



DREW MILLS | ROUND UP STAFF

Baylor football players runs onto the field before playing West Virginia on Oct. 5 at Floyd Casey Stadium in Waco. The Bears defeated the Mountaineers 73-42.

# Unfinished business

## No. 10 Baylor charges into 2014 with hopes of a national championship

By SHEHAN JEYARAJAH  
SPORTS EDITOR

Baylor football was hardly even on the radar at the beginning of last season. The preseason Associated Press poll in 2013 had Baylor on the outside looking in, and the preseason Big 12 poll picked the Bears to finish fifth, behind Texas, TCU and both Oklahoma teams.

What a difference a year and an improbable Big 12 championship makes.

Baylor is ranked in the top 10 of both the Amway Coaches' Poll and the Associated Press poll for the first time since 1957. Its uniforms were named best in the country by a fan poll by the Sporting News. And to cap things off, Baylor will open the \$260 million McLane Stadium on the banks of the Brazos in an intra-state matchup with SMU on Aug. 31.

To put it simply, Baylor football is one of the hottest programs in the country.

"There's an excitement around this program," senior quarterback Bryce Petty said. "We're not here to defend anything; we're here to attack it. There's a new belt that's out there, and we're going to get it."

There have been many programs where the stars aligned and led to a conference championship; this season will be the stage where Baylor will either prove itself as a flash in the pan, or establish itself as a legitimate national power.

**Dynamic offense**  
If Baylor wants to improve on its historic success from 2013, the onus will fall largely on Petty. The sixth-year senior threw for 4,200 yards and accounted for 46 all-purpose touchdowns in his first year starting. Despite the video-game-numbers, Petty just missed being a finalist for the Heisman Trophy.

"Personally and professionally, I'm a little upset about the way it all transpired last year," Baylor coach Art Briles said. "I certainly felt like he should have been in New York

without question. I mean, you're a first-year starter, you win 11 football games, win the Big 12 Championship for the first time in school history, throw 4,200 yards, 32 TDs, three picks, and you sit at home in December?"

Petty will make his case to win Baylor's second Heisman in four years, and will have every opportunity to do so with the talent Baylor's offense has to offer. The Bears lost only two major receivers from last year's team. They return All-American Antwan Goodley, along with other major contributors at both inside and wide receiver.

Baylor also added the strongest wide receiver recruiting class in college football, which featured four ESPN 300 players. With early injuries to senior inside receiver Clay Fuller and sophomore inside receiver Corey Coleman, incoming freshmen KD Cannon and Davion Hall have been gifted an opportunity to get on the field earlier than many expected. All reports say they have run with the opportunity.

Last year's 1000-yard rusher Lache Seastrunk now plays for the Washington Redskins, but the Bears are in good hands. Sophomore running back Shock Linwood was third-string last season, but finished seventh in the Big 12 with 881 rushing yards; that was good enough for second among returning rushers.

Linwood was named preseason All-Big 12, and he will have plenty of help in the backfield. Sophomore running back Devin Chafin and redshirt freshman Johnny Jefferson are absolute physical freaks.

Chafin looks like a classic power-back at 6-foot, 225-pounds, 18 repetitions on the bench press and 570-pound squat. However he timed at a blazing 4.43 40-yard dash in camp and showed off a 37-inch vertical.

Jefferson is also over 200 pounds, but ran a team-best 4.41 40, and exploded for a 44.6-inch vertical leap. For comparison's

sake, the highest measured vertical at the NBA Draft Combine was only 43.5 inches by Oklahoma State guard Markel Brown.

Baylor graduated two full-time starters in center Stefan Huber and Outland Trophy finalist Cyril Richardson at left guard, but also boasts a fully healthy tackle lineup. Junior left tackle Spencer Drango ruptured a disk in his back against Texas Tech and missed the end of the season. He is fully healthy this season. Right tackle senior Troy Baker has also fully recovered from an ACL tear over a year ago. The line should rank up with the best lines in the conference.

**Questions on Defense**  
The Bears had a surprisingly good defense in 2013, and finished ranked in the top 30 of total defense. However, Baylor returns only four full-time starters from last season on defense.

"I don't think we're in the 'prove everything wrong' mode anymore," Bennett said. "I think we did that last season. However it's a proving business; you've got to prove you belong among the elite. For us to win championships, you have to play championship defense."

That defense will start at the line of scrimmage. Baylor graduated its starting defensive ends, but junior Shawn Oakman and sophomore Jamal Palmer were major contributors off the bench.

"Our depth on the line is great," defensive coordinator Phil Bennett said. "I think we can play nine-deep on the defensive line."

That nine would include defensive ends Oakman, Palmer, Boise State transfer Sam Ukwuachu and sophomore Javonte Magee, along with defensive tackles sophomore Andrew Billings, junior Suleiman Masumbuko, junior Beau Blackshear, junior Trevor Clemens-Valdez and sophomore Byron Bonds. All nine players have major game experience.

There is legitimate concern at the linebacker positions. When

senior middle linebacker Bryce Hager went down, Bennett avoided playing sophomore Aivion Edwards. Well now Edwards is slated to start at weakside linebacker to replace Baylor great Eddie Lackey.

Senior Collin Brence started his career as a walk-on, but is now projected to start for Baylor at nickelback. Brence has played in multiple games for Baylor, but exclusively as a special teams player. Coaches have spoken highly of him, but Brence's skills in the important "Bear" position are unknown.

Hager is a known commodity; as long as he is healthy, he will be one of the best linebackers in the conference, especially at stopping the run.

The secondary is the least experienced unit on the field. Cover safety Terrell Burt is the only player who has started significant time in the secondary, and the Bears have to break in two new starting cornerbacks in sophomores Xavien Howard and Terrence Singleton.

However even though the cornerback duo, along with deep safety Orion Stewart, are inexperienced, Briles believes this defensive

backs group is talented.

"We lost a lot of good football players without question, but we got a lot of guys back that we have a lot of confidence in," Briles said. "It's like Petty coming in last year. Only one way to get experience; that's to get on the field and play."

The performance of the defense will make or break Baylor's season.

**Treacherous schedule**  
The Bears play a weak non-conference slate in 2014, and should win handily against SMU, Buffalo and Northwestern State, but things get interesting after that.

Baylor starts off with a trip to Ames, Iowa to face Iowa State. The Cyclones were massacred 71-7 when they played Baylor last season, but they are a different team at Jack Trice Stadium. In 2012, ISU quarterback Steele Jantz played the game of his life and led the Cyclones to a dominant 35-21 win. This could easily be a trap game.

Baylor then travels to Austin to take on historical rival Texas. The Longhorns are at the dawn of the Charlie Strong era, but they possess all the talent to compete with any team in the nation, including Baylor.

A week later, Baylor comes home for the first time in over a month to play perennial rival TCU. TCU coach Gary Patterson and the Horned Frogs plain do not like Baylor, and their play says it all. Baylor has lost exactly

one home game over the last three seasons; it was a 49-21 blood-bath against TCU in 2012. Even though Baylor is 2-1 over the last three seasons against TCU, its wins have only been by a combined five points.

Baylor then travels to West Virginia. The Mountaineers have historically been a strong home team, but lack the talent to really keep up with a team like Baylor. The Bears then return team to play Kansas, a team that is arguably the worst team in college football.

All this leads up to the de facto Big 12 championship game against Oklahoma in Norman on Nov. 8. OU has dominated the preseason polls after a strong showing in the Sugar Bowl against Alabama. Quarterback Trevor Knight played the game of his life in the win. Baylor has never won in Norman, but this would certainly be the year to do it.

If there is one game on the schedule we know Baylor will be ready for, it is Nov. 22 against Oklahoma State. The Bears' national championship hopes were destroyed on a cold night in Stillwater last year, but Baylor has OSU at home this season. Petty and company will play with revenge on the mind. Oklahoma State lost virtually everyone, so Baylor should be able to easily accomplish its goal.

From there, Baylor plays Texas Tech at the Texas Farms Bureau Insurance Shootout at AT&T Stadium in Arlington. The Bears have historically played close games against Texas Tech, but have won convincingly. Red Raider coach Kliff Kingsbury will have his team ready to take its best shot against Baylor, especially since linebacker Sam Eguavoen expressed his displeasure with the Baylor program at Big 12 media day.

"I'm looking forward to shutting up Baylor," Eguavoen said.

SEE FOOTBALL, page C11

8/31/14:	vs. SMU
9/6/14:	vs. Northwestern State
9/12/14:	@ Buffalo
9/27/14:	@ Iowa State
10/4/14:	@ Texas
10/11/14:	vs. TCU
10/18/14:	@ West Virginia
11/1/14:	vs. Kansas
11/8/14:	@ Oklahoma
11/22/14:	vs. Oklahoma State
11/29/14:	vs. Texas Tech
12/6/14:	vs. Kansas State



# “Wide Receiver U” loaded heading into 2014 season

By JEFFREY SWINDOLL  
SPORTS WRITER

The receiving corps has been a major part of Baylor football’s identity over the past couple of years. Players like Kendall Wright, Terrance Williams, Tevin Reese have led the way for a booming generation of Baylor receivers.

Aside from Baylor’s shiny, brand-spanking new McLane Stadium on the Brazos River, fans may be wondering what to actually be excited about this season. Can they expect the same explosive offensive performances they saw last year?

When asked if the offense, specifically the receivers can perform even better than last year’s group, Goodley was quick and confident to give out his assurance.

“There’s no doubt in my mind,” Goodley said. “We’ve got a lot of guys coming back on offense, a lot of playmakers. They know what we like to do, and they know we like to score points. There’s no doubt in my mind that we can raise the bar.”

Returning receivers that got significant play-time include seniors Clay Fuller, Levi Norwood and Antwan Goodley. A notable underclassman that saw more time on the field than others is junior wide receiver Jay Lee.

There is a solid core to serve as the foundation for Baylor’s offensive endeavors this season. Baylor’s underclassmen bring promise to carry on what is now a substantial part of Baylor’s passing offense playstyle.

Since Robert Griffin’s last season, “the bar” has consistently been raised by each successive team. Former quarterback Nick Flor-

ence broke Griffin’s pass yards record. Bryce Petty stepped up his game last season in his junior year to live up to Baylor’s reputation as a high-octane offense as well.

The offense has not skipped a beat since that magical Alamo Bowl season, even with a different quarterback each year. Three years later, the expectation of Baylor’s superb passing offense is still the same from the coaches, players and fans.

Norwood, Goodley and Fuller all made

Bears’ fall camp roster at the receiver position to team up with Goodley (5-foot-10, 220 pounds) and Baylor still would have one of the best duos in the conference. That’s a testament to how good the depth is in Waco at the position,” NFL.com’s Mike Huguenin said.

Along with those players returning, the fact that Petty, in his second year as a starter, will be the the starting quarterback is a big advantage for those players expecting to raise the bar, Goodley said.

“Having Bryce back there takes a lot of the load off of us,” Goodley said. “He’s a great guy, and a great leader. He works his butt off for the team with his team. I know he’s ready. On the field, you know once he’s out there he’s all about business.”

After two seasons with two very different quarterbacks -- Griffin and Florence -- Petty serves as a blend of the two players, Norwood said.

“If you look at [Petty], how big he is, he can make any throw, and he can run the ball,”

Norwood said. “[Griffin] was the first to kind of set the stage, the standard, and Nick was a guy that probably didn’t have the physical attributes that [Griffin] had, but he still found a way to win. So Bryce is kind of a combination of those two.”

Across the board, Baylor’s offensive skill players are stacked with experience, talent and even potential to take the program into uncharted territory.



Junior wide receiver Antwan Goodley, right, sprints pass Texas cornerback Duke Thomas in the final game played at Floyd Casey Stadium on December 7, 2013, Baylor versus Texas.

RICHARD HIRST | MULTIMEDIA PRODUCER

big plays for Baylor last season. Their role is not much different from last year as go-to difference makers for the big games.

Goodley is very much the poster boy for the loaded receiving personnel, and was named last week by NFL.com as college football’s “freakiest athlete”. He is a big, strong wide receiver with ridiculous speed. Goodley’s combination of height and speed is unmatched by college receivers. He’s a freak of nature, hence the title “freakiest athlete”.

“You could almost pick anybody on the



ROSS D. FRANKLIN | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Phoenix Mercury’s Brittney Griner, left, gets off a shot as she gets past Los Angeles Sparks’s Jantel Lavender, right, during the first half of a basketball game on Tuesday, July 29, 2014, in Phoenix.

## Source: Griner to win Defensive Player of the Year

By DOUG FEINBERG  
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

A person close to the situation says Phoenix’s Brittney Griner has won the WNBA defensive player of the year award.

The person says Griner will receive the award Friday night in Phoenix before the Mercury face Los Angeles in the first game of the Western Conference semifinals. The person spoke to The Associated Press late Thursday night on condition of anonymity because no official announcement has been made.

Griner set a WNBA record with 129 blocks to help the Mercury win a league record 29 games. The second-year player averaged 15.6 points, 8.0 rebounds and 3.8 blocks this season. She blocked 11 shots in one game against Tulsa on June 29.

She received 31 of the 38 votes from a national media panel of sports writers and broadcasters. Atlanta’s Sancho Lyttle finished second.

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# Baylor defense prepares to take next step

By CODY SOTO  
SPORTS WRITER

Baylor defense looks to continue its dominant ways in the 2014 season after a very successful 2013 postseason run, earning their first Big 12 title in program history. However, uncertainty has factored into this season, causing some sports experts to wonder if Baylor can defend its title.

The 2013 graduation left head coach Art Briles and defensive coordinator Phil Bennett with eight starting spots open on defense. Defensive ends Chris McAllister and Terrance Lloyd, linebackers Eddie Lackey and Brody Trahan, and defensive backs Sam Holl, K.J. Morton, Demetri Goodson, and Ahmad Dixon left big gaps in Baylor's championship defense.

Being nationally ranked No. 36 in total defense, the Bears gave up an average of 4.75 yards per play. They recorded 99 tackles for loss and 31 sacks on the season.

With stats like these, Baylor was able to use its powerful offense and defense to capture a Big 12 title. Briles and his team have taken a step forward with this record-setting defense.

"Last year, we took a major step defensively placing in the top 30 in America and even the nation in 3-and-out's," Briles said. "One of our mottos is 'don't take a step backwards,' so we know we have to go forward and get better in all phases."

Returning from last year's defense is senior linebacker Bryce Hager, who played eight games before he suffered a groin injury during the Texas Tech game on Nov. 16. Hager has since been preparing to return as a leader for Baylor's young defense.

"I've worked really hard in this offseason to get back to



JOE PHOTOGRAPHER | LARIAT STAFF

Cutline goes here and here and here and so forth and so on. Cutline goes here and here and here and so forth and so on. Cutline goes here and here and here and so forth and so on.

where I originally was last year, but it's been a hard recovery," Hager said.

Hager ranked second on the team with 7.9 tackles per game and led with 10 quarterback hurries last season.

Returning alongside Hager will be junior defensive end Shawn Oakman, who has proved to be a monster coming off the bench and is set to help lead this defense.

"We can't block him," Briles said. "And I don't think anyone else will, either. He's one out of about six or seven that are going to be dominant, dynamic players for us in the fall, no doubt."

Predicted to start at defensive end with Oakman is junior Jamal Palmer who made a big impact with 38 tackles, 11.0 for loss and 5 sacks. Another linebacker to watch for is junior transfer Sam Ukwuachu who will push for

more playing time after sitting out last season. Ukwuachu started 12 games with the Boise State Broncos before transferring to Baylor.

Junior Beau Blackshear and sophomore Andrew Billings are expected to start at defensive tackle. Both Waco natives had 29 and 33 tackles last season, respectively. Sophomore Javonte Magee is back for the 2014 season after he left the team for per-

sonal reasons in 2013. Magee will push for a starting role on the defensive line with opportunities for big playing time.

Juniors Trevor Clemons-Valdez and Suleiman Masumbuko and sophomore Byron Bonds will add some experience to the defensive line as well.

At cornerback, returning sophomores Xavien Howard, Ryan Reid, and Orion Stewart will be the experience in that

position. They have the size to challenge receivers and assist in the running game, something that K.J. Morton excelled at a year ago.

"I see myself playing like Demetri Goodson and being physical like K.J. Morton," Stewart said. "We learned from the players last year. We just have to be like them."

Stewart was originally an all-state quarterback in high school, but Bennett helped shape him into a defensive threat.

"As we came down the backstretch to winning a championship, Orion Stewart was huge," Bennett said. "He injuries his ankle in the Texas game and still played the whole half with a terrible injury."

Even though Stewart didn't know who Bennett was at time of recruitment, he was able to transition from his previous position.

"Bennett recruited me because he loved how he could switch me from a quarterback to a defensive end," Stewart said. "[The coaches] believed in me and I had to show that I could do it."

Briles has confidence that daily practice is benefitting this young defense.

"They're responding to going against really good people on the other side of the ball," Briles said. "They're high motor guys with intensity, effort, and a great attitude that want to prove themselves. I have a lot of confidence in them."

The nation will be able to watch how this new defense will defend their Big 12 title on Aug. 31 when Baylor takes on SMU for the first game at McLane Stadium.

"We had a very good season last year and are ready to build on top of that," Hager said. "As soon as we walked on that field

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Justine Hovden (20) maneuvers past a Cal Poly defender.

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# Soccer ready to improve in 2014

By JEFFREY SWINDOLL  
SPORTS WRITER

Last season came down to one game, possibly even one goal, senior goalkeeper Michelle Kloss said. It felt that close, which made being left out of the NCAA tournament a big disappointment for the team as a whole.

After winning its first Big 12 championship in 2012, and appearing in two of the last three NCAA tournaments, Baylor soccer is building up to be not only one of the conference's best, but a national contender that can compete with any team at the college level.

"We want to go out, we want to do our best, we want to perform," Kloss said. "We've set a standard for ourselves. We want to go off of last year and the foundation we have built and just do the best we can to make it as far as we're able to make it."

The blessing and curse for any team in any sport is coping with players gone from the past season and figuring out how to incorporate the new generation of players.

On one hand, the continuity from last season is broken, but on the other hand, there is a fresh, clean slate for how the coaches can approach the team and game planning and a new set of players.

Rectifying the mistakes from last season will be crucial for Baylor soccer to accomplish something extraordinary this season, Kloss said. Last season was unanimously disappointing for the team, but not all of those players experienced the disappointment. Freshmen were not involved in dealing with not participating in NCAA postseason play. The freshmen have to be committed to improving that too, senior midfielder Alexa Wilde said.

Wilde said the team will improve best by taking every practice and putting edge and intensity into every practice.

This year, Baylor soccer's roster has the full spectrum of player experience: six freshmen, six sophomores, one red-shirt sophomore, five juniors and five seniors. The diversity of experience could be the special thing about this team, Kloss said.

"Each year it's so different and each year we have so many different factors. From who we lose and what freshman we gain -- it's so cool to come in each year and see who takes on what role. I think this year, even though we're very young, we're very strong in terms of leadership."

At critical moments in the game, coaches are looking for certain players to change the game with their creativity, speed or skill; think of World Cup players like the Netherlands' Arjen Robben or Argentina's Lionel Messi.

It remains to be seen which players will satisfy the need for star power, but early on, Baylor fans should keep their eyes on junior forward Bri Campos. She is coming off national duty with the U-20 Mexican national team in the summer and was recently selected for the All-Big 12 preseason team.

Along with Campos, there are other rising talents on this team according to co-head coach Marci Jobson.

"Bri Campos is always a kid that's going to do well for us," Job-

son said. "Ashleigh York is an up and rising star for us. I think Natalie Huggins is always a workhorse. Jordan Hatler has been out for two years, hasn't really been able to play a year and a half. I think she's looking really good."

Fitness is an the team is already firing on all cylinders. On the team's first training session back from summer vacation, every player passed the physical tests in flying colors. Jobson said the strength staff has the team in top shape.

If the Bears have one thing in their favor going into the season, it is their capability to close out games because of their physical discipline. Good conditioning can go a long way in a sport that requires so much running.

"We have exceptional people around our team just continuing to build them and motivate them," Jobson said. "We technically are continuing to work on our game. A lot of the things we're doing are very similar and continuing to keep chipping away at becoming a better program."

# Baylor constructing new elite Olympic soccer training complex

By JEFFREY SWINDOLL  
SPORTS WRITER

A sports team finally getting its own dedicated facility for training and housing has made a huge difference for other teams in the past. Soccer teams like Sporting Kansas City, the New York Red Bulls and the Houston Dynamo each went through many dark years in a shared or old stadium/training environment.

After rebranding with a new stadium or training facility, those teams saw an influx in fans as well as on-the-field performance that directly affected wins and losses. It

could be a coincidence, or it could be that Baylor soccer is in for even more advances in the program's quality with a new facility on the way: the Williams Family Soccer & Olympic Sports Center.

"We are very excited about the future of Baylor Soccer under the [head coach Marci] Jobson's leadership, and this state-of-the-art facility will afford the program first-class space and amenities," Baylor athletic director Ian McCaw said.

Baylor soccer is already a top-flight soccer program, with top-flight coaching. With the addition of a soccer-specific training facility, Baylor soccer could be in for some

golden years under the Jobsons in terms of recruiting and all-around excitement if their fortunes follow the trend set by other teams that have gone through a similar process of improvement at the college and professional level.

"Quite honestly, soccer has been in a building that is probably our most un-sightly building in the Turner Complex. It's really not a competitive facility for our teams and certainly for our soccer team," McCaw said.

Todd Patulski is the Deputy Athletics Director. Among multiple focuses, Patulski works extensively with architecture, con-

struction, and engineering firms whenever Baylor is in the process of building or renovating athletics facilities. Patulski works with coaches and the builders to make sure Baylor athletics get the most out of their facilities.

The construction of the new Williams facility serves as a statement to the soccer program and others looking at the facility that Baylor is committed to their soccer program, Patulski said.

That statement goes out to the coaches, current players, possible recruits and the Baylor Nation in general that Baylor is serious about the soccer team being on-par with

the rest of Baylor's state-of-the-art facilities.

"Every one of our programs needs to have those spaces to operate effectively, and then also for prospective athletes that are coming in and they're evaluating how serious we take our soccer program, they're going to look for those types of things," Deputy Athletics Director Todd Patulski said.

A new stadium or a new training facility is sometimes the difference in recruiting athletes to play for a certain college. A Big 12 championship and appearances in three of the last 4 NCAA tournaments boost Baylor's credibility as

one of Texas' best soccer programs.

"We have been blessed with some of the best student-athletes around, and now we will be able to provide them with a first-class soccer facility," Baylor soccer co-head coach Marci Jobson said.

Baylor University has proven over the years that they can compete at the highest level of college sports in pretty much any sport the school participates in. Baylor soccer has earned a reputation in the Big 12 as a conference powerhouse, and is due to join football as a top-tier team for this fall sports season and the years to come.



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Associated Press  
Texas Rangers' J.P. Arencibia, right, is met by Leonys Martin (2) after scoring on a walk to Daniel Robertson in the seventh inning during a baseball game against the Miami Marlins, Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2014, in Miami. The Marlins defeated the Rangers 4-3 in 10 innings.

# Texas Ranger in smuggling ring

By CURT ANDERSON  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

A man accused of masterminding a human trafficking ring pleaded guilty Friday to U.S. extortion charges involving the smuggling of more than 1,000 Cubans, including baseball players such as Texas Rangers outfielder Leonys Martin.

Eliezer Lazo, 41, entered the plea Friday in Miami federal court. Lazo is already serving a five-year prison sentence for money laundering in a Medicare fraud case and now faces up to 20 additional years behind bars.

Lazo agreed to cooperate with investigators, which could reduce his prison time when he is sentenced later this year.

Prosecutors say Lazo led an organization that smuggled Cubans by boat into Mexico, where they were held until ransom payments were made.

The cost was typically about \$10,000 for each person, although it could be much higher in the case of Cuban baseball stars such as

Martin.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Ron Davidson said the migrants who were not sports stars were often crowded together in rooms of 20 or more under armed guard, in prison-like conditions.

If the smugglers weren't immediately paid, Davidson said, "the Cuban migrants in Mexico were restrained and beaten while relatives could hear the screams on the phone."

Court documents show that the valuable Cuban baseball stars were treated far better than others involved with the smuggling ring, even though they were watched over by armed guards.

If the money was paid up front, prosecutors say the Cubans were brought directly to the U.S. without incident.

Under the U.S. "wet foot, dry foot" policy, Cubans who reach shore generally are allowed to stay in the U.S. while those intercepted at sea are returned to the communist island.

All told, Davison said Lazo's

smuggling venture netted up to \$1.5 million for the group.

Authorities are seeking forfeiture of properties, cars and bank accounts controlled by Lazo, including one traced to a purported Mexican baseball academy used to showcase players for Major League Baseball scouts.

The documents in the Lazo case require forfeiture of the smuggling group's interests of a number of other contracts involving Cuban baseball players, but they are identified only by their initials.

Martin signed a five-year, \$15.5 million contract with the Rangers in 2011.

Details of Martin's journey through Mexico to the big leagues came to light in a lawsuit filed against him by the Estrellas baseball academy, which claimed that he had agreed to pay up to 35 percent of his MLB contract to it operators, including Lazo.

Martin paid about \$1.2 million to the group but refused to fork over any more.

Martin's civil attorney, Paul Mi-

noff, said the speedy outfielder is happy the criminal case is nearing a conclusion and that the lawsuit against him will likely disappear.

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Puig was not involved with Lazo's smuggling operation.

# Moore honored with MVP title

JESS MYERS  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

About an hour and a half before the Lynx tipped off vs. San Antonio Thursday, Maya Moore was officially presented with the WNBA's MVP trophy during a press conference with league president Laurel Richie.

It was a nice, well-attended and sometimes funny presentation in which Moore, who did just about everything a player could do to get her team to the place it is, reacted with both humor and humility.

In her presentation Richie joked that, in addition to leading the league in scoring, she also probably led in black eyes.

She said she felt like she knew Moore, as they both came to the league at the same time.

"My sense is you came back this year on a mission," Richie said, "to make an impact on your team."

Moore?

Echoing her previous comments, she talked about how strange it is to be focusing on a personal accomplishment less than two hours before the Lynx playoffs began.

She thanked her team and her teammates for the environment she came into as a rookie, one that allowed her to grow as a person

and a player.

She looked at her mom and asked her if she imagined this day decades ago when Moore was a little girl running around the family's home in Missouri. "I couldn't have dreamed it up," Moore said.

Then she turned to the trophy to see if it was smiling. It should be because of, "how much fun it is to be on this Minnesota Lynx team," she said.

"We enjoy coming to practice, the tough times that have come our way, especially this season, and how we've overcome them.

"This award, the thing I'm probably most proud of is the consistency it represents," Moore added.

"Coming in every day and walking the walk. That's what you want to do as a leader. You want to go out and do it. ... I felt I kept my word when I said I'm going to be there for my team when they need me.

And so did the other 11 players in the locker room.

To know my teammates are proud of me means more than winning the award.

I care more about what they think, and what the coaching staff thinks. To know they appreciate and respect me means a lot."



Associated Press  
Minnesota Lynx forward Maya Moore receives her WNBA MVP award.

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CARLYE THORNTON | PHOTO EDITOR

The Baylor logo is placed on the 50 yard line for all fans to see. With a crowd capacity of 45,000, there is not a bad seat in the hosue.



CARLYE THORNTON | PHOTO EDITOR

The President's Suite is complete with a kitchen area, various balconies and comfortable leather seats for the president's guests. Along with the President's Suite there are six additional founder's suites.



CARLYE THORNTON | PHOTO EDITOR

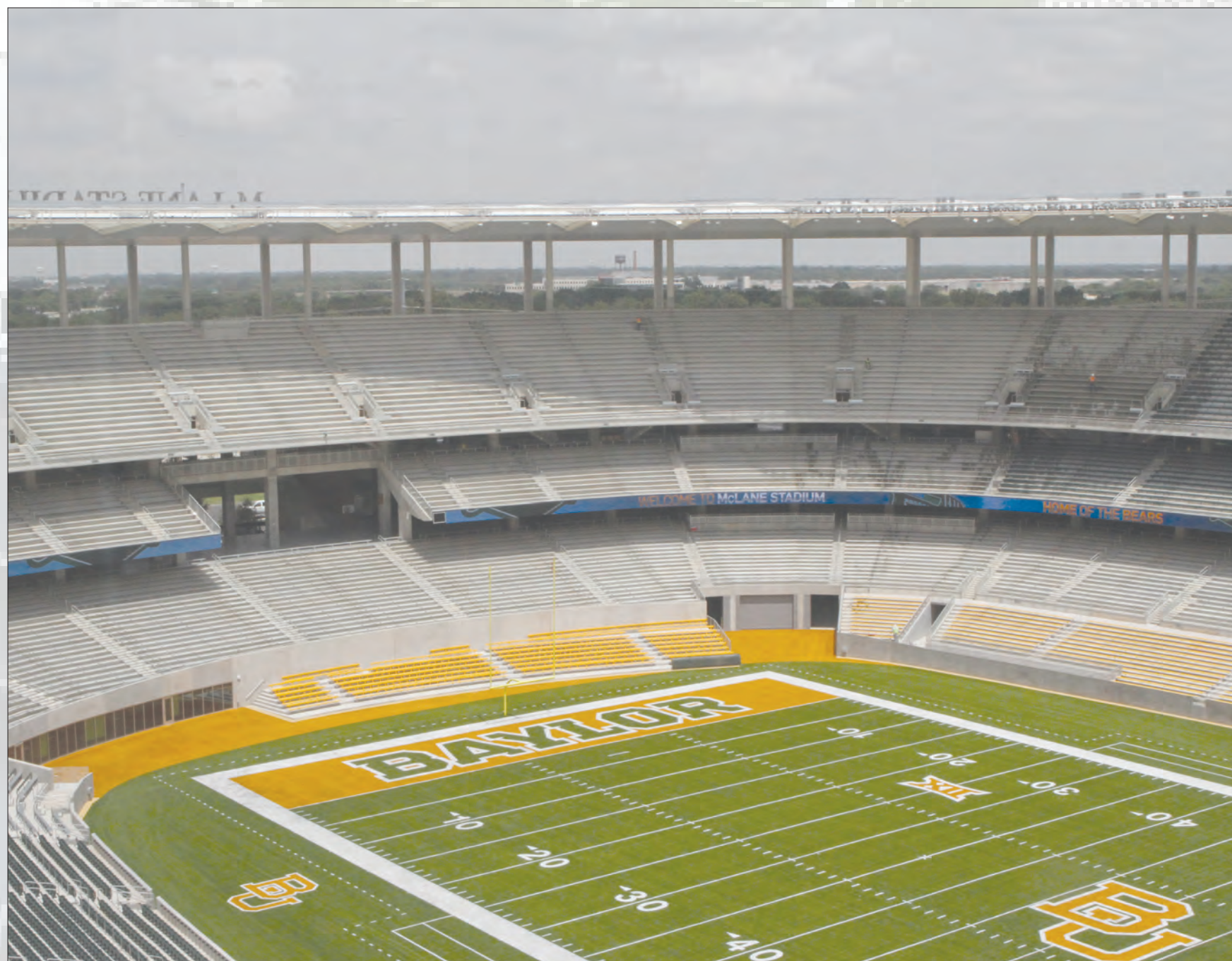
The locker room is located on the lower level of the stadium and has an open-design. Players will have two shelves, a bench and a storage compartment under the bench.

# It's Ready. Are you?



CARLYE THORNTON | PHOTO EDITOR

Above is a view of the field from the Recruiting Suite. McLane Stadium cost \$266 million to build compared to Floyd Casey's \$1.5 million.--



CARLYE THORNTON | PHOTO EDITOR

McLane Stadium is ready to seat a capacity of 45,000 fans. There is a future expansion plan to seat 55,000 people.



JOE PHOTOGRAPHER | LARIAT STAFF

McLane Stadium sits on 93 acres and has a beautiful view of Baylor Campus. Umphrey Pedestrian Bridge connects the stadium to Baylor campus.



CARLYE THORNTON | PHOTO EDITOR

McLane Stadium will have 168 vendors on site compared to Floyd Casey's 32 vendor locations.



CARLYE THORNTON | PHOTO EDITOR

The canopies above the seating areas are used to hold in sound and provide shade. The McLane Stadium experience will be new and exciting for all who attend.



# BU volleyball looks to bounce back in 2014

By CODY SOTO  
SPORTS WRITER

Baylor volleyball suffered a disappointing season in 2013. With a 12-20 overall record, the team finished Big 12 conference play in a tie for seventh place with a 4-12 record and ended on a four game losing streak.

With several key players sitting out due to serious injuries, the 2013 season became the first losing season for the program since 2007. However, things are looking up for Baylor volleyball this season.

After a successful spring, head coach Jim Barnes and his team returns to the floor with high hopes.

“Last year, we probably went through the biggest run of injuries we’ve ever experienced in the program,” Barnes said. “I think the biggest improvement is having everyone healthy and starting off with that.”

Junior outside hitter Thea Munch-Soegaard is coming back from a broken foot that forced her to miss the last 11 matches last season. Sophomore outside hitter Katie Staiger will also return to the lineup after suffering an ACL tear in the second match of the year.

“Having everyone healed has been awesome because we don’t have to worry about three people sitting out on the sidelines during practices and games, so that ups competition,” Munch-Soegaard said. “It helps everyone all the way around.”

Also joining the lineup are two transfer students: junior outside hitter Andie Malloy and junior setter Keili Harrison. Harrison is a transfer from San Jacinto College in the Houston area. Malloy was forced to sit out and redshirt last season after transferring from Iowa State.

“I’m ready and I’m excited for the opportunity to get out there on the court and working with my teammates everyday,” Malloy said.

Barnes said that he has depth at outside hitter, which will in turn help him make multiple lineups during matches.

“We can win Big 12 matches with different lineups,” Barnes said. “We can make multiple lineups and win with different people because we’re that deep.”

The offense will be at the hands of multiple setters. Junior Amy Rosenbaum and sophomore Morgan Reed will both see a playing time with a 6-2 offense, a system that rotates 6 attackers and 2 setters on the floor.

“The 6-2 system is one we’ve been working on for the entire



FILE PHOTO

Senior outside hitter Nicole Bardaji celebrates after a Baylor point on Oct. 2, 2013 against Texas. Baylor lost to the Longhorns 3-1.

spring and we’ve been doing it through two-a-days as well,” Barnes said. “The 6-2 makes us most powerful and biggest at the net.”

Defensively, senior Hope Ogden has earned the libero position after playing in 2013 as a defensive specialist.

“[Ogden] really grabbed ahold of that position and she’s a leader in that position as well,” Barnes said.

Barnes added three freshmen to the roster this season: liberos Jana Brusek and Ashley Myer and middle hitter Neka Cuppetilli. They could each see playing time with the depth that they add to the team according to Coach Barnes.

“There’s been bigger competition at every position than they’ve ever seen, so that’s a good sign that we have talent and a lot of depth at every position,” Barnes said.

Barnes and the Bears’ biggest goal is to make the NCAA Tournament by focusing on what’s going on right now.

“Today is the most important day,” Barnes said. “If we’re focused on today, the rest will take care of itself.”

Baylor plays its annual Green vs. Gold scrimmage at 6 p.m. on Tuesday before hosting the Hampton Inn Waco North Baylor Invitational Tournament this weekend at the Ferrell Center.

Baylor will face Abilene Christian Aug. 29 at 7 p.m. for its first match of the season followed by two matches Aug. 30 against Texas A&M Corpus-Christi at 10 a.m. and Portland at 7 p.m.

# Guilty plea entered in ballplayer smuggling

By CURT ANDERSON  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI — A man accused of masterminding a human trafficking ring pleaded guilty Friday to U.S. extortion charges involving the smuggling of more than 1,000 Cubans, including baseball players such as Texas Rangers outfielder Leonys Martin.

Eliezer Lazo, 41, entered the plea Friday in Miami federal court. Lazo is already serving a five-year prison sentence for money laundering in a Medicare fraud case and now faces up to 20 additional years behind bars.

Lazo agreed to cooperate with investigators, which could reduce his prison time when he is sentenced later this year.

Prosecutors say Lazo led an organization that smuggled Cubans by boat into Mexico, where they were held until ransom payments were made. The cost was typically about \$10,000 for each person, although it could be much higher in the case of Cuban baseball stars such as Martin.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Ron Davidson said the migrants who were not sports stars were often crowded together in rooms of 20 or more under armed guard, in prison-like conditions. If the smugglers weren’t immediately paid, Davidson said, “the Cuban migrants in Mexico were restrained and beaten while relatives could hear the screams on the phone.”

Court documents show that the valuable Cuban baseball stars were treated far better than others involved with the smuggling ring, even though they were watched over by armed guards.

If the money was paid up front, prosecutors say the Cubans were brought directly to the U.S. without incident. Under the U.S. “wet foot, dry foot” policy, Cubans who reach shore generally are allowed to stay in the U.S. while those intercepted at sea are returned to the communist island.

All told, Davison said Lazo’s smuggling venture netted up to \$1.5 million for the group.

Authorities are seeking forfeiture of properties, cars and bank accounts controlled by Lazo, including one traced to a purported Mexican baseball academy used to showcase players for Major League Baseball scouts. The documents in the Lazo case require forfeiture of the smuggling group’s interests of a number of other contracts involving Cuban baseball players, but they are identified only by their initials.

Martin signed a five-year, \$15.5 million contract with the Rangers in 2011.

Details of Martin’s journey through Mexico to the big leagues came to light in a lawsuit filed against him by the Estrellas baseball academy, which claimed that he had agreed to pay up to 35 percent of his MLB contract to its operators, including Lazo.

Martin paid about \$1.2 million to the group but refused to fork over any more.

Martin’s civil attorney, Paul Minoff, said the speedy outfielder is happy the criminal case is nearing a conclusion and that the lawsuit against him will likely disappear. The U.S. attorney’s office is seeking forfeiture of any money Lazo obtained through Martin’s big-league contract, but it’s unclear if funds are available for seizure.

“We’ve asked for a return for the money paid. In reality, the chance of that is fairly slim,” Minoff said. “It’s still better than paying out an additional \$4 or \$5 million.”

Other Cuban baseball players, notably Los Angeles Dodgers star Yasiel Puig, have been smuggled out of Cuba to Mexico, where they are free to negotiate with any U.S. big-league team rather than be subjected to the MLB draft if they came directly to the U.S.

In practice, that means a much bigger contract for the best players. Puig was not involved with Lazo’s smuggling operation.

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# Volleyball’s star transfer looking for fresh start

By Cody Soto  
SPORTS WRITER

“If I have a lot of tests, you’ll find me at Common Grounds or Starbucks,” junior outside hitter Andie Malloy said.

Malloy’s love for coffee shops has her spending a lot of time there, and said she loves people-watching while there.

Malloy is observant, seeing the daily traffic in and out of the coffee shops she is in.

Similar to sitting at a round table sipping on her favorite coffee, Malloy also observes from the sidelines of a volleyball court, watching the Baylor volleyball team play the game that she loves.

Every pass, every play, she sees. Not only does she see it, but she also prepares herself for her turn to enter the match.

After redshirting last season, Malloy will enter Baylor’s lineup for the first time this fall. Malloy was forced to sit out last fall and spring due to Big 12 regulations after she decided to transfer from Iowa State and enroll at Baylor without any scholarship for the entire year.

Malloy was still able to practice with the team last season, but having to sit out during the games was difficult for her.

“I’m a gamer; of course I missed being able to go out there and play the game,” Malloy said. “But it was still a lot of fun and I really got to focus on improving my game and working to make my teammates better.”

Malloy’s decision to transfer to Baylor last fall was unexpected. Malloy was a four-time varsity letterman at Lovejoy High School in Allen and won four consecutive state championships. Her sophomore year, she was named Class 3A State MVP.

She was ranked one of ESPN’s Top 25 volley players in the class of 2012 and committed to play at Iowa State. In her freshman season alone, Malloy recorded 142 kills, 119 digs, 14 service aces and 17 total blocks.

The Cyclones advanced to the Sweet 16 round of the NCAA tournament in 2012 and finished with a 13-3 record in the Big 12 and 22-8 overall record.



Andie Malloy (8) and Jordan Teel (6) run out of the tunnel before the start of a Baylor volleyball game at the Ferrell Center in Waco.

Malloy receiving playing time in 25 total matches and started 12 while playing for Iowa State.

There were a number of reasons Malloy transferred to Baylor, but being closer to home and her Christian values made this an amazing story, according to head coach Jim Barnes.

“It’s an incredible sacrifice for her to come here and be a part of this culture,” he said. “She put her money where her mouth is, because she gave up quite a lot to be here at Baylor.”

Malloy has enjoyed being around the Christian community at Baylor, as well as classes like chapel.

“My Christian values are very near and dear to me, so the fact that coming to Baylor I would be surrounded by teammates that have the same moral values that I did and valued growing in a relationship with God was really important to me,” Malloy said.

Malloy was selected in early spring as one of 12 players to serve on the U.S. Collegiate National Team during a tour in China from June 17-27. This program also serves as a second tryout for the U.S. Women’s National Volleyball Team.

“I definitely learned that every day is an opportunity to get better,” Malloy said. “I was surrounded by some of the best players all over different colleges, and we were still working and learning from each

other. I find that incredible.”

Junior outside hitter Thea Munch-Soegaard, who also sat out significant time in 2013 overcoming injuries, described Malloy as a great influence on the sidelines last year and predicts she will have a good season for the Bears.

“She brings a whole new feeling to this team and she’s very competitive and enthusiastic all the time,” Munch-Soegaard said. “She has so much experience with her going to China this summer and I’m excited to see how she does this year.”

Malloy has high hopes for the season, and focusing on setting a good tempo early is key to the team’s philosophy during two-a-days.

“We’ve definitely talked about starting fast,” she said. “In games last year, we tended to start off with a slow start and have to build a comeback towards the end of the game, but if we started strong then who knows what would have happened.”

Malloy will be a key player in Baylor’s quest to return to the NCAA Tournament this fall.

“She’s going to make a difference; I mean she already has,” Barnes said. “She’s been practicing with us since last year and she’s become much more comfortable here. She’s going to make a big impact.”

# Baylor Softball makes historic comeback in WCWS game

By Jeffrey Swindoll  
SPORTS WRITER

While Baylor’s campus was quieter than usual over the summer, Baylor softball made a ruckus at the Women’s College World Series after a historic comeback in the quarterfinals.

Baylor came back from a 7-0 hole in the sixth to absolutely stun Kentucky with a 8-7 decision in extra innings and qualify for the semifinals against eventual national champion Florida.

The Bears had the full support of the Baylor fan base after the Kentucky, win the Bears were unable to overcome an early 5-0 lead. Baylor eventually fell 6-3.

It was a valiant run in the WCWS to send off the seniors: first baseman Holly Holl, catcher Clare Hosack, pitcher Liz Paul and First Team All-American left-hander Whitney Canion. The appearance in the semifinals marked Baylor softball’s second in four years (2011 and 2014).

Senior shortstop Jordan Strickland and junior designated hitter Linsey Hays were named to the WCWS All-Tournament team for their efforts.

### Final ESPN/ USA softball rankings

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Florida

No. 2

Alabama

No. 3

Oregon

No. 4

Oklahoma

No. 5

Baylor

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# NCAA’s strongest point might be new cap limit

By Tom Withers  
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The NCAA’s best argument against the Ed O’Bannon ruling may be the financial limits imposed by U.S. District Judge Claudia Wilken — the same ones the NCAA lauded in her decision.

Less than two weeks after the court decision opened the door for college athletes to receive a small portion of the millions of dollars they help generate, several attorneys told The Associated Press they believe the NCAA should now attack that cap. Wilken ruled Aug. 8 that the NCAA violated antitrust law by restricting schools from providing money beyond current scholarship limits to athletes.

She said schools should be allowed to put up to \$5,000 per year of competition into a trust fund for football players and men’s basketball players, money that could be collected once they are finished with school.

Legal experts question how she reached that number and wonder whether it will hold up on appeal.

“The cap is inconsistent with a judicial decision that the restraint

(of trade) is unreasonable,” said Robert McTamane, an antitrust lawyer with the firm of Carter, Ledyard & Milburn. “If the restraint is unreasonable out it goes, there’s no partial remedy under the Sherman Act and, frankly, judges aren’t supposed to construct one. Either it’s good or it’s not.”

Within an hour of the ruling, NCAA chief legal officer Donald Remy issued a statement noting that the governing body disagreed with the ruling but supported the cap. The NCAA, which faces a Wednesday deadline to appeal the decision, declined to comment Monday.

Wilken said she set the \$5,000 annual threshold to balance the NCAA’s fears about huge payments to players.

“The number is immaterial, it’s the concept,” said Jim Ryan, an attorney at Cullen and Dykman. “It does seem rather arbitrary. Why isn’t it \$3,000 or \$10,000? She pulled the \$5,000 somewhat out of the air, so it could be \$3,000, it could be \$10,000, what’s a few thousand?”

In October 2011, the NCAA Board of Directors approved a

\$2,000 annual stipend for athletes, legislation that was shelved when more than 125 schools signed on to an override measure. The five richest conferences are attempting to bring back the stipend now that they have been given autonomy over some of the trickiest issues in college sports.

McTamane believes if the stipend were already in place and Wilken applied the same logic to the O’Bannon case, the NCAA might have already won in court.

Instead, the NCAA is headed back to a playing field where it has traditionally been successful.

According to a study released last month by Illinois professor Michael LeRoy, athletes suing the NCAA won 49 percent of the initial cases but the NCAA won 71 percent of the appeal in the second and third rounds.

This time, the governing body’s lawyers face a vastly different obstacle. The appeal, promised by NCAA President Mark Emmert, will be heard by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court, a venue that has a reputation for siding with labor. Remy has repeatedly said the NCAA will take this case to the U.S. Supreme



In this March 26, 2014, file photo, Wisconsin’s Traevon Jackson dribbles past the NCAA logo during practice at the NCAA men’s college basketball tournament in Anaheim, Calif.

Court if necessary.

If the ruling stands, some worry it could ruin non-revenue sports and others believe the NCAA could face additional litigation from female athletes who could argue they are not being compensated equally in violation of Title IX laws.

Still, NCAA critics contend Wilken’s decision didn’t go far enough in compensating players for the merchandise and video games that have produced millions in revenue for the NCAA and its

members but not for the athletes themselves. Joseph Farelli, an attorney with Pitta & Giblin who specializes in labor law, argues there should be no cap at all. He’s not alone.

But they’re urging the NCAA attorneys to question Wilken’s reasoning in setting the cap and continue to argue that college sports will be damaged if players are paid.

“I think the key to this case is whether these restraints are reasonable or not. I personally think

# Manziel to be fined as much as \$12,000 for middle finger flip

By Tom Withers  
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Johnny Manziel has been slapped on the finger.

The NFL fined the Browns rookie quarterback \$12,000 on Friday for flipping his middle finger at Washington’s sideline, a person familiar with the penalty told The Associated Press. The person

spoke on condition of anonymity because the ruling has not been made public.

Manziel said he was reacting to incessant taunting by the Redskins during Monday night’s nationally televised game when he made the gesture while running back to Cleveland’s huddle.

“I had words exchanged with me throughout the entirety of

the game, every game, week after week,” Manziel said. “I should have been smarter. It was a Monday Night Football game and the cameras were probably solidly on me, and I need to be smarter about that.”

Manziel expects the trash talk to keep heading his way.

“Since my name has grown bigger and people have known who I

am, it just continues to go as the games continue to go on,” he said following Cleveland’s 24-23 loss to the Redskins. “I don’t know if there is a single level of severity each game, but I know it’s there and it’s present every game. I just need to let it slide off my back and go to the next play.”

Browns coach Mike Pettine felt Manziel should have known bet-

ter than to react to Washington’s insults. He wants his high-profile rookie — and Cleveland’s other players — to make mature decisions on and off the field. Pettine said the 21-year-old’s behavior factored into the team’s decision in naming a starter.

“We talk about ‘Play like a Brown.’ We want our guys to act like a Brown,” Pettine said. “We

want to be a first-class organization. We have hundreds, thousands of kids come to our training camp practices, and look up to our players. That type of behavior is unacceptable. It’s something that’s part of football that you have to maintain your poise and your composure, especially at that position, and he should know better than anyone that all eyes are on him.”

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Isaiah Austin  
diagnosed  
with Marfan  
Syndrome

By Cody Soto  
SPORTS WRITER

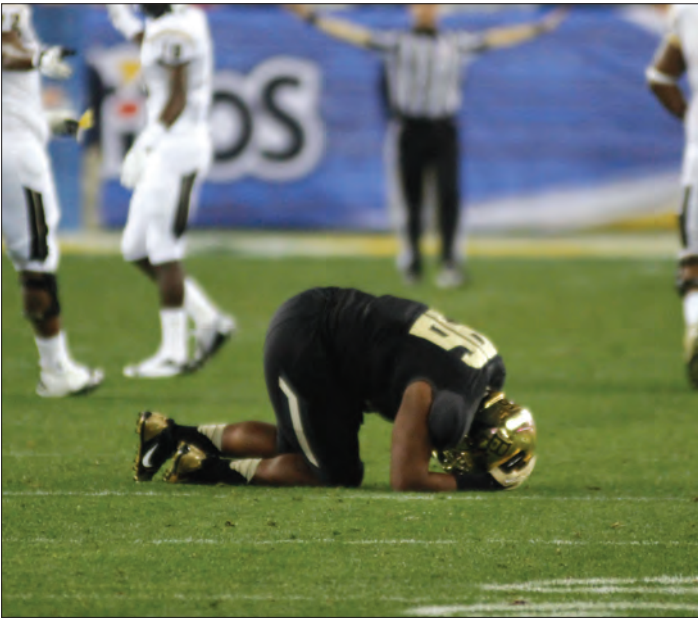
Former Baylor basketball center Isaiah Austin was diagnosed with Marfan syndrome on June 22, a career-ending medical condition. Genetic testing before the 2014 NBA Draft revealed the news to Austin and his family, which ended his chance to play basketball in the NBA.

Marfan syndrome is a genetic disorder that affects the body's connective tissue and causes the body to not grow properly. It ultimately can be life threatening. "To have all this dropped on me at the age of 20, five days before the draft, is something really tough that not a lot of people can deal with," Austin said. Austin's focus has shifted from basketball to charitable works. He began advocating for the Marfan Foundation, and starting the Isaiah Austin Foundation. "But I feel like because of this situation, I owe it to people around the world to help spread awareness," Austin said.

Two Bears  
sign with  
NBA teams

By Cody Soto  
SPORTS WRITER

Former Baylor basketball forward Cory Jefferson was drafted by the San Antonio Spurs with the 60th and final pick in the 2014 NBA Draft on June 27. Jefferson was traded to the Brooklyn Nets shortly thereafter, and recently signed a multiyear contract with the team. Jefferson was the sixth Baylor basketball player drafted into the NBA in the last four years, following 2013 second round draft pick Pierre Jackson. Jackson's rights were traded to the Philadelphia 76ers on draft night from the New Orleans Pelicans. Jackson split time last season between the NBA D-League and Europe. Despite tearing his Achilles tendon in a Summer League game, Jackson still signed a one-year minimum deal with the 76ers.



MATT HELLMAN | FILE PHOTO  
Defensive end Jamal Palmer hangs his head following the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl on Jan. 1 in Glendale, Ariz. Baylor lost to UCF 52-42.

FOOTBALL from

"We were up on them last year and we just let them slip through the cracks." The Bears will close the season against an excellent Kansas State team. Bill Snyder's team gave Baylor one of its toughest tests in Manhattan last season, and this game could easily have conference title implications. The Bears will have to be their best to finish the season strong. **Still underrated?** For all the progress they made in the national eye by qualifying for a BCS game, the Bears undid much of its goodwill by getting stomped 52-42 in the Fiesta Bowl by the American Athletic Conference champion Central Florida.

To really establish itself as a national power, the Bears cannot have a repeat of the Fiesta Bowl with the eyes of the nation on them. Baylor took strides in 2013 toward being an elite college football team. Getting near the top is hard; getting to the top is even harder. This is the first year of the College Football Playoff, which means that one of the Power Five conferences will get left out. For Baylor to get into the playoff, it will likely have to go through the conference unscathed. Few expect the Bears to get past No. 4 Oklahoma or truly

compete for a national championship, and that's just how Briles likes it. "We have a lot of things to prove," Briles said. "There are a lot of things out there we haven't done, so we have a lot of motivation, we have a lot of pride, but we have a great product to put in. Once we feel like we've done something, then we're done." Baylor will open its season at 6:30 p.m. on Aug. 31 against SMU. The Bears will open their \$260 million McLane Stadium on the banks of the Brazos River bringing football back on Baylor's campus. The game will be nationally broadcast on Fox Sports 1.

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