

SING IT OUT

See all the smoke, costumes and jazz hands from **All-University Sing** last night. **pg. B4-B5**



MUSICAL CHAIRS

Get into the minds of two of this year's **Sing Chairs**. **pg. B3**

“Of course, there had to be zombies.”

Rae Jefferson talks Sing (and the undead) **pg. B3**

On-the-Go >> Happenings: Visit @BULariatArts to see what's going on this weekend (besides Sing). BaylorLariat.com



Bears bring glitz, grit, goats to Sing

RAE JEFFERSON
Copy Desk Chief

It's that time of the year again. Over the next 10 days, the Baylor community will turn its attention to the timeless tradition that is All-University Sing.

The Lariat is well aware of the time and effort that goes into creating a Sing act. And for that, we congratulate all Sing participants on the execution of such a gargantuan task, especially when taking classes, working jobs and participating in other extracurriculars. That being said, Sing reviews are meant to recognize the outliers, those who perform extraordinarily well. Let this be a place where exceptional energy and creativity can be freely celebrated.

BAYLOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
“Time for the Show”
★★★★

Jazz hands – jazz hands everywhere! Chamber gave the audience a simple but chipper welcome to the annual tradition Baylor has come to love. The act, plain in choreography and wardrobe, was a lovely way to start the night and achieved its purpose of quickly getting the ball rolling.

CHI OMEGA
“Lunch Lady Land”
★★★★★

Chi Omegas make for the cutest lunch ladies in all the land. The act brought to stage one of the freshest ideas Sing has seen in a while. Channeling the '60s with Keds and cat-eye glasses, the ladies gave their sassy take on the school icon we've come to love. Solid vocals, solid choreography and a solid theme means Chi Omega served up a great act.

KAPPA CHI ALPHA & BETA UPSILON CHI
“Wonderful World”
★★★★

The expectations are set pretty high with the opening song – a dramatic take on “It’s a Wonderful World.” But instead of solid commentary on the apathy that can come with living in the suburbs, like the act set out to do, the audience was met with subpar vocals and dull choreography. Granted, there was one guy who was clearly a talented dancer, leaping and twirling in ways that would throw out most people’s hips, but the entire act can’t rest on one person.

ALPHA CHI OMEGA
“The Alpha Chi Coal Mining Company”
★★★★

The coal miner-themed act brought some of the strongest vocals of the female acts. The choreography wasn’t impressive, but the act included one of the most dynamic backgrounds of any act, utilizing a moving mine shaft. The best thing about this act? The fact that it didn’t end with a jazz hands huddle at the center of the stage.



Richard Hirst | Photo Editor

KAPPA OMEGA TAU
“Setting Sail”
★★★★

All aboard the U.S.S. KOT. There was no shortage of good vocals, energetic choreography or smoke machines with KOT’s act. There was even a crow’s nest onstage to complete the theme of a ship, a captain and his crew. With sure moves and a forceful presence, the guys of KOT command the stage in a way most other acts don’t, and it makes for a great time.

SING ALLIANCE
“Two Tickets Please”
★★★★

Every act should include a singing hot dog. Sing Alliance’s routine used the narrative of a young couple’s date to the movies. Kudos to the act’s leads for singing while hustling across the stage for the duration of the performance. Vocal quality wasn’t consistent between performers, but the use of a fun storyline, primary colors and quick-moving feet helped compensate for some of this.

DELTA TAU DELTA
“Lost in the Jungle”
★★★★

The best way to describe this act is Tarzan-meets-frat-daddy. Fittingly, the act started with


a number from Disney’s “Tarzan,” and featured a Tarzan character who protected his ape family from a dangerous hunter. Although vocals and choreography weren’t the strongest, humor carried the act home.

BETA THETA PI
“Derailed”
★★★

The act was reminiscent of Phi Chi’s “Dustbowl Days” from last Sing, which isn’t necessarily a good thing. This year, the narrative of struggling frontiersmen wasn’t communicated very well, and subpar vocals and choreography didn’t help. On the upside, the act’s use of an onstage train car made the set interesting.

KAPPA ALPHA THETA & SIGMA EPSILON
“Sincerely Yours, Thetasig”
★★★★

So. Much. Plaid. With some of the best costumes and energetic choreography of the night, the story of high school stereotypes and young love made for a fun time. One of the nerds even did a handstand. Best of all, performers ended the act with their backs to the audience and a fist in the air, paying homage to the cult-classic movie “The Breakfast Club.”



Richard Hirst | Photo Editor

PI KAPPA ALPHA
“The Lost City”
★★★★

The act had one of the clearest original storylines of the evening, following the citizens of Pompeii as the volcano erupts. What the act lacked in vocals, it made up for with theatrics. Falling rocks to simulate the volcano’s eruption, lightning effects and dream-like screens made the story come alive.

KAPPA KAPPA GAMMA & KAPPA SIGMA
“Come Dance with Me”
★★★★

This act was clean, and not just because it featured maids and butlers. With changing sets, highly varied costumes and great choreography, it was clear that lots of hard work had been put into the act. The vocals were consistently strong and, at one point, beautifully complemented ballroom dancing couples. The act ended with jazz hands, but I can’t even be mad about it.

DELTA DELTA DELTA
“Can You Dig It?”
★★★★

You can never go wrong with a movie-inspired act, and Delta Delta Delta knows this well. It quickly became clear that the act was a take on the book-turned-movie “Holes.” The act featured comical dirt-smudged delinquents digging holes at a juvenile correctional camp under the direction of a crooked camp warden. Vocals, costumes and choreography were all executed well. They may have been doing time, but there was surely no crime in producing an act this good.

PHI KAPPA CHI
“Working on a Building”
★★★★

Just like last year, Phi Kappa Chi had the best male vocals of all the acts. However, they tried to ride on the success of their 2015 act, “Dustbowl Days,” again singing a hymn at the peak of the story. “Working on a Building” was much less dramatic than “Dustbowl Days,” raising the question of whether a hymn was really the best route to take. Although their use of the same blueprint was unimpressive, there’s no denying that their spine-tingling harmonies and bold energy are unmatched by any other all-male act.

ZETA TAU ALPHA
“We Have Awoken”
★★★★

The act opened with a beautiful a cappella rendition of Sia’s “Chandelier.” However, the rest of the act didn’t match the tone that was set with the opening song. Although the act wasn’t bad, it didn’t deliver the expected punch. It was clear, though, that Zeta has a pretty nice supply of singers and dancers. Perhaps a different song repertoire would have solidified the act.

Waco Weekend:

>> Today

2:30 p.m. — Lecture by Tim O'Brien in Bennett Auditorium.

6 p.m. — Rising Sons at the Waco Hippodrome. Free.

6:30 p.m. — All-University Sing at Waco Hall. Sold out.

6:30 p.m. — Waco Civic Theatre presents “The Sound of Music” at the Waco Hippodrome. \$5 for students, \$8 for the public.

7:30 p.m. — “A Song for Coretta” at the Jubilee Theatre. \$16 for students, \$18 for the public.

10:30 p.m. — Guerrilla Troupe at Mabee Theatre. \$3.

>> Saturday

9 a.m. — Waco Downtown Farmers Market.

2 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. — Guerrilla Troupe at Mabee Theatre. \$3.

6:30 p.m. — All-University Sing at Waco Hall. Sold out.

7:30 p.m. — Vocal Majority Chorus at First Baptist Church of Waco. \$20, \$15, and \$10.

>> Sunday

2:30 p.m. — “A Song for Coretta” at the Jubilee Theatre. \$16 for students, \$18 for the public.

On a Roll



Richard Hirst | Photo Editor

ROW YOUR BOAT Kappa Omega Tau looks to continue its winning streak with this year’s pirate-themed act, “Setting Sail.”

Kappa Omega Tau has eight-year winning streak

REBECCA FEDORKO
Reporter

Kappa Omega Tau has placed either first or second in All-University Sing the last eight years running, a unique distinction among Baylor’s fraternities and sororities. The service-oriented fraternity was started in 1960 and is a Baylor original. The Greek letters KOT stand for Knights of Tradition, and they are certainly making a tradition of taking over Sing.

The fraternity won its first-place prizes with the shows “The Toys are Back in Town” in 2010, “Ghosts Call” in 2013 and “The Battle Within” in 2014. The fraternity’s performances “The Grand Hotel,” “Standing Small,” “The Show Must Go On,” “Steppin’ to the Badside” and “From the Bayou to the Big Easy” earned them second place the other five years.

Shreveport, La., senior Hunter Gorman, a current KOT Sing chair, said his organization’s past victories are pushing them to put in even more effort this year with their act “Setting Sail.”

“To hear that I’m associated with an organization that has a good track record gets me excited and motivated to just work hard,” Gorman said.

While he openly expressed pride in KOT’s accomplishments, Gorman was hesitant to say that they deserved the victories more than any other group.

“I think everybody’s got a different opinion on that,” Gorman said. “Look at the work we’ve put in, look at the standard we hold ourselves to. Deserving or not, that’s how it turned out so I think that we were rewarded for the work we put in.”

KOT has beaten other frontrunners like Phi Kappa Chi, Delta Delta Delta and Pi Beta Phi in years past with their performances. Las Vegas junior Megan McDonald said she thinks their victories have been well earned.

“This last year they were OK,” McDonald said, “But the years before they were really, really good, the best there. They did this Jekyll and Hyde thing that was absolutely amazing. I went twice.”

The news that they had been in the top two rankings for eight years running did not surprise her in the least.

“Oh, I believe it,” McDonald said. “They’ve had really good choreography, and their

sets are absolutely amazing. They work well together, and their singers are always really good.”

The hard work that KOT members put into Sing is apparent to other groups as well. Nashville sophomore Juliana Taylor, a member of Delta Delta Delta and a performer in this year’s Sing, said KOT members make



File Photo

DING DONG Kappa Omega Tau won second place in All-University Sing last year with “The Grand Hotel.”

it obvious how much effort they put into their performances.

“Whenever crowds come to watch things, they always know to look out for KOT because they have a reputation for doing very different acts each year. It really showcases their fraternity in a positive light,” Taylor said. “They are definitely competition, along with all other 20 organizations that are participating.”

However, Taylor was unwilling to focus on the competition or who would win this year, choosing instead to draw attention to the hard work of each group and the participants’ desires to perform well and do their best.

“I don’t really look at it as we’re targeting one group and we have to compare ourselves to it,” Taylor said. “It’s kind of just us showcasing ourselves and, as a Tri-Delt our most important thing is just being sharp and having everything perfect. Our competition is with ourselves. Each year we try to get better.”

Taylor did say KOT has an edge in the competition because people don’t always expect a group of guys to excel at something like Sing. She said the Broadway-like atmosphere of Sing would be more naturally associated with girls. That helps an all-male

fraternity like KOT make a bigger splash when they come out and perform as well as they do.

“It’s impressive that a group of guys can put an entire Sing act together and execute it very well,” Taylor said. “No one sees it coming, especially since the judges change each year.”

Austin senior Nathan Elequin said fraternities like KOT and Alpha Tau Omega tend to bring more energy to their performances.

“I don’t know why this is, but they in general just tend to produce much more exciting performances than their female counterparts. Maybe it’s because guys are more athletic or have a greater vocal range. I don’t really know,” Elequin said.

Elequin said KOT’s performances are thrilling and powerful, and that it’s obvious when they are on stage that they love doing what they are doing.

“They are referred to as the Kings of Sing for a reason,” Elequin said.

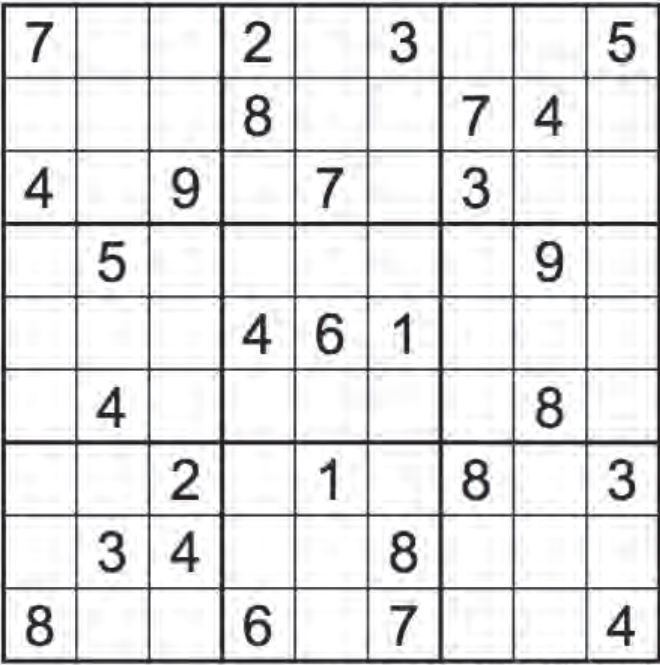
Elequin has seen KOT twice in live performance and watched several of their older performances on video as a Line Camp leader. He said KOT epitomizes what is expected of a Sing performance.

“They did fundamentals well,” Elequin said. “I’m talking choreography, not super risky, but then, using a clever combo of props costumes and stunts, they created a few memorable moments that stood out based on the song choices that they had. That’s a good recipe for a Sing performance, and I’m not surprised that they do well because of it.”

Gorman described this year’s act, “Setting Sail,” as a combination of KOT’s old talents with a new twist.

“This year we wanted to switch it up a little bit,” Gorman said. “We wanted to pull some things from acts we’ve done in the past as far as moves and settings. We wanted to really rethink KOT and get out of the box, but at the same time not lose the fun and excitement that comes with a KOT act. I just invite audiences young and old to just sit back and enjoy the power act that we’re going to share with the world this year.”

Although he said there was going to be a pretty level playing field this weekend, Gorman wasn’t interested in theorizing about who would win Sing this year. Instead, he said KOT members are focusing on working hard and doing what God has given them the ability to do.



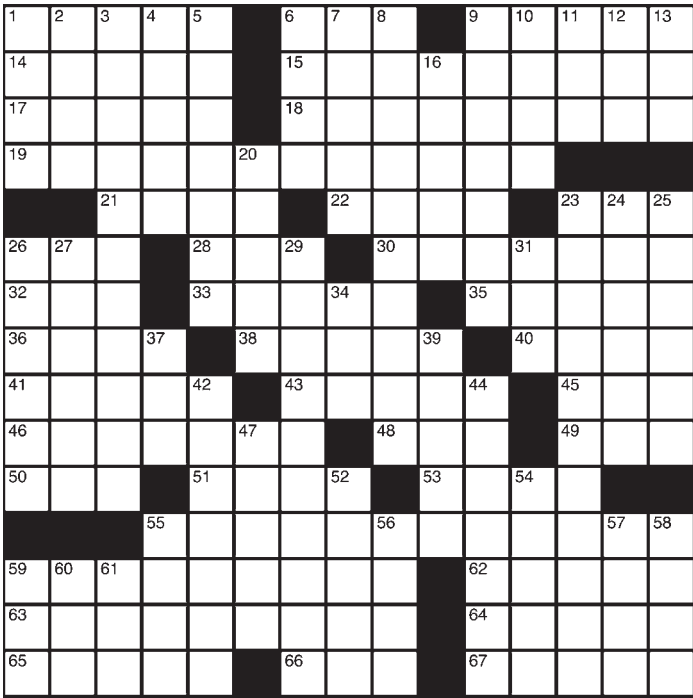
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For today’s puzzle results, please go to BaylorLariat.com.

Today’s Puzzles

- Across**
- 1 Fry
 - 6 Kung __ chicken
 - 9 Market Fresh sandwich and salad seller
 - 14 Time of old Rome
 - 15 Unevenly distributed, in a way
 - 17 Brought on
 - 18 Write-off
 - 19 Charming
 - 21 D.C.’s Walter __ National Military Medical Center
 - 22 Mennen lotion
 - 23 Govt. mtge. insurer
 - 26 One hoping to provide many happy returns?
 - 28 Hammer number
 - 30 Big name in hairstyling
 - 32 Hyperbola part
 - 33 Sudden stream
 - 35 Pull on
 - 36 Flee
 - 38 Adjudicates
 - 40 Maple syrup target
 - 41 Nearly
 - 43 Take badly?
 - 45 Taoist complement
 - 46 Uncommitted
 - 48 Farrow of film
 - 49 Ottoman title
 - 50 Tack on
 - 51 “A Death in the Family” author
 - 53 Relative of Rex
 - 55 Energetic and enthusiastic
 - 59 Run up the score on
 - 62 Place for a Char-Broil
 - 63 Removes restrictions on, as funds
 - 64 Hole __
 - 65 Third-longest African river
 - 66 Uncertain no.
 - 67 Handles
- Down**
- 1 “Do the Right Thing” pizzeria
 - 2 From the top
 - 3 Suspected of misdeeds



- 4 Certain student
- 5 Hams
- 6 First-serve figs.
- 7 Island reception
- 8 Spent
- 9 If nothing else
- 10 Depend
- 11 Pal
- 12 Start of an engagement?
- 13 ‘60s protest org.
- 16 Big bag carrier
- 20 Modify to fit
- 23 State Department neighborhood ... and what 3-, 8- and 29-Down all have?
- 24 Philly trademark
- 25 “They that have done this deed are honourable” speaker
- 26 Changing place
- 27 Examined closely
- 29 Psychedelic rock classic of 1967
- 31 Seek redress
- 34 Brazilian-themed Vegas hotel, with “The”
- 37 Tsk relative
- 39 Nebula Award genre
- 42 One may begin with “In a world ... “
- 44 U-shaped, more or less
- 47 Longhorn rival
- 52 Adlai’s running mate
- 54 1997 Elton dedicatee
- 55 “Spenser: For __”
- 56 Annoyance
- 57 Hessian article
- 58 Achieves
- 59 Fifth-century conqueror
- 60 Athlete’s wear, for short
- 61 It increases during plant growth: Abbr.

Q&A Sing chairs reveal their secrets

JACQUELYN KELLAR
Reporter

The Lariat spoke with Bellaire junior Grace Marion, a Sing chair for Chi Omega, and Rowlett senior Drew Allen, a Sing chair for Phi Kappa Chi, to learn how they’ve been preparing for this week’s All-University Sing.

How much time and effort has gone into the process of creating your act?

Grace Marion (Chi Omega): We started meeting together last February. It was the day after Sing ended; we were very eager. We had picked our theme by March. We knew what we wanted to do and developed it until the day we could submit it, on May 1. It was submitted, got approved, and we put it to bed over the summer. We came back and just picked it right up.

You’re constantly submitting things throughout the whole semester. You have to think of every detail. It stays at an escalating rate from the time we get back in August until now.

Drew Allen (Phi Kappa Chi): The whole process started last school year. As soon as Sing ended and we won, we were all really excited. At that point, we immediately started electing new Sing chairs. Late last spring, we started



Charlene Lee | Lariat Photographer

LADIES WHO LUNCH Grace Marion prepares for Chi Omega’s performance of “Lunch Lady Land.”

talking about what kind of message we wanted to send with this act. We thought about what story we wanted to tell as opposed to what theme we wanted. With Phi Chi, we’re focused a lot on the type of message we want, and that’s something we really care about.

So we got that nailed down last spring and we spent the summer looking up song ideas. Over the summer you don’t really do a lot, but it’s definitely on your mind. I listened to songs on the radio for ones that might work. Once the fall comes around, there are deadlines that start hitting. Getting artists for the backdrop and getting the costumes figured out. There are so many little things that you don’t think about.

I’ve enjoyed it, but it’s definitely more work than I thought it would be.

What is new and different about your act than in years past?

Marion: This year, we have definitely gone for a very different kind of act. Not necessarily compared to every other Chi O act that we’ve done, but definitely compared to last year. It feels very different, so it’s been very fun to do. There’s contrasting ideas from last year to this year.

Allen: I think the bar keeps being raised on group sing and the vocal quality. If we want to have a competitive act and one that’s going to be enjoyable, we need to have some really solid group sing parts. Maybe in the past that wasn’t as true, but I think that’s something we are trying to incorporate, to make group sing an interesting aspect of the show. I think that’s evolved from years past.

How have you felt in the days leading up to the performance?

Marion: It’s a lot of trial and error. That’s the biggest thing I’ve been surprised by. It seemed like everything would be put in place by now. You have the whole thing choreographed, and you have all the props and backdrop done.

Everything is done, so you should be cleaning and teaching. It seems like it should run swimmingly, but it’s a lot of, “That didn’t look good. Let’s try something else,” and seeing if it looked good or not and tweaking. It’s a lot of tweaking.

Allen: We want to make them understand that they’re doing great and we want to encourage them, but we know they can do a significant amount better. Getting them to get over that last hump can be frustrating. We want them to get better because we know they can do it.

What has been the most rewarding part of the experience?

Marion: Getting to feel the support from the girls. It’s really hard to lead a group of 162 women, and it’s really cool when they’re the ones that go out of their way to make sure you know how appreciated you are. They’re the ones who will bring you Sonic anytime and the ones who will get your dinner, even the ones you barely know. That’s probably been the best part, getting to see the girls who really care deeply about making sure that we feel appreciated and fed. They do bring a lot of food.

Allen: The most fun part was the little breaks we get during practice to play basketball or soccer together. It’s also just been good

REVIEWS from Page B1



Penelope Shirey | Lariat Photographer

ALPHA TAU OMEGA
“The King of France”



This medieval act was the quintessential tale of a knight after the heart of his queen. “The King of France” had the most impressive use of props and set design of all the acts, complete with a giant dragon puppet. The storyline was cute (there was even a sword in a stone) and the song choices fit the narrative.

ALPHA DELTA PI
“Keep on Surviving”



This “Jumanji” themed act brought the infamous board game to the Sing stage. The act was fun and utilized songs that complemented the act’s storyline relatively well, but the choreography felt very jumbled and vocals were iffy at times. In the end, Jumanji is a risky game, and I don’t think I’ll be playing again.

PHI GAMMA DELTA
“The Dancing Dead”



Of course, there had to be zombies. The guys of Fiji made stiff zombie dancing look as good as one possibly can. Unfortunately,

vocals were lacking and moments that could have lent themselves to clever character transformations were overlooked. Fiji wins points, however, for the obligatory “Thriller” dance routine at the end.

PI BETA PHI
“Meet Me in Ze Alps”



From the ladies who brought you nuns comes a one-of-a-kind act about ... goats. Pi Phi made the life of a milk maiden in the Swiss Alps look a lot more fun that it probably is. The act, which opened with a yodeler (that’s a first), utilized excellent costume design and energetic moves to keep the audience engaged. Additionally, every song lent itself to the flow of the act. It was an incredible way to finish out the night.



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 **BAYLOR** Department of Biology
College of Arts and Sciences



Kappa Alpha Theta & Sigma Chi



Kappa Omega Tau

"Setting Sail"



Phi Gamma Delta

"The Dancing Dead"



Phi Kappa Chi

"Workin' On A Building"



Kappa Kappa Gamma & Kappa Sigma

"Come Dance With Me"



Delta Tau Delta

"Lost in the Jungle"



Delta Delta Delta

"Can You Dig It?"

SING



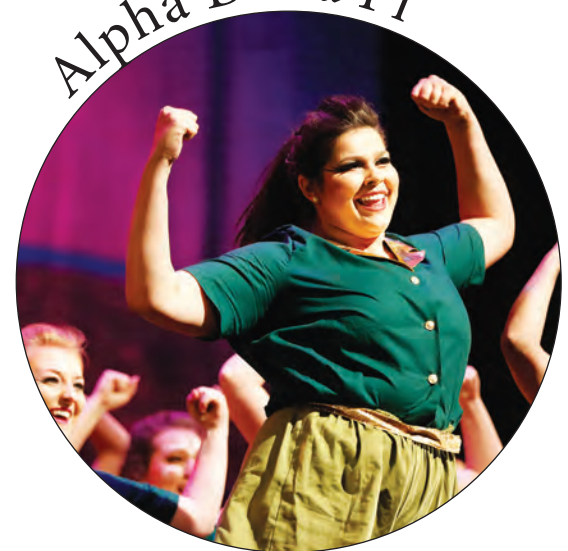
Baylor Chamber of Commerce

"Time for the show"



Beta Theta Pi

"Derailed"



Alpha Delta Pi

"Keep on Survivin'"



Sing Alliance

"Two Tickets Please"



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"Meet Me In Ze Alps"



Kappa Omega

"The Alpha Chi Coal Mining Company"



Chi Omega

"Lunch Lady Land"



Alpha Tau Omega

"The King of Promise"



Zeta Tau Alpha

"We Have Awoken"

TOURNAMENT TEST

Softball hosts a four-team tournament at home.
pg. B8



OPENING WEEKEND

Baseball opens its 2016 season at home this weekend.
pg. B9

RETURNING CHAMPS

Acrobatics & Tumbling meet on Sunday at home
pg. B7



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Medford's growth aids Bears

HUNTER HEWELL
Reporter

The Baylor men's basketball team has risen to the challenge this year in the gauntlet that is Big 12 conference play. Despite a few disappointing losses, they have managed to put together a team that not only works well together, but is exciting to watch. One of the big keys to the Baylor Bears' 2015-2016 campaign has been an improved point guard/shooting guard in senior Lester Medford.

SPORTS TAKE

Medford has improved in many ways this season. One of the first that stands out is scoring ability. During the 2013-2014 season, Medford averaged 7.6 points per game. This year, Medford has raised that to 9.5 points per game. With five games left to play, Medford is only 11 points shy of his total number of points scored last season. He has also shown improvements on defense. During his junior year, Medford attained 51 steals. Right now, half-way through February, Medford has already gathered 50 steals with five games left to play in the regular season. This increase in steals has been a big help for the Bears this season against high-caliber offenses like Iowa State and Kansas.

However, the area in which Medford has improved the most is the assists category. In the 2013-2014 season, Medford collected 106 assists. During his senior campaign, Medford has already amassed 184 assists. His distribution of the ball has opened up opportunities for a lot of different players to score, rather than forcing star players like senior forward Taurean Prince to constantly create their own shots. After losing a productive Keny Chery last year, many people wondered how effective the Bears would be from the point guard position. Medford has continued to step up all season long and fill the gap that Chery left. Although the Bears fate remains unknown, they can rest assured that they have a leader on offense and defense in Medford.



Sarah Pyo | Lariat Photographer

BEHIND ENEMY LINES Sophomore point guard Kristy Wallace rushes through the lane against Oklahoma State on Wednesday at the Ferrell Center. Wallace and the Lady Bears earned their 13th consecutive win with a 66-41 blow out over the Cowgirls.

High stakes

Baylor rides 13-game win streak with title in sight

MEGHAN MITCHELL
Sports Writer

The No. 4 Lady Bears look to continue in their winning ways at the Ferrell Center at 2 p.m. Saturday against the Iowa State Cyclones. The day will also serve as their annual "Sic 'em for the Cure" game, during which breast cancer survivors will be recognized on the court during halftime. The Bears (26-1, 13-1) are on a roll after winning their last 13 games while remaining undefeated at home. With senior guard Niya Johnson and junior guard Alexis Prince in action against No. 17 Oklahoma State on Wednesday night, the Lady Bears seem to be healthy and ready to compete. "I just think [it is good] having our entire team healthy. You can't go to battle with some of your players not playing," said head coach Kim Mulkey. "We held two teams in

a row to 41 and 36 points. That's tough to do." "Niya had 11 assists and she averages around seven points per game. Alexis [Prince] held [Brittney] Martin to zero points when she was guarding her," Mulkey said. "You don't say that we lost [earlier this season in Stillwater] because we were missing two players, that's sports. We gave them credit in Stillwater and went back to work." With Mulkey proud of the way her team held off a late effort by the Cyclones the first time, the Lady Bears were able to cruise past the Cyclones on the road 77-61. "If you hit those shots, you can come in and win a ball game. If you can't hit them, it's going to be a long night," Mulkey said. The Lady Bears will need to make shots consistently if they want to get past the Cyclones this time around. The Cyclones (13-12, 5-9) are

coming off a 77-48 win against Texas Tech and although their record may not appear the best, they continue to put up a battle. The Lady Bears lead the Big 12 in field goal percentages shooting at .451 while the Cyclones are third from the bottom, shooting at .373. With the Lady Bears also leading the Big 12 with an average of 44.9 rebounds per game, the Cyclones are going to have to battle with the Lady Bears' dynamic presence in the paint. The Lady Bears will need to continue working together if they want to take home the Big 12 title, junior guard Alexis Jones said. "I think I am a lot more comfortable and we are getting to know each other a lot more. We are getting better and better. It is good to know that this team is improving every game," Jones said. With the Lady Bears dominating on the court, many of them are doing the same off the court in the

classrooms. Three Lady Bears were named first team Academic All-Big 12 Thursday by league officials. The honored Lady Bears included senior forward Chardonae Fuqua, freshman forward Kristina Hingins and sophomore guard Kristy Wallace. At the end of the day, the goal is to win a Big 12 title and a national championship, but it is important to take it one day at a time, Mulkey said. "The most talented teams don't always win," Mulkey said. "We are kind of a testament to that. In 2005 we were not the most talented team and we won the national championship. "It was because we were healthy and we were on a roll," Mulkey said. "If those things happen at the end of the year, I know that whoever beats us is going to have a game on their hands."

Bears face Longhorns in Austin

HUNTER HEWELL
Reporter

After an overtime victory over the Iowa State Cyclones, the No. 25 Baylor University men's basketball team is looking towards a matchup against the No. 24 Texas Longhorns on Saturday. In their last meeting, the Bears stumbled against the Longhorns in a 67-59 defeat at home in Waco. This time the Bears will

hope to return the favor in Austin at the Frank Erwin Center. The Bears will look to ride their momentum from their recent victory over Iowa State in which they scored 100 points and shot 54 percent from the field. The Longhorns are also coming off a big home win against West Virginia and are 3-0 at home against AP top 25 teams. Both teams are similar,

and should provide an interesting matchup on Saturday. The Bears are 19-7 on the season, while the Longhorns are 17-9, with each team holding a conference record of 8-5. On offense, Baylor has four players averaging double-digit scoring while the Longhorns have three. Baylor is averaging 47

LIVE RADIO

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Sports

Acrobatics & Tumbling: Bears Host Oregon in Home Opener



File Photo

ROUND OF APPLAUSE Baylor acrobatics and tumbling (1-0) celebrate after a win over Oregon on April 12, winning 284.245-274.640 in Waco. The Bears and Ducks will rematch for the first time since Baylor's national championship win on April 25.

JEFFREY SWINDOLL
Sports Editor

After claiming its first national title last season, the No. 1-ranked Baylor acrobatics and tumbling team will meet for the first time at home in 2016. The Bears (1-0) host No. 2 Oregon at 1 p.m. on Sunday at the Ferrell Center.

Head coach Felicia Mulkey, formerly the head coach of Oregon's Acrobatics & Tumbling team, leads the defending NCATA champion Bears.

The Bears opened their season on the road against Quinnipiac University Connecticut to open the 2016 season.

Baylor won that meeting by a decisive 286.960-278.775 score, in Hamden, Conn., on Sunday.

"The team performed okay, but we are not satisfied," Mulkey said in a press release after the meet. "We have some room for improvement.

We will work this week to clean some things and increase our start values before next Sunday."

Baylor has high hopes for the season. The Bears will host the NCATA National Championships later this season at the Ferrell Center.

The Ducks (2-0) enter their matchup with the Bears coming off a tight 267.555-265.665 win over Hawaii Pacific.

Oregon went 7-4 last season, only falling to Baylor and Hawaii Pacific. Three of those losses came at the hands of Baylor.

The Bears overcame the Ducks both away and at home last season. The third win came in the national championship on April 25, giving Baylor a clean sweep against Oregon.

On Sunday, the Ducks will look to hand the Bears their first home loss in over a year. Baylor last fell on April 12, 2014 to Azusa Pacific.

The meet will be aired on the Pac-12 Network.

Last year vs. Oregon:

March 12 in Eugene:
Win, 279.77-278.25

April 12 in Waco:
Win, 284.245-274.640

April 25 (National
Championship):
Win, 286.690-282.870

Men's Golf travels to Houston

The Baylor men's golf team is headed to the All-American Intercollegiate, which runs Friday through Sunday at Golf Club of Houston in Humble, Texas, and is hosted by Rice and Houston.

The three-day, 54-hole event will be played on the par-72, 7,096-yard tournament course, most noted as the Shell Houston Open stop on the PGA tour.

No. 34 Baylor is one of 16 teams in the field.

The Bears are returning to action following a tournament title in their spring opener at the UTSA Oak Hills Invitational, where they shot 11-over-par 863 to win the tournament in back-to-back years.

All five competitors in Baylor's lineup finished among the top 25 individually.

After the victory in San Antonio, BU moved up 10 spots and is ranked No. 34 nationally in the latest GolfStat rankings. Baylor returns with the same lineup for the second week in a row, though in a different order this time around.

The Bears are led by seniors Andreas Gjestebj and Frederik Andersen, followed by freshman Braden Bailey, sophomore Matthew Perrine and sophomore Nick Thornton. Junior Hunter Shattuck will play as an individual.

Baylor will be playing in the All-American Intercollegiate for a ninth time and the first time since 2012. The Bears' first participated in the event in 1990, and Baylor's best result in the tournament came with a second-place finish in 1994.

Baylor has previously played the All-American in 1990 (7th), 1992 (7th), 1993 (8th), 1994 (2nd), 1995 (16th), 1996 (12th), 2008 (6th) and 2012 (5th).

Friday's first round begins at 9 a.m. CT with players teeing off from both the first and 10th holes. Baylor players will begin on the 10th tee, with Thornton up first at 9 a.m. He'll be followed in nine-minute intervals by Perrine, Bailey, Andersen and Gjestebj, respectively.

Shattuck will also tee off from the 10th at 10:30 a.m. Members of the Baylor lineup are paired with players from SMU and Rice.

This story was an original release from the official Baylor Athletics website, www.baylorbears.com.

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Jordan Spieth shoots worst PGA Tour start

DOUG FERGUSON
Associated Press

Jordan Spieth never saw this coming — his worst start on the PGA Tour on one of his favorite courses. Spieth dropped six shots over the last seven holes Thursday at Riviera, capping it off with a three-putt double bogey from 8 feet for an 8-over 79 in the Northern Trust Open. It was his worst score since an 80 in the third round of the 2014 Tour Championship. “It’s just a day to forget,” Spieth said. “It’s one in, hopefully, every couple years. I’ve shot 80 before — I’ve shot in the 80s a couple times on tour. I think I shot 79 today. In the course of a career, I imagine it’s going to happen. Just unfortunate when it actually does.” Spieth was coming off a tie for 20th at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, when the tournament got away from him with a 74 in the third round at Pebble Beach. It was the first time since September he finished out of the top 10.

He attributed that to not managing expectations. He opened the year with an eight-shot win at Kapalua and fell into the trap of thinking it would be like every week. This was a far cry. He hit the ball where he wasn’t supposed to, and he couldn’t make anything on the greens. Scrambling typically isn’t an issue, except that Spieth was leaving himself par putts in the 6-foot range on poa greens that get bumpy in the afternoon. It was a bad combination, and he paid dearly for it. The only difference was his attitude. Spieth remained upbeat, and he was bantering with longtime friend Justin Thomas to the very end. Thomas tapped in for par on the 18th and looked over to Fred Couples to make sure he didn’t step in his line. He was nowhere near Spieth’s through line, though Spieth couldn’t resist saying, “Justin, you didn’t ask me. You’re probably in my through line at this point.” And then Spieth’s par putt ran 4 feet by the hole. He missed that one for bogey and curled in this third putt for a 6. Spieth said he didn’t trust how Riviera was playing — slightly softer because of overnight rain — and his bad start never improved. He missed a par putt inside 3 feet on No. 12. He took two chips to get to the green on No. 13 and scrambled for bogey. He ran a birdie putt from the fringe 5 feet by on the 15th and missed that par putt. He failed to save par from a bunker on the 16th. And then he ended with a double bogey. “Just seemed to be anywhere you really shouldn’t go, I went,” he said. “And again, it’s just a day to forget.”



READY POSITION Sophomore infielder Caitlin Charlton prepares for a hit during Baylor’s home-opening win over McNeese State on Feb. 12. The Bears won the series, 2-1, over the Cowgirls.

Softball hosts home tourney

MEGHAN MITCHELL
Sports Writer

After winning their series opener against McNeese State in shaky fashion, No. 21 Baylor softball looks to get back on track at home, where it will be hosting the 15th-annual Getterman Classic at Getterman Stadium. “I have to give credit to a good McNeese State team. Every inning they were threatening to score. If we punched them, they punched back,” said head coach Glenn Moore. “They didn’t just play good, they are a good team. We are good team that did not play well all weekend.” “I am not happy with a lot of what I saw this weekend, but at the same time, I know what kind of team we are capable of being. We came out here with a series win, so I feel fortunate there, because honestly, it could have been 0-3 with the way we played.” The Lady Bears kick off play in four-tournament draw against Northwestern State at 3 p.m. today at Getterman Stadium followed by a matchup against Liberty at 5:30 p.m. Senior pitcher Heather Stearns is embracing the opportunity to host another home tournament in her final season as a Bear. “We are ready to turn it around this weekend,” said senior pitcher Heather Stearns. “I love playing at home, but I know my games here are limited as a senior, but I’m excited for this tournament. I have always enjoyed it.”

Round robin play will end for the Lady Bears 12:30 p.m. Saturday against North Texas, and the team will play later that afternoon at either 3 p.m. or 5:30 p.m. depending on their seed thus far through the tournament. “If you look back at last weekend, kind of every aspect of our game was off. So that being said, we have taken an approach of relaxing. I think we’ve just been so tense, kind off too excited to play, so just relaxing and playing our game,” Stearns said. The losers of the two Saturday pool play matchups will face off at 9:30 a.m., but with hopes of winning the tournament, the Lady Bears have their eyes set on the championship game at noon Sunday. “It’s going to be a quick turnaround, but I think that’s going to be good for us,” Stearns said. Stearns said the Lady Demons (6-1) have been on a roll this year and will present a similar threat to the Lady Bears as the one the faced last weekend against McNeese State. “We’ve talked a little bit about them. They started off very strong and are predicted to finish first in the Southland Conference. They are going to be strong just like McNeese,” Stearns said. “We are really just looking at what we need to do this weekend not so much Northwestern.” With the Lady Bears winning the Getterman Classic 10 times, including the last two years, the Lady Bears aim to take the title again.

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Sarah Pyo | Lariat Photographer

RISE Senior forward Taurean Prince pulls up a one-handed shot over Iowa State defenders on Tuesday at the Ferrell Center. The No. 25 Bears ended up beating the No. 13 Cyclones in overtime, 100-91.

BEARS from Page B6

percent from the field in shooting while Texas is shooting 44 percent.

Baylor's leading scorer, senior forward Taurean Prince, will look to repeat his offensive performance from the last outing against Texas in which he scored 18.

Baylor will also hope to see the return of senior forward Rico Gathers, who missed the last game due to illness.

The Longhorns had trouble stopping Gathers last time as he scored 20 points and grabbed eight rebounds.

The Bears also hope to see a repeat performance from the last game from sophomore forward Johnathan Motley, who scored 27 points and hauled in 10 rebounds in the victory over the

Cyclones.

One of the Bears' keys to victory on Saturday will be to continue to control the boards.

The Bears have proven to be a strong rebounding team this season, outrebounding opponents by an average margin of 8.5 rebounds per game.

In their last meeting with Texas, the Bears grabbed 34 rebounds while Texas had 30.

A continuation of this trend, and keeping Texas from getting second chances off of offensive rebounds, will help the Bears control the pace of the game.

Strong bench play will also be a factor for the Baylor Bears. In their latest victory, the Baylor bench outscored the Cyclones bench 21-0. However, in

their last game against Texas, the bench only scored seven points versus Texas' 20 bench points.

On the defensive side, the Bears will have to find a way to slow down the Longhorn's leading scorer, junior guard Isaiah Taylor, who is averaging 15 points a game.

Stopping Texas' senior center Cameron Ridley will also be a challenge for the Bears as he averages a double-double with 12 points a game and 10 rebounds.

Baylor will also have to limit turnovers, while capitalizing off of turnover opportunities given by Texas.

Despite the fact that the Bears only had one more turnover than the Longhorns in their last meeting, they managed

to give up 18 points off of turnovers while only scoring seven.

Although the Bears will have their work cut out for them to battle against the home crowd in Austin, they have proven to be a tough team to beat on the road.

Baylor boasts a 4-2 conference road record, including wins in Ames, Iowa and Manhattan, Kan.

This will be the 247th meeting between Baylor and Texas, the first game dating back to the 1905-1906 season.

Despite the changes in the game since then, the rivalry between the two schools remains the same. Tipoff is set for 1 p.m. Saturday in Austin.

The game will air on ESPN.

Baseball opens 2016 with new head coach

BENJAMIN EVERETT
Sports Writer

Baylor baseball looks to open the season on the right foot this weekend as the Bears host University of Washington for a three-game home series.

The season officially begins at 6:35 p.m. today when junior pitcher Daniel Castano takes the mound against Washington's Noah Bremer.

For the Bears, including new head coach Steve Rodriguez, the offseason has felt like a lifetime.

"I think everybody's excited," Rodriguez said, "I think we're kind of sick of staring at each other. We need to see what we have got."

Even for a player not pitching until the second game, opening day brings jitters.

"You can't put it into words," said Drew Tolson, starting pitcher for Saturday. "It's like Christmas for all of us."

Rodriguez is attempting to bring Baylor baseball back to relevance after the Bears experienced three-straight losing seasons.

Multiple veteran players, such as Tolson, started to notice changes during the offseason.

"It's been completely different from the past. It's been the most disciplined hard work I've done since I've been at Baylor, and I think it's gonna pay dividends for the season," Tolson said.

Rodriguez said every player had to earn his spot this offseason.

Everyone had to start fresh, and the level of competition has increased as a result.

"I don't really have favorites. My favorites are the ones playing that day," Rodriguez said. "It's great to have competition. It's

good to have guys who really want to compete."

Players said they have noticed the increase in competition as well.

"Everybody who has their spot tomorrow may not have it the next day. You're gonna have to go out there and give it everything you've got every game," Castano said.

The players recognize the job Rodriguez has done in preparing them for the season.

"It all starts with him and he's done an amazing job of instilling discipline and hard work in us this year," Tolson said.

With all the hype leading up to the season, the Bears can make a statement this weekend with a series win over Washington.

Baylor faces a tall task against a UW pitching staff that was second in total ERA in the Pac-12 conference last season.

"Their pitching is going to be really good," Rodriguez said. "We're going to have to compete offensively and make sure we can play defense to give us a chance to win this game."

After the season opener Friday night, the Bears and the Huskies face off at 3:05 p.m. Saturday and 1:05 p.m. Sunday.

On Saturday, Tolson faces freshman Joe DeMers followed by a matchup between junior pitcher Nick Lewis and Washington's Will Ballowe.

With five freshmen on the roster, Rodriguez hopes to mix young and veteran players.

"I think there'll be some guys out there that are going to be new, but at the same time there will be familiar faces as well," Rodriguez said.



Castano

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