



THIS WEEKEND >> @BaylorFootball takes on Kansas 2:30 p.m. Saturday.

BaylorLariat.com

Sports take:

Find out where the Bears stand in the college football playoff positions. **pg. C2**



Marine turned Bear Kyle Boyd brings new spark to Baylor football team. **pg. C3**

"Every team's goal is to win a championship." -Jim Grobe

Sports take on bowl eligibility. pg. C4



Timothy Hong | Lariat Photographer

DEFENSE WINS EVERY TIME Senior safety Orion Stewart jumps up in the air to celebrate with his teammates after he grabs a pick off SMU redshirt freshman quarterback Ben Hicks on Sept. 10 at McLane Stadium. The Baylor Bears won that game by a final of 40-13.

Bring on the Jayhawks

NATHAN KEIL

Sports Writer

After enjoying their first of two bye weeks, the Baylor football team returns to action Saturday as it hosts the Kansas Jayhawks for homecoming at McLane Stadium. The bye week allowed the Bears to relax, get healthy, and re-focus after two difficult games against Oklahoma State and Iowa State.

Perhaps more important than the physical rest was the mental break the Bears got to enjoy during this last week.

"I think it's been pretty good for our kids mentally with two really tough, physical football games and stressful games," said Jim Grobe, the acting head coach. "It was good to relax and take some time off."

Baylor will now turn its attention to the Kansas Jayhawks, who enter the game 1-4 overall and 0-2 in Big 12 play. After rotating quarterbacks throughout the first four games of the season, Kansas seems to have found its pick in sophomore Ryan Willis who completed 31 of 45 passes for 348 yards in their 24-23 loss to the Horned Frogs. Sophomore wide receiver Steven Sims Jr. and junior wide receiver LaQuivonte Gonzalez are the favorite targets of Willis, tallying 413 and 349 yards respectively while contributing six touchdowns.

As far along as the offense has come this season for the Jayhawks, the thing that has impressed Grobe the most has been their defensive tenacity and their ability to explode to the football.

"The things I like about Kansas is the way their defense chases the football. They fly around and get a lot of people to the ball. They play really hard defensively," Grobe said. "They're very aggressive. They like to blitz and bring pressure and mix things up. I like their scheme. They're fundamentally coached really well, and you can tell they're very fundamentally sound defensively. They did everything against TCU but win the football game."

Kansas head coach David Beaty knows the plethora of talent Baylor possesses and the challenge they present for his Jayhawk team.

"They're aggressive and physical," Beaty said at his weekly press conference Monday. "Our guys have had really good practices the last two days, I know they're excited to get back out on the field."

Baylor hopes to re-establish the aerial attack of Russell and company after the Bears threw



Timothy Hong | Lariat Photographer

OFF TO THE ENDZONE Senior quarterback Seth Russell takes off down the field trying to score a touchdown against the Southern Methodist University Mustangs on Sept. 10 at McLane Stadium. The Bears won by a final of 40-13.

for a season low 178 yards on 12 completions. The return of junior wide receiver KD Canon might serve as the perfect remedy for the Bears as Grobe confirmed that he expects Canon to be healthy and full strength for Saturday's affair.

The Bears also hope to see senior running back Shock Linwood pick up where he left off after his 237 yard performance against the Cyclones. According to Grobe, he has earned the right to start and see the majority of snaps.

"That was Shock being Shock," Russell said. "He's here, he knows what his role is, and it was huge for him to step up in that way for us."

However, Baylor will continue to use their

balanced run attack with Linwood's youthful counterparts, sophomore running back Terence Williams and redshirt freshman JaMychal Hasty, both of whom are having productive seasons in the back field.

Baylor will also look to take advantage of Kansas' mistakes offensively as the Jayhawks have turned the ball over 17 times in their five games this season. The Baylor defense will look to be aggressive, as it has been all year, to try take advantage of this Jayhawk trend.

Baylor, after watching Kansas give TCU a scare and surviving a scare of their own against Iowa State, will not take the Jayhawks lightly.

"They're definitely a different ball club from last year for sure. They fly around, they're doing good things on defense, and we just have to focus on what we do and play better football," Russell said. "Coaches are going to have a good scheme going into it. As long as we execute it, we'll be okay."

For Baylor, their defense has been at its best in the fourth quarter, outscoring their opponents 45-0 and eliminating any chance of a comeback.

"I think it's reflective of a team that knows how to finish, and that's a tribute to our coaches and our players," Grobe said.

If Jayhawks hope to escape Waco with a win, they'll have to score early and often or somehow manage to find their way into the end zone in the fourth quarter, something that has yet to be done this year.

With a win against Kansas, the Bears will reach six wins, making them bowl eligible for the seventh consecutive season. Although it is far from the Bears' ultimate goal, it is a step in the right direction and the continual growth of a program that struggled for many years.

The Bears defeated the Jayhawks last year in Lawrence, 66-7. The two teams are set to kickoff at 2:30 p.m at McLane Stadium. The game will air on FS1.

LIVE RADIO

The Lariat will be broadcasting live radio play-by-play. Listen in to Thomas Mott and Jakob Brandenburg as they call the Baylor football game tonight.

Ways to listen live:

1. Use the "Mixlr" app (iPhone, Android) and search for "Baylor Lariat Radio"

2. Access www.mixlr.com/ baylor-lariat-radio with your preferred web browser and search for "Baylor Lariat Radio"



Sports take: Playoff picture

NATHAN KEIL Sports Writer

We are just about to enter the halfway point of the college football season. For college football fans, including myself, that was a tough sentence to write. Although the conference season is young, it is never too early to begin thinking about the college football playoff and which four teams will have an opportunity to play for the national championship. There may be a lot of questions that run through our minds when the committee makes its selections. Will a two-loss champion make the playoff this season? Will the committee choose two schools from the same conference? For example, if Alabama wins the SEC, and Texas A&M finishes with one loss at Alabama. Will the committee choose a non-Power Five conference team? Will the committee insert a non-conference champ over a conference champ because of issues like strength of schedule or because they feel that one team is still superior



to the other? All these questions and more flood the hearts and minds of college football fans, so let me walk through you the playoff picture thus far, including where Baylor stands

and what needs to happen for its to make it to the final four.

First, there are a lot of teams that still have hopes and a fighting chance of playing for the college football championship. For instance, there are 11 still-undefeated teams, including Baylor. There are also eight teams with one loss that still have a chance and "about two" two-loss teams that may still have an outside shot. So let's quickly address the undefeated teams.

Western Michigan. Unfortunately for the Broncos, even though they have two wins on the road at Big Ten schools, Northwestern and Illinois, the playoff committee is not going to take an undefeated MAC school over a Power Five conference champion.

Boise State. These Broncos fall victim to the same problem as Western Michigan does. Their best win is against Washington State, and even if they did finish undefeated, the committee would likely surpass them in likes for a two-loss team or the next best one-loss Power Five conference



Associated Press

GOLDEN GOAL The Associated Press National Championship Trophy is the trophy awarded annually by the Associated Press to the team who finishes the season at the No. 1 spot in the AP Poll and signifies that team being selected as national champions of college football for that season.

and Nebraska.

First, look at the Cornhuskers. They still have road trips to Madison, Columbus and Iowa City on their schedule. Despite all of the improvements, Nebraska seems unlikely to make it. However, if they did win the Big 10 West, they would most likely get either Ohio State again or Michigan in the Big Ten championship, and with a win, would have to be given some serious consideration.

The Aggies will have an interesting case. If they can beat both LSU and Mississippi at Kyle Field and give Alabama a competitive game in Tuscaloosa, they would finish the season 11-1 but would not win the either Nebraska or Wisconsin again in the Big Ten championship. Despite being extremely talented and having one of the best football coaches, let's hold off on the Buckeyes for now.

Michigan, under second-year head coach and media magnet Jim Harbaugh, have looked impressive thus far, despite having only one noteworthy win, a 14-7 defensive struggle against Wisconsin on Oct. 1. The schedule is quite favorable for the Wolverines with just two road trips ahead against the Spartans and Hawkeyes, who are both having down years, before their true test comes in a Nov. 26 showdown against Ohio State in Columbus. If Michigan can run the table in the Big Ten East and add a win over either Nebraska or a second win against Wisconsin, odds are Harbaugh and his Wolverines will make the Promised Land. Washington, after overcoming its annual stumbling block in the Oregon Ducks last week, sits in very good position. They have road trips to Utah and California, which could potentially be tricky, but they should be favored in both. They have three other opponents at home in Oregon State, Arizona State and USC — all winnable games. They finish the

season with a trip to Pullman to take on the Washington State Cougars. Needless to say, Washington looks good enough to finish the PAC-12 season undefeated. The only thing that could hurt them, other than a bad loss in the next few weeks, is if the committee views the PAC-12 as the weakest of the Power Five conferences and passes up on its champion.

Clemson has picked up their play since a slow start against Auburn and Troy to begin the season. They have already knocked off Heisman front runner Lamar Jackson. The Tigers have a favorable schedule looking forward. They have an Oct. 29 date with the Seminoles in Tallahassee, but if they win that game, Clemson should be favored to finish the regular season undefeated. A win against Virginia Tech, if they continue to play well, will only help their playoff chances.

The Alabama Crimson Tide and head coach Nick Saban seem destined to return to the college football playoff and be the only team to appear in the four-team playoff all three years of its existence. They already have wins on the road at Mississippi and Arkansas to go along with a win against USC at AT&T Stadium. They still have games against three ranked opponents, two of which are at home in Auburn. Even if the Tide can win two of three of these and win the SEC championship, it seems unlikely that the Tide would be left out. The best chance of a playoff-less Tide is if Alabama loses this weekend in Knoxville against the Volunteers and then loses to Texas A&M, who then finishes undefeated. Fingers crossed.

There are a number of other one-loss teams that still have a fighting chance. These teams include Louisville, Houston, Miami, Virginia Tech, Florida and Utah. Mississippi and Florida State, with two losses, have very low, outside chances but could benefit from chaos in the last couple of weeks of the season that could bolster their resumes. Unfortunately for the Running Rebels, Florida State already beat them and would certainly get the tiebreaker if such chaos occurred.

After all this analysis, where does this leave Baylor? What are the chances Baylor can make school history and make the college football final four?

Firstly and most importantly, Baylor needs to continue to take care of business. They're 5-0 overall and 2-0 in Big 12 play. They need to home thus far, and neither of those performances were eye-opening in a good way. They only brought up questions regarding whether Baylor can get it done on the road. Baylor has three big opportunities coming up to make a statement away from home. The first is against a reeling Texas team on Oct. 29. The Longhorns spoiled the Bears' Senior Day a year ago in a game where personal fouls were numerous, including a benchesclearing quarrel. The following game is against Oklahoma, who appears to be figuring some things out after early-season stumbles against Houston and Ohio State. Next is a Dec. 3 trip to Morgantown to take on the Mountaineers. If these two teams continue to win and Baylor beats all of them, Baylor will certainly have an argument.

However, one thing that is going to hurt a potentially undefeated Baylor team against a one-loss conference champion or four undefeated conference champions is Baylor's strength of schedule. It hasn't helped them that Oklahoma stumbled on the biggest stage twice this year and that TCU lost a home non-conference game to Arkansas. Baylor's non-conference schedule has been weak. It has been weak for years, and that is not the fault of Grobe or the players. These games were scheduled months, if not years, in advance. There are definitely factors that go into scheduling nonconference opponents, but Baylor has not done the best job in scheduling. Starting in 2018, the Bears will begin a home and home matchup with Duke of the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC), and they have been working on better tentative schedules for the future, including the University of Mississippi in 2020 and Utah in 2023-2024. As hard as Baylor may be working to up the difficulty in the future, if Baylor finishes undefeated and is evaluated against a one-loss Louisville team or a one-loss Ohio State or Michigan team, the Bears might find themselves on the outside looking in.

Baylor, with all of the talent that they have in Seth Russell, Shock Linwood and KD Canon, as well as a much-improved defense, is good enough to compete with the top teams in the country. In order to get there, they will definitely need help from those teams that are still ahead of them. Some of obstacles will take care of themselves, but Baylor can only worry about Baylor. The first step towards worrying about Baylor is to go up and look good in beating Kansas tomorrow. A big win over the Jayhawks won't go a long way in the committee's eyes for now, but it is what needs to happen for the Bears. There still remains a lot of questions in the college football world, and we will have to continue to wait for answers as the season rages on. The college football playoff committee will unveil their first group of four teams at 6 p.m Nov. 1. The committee's decision will be aired on ESPN.

team.

West Virginia. They currently sit at 4-0 and 1-0 in Big 12 play, but they still have road contests at Texas Tech, Oklahoma State and Texas. They still have to play Oklahoma and Baylor at home. It is hard to see them finishing undefeated, which is what I think it will take for them to have a chance at the final four.

At the top of the list remains the teams that control their own destiny: Alabama, Ohio State, Clemson, Michigan, Washington, Texas A&M SEC because of Alabama. Best-case scenario for the Aggies is to beat Alabama and take care of business at home.

Ohio State and head coach Urban Meyer have their work cut out for them. They face upcoming road tests at Wisconsin on Saturday, at Penn State the following weekend in typical Happy Valley White-Out fashion, at Michigan State the end of November, as well as 10th-ranked Nebraska and No.4 ranked Michigan at home to conclude their season, plus probably continue to make plays and win.

Secondly, they need to win impressively. Style points only seem to matter when a team underachieves at what is expected of them, but Baylor can avoid this by simply beating the teams they will be highly favored over. The first step is with Kansas on Saturday. TCU and Kansas State, who will also make the trip to McLane Stadium, need to be beaten handily by Baylor.

Thirdly, Baylor needs to look good on the road. They have wins against Rice and Iowa State away from







Timothy Hong | Lariat Photographer

LEADING WITH PRIDE Freshman linebacker and former Marine Kyle Boyd leads his team onto the field on Sept. 10 at McLane Stadium against Southern Methodist University. The Bears won on Military Appreciation Day, 40-13.

From the Marines to the field

MEGHAN MITCHELL Sports Editor

William Shakespeare once said, "Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them." But then there are people like freshman linebacker Kyle Boyd, whose greatness has surpassed the norm, yet he is too humble to realize it.

Boyd grew up hearing stories of his grandfather who served in the Marines and great uncle who received a purple heart after serving in the Army during the Vietnam War. Although Boyd did not know at the moment, years later he would find himself serving alongside brave men and women of the United States.

As a young boy growing up in Mesquite, Boyd spent his days outside playing football. He enjoyed playing with his brother and father, and that love spurred his passion to continue playing as he went into high school.

"I played football since I was 4 years old," Boyd said. "I played pee-wee and flag football all the way up to middle school. I played in middle school and in high school all four years. I didn't play any other sport; this was my sport. I just loved everything about it." As Boyd continued to excel on the field with this motto in his head, colleges started to gain interest in the 6-foot-2 linebacker. After receiving five collegiate offers to play football, Boyd first committed to Iowa State his junior year, but changed his mind after getting a call from Baylor.

"I was actually on my way back from a visit at Iowa State when Coach [Phil] Bennett called me," Boyd said. "We came and sat down with Coach [Art] Briles and Coach Bennett, and they offered me. I was so excited. I didn't even think twice about it. I feel bad, but I guess it's sort of the nature of the game – decommitting. I signed with Baylor on signing day, and of course Iowa State coaches weren't happy with that."

Although he signed with Baylor on signing day in 2011, Boyd quickly found himself in tough spot – a spot that his coach and family would try and talk him out of. He had his mind and heart set on something: The Marines Corps.

"I had a true calling. I had never had this in my life. I just felt like I really needed to do this. I was a hard headed 18-year-old. I was trying to rebel against everything everyone told me to do. Coach Webb tried to talk to me. I had the Baylor coaches come down and try to talk me out of it. My dad tried to talk me out of it," Boyd said. "I had people trying to set me up with ex-Marines, but I couldn't back out of it. I had to do it, it was what my heart was calling me to do, and it felt like it was right."



At John Horn High School, his football coach, Rodney Webb, said he noticed something different about Boyd.

"Kyle is one of those really rare kids. They talk the talk, but they also walk the walk. He was a very good leader in both respects, as an example and as a vocal leader. He commanded the respect of all his teammates," Webb said. "I think Kyle is just a person of high character, and I think you see character in a person, in particular in a football player. You see their character on and off the field. He is just a solid guy. It showed up in the classroom, on the field, in off season and when you were having casual conversation with him."

Boyd credits Webb for his success, as quotes from high school practice continue to pop up and play as inspirations for Boyd.

"Show me a satisfied man, and I'll show you a failure. If you are satisfied with what you have, you are never going to grow anymore," Boyd said. "You need to always enjoy what you have done, but you need to grow and expand and really push yourself. If you are satisfied, then you aren't doing it right."



Courtesy of Baylor Athletics

IN UNIFORM Kyle Boyd enlists in the Marines, forgoing his full ride to Baylor in 2011.

While many may have jumped at the opportunity to play a collegiate sport, Boyd saw the bigger picture for his life, and those closest to him supported him.

"At first we were shocked, it sort of came out of left field," said Doug Boyd, Kyle Boyd's father. "Kyle was never one to express his feelings. He keeps to himself for the most part, but we he came to us and told us we were surprised. We tried to talk him out of it, and tried to tell him to get his education first. We told him he could always join the Marines when he was done with college, but he was dead set on it."

Although it was not what Boyd's parents had envisioned for their son's life, Doug said they continued to support him even when he was far from home.

"We support him 100 percent in what he decided, and looking back at it now, I wouldn't change a thing," Doug said. "I'm more proud of him for doing that than anything he has ever done in his life. It took a lot of courage for him to do that, a lot of inner strength, and if we could go back and do it again I wouldn't change a thing. We are extremely proud of Kyle for serving his country. There aren't many things that are larger than sacrificing yourself and serving your country and giving up the opportunity he had at that time."

Boyd would find himself stationed in Hawaii for two years after enlisting in the Marine Corps.

"It was cool to be there and those experiences, but its kind of one of those places you only want to be at for a week. You don't want to live there. I was probably there for a year and a half. I had a total of two years on my contract. The other years, we were training in different states and in other countries," Boyd said. "In my deployments, we didn't go to Afghanistan. My unit stopped deploying to Afghanistan three months before I got there. But being in the infantry, it's tough. You never get to go do your job really. It's like practicing football for four years and never getting to play. You would train for nine months and then have a deployment, and then you would train during that deployment. Then you would come back,

Courtesy of Baylor Athletics

SERVING OUR COUNTRY Deployed in 2011, Kyle Boyd poses while he was in service. Boyd spent most of his time stationed in Hawaii.

and you would just train again. It was a never ending cycle of training."

Though Boyd never regretted his decision to serve his country, he said he wondered what it would be like to come back and play collegiate football. Toward the end of his deployment, Boyd started to write to coaches and show interest in playing, but he was a long way away from being prepared for the tests of football.

His body was in shape for endurance. He would have to gain the muscle he once had back, but that was the least of his troubles, and he didn't hear back from any coaches immediately.

However, when the call came, Boyd was ready.

"I finally I got in contact with Beau Trahan. I was super happy ... I knew my scholarship was not there anymore, but I came down and went on a visit," Boyd said. "Coach Briles saw me and he recognized me. He saluted me on the field, and I was like, 'Whoa!' Coach Bennett remembered me, and the other coaches remembered me, and they said they would be happy to have me on as a walk on."

For many, July 7 was just another day in the year, but for Boyd it was a second chance. Boyd checked in at Baylor as a student and athlete that day. After nearly five years of never putting on a helmet or strapping on shoulder pads, Boyd found himself in a familiar place: on the football field.

"It was all surreal to me. My first day of practice I was fresh, I was just ready to be out here. I still think about that when I start to get complacent. I think about where I was and just how thankful and fortunate I am to put on a uniform," Boyd said. "The first game I got a lot of butterflies. That first game, putting on a jersey and knowing that I was going to go hit someone on the other team, it was amazing."

Doug believes that God has a plan for everything in life, and for Kyle, it was to join the Marine Corps at the time that he did, and now it is to be at Baylor.

"Without faith, I don't know where he would be and where we would be," Doug said. "God has a plan for all of us, and I believe Kyle followed what God was leading him to do."

While many play for the fame and the glory, Boyd was able to show who he plays for on Sept. 10 against Southern Methodist University. Boyd proudly led his team onto the field on Military Appreciation Day as he waved the American flag above him.

"I love my parents, I love everything, but I kind of made it for myself to go back and play for those guys ... from where I was and from where we served, and the way we lived. The lifestyle is hard, it's cold, it's gritty, but coming back here," Boyd said. "I play for those guys because they don't get the chance, and they really care, and are really special to me. If I can bring more awareness and more love for the military, than I'm going to do it any way I can. Being on the football team and fly that flag really meant a lot. I do it for them."

As Boyd continues to lean on God, he also holds dear to his heart the example his father has set for him.

"My father is my role model," Boyd said. "I know it's cliche, but my father is more of a man than I could even hope to be, and hope I can be there for my children one day the way he is."



Sports ——



Timothy Hong | Lariat Photographer

SOARING AWAY Sophomore cornerback Verkedric Vaughns runs onto the field before the Bears matchup against Oklahoma State University on Sept. 24 at McLane Stadium. The Bears won 35-24.

Bears on the brink of securing a bowl

JORDAN SMITH

Sports Writer

The Baylor football team looks to be the first team in the Big 12 to claim bowl eligibility this weekend as it takes on the Kansas Jayhawks in its homecoming matchup at 2:30 p.m. Saturday at McLane Stadium.

"Right now we've got a bunch of good football teams in front of us, and we have to play really good each and every week to make sure that we win," interim head coach Jim Grobe said.

Baylor is sitting at the top of the Big 12 conference and is ranked No. 11 in the country with a 5-0 record on the season, with the last two being close ball games.

One thing that has helped Baylor win every game so far this season is their ability to close out games in a strong way. The Bears in the fourth quarter alone have outscored their opponents 45-0.

Senior quarterback Seth Russell gives credit for the comeback win against Iowa State to the offseason workouts and his teammates' unwavering determination.

"We had a lot of guys talking, saying this is where our work was going to pay off," Russell said. "During the offseason with our workouts, our summer workouts, our fall camp workouts and stuff like that, this is where it's all going to matter, and I feel like the guys really bought into that on the offensive and defensive side, and it was huge. We were able to pull off a big win away."

With a win against the Jayhawks, the Bears will become bowl eligible and head to their seventhstraight bowl game. The last time Baylor wasn't in a bowl game was in 2009. It would be Baylor's 23rd bowl game in the program's history.

"What I think our players understand, and I think Coach Bennett talked to the defense about this yesterday," Grobe said, "Is that it is a good message to the football team that there is nobody left on our schedule that we are not capable of beating, but that there is nobody left on our schedule that isn't capable of beating us."

Max Olson, a staff writer for ESPN, said, the Bears have completely derailed all preseason concerns that were made about their lack of depth, making defensive stops 76 percent of the time and only allowing 1.4 points on average per drive during this 5-0 start to the season

Grobe said he knows the road to success is never easy, but a win would validate the hard work and dedication these players give week in and week out.

"Certainly every team's goal is to win a championship, so we can't downplay that, but what I do think we need to understand is that we just need to play every week without worrying whether or not we get bowl eligible or where we stand in the Big 12," Grobe said.

Russell said he likes the idea of being bowl eligible after the first six games of the season and said he is looking forward to getting the job done against Kansas this weekend.

"It's huge," Russell said. "That's always our first goal is to be bowl eligible, and if we win this next one then we get that and we've achieved that accomplishment. So as long as we stay focused, you know, go out there and play ball, then we'll get the win."

Kids confident in Chicago Cubs

DON BABWIN Associated Press

CHICAGO - Kaitlin Reap didn't listen when her dad tried to warn her about the lifetime of misery waiting for her if she cheered for the Chicago Cubs. She rejected his invitation to share with him the joys of being a St. Louis Cardinals fan. And all his talk about curses simply guaranteed him a daughter who wants nothing to do with goats.



Cubs fans everywhere are hoping for a World Series champion for the first time since 1908, and they have a loaded team this time, one that piled up the most wins in the majors this season. But there is also fear - the kind of fear that is handed down from generation to generation in Chicago, the kind that comes from heartbreak after heartbreak, the kind that is fed by billy goat curses (1945), black cats (1969) and infamous plays (looking at you, Steve Bartman).

Cubs fans know this feeling as well as they know their way to the friendly confines. They've grown up with it.

For Reap and her schoolmates, there is optimism that the Cubs will win it all this year and, if not, they will certainly end the long championship drought by the time they leave Saint Andrew. At nearby Hawthorne Scholastic Academy, the only fear is that the principal won't let them out of class to watch the parade they know is coming.

The way these kids see it, all those older fans are being a little silly.

"People are a little paranoid (because) it hasn't happened, but it might be a coincidence that they haven't won in a while," said Max Oldham, an 11-year-old sixth grader at Saint Andrew.

All that talk about paranoia, not to mention referring to 108 years as "a while," might have something to



Associated Press

ONE STEP CLOSER Chicago Cubs closer Aroldis Chapman, left, celebrates with Kris Bryant after defeating the Pittsburgh Pirates 6-5 on Aug. 31, 2016, in Chicago.

do with parents who have protected their children from what they know and what they have witnessed for themselves.

"We have not told him about Bartman," said Cy Oldham, who saw what unfolded from the left field bleachers after she and her husband decided to postpone their honeymoon so they could attend the playoffs. "We try not to dwell on that time (and) it is not something we want to sit down and say, so, 'Let me tell you how bad things used to be."

Addison Casavechia could not help knowing about those times, not with a first name that her parents chose because they liked the way it sounded and because Wrigley Field is on Addison Street. That might explain why the 11-year-old sixth grader doesn't think the Cubs will win it all this year.

"I have my bets for next year because we'll have Kyle Schwarber back," Addison said.

Her mother, the assistant principal at Saint Andrew, doesn't want to see her daughter suffer. But Sarah Casavechia also sees rooting for the Cubs as part of growing up in Chicago.

"I think being a Cubs fan is like taking a leap of faith every year; it's like falling in love," she said. "You know there's a chance you're going to get your heart broken, but you do it anyway," Sarah said.







What makes them great Baylor sports nutrition works to fuel athletes' success

SHAYLA KELLEY Reporter

Without exercising, student athletes would not be able to perform to their maximum potential. However, in order for them to get the energy to perform, the student-athletes must concentrate on one of the most important factor of athletics: nutrition.

Jana Heitmeyer, director of performance nutrition, is responsible for nutrition education, body composition analysis and diet analysis for all Baylor student-athletes.

"At the core, it's all about making the studentathletes more successful," Heitmeyer said. "It changes every day. I would say it's best for someone who cannot sit still. You deal with all the different athletes and all the different sports." Heitmeyer said the most rewarding part of her job is when "people get it."

"It's really fun to work with people who have an issue — whether it's that they have no energy or if they need to lose or gain weight," Heitmeyer said. "For the light bulb to go off and to see them reap the benefits in their performance is the most rewarding part of my job."

Heitmeyer was a gymnast in college herself, and said she wishes that she was told what she is currently preaching to Baylor's student athletes. Heightmeyer said each sport is different and requires different nutritional requirements, but every sport at Baylor revolves around a core acronym: BEAST.

"Everything in our program revolves around 'the BEAST," Heightmeyer said. "This means; Breakfast, Eat fruits and vegetables, Always hydrate, Sleep and recover, and the T is 'think lean protein.' We put this in because everybody needs to do this."

Although the BEAST is used for all sports, it changes based on each person and sport. "You take these basics and adjust them to a particular athlete and sport," Heightmeyer said. "Some people have time between every bat, some people are running up and down the court for 30 minutes straight, so then it becomes much more individualized."

Kiara Nowlin, senior acrobatics and tumbling athlete, nutrition is very important in her sport.

"Every day we break our bodies down, so this



MEAL FIT FOR A KING Dallas sophomore Sean McCullough selects sushi from the selection available in the Beauchamp Athletic Nutrition Center.

nutrition is so important in order to recover and perform well and be successful in our sport," Nowlin said.

Nowlin said that it is not easy to incorporate

nutrition as a full-time student-athlete. "Time management is the hardest," Nowlin

said. "It's really hard to go from class straight to practice, and trying to find something to eat. We

Liesje Powers | Photo Edito

aren't normal students, so we have to be more conscious of what we eat, so the snack and meal choices are harder. We have to make sure we have that balance of healthy and non-healthy food."

> Sophomore midfielder Kennedy Brown said nutrition is vital in her athletic performance.

> "Nutrition plays a key part in any athlete's development," Brown said. "You need to know what foods will recover you, give you energy and help you compete at the highest level possible."

> Heitmeyer said that nutrition is the most important part of being an athlete.

> "Everything that athletes do is tearing down their body," Heitmeyer said. "The only thing that can repair their bodies is food, so the only way to build things back up is by eating."

FRESH IS BEST An array of fresh fruits are available daily for the student-athletes at the Beauchamp Athletic Nutrition Center





Jessica Hubble | Lariat Photographer

CUTTING CORNERS Senior midfielder Ashley York makes a corner kick hoping that a teammate will score against the UT Longhorns on Sept. 23 at Betty Lou Mays Soccer Field. The Bears soccer team tied the Longhorns by a final of 1-1.

Bears look to defeat heated rivals in TCU

JORDAN SMITH Sports Writer

The Baylor soccer team (10-4-1, 3-1-1) is looking to take down one of its biggest rivals of the season, the Texas Christian University Horned Frogs (8-2-2, 0-2-1). Between the two teams, Baylor leads the all-time record at 9-0-3 against TCU.

Junior goalie Sara Martinson said she is pumped about the fact that the Bears get to play two of their last three games at home.

"Being at home is great. We get to be back in front of our home crowd. We get to sleep in our own bed the night before a game which is nice," Martinson said. "We've done a really great job of continuing to fight on the road and fight at home

as well, so it'll be fun to be back."

TCU this season has had its fair share of success with a shot-on-goal percentage of 44.4 percent this season and have scored 26 goals in its 12 matches, averaging 2.17 goals per match.

Baylor head coach Paul Jobson said he is glad his team was able to take care of business on the road heading into this final homestretch on the schedule.

"We've said that from the beginning of the season we were going to have to be road warriors this year because obviously we are on the road quite a bit," Jobson said. "We wrapped up our road trip with two really big wins in Oklahoma ... I think that the girls really stepped up to that mentality of being road

warriors through this season ,and I couldn't be more proud of their performance."

Martinson is the No. 5 all-time winningest goalie in Baylor history with 18 wins, nine of them coming from this season. She is also tied at the No. 5 all-time spot for number of consecutive shutouts by a goalie at three games in a row.

Martinson will need to continue to perform at her best as she goes against TCU freshman goalkeeper Katie Lund, who registered her first career complete-game shutout last week against Iowa State. Lund is ranked at No. 3 and leads the Big 12 in save percentage at .917.

The Bears will play against the Horned Frogs at 7 p.m. today at Betty Lou Mays Soccer Field.

NBA Player Union discussed help for retired players in talks

my idea. I'm not taking any

credit for that. But it's all part

next week when the league

and the union meet ahead of

the NBA Board of Governor's

meeting in New York, which

begins on Oct. 20. NBA

Commissioner Adam Silver

and union head Michele

That process will resume

of the process."

JON KRAWCZYNSKI AND TIM REYNOLDS Associated Press

Cleveland Cavaliers superstar LeBron James, vice president of the National Basketall Player Association's executive committee, told The Associated Press on Thursday the union has made getting aid for retired players a priority in their talks with NBA owners on a new deal.

The NBA and its players have agreed that the next CBA will include new programs league-funded to help retired players with education and medical expenses, four people with knowledge of the situation told the AP. The people spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because talks are ongoing.

In exchange for those programs, and pending full approval from both sides, the split of basketball-related income would remain the same "50-50" deal as it is in the current agreement.

For James, NBPA President Chris Paul and the rest of the union, taking care of those who are no longer playing is a worthy compromise for trying to recoup any of the financial ground lost during the 2011 labor dispute.

"We got a group of guys that are in there that know the negotiations, so any way to give back and try to help our former teammates and help former players and things of that nature," James said. "Because we've all built this league together. No matter how big of a guy you were or if you were the 15th guy on the bench, we all built this league into what it is today. But it's not just

Roberts met in Spain earlier this month when the league had a preseason game there and they - along with other members of the negotiating committee - are preparing to return to the bargaining table with both sides in deal-

making mode. But the talks between the owners and players this time around have been much

"I just want to see the *league continue to* grow, that's all that matters to me."

Lebron James | NBPA Vice President

more cordial. And there is a trust level that was absent from previous talks, a factor that was only strengthened when the owners agreed to the new programs that will help players after their careers come to an end.

James stressed that the medical and education programs benefiting retirees were not his idea alone, but a collective decision from the union to seek help for the players that helped make the league what it is today. Now, with so much revenue flooding the system to the benefit of both sides, the dialogue appears to be centered on the greater good

over dollars and cents.

"I just want to see the league continue to grow, that's all that matters to me," James said. "The players are a huge, huge piece but we also know the owners have great minds as well, our commissioner is great, but our league, our logo, the Jerry West logo is probably the most well sought-out, admired logo in the world and we've got to figure out a way to keep it going, keep raising the bar. That's my only concern."

The new agreement is expected to include several other new elements as well, said the people with knowledge of the discussions.

They said owners are pushing to give their teams more options to keep homegrown players in their organizations, a topic that came to the forefront after Kevin Durant left the Oklahoma City Thunder to form a new super team in Golden State. One of the proposals, the people said, includes the possibility of adding a second fiveyear maximum contract. Currently, teams can only offer one five-year max contract, which can make it more difficult for teams to keep multiple stars happy.

The people told AP new elements also include an increase in the rookie salary scale to fall more in line with the surging salary cap, which was first reported by Yahoo Sports. The people also say two-way contracts that would pay players less when they are in the NBDL and more when they are with their NBA teams - a structure that has worked well in hockey for some time - will be a part of the deal.





Jackson defends invitation to Briles

TOM WITHERS Associated Press

BEREA, Ohio — Browns coach Hue Jackson defended inviting ousted Baylor coach Art Briles to work with his team

Briles was fired by the school in May amid a sexual assault scandal involving several former football players. attended Cleveland's He practice on Wednesday at the request of Jackson, who also had Briles as a guest during training camp and asked him back.

"He is a tremendous offensive-minded football coach," Jackson said following Wednesday's practice. "I'm always looking at different ways of doing things and What preparing things. happened at Baylor is at Baylor."

Browns Briles wore coaching gear on the field and spent most of his time with the



bring in Briles.

Lariat File Art Associated Press PARTY OF TWO Cleveland Browns coach Hue Jackson invited former Baylor Bears head football coach Art Briles to Cleveland's practice Wednesday, Oct. 12. Jackson has had Briles as a guest during training camp and asked him back.

> and I don't condone anything or not, but that is not for me to judge. The opportunity to pick his brain and to have him be around and talk to him and get

that in a different capacity was what was important to me."

Jackson made it clear Briles is his guest and will not be here for "a long time." When he visited Cleveland earlier this summer, Briles spent time talking with several of his former players who are now Browns: quarterback Robert Griffin III, rookie wide receiver Corey Coleman, offensive lineman Spencer Drango and wide receiver Josh Gordon, who recently entered a rehab facility days before his NFL suspension expired.

The 60-year-old Briles was suspended in May after a law firm released a 13-page report that accused Baylor coaches and staff of interfering with investigations into sexual assault complaints against some players, and even impeding potential criminal proceedings.

"We have all been kind of knocked down before. I have,

to know him outside of all of too," Jackson said. "I have been unfairly judged before and judged correctly, too. I try not to do that with people. I try to take people for face value and who they are and what they are. I just know I have met him and have talked to him extensively, and I think whatever has happened at Baylor, I am not condoning or him being here says that we condone anything. I have talked this through with our upper management because I asked is it OK for him to be here with me as my guest, and I got the OK.

"It was a good conversation with our people here and I think they understood where I was coming from. I don't want to make it seem like, well, I'm trying to extend the olive branch. I'm trying to learn some other things that I think are good, but also getting to know somebody on a whole different level, which I think is a good thing, not a bad thing."

Piercy leads at Safeway Open

DOUG FERGUSON Associated Press

NAPA, Calif. – Scott Piercy began the new PGA Tour season by pouring in putts and setting the course record at Silverado, a 10-under 62 for a two-shot lead Thursday in the Safeway Open.

Conditions were practically perfect in the morning, and Piercy took advantage. He made 12 birdies, only three of them from inside 10 feet, and he even missed a pair of birdie chances from inside 8 feet.

He wasn't alone in attacking Silverado.

Paul Casey, coming off a pair of runner-up finishes in

the FedEx Cup playoffs that signaled a return to form, birdied his last three holes for a 64. Patton Kizzire also shot a 64.

team's quarterbacks during the

portion of the workout open to

reporters. He did not speak to

why there might be questions

Jackson said he understood

the media.

Jon Rahm of Spain, who earned his PGA Tour card from sponsor exemptions last season after wrapping up his college career at Arizona State, began his PGA Tour career as a member in fine fashion. He made a hole-in-one — the first one of his life — on his second hole, the par-3 11th. His 7-iron from 173 yards flew straight into the cup.

"Very special moment," Rahm said. "It was hard to believe. I actually thought it hit inside the hole and bounced

out."

Phil Mickelson , playing a domestic PGA Tour event in the fall for the first time in a decade, played in the afternoon and made the turn in 1 under.

Mickelson and Casey have had the best calendar years without winning based on the world ranking points they have earned. Mickelson is playing his final tournament of 2016, while Casey plans to play the next two in Asia before taking off the rest of the year.

Casey played in the group in front of Piercy and did his best to keep pace. He made eight birdies on a bogeyfree day at Silverado. The big

change for Casey was a new driver as he slowly transitions away from Nike, which is getting out of the equipment business.

Casey ended last season three weeks ago at the Tour Championship with a 64, and started the new one with a 64, so the time off didn't hurt him.

"I'm looking at this as a continuation of the year," he said. "I know the slate's been wiped clean and we start the FedEx Cup all over again, but I'm looking at this to try to cap off my season. I've got three opportunities to try to win a golf tournament, and I haven't done that yet this year."



Associated Press

BIRDIES TO START Scott Piercy waves after making a birdie putt on the first green of the Silverado Resort North Course during the first round of the Safeway Open golf tournament on Thursday.



We're proud to keep Bears safe on the road!

regarding his willingness to

an opportunity to kind of do

what they do," Jackson said.

"I respect everybody's feelings

"I think everybody deserves

Back Baylor from your briends at ...

WE WILL BE HOSTING AN OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH 9AM - GAMETIME

creative floral design

NEW MERCHANDISE, HOURLY IN-STORE SPECIALS, & DOOR PRIZES!

WWW.BAYLOR-FLOWERS.COM

254.753.1791 1508 SPEIGHT AVE. SUITE 140

ALL GENERAL REPAIRS • FOREIGN OR DOMESTIC

- A/C service
- Alignments
- Alternators/Starters
- Batteries
- Brakes
- Computer Diagnostics
 Free Shuttle Rides
- Engines
- Shocks/Struts
- Tires (All Makes & Brands!)
- Transmissions
- Tune-ups

All Baylor students & faculty always receive 10% OFF car repairs* with your valid student or faculty I.D.

*Excludes oil changes, state inspections, batteries and tires. up to \$50 discount. Not valid with other offers.





The Baylor Lariat

www.baylorlariat.com

hybrid award

One of ten National Finalists for **2017 Crown Award**

by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association

A competition based on DESIGN, PHOTOGRAPHY, CONCEPT, COVERAGE AND WRITING



6 YEARS RUNNING! 2016 2015 2014 2013 2012 2011

*A total of 1,190 publications were eligible for the judging, including Big 12 Newspapers from Iowa State and the University of Oklahoma.





One of three National Finalists for

National College App of the Year

College Media Association



Sic 'Em!

