baird
The Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. - A University of Memphis football player was fatally shot on campus in what police believe was a targeted attack, and classes were canceled Monday as a precaution.

Taylor Bradford, 21, apparently was shot near a university housing complex about 9:45 p.m. Sunday and then crashed a car he was driving into a tree a short distance away on campus, officials said.

"We found him with a bullet wound to the body and the ambulance took him to the hospital where he was pronounced (dead)," said Roger Prewitt, a Memphis Police inspector.

Detectives investigating the

shooting received reports of gunfire being heard in a parking lot of the housing complex about 200 yards from where Bradford was found, police spokeswoman Monique Martin said.

Homicide detectives were unsure of a motive for the shooting and had no suspects, she said. "That's all still under investigation," she said.

University President Shirley Raines said that witnesses told police they saw more than one person leaving the scene who could have been involved.

"This was an act directed specifically toward the victim and it was not a random act of violence," she said.

Residence halls in the surrounding area were closed to outsiders immediately, and res-

idents were advised not to go outside. Students, faculty and staff were told by e-mail early Monday morning that classes were canceled.

In an e-mail alert to faculty, staff and students at 3:40 a.m. Monday, officials wrote that "the initial investigation indicates this was an act directed specifically toward the victim and was not a random act of violence."

The university decided to cancel classes Monday, although police believe the person or persons involved in the shooting left the campus immediately.

"We feel like the campus is safe, but we'd rather err on the safety than not," Gunther said.

Please see SHOT, page 6

Nursing campus to gain study resources

By Amanda Allen
Reporter

Dropping \$1,200 on textbooks, moving 96 miles away from Waco and studying more than 50 hours of a week are sacrifices students are willing to make in order to go to Baylor's Louise Harrington School of Nursing.

Students who have made these sacrifices have recently questioned the study and technology resources available on the Dallas campus.

Junior nursing student Meredith Murphree said she didn't believe the study and technology resources available to her at the nursing school were sufficient.

"I pay a lot of money for tuition at the nursing school, and the LRC (Learning Resource Center) closes at 9 p.m.," she said.

With the amount of studying

necessary for success, Murphree said the hours of the Learning Resource Center are inadequate.

"The Internet is very slow and the printer is constantly causing problems," she said.

The Learning Resource Center is open until 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, 5 p.m. Friday and 4 p.m. Saturday.

"The Waco (Baylor) library hours are perfect," said Julie Breazeale, Alexandria, La., junior. "After dinner, you could start homework at 6 and stay until 12. At 9, I'm usually right in the middle of being in the zone, and then have to leave."

Susan Bader, director of the Learning Resource Center in Dallas said students haven't voiced a need for later Learning Resource Center hours.

"A lot of them study in the dorm. It's not your typical undergrad dorm," she said.

"There tends to be a higher level (of) health professional students in the dorm."

Breazeale said there's a recreation room on the first floor of the dorm and a prayer room, but there isn't a study room on each floor like Baylor resident halls.

Although Breazeale and Murphrey weren't aware of it, Bader said the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center is a 15-minute drive from campus and has extended hours nursing students could utilize.

In regard to technology problems, students should see a drastic improvement this semester. While Baylor's network has been growing to meet bandwidth needs, the Dallas campus' network hasn't. At one point the connection to the nursing school was 25 percent of what the Waco campus had.

"At that time, this was adequate bandwidth for what was

needed by both the Waco and nursing school campuses," said Bob Hartland, director IT Servers and Networks at Baylor.

Pattie Orr, vice president of information technology and dean of university libraries said, "The cost would be exorbitant to run fiber from Waco to Dallas without the help of the LEARN network and help of Texas A&M University."

LEARN is a new, fast network that is meant for researchers and higher education. Baylor allows A&M's Temple campus to access the Waco LEARN base, and to return the favor A&M will allow Baylor's nursing school to access Fort Worth's LEARN base.

This will, in effect, allow the nursing school to have the same speed as Waco's campus. To clarify, the Dallas campus' network didn't get slower, it's always been a T1, they're just doing more.

"Their demands are higher, and it's outstripping them," Hartland said.

Before now, Baylor couldn't connect the nursing school to Baylor's faster network in an economical way.

"That will be the speed we start with and that matches the total bandwidth we currently have on the Baylor campus. Ultimately, we can install equipment that will be able to expand this circuit as needed," Hartland said.

Orr said the Baylor, A&M collaboration is something that would never be seen in the business world. "You would never see two businesses helping each other out like this. It's a good example of how colleges can work together," she said.

There is not a definite date set, but they are hoping the network will be implemented before the end of the semester.

BEAR BRIEFS

Baptist Student Ministries Mid-Autumn Festival Dinner will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. today at the Bobo Baptist Student Center. The meal is free. For additional information, contact Whitney_Gillam@baylor.edu

University Missions Student Interest Meeting will be held at 8 p.m. today in Baines Room of the SUB. If you're interested in traveling with other Baylor students on mission trips, you're welcome to attend. For additional information, call Baylor University Ministries at 254-710-3517 or contact Ashley_Mangrum@baylor.edu.

Gregory Partain Piano Performance will be held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Jones Concert Hall in the Glen-nis McCrary Music Building. Gregory Partain is professor of piano at Transylvania University in Lexington, Ky. This event is free of charge or open to the public. For additional information, contact the Baylor School of Music at 254-710-3571.

For Banned Books Week, there will be Brown Bag Lunch Read-Out sessions from noon to 1 p.m. on Wednesday and Friday in Moody Memorial Library. Faculty, staff, and students will have the opportunity to read from their favorite banned books. For additional information on any of these events, contact Mary_Goolsby@baylor.edu or call 254-710-6735.

All-University Contest Informational Meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday in D109 of the Baylor Sciences Building. Baylor University Press is hosting a contest for the creation of a two-minute film promoting one of its books. The grand prize is \$1,000. For additional information, contact Amanda_Toller@baylor.edu.

Alpha Phi Omega Fall Blood Drive will be held from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday at Fountain Mall; 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Penland Hall Lobby; and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Bobo Baptist Student Center. Every donor will receive a free T-shirt. Each day, one donor will win a \$20 gift card for Best Buy. For additional information, contact Shannon_Good@baylor.edu or Natalie_Roncallo@baylor.edu.

Register to vote. You may pick up a voter registration form in the Office of Public Affairs, 207 Pat Neff Hall or register online at www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/reqvr.shtml. The deadline to register for the November 6 election is Oct. 9. For additional information, contact the Office of Public Affairs at 710-1421.

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Professor urged audience not to miss opportunity

By Ida Jamshidi
and Katherine Farlow
Assistant city editor and reporter

Biology Professor Dr. Ann E. Rushing discussed the importance of not missing opportunities at the annual award lecture Monday in the Baylor Sciences Building.

This is the fourth annual professor of the year lecture. The award is based on three criteria: teaching, research and service.

Rushing received the Cornelia Marschall Smith Professor of the Year Award in the spring.

Dr. James Bennighof, vice provost for academic affairs, introduced Rushing and said she has invested countless hours in students.

Rushing's lecture, "Don't Miss

the Opportunity," focused on three main actions that both students and faculty should work to fulfill in their life journeys:

giving thanks, inspiring others and making a difference.

"Don't miss the opportunity to thank those who have helped you in your journey," Rushing said. "We have not come to where we are today without the help of others."

She thanked her parents, siblings, mentors and husband for their impact and influence



Rushing

in her life. Rushing urged students to thank the teachers who helped them along the way.

Not realizing the impact many teachers would have on her career, Rushing said she missed the chance to thank many of them the way she should have.

Rushing's second point established that it is our ability and responsibility to inspire others.

"Don't miss the opportunity to inspire by your words, your deeds, or perhaps your supportive presence," she said.

Then Rushing's made her last point of the evening which was: "Don't miss the opportunity to make a difference, or at least to try to make a difference."

Rushing chooses to make her difference by supporting gender equity, highlighting "statistically significant" data concerning

low percentages of female faculty at Baylor and other doctoral universities. Rushing said she realized inequity issues occur at all universities but thinks the gender issue strikes the loudest chord.

There are "too few women role models in academia," she said.

"I felt that I had an opportunity to speak publicly about a topic of my choosing...that I didn't want to pass up to say things about women," Rushing said.

Jackson, Miss., senior Vignesh Shettar attended the lecture for a biology seminar class. "It was a great lecture on an interesting topic," Shettar said.

He said he was "surprised at the few number of women professors" at Baylor and said

female role models are important in the lives of students.

Dr. Dale Mueller, retired associate professor in the department of biology at Texas A&M University, was Rushing's graduate adviser and a member of the audience at her lecture.

On her being professor of the year, Mueller said, "I am not at all surprised. She has always been totally, totally dedicated, very self-sufficient and a delight to have as a graduate student."

Along with the chance to present the lecture, Rushing received \$20,000.

The award is named after Dr. Cornelia Marschall Smith, Baylor alumna, former professor and chair of the biology department. Smith retired in 1967 and passed away in 1997 at the age of 101.

Survey shows pride

Baylor alumni respond in university's favor

By Anita Pere
Staff writer

A new survey conducted by The Center for Survey Research and Analysis and commissioned by Baylor found alumni have positive feelings about their alma mater.

Seventy percent of alumni said they would rate Baylor as excellent, 27 percent said good, 1 percent said fair, and 1 percent said they did not know or did not wish to respond.

Seventy-nine percent of alumni said they feel a special bond with their old stomping ground.

Eighty percent of alumni are proud to say they graduated from Baylor, while 16 percent were somewhat proud, 3 percent "just a little proud," 1 percent were "not really proud at all."

Barry said it's common for statistics to add to 99 or 101 when rounding percentage points.

Barry also said the questions were not biased to produce favorable results.

"My hope was that Baylor alumni would love Baylor, but my intent was not to pose questions in a way that they would just give the answers I wanted them to give. That doesn't help anybody," Barry said.

Also, 82 percent of alumni said they would recommend their son or daughter attend Baylor.

Interestingly, this year 791 freshmen claimed some legacy to Baylor, Barry said.

Of the 15 percent who would not recommend Baylor to their son or daughter, cost, religious affiliation and location were their primary reasons. Three percent did not know if they would recommend the university or not.

President John Lilley weighed in on the possible deterring effect of Baylor's cost. He said differences should not be an issue to potential students.

"We're doing well in that department, but not enough. I would like to reach a point where students don't need to take out loans," he said.

Lilley also said the university has not out-priced middle-class families.

John Barry, vice president for marketing and communications, said when he joined the Baylor staff last year, he found a

DID YOU KNOW...

79% of Baylor alumni said they feel a special bond with Baylor.

80% of Baylor alumni are proud to say they graduated from Baylor.

82% of Baylor alumni said they would recommend their son or daughter attend Baylor.

Source: The Center for Survey Research and Analysis

lack of research on alumni perceptions of Baylor.

Barry said this survey was necessary to understand what alumni think about Baylor and to track changes in alumni perceptions.

To that end, Barry would like to have this survey conducted annually or biannually.

To gather data, Barry sought the help of the CSRA, the University of Connecticut's survey group.

The national survey group randomly picked constituents from Baylor's alumni database. Surveyors gathered information by phone during the summer from around 600 alumni.

Barry, former director of university communications at Connecticut, chose CSRA because of their reputation and experience in conducting national surveys.

In addition to his position at Connecticut, Barry worked at the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, giving him a research-heavy background.

Barry, who helped write the questionnaire, said two-thirds of the questions are "benchmark" questions, making them timeless and applicable for future research.

The other third are "wild-card" questions, possibly tailored for specific needs.

Some of the questions included, "How would you rate Baylor University?" "Do you feel a special connection or bond to Baylor," and "How proud would you say you are to be a graduate of Baylor University?"

In addition to this survey, Barry's office recently conducted a survey of college-bound high school juniors in Texas.

Respective offices are using the figures derived from both of these polls to better understand and serve all members of the Baylor family.



David Poe/Lariat staff

Garden gathering

Faculty, students and staff gathered at the ribbon-cutting for the new garden entrance into the Moody Memorial Library at 4 p.m. yesterday.

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Jed Dean/Round Up staff

Safeties Dwain Crawford and Jordan Lake struggle to bring down Texas A&M running back Jorvorskie Lane. The Aggies racked up 363 rushing yards and chewed over 43 minutes of possession Saturday.

Tough loss puts Bears on heels

Baylor loses 8th straight game in College Station

By Justin Baer
Sports writer

Baylor's offense took a giant leap backward against Texas A&M University Saturday in a frustrating 34-10 defeat in College Station.

Coming into the 104th Battle of the Brazos, the Bears (3-2, 0-1) were averaging 410.8 yards per game and seemed to finally have the offense clicking.

However, the progression in the development of Baylor's spread offense took a major blow at Kyle Field.

The Bears were held to 254 yards, seven first downs and only possessed the ball for 16:42, which took its toll on the defense.

The Aggies grinded down the clock by punishing the Bears' exhausted defense with the two-headed monster of run-

ning back Jorvorskie Lane and quarterback Stephen McGee.

Both Lane and McGee rushed for over 100 yards and each had a touchdown.

"That's the type of offense they (Texas A&M) are," said sophomore linebacker Joe Pawelek, whose defense gave up 552 yards Saturday. "They are going to try to pound the ball, keep the ball and run the clock."

"As much as people will say offense this, offense that, the defense gave up too many yards. We just couldn't get off the field."

Despite Pawelek's plea for the defense to take the blame for Saturday's loss, many questions have arisen from the offensive side of the ball after such an underachieving performance.

Quarterback Blake Szymanski and his wide receivers were not on the same page throughout the duration of the game. Dropped balls and errant throws plagued Baylor, with seven Bears' possessions lasting

less than a minute.

"It was a combination of poor decisions, bad throws and drops that really killed us," head coach Guy Morriss said. "But they didn't do anything much different than we expected."

One of those poor decisions could have been the first-half absence of running back Jay Finley, who made quite an impression during his first career start at the University at Buffalo last weekend.

Finley seemed to be the much-needed catalyst in Baylor's inadequate running game but he didn't play a down until mid-way through the third quarter.

Sure enough, the Bears accumulated 178 yards of offense after Finley entered the game in the second half.

Finley also accounted for Baylor's lone touchdown of the day when he plowed through the Aggies' defensive line for a three-yard score to cut the Texas A&M lead to 10 points.

"We kind of base a lot on

how they practice during the week. (Running back Brandon Whitaker) had a great week at practice, and it looked like he bounced back after not starting at Buffalo," Morriss said on his decision to start Whitaker over Finley. "It seemed like when Finley came in he gave us a spark though at times. But we live and die by the pass. If you can't throw and catch, you're going to die."

Now the Bears will host the University of Colorado Buffaloes, who are coming off a shocking 27-24 win over the No. 3 University of Oklahoma Sooners.

And the Bears know if they don't rise to the competition of their Big 12 opponents, Saturday could be the beginning of a long rest of the conference season.

"These are conference games and we have to step up to the challenge," Szymanski said. "The teams and the speed of the Big 12 are a lot better than our non-conference schedule."

Dropped passes make for long day in College Station

By Will Parchman
Sports editor

In any spread offense, a group of receivers with soft hands and the ability to get open is paramount.

It's understandable that a group as young as Baylor's might forget one or the other from time to time.

But in the Bears' 34-10 loss to Texas A&M University in College Station Saturday, the receivers couldn't hang on to the ball and had trouble finding open spaces. Not good news for an offense that, according to head coach Guy Morriss, "lives and dies with the pass."

On Saturday, it died hard.

The official stat sheet holds the Baylor receivers responsible for 10 drops. That number belies the all-around ineffective performance from one of the offense's most important pieces.

"We're receivers. Our job is to catch the ball and we didn't catch the ball in this game," sophomore receiver David Gettis said. "We can't win games in the Big 12 without catching the ball, and that's on us."

Gettis, a highly recruited Army All-American receiver, was responsible for Baylor's longest pass play since last year's A&M game in Waco.

Gettis streaked into Aggie territory and hauled in a 69-yard catch-and-run to set up Baylor's

only touchdown. It was also the offense's only real probe into Texas A&M territory.

Quarterback Blake Szymanski failed to reach 200 yards passing in a game for the first time this year and no Baylor receiver caught more than two passes.

After a ball caromed off the out-stretched hands of sophomore receiver Ernest Smith in the third quarter, Texas A&M defender Marquis Carpenter was there to collect the interception.

Justin Fenty was credited with three drops, two of which came on third downs. Those types of huge momentum shifts couldn't help but influence the

game's final outcome.

"There were some guys peeling the paint off the wall at half-time about dropping the ball," Morriss said. "I don't know why we dropped so many."

While Szymanski had his worst game of the season production-wise against Texas A&M, he said the drops were a huge part of the team's inability to keep the game close in the second half.

"When you throw the ball as much as we do, you can't have that many drops," Szymanski said. "Drops ... are just drive killers, and we have to catch the ball better."

Inside receivers Brad Taylor and Justin Akers were also all

but invisible Saturday.

Typically used as security blankets in short-yardage situations, the inside receivers play an integral part in Baylor's offense. The fact that Taylor and Akers combined for two catches for 19 yards Saturday alarmed Morriss.

"I think our first concern was our inside receivers. They didn't have a very good day," Morriss said. "I think Justin Akers was alright. I think we might use some bigger bodies."

"They were jamming some of our smaller kids and disrupting routes that way. We are going to play a lot of the same people. We will probably use more people."

The game was reminiscent of

last year's season opener against Texas Christian University where the offense underwent similar problems. Last year the excuse was cramps. This year it wasn't quite as clear cut.

The refrain continues to be the team's insistence upon looking forward to the home conference opener against the University of Colorado this Saturday.

But if the receivers can't hang on to passes, the Baylor offense could be hitting the panic button soon.

"I don't know why we had to drop one for them to wake up, but I hope it will wake them up, I don't know," Morriss said. "We're going to find out here in a quick seven days."

Women's tennis sweeps tourney

By Caroline Korsawe
Reporter

Sophomore Lenka Broosova became the third consecutive Baylor women's tennis player to win the singles championship at the seventh HEB Baylor Invitational Sunday at the Baylor Tennis Center.

She defeated teammate Jana Bielikova in a 6-2, 6-3 decision to win the title.

It was the second straight year in which the tournament's final match was played by two Baylor players.

"It was great for us to get this tournament under our belt and do as well as we did," head coach Joey Scrivano said. "This is a great starting point for us, and we'll build on it for the rest of the fall."

Along with the singles title, Baylor also claimed the doubles title with freshmen Karolina Filipiak and Taylor Ormond defeating the University of Kentucky's Christine Johnston and Alaina Trgorich, 8-2.

"It was a great tournament. There are a lot of good teams here," Scrivano said. "(We have) a lot of young players that haven't proven themselves, but they are going to be really good players down the road. So, for our team to do as well as we did, I'm really excited and impressed."

Scrivano said he was especially surprised by Bielikova's performance. Bielikova, who was battling for the last spot in the line-up last year, won the Rice Invitational last week and made it to the final as the eighth seed last weekend.

"That's impressive. I think this year she is making a statement with these few tournaments," Scrivano said.

Bielikova said she's excited about the progression of her game this year.

"Overall, my performance was good," Bielikova said. "All of the matches were tough for me. It's good because I was prepared, mentally and physically. It helped me most that I practiced here during the summer and that (assistant coach Anousjka van Exel) came. She gave me more confidence in my tennis."

Broosova too was surprised by her teammate's performance and the progress she made since last year.

"Today's match was really tough because Jana knows my weaknesses," Broosova said. "She was working really hard the whole summer. And you can tell it right now, the way she plays."

Broosova's consistency made it especially hard for opponents to defeat her, van Exel said.

"She has been playing great. She has been playing great in practice and she has proven now that she can do

the same thing in a match," van Exel said. "She can retrieve so many balls and she makes you hit four or five good balls in a row. She makes you hit 10 good balls in a row. And that's pretty hard to play against."

Although the team has to improve some weaknesses, Broosova said she was impressed by the team's performance.

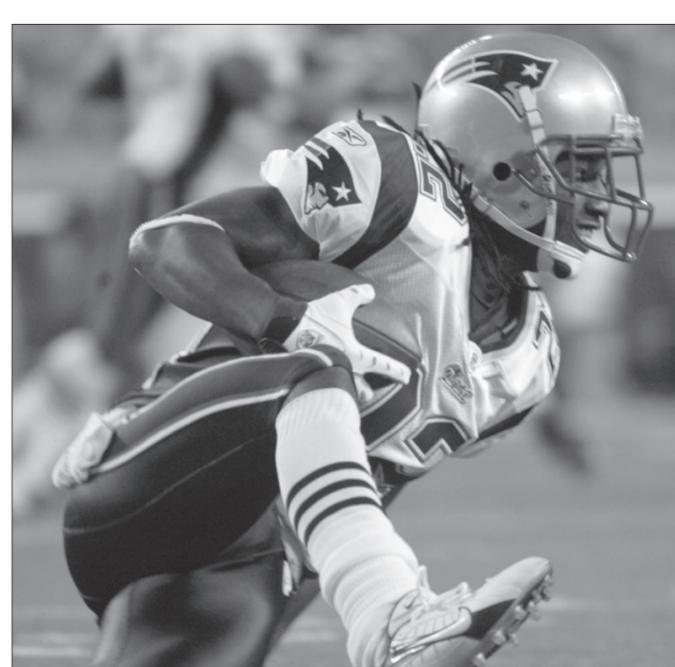
"The whole team was in the quarterfinals, she said. "Every single girl played great this tournament. I am looking forward for the spring season. We're working really hard and it's paying off. I can already see it."

"We just need to keep working hard, like we're doing every single day, and it's going to be a great season. We have seven great players and I just can't wait to play."

Although the team dominated the tournament, Scrivano said he is trying not to get overexcited about the spring season based on fall results.

"You can get caught in a trap if you do that. The fall is the fall," Scrivano said. "It's part of the year where you're trying to learn, build and teach."

"The spring is about executing and being ready to play for match one. It's just two different seasons. So I don't get too excited right now. We'll just keep doing what we're doing and trying to get better every day."



Associated Press

Stopped in thier tracks

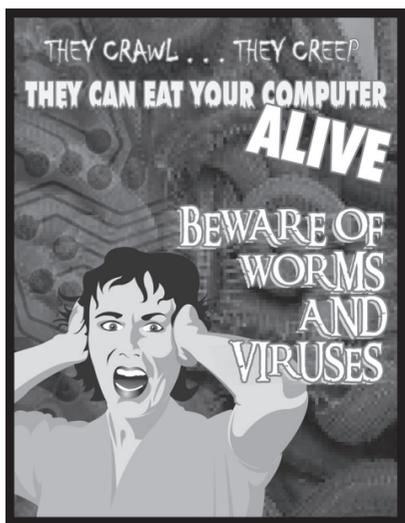
New England Patriots cornerback Asante Samuel intercepts a pass from Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Carson Palmer Monday to stop a Bengals drive at the end of the second quarter of an NFL football game in Cincinnati.

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Ragweed singer speaks about new 'mission'

By Kimi Willingham
Reporter

Cross Canadian Ragweed has been playing together for more than a decade and their music stands as golden evidence to this truth.

The band's ninth album, *Mission California*, was released today via Universal Records South.

The four band members, Cody Canada, Gary Cross, Randy Ragsdale and Jeremy Plato, are more than just musicians. They are high school friends.

"We all grew up in the same town, but really got to know each other in high school," Canada, lead vocalist, said in a phone interview. "As long as I can remember, I have wanted to sing."

After attending a Garth Brooks concert at the age of 5, Canada said he knew right when he saw Brooks walk on stage that singing was what he wanted to do for a living.

With roots in the South, Cross Canadian Ragweed grew up in Yukon, Okla., and has been compared to a mixture of Lynyrd Skynyrd and Travis Tritt.

However, some might say it is a mixture of soul, rock and

country music.

The rock nature of the music, infused with raspy country vocals, provide the listener with an experience in almost all music genres.

Canada said the band's music generally falls somewhere between old country and old rock.

"I don't mean to say this in a cocky way, but I really don't think there is a comparison," Canada said.

"Our music appeals to people from 5 years old to 70 years old," he said.

The lyrics and music on *Mission California* might just redefine Cross Canadian Ragweed though.

The band is generally known for their high energy and performances, but *Mission California* is musically more subdued.

The lyrics are personal and the songs are more about experiences than surroundings.

Canada said this CD compares more to the music on the 2002 self-titled CD.

"It is a little more mellow than the last records," he said.

Canada said *Mission California* is the most personal CD the band has ever put together.

The song, "The Years," displays this personal nature,

depicting Canada's upbringing.

"That song is an autobiography for me," Canada said.

He said performing the song on stage is "like therapy."

On the album, LeeAnn Womack is featured as a guest singer on the song "Lawrence," which Canada wrote about a homeless child on the streets of Lawrence, Kan.

Canada said he was touched by the sincerity of the happiness in the little boy's smile.

He said he wrote the song for him and titled it "Lawrence" because he didn't know the child's name.

"I saw him singing on the street and he wasn't sad," Canada said. "I felt like I owed it to him."

Canada said "Record Exec" is his favorite song on the new album.

The song was originally arranged by a top music producer, but Canada said he didn't like the finished product.

And so he and the band told the producer they couldn't sing the song.

Ironically, out of this experience, the song "Record Exec," was birthed.

The song is about the music industry in Tennessee.

"It means a lot to me," Cana-



Courtesy of Universal Records South

da said. "It's more of a statement than a plea."

Cross Canadian Ragweed started out in the music industry as four friends trying to make a unique sound.

Fame and national recognition seems to have simply followed the band's passion for music.

"We just take it as it comes," Canada said.

With more than 260 performances a year, Canada said,

traveling on the road is what they enjoy.

He said his motto is, "Keep on keeping on."

"We just do what works for us," he said.

To celebrate the CD release, Cross Canadian Ragweed played Saturday at Hurricane Harry's in College Station and will play at 8 p.m. Thursday at Billy Bob's in Fort Worth.

Admission is free with the purchase of *Mission California*.



New Releases for Oct. 2

Dashboard Confessional
The Shade of Poison Trees

Bruce Springsteen
Magic

Cross Canadian Ragweed
Mission California

Annie Lennox
Songs of Mass Destruction

Matchbox Twenty
Exile on Mainstream

Brooks and Dunn
Cowboy Town

J. Holiday
Back of My Lac

Cake
B-Sides and Rarities

Chevelle
Vena Sera

Mantaray
Siouxsie

Spears temporarily loses custody of children to Federline

Britney Spears (right) and her husband at the time Kevin Federline arrive for a post Grammy party in this Feb. 8, 2006 file photo, in Beverly Hills, Calif.



The Associated Press

By Sandy Cohen
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Britney Spears' continuing downward spiral took a devastating turn on Monday when she was ordered to relinquish custody of her children by a judge who had cited a troubling lifestyle fueled by drugs and alcohol.

Superior Court Judge Scott M. Gordon ruled that ex-husband Kevin Federline will take custody of Sean Preston, 2, and Jayden James, 1, beginning Wednesday "until further order of the court."

The order stemmed from an unspecified oral motion made by Federline's attorneys and was

handled in a closed-door hearing.

The judge's order didn't state the reason for the change in custody and all transcripts of the proceedings were ordered sealed.

Phone messages left for representatives of Spears and Federline were not immediately returned Monday.

Last month, Gordon said Spears engaged in "habitual, frequent and continuous use of controlled substances and alcohol."

He ordered the pop star to undergo random drug and alcohol testing twice a week as part of her ongoing custody dispute with Federline.

Spears also was previously ordered to meet weekly with a "parenting coach" who was to observe and report back to the court about her parenting skills.

Both Spears and Federline must complete the court's "Parenting Without Conflict" class.

Spears, 25, and Federline, 29, were wed in October 2004. She filed for divorce last November and it became official in July.

The two have joint legal custody of their sons, but Federline is seeking a greater share of custody.

Since Spears became single, her troubles have played out in the tabloids. First she was photographed at various Hollywood

hotspots partying with Paris Hilton. Some photos captured Spears without panties.

Then Spears shaved her head, beat a car with an umbrella and ended up spending a month in rehab.

An MTV Video Music Awards performance last month meant to herald her comeback was universally panned. The following week, Spears' management firm dropped her and her divorce lawyer resigned.

She then was charged with misdemeanor counts of hit-and-run and driving without a valid license for allegedly crashing into a parked car in August.

Spears' new album will be released Nov. 13.

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SHOT from page 1

Bradford, a 5-foot-11, 300-pound defensive lineman, was a junior who transferred to Memphis after two seasons at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala.

The Memphis Tigers host Marshall University on Tuesday night. A moment of silence was planned before the game. On Monday, several football players and others tied red ribbons and left notes at the tree where Bradford was found. Some students planned a vigil Monday evening.

"Our entire football team is deeply saddened by the loss of Taylor," head coach Tommy West said in a statement. "He was well respected and a popular member of our team. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family."

Bradford, a resident of Nashville, transferred to Memphis in 2006 and was on the roster for this season, but had not played in a game this season.

Bradford lettered in three sports at Antioch High School in Nashville, and held school records in shotgun and discus.

The University of Memphis had 20,562 students enrolled for last fall, according to its Web site.

The school was founded in 1912 as West Tennessee State Normal School and was renamed Memphis State College in 1941. It became Memphis State University in 1957, two years before it admitted its first black students. It was renamed the University of Memphis in 1994.

In other campus violence, a University of Massachusetts-Amherst football player was listed in fair condition Monday after being stabbed in a fight on campus over the weekend.

Freshman Johnny Evans, 18, of Durham, N.C., was taken to Baystate Medical Center in Springfield with a stab wound to the buttocks and less-serious cuts, school officials said.

Evans was injured in one of two fights that broke out early Sunday when hundreds of students were leaving the Student Union Building after a dance. A second student also was injured, but refused medical attention. No arrests had been made as of Monday, and police continued to investigate what caused the fights.

CRISIS from page 1

Ellor said. Advocates must gauge what stage of grieving the survivor is in and act accordingly. Ellor said most of the women she saw were in the first two stages, anger and denial.

"You have to remember it's not about you," Smith said. "It's not about what you say; it's about the fact you are there with this person."

The advocate's job is to listen and be available for whatever they need.

"If what they need is answers, I try to tell them about the process and where it goes from there and basically be a shoulder to lean on," Ellor said.

Guilt is a recurring theme for survivors, she said.

"A survivor will blame themselves for what happened, so what you have to do is reassure them that

they didn't do anything wrong," Ellor said. "It's not their fault that this happened to them. No matter what they may have done, no one deserves to be raped."

David Davis, the executive director of the center, said it is part of a communitywide initiative.

"When someone is victimized, there is a general overwhelming feeling, and in many sexual crimes, there is shame. People feel they can't talk about it; they feel like they are in hiding. That is a terrible spot to be in. The biggest satisfaction is being able to be a part of the community initiative," Davis said.

Advocates let the survivors make as many decisions as possible. "Control over your body is the one thing you are never supposed to not have," Ellor said.

Ellor said that in her experience, letting the survivors make decisions helps them take control back.

"I think the hardest times were

when there were survivors who, for whatever reason, whether it was their personality or interests that reminded me the most of myself, or somebody I really care about," Ellor said. "That's what brings us home, is when you're in that situation and you realize that could have been anybody, including people I care about."

The process usually takes four to five hours, Smith said.

"It's draining. It's emotionally draining," Smith said.

Remembering why she was there helped Smith keep her energy up, she said. Smith said she hopes to work with at-risk middle school girls when she graduates.

"Because of some of the stories that I've heard and things that I've seen, it has allowed my heart to open more," Smith said. "The shock factor has gone away. That is something really important in social work — to not have the shocked face when you hear something."

ISLAM from page 1

tion held every Wednesday in the Fentress Room of the Bill Daniel Student Center. The topic tomorrow for "Frankly Speaking" is "Does your race define you?" Among the discussions this semester, religion is not a scheduled topic.

Said said accommodations like those at the University of Michigan-Dearborn are not expected.

"It's a Baptist school. We knew that when we came here," she said. "I'm just saying that the students that come here should feel welcomed and a part of this school. They should be able to have their own voice on campus."

Baylor's official policy for religious organizations in the Student Organization Policy and Procedures Guide says Baptist Student Ministries is the only officially recognized religious organization.

The policy states that the university will "be cooperative and friendly with non-chartered Christian organizations," allowing them to chalk and post fliers in accordance with Baylor rules. However, the policy does not address concerns of non-Christian organizations.

Said said that when she came to Baylor, there were no organizations for Muslim students to connect with one another or to dialogue with people of other faiths. ISP is the first of its kind, but because it is not university recognized, it relies on the generosity of the Center for Jewish Studies to have a place to meet.

"Every Baylor student has the right

to feel at home at Baylor University in all ways — culturally ethnically, politically and religiously," said Dr. Marc Ellis, University Professor and director of the Center for Jewish Studies.

Ellis said, to his knowledge, nothing is done at Baylor to accommodate people of other faiths, but as director of the center he opened the facilities for Muslim students to meet and pray.

"(ISP) is a gathering point for discussions about Islam for all Baylor students," he said. "The best way to erase the overemphasis on differences and to see where the difference is, is to meet people, listen to them, interact and learn."

Concerning the controversies at public institutions, Ellis said he believes in strict separation of church and state, no matter the religion in question.

"I'm against the use of public money and energy to accommodate religious rituals and beliefs," he said.

But Ellis added that individuals have the right to go to private schools for which the community is free to provide money. Still, even at private universities, Ellis said, people of other faiths should be valued and respected.

"Is it really Christian to have someone in your own house, but not to recognize where they come from, or their essential dignity, or their religion or their culture?" he said.

Ellis said he believes in a more expansive understanding of Baylor's Christian mission. Narrow understanding, he said, results in narrow thought and narrow Christian spirituality.

"We are not going to become who



Kashmiri Muslims pray on the third Friday of Ramadan at the Shah Hamadan mosque Friday in Srinagar, India. Muslims all over the world are observing the holy month of Ramadan.

we are called to be without recognizing diversity within Christianity and recognizing and working with non-Christians at the university," Ellis said. "We will never become an intellectually vibrant and spiritually vibrant community without that."

Ellis said the idea that recognizing other religions will somehow diminish one's own is wrong.

"There should be places for Muslims to pray. There should be, eventually, Muslim teachers," he said. "This is going to increase the vibrant quality of the Christianity on campus, not decrease it."

That recognition, Ellis said, begins with university officials coming to celebrate with religious minorities. "It doesn't require any assent from you as a Christian," he said.

Respect and value, Said said, is all most minorities want.

"We are human beings, too. We have the same goals that you do," she said. "We're Americans, too. We love this country, too."

Said said misconceptions often come from the media and because people don't research topics to discover facts on their own.

"We're saying, 'This is who I am. I

am telling you who I am. Not CNN. Not Fox. This is me," she said. "I'm a human being and my religion teaches peace. My religion teaches tolerance. My religion teaches love."

Ellis agreed that the media can cause misunderstanding at times, but he said the media can also help to alleviate misunderstandings as well.

Said said most people don't understand Islamic theology and don't know Islam was the first religion to give rights to women. Islam, she said, allowed women to keep their own name in marriage and inherit land, but many think Muslim women don't have any rights.

"If someone saw an image of a nun, the first image that would pop in their head is, 'Oh, this is a pious woman,'" she said. "But they see an image of a veiled Muslim woman, essentially dressed in the same way, and they think 'oppressed.'"

Said said ignorance of Islam leads to a blind hate of Muslims, the kind that fueled the attack on Nohayia Javed in April 2006.

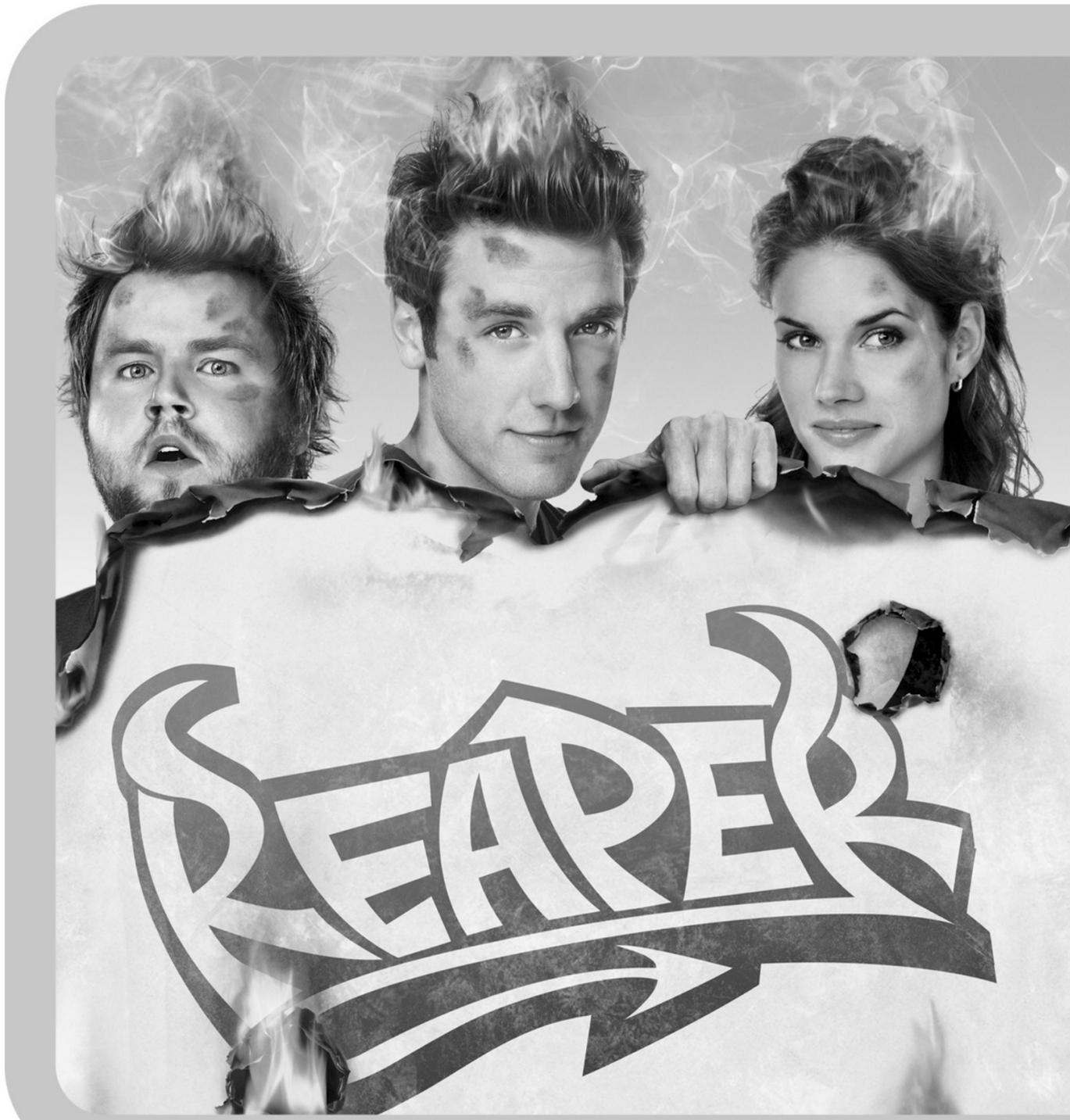
"That's a really scary thing," Said said. "That obviously shows us that there is a need for education."

But Said commended Baylor for stepping up and addressing the issue.

"It showed that they really cared about Nohayia."

In addition, Said said although Baylor doesn't allow time off for religious minority students to celebrate holidays, most professors are willing to excuse students from class.

ISP has both Muslim and non-Muslim officers, an example of the openness and acceptance Said desires for Baylor.



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