

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

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Having ears that don’t hear

JACKSON POSEY
Sports Editor



You need to shut up. We all do.

Studies show that the most tantalizing lifestyle for Generation Z isn’t fabulous wealth or an island in the Caribbean. Hoop dreams have faded for America’s young adults, as have visions of Hollywood fame. Those fantasies and others like them have lost ground to an all-consuming desire to be heard.

A 2023 Morning Consult poll found that more than half of Gen Zers want to become influencers, a profession founded on winning the fanatic obsession of as many strangers as possible. Every stream of consciousness constitutes a string of proverbs; every throwaway video deserves a public response. Documentation of menial tasks becomes akin to vlogging scripture.

Of course, such success is rare, but it represents a lifestyle many aspire to. When our every thought is idolized,

we tend to idealize our opinions and place ourselves on perfectly crafted pedestals, staring down at our dominion in detached agony.

Regardless of how interesting one may be, cloistering ourselves in personalized kingdoms puts us all in danger of what author Paul David Tripp calls “self-glory.”

“The bottom line is this: proud people tend to talk about themselves a lot,” Tripp writes in “Dangerous Calling.” “Proud people tend to like their opinions more than the opinions of others. Proud people think their stories are more interesting and engaging than others. Proud people think they know and understand more than others. Proud people think they have glory to offer.”

Sages across time and place find agreement on this point. From the Greek philosopher Plutarch, “If young men have not the power to listen ... the speech brought forth by them is windy indeed,” to 1950s American parents at the dinner table, “You have two ears and one mouth!”, wise guides have consistently reminded the next generation that other perspectives matter.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a 20th-century German pastor and anti-Nazi activist, lamented the widespread personal bigotry he saw around him in the lead-up to World War II. As he faced the dual chaos of violence and persecution — he would ultimately be hanged by the Nazis in 1945 —

the undercover pastor pondered whether listening might be more valuable than speaking.

“Christians, especially ministers, so often think they must always contribute something when they are in the company of others, that this is the one service they have to render,” Bonhoeffer wrote in “Life Together,” a book penned from his parents’ home after the Gestapo shut down his seminary. “They forget that listening can be a greater service than speaking.”

Those words vibrate like a clanging gong to 21st-century sensibilities. As thousands of videos flood down our social media feeds like so many digital waterfalls, an alcove of silence — of intentionally going unheard — feels unthinkable. But it’s not.

When Jesus faced the death penalty, standing before a sham trial set up by his political enemies, he remained silent, refusing to defend himself. In 1 Kings 19, the Lord speaks to Elijah not through the fire, but through “the sound of a low whisper.” The apostle James calls for his readers to be “quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger, for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.”

He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

The late American author Ernest Hemingway, intentionally or not, echoed the teachings of both Jesus and Bonhoeffer when he advised

a young writer in 1949 to listen attentively, rather than formulating his thoughts while his conversation partner spoke.

“When people talk, listen completely,” Hemingway wrote. “Don’t be thinking what you’re going to say. Most people never listen. Nor do they observe.”

The company of one’s own thoughts may be pleasant at first. The ego always enjoys its time with a sycophant. But the more time one spends in that dim chamber, the louder the echoes become. It will become unbearable. It is a weight we were never meant to carry.

After telling a brief parable in Mark 8:15, Jesus pointed out a group of pedants in the crowd. While they argued over terms, he decided to ask them a question.

“Do you not yet perceive or understand?” he asked, surveying the crowd. “Are your hearts hardened? Having eyes do you not see, and having ears do you not understand?”

That same question remains today, piercing and touching at the core of Gen Z’s identity. All we want is to feel heard, to have influence, to feel needed. But when my speaking, influencing and importance come up against the teachings of Jesus, the choice is clear.

I must cede to the one who died for me.

I must listen to man and to God, embracing the chaos and

the noise and the beauty of it all. Success is measured differently in an upside-down kingdom — for one, fulfillment begins with hearing. And swapping our pale imitations of glory for humility has always been a worthy sacrifice.

“

As thousands of videos flood down our social media feeds like so many digital waterfalls, an alcove of silence — of intentionally going unheard — feels unthinkable. But it’s not.

JACKSON POSEY
SPORTS EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Be a better Baylor Bear, think before you type

Throughout grade school, good behavior was rewarded with field trips, pizza parties and ice cream socials; however, each of those events came with a caveat: your actions not only affect you, but also shed light on the institution.

In the wake of the Utah Valley University shooting, hundreds of people lost their jobs due to insensitive comments on social media or hate speech at the office. As of Tuesday, there were 43 high-profile cases of terminations at universities due to this affecting faculty, staff and students. One of whom was a Baylor student who made national headlines.

“

The danger is not in what is being spoken, but in the speed with which it goes when no one feels responsible for the harm left behind.

THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Graduate student AJ Barber, who has since posted an apology, left Waco and deleted the apology along with his Facebook account, posted “This made me giggle” in a now-deleted comment on a KWTX post about Charlie Kirk’s death. Further damaging the university’s image, he posted, “Good thing I’m not a Christian,”

while responding to comments.

As students, we have been told that our actions affect others since we first entered a classroom. With social media and numerous anonymous forums, many have lost the decency to uphold their own or their institution’s reputation. Even a single negative or hateful comment on Yik Yak can negatively impact Baylor’s perception.

While Barber’s actions were unacceptable, the general response was also negative. Some students turned to sleuths, digging for as much information as possible and forwarding that to Baylor. Others used their skills negatively, finding his phone number and sending hateful messages before sending it out to others.

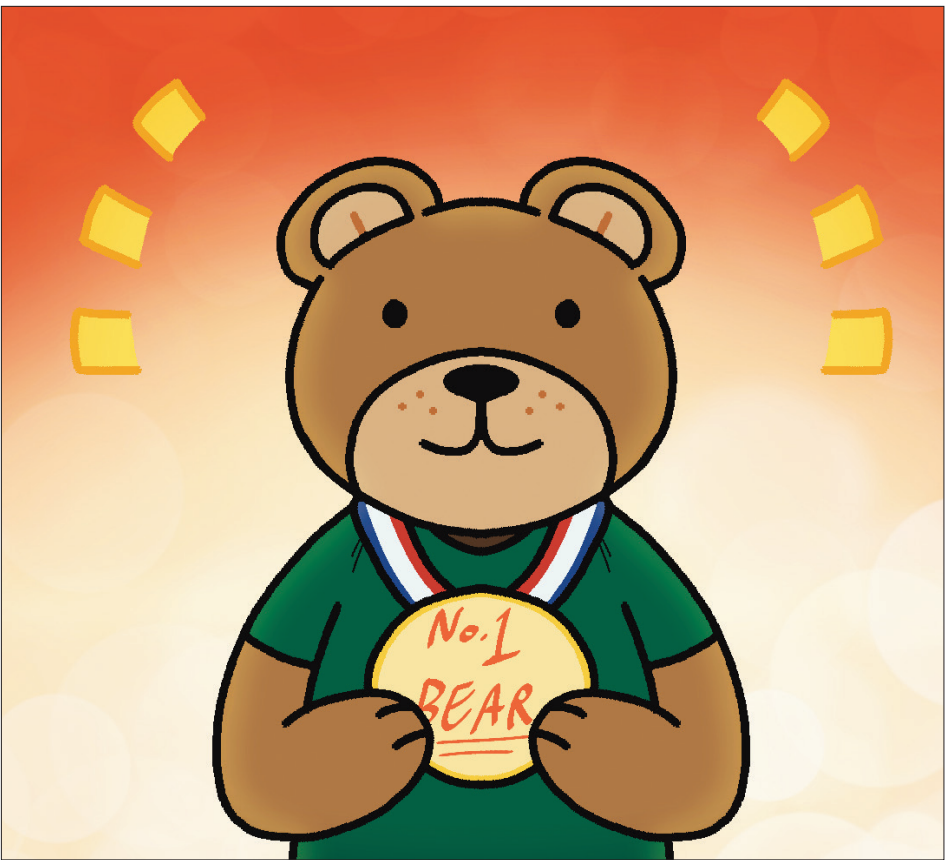
But as a whole, the student body was just tuning in for the gossip.

In addition to the backlash, hate messages are rapidly spreading through college sports. While many parents and students voiced support for Baylor football following a loss to Arizona State Saturday, others filled athletes’ DMs with criticism, profanity and hate — something the NCAA must address.

“This is a huge concern across the country, and in fact, the NCAA is working on an initiative to try to stop the bullying that is happening on our campuses with our student athletes,” President Linda Livingstone told The Lariat. “That’s just not acceptable behavior. These are fellow students ... Would you really want someone looking over your shoulder with every test that you took and tweeting about it?”

While uneducated commentary is detrimental enough, the problem grows when there are no ramifications for negative comments. Because of this anonymity provides a breeding ground for cruelty where people say things they would never put their name to.

On platforms like Yik Yak, which has exploded on college campuses, that veil of anonymity increasingly provokes gossip, personal taunts and destructive rumors. What



James Ellis | Cartoonist

is intended as a joke or a careless statement can spread far and wide, wrecking reputations and mental health with impunity. The danger is not in what is being spoken, but in the speed with which it goes when no one feels responsible for the harm left behind.

Anonymous or not, your words do matter. They hurt others and follow you throughout your life. Every prospective employer scrutinizes your social media feeds, and with so many qualified candidates for every role, you won’t have the chance to give an excuse about growing

up and learning from mistakes. You shouldn’t have to be incentivized to be a good person, but with social media the way it is, choosing to be silent helps you in the long run.

Hate on all levels is unacceptable, especially at an institution that leans on faith, family and friendships. Being abhorrent toward someone for doing something wrong is stooping to their level. Accountability should never turn into cruelty. As Baylor students, we need to be better. As cliché as it sounds, we need to be better Baylor Bears.

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Opinion

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*Asterisks indicate members of The Editorial Board



Photo courtesy of Alec Grace

NETWORKING The Real Estate Club grew from about 50 members at the end of last year to nearly 70 going into their second year.

Real Estate Network returns to campus for second year

ALEXIA FINNEY
Staff Writer

After a year on campus, Baylor’s Real Estate Club has evolved from a casual gathering to a full-fledged networking organization for future realtors.

The club was founded last year by San Clemente, Calif., senior Alec Grace and his brother, Davis Grace, and is quickly gaining popularity among students pursuing commercial real estate.

The club’s mission, as stated on the Baylor website, is to “educate, inspire and advise Baylor students pursuing a career in the real estate industry.”

Grace said membership has been growing steadily since its founding, with 50 members last year and a predicted 10 more joining this fall.

“This is technically our third semester on campus,” Grace said. “We have about 70 [members], mostly business, but we have a handful in other majors too.”

Grace said one of the most rewarding aspects of the network is watching students learn the profession in real time.

“I think I’m leading them in the right direction by teaching them how to network correctly, making sure their resumes are on point, teaching technical skills ... soft skills, but also the technical side,” Grace said.

Guest speakers play a big role in the preparation. Professionals travel from Dallas, Austin and Houston to meet with students, share experiences and even bring recruiters on occasion.

“A lot of them reach out to us,” Grace said. “It’s a very energetic community. Something we’re really trying to embrace is that everyone knows each other. Real estate is a relational business. We’re trying to make the club really relational, too.”

Frisco sophomore Franco Eichelmann said the club has given him clarity on his personal career goals. According to Eichelmann, the network has also provided connections in the real estate world.

“It’s hard to obtain connections usually, especially in real estate, but this club gave the opportunity to us and it’s very helpful,” Eichelmann said. “It gave me clarity on what I wanted to do, how the industry works, what a 9-to-5 looks like ... and it’s helped me practice skills through mock interviews and technical training.”

Although the club has held successful meetings, Grace said starting the club was nerve-racking, especially with high-profile guest speakers involved.

“Doing a lot of marketing is probably the hardest part,” Grace said. “You really don’t know if there are going to be students interested. Seeing the students engage and grow has made the effort worthwhile.”

Grace said launching the first meeting was challenging, but the results solidified that his idea for the club was good.

“Our first ever meeting went really well,” Grace said. “We probably had about 40 students there. From that point on, I knew we had a lot of potential.”

With alumni connections, mock interviews, guest speakers and virtual internships, the network gives students a practical edge in the commercial real estate market.

“There’s an opportunity to learn through the real estate club,” Grace said. “There’s a true opportunity to get something out of it beyond just showing up to meetings. Everyone’s going to buy a home one day. That’s a real estate investment.”

Students can apply to be part of the Network through their online Google Form.

Symposium honors 1700th anniversary of Council of Nicaea



Caleb Garcia | Photographer

FAITH The Rev. Thomas Joseph White speaks at the Baylor Symposium on Nicaea at Armstrong Browning Library Tuesday afternoon.

READ MORE HERE!







ALL-UNIVERSITY CAREER DAY

WEDNESDAY, OCT 1

1:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.

HURD CENTER



MBB finds chemistry amid overhaul

Even with no returning players, Baylor is findings its rhythm

DYLAN FINK
Sports Writer

Zero. That's how many players Scott Drew's Bears brought back from last year's roster after VJ Edgcombe declared for the NBA Draft, Norchad Omier, Jayden Nunn and Jeremy Roach exhausted their eligibility and everyone else hit the transfer portal.

With a complete roster overhaul, Drew and his staff compiled a fresh team that includes transfer portal standouts. Graduate guard Obi Agbim (Wyoming), senior forward Michael Rataj (Oregon State) and senior forward Dan Skillings Jr. (Cincinnati) headline the class. But the level of turnover gave birth to concerns over how such an eclectic team would bond in just one summer.

"The team gets along," Drew said. "There's no cliques. You've got a lot of guys in similar situations, meaning, a kind of chip on the shoulder ... I think [the team] is excited to have a chance to prove some people wrong."

The Bears journeyed to Germany this summer to represent Team USA at the FISU World University Games. The team took home a silver medal in the tournament, yet the real trophy appears in their newly connected play style.

"It feels like we've been together for the past two years," Skillings said. "Especially going to Germany and playing six to seven games was huge for our development and chemistry

as a team. That brought us together even more."

In the transfer portal era, it has grown increasingly difficult to get new players to buy into a team mentality every year. Drew is anything but a stranger to this challenge and appears to have bonded his new team together before the season has even begun.

"I feel like everyone's their own character," redshirt sophomore guard Cameron Carr said. "I think it all goes together very well. Everyone has their own connection."

Last year's team saw several individual talents dress for the green and gold, but lacked the chemistry needed to find success on the court. This year, the Bears claim to have found the combination of skill and compatibility needed to bring winning back to Waco.

"That's definitely not a question anymore," redshirt sophomore guard Will Kuykendall said. "It'll all translate onto the court through sacrificing for each other, making unselfish plays, diving onto lose balls for your teammates, being encouraging when you come off the bench, all the small things like that will help lead us to where we want to be."

The Bears are promoting a return to the defensive prowess of past Drew teams this season. The team is seeking to combine its off-court chemistry with a defensive aggression that hasn't been seen on a Baylor team since 2022.

"We have a lot more size and



Sam Gassaway | Photographer

DEFENSIVE DREAMS Five-star freshman Tounde Yessoufou, the all-time leading scorer in California high school history, hopes to win Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year honors this year.

a lot more length," Drew said. "Defensively, we could take a step forward compared to what we've done the last couple years."

Five-star freshman Tounde Yessoufou, the No. 14 recruit in the 247Sports Composite rankings, brings national attention to the banks of the Brazos this season. Yessoufou, a projected lottery pick and the all-time leading scorer in California high school history, is focused less on

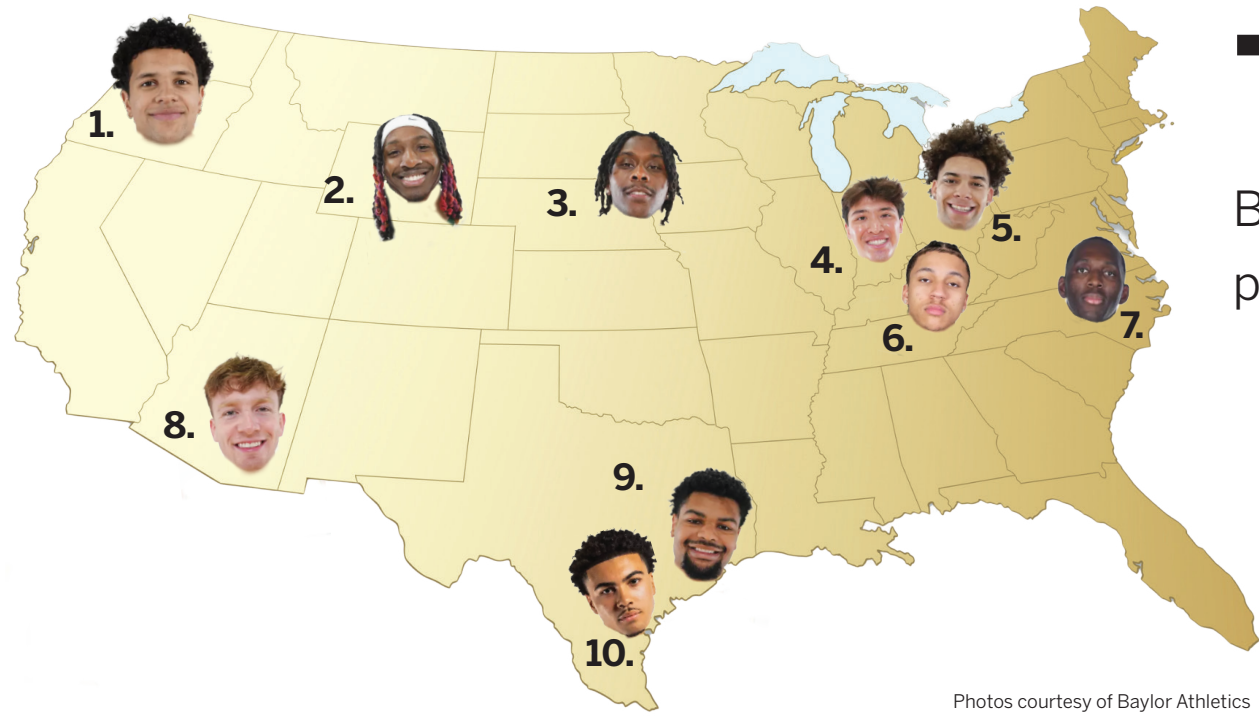
highlight reels and more on helping the Bears win.

"I want to be the conference Defensive Player of the Year, and I obviously want to win the national championship," Yessoufou said. "When there's anything I can contribute to my team to get a win, that's what I want to do ... Every possession, I want to bring my energy on the floor, because my energy is contagious and can benefit our team."

Drew has sought to bring a team-first mentality back to Waco this year out of hopes of seeing something different from last year's performance.

"Coach did a great job recruiting high-character guys," Kuykendall said. "That's really made a difference both off and on the court for us."

Baylor will kick off basketball season with an open exhibition game against Grand Canyon at 4 p.m. Oct. 4 at Foster Pavilion.



Photos courtesy of Baylor Athletics

THE MAP

Baylor signed 10 new transfer players from across the nation

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Michael Rataj Oregon State Senior guard | 7. Juslin Bodo Bodo High Point Junior center |
| 2. Obi Agbim Wyoming Fifth-year guard | 6. Cameron Carr Tennessee Redshirt sophomore guard |
| 3. JJ White Omaha Fifth-year guard | 8. Will Kuykendall Arizona Senior guard |
| 4. James Goodis Indiana Junior guard | 9. Caden Powell Rice Senior center |
| 5. Dan Skillings Jr. Cincinnati Senior guard | 10. Isaac Williams IV Texas A&M-Corpus Christi Sophomore guard |

WBB veterans carry culture into new season

MARISSA ESSENBURG
Sports Writer

The Baylor women's basketball team is no stranger to success, and certainly no stranger to the work it takes to get there.

With the first day of practice officially tipping off yesterday and a new season on the horizon, head coach Nicki Collen is turning to her veterans — an entire class of recruits who've spent four years growing under her tutelage — as the ones carrying the culture and expectations she hopes will define the Bears.

"One of the things that's really special about this team, thinking about the nature of college sports and the transfer portal, is that we're only one of five Power Five schools that still has its entire 2022 class intact," Collen said. "We have four players who have been playing under me for four years and understand the standards and expectations of how we do things and why we do them."

Darianna Littlepage-Buggs, Bella Fontleroy, Kyla Abraham and Jana Van Gytenbeek are all entering their fourth year in the program. For Collen, that foundation extends far beyond the court.

"I'm not just talking about the X's and O's — I'm talking about the culture of the locker room, how we show up for one another," she said. "I'm just grateful we've done a good job not only helping those players become better basketball players, but they're all on pace to graduate on time. I think in this landscape, that's really unique."

That balance of culture and leadership sets the stage for a new season — one that the Bears begin with plenty of unfinished business.

Baylor begins the new season still carrying the sting of last March, when it fell 64-59 to TCU in the Big 12 championship and 69-63 to Ole Miss in the second round of the NCAA



Caleb Garcia | Photographer

GUESS WHO'S BACK Fourth-year Bears Kyla Abraham and Jana Van Gytenbeek move in tandem at the team's media day at Foster Pavilion.

tournament. With those losses in the rearview, the Bears aim to start fast and stay hungry after a summer of steady work.

"We're almost [to] season time, and that's all we've really been waiting for and preparing for these past three or four months," redshirt sophomore Auburn transfer Taliah Scott said.

With half the roster returning and six fresh faces in the mix, Baylor is leaning on veterans to set the tone. For 2025 Katrina McClain Power Forward of the Year finalist Littlepage-Buggs, that means stepping into a leadership role she admits can be uncomfortable at times.

"Leadership has been challenging, I won't lie," Littlepage-Buggs said. "Having that expectation from my coaches to lead by example, open my mouth, and get uncomfortable — I wouldn't call it an adjustment, but it is hard at times. I'm grateful for it, though, because it's something I really value."

While Collen leans on her veterans to help carry the program's culture, the newcomers have wasted little time buying in. Littlepage-Buggs said their willingness to work, adapt and embrace the culture has already stood out.

"From the jump, they've come in, gone to

work and accepted the challenge, and I really admire that about them," Littlepage-Buggs said. "For me, in year four, compared to the past summers, it's been really hard this year, but they've come in and attacked it. They're willing to make mistakes and learn from corrections, and it's been awesome to see."

The steady presence of returners grounded in the program's identity gives the team experience and direction. It shows up in players like Van Gytenbeek and Fontleroy, who Collen said she believes are primed and ready to grow their impact on both ends of the floor.

"Jana is a massive difference-maker. She knows what to do and why we do it," Collen said. "I think she has the ability not only to lead our league in assists, but possibly the nation. More importantly, this season gives her the chance to truly step into a leadership role in our program."

"I think Bella can make a huge jump from more of a 3-and-D player to doing a little bit more off the bounce," Collen said. "Ultimately, I want her to go from All-Defensive Team to Defensive Player of the Year. With her strength, versatility and understanding of angles, she can be a lockdown defender against a lot of different players in this league."

The challenge ahead is more than chasing wins; it's about sustaining a standard. For Collen, it's the culture that's as essential as any offensive set or defensive scheme. It's the framework that makes everything else possible.

If the veterans can carry that standard forward, Baylor will once again be positioned to chase a conference crown and make a run in March.

Baylor will take to the court for an open scrimmage against West Texas A&M Oct. 25 at Foster Pavilion. Two weeks later, the Bears will open the regular season in Paris against Duke in the Oui-Play Paris doubleheader on Nov. 3. The game will be broadcast on ESPN.

Culture, community & cumbia

First fall semester Fiesta to fill Fountain Mall Friday

OLIVIA TURNER
Arts & Life Editor

Family, food and dancing — three cornerstones of Hispanic culture — will fill Fountain Mall from 6-9 p.m. Friday for the Hispanic Student Association's (HSA) annual campus-wide event, Fiesta. As far as HSA president and Fort Worth senior Daniela Lopez is concerned, this is the first time in the group's history that the event will be held during the fall semester.

Lopez said the Baylor Activities Council (BAC) approached her with the idea to hold Fiesta during Hispanic Heritage Month in the fall semester, almost immediately following their Fiesta celebration in April. She said this was likely due to last semester's event drawing the best attendance the group had seen in years. Lopez said as of now, it is undecided whether the fall semester Fiesta will become a trend for future school years.

"It just depends on what this one looks like," Lopez said. "We could very well do it in the fall from now on. Or who knows? If it goes well, we could find a way to do it twice a year."

After two-and-a-half months of planning and preparing for their second Fiesta in a row, Driftwood senior Alexandra Lagunas, the vice president of HSA, said the group is pumped and ready for the event. She said she is also grateful for the opportunity to host the event

“The first few guests who arrive are able to ... get a free food item from the truck of their choosing.”

DANIELA LOPEZ
HSA PRESIDENT



Roundup file photo

IT'S FIESTA TIME! Fiesta, the Hispanic Student Association's annual campus-wide cultural celebration, will take place from 6-9 p.m. on Fountain Mall on Friday. The event will feature local food and dessert vendors, mariachi, a DJ and Latin dance lessons.

once more.

"We literally pour our hearts and souls out into Fiesta," Lagunas said. "Just getting to see it all come to life, it's like, 'Dang, like we did that!'"

Lagunas said Fiesta is a defining event for the Hispanic Student Association, since it is their most popular event for attendance every year.

To stay true to the celebration Baylor knows and loves, Lopez said food, activities and entertainment will stay mostly the same as previous years. Several local vendors will return, such as Sison Tacos, Helados La Azteca and Teresitas Birria. Activities will also remain generally the same, offering Latin dance lessons, a mariachi band and a DJ, she said.

"It was such a success last time that you know that formula just worked really well for us," Lopez said. "But this time, because we have much more favorable weather, we can

actually do things on a larger scale, giving people more room to interact and a bigger dance floor."

This year will also feature some new additions to the mix. Ohana Ice will sell desserts, shaved ice and Salvadorian pupusas — a choice that is especially meaningful to Lopez, who is of El Salvadorian descent.

"The vendors are so gracious, and they offered to come for free," Lopez said.

That being said, the Hispanic Student Association will be covering the cost of the first few food items ordered by Fiesta attendees, Lopez said.

"That way, the vendors are ensured that they get at least some profit from the event, and also the first few guests who arrive are able to ... get a free food item from the truck of their choosing," she said.

Dallas senior Berkley Ponce, the treasurer of HSA, said she is most excited for attendees to try the food

from the trucks and vendors.

"For Hispanics and Latinos, food is a huge part of our culture," Ponce said. "I feel like it's also a very easy one for people to appreciate."

As the President of Baylor's Latin Dance Society, Ponce said she is also thrilled to be able to teach attendees dances such as cumbia and bachata.

Another addition to this year's Fiesta will be a Spanish table from the Department of Modern Languages & Cultures to showcase how Baylor celebrates Hispanic culture year-round, Lopez said.

Following Lopez's graduation in December, she said Ponce will be taking over for her as President of HSA.

"She's been super proactive in a lot of the things, like dealing with the vendors, planning the budget — things like that," Lopez said.

Looking to the future, Ponce said once she becomes president, she is most excited to be able to give fellow

Hispanic students the warm welcome she received upon joining HSA.

"I can't even begin to describe everything that HSA has done for me," Ponce said. "HSA was the way that I got to build my community here, and to feel like Waco and like Baylor is home. So I'm very excited to be that person that can help foster that for our new members, and we already have some really great new faces in the organization this semester."

In regard to Fiesta, Lopez said the event is open to the Baylor and Waco communities, Hispanic or not.

"Actually, we do this with the intent of educating the public and getting the word out of exactly what Hispanic people stand for, which is family values, togetherness and just being able to sit with your neighbor and share a meal and spend some time together," Lopez said. "So even if you're not Hispanic, but you're interested in any of those things, please come out."

Art Center Waco showcases five female artists in new exhibition



Mary Thurmond | Photo Editor

IN HER ELEMENT Fowler's pieces, including "The Exquisite Power of the Underdog," "Nature Girl, It All Happened at Once," "Department Store of Dreams," "All About Eve" and "A Few of My Favorite Things" on display at Art Center Waco.

STACIE BOYLS
Arts & Life Writer

Art Center Waco will spotlight five Austin-based female artists at the In Her Element exhibition. The showcase is in partnership with Women & Their Work, an Austin-based nonprofit focused on uplifting and advancing women in the arts. The opening reception is Thursday at 6 p.m. and will run through Oct. 31.

The exhibition features the works of Valerie Fowler, Tara Eales, Georgie Miller, Amy Twomey and Philana Oliphant, curated by Exhibit Chair

and Curator Andrea La Valleur-Purvis. Each artist illuminated and explored personal creative narratives through experimental materials, bold concepts and vivid visuals in their works.

For Houston native and oil painter Valerie Fowler, participating in a female-focused exhibition emphasizes the importance of equal representation in the world of art.

"We would all like to have the art speak for itself and be gender-neutral, but it's not usually," she said. "It's important to boost any part of society that doesn't get a fair shake and give it

more of a platform."

Miller, a collage artist, said she shares a similar sentiment.

"There's not nearly as much attention given to female artists," she said. "I think it's super important for organizations like Women & Their Work and [In Her Element] really just focus on women for a second, and show that a lot of talents exist that maybe just don't have as big of a voice."

Fowler said the inspiration for her art derives from concerns for the environment and feminine

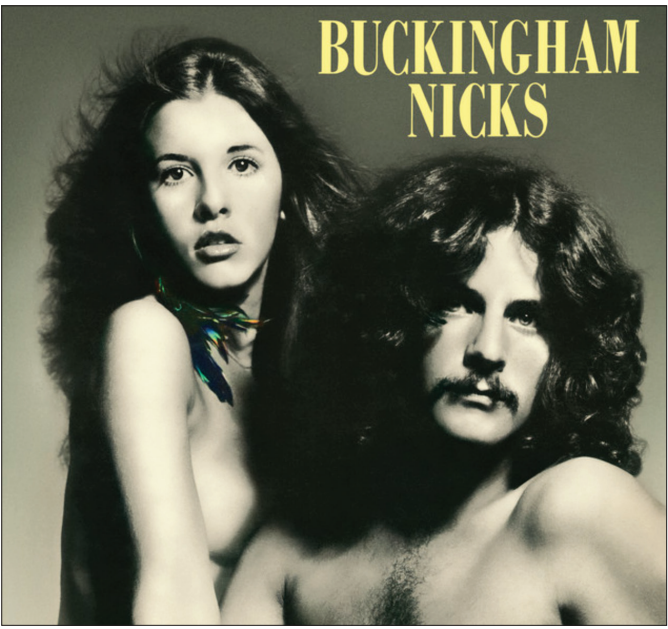


Photo courtesy of Spotify

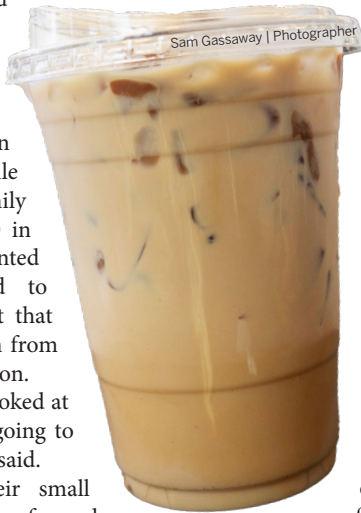
Review: 'Buckingham Nicks' re-emerges from land of lost albums

MACKENZIE GRIZZARD
Assistant News Editor

Stevie Nicks and Lindsey Buckingham's first and only collaborative album, "Buckingham Nicks," unceremoniously flopped upon release 52 years ago. They weren't the timeless, tortured lovers that "would never get away from the sound" of their love as we know them today — they were simply two struggling singer-songwriters trying to make ends meet in 1970s Los Angeles.

Just four years later, Lindsey and Stevie were catapulted into the limelight with Fleetwood Mac's 1977 album, "Rumours," which would go on to win the coveted album of the year at the 1978 GRAMMYS. The unique, soulful, blues-ridden rock 'n' roll sound, combined with the raw emotions of multiple failing relationships, would cement "Rumours" into one of the most iconic albums of all time.

And so, the forgotten "Buckingham Nicks" album would fade into the past, forever dancing around the spotlight cast by Fleetwood Mac's success — until last Friday, when "Buckingham Nicks" was finally released in its entirety, 52 years in the making.



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SIC ‘EM SWIPES RETURN from A1

the case,” the Dining Services website reads. “Instead, an error had been discovered and resolved.”

After negative feedback from students, dining services officially announced the reinstatement of Sic ‘Em Swipes to the Block 40 and Block 65 meal plans on Sept. 19, effective Sept. 21. According to Campos, the dining team understood that, though it was announced, many students didn’t understand the change in the meal plans.

According to Vice President for Student Life Dr. Sharra Hynes, the change was made without any notification to executive administrators.

From Hynes’ perspective, meal swipes are exceedingly valuable for students in a rush. Their flexibility allows students to get meals more conveniently during the school day.

“It is definitely an amenity and an asset of the meal plan that I know is highly valuable,” Hynes said.

With that, Baylor’s meal plans will include the amenity for the remainder of the 2025-26 school year, not just the semester.

“In response to the confusion, we felt adding Sic ‘Em Swipes back to this year’s meal plans was the right course of action,” Campos said. “Moving forward, Dining Services will do a better job of gathering student feedback and communicating updates.”

Hynes and Campos agreed that student

“Sic ‘Em Swipes are an expensive offering and continuing to include them in the Block 40 and Block 65 plans had become cost-prohibitive.

WIL CAMPOS
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR
CAMPUS SERVICES

feedback is valuable to university leaders. Students with any additional concerns can text Baylor Dining at 254-600-3868.

“There’s only a few of us, and there’s a lot of you,” Hynes said. “So when we don’t know about things, it’s very helpful when students share their concerns, their feedback, their perspective [and] their questions.”



Caleb Garcia | Photographer
VIRAL TikTok is expected to officially switch from Chinese ownership to predominantly American ownership with new legislation from President Donald Trump Thursday.

TIKTOK from A1

component, both from a cybersecurity standpoint of potentially tracking Americans’ behavior online and also [the] ability to influence public opinion in terms of what promoted on the platform,” Humphrey said.

Dr. Lourenco Paz, an associate professor of economics and the director of the international business program at Baylor, went more in-depth about how the algorithm tracks users’ interests on social media platforms.

“They try to learn from the things you watch on those platforms,” Paz said. “They try to figure out what you like, and they start showing you suggestions about things you watch.”

Paz said the U.S. government may have a couple different concerns regarding TikTok and the threat it poses to Americans. The data collected from TikTok could be used to harass American citizens or influence what citizens see on their feeds. Paz also said the American government may just be trying to eliminate a foreign media competitor.

“TikTok is competing with other platforms in the U.S., like Facebook or Instagram, and

the current administration feels that it’s their job to help American companies vis-à-vis the rest of the world,” Paz said.

Paz said this exchange of ownership doesn’t come without concessions on the United States’ side, though.

“When you get into international relations, you never force somebody to do something else. You always exchange something,” Paz said. “So we will find out what China asked for in exchange ... [but] it may take some time for us to find out what actually happened.”

For now, though, Baylor students don’t have to worry about TikTok vanishing from our screens. However, this agreement does have the potential to set a precedent for how other American policymakers receive foreign tech companies.

“I think if there are ever national security concerns with technology being used by Americans that’s coming from other countries, I think that could set a precedent for something like this happening again ... but we’ll have to see what other technology there is,” Humphrey said.

PLACE TO BE from A1

well-being resources, and a supportive environment for faculty, staff and students.”

In recent years, Baylor has expanded its inclusion and belonging initiatives, aiming to ensure that faculty and staff receive support throughout all stages of their careers and life circumstances. Dr. Tamara Welter, assistant professor of journalism, said from a new faculty perspective, the resources available to help adapt the Waco environment to the Baylor environment are intentionally used to connect with other faculty.

“When I first moved here, my father passed away back in California and it was a difficult semester for me, but so many people just rallied around me, from our university chaplain on campus all the way down to the journalism department,” Welter said. “Faculty rallied around me and students as well, just supporting me in that journey [and] reinforces Baylor’s purpose and performance with a deeply held commitment to its community.”



Associated Press
TO THE MOON Dr. Peter James is exploring questions from sending rovers to the moon.

NASA from A1

mission, building a long-range rover to collect rocks on the moon. The fun part, James said, is exploring all the what-if questions that arise when sending the rover to the moon.

A Baylor press release quotes James describing his opportunity as a “privilege to explore creation through science.”

Despite the double commitment of research and teaching, James said the balance is much easier than he had predicted. His research and teaching “feed off of each other.”

James finds opportunities in both teaching and research. Rose finds difficulty, but still manages to cherish his time here at Baylor as a professor.

“It’s a bit more difficult because this isn’t just a lab down the hall. There are times when I have to go on trips for meetings that are in Baltimore or other places,” Rose said. “But just like anything, you must prioritize what needs to be done.”

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