A&E p. 5

Common Grounds proves to be the heartbeat of Baylor music and entertainment.

Thursday | September 5, 2013

Baylor Lariat[•] com We'RE THERE WHEN YOU CAN'T BE

WE'RE THERE WHEN YOU CAN'T

New era of Baylor pending BAA member vote

By Linda Wilkins City Editor

The face of Baylor alumni relations is changing.

After 10 months of negotiations, the leadership of both the Baylor Alumni Association and the Baylor Board of Regents drafted a Transition Agreement.

"They talked through all the things the university does and the association does and that resulted in the transition agreement you see," Collin Cox, BAA president, said. "We got here because a lot of leaders on both sides spent a lot of time thinking about what is best for Baylor University."

The Transition Agreement is a proposal set forth by the two organizations that would dissolve the alumni association, which is independent of the university. The agreement was signed by the Baylor Board

> "We got here because a lot of leaders on both sides spent a lot of time thinking about what is best for Baylor University." Collin Cox | Baylor Alumni

Association President

of Regents Chair Richard Willis on May 28 and Cox on May 31. Because the agree-

ment would dissolve the BAA, the BAA members have to vote on whether or not to approve the agreement. This vote will take place at a meeting at 11 a.m. Saturday in Waco Hall. Only BAA members can vote and the members must be present at the meeting. There is a list of eligible BAA members on the BAA website.

Two-thirds of the votes must be in approval of the agreement for the transition to go into effect.

The board of the BAA voted Tuesday and approved the transition agreement 28-7. The vote took place over a conference call, during which 17 members of the BAA board were absent. The board has 52 members total.

Should the agreement be approved, the

BAA's assets would be transferred to Baylor.

In addition, the Baylor Alumni Advisory Board would be created and would work through a Baylor-designated vice president. The current board of directors in the BAA would be invited to join the advisory board. All other members on the Advisory Board would be elected by alumni. According to the agreement, the advisory board "will not have an external voice as the BAAB."

Cox said there have been boards to reflect segments of Baylor alumni such as a men's board or a women's board, but not one to reflect all alumni.

Current BAA employees eligible for hire by Baylor would also have the opportunity to become Baylor employees, according to the agreement.

The Baylor Board of Regents would also allow an alumni regent to be added to the board. This regent would be a non-voting member and would be subject to the board's rules in regards to confidentiality in meetings.

The advisory board would be allowed to submit, with the overseeing vice president, the names of four candidates who are alumni to the board of regents for consideration.

The Baylor Line, a magazine published by the BAA, would come under the control of a new organization called the Baylor

SEE ERA, page 7

SEPT. 7, 2013 1859 OCTOBER 2012 MAY 28, 2013 MAY 31, 2013 AUG. 27, 2013 SEPT. 2, 2013 Negotiations begin BAA founded Baylor Board of Regents BAA leadership signs BAA vote BU faculty senate expresses BU student senate expresses **Transition Agreement** support for agreement approves agreement support for agreement

Those who say Ves

By Linda Wilkins City Editor

After the announcement of the Transition Agreement over the summer, various people have expressed their approval or concerns. While this matter is complicated, these opinions can be sorted into those that support a 'yes' vote on Sept. 7 and those that don't.

Baylor's administration and the Baylor Alumni Association's leadership support the Transition Agreement.

Baylor President Ken Starr said the purpose of the agreement is to move the university forward.

"The core of the agreement is to create a single, unified comprehensive alumni outreach effort and to preserve the independent voice of The Baylor Line," Starr said.

John Barry, a Baylor vice president and the Chief Marketing Officer, said the Transition Agreement has the potential to increase alumni relations.

"The current alumni association

stu- dents graduated from Baylor and 3,400 graduates joined the BAA. Barry said 65,000 alumni would be left out of an alumni organization without the Baylor Alumni Network.

"We've got to serve all our alumni," Barry said.

Barry said another way the BAA is exclusive is in its own bylaws. The bylaws mandate that members of the BAA must be present in order to vote. He said because Baylor's alumni and the BAA's membership is worldwide, it's difficult for them to return to Waco to vote on BAA affairs.

"It's unreasonable to think they will come back," Barry said.

Two provisions in the Transition Agreement are the additions of the Baylor Alumni Advisory Board and the addition of an alumni regent to the Baylor Board of Regents.

Collin Cox, the president of the BAA and a '97 Baylor alumnus, said the advisory board will reflect alumni as a whole.

"It will be a new group and it

What could happen ...

If yes:

- The Baylor Alumni Association will be dissolved and the Baylor Alumni Network will be the sole organization under the university for alumni.
- The Baylor Line Corp. will be created and will publish the Baylor Line. The magazine will remain independent, but it will still be read before publication by the university as it is now.
- The Baylor Alumni Advisory Board will be established. Members will be elected to the board by alumni. The current BAA board of directors will be invited to be on the new board.
- A non-voting alumni regent will be added to the Baylor Board of Regents.

If no:

Those who say

By Linda Wilkins City Editor

As the vote nears, some Baylor Alumni Association members expressed their concerns about losing the 154-year-old organization and their independent voice.

Thomas Nesbitt, who graduated from Baylor in 1994 and is a lifetime member of the BAA, said the Transition Agreement should not be passed.

"The Transition Agreement is bad for Baylor," Nesbitt said. "It dissolves the 154-year-old alumni association."

Bette McCall Miller, a lifetime member of the BAA and the daughter of former Baylor President Abner McCall, said she wants the BAA to continue to exist in some form.

"I understand that it can't continue as it has been in the past but I want it to still be around because there are many universities who have seen the value of having the independent alumni organization," Miller said.

nothing."

Nesbitt agreed. He said the alumni regent is a promise of nothing.

"That regent will be selected by the board of regents and an advisory committee that will be controlled by the Baylor administration," Nesbitt said. "It's not someone that represents alumni. The person can't vote and therefore can't truly participate in the governance of Baylor."

In addition to the alumni regent, the Baylor Alumni Advisory Board would also be created. Miller said this board would not give the alumni a true voice.

"It has no power," she said. "They do not publicly make statements on things they discuss. It's a muzzled, powerless group."

Miller said some people think the BAA only criticizes Baylor, but that is not true.

"We need another voice besides the administration," Miller said. "Not that they're doing anything wicked, but they want it to be one word coming out of Baylor." Miller said having more voices to speak up about situations with the university is better than just one.

has served as a local community for alumni," Barry said. He said the Baylor Alumni Network, which is housed under Baylor, reaches more alumni and is more inclusive than the BAA.

Baylor alumni must pay to join the BAA, which is an independent organization, but are automatically added to the Baylor Alumni Network.

The BAA currently has 17,000 members. From 1990-2013, 69,000

will grow over time," Cox said.

The alumni regent would be a non-voting member selected by the board of regents.

"It is a very positive element," Cox said.

The future of The Baylor Line was a concern for many people.

"The Baylor Line is a magazine we are proud of and that creates a place for viewpoints to be heard,"

SEE YES, page 7

 Baylor will terminate the license agreement with the Baylor Alumni Association from 1993. This means the association and the Baylor Line can no longer use the Baylor brand. According to Collin Cox, president of the association, this could lead to litigation between the BAA and Baylor. Sherry Castello, who was the editor of The Baylor Line for 25 years, said she hopes for a no vote Saturday.

The Transition Agreement would provide for an alumni regent on the Baylor Board of Regents.

"It doesn't give anyone a voice," Castello said. "They take an oath of confidentiality when they become regents. They don't tell anybody anything. The representative would be chosen by the university. This is Another part of the Transition Agreement is the creation of the Baylor Line Corp. The corporation would publish the Baylor Line magazine.

Castello said the Transition Agreement still allows Baylor to

SEE **NO**, page 7

Saturday decision holds fate of The Baylor Line magazine

By Ada Zhang Staff Writer

If The Baylor Line magazine is to continue with the word Baylor in its title, the Transition Agreement between the Baylor Alumni Association and Baylor Board of Regents must receive a 'yes' vote from at least two thirds of the BAA member present at the meeting on Sept. 7.

The Baylor Line magazine began in 1946, and since then, it has been published by the self-regulating Baylor Alumni Association.

The Line's mission statement says the magazine's purpose is "to examine, from a wide range of perspectives, Baylor's history, culture, institutional practices, aspirations, and identity as a private, Baptist university and to enable alumni to maintain their emotional, intellectual, and social bonds with the university and each other."

The Baylor Line website says it supports productive and stimulating discussion between alumni of different cultural backgrounds.

The website further states that the magazine aims to bring together alumni who care about their alma mater and who wish to stay connected with as well as contribute to the alumni community.

The Line's purpose is not to recruit students, advertise or fun-

draise, although inadvertently that is what it often does, according to the website.

Collin Cox, BAA president, said editorial independence, support from university officials and financial funding are vital components in preserving a high-quality magazine. But Cox elevated editorial independence as the most important component out of the three.

"We think our readers appreciate a voice that is separate from the university and not managed by the university," Cox said. "So when there are difficult issues, we can comment on things with multiple perspectives." Editorial independence is what distinguishes the Baylor Line from Baylor Magazine, Cox said, the latter of which began in 2002 as an official publication of the university.

The two publications appear similar, as they both speak about the culture at Baylor, but the content often differs. Baylor Magazine celebrates the positive aspects of the university while the Baylor Line oftentimes reports from a more critical, albeit less glamorous, standpoint.

"We do celebrate the good things about Baylor, but there are times when we want to read differ-

SEE **LINE,** page 7



TRAVIS TAYLOR | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR The name of The Baylor Line magazine depends on the vote on the Transition Agreement of the Baylor Alumni Association on Sept. 7. The Line, a quarterly publication, has been in print since 1946.



SPORTS p. 6

Baylor's senior experience at defensive end is an anchor of the defensive line.



NEWS p. 3

Puppies raise their paws to celebrate microchipping as a part of a new Waco city ordinance



WEB

The baylor bookstore gears up for the fall semester with a new tech service center



First copy free. Additional copies 50 cents each.

Opinion Thursday | September 5, 2013

New grading scale bad for students, university

Editorial

Baylor recently announced that as of summer 2014, it would be renovating its grading system from a system that only had plus grades to a system that has plus and minus grades.

In other words, not only can you receive a B+, but you can also receive an A-.

Granted, many other schools utilize a plus/minus system and it does allow professors to have a greater range when assigning grades, but Baylor is adding rigor to an already rigorous academic system. Even outside of Texas, Baylor is known for its rigorous academics, even with its strictly plus system.

Under the new system, an A would still earn a student four grade points per hour. An A-, on the other hand, would only earn students 3.67 grade points.

This policy would be effective across the university so even the Graduate School, law school and Truett Seminary, which already utilize plus/minus system, will be affected. Under the new grading system, graduate and Truett Seminary students who make an A- would no longer be a 3.75 but the standardized 3.67. Again, we commend Baylor for standardizing the grading system across the university, but it's

unnecessarily artificially deflating grades for the sake of continuity. Baylor has a long history of striving for excellence and we concede that this move is consistent with this goal. However, this change will make it even more difficult for students to do things such as maintain their scholarships and financial aid or apply to professional school.

The new grading system would only deflate grades. Under the system, receiving a minus grade or even a plus grade would deflate a student's GPA compared to the current system. In general, it gives students lower GPAs for the same work output.

As it is, all regents' scholarships and several other full-tuition scholarships at Baylor require students to maintain a 3.5 grade point aver-

Most other scholarships require a 3.0 GPA. This is already a difficult GPA to maintain even with a strictly plus system.

The drop from four grade points to 3.67 grade points for the same numerical results could lead to some harsh consequences for students.

This would make it more difficult for students to maintain their scholarships and as such, more students may have to withdraw from the university.

Additionally, the criteria for setting what is the equivalent to an A- may differ between professors, which would jeopardize consistency among course grades across sections of a particular class. According to the registrar's Frequently Asked Questions about the Grading Policy Change, "Students should refer to individual course syllabi to determine how instructors intend to use the grading scale."

There is currently no guideline or suggested standard about what an A-, B- or C- will constitute. One professor may decide an A- is a 90-93 while another may decide that an A- is an 88-89. Since Baylor is adopting the new grading scale, some published guidelines may help students feel more at ease about the changes.

These small differences can not only affect students' GPAs but also give an unfair advantage to students who register early and as such can pick professors that have a more lenient grading system.

At least with the current plus system, there is some commonality with the grading system, some predictability in the manner.

Sure, in the real world, true requirements are not always known, but for students who work hard day after day to strive for excellence in very difficult classes, it's an added stressor about the best way to ensure that they are not only learning as much as they can, but that their GPA reflects that.

And as much as we would like to say it's all about learning, for

students who strive for medical, graduate or law school, minute differences can mean the difference

between an acceptance and a rejection.

More information about the

new grading policy can be found at http://www.baylor.edu/registrar/ gradingpolicy.

NCAA dropped ball on Manziel

Johnny Manziel is no stranger to preferential treatment. The Texas A&M quarterback and Heisman Trophy winner, who has been dubbed "Johnny Football," comes from a family of success and oil wealth.

Behind Manziel's fame and fortune is the story of a kid who has a lot of growing up to do, while the NCAA allows him to sink.

ESPN reported on Aug. 4 that the NCAA was investigating claims that Johnny Manziel accepted payment for autographs he signed back in January and that a broker came forward and claimed he had paid Manziel \$7,500 to sign 300 football helmets while attending gone through an entire investigation in that time frame.



NCAA doesn't suspend Manziel]," Bryant said. "I will be mad."

"I will be mad more at the NCAA on how they do things," Bryant said. "I just feel like it's not fair. This is something I have no problem talking about because I feel like somebody needs to say something to him and let it be known how they treat people is not right."

The NCAA's response to Manziel gives a precedent that he is bigger than football. Two-and-ahalf-month investigations were put aside to hurry and exonerate Manziel. For the stars of the college football television, exceptions will clearly be made.

A similar situation is former

field after his half a slap on the wrist, his performance certainly spoke for itself. He completed six out his eight passes for 94 yards and three touchdowns in only one quarter. But the win wasn't enough for Manziel. He had to embarrass the Owls.

Before throwing his first touchdown, Manziel appeared to taunt a Rice defender by pretending to sign an autograph. On another instance, he appeared to rub his fingers together in the universal symbol for "money." Later on in the game, he was benched by Aggie football coach Kevin Sumlin for taunting Rice by pointing at the scoreboard after another touchwn throw.





A cell phone video provided reportedly shows Manziel signing all

the helmets, but does not directly show him receiving the money. Would a kid who has repeatedly shown his all-about-me per-

sonality sign 300 helmets out of the goodness of his heart?

The NCAA held a hearing with Manziel on Aug. 24. ESPN reported that it questioned him for six hours straight before letting him go. A decision was reached four days later. Four days.

Concurrent with this investigation, Miami football has been under investigation. The committee to decide Miami's fate has been deliberating for more than two and a half months with no response. The investigation of Cam Newton in 2011 dragged out over most of a football season.

In fact, the average wait time for a BCS school after final hearing is more than three months. Not Johnny Football, though. Manziel got out of hot water in only four days. It typically takes the NCAA four days to tie its shoes, and suddenly it has

And that investigation led the NCAA to suspend Manziel for the first half of its first game. Or as many people on Twitter joked, he received "half a slap on the wrist."

The suspension of "Johnny Football" exposes the NCAA for the mismanaged and corrupt organization that it is.

In 2009, current Dallas Cowboy and former Oklahoma State wide receiver Dez Bryant was put under investigation for a meeting he had with Deion Sanders. Bryant was brought into a room and questioned about the meeting.

"The manner they asked the questions led me to believe that I did something wrong when in fact I had not," Bryant said later.

The relationship between the two players was entirely legal. But Bryant didn't know that. He did not have a lawyer, he did not know the rules and he assumed the NCAA wouldn't ask him questions if he was not wrong, so he lied.

That lie led to the NCAA to suspend him for an entire season.

"Hell yeah, I'll be mad [if the

USC running back and current Detroit Lion Reggie Bush. NCAA investigations surrounding him were pushed back until after he was already in the NFL and the television money was already raked in. Would the investigation have been quicker if Bush weren't making the NCAA millions?

Even if Manziel is only guilty of "inadvertent violations regarding the signing of autographs," half a game is light. In the eyes of some fans, the half a game suspension is an effort to save face while also allowing Manziel to play in the games that matter financially for college football. Even the halfa-game suspension meant that the country turned on the season opener to see Manziel play after halftime.

I don't blame Manziel for the investigation, and neither does Bryant. Manziel did what was asked of him by college football. This is a problem with how the NCAA does things. I blame Manziel for his response.

When Manziel came on the

"I'm not saying he's a punk, but he acted like a punk in that game," former Chicago Bears linebacker Brian Urlacher said on his Fox Sports 1 show. "He's making plays out there and running around and running his mouth."

Urlacher knows Manziel has the talent.

"He's such a good football player. You saw in the second half, what he did - three touchdown passes and ran it pretty well. It's just too bad he had to act like that."

Rice finished 10th in non-BCS Conference USA last season. Texas A&M is the seventh ranked team in the country. The Aggies beat Rice easily.

When Manziel takes the chance to pretend to write autographs and collect money, he is laughing in the face of the NCAA's investigation. But as long as the television dollars continue to pile in, Manziel is untouchable.

Shehan Jeyarajah is a sophomore political science and journalism double major from Coppell. He is a sports writer for the Lariat.

The Baylor Lariat on Facebook



Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor should include the writer's name, hometown, major, classification and phone number.

Non-student writers should include their address. Please try to limit your response to 300 words.

Once submitted, each letter is given a headline that is intended to capture the main point of the letter and is not intended as a statement of fact.

All submissions become the property of The Baylor Lariat. The Lariat reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, length, libel and style.

> Letters should be e-mailed to Lariat_Letters@baylor.edu.

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Opinion

The Baylor Lariat welcomes reader viewpoints through letters to the editor and guest columns. Opinions expressed in the Lariat are not necessarily those of the Baylor administration, the Baylor Board of Regents or the Student Publications Board.

Advertising inquiries: Lariat_Ads@baylor.edu

Campus gyms get summer makeover, new machines

By Nico Zulli Reporter

As Baylor students hit the fitness center of the McLane Student Life Center this semester, they can expect to break a sweat on the newest workout equipment on campus.

Every summer, machines in the fitness center are assessed and replaced by the newest technology available. This summer, the SLC welcomed 10 new cardiovascular machines, including four treadmills with personal viewing screens, two ellipticals, two adaptive motion trainers, one recumbent bike and one upright bike.

"I am really pumped about all of the new cardio machines and can't wait to try them all out," said Frisco senior Lauryn Hill.

But the SLC is not the only gym on campus to receive a machinery makeover.

"What's even more exciting is that all of our older equipment is actually being moved to Martin and Russell Gym, so it is sort of getting a makeover as well," said Rockwall sophomore Rachel Chaney, a fitness staff member at the SLC.

Van Davis, assistant director for fitness and nutrition education, said Baylor is fortunate to have the luxury of having the equipment in the fitness center on a four year rotation plan.

"We have a line in our operating budget dedicated to replacing the fitness equipment," she said. "Each year we replace about 25 percent of our cardio machines and about 10 percent of our weight training machines. Each piece is cataloged and put on a replacement cycle."

This operating budget allotted to campus recreation is about 75 percent university funded and about 25 percent student fee funded

"Even the machines that we transfer out to Martin and Russell gyms are four years old or less; and the SLC receives the newest, best-working machines in replacement," she said. "So as this class of 2017 enters Baylor - when they graduate, so will the machines we just got."

Davis also said the SLC can anticipate at least one or two more improvements during the fall semester, including an Olympic platform for weight lifters and a glutehamstring machine.

"The SLC makeover makes me feel like Baylor not only cares about our health and wellness but is striving to ensure that students have the safest and most efficient workout experience possible," said Framingham, Mass., junior Sydney Smiley.

The McLane Student Life Center is open 6 a.m. to midnight Monday through Thursday and 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday. Weekend and holiday hours vary and can be checked at baylor.edu/campusrec.



TRAVIS TAYLOR | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

Denver, Colo., freshman Annalise Pequette (left) and Estancia, N.M., freshman Mikayla Calhoon work out on the new elliptical trainers at the Student Life Center on Wednesday, August 28.



Cats and dogs at the Humane Society of Central Texas wait Aug. 28 for a new home or for the end.

Waco pets to get free microchips

By Rebecca Fiedler STAFF WRITER

In response to the city of Waco's new ordinance that requires all pets to be microchipped, the Animal Birth Control Clinic will be offering a free microchip clinic from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday at their location on 3238 Clay Ave.

The new Waco city ordinance requires all cats and dogs of Waco residents to be spayed or neutered and microchipped.

This must be done by Jan. 1, 2014, said Carrie Kuehl, executive director of the Animal Birth Control Clinic. The city of Waco is sponsoring Sunday's free microchipping clinic, Kuehl said, to meet the needs of citizens.

'The city of Waco doesn't want to be an undue financial burden on people who need help getting the microchip," Kuehl said.

The clinic will offer more than 100 free microchip applications for dogs and cats, Kuehl said. She added that appointments are not necessary, and pet owners must be residents of Waco. Owners will need to bring in their Waco water bill to prove their residency.

Mandak senior Rebekah Zinnikas has worked for the Humane Society of Central Texas and has given microchips to dogs. She recommends students get their dogs microchipped.

She added that she has seen dogs come in to the Humane Society who are not microchipped, and there was no good way to find the owner.

"It's super simple," Zinnikas said.

When a pet is brought into a rescue facility, one of the first things to do is check for a microchip in the animal. A microchip is the size of a grain of rice and is iniected between the shoulder blades of the animal.

The data stored inside a Webbased database include the pet's name, description, age, residency address, veterinary contact information, owner's email and phone number. The contact information of a second person is also listed in case the owner is unreachable.

Kuehl said the insertion of a microchip is much like giving a vaccine and takes about the same amount of time to administer.

"Most pets don't even flinch when it's given," she said. "It's something about where it's implanted."

Kuehl also pointed out that inserting a microchip into a pet could also help save its life. If a pet finds itself at the Waco Animal Shelter, she said, the shelter will hold the animal for the duration of what they refer to as "stray hold time," which is normally three days. Pets who are not picked up can be adopted or euthanized. For a pet that is microchipped, however, that time will be extended to 10 days.

'Say you lost your phone, and you don't have a phone number and somehow they can't get ahold of you," she added. "They give you that extra time. That's important, because your pet won't be transferred to another rescue partner, either within the city or out somewhere else in the state."

Microchips are not a total protection against euthanasia, Kuehl said. If a pet held at a rescue facility becomes ill, unadoptable or the owner can't be reached, it could be euthanized.

Another benefit of microchipping is if Waco Animal Control picks up a pet within Waco city limits and scans the pet's microchip, the city of Waco has arranged for the animal to get a free ride home to its owner, Kuehl said.

"It's one of the most important things you can do for the health and safety of your pet, along with spaying or neutering," she said.

The Animal Birth Control Clinic will evaluate the popularity of Sunday's free clinic and will have a discussion with the City of Waco about having another clinic. Students who have not had their cat or dog microchipped can also access other Waco clinics for microchipping at www.waco-texas.com/ animal-control-ordinances.asp.





a 10-pounder

"Last month, I joined a team in San Francisco to start working on a Silicon Valley project. Come to find out, a few of the clients share my passion for fly-fishing. And some of the best in the world is just a short drive into the Northern Sierras.

Needless to say, when we head out on weekends, we take the phrase Gone Fishing' to a whole new level."

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ANAPP MADE FOR A BEAR.





Arts & Entertainment

Thursday | September 5, 2013

Good Time

Folk music favorite comes back again to coffee shop stage

> By Michael Davidson Reporter

Texas folk musician David Ramirez returns to Common Grounds Coffeehouse once again, performing live tonight. This stop is only one of many on his most recent tour that will take him around the United States from New York City to Los Angeles.

Ramirez's most recent work, "The Rooster EP," was released in May as a follow-up to his 2012 "Apologies" album, which debuted at No. 2 on iTunes' Singer-Songwriter chart.

"Although I'm now writing more about love, this isn't an upbeat pop record," Ramirez recently told AmericanSongwriter.com regarding the EP. "I'm still carrying my low-tempo, melancholy self through these beautiful new moments."

As an Austin native, Ramirez has had many opportunities to play at Common Grounds and has since become a consistent fixture of the venue.

"David has played here a handful of times, maybe five to six times," barista Ryan McNiel said. "I've met him a couple times and he is a great guy. He's really down to earth and friendly to everyone he talks to."

His performances over the years at the local coffee shop, along with his heartfelt music and friendly demeanor, has also built him a solid fan base among students and locals alike.

"He always puts on a really good performance," said Bailey Bettencourt, a Wamego, Kan., junior and Common Grounds. "Since it's just him and an acoustic guitar, his shows are very intimate and cool."

While a typical Common Grounds show is attended primarily by Baylor students, McNiel said, bigger artists such as Ramirez bring in a more diverse audience, including students, Wacoans and traveling fans from Austin and Dallas.

Adding more local flair, Waco artist O, Loveland will open the show with its own unique brand of folk music. The former Uproar Records band is composed of newlywed duo Clark and Amy Jones, a Baylor alumnus and a Loveland, Ohio, senior respectively, who will also join Ramirez for his next show in Abilene on Friday.

The concert will also mark the first use of Common Grounds' newly extended stage area. The recent renovation will certainly be utilized, as McNiel said a typical show by Ramirez usually brings in about 200



ROBBY HIRST | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Off-campus coffeehouse Common Grounds offers more than just java. Open Mic nights allow talented students, faculty and Wacoans the chance to steal the spotlight. Local and visiting artists are featured regularly, bringing the Waco and Baylor community a cultured vibe with their cup of coffee.

Open Mic amateur nights showcase local, student talent in off-campus spotlight

By Haley Davis Reporter

Exposure: This is what artists can gain by performing at Open Mic.

This event takes place every Wednesday evening at a local coffee shop near Baylor's campus, Common Grounds. It is free to attend and to perform.

"Open Mic is a long-standing tradition," said Wes Butler, live event coordinator at Common Grounds.

From students to faculty to visitors, this weekly event is open to anyone and everyone.

"We have several people who even come from out of town just to perform at our Open Mic," Butler said.

The sign-up list is posted inside the coffee shop every Thursday. Single and duo performers can sign up for a 15-minute slot to perform anything they wish.

"We really like it when artists perform original music, but cover songs are welcomed as well," Butler said.

formed at Open Mic several times since his freshman year at Baylor and said it's a great place to explore talent without the pressure of a booked gig.

"Open Mic offers a medium for artists to be themselves and express themselves as they see fit, without constraints or expectations," Stevenson said.

"We can't give them money, but we can give them exposure."

Wes Butler | Common Grounds live event coordinator

Over the last four semesters since Butler began as live event coordinator, Open Mic has added a featured "Artist of the Week" where hand-picked artists headline Open Mic with a 30-minute full-band performance. "These are people who are serious about doing music for their career," Butler said. "We can't give them money, but we can give them exposure. We want to find local talent."

Anyone can be an "Artist of the Week" at Open Mic, and after proving his or her talent, only the best of the best get chosen for this honor.

Upcoming featured artists this semester include Dreamboat, Daniel Gonzales from College Station, Andrew Sullivan, Bob Johns and many more. Past artists include Trannie Stevens, Savion Wright and Aprilemade.

"We really recognize the artists who put in the legwork to put on a good show," Butler said.

On Sept. 25, artists Tye Barrett and Haley Barnes will perform all original songs and explain the inspiration behind them at the event, "Songwriters in the Round."

"You leave those nights wanting to write music," Butler said about the event.

On the Common Grounds website, Butler says his goal is to book relevant artists that interest both Baylor students and community members, and he feels that local art is one of the many things that defines a community. To learn more about upcoming shows, visit the Common Grounds website at www.cgwaco. com, Facebook page or blog.

people.

The show starts at 8 p.m. Pre-sale tickets are \$10 or they can be purchased at the door for \$12. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit the Common Grounds website at cgwaco.com. However, performers are not limited to only performing music. Daring amateurs can also perform poetry or comedy, to name a few.

Kingwood senior David Stevenson has per-



Senior experience at defensive end anchors defense

BAYLOR

By Shehan Jeyarajah SPORTS WRITER

Baylor football did what they were expected to do and more in a 69-3 thrashing of FCS opponent Wofford on Saturday night in Waco.

While the Bears' offense is expected to produce loads of points, most eyes were on the defensive side of the ball.

Baylor has historically been a poor defensive program. In the first half of last season, they ranked last in most FBS statistical categories.

Through seven games, Baylor allowed an average of 553.71 yards per game. That would have broken the all-time record for yards allowed per game if they continued at that porous pace.

In the second half of the season, Baylor's defense vastly improved. They held opponents to 442.16 yards per game in the last six games.

The Bears forced 11 turnovers in the second half compared to seven in the first half of the season.

In fact, Baylor's defense has forced two or more turnovers in seven of its last eight games dating back to last season. They have gone 6-2 in that stretch.

Baylor is returning a vast majority of the starting defense from last season, including senior defensive ends Terrance Lloyd and Chris McAllister.

We've got great depth at defensive end," said head football coach Art Briles. "Terrance and Chris have been doing their thing for the better part of three years, so

these other guys will have to show bursts in the opportunities they are given."

McAllister has been a key defensive contributor the last two seasons. In the Holiday Bowl against UCLA and Saturday against Wofford combined, he has six tackles and three sacks. The icing on the cake was a batted pass that he picked off and ran for a 25-yard touchdown to break the game wide open against Wofford.

"When I realized I couldn't get to the quarterback, I just tried to get up and get my hands up," McAllister said. "When the ball tipped the way it did, I knew I could return it for a touchdown if I just caught the ball."

Highly tout ed Penn State transfer Shawn Oakman was also able to get in-game experience and made a clear impact with pressure at the line of scrimmage.

He recorded six tackles, including 3.5 for loss. That number puts him second in all of college football.

Sophomore defensive end Jamal Palmer has pro-

TAYLOR | LARIAT PHOTO ED nsive end Chris McAlliste vided a spark for the Baylor defense and a bright glimpse into the future. He finished with five tackles, a sack, 1.5 tackles for loss, a forced fumble and two fumble recoveries.

The interior defensive line is filled with young talent. The Bears started against Wofford with two sophomores in-

side: Beau Blackshear and Trevor Clemons-Valdez. Clemons-Valdez did an admirable job filling in, as he was not projected to start at the beginning of the season.

defensive Sophomore tackle Javonte Magee, the projected starter, missed the game against Wofford due to a personal situation.

Coach Briles expected Magee to be back last week but is not concerned with the situation

Off the bench, Baylor has local product and true freshman Andrew Billings, a four-star recruit and the 12th highest rated defensive tackle in the Class of 2013 by Rivals.

Even though Blackshear and Magee have a stranglehold on the position, Billings will prove to be a crucial player for the Bears by providing depth on the interior.

The defense held Wofford to only 233 yards, including 2.9 yards per carry. Wofford was hassled by heavy pressure on the Wofford quarterback by the defensive line.

"I expect to see the defense you saw on Saturday heading forward," Lloyd said. "We strive for perfection."

> *"We've got great depth"* at defensive end. *Terrance and Chris* have been doing their thing for the better part of three years, so these other guys will have to show bursts in the opportunities they are given."

Art Briles | Baylor head coach

After struggling early in the game against the run, McAllister is confident in Baylor's line heading forward.

"We adjusted throughout the game. We were able to tighten things up. I think we'll be able to figure things out in terms of stopping the run as we go along."

For the first time in a long time, Baylor's defensive line might have the talent to do just that.

Baylor football returns at 2:30 p.m. Saturday at Floyd Casey Stadium against Buffalo.

Team chemistry plays vital role in gridiron success

By Parmida Schahhosseini SPORTS WRITER

Chemistry is not just a science, but also an art. A team can have all the talent in the world, but without chemistry, the team can falter. Just look at the 2012-2013 Los Angeles Lakers and how they flopped with an all-star roster. Fortunately for Baylor's high-powered offense, the chemistry continues to grow.

Baylor's offensive firepower has the nation watching as head coach Art Briles has turned the Bears into consistent contenders with a notoriously explosive offensive attack. Baylor put up 692 yards of offense against Wofford, the third most in

program history. After two years of stellar quar-

struck a cord with Briles. "I think we will find out as we go along," Briles said. "Just like Bryce Petty his identity will be called out by other people or by himself, but I think we got a little taste of what Antwan can do. We backed off him pretty quickly the other night, he got a little bit nicked, took a shot in the back, but he's just a big powerful guy that can stretch the field and also catch underneath stuff. He can get some yards after the catch because of his physical presence. He will just continue to get better and better as the season goes on and then we can involve him a little more?

Football is a team sport and great play from position players can only go so far. The offense



terback play from Robert Griffin III and Nick Florence, Petty displayed that the Briles system is not a fluke. Petty threw for 312 yards and completed 19-of-24 passes for two touchdowns.

"He played well," senior running back Glasco Martin said. "He was poised and made good decisions down the field for the most part. His arm looked strong and I thought he did a great job."

Consistent quarterback play is important, but football games are won in the trenches. Baylor's offensive line was productive by allowing only two sacks and giving junior quarterback Bryce Petty plenty of time to operate in the pocket. The receivers benefited from the offensive execution and relished the opportunities to produce big numbers.

"Without those guys I wouldn't be getting the ball to score touchdowns," junior wide receiver Antwan Goodley said. "Those guys are great. I don't worry about them and I have faith in them 100 percent that they will get the job done on every play."

The domioffensive nant line gave receivers time to separate from the defender. Goodley had a breakout game making the most of his five receptions gaining 90 yards and scoring a touchdown. De-

spite the production, the only thing on Goodley's mind is contributing to the team.

"Doing what ever I can to help my team win," Goodley said. "Producing."

This unselfish attitude allows for Baylor's chemistry to strengthen. The faith the players have in each other leads to better production, especially when the opposition turns up the pressure.

Goodley's production also

needs to work together in order to get the job done. Baylor's balanced offense was on display against Wofford. Baylor scored five rushing touchdowns on 281 yards and three passing touchdowns on 411 yards.

The Bears must put together a cohesive performance in order to replicate last weekend's production. Junior running back and Heisman hopeful Lache Seastrunk started his campaign strong, rushing for 111 yards on 11 carries for two touchdowns. Despite the numbers Seastrunk puts up, he doesn't take all the credit for his production.

"I move as far as my O-linemen move, so the better they are, the better I am," Seastrunk said.

Seastrunk will also lean on his receivers to carry the load.

The receivers' speed and physical presence will be important in order to stretch the field.

The extra burst of speed allowed senior inside receiver Tevin Reese to run past a defender to catch a 44-yard pass from Petty.

Goodley]

Seastrunk

catch the ball, so

can

"T - R e e s e with the dra-"I move as far as my matic catch, Corey *O-linemen move, so* Coleman, Robbie the better they are, the Rhodes, AG [Anbetter I am." twan Levi [Norwood] we have a complete Lache Seastrunk | Junior set." running back said. "The possibilities are endless. Anybody

> it's a wonderful thing to have." The high-octane offense is firing up the Baylor fan base.

Against Wofford, 44,989 people attended the game, second most for an opening day game since Floyd Casey opened.

The crowd was just unbelievable," Briles said. "We have been hearing that it was going to be a great crowd and it was. It was an enthusiastic crowd, it was a Baylor crowd."

FRAVIS TAYLOR | LARIAT PHOTO EDIT

Junior quarterback Bryce Petty and junior running back Lache Seastrunk prepare to run a play against Wofford on Saturday. The Bears defeated Wofford 69-3. Even though quarterbacks and running backs receive immense publicity, it takes an entire unit to execute on the gridiron at a high level.

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NO from Page 1 -

read the Baylor Line before it is published.

"I edited it for 25 years," she said. "I was never asked by anyone at Baylor not to publish anything and I was never read by anyone at Baylor."

Nesbitt said he is concerned that Baylor might exercise control over The Baylor Line.

"Baylor has steadfastly insisted that the new agreement require the Baylor Line to provide ongoing and consistent support and that the Baylor Line advance university goals and objectives," he said. "Those are not provisions that are in the current license agreement."

The Baylor Line is not meant to make money for Baylor, Miller said, and it is meant to inform and alumni already know everything is

not always good with Baylor.

"Why should we trust them to make a new agreement about the Baylor Line?" Miller said.

Because of the threat of license termination, Castello said it seems the university trying to get rid of the BAA.

"Why would you say an institution that has been going here for 154 years can't use the name Baylor anymore?" She said.

Castello said it is possible that in the case of a 'no' vote, the BAA and Baylor would enter litigation. "What's wrong with litigation?"

Castello asked. "The alumni association has been independently chartered for a long time and I think the university is saying things like 'we can keep you from using the name Baylor.' There are lots of

things we could call ourselves."

Students should be aware of the Transition Agreement and all its aspects because it affects them, Nesbitt said.

"You're going to forever be linked to Baylor University as a graduate," he said. "I, as an alumnus, believe that what is best for Baylor is for alumni to have a voice in how the university is governed. The Baylor Alumni Association serves as a voice for alumni."

Miller also said students should know the results of the BAA vote Saturday.

"The value of a Baylor degree either increases or decreases with time," she said. "They need to keep in touch with Baylor to ensure their degree is connected with prestige in the future."

YES from Page 1

Cox said. "It will continue to be absolutely independent." Cox said he believes the magazine will have more editorial protection with the new agreement.

Some people have voiced concerns that having an independent alumni voice is necessary to act as a watchdog for the university.

In response, Starr said, "My view is that the watchdog of the university is first and foremost the [faculty] senate and then the student body. They are here, they are invested and they know."

In regards to the termination notice issued on May 31, Starr said it was part of the negotiations that occurred during the past year.

"This is all a package - this was all worked out over the course of 10-month period negotiations that

LINE from Page 1

ent perspectives," Cox said.

John Barry, a Baylor vice president and the Chief Marketing Officer, said that should the BAA merge with the university, the Line's editorial independence would continue.

association."

Still said.

Dr. Todd Still, the Faculty Sen-

"My fear is if there is a no vote,

ate chair and faculty regent, said he

this would likely result in further

fracturing of Baylor family and

perhaps litigation would ensue,"

sible and likely that litigation be-

tween Baylor and the BAA would

dent for constituent engagement,

said litigation would cost both

ensue if the vote is no.

sides a lot of money.

Cox and Still both said it is pos-

Tommye Lou Davis, vice presi-

"It will be especially damaging

fears the potential of a no vote.

"One of the things that's been said is that somehow when we go forward, we will impose editorial control over The Line," Barry said. 'What they fail to mention — and what's critical - is that because they have a license, we have quality control."

Quality control is different from editorial control. Control of quality means control over trademark policies and has nothing to do with content.

Since 1993, the university has had the right to review every issue of The Line before publication for quality.

The 1993 licensing agreement between the university and the BAA says that if Baylor finds that the quality of any service or product being offered or sold in The Line under this license is not "reasonable and is unacceptable," it must notify the BAA in writing and specify any changes it deems as necessary to obtain an acceptable and reasonable level of quality. The BAA agrees that in such an occurrence it will make the changes in a reasonable period of time and thereafter maintain an acceptable and reasonable level of quality.

Barry said the university will continue its right to review if the agreement passes.

The check is not to sign off on content," Barry said. "We're not telling them 'we don't like this story. We don't do any of that stuff. The notion of censorship is not true."

The university reviews the magazine only to ensure there are no trademark problems or ads that are not licensed to use the Baylor name, Barry said.

The 1993 agreement further says that except for the BAA's obligation to properly use the license marks and maintain an acceptable and

culminated in late May," Starr said. to the Baylor brand," she said. She "The termination notice has been said this is a family matter, so damon the website, so it's not just availaging the brand name would not able to the leadership of the alumni be good.

"A no vote does not restore the status quo," Starr said. "A no vote ushers in a very unfortunate period, but the university feels the call to move forward. We must move forward with our unified, comprehensive alumni outreach effort."

Starr said students should be aware of what occurs with the Transition Agreement.

"Every student now is a future alumna or alumnus," Starr said. "We will have stability going forward as a unified voice."

reasonable level of quality, Baylor has no con-

trol over the BAA. For example, it is understood

that the BAA is an independent 'voice' of Bay-

lor alumni, and the positions taken by the BAA

(editorial or otherwise) which may be contrary

to Baylor administration or its Board of Regents

will not be alleged by Baylor as insufficient

quality and will not be grounds for Baylor's ter-

the BAA of the pending termination of the li-

if the agreement does not pass. If the agreement

does pass, the university will disregard the ter-

mination and "create a new license of BU trade-

should the agreement pass, "the Baylor Line

magazine will be published by the Baylor Line

Corporation's independent board of directors."

On May 31, the university formally notified

The license will automatically be terminated

A letter from Cox on the BAA website states

For students, this means the Baylor Line

mination of the license agreement.

cense to use the Baylor name.

marks" for The Line.

ERA from Page 1 ---

Line Corp. The purpose of the nonprofit Texas corporation would be to produce The Baylor Line in print and online.

The Baylor Line Corporation's board of directors would be required to permit a Baylor vice president to speak on all matters involving the Baylor Line Corporation.

A new license to use the Baylor name would be issued to the Baylor Line Corporation should the agreement pass

The license "will be to provide an independent platform from which to provide the exchange of ideas to help advance Baylor University and ensure

the continuation of its distinctive role in higher education," according to the agreement.

The original license was terminated May 31 in a letter sent to the BAA from the board of regents. The termination is suspended until Sept. 8 and will become effective should the agreement not pass. If the agreement does pass, Baylor will withdraw the termination and the old license agreement will become void.

Dr. Todd Still, the Faculty Senate chair and faculty regent, said it's possible litigation could ensue if the agreement does not pass.

"I think after that it would likely

be the case that the association would be prohibited from using the Baylor brand," Still said. "If they can't use the Baylor brand, it would be hard for them to do that which they do. This would lead to some kind of legal battle."

Cox also said litigation between the BAA and Baylor is likely to occur after a no vote.

"Baylor will say, 'You cannot use the Baylor name with the Baylor Line or Baylor Alumni Association," Cox said.

The complete documentation of the Transition Agreement is available online at www.bayloralumniassociation. com.





In the Baylor trenches Baylor ROTC members meet at Fountain Mall to practice a variety of skills including drills such as army-crawling and standing at attention on Wednesday.

Teen dead in high school stabbing



Want to Teach Math

magazine will not be accepting any interns until the agreement is settled and plans for the magazine are more concrete. Chad Wooten, interim executive vice president of the BAA, said the fate of The Line is uncertain as of right now.

"We've taken interns for years and we plan to take them in the future, but we don't want to put students in a bad situation where they don't get course credit for their work halfway through the semester," Wooten said. "It's not fair to the students."

Wooten said internships could be available as early as Sept. 9, but no one can foresee the future and know for sure.

Even though the Line did not take any summer interns, the magazine was published regularly over summer. A special issue of the Baylor Line is now available online for the public to read.

By Michael Graczyk Associated Press

SPRING - A fight inside a Houston-area high school escalated into a series of stabbings Wednesday that left a 17-year-old student dead and three others wounded, sheriff's officials said.

The stabbings happened during a fight between several students in a school corridor. The Harris County Sheriff's Department said 17-yearold student Luis Alonzo Alfaro pulled a knife during the fight and fatally stabbed one student and wounded three others.

Alfaro admitted to the stabbing under questioning by homicide detectives and was charged with murder, the Sheriff's Department said Wednesday evening in a statement.

Alfaro is booked into a Harris County jail with bail set at \$50,000. A preliminary court hearing is scheduled for Friday. Online court records list no attorney for Alfaro. A telephone call to a number listed with his home address connected to a fax machine.

Authorities provided few details on what may have led to the fight, and no other information was available on the teenager who was killed.

"We believe a confrontation of some sort occurred ... that ultimately led into a physical confrontation that produced weapons," Sheriff Adrian Garcia said. "There has been some information that this may have been gang-related."

School district officials canceled classes at the high school for the rest of the week.

Some parents said the fight was the continuation of a disturbance that broke out Tuesday.



Baylor Alumni are Lining Up to Support a Unified Baylor

The September 7 vote on the Baylor University/Baylor Alumni Association transition agreement marks an important day in our history. Leaders from across the university, the alumni association and the alumni body at large have spoken out, encouraging others to vote "yes" in favor of the agreement.

Judge Ken Starr, President of Baylor University **Baylor University Board of Regents Baylor Alumni Association Executive Committee Baylor Alumni Association Board of Directors Baylor Faculty Senate Baylor Staff Council**

Meredith Pinson-Creasey, BA '84, member, BAA Board of Directors

Grant Teaff, legendary Baylor football coach and BAA life member

Carroll Webb, BBA '47, BAA life member and WWII veteran

Joe Baxter, BBA '49, BAA life member and president of International Achievement Inc.

Baylor Student Senate

Former Student Government Officers from the Classes of 1956-2013

BAA President Collin Cox, BA '97 and life member

Silas Ragsdale, BA '75, BAA President-Elect and life member

Kyle Gilley, BBA '94, BAA Secretary and life member

Wilton Lanning, BA '62, BAA life member and longtime Waco business leader

Randy Fields, BBA '70, MBA '71, JD '77, former BAA President and life member

M. Stephen Beard, BBA '71, JD '73, BAA life member and Waco attorney

John Howard, BA '85, BAA life member; senior manager for global policy at Dell

If you are a Baylor Alumni Association member, we invite you to join the chorus of those speaking out in support of the Transition Agreement. Vote "yes" on September 7 and together let's move Baylor forward.

Waco Hall • September 7 • 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. • Vote "Yes"

Then come to Floyd Casey Stadium, united in our support for the Baylor Bears.

Shuttle service available. Park at Floyd Casey and catch the Baylor Shuttle to/from Waco Hall beginning at 11:15 a.m. and running every 15 minutes until the end of the first quarter. Shuttle stop located on the South (Dutton) side of the Stadium.

We're Moving **SAYI OR F** SEPTEMBER 7, 20