

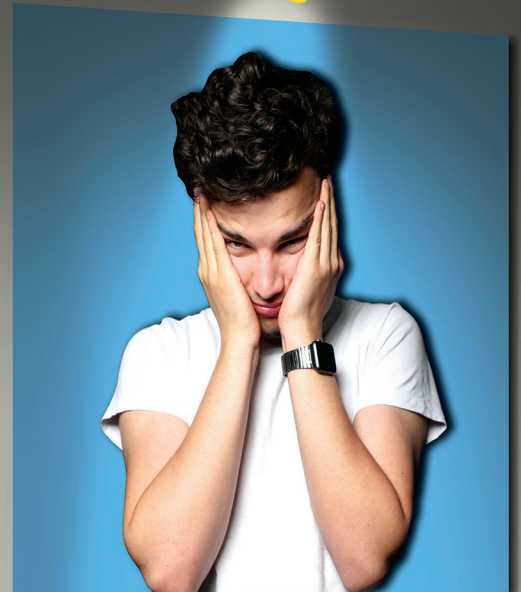
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"Determination"
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"Intensity"
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"Sadness"
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"Royalty"
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"Happiness"
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"Friendship"
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Back Cover by Meredith Wagner | Arts & Life Editor

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Opinion

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Editorials, Columns & Letters

Editorials express the opinions of the Lariat Editorial Board. Lariat letters and columns are the opinions of an individual and not the Baylor Lariat.

Lariat Letters

To submit a Lariat Letter, email Lariat-Letters@baylor.edu. Letters should be a maximum of 400 words. The letter is not guaranteed to be published.

YELLOW

PAGES 3-6

POSITIVES

- Happiness
- Intellect
- Energy
- Warmth
- Cheer
- Spontaneity

NEGATIVES

- Caution
- Jealousy
- Cowardice
- Childishness
- Instability
- Unpredictability

Modeled by Brooke Hill | Copy Editor
Photo by Jessica Hubble | Multimedia Editor

Get

Staff Writer

For years before, and after, being designated as a Texas Cultural District, several individuals and organizations have combined their efforts to develop the city's cultural and artistic identity.

Fiona Bond, executive director of Creative Waco and Cultural District Committee member, said Creative Waco began two and a half years ago with the purpose of growing Waco as a cultural hub.

“When you think of a place like Santa Fe or you think of a place like Fort Worth or Austin, you immediately think of a city where creative and culturally successful and talented people can thrive and can be supported to make good ideas happen,” Bond said. “I really want that for Waco.”

Creative Waco dedicated its first year as an organization to developing the application for Waco to be designated as a cultural district, Bond said. To achieve this, the organization created the Cultural District Committee, which combines cultural organizations and community leaders.

Bond said the committee spent a lot of time looking at the previous decade of planning for Waco, and they found that each plan always included a cultural component. However, there had not been a central organization tasked with actually accomplishing city's cultural ambitions.

“Even in our first months, it kind of became obvious that it was really important for there to be a focal point and an organization that existed to actually implement the different things that people wanted to see in Waco,” Bond said. “We were successful in getting that cultural district designation thanks to the weigh-in from literally hundreds and hundreds of people.”

Waco was named a Texas Cultural District by the Texas Commission on the Arts on September 7, 2016.

Bond said being designated as a cultural district opened up doors to funding. Even more importantly, it provided a framework for developing a community cultural identity — Waco's Cultural Plan.

“Now, as an organization, everything we do is about putting arms and legs on that cultural plan,” Bond said. “We exist to implement that cultural plan.”

According to Creative Waco, Baylor University, McLennan County and the Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce are among the many groups helping to execute Waco's Cultural Plan. Several organizations' planning documents were implemented as part of the city's cultural goals, including The Art Center of Waco, City of Waco Comprehensive Plan, Public Improvement District Action Plan and more.

Waco's Cultural Plan has three goals, according to Creative Waco.

The first cultural goal is to grow and support successful, sustainable arts organizations in Waco. In order to help achieve this first goal, Creative Waco has a couple of funding programs, Bond said.

“Any non profit organization that has a great idea about something that’s innovative or something that’s going to be high impact in relation to the cultural plan can apply to us four times a year to get help to do that,” Bond said.

The second cultural goal is to develop a hub of cultural activity in downtown Waco to attract residents, businesses and tourists. Currently, Creative Waco is working with the city to bring more public arts to Waco, Bond said. The biggest project at the moment is the Sculpture Zoo — a series of different animal sculptures that will go in Cameron Park on approach to the Cameron Park Zoo.

“We have applications from artists all over the world for the sculpture zoo, and that will commemorate the 25th anniversary of Cameron Park Zoo,” Bond said.

The third cultural goal is to engage the creative sector in revitalization, entrepreneurship, education and economic development.

The Art Center of Waco plays a big part in the city's arts education. Program coordinator Claire Sexton said the organization offers an arts-based summer camp program, as well as art classes for children and adults available throughout the year.

The Art Center of Waco's newest education program is a mobile art gallery called "Art Expedition," which features a large cargo trailer retrofitted to be a gallery that they take to various schools.

“The arts are so beneficial at any age, but especially at young ages,” Sexton said. “It helps make brain connections that wouldn’t happen otherwise. Children who had art classes at younger ages do better in school, have better motor skills — there’s just a lot of tangible and intangible benefits of having access to the arts.”

Sexton said that for a city to be a place where people want to live, there needs to be something more than just places to shop and eat. There needs to be places like The Art Center of Waco, which is important in creating the lifestyle and culture of the community.

The Art Center of Waco is full of people who are passionate about visual arts and who want to be able to provide the community with access to the arts, Sexton said.

Bond said she wants young, talented people to be able to pursue their cultural and artistic ambitions in Waco.

“My vision for Waco developing as a cultural hub is that part of Waco’s core identity would become a place that artists and creative people can thrive and be successful making a living,” Bond said.

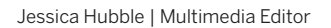


Jessica Hubble | Multimedia Editor



Penelope Shirey | Design Editor

LET YOUR CREATIVE SPARK SHINE THROUGH Supporters of the letter of intent for Waco to become a designated Texas cultural arts district pose for a photo at the signing at the Waco Suspension Bridge last month. Creative Waco is spearheading the effort to make the city a Cultural District and is hosting a workshop today for arts organizers and businesses.



Baylor twins share how their friendships are unique

Baylor Lariat
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Mellow **YELLOW**

Waco yoga community presents special fitness opportunities, classes

MICAELA FREEMAN
Staff Writer

The Waco community is known for its triathlons and cycling clubs, weekly 5K races and its family-friendly Cameron Park alongside the Brazos River. Waco is home to multiple yoga studios and group exercise opportunities for people of all ages.

The yoga community in Waco is full of different types of classes, ages and levels. Throughout the city, yoga studios and yoga bars all strive to make their customers feel

happy and healthy.

Searching for a formal setting for yoga enthusiasts to exercise in, director of operations at Yoga Pod, Amy Tarter, said she began her career at Yoga Pod because of the professional opportunities.

"We found we didn't see any offering of yoga in a professional space. We just saw that need for that professional atmosphere," Tarter said.

Tarter said students are also able to take yoga classes with the help of a membership specifically created for students.

"There is something for everyone and whether you're young, doing a 'sweat heat and beats' class to something gentle for an injury. There's literally something for everyone," Tarter said. "We try and make that economically possible for students to participate, too."

Tarter said she is thrilled with the opportunities Yoga Pod has created for the Waco community.

"It's been a happy place to see people love yoga and to love the space and just have a community feel in the space and it's so amazing," Tarter said.

The different settings and speeds of yoga offered at Yoga Pod, according to Tarter, are created for people searching for both a yoga studio and a place where they can exercise.

"We saw the need for a different genres and we

want to become your gym instead, and not just a yoga studio," Tarter said.

Yoga across Waco has shared one similar goal: community.

Tarter, an advocate for everyone experiencing yoga at least once in their lives, said she hopes people find their place within yoga community.

"We really tailor to something for anyone whether you are super fit or not at all athletic there is for something for everyone to enjoy," Tarter said.

Kelsey Stevens, a certified yoga instructor at The Yoga Bar, located near Magnolia Silos in downtown Waco, said she wants the studio to be a place where yoga is practiced without judgment or worry.

"The Yoga Bar is a privately owned studio and we ensure that each student gets a quality connection with their mat and with their instructors," Stevens said.

Along with the sense of connection, Stevens said she hopes customers feel free and happy during their practice while at The Yoga Pod.

"I would want people to know that the yoga bar is a non-judgment zone and you can make your yoga practice whatever you need/want it to be," Stevens said.

As well as infrared heated yoga, or commonly known as "hot yoga," The Yoga Bar is also hoping to add aerial classes; also referred to circus yoga, which will allow the class to include silks.

Stevens said she hopes the opportunity is added, and that the class offers a workout unlike any other yoga class.

"[It's] a very unique experience and workout that offers a different workout than mat yoga," Stevens said.

As a certified yoga and aerial instructor, Stevens said she wants everyone who comes to The Yoga Bar to feel ensured of their safety and have the full yoga experience.

"My goal is to ensure safety of every student while providing a mind, body connection with breath and movement," Stevens said.

Whether someone is searching for a way to strengthen their bodies class or simply wanting to become more flexible, Waco offers a multitude of yoga opportunities for its entire community.

FLOATING Omaha, Neb., junior Meredith Wagner practices aerial yoga at the Yoga Bar on Webster Avenue. Wagner has taught aerial yoga for one year.

ORANGE

PAGES 7-12



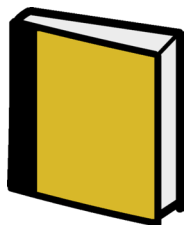
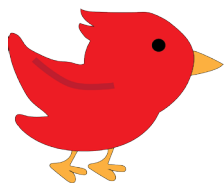
POSITIVES

- Enthusiasm
- Fascination
- Creativity
- Determination
- Attraction
- Success
- Balance
- Encouragement

NEGATIVES

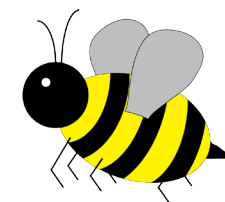
- Deceit
- Distrust
- Aggression
- Domination
- Condescension
- Selfishness
- Loneliness

Modeled by
Collin Bryant | Columnist
Photo by
Jessica Hubble | Multimedia Editor



The Talk

Sex education allows campus betterment, studies show



REWON SHIMRAY
Reporter

The rhetoric behind the social movement #MeToo began with survivors of sexual violence stepping out and talking about their experiences.

Dr. Christopher Pieper, Baylor senior lecturer of sociology, has a study focus on social movements. Pieper said movements such as #MeToo and Time's Up, which is "thought of as a solution-based, action-oriented next step in the #Metoo movement," according to Time, would not have risen to their current level of visibility had it not been for the sexual assault scandals seen at universities.

"One of the things we've been noticing from the #MeToo movement and Time's Up, and even now with the student walkout, is that the first step in social change ... is always waking the population to the existence of a problem," Pieper said.

Open conversations about sex, how it affects health and the prevalence of sexual assault, continue to be developed on Baylor's campus.

"The awareness is finally cracking through, and it had to happen in a very awful way with a lot of victims and a lot of public notoriety. But sometimes that's what it takes to foment the beginnings of change," Pieper said. "I think what's been done on this campus in the last year or so has been quick, large in scale and appropriate. I don't think it's adequate yet, but it's far better than what most universities have done in response to such scandals."

In 2016, Baylor was rated No. 132 out of 140 schools in a study conducted by Sperling's Best Places measuring the sexual health resources and information available to students in U.S. colleges. Factors included in the case were the quality of sexual health content on its website, contraceptive and condom availability, HIV and STI testing on-site and sexual health education programs.

Baylor released a document describing its completion of 105 recommendations from

Pepper Hamilton, the law firm that investigated its sexual assault cases, on Nov. 3, 2017. Within the document, Baylor reported making changes to its Counseling Center as well as to Title IX offices and training.

Baylor released a document describing its completion of 105 recommendations from Pepper Hamilton, the law firm that investigated its sexual assault cases, on Nov. 3, 2017. Within the document, Baylor reported making changes to its Counseling Center as well as to Title IX offices and training.

According to the report, the Counseling Center's clinical full-time employees have more than doubled in size from 10.5 to 22.5, and the entire staff is required to complete training on how to treat students after a sexual assault or other traumatic event. The Counseling Center website has a page for Sexual Assault and Interpersonal Violence that provides suggestions for survivors, parents and friends. The webpage also include links to Baylor's Title IX page and Advocacy Center website.

"We don't have any blueprint for how to talk about sex within religious communities."

Dr. Christopher Pieper, Senior Lecturer of Sociology

In regard to the Title IX Office, the report said Baylor invested \$4 million into hiring new staff and making the office more accessible. Members of Baylor faculty that were in positions of "senior leadership" also received training, according to the report.

The Health Center conducts well-

woman exams, conducts Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) waived labs to test for infections as well as other tests performed at an outside laboratory and offers a handout with referrals to counseling and the Title IX office, according to Baylor health center medical director Dr. Sharon Stern. Stern also said that she and director of wellness Meg Patterson are available to present sex education-related presentations to groups on request. Stern said the clinic also provides numerous brochures and pamphlets relating to this issue.

The report also said Baylor sponsored a weekly lecture series, "Let's Talk About It," to discuss sexual harassment and violence through the lens of religion, science and society during April 2017. April is national sexual assault awareness and prevention month.

While Baylor's lectures series dedicated the month to initiating conversations about sex, McKinney senior Katie Mendez said the same open attitude toward the topic was not found in her classes.

"In the classes that I've had outside the [Baylor Interdisciplinary Core], it's just not a conversation that's brought up, and when it is, either students kind of giggle their way through it, and it gets shut down, or professors kind of try to move the discussion elsewhere," Mendez said. "I think the biggest issue is we don't talk about sex in general. It's like a taboo topic that we avoid."

Pieper expressed similar observations about sex education discussions in the classroom.

"The sex education component is often very anatomical. It's like a science class," Pieper said.

Pieper said the discussions about sex at Baylor may be limited because of the religious beliefs to which it holds.

"There's a belief within religious communities that sex can not be talked about in a healthy way. We don't have any blueprint for how to talk about sex within religious communities," Pieper said.

The Southern Baptist Convention's formal

statement on education states that "there should be a proper balance between academic freedom and academic responsibility ... The freedom of a teacher in a Christian school, college or seminary is limited by the pre-eminence of Jesus Christ, by the authoritative nature of the Scriptures, and by the distinct purpose for which the school exists."

Kingwood junior Rachel Cooper grew up with conservative Christian beliefs and received abstinence-only sex education.

"I think the biggest issue is we don't talk about sex in general. It's like a taboo topic that we avoid."

McKinney Senior Katie Mendez

"Coming into college, I came into contact with a lot more people who didn't believe the things that I did and were making choices that I wasn't making, but uninformed choices," Cooper said.

She said she did not question the principle of abstinence during high school, because she was surrounded by a community that was not having sex.

"In the church ... there's almost this attitude that women don't have a sex drive. They just say having sex outside of marriage is completely wrong. But when people do have sex, they don't have any understanding of the consequences of having sex," Cooper said. "Whether the church admits it or not, or whether Baylor admits it, or public schools in Texas admit it, sex is going to happen. People have a sex drive and are going to have sex. Not preparing them for that reality



Penelope Shirey | Design Editor

IT'S ON US Dr. Beth Lanning, associate professor and director of the public health undergraduate program, and Dr. Christopher Pieper, lecturer of sociology, stress the importance of maintaining open dialogue about sex and relationships April 27, 2017 at the Baylor Sciences Building.

causes so much harm.”

According to ThoughtCo, an online education-related content provider, Texas is one of 11 states that has no mandate on sex or HIV education. Of those 11 states, five rank among the highest teenage birth rates, Texas being No. 4.

The Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine conducted a study on abstinence-only-until-marriage (AOUM) government programs in September 2017. Due to the rising age of marriage, “increasingly fewer adolescents wait until marriage to initiate sex,” the study found.

“While theoretically fully protective, abstinence intentions often fail, as abstinence is not maintained. AOUM programs are not effective in delaying initiation of sexual intercourse or changing other behaviors. Conversely, many comprehensive sexuality education programs successfully delay initiation of sexual intercourse and reduce sexual risk behaviors,” The Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine reported.

Pieper said that Christian theology provides solid biblical reasons to believe that conversations about sex and sexual violence can fall within the Christian concern.

“There is a way to think about rape as a kind of theft, as a kind of stealing of one’s dignity and

of one’s power. There’s a commandment against this in the Ten Commandments, which is shared by the entire Judaic-Christian tradition. So, if we’re saying that rape isn’t a Christian issue, we’re in violation of the very foundations of our very moral understandings,” Pieper said.

“While theoretically fully protective, abstinence intentions often fail.”

The Society of Adolescent Health and Medicine

Mendez said she does not think Baylor should at all have to compromise its beliefs on premarital sex in order to facilitate open discussions about sex-related health concerns and resources.

“We still need to be aware that there are students who aren’t Christian in the school, and that they are still as much deserving of those services that we provide for sexual assault

victims as someone who is Christian and was a virgin before they were raped,” Mendez said.

Approximately 27 percent of undergraduate students are affiliated with the Baptist denomination, according to Baylor’s Profile of Undergraduate Students for Fall 2016 and Fall 2017.

“Just because we’re at Baylor, that doesn’t mean everyone is adhering to waiting until marriage to have sex,” Cooper said.

Cooper said there is a link between being uneducated on sexual health and being susceptible to sexual violence.

“If you were not educated about having sex, you probably weren’t educated about consent either. From either perspective, from someone who doesn’t know to ask for consent or doesn’t know what consent looks like– and from someone who doesn’t know that they are entitled to that,” Cooper said.

Besides educational resources, Pieper identified the best way to resolve and lower sexual violence statistics as “ongoing, required conversations amongst men about sexual norms and sexual responsibility,” because of the associations between sex and masculinity that encourage rape culture.

“Not talking about it has never been a solution, however it is an enormous habit and even a tradition as part of some broader moral



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Title IX Office

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“If you were not educated about having sex, you probably weren’t educated about consent either.”

Kingwood junior Rachel Cooper

cultures that we can talk about,” Pieper said.

Cooper, Mendez and Pieper all recommended attending or seeking out seminars or panels about sex and relationships.

Cooper specifically said there was a need for accessible sex education for members of the LGBTQ community.

“STDs are something you can get just as easily from having gay sex and lesbian sex as having heterosexual sex. I have friends in the LGBTQIA [Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, and Asexual] community that are horribly afraid to talk to anyone about that,” Cooper said. “They’re afraid because they think they will face Baylor consequences from that. And I don’t think, as a Christian community, we should be hateful to any member.”

The 2017-2018 Title IX Online Course for

Students provided no examples of LGBTQ relationships.

"I think the discrepancies in knowledge is a social justice problem," Cooper said.

Pieper said the responsibility falls on campuses to be more involved, because of the increased likelihood of sexual assault in college.

According to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network, college-aged students (18-24 years old) are 78 percent more likely to be a victim of rape or sexual assault of non-students of the same age if they are male and 20 percent less likely if they are female.

"Every university has an obligation to protect its students, and federal law is very clear about what [the university] must do when allegations are made," Pieper said. "This is not a matter of choice. This is a matter of requirement."

Stern said the best available resource for sexual assault victims is the Advocacy Center for Crime Victims and Children, which provides a 24-hour Crisis Hotline, case management and counseling.

Trained advocates are on-call 24/7 for anyone that shows up to the hospital or calls the hotline. Waco senior and Advocacy Center for Crime Victims and Children advocate Mendez said she asks the person what happened, who did it, where they were, if weapons were used and what they remember. She acts as a witness during sexual assault exams when collecting evidence from the rape kit.

"They don't have to open a case to do the rape kit. They have the option of doing a regular rape kit. The state saves it for a year, so if within the year, they decide they do want to open a case, the evidence is still there," Mendez said.

Mendez said the best chance of finding an STD and its source as well as gathering DNA evidence for a case is for the person to not shower and immediately go to the Advocacy Center for Crime Victims and Children after the event.

Federal law requires schools that receive federal funding, including Baylor, to report campus crime through the Clery Act and Title IX.

"Many of the laws we need are already on the books, they're just not adequately used," Pieper said. "I think the It's On Us campaign is a great start. It needs a lot more resources, and it needs a lot longer period of time for it to work. It needs to be a constant conversational topic."

Pieper said he is optimistic with such an unprecedented national visibility surrounding sexual harassment.

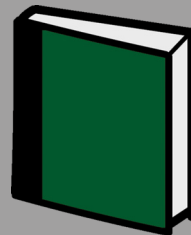
"From the university standpoint, it will be tempting, as years go and the intensity of the scandal wanes, to just completely forget about it and move on to something else, Pieper said. "What institutions can do that individuals can not is keep programs going for long, long periods of time," Pieper said.



Lariat File Photo

HELP Dr. Sharon Stern, Baylor health center medical director, said the Advocacy Center for Crime Victims and Children, which provides a 24-hour Crisis Hotline, case management and counseling, is the best available resource for sexual assault victims.

Fast Facts



- 1** Baylor was rated 132 out of 140 U.S. colleges in a study measuring the sexual health resources for students.
- 2** The Counseling Center clinical full-time employees have more than doubled in size from 10.5 to 22.5.
- 3** Baylor University invested \$4 million into hiring new staff positions and making the Title IX Office more accessible.
- 4** The Health Center conducts well-women exams, tests for infections, and offers handouts, referrals and brochures.
- 5** "[Abstinence only] programs are not effective in delaying initiation of sexual intercourse," reported the Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine.
- 6** The Waco Advocacy Center for Crime Victims and Children offers a 24-hour Crisis Hotline, case management and counseling.

GAME, SET, MATCH

Knoll knows how to win

BRANSON HARDCASTLE
Broadcast Reporter

The Baylor men's tennis program is a dominant team that has reached the NCAA Tournament for 20 consecutive seasons. At the helm of this prestigious program is head coach Matt Knoll.

This season is Knoll's 22nd at Baylor. He has seen the program from its lowest point to its highest peak, winning the 2004 NCAA Team Championship. Knoll has been recognized by others in tennis as one of the best collegiate coaches. He has been voted a National Coach of the Year three times, as well as the Big 12 Conference Coach of the Year six times.

All the success Knoll has seen at Baylor started during the 1996-97 season when he took over as the head coach for the Bears. At the time, Baylor tennis did not have its own tennis facility. The team practiced on McLean Tennis courts on campus.

"We shared courts with the intramural and P.E. department ... we didn't have a bathroom. We didn't have a locker room. I didn't have an office," Knoll said. "Baylor was really transitioning to the Power 5 level at that time. It took a lot of work and a lot of perseverance from guys, but we understood that at the end of the day, it's not how nice your facilities or your uniform is, it's more about the heart within each individual."

Knoll used this message to recruit talented players and turn Baylor's tennis program around. In 1998, Knoll's second season, Baylor



Jessica Hubble | Multimedia Editor

FOR THE 'LOVE' OF TENNIS (Right) Joplin, Mo., junior Will Little high-fives Baylor men's tennis head coach Matt Knoll in between sets during Friday's home matchup against Tulsa. The Bears shut out Tulsa 4-0. (Left) Knoll cheers his players on from the sidelines of the court.

made its first NCAA Tournament bid. In 2000, Knoll led the Bears to their first Big 12 regular season title with an upset over defending champion Stanford in the NCAA Tournament.

Those successful seasons helped get the tennis program its own facility, Hurd Tennis Center, in 2001. Hurd is considered by many to be one of the best tennis facilities in the nation, with its 12 courts, a large scoreboard and state of the art locker rooms.

Knoll was able use these new facilities to improve on what he had already built in the program. In 2004, Knoll led the Bears to Baylor's first ever national championship in any team sport with a 4-0 win over University of California, Los Angeles.

"It was more of a mindset of championship or bust. We weren't going to be satisfied with anything less than winning it all," Knoll said.

"We had great leadership within the team, a lot of guys that were very good at tennis and they were really good at showing up every day and getting the most out of themselves. It was a combination of all those things that gave us an opportunity to win."

Baylor has continued its dominance in the Big 12 and all of college tennis since then. In Big 12 play, Knoll has led the Bears to 14 Big 12 titles in the last 17 years within a conference that has consistently gotten stronger.

This season, Knoll and the Bears are off to 15-4 start. Knoll started this season just three wins shy of 500 career victories. On January 27th, Knoll reached the 500-win milestone after defeating University of Nevada, Las Vegas 4-0.

"When you hit career milestones like that when you are still active, I feel like I'm still coming into my prime and I have a lot of great years in front of me," Knoll said. "It certainly gives you a chance to reflect on all the people that have been a part of that: the players, the administration and the supporters. That's really special ... it's neat to be recognized."

Assistant Coach Michael Woodson is in

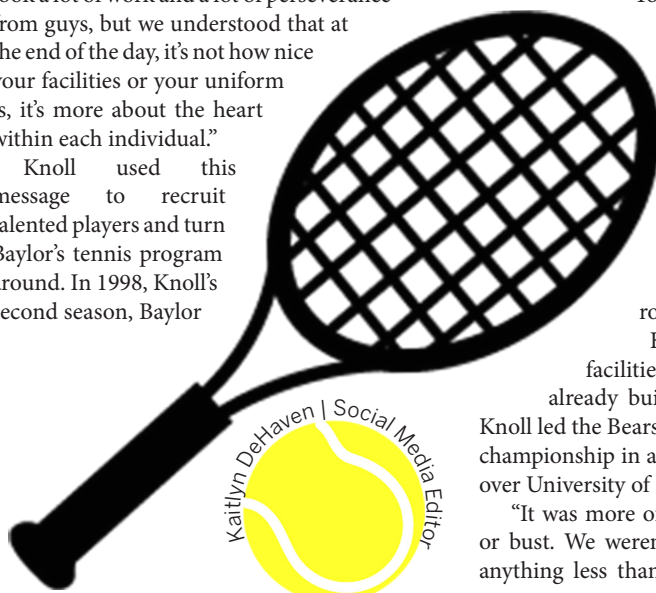
his second season at Baylor, and he said Knoll knows how to prepare players for success.

"I think that by making them mature, toughening them up, preparing them for the business world that we live in today, I think he is really setting these guys up for success on the court and off the court," Woodson said. "He makes sure that these guys are prepared for whatever comes after college."

Woodson said one thing that has made an impact on him is Knoll's ability to keep the team accountable and in line.

"I think I nurture the guys a little bit more than he does, sometimes to a fault. I've learned that you have to let guys fail occasionally," Woodson said. "He is really good at about making sure that guys are accountable for their actions and learn from their mistakes. [Knoll] has taught me that you can't hold their hand more than one time and to let them make mistakes and learn from them."

Knoll and the Bears look to continue the winning tradition this season and make it to 21 straight NCAA Tournament appearances.



Cunningham takes pride in achievements

MAX CALDERONE

Sports Writer

If you talk to Austin graduate student Richard Cunningham, you may get caught up in his down-to-earth personality and friendly manner. No, it's not a façade, but it makes it easy to forget the stature that Cunningham holds as a student-athlete.

As a redshirt junior outfielder on the Baylor baseball team, Cunningham has consistently been one of the Bears' leaders in batting average during his career. He has hit .297 in his three years and is hoping to be selected in the upcoming 2018 MLB Draft that is held June 4-6.

But what separates Cunningham from the pack is his discipline off the field and accomplishments in the classroom. He graduated early as a junior last spring with a degree in finance and is working on his MBA at Baylor as a graduate student.

When Cunningham realized he had the potential to earn his degree ahead of schedule, he said he was determined to complete his undergraduate years quickly because of the large amount of pride he takes in his school work.

"I was made aware of [graduating early] back in high school. When I knew that I could, I fast-tracked everything," Cunningham said. "I think knowledge and wisdom are special things and the more I can obtain here, the better."

It's not just his smarts and his skills on the field that make Cunningham special, but his charismatic personality he brings with him everywhere he goes is sure to put a smile on the face of anyone who is lucky enough to meet him.

Baseball head coach Steve Rodriguez has joked with reporters that he thinks Cunningham could one day be president of the United States. Cunningham usually writes off the banter, but said politics is something that seriously interests him.

"I would totally do it if baseball

doesn't work out," Cunningham said. "I'd get into public policy and politics and everything if that was available."

Cunningham also said a career in private equity or real estate are also viable options, and his main goal is to serve people in any capacity.

As one of the oldest players on the Bears roster, Cunningham naturally fits the bill as a recognizable leader. Senior outfielder Levi Gilcrease said Cunningham does it all to motivate his teammates as one of the captains.

"He's the heart and soul of the team this year," Gilcrease said. "He's the vocal leader, he leads by example, he's really just the heart and soul of the team."

Cunningham and Gilcrease have been friends since they both came to Baylor in 2014. Gilcrease said they have taken classes together and, though it's always competitive, Cunningham's work ethic and dedication to his grades are consistently above the cut.

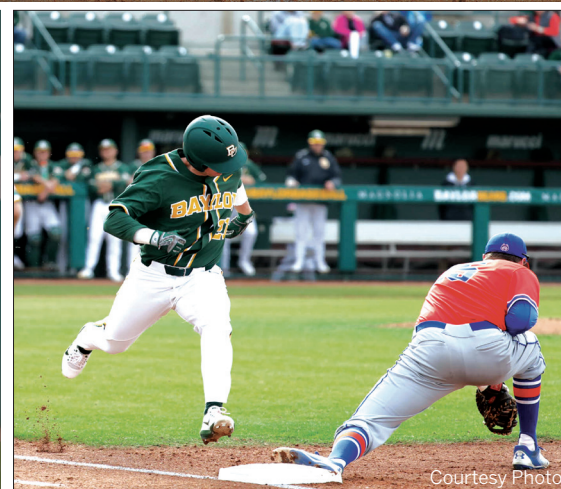
"He is one of the smartest guys I've ever met," Gilcrease said. "It's not just natural smarts, he works so hard. His discipline off the field is just so impressive. He's a great example of perseverance."

Cunningham said he enjoys when teammates ask him for guidance in a class he had previously taken. He enjoys being a leader both on and off the field and helping his friends as an academic tutor.

"I am a guy they can come to with tutoring issues or homework questions," Cunningham said. "I do swell up with pride when I'm able to explain to them a complicated context in a little more simple terms."

As a student-athlete, time management is everything, and Cunningham said sometimes he gets by with unorthodox methods to stay on top of his responsibilities.

"I've studied in odd places, whether that's in an airport or [on] planes or [in] hotels," Cunningham said. "I just think it's very simply put, when you're off the field and it's not baseball time, you've got to find



HOME RUN (Top) Baylor outfielder, Richie Cunningham, up to bat against Kansas. (Bottom Right) Cunningham reaches to catch the ball. (Bottom Left) Cunningham sprints to the base.

moments to be productive. When you're on the field, you've got to put all that stuff away and turn in to baseball mode."

All that hard work hasn't gone unnoticed, as Cunningham has earned many honors for his scholarly work, including being a two-time Academic All-Big 12 First Team member and receiving the 2017 Big 12 Baseball Scholar-Athlete of the

Year award.

"They mean a ton to me, they mean a ton to my family. My mom and dad instilled in me a work ethic in all things, not just things that are fun and easy," Cunningham said. "It reminds me to take pride in everything that I do."

He has one wish for his teammates as the end of his baseball career at Baylor approaches — put in the work

both on and off the field.

"I hope they see in me just that hard work, it pays. Treating people the right way, it pays," Cunningham said. "I hope they see that if you apply yourself academically, you can open up doors to anything. Baseball will come to an end some day, but what you know and what you learn stays forever."

A woman with long, dark, straight hair is shown from the chest up, wearing a white, off-the-shoulder top. She is looking slightly to the left of the camera with a neutral expression. The background is a solid, vibrant red.

RED

PAGES 13-17

POSITIVES

- Energy
- Strength
- Power
- Passion
- Leadership
- Love
- Vibrance
- Radiance
- Patriotism

NEGATIVES

- Anger
- Rage
- Malice
- Danger
- War
- Intensity
- Oppression
- Agitation
- Distraction

Modeled by Christina Soto | Broadcast Managing Editor
Photo by Jessica Hubble | Multimedia Editor

MONITORING OUT THE BIG GUNS:

Central Texas users respond to Bumble's firearm ban

DIDI MARTINEZ

Digital Managing Editor

Images of users packing heat may soon be taken down by Bumble, which has announced that it will be moderating profiles for pictures of guns.

The move by the popular dating app comes after the Stoneman Douglas High School shooting that occurred in February and has since reignited debates about gun control.

"As mass shootings continue to devastate communities across the country, it's time to state unequivocally that gun violence is not in line with our values, nor do these weapons belong on Bumble," wrote Bumble in a blog post.

This, no less, will affect those in the Central Texas area, with plenty of public hunting locations nearby, the Fort Hood military base nearly an hour away and policies allowing lawful gun owners the right to carry openly. From Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 of 2017, the Texas Department of Public Safety issued more than 293,751 handgun licenses, with 3,113 of those granted in McLennan County alone.

And although Bumble said the new policy will not affect military or law enforcement in uniform, some individuals say they have mixed feelings about the new rule.

"I'm kind of on the fence about the policy because I can see where they are coming from," said Cindy Liu, a Baylor alumna who has used Bumble. "Like for me, that was a pretty good screener in what I was and wasn't looking for in a partner. While it's important to talk about how guns are presented, it was a useful tool for me."

Nicole Pepper, a Waco resident and Baylor alumna agrees, and said that while she prefers not to see pictures of guns, the old policy wasn't entirely problematic to begin with.

"It's so much easier to just immediately swipe left and get rid of it," Pepper said. "If I see pictures of it

**BUMBLE IS
WORKING TO BAN
GUN PHOTOS**



Jessica Hubble | Multimedia Editor



[guns], I'm not even going to think about swiping right. I think that for a lot of women it [gun carrying] ends up being a turn off."

Some dislike the move because they see the policy as involuntarily bringing politics into dating.

"I don't agree with different social media or dating site censoring pictures because that to me becomes very politically charged," said Ballinger senior Brandon Vasquez.

Vasquez, a gun owner and National Rifle Association member, said the move doesn't open up the issue of gun ownership to discussion but rather, opens it up to one side.

"I think having the picture itself would promote more conversation than not having the picture," said Vasquez, who cited the "hillbilly" and "redneck" stereotypes he's encountered as a self-proclaimed Second Amendment supporter.

"I do feel that there are some people who I have met that do see me a bit differently for some reason," Vasquez said. "I've been accused of supporting mass murder because I support the Second Amendment. I just wish people on the other side, or both sides for that matter, would be more understanding."

Regardless, gun ownership does seem to be a matter of preference among daters. For some, the debate as to whether to swipe right or left on a person comes down to avoiding future conflict.

"So if the picture is just someone holding a handgun, that was just an automatic left swipe for me," Liu said. "That would be an issue that would definitely come up and I didn't even want to introduce that can of worms."

For others, like Vasquez, finding a significant other is less about shared interest and more about support.

"All I would ask is that they would be okay with me being a gun owner and they understand that I have the right to own guns," Vasquez said.

Россия, которую я знаю (The Russia I know)

RYLEE SEEVERS
Broadcast Reporter

I was in Cincinnati with my family two weeks ago. It was early in the morning and we were leaving the hotel for the day. My dad asked a member of the hotel staff a question and she struggled to answer in broken English. I realized that some of the words she was saying registered in my head. She was speaking Russian. I spoke to her as best I could while my family stood around me, totally lost in the sounds of a foreign tongue as I said what they couldn't in this woman's native language.

I don't claim to possess great skill and I still have a lot to learn, but this was the first time my language skills had allowed me to truly communicate with someone I would have been unable to otherwise. The degree of separation between me and this stranger should have been vast, but because we shared a common language, it became zero. She told me I spoke well and that I looked Russian, neither of which is true in my opinion, but I'd say it mattered more to her that I was someone who could understand her — at least a little bit.

I started studying Russian two years ago, and I never would have imagined that I could someday have anything close to a conversation with another person in the language. The alphabet terrified me; some letters looked familiar but sounded foreign and others looked completely alien. But, the more I learned, the more I was curious and the more I wanted to be able to speak it, not just for the purpose of understanding the language but to better understand Russia.

This is the power of Russia for me. It has nothing to do with the Kremlin or politics or who the president is, here or there. It is about being able to connect with people who I would otherwise never have the chance to speak to, and to understand a

beautiful culture shaped by history, literature and art.

The noise of current events keeps many people from seeing these qualities of Russia. The scandals and dramatics seem to occupy most people, but what is in the news isn't always the complete truth about Russia and its people.

Dr. Clay Butler, senior lecturer in the English department, and his wife lived in Russia from October 1992 to December 1993, not long after the fall of the Soviet Union. They taught English and ministered to the people in Ulan-Ude, a city in East Siberia near Lake Baikal. The city had been closed because of its proximity to nuclear facilities, Butler said, so Americans or Europeans had never casually walked the streets.

"In some ways it was kind of a sad time in Russia, but it was also kind of a hopeful time because, not having anything, they had to believe they were beginning to look for something a little more hopeful, optimistic," Butler said.

Butler said his first impression of the Russian people was that they are cold and harsh, but the moment a person enters their home, you are family. He said stereotypes, in any case, are never true on the individual level and getting to know Russians breaks down some of them.

"I'm an American. I may even be a very typical American in some ways, but I don't match all of your stereotypes. Individually we are always different in some ways," Butler said.

Butler said his perception of Russia was defined by the cold war era, when bomb drills were normal in schools.

"I remember kind of being scared of them. That was the whole cold war. They were the threat. When I was a little kid we had nuclear drills, atomic bomb drills, where we would hide under our desks ... that kind of gets into your head," Butler said.

During that time, everything in

the news linked back to the Soviet Union, and the conflict constantly pitted the United States against them.

"A prejudice like that, it takes a long time to overlay with new images," he said.

Professor Eva Hruska, lecturer in the Russian department, went to Russia for the first time during her graduate studies. She studied at the Smolny Institute in St. Petersburg.

"I was really just drawn to literature and so being in St. Petersburg and walking the same streets as Dostoevsky or Gogol ... or Anna Akhmatova ... and just being where they are ... I was so just taken by it," Hruska said.

Her second trip to Russia was with a group of educators. They started in Moscow and traveled to southern Russia, stopping in different cities along the way.

"I was so just exposed to the European Russia and to the ethnic Russia, so that was another eye opening trip for me, just really

communicating and meeting different ethnicities in Russia, especially the southern Russian ethnicities... and being in their world, in their culture," Hruska said.

Hruska taught Russian language, culture and history to the others on the trip, which sometimes meant holding classes on trains, at beaches and in restaurants.

In many ways, Hruska feels at home in Russia, but said the current political situation is upsetting because of the growing division, rather than bridging, which is reminiscent of the cold war.

She said her experiences in Russia have shown her that, though the history and culture are different, Russians are just like Americans in many ways. Russians go to work every morning, race home to make dinner for their families and want to get out of town on the weekends, just like many Americans, she said.

"[Russia] has to offer a side of humanity that is in all of us, just from

a different perspective. And I think we are conditioned to view the other as the other. We are so conditioned to see only black and white and to see only differences and the good versus the bad," Hruska said.

Butler and Hruska both describe a side of Russia which is found beyond stereotypes and generalizations. I am, and always will be, a believer in looking at other countries as they are, not as what we think they are. And along with all its wonders, Russia is a flawed nation, just like the United States or any other country.

It is true that I cannot completely overlook Russian politics, but the politics are not all I see. I see endless opportunities to learn about people who have been shaped by fascinating history, the chance to immerse myself in an amazing language and a nation filled with stories I can only hear by crossing geographical, cultural and linguistic barriers.



MJ Routh | Multimedia Journalist

Bears share love stories

On Move-in Day Memories



Carter & Kayln

Before coming to Baylor, Flower Mound senior Kayln Grider and Evergreen, Colo., senior Carter Barnett had never met. In fact, being from Colorado, Barnett didn't know anyone attending Baylor with him as a freshman in the fall 2014.

However, his aunt, a Baylor alumna, told Barnett about a friend's daughter who would be attending Baylor in the fall and suggested he get in contact with her during the summer so he would know at least one person at the university. A week before school started, Barnett texted Grider and they talked about being pre-law students and attending Baylor.

"I was trying not to be flirty, but looking back, I definitely was," Grider said.

On move-in day, Barnett's parents helped him move in to his Penland Residence Hall dorm before promptly heading back to Colorado to escape the central Texas heat. Alone in his new dorm, he decided to text the only other person he knew on campus: Grider.

As a future Baylor student barely on the cusp of being a freshman, Barnett made the journey to Grider's Collins Residence Hall dorm in the most indirect way possible: going around Brooks Residential College and braving the 110 degree weather.

"I was just profusely sweating by the time I found Collins," Barnett said.

Thinking it would all be worth it when he was finally face-to-face with the charming, witty pre-law girl he had been texting, Barnett was surprised to be met with a different image when Grider's father opened the door. He said he was able to catch a quick glimpse of Grider before her father invited him on a Whataburger errand to pick up lunch for Grider's family and Barnett.

"So I basically got the dad interview before I even met Kayln," Barnett said.

After hanging out all through Welcome Week, Barnett asked Grider to be his girlfriend.

"Here's the cheesy part now: I took her to the echo spot in front of Pat Neff so that when I asked her to be my girlfriend, she'd hear it twice," Barnett said.

Four years later, the two still laugh as they tell the story of their quintessential Baylor love. They giggle as they consider the ways Barnett's love of sports has merged with Grider's girleness. They smile as they think about how many small decisions they made as pre-freshmen led them to where they are now.

On the Perfect Proposal

Romantic comedies and TV shows often set high standards for how a marriage proposal should be—full of all things romantic, special and certainly without any unexpected obstacles. But, sometimes those obstacles can make a moment even more memorable.

A few months before Pearland senior Kylie Black became Kylie Walker, she was visiting her then-boyfriend Jarrod Walker, who was active duty in the U.S. Army and stationed in Italy. During her five-week summer visit, the two took a trip to London to meet up with Kylie's family for the weekend.

On Saturday, after a day of sightseeing, the group ended up at the iconic London Eye, a large ferris wheel that overlooks the River Thames. When they arrived, they were informed that the London Eye was no longer selling tickets for that day.

Jarrod was visibly upset, Kylie said, more disappointed than she would have expected.

"I didn't understand why everyone was so upset," Kylie said.

The next morning, they boarded the ferris wheel, and the couple looked out across the city. At the top point of the London Eye, Jarrod proposed, and Kylie said yes.

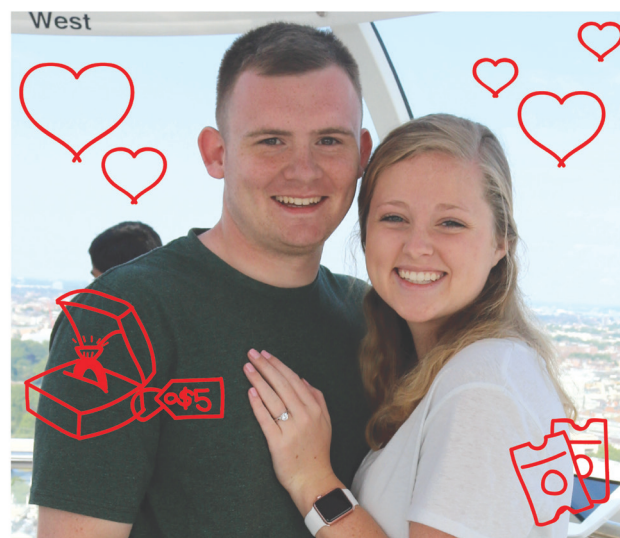
Kylie's father, the owner of a jewelry store, had coordinated with Jarrod on the ring's design. Since Jarrod planned to propose in July, the ring was shipped to Italy at the beginning of the summer. The day before the couple left for London, the ring still hadn't arrived.

Kylie said Jarrod later told her that he had been coordinating a back-up plan with her mom. Before leaving for the United Kingdom, Kylie's mom had gone to Walmart to buy a five dollar ring that bore a striking resemblance to the one Jarrod had designed for his bride-to-be.

A few days before Kylie left Italy, the ring finally arrived, and Jarrod got down on one knee, presenting the new, non-Walmart engagement ring to his fiancée.

Just as these little snags in Jarrod's proposal plan made the moment even more unforgettable, their unconventional first few months of marriage, while Jarrod is still in Italy and Kylie finishes her last few courses at Baylor, have similarly added a unique element to their relationship, Kylie said.

"It's going to make those little things that much sweeter for us because we haven't been able to do them until eight months into our marriage," Kylie said.



Jarrod & Kylie

Stories by

KAITLYN DEHAVEN
Social Media Editor



MCKENNA MIDDLETON
Opinion Editor

On Russell Stover S'mores

A lot of incoming Baylor freshmen dream about that moment — the one where they walk into their first day of Baylor Line Camp and see them — their soulmate. Now, while this might be semi-irrational because of the short amount of time they spend together, what about the Line Camp Leaders? The ones who spend all summer together?

Hanahan, S.C., junior Chase Pfaff and Corpus Christi sophomore Meghan Mandel found love during summer 2017. Pfaff was on the Student Leadership Team after having been a Line Camp Leader the previous year, and Mandel was a Line Camp Leader.

The two hadn't met before they began working at Line Camp, but as the summer progressed, they became fast friends.

After they received their last paycheck, Pfaff asked Mandel if he could take her out on a date, and the rest was history.

Mandel said there was a specific Line Camp tradition that kickstarted their relationship — Russell Stover S'mores. She said the first night of Line Camp, the leaders give the s'mores to their students during small

group time, and said they are always a hit with both the campers and the leaders.

"Let me just say, they have been integral in our relationship," Mandel said. "He was the first person to tell me to save an extra one and eat it on the bus ride back from Independence, so I'd always Snapchat him every week and be like 'Look what I'm doing!'"

But the love of the s'mores didn't stop after Line Camp ended. Mandel said on their first date, Pfaff brought along a surprise that brought back fond memories of how their relationship first began.

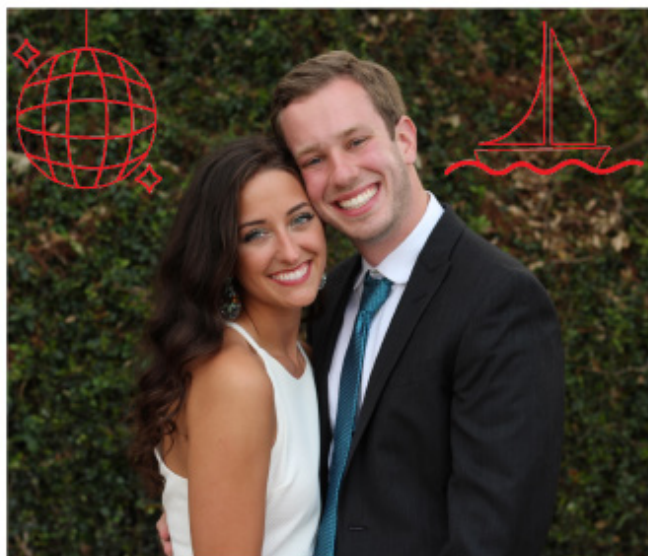
"On our first date, he packed a little bag of things for us and said 'I have a surprise for you.' He opened the bag and it was a bunch of Russell Stover s'mores that he had kept for me," Mandel said. "It was the greatest present I think I've ever received from him."

Mandel and Pfaff said they still eat the s'mores sometimes, and are glad that Line Camp and s'mores brought them together.

"It's just amazing to have him here — he's incredible," Mandel said. "It's really nice that he lets me do life with him."



Meghan & Chase



Emily & Nick

On Shipping & Facetime

Young love can spring up in the most unexpected places ... even on the dance floor on your Spring Break cruise.

Chicago junior Nick Miller and Harding senior Emily Wheeless met in this way, just "shaking their groove thangs" when they suddenly ran into each other. When they began talking to each other, they realized they had more in common than just being two strangers on the same cruise.

Wheeless and Miller first connected over Baylor, because while Wheeless goes to Harding, both of Wheeless' parents had gone to Baylor. As they continued talking, they realized that they also had the same favorite place to travel to — Budapest.

But the night didn't end there. Wheeless and Miller continued talking on the sky deck of the cruise with their friends until they finally looked at the time and realized it was almost 3 a.m.

Miller said when they finally retreated into their respective rooms, which just happened to be about five doors apart from each other, he knew there was something special about their meeting.

"As soon as I walked into my room, I said to my

roommate, 'I'm going to date this girl,'" Miller said.

Wheeless said she felt the exact same way.

"And as soon as I walked into my room, I said, 'I would totally date that guy,'" Wheeless said. "I actually said that."

As their time together on the cruise continued, the two kept running into each other by chance. They said one of the best things was that they didn't even have to plan where they would see each other next, running into each other seemed to happen naturally.

On the last day in port, they finally had the discussion where they decided they wanted to see if they could continue their relationship past the length of the cruise.

Since disembarking the ship, the pair has been Facetimeing for an average of four hours a night just to keep up with what's happening in the others life.

The pair also said they plan to become pen pals.

Wheeless said she thinks that more people should take the time to write each other notes on paper.

"I just wrote him our first letter," Wheeless said. "I think writing letters is a lost art."

PURPLE

PAGES 18-22

POSITIVES

- Royalty
- Luxury
- Dignity
- Mystery
- Magic
- Romance
- Spirituality
- Nobility

NEGATIVES

- Nostalgia
- Gloom
- Frustration
- Arrogance
- Apathy
- Moodiness
- Fragility



Modeled by
Rewon Shimray | Cartoonist
Photo by
Jessica Hubble | Multimedia Editor

Kings and Queens of Texas

Baylor sports teams have held their own against Texas schools in recent history

BEN EVERETT
Sports Writer

Baylor athletics has a strong history of competitive programs.

Grant Teaff's football program won two conference championships and eight bowl games in his 21-year stint as head coach from 1971 to 1992.

The men's basketball team made two Final Four appearances in a span of three years (1948 to 1950) and picked up four conference titles in the same decade.

The women's basketball team won national championships in 2005 and 2012.

The men's tennis team won a national championship in 2004.

In recent history, however, Baylor's various athletic programs have been more competitive than ever before, especially against other schools in the Lone Star State.

Since 2010, the Baylor football, men's basketball, women's basketball, baseball, softball, soccer, volleyball and equestrian programs have won 61 percent (287-183) of their games against similar programs at TCU, Texas, Texas Tech and Texas A&M.

Women's basketball holds the best winning percentage among Baylor athletics against Texas schools in the past eight years by going 55-3, good for a 95 percent win rate. Since 2010, the Lady Bears have yet to lose to TCU and have beaten their rival, Texas, 18 times out of 19 attempts.

Baylor junior center Kalani Brown said she loves playing in a heated rivalry like the one against the Longhorns.

"I love a good rivalry," Brown said. "Texas is a very good team, and they always bring high intensity. I love that about them."

Since Texas head coach Karen Aston arrived in Austin in 2012, the Longhorns have been 70-38 in conference play, but have only beat the Lady Bears once out of 13 attempts.

After the Lady Bears swept the season series last month, Austin-American Statesman staff writer Cedric Golden said that the rivalry is real, but the games are anything but competitive.

"The fire in Aston's belly to beat Baylor burns bright," Golden wrote. "The fire to beat Mulkey? That surpassed inferno status long ago. Aston's teams are 1-12 against Baylor, which makes any talk of a real rivalry a misnomer."

Men's tennis has the second-highest winning percentage of the group, going 30-11, including a perfect 8-0 against TCU.

The Bears are 7-2 against Texas during that span, and former player Max Tchoutakian said Baylor is always fired up to face the Longhorns.

"We know against Texas it is a big rivalry, and we are really proud to beat them," Tchoutakian said after the Bears' win over Texas in 2016.

Men's basketball has contributed 38 wins to just 15 losses against their in-state rivals this decade, including an 11-2 mark against the Horned Frogs and a 5-1 record against the Aggies.

Baylor soccer is 14-7-7 against TCU, Texas and Texas Tech since 2010 but has yet to defeat non-conference rival Texas A&M this decade.

The softball team is five games over .500 against in-state rivals Texas, Texas Tech and Texas A&M, with a dominant 18-4 record against the Red Raiders in the past eight years.

Equestrian holds a 13-5 record against TCU this decade, and when

you throw in Texas and Texas A&M, the Bears are 18-11 against major Texas schools during that span.

Baylor baseball is one of three Baylor athletic programs to post a losing record against the other power conference Texas schools in the past eight years, going 38-52 with losing records against every school except for Texas A&M.

In 2012, the Bears won the 2012 Big 12 Championship by defeating the Aggies in front of a sold-out crowd at Baylor Ballpark.

Former outfielder Adam Toth said the series win over Texas A&M was one of his favorite moments as a Bear.

"I remember that clear as day," Toth said. "That's one of the most fun years I've had playing here, was against A&M."

Baylor volleyball is 23-27 against the four schools, but aside from a horrendous 0-16 mark against the Longhorns, the Lady Bears are either .500 or have a winning record against the other three teams.

The football team has lost eight straight games against those schools after posting a 11-6 record from 2010 to 2014.

Former wide receiver Jay Lee said being the best in Texas was a goal of the football team.

"We want to be known as the top powerhouse in the state of Texas," Lee said. "We take pride in that, and every day we preach about it. That's one of our goals: to win the state of Texas. That's what we're here to do."

With every one of these athletic programs, except for football, posting a winning record this year, Baylor athletics continues to be a force in the state of Texas.



Josh Aguirre | Multimedia Journalist

ON TOP Senior forward Dekeiya Cohen shoots above Oklahoma players on Feb. 5 as the Lady Bears fight their way to one of their 33 season wins.

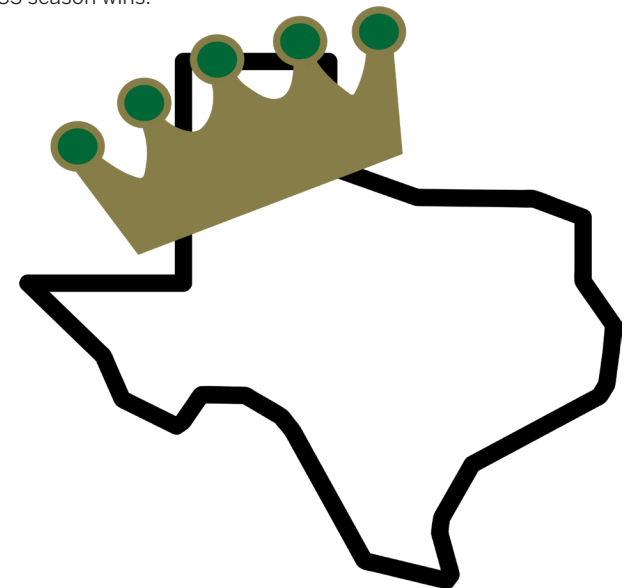


Illustration by Penelope Shirey | Design Editor



Baylee VerSteege | Multimedia Journalist

WIDE OPEN Senior forward Nuni Omot looks for a pass during the Bears' 80-64 win over Kansas on Feb. 10.

STUDENT ENTREPRENEURS:

Some of Baylor's most enterprising students are pursuing their business ideas before they graduate.

THOMAS MORAN
Staff Writer

The Baylor student body is full of ambitious individuals pursuing greatness in an impossibly wide range of academic disciplines. However, for many, this ambition extends far beyond the classroom. Some students have started cultivating their businesses and brands while in school before they enter the professional world as college graduates.

In November 2016, Little Rock, Ark. senior William Goodrich and San Francisco senior Tyler Bartis decided to take concrete steps toward co-founding Coffee Candles Company.

decided to purchase a basic candle-making kit and, in their kitchen, the two produced their first batch of candles which had been ordered by a local Waco business.

"We stayed up until 3 or 4 a.m. trying to make all these candles, and we were doing it in the most inefficient way possible, but we got it done," Goodrich said. "That sort of jumpstarted the whole process."

Since its inception, Goodrich estimates they have sold over 1,500 candles.

The brand has experienced notable success with orders coming from all over the nation, Goodrich said. The two have learned a great deal by setting aside their hesitations and jumping into the business.

Baylor faculty have supported and mentored Goodrich and Bartis as they have grown their company. The two have since expanded the brand and developed new scents and variations on their product to expand the business.

Goodrich said he has gained invaluable knowledge and experience through the business and encourages students to pursue their own business ideas.

"If we had never done this, there's a ton of stuff we would have missed out on, a lot of experiences we wouldn't have had," Goodrich said. "There would have been no reason that we couldn't have done this. Give it a shot. It was 100 percent worth it."

Corpus Christi junior Jacci Pinson is also studying entrepreneurship, starting her own baked-goods business.

The baking business, called Tulip and Rain, grew out of Pinson's life-long love for baking and design, Pinson said.

As a part of an economics assignment in high school, Pinson and her friends prepared baked desserts for a benefit at a pregnancy center. Though her friends graduated high school, Pinson continued baking for the event each year and eventually decided to expand



Photo Courtesy of Tim Brink

IN THE SPOTLIGHT Frisco senior Cameron Xavier Allmond, owner of clothing business Cavalier, raps at his show at Common Grounds.

“
If we had never done this, there's a ton of stuff we would have missed out on, a lot of experiences we wouldn't have had.”

**WILLIAM GOODRICH |
LITTLE ROCK, ARK. SENIOR
AND FOUNDER,
COFFEE CANDLES COMPANY**

As entrepreneurship majors, the two were enrolled in a class that had to do with designing a hypothetical product idea. After months of idea development, the two grew tired of working on an idea without ever producing and selling a real physical product. They

THE BAKER, THE CHANDLERS AND THE FASHION DESIGNER

her hobby into a business. Since coming to Baylor, Pinson started selling her goods in the weekly Waco farmer's market.

"I have kind of been baking my whole life, but I started doing stuff at the farmer's market freshman year second semester," Pinson said. "I applied because I baked a lot in high school and did wedding cakes and banquets and a lot of cake orders."

“
If you find something
that you love to do,
and you find an outlet
to do that in college,
just go for it.”

**JACCI PINSON |
CORPUS CHRISTI JUNIOR AND
OWNER, TULIP AND RAIN**

Pinson continually creates new flavors and varieties of her baked goods and sells them at the Waco Downtown Farmers Market.

"I have donuts, and cookies and cupcakes at the farmer's market and there are some fun flavors like earl gray tea donuts, and this weekend I'll have some Samoa donuts," Pinson said.

Pinson said she plans on pursuing the business well into the future and hopes to eventually open a bakery. Pinson offered advice to students who feel hesitant about pursuing business ideas in college, saying the only way to learn is to try it out.

"Just jump out there and do it," Pinson said. "I really didn't know how to start or how to open a farmer's market booth or anything. I didn't. I didn't even know how to make donuts when I started and that's the main thing I sell. But you if you find something that you love to do and you find an outlet to do that in college ... just go for it."

Danville senior Cameron Allmond shared a similar message of advice. Allmond started his clothing brand, Cavalier, during his sophomore year of college.

Throughout his childhood, Allmond always had the desire to do great things with his life. Allmond has worked to uphold excellent physical athleticism, musical talent and an ambitious disposition throughout his life.

When he decided to develop Cavalier, the brand experienced success early on.

"I was doing pre-orders for a simple T-shirt and the pre-order sales sold out," Allmond said. "I had 50 units sold out in 30 minutes of me posting it and sharing it with people and since then it has sort of taken off."

Though the brand is a side endeavor right now, Allmond looks forward to developing the brand and seeing what it becomes. He has gained many valuable social and professional connections through Cavalier. However, he said the brand will only improve if he himself improves in other areas of his life.

"This Cavalier brand will only go up if I keep going up, and so that's kind of why I say let me put the cleats back on, let me be a little more serious with the music, let me be a little more intentional looking for a job," Allmond said. "The thing that will make me be what I want to be, is just doing it."

From candle business owners to a baker to a clothing designer, these three student entrepreneurs share one common mantra — forget about your hesitations and pursue whatever it is that makes you happy.



Josh Aguirre | Multimedia Journalist

SWEET TREATS Corpus Christi junior Jacci Pinson, who owns a baking business called Tulip and Rain, poses with cupcakes she baked.

MADE NEW

Carlee Wallace finds new life through baptism, softball

NATHAN KEIL
Sports Editor

Baylor softball head coach Glenn Moore has won more than 800 games on the field in his career, 700 since he arrived in Waco 18 years ago.

However, while the team was in California participating in the Judi Garman Classic, Moore and the Baylor softball team experienced its greatest victory yet — the baptism of senior catcher Carlee Wallace.

“Coaching softball is my calling, to spread the Gospel in whatever way this platform allows me to,” Moore said. “It’s a huge victory to see her come to Christ and claim a greater victory than any championship.”

Wallace’s decision to venture out into the Pacific Ocean on a sunny California day at Huntington Beach did not happen overnight. Her need to declare a faith and calling to serve Christ was one that she could no longer ignore. Much like the biblical figure Jacob, who wrestled with God in Genesis, Wallace too had to wrestle with her creator.

“I always knew that God was there. I knew that we had a relationship, sort of, but I never really depended on him, prayed much, that kind of thing,” Wallace said. “When I was at Auburn [University], I went through some hard times. I would go and yell at God and say, ‘What are you doing? Why is this happening? Why can’t

you help me?’ That kind of sparked it because I went to God for help.”

It was this inner turmoil that played a role in Wallace deciding to leave Auburn after three seasons with the Tigers, where she won 163 games and played in the Women’s College World Series twice, including the championship series against Oklahoma in 2016.

As successful as her time playing for the SEC powerhouse was, Wallace sensed that there was something greater out there for her. It was through a renewed dependence on prayer that Baylor entered the picture.

“I had really prayed about it, and I wanted to [come to Baylor]. I don’t care about any championship rings that I have or anything like that because what kind of person am I,” Wallace said. “I did research on Baylor, talked to Coach Moore. That’s when I knew that God wanted me to be here. The performance side of things is important, but I want to be a good person, so I think that that’s how my relationship with God got sparked.”

As the team went through the fall season and the calendar flipped over into spring, Wallace said she began to have thoughts of baptism and brought them up in conversation

with Gavin Daniels, a sports ministry student at Truett Seminary and the team’s volunteer assistant coach.

“We were in Mississippi a couple weeks before we went to California. She mentioned in conversation about a book that she wanted to go through baptism and thought she was ready to be baptized, so we began conversation about it,” Daniels said. “I mentioned that we could do this in California, we can do this whenever, wherever if she wanted to, and let her know that we can do this through the team.”

So Daniels began to lead Wallace through the meaning of baptism, walking her through a Biblical understanding of baptism, focusing on Christ’s commandment in the gospel of Matthew where he instructs his disciples to go into all the nations, making disciples, teaching them to obey and baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Wallace said this message of renewal and commitment to God’s greater purpose, as well as the imagery of being baptized in living water, was cool and that she couldn’t refuse.

Daniels, who is in his second season working with the team, is just one of several in the Truett pipeline that has helped cultivate a winning spiritual attitude as well continue the pattern of success on the softball field.

Former volunteer assistant coach and current McNeese State assistant coach Dani Price and Baylor director

of softball operations Jon Graham are both Truett graduates. Baylor softball student managers Kyle Donohue of Fairfield, Calif. and Paige McCain of Fort Smith, Ark., are current Truett students.

Moore said that the youth and vitality that Price, Daniels and company have brought to the softball program has been extremely beneficial because they have been able to cultivate and encourage both winning in life through faith in Christ and on the field.

“We are surrounded with young people that connect well with our athletes. Age gap is not always a positive, so having young people as a part of our program allows us to make some connections that we might not be able to other wise,” Moore said. “We have great responsibility to go unto the world, and we do this on mission trips and God sends us athletes who are directly looking for him. That’s our purpose, and softball is our vehicle.”

With eternal victory in mind and softball as the vehicle, Wallace and Daniels ventured out into the cold Pacific Ocean as the waves tried desperately to spit them back out.

With her teammates looking on, as well as bystanders on the neighboring pier, Wallace, dead in sin, disappeared beneath the water and emerged a new creation — one raised to walk in the newness of life.

“This is the boldest proclamation of faith we’ve had in this program. We’ve had girls come to Christ and be baptized in their time in the program, but from what I’ve been told, this is the first baptism during the season, especially as a player being baptized by one of the coaches,” Daniels said. “We’re very open to the work of the Holy Spirit, and we strive to be led by Christ and to make Christ evident and known. We’re here to build, not just softball players, but there’s a greater purpose to life and having that avenue there for people and letting them know faith is the greatest victory ever.”

Faith runs deep in the Baylor softball veins; it is embedded in its very DNA. Wallace’s decision to step out in faith is an example of that culture, which embraces and proclaims a lifestyle that seeks something greater than earthly glory.

“We don’t have to lose who we are just to win. It’s hard to balance a winning philosophy and a winning culture with having good people as well,” Wallace said. “We’re trying to win a crown and a ring of this world, but what we’re really after is the eternal crown that’s not of this world. I think that’s helped me with my play, because if I don’t play good, it’s like okay, well I still after that eternal crown. And now that I’ve accepted Jesus, I have that eternal crown.”



Photo Courtesy of Baylor Athletics

IN THE OCEAN Volunteer assistant coach Gavin Daniels baptizes senior catcher Carlee Wallace at Huntington Beach, Calif. on March 5 while the team was traveling for the Judi Garman Classic.

BLUE

PAGES 23-28



POSITIVES

- Freedom
- Imagination
- Expansiveness
- Depth
- Trust
- Faith
- Wisdom
- Tranquility
- Significance

NEGATIVES

- Sadness
- Melancholy
- Timidity
- Unreliability
- Mourning
- Suspicion
- Cold
- Uncaring

Feeling *blue*

Experts say depression rates among college students are alarmingly high

BEN EVERETT
Sports Writer

Depression and anxiety among college students is a growing epidemic. According to the American Psychological Association, one-third of college students felt depressed in some capacity in 2013. Healthline reports that suicide is the second leading cause of death among 15 to 34 year olds, and that 8.3 percent of 15 to 24 year olds have had serious thoughts about suicide.

Dr. Jim Marsh, executive director for Baylor Counseling Services, said mental health issues usually arise among youth around the time most would be attending college.

"The typical college age is also the age when most mental health concerns surface," Marsh said. "So whether you're in college or you're not in college, this age group is roughly the time when anxiety or depression or other types of concerns are going to surface."

Marsh said a lack of sleep can be a catalyst in depression among college students.

"College students just don't get enough sleep," Marsh said. "Study after study has shown that one of the affects of a lack of sleep is feeling depressed."

Marsh said students should get at least eight hours of sleep per night and go to bed at the same time every night in order to combat mental health issues. Marsh also said consistent exercise and a healthy diet are ways to maintain mental health.

Another reason many students feel symptoms of depression is due to stress stemming from coursework.

Marsh said the feeling of being overwhelmed with no end in sight is a thinking trap many students fall into.

"Another cause is overall feeling stressed, even to the point of being overwhelmed. That can be from courseload or work or financial issues," Marsh said. "It's a sense of just feeling overwhelmed that often leads to depression. That sense that 'I can't get all this done, and whats going to happen if I don't get everything done?'"



Baylee VerSteege | Multimedia Journalist

STUDY BLUES Anxiety and depression are typical among college students for a number of reasons. Dr. Jim Marsh, Baylor's executive director for Counseling Services, suggests that students get at least eight hours of sleep, go to bed at the same time every night, exercise consistently and maintain a proper diet in order to improve their mental health.

An anonymous Baylor student* said she thinks the nature of college lends itself to mental health issues.

"I definitely think college is kind of a breeding ground for depression," she said. "Just because you're under this constant level of stress, and you don't have parents or anyone to help you. You're very much independent. So students start putting all of this weight on themselves. All of this stuff comes together, and it makes us very very susceptible to depression or anxiety."

In today's society, technology and social media are major time consumers in people's daily lives that could also hinder positive thinking.

According to Statista, the average daily time spent on social media in 2017 was over two hours, and that number has increased since then.

A Baylor student* who struggled with depression said social media often made her symptoms worse.

"Social media was not causing my depression, but it was a source of negative thoughts that were driving it," she said. "I would scroll through Instagram and be like 'Wow, all these people are living these beautiful lives, and I feel awful.' It makes you feel worse."

Marsh echoed those sentiments, saying that comparing your life to what others post on social media can be disheartening.

"I think it leads to a lot of comparison," Marsh said. "Social media is great for a lot of things, but I think it also creates this

culture of comparison. When you start to do that, it can lead down that road to depression."

On March 6, Cleveland Cavaliers forward Kevin Love wrote a piece for the Player's Tribune about his experience with anxiety and having a panic attack in the middle of an NBA basketball game. Toronto Raptors guard DeMar DeRozan and Washington Wizards forward Kelly Oubre have also opened up about their struggles with depression this year.

The Baylor student said her family was very understanding of her struggles, but she knows others who were not as lucky.

"I got really lucky in that I have a family that was never really judgmental of my problems. I have friends who have dealt with mental illness who were told by their families that they were making it up in their heads."

Marsh said the normalization of mental health issues would be beneficial to those who suffer from it.

"The more we can talk about, the more we can normalize it, the better," Marsh said. "Mental health concerns affect a lot of people. I'm all for having those conversations and making it a part of the public discussion."

Baylor offers a service called Therapist Assisted Online that students can use for free to help with anxiety or depression.

Additionally, if you have thoughts about suicide, please call the suicide hotline at 1-800-273-8255.

**Indicates name change for anonymity of sexual assault victims.*

Battles on and off the court

Sophomore Lauren Cox undeterred by diagnosis, considered valuable player for Lady Bears

ELISABETH THARP
Broadcast Reporter

Flower Mound sophomore Lauren Cox is one of the Baylor women's basketball team's most valuable players. This season, she secured her second individual award from the Big 12 conference, after receiving the Big 12 Sixth Man Award as a freshman and Defensive Player of the Year honor this season.

What many people might not know about Cox, however, is that she was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes in second grade, when she was just seven years old.

"I was really young, so I didn't know what was going on, but I've learned a lot about it. I'm an expert now," Cox said.

Cox said coping with diabetes was hard and embarrassing because she didn't want people staring at her when she would take a shot or check her blood sugar.

"When I got to Baylor, coach Mulkey was the one who kind of put it out there," Cox said. "She told me to be a role model for younger kids who have diabetes."

In becoming a role model for younger kids with diabetes, Cox said she loved being able to put a smile on their faces.

"Showing I can do anything despite diabetes, and that's what I want to show the younger kids that I get to meet. They can do anything they want to do, whether they have a doctor in their ear telling them they can't do this and they can't do that. I want to be that person to show them that they can," Cox said.

Cox said she tells those with diabetes that they should accept it as a part of their lives.

"There is no cure for it right now. Hopefully, in the future, there might be. But don't be embarrassed by it," Cox said. "You can't let it define you. You have to control it."

Cox said she wants people to know that Type 1 diabetes is different than Type 2.

According to Webb.com, if someone has Type 1 diabetes, their body's immune system destroys the cells that release insulin, eventually eliminating insulin production from the body. Without insulin, cells cannot absorb sugar, or glucose, which is necessary for producing energy. People can be born with Type 1 diabetes, but for many, it develops in early childhood.

According to Webmd, Type 2 diabetes hinders the body from using insulin the correct way. This is called insulin resistance. As Type 2 diabetes worsens, the pancreas makes less and less insulin. Type 2 can occur at any age but commonly becomes apparent in adulthood.

"People should know that it's not going to hold me back. It

“
You
can't
let it
define
you.”

**LAUREN COX |
SOPHOMORE FORWARD**

shouldn't hold anyone else back from doing what they want to do," Cox said with a smile.

Along with Mulkey, Cox's friends and family have been extremely supportive of her journey. Cox said the hardest part about leaving for college was leaving her family.

"My parents had always helped me through high school and everything. Even though I knew how to take care of it, they were there to help me if I needed it," Cox said.

In the press conference at the end of the second round of the NCAA Tournament, head coach Mulkey spoke highly of Cox. Mulkey said Cox is in the best shape of her life and that her diabetes is under control.

"All the things that a normal student would have to deal with as a freshman, add a little bit to Cox's plate. But, when you do all the things you're supposed to do and you feel good, you play good," Mulkey said. "If you don't understand basketball, then you don't understand what she brings to our team. If you understand the game, then you understand her value because she understands what a coach is looking for."



Jessica Hubble | Multimedia Editor

INSPIRATION Top and bottom: Senior Lauren Cox plays Michigan at the second round of the NCAA tournament March 18. Cox was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes in second grade but hasn't let it stop her from playing the game she loves.



Jessica Hubble | Multimedia Editor



Photo Courtesy of Baylor University

LOUDER The Baylor Trombone Studio plays loud and proud with the rest of the marching band on game day at McLane Stadium. Members of the studio shaved their heads in support of senior Scott Quintana, who was diagnosed with cancer last December. (Bottom Left) Quintana poses after a trombone recital. (Bottom Right) Members of the trombone studio smile after shaving their heads in honor of Scott. Quintana stands in the center.



Photo Courtesy of Scott Quintana



Photo Courtesy of Scott Quintana

SCALPS

Trombone studio shaves heads in honor of member battling cancer

ADAM GIBSON

Assistant News Editor

At one point or another, everyone is challenged with hardships and struggles that complicate how they live their day-to-day lives. Cancer is an unfortunate, drastic example of one of these difficult challenges.

Waxahachie senior Scott Quintana was diagnosed with testicular cancer last December. Quintana said he suddenly began feeling pain the week before Christmas, and when it persisted, he realized it might be more than just an inconvenience.

"I looked into it that Sunday when I knew something was wrong. My girlfriend was with me, and one of the first things I said was, 'I think I might have cancer,'" Quintana said. "So I kind of went into my appointment the following Wednesday already thinking the worst."

Quintana frequented the doctor's office over the next couple weeks, anticipating various test results. After finding out he had cancer, he immediately set up an appointment for surgery, which he had the Friday before Christmas.

Quintana's surgery didn't fix the problem, however, and he eventually began chemotherapy treatment. He was on track to graduate May 2018, but since he was unable to return to campus after beginning treatment, Quintana expects to receive his degree in December.

Quintana said the great amount of support he received from various circles in his life made the earlier stages of his treatment much easier.

"I was surrounded by family and friends the entire time I was going through and recovering from the surgeries, so it wasn't too hard to get through it," Quintana said. "It was a personal challenge for me though because I was feeling the pressure. I was going to have a job, and I wanted to start my career, but this came first — my health."

As a music education major and a trombone player, Quintana plays in the trombone studio and spends much of his time in the Glennis McCrary Music Building. When the rest of the members of the trombone studio found out he had cancer, they wanted to jump in to support him through the rest of his treatment process.

Miami, Fla., junior Nick Halbig is a trombone performance major and plays with Quintana in the trombone studio. When he first heard about Quintana's cancer diagnosis through a Facebook announcement, he said he couldn't believe it.

FOR SCOTT

"I found out briefly after winter break, and I was honestly shocked," Halbig said. "It was just a lot of emotion all at once. He was student teaching since he's a music education major, and this was happening during the middle of his student teaching."

Halbig said graduate student Austin Westjohn came up with an idea that would eventually be called "Scalps for Scott." Because Quintana lost his hair as a result of chemotherapy treatments, Members of the trombone studio decided to shave their heads. Halbig said doing so was an "easy way to show support in a time of need."

Quintana was present when his friends shaved their heads. Denton sophomore Connor Wooley said he was happy Quintana was there and believes that it made an impact on Quintana.

"We were all gathered together in the trombone studio, and our professor took the razor to our heads, and [Scott] was there and saw it all," Wooley said. "I think he was really moved by that. I think just the knowledge that we were all there with him was really moving for him."

Quintana said he enjoyed being present. At the time, he was undergoing his second out of three sessions of chemo, with each session being three weeks. His friends collectively decided that they wanted to take Quintana out to dinner after shaving their heads for him. They planned to do so at the beginning of the week because Quintana wouldn't have begun treatments yet, and thus would still have an appetite. Quintana said their planning and consideration meant a lot to him.

"Oh man, I felt so much appreciation and gratitude for the studio," Quintana said. "They're all great guys, and to see them do that for me, it was amazing. They're a blessing to be around. They're just good people."

Quintana recently completed his sixth week of chemotherapy treatment and still has three weeks left for his treatment plan. He said he has to go to Texas Oncology of Waco every weekday for about five to six and a half hours each day. Quintana must sit in a chair with an IV in his arm for most of his visit.

Quintana said he has been contacted by the church he attended in Waxahachie, as well as the church he attends in Waco.

"The church I go to back in Waxahachie, they all sent me letters, hand-written, from every member in the congregation," Quintana said. "I sat through and read all of them. The church I go to now, Trinity Lutheran, they were going to set up a food train for me."

Others in Quintana's life have additionally offered their support.



Photo Courtesy of Scott Quintana

NEVER GIVING UP Scott Quintana holds a white rose and a trombone on game day. Quintana was diagnosed with cancer in December 2017 and is currently undergoing his second round of chemotherapy.

"There's a couple here that I do yard work for on Sundays," Quintana said. They're both professors here at Baylor, and they've both been through cancer. They have been there and helping me as well."

After shaving their heads, Wooley, Moseley and Halbig all agreed that members of the trombone studio have become closer.

"It felt encouraging to know that we are so close knit and there for each other; we really are this family in the school of music," Halbig said.

Wooley said he is grateful the studio acts as a family and that their bonds strengthen when something like this happens.

"All of these events have just brought us even closer together, and I'm incredibly thankful for that," Wooley said.

Quintana is still teaching trombone lessons at China

Spring High School whenever he can. Quintana said when he is not teaching, he likes to go outside to get fresh air, read, watch movies and sleep during tougher treatment days.

Moseley and Wooley both said they want Quintana to know they are there for him whenever he needs it, especially as he finishes up his last few weeks of treatment.

"We are a big family in the school of music, the trombone studio especially. We love Scott to death, and hopefully he will get better as quick as possible," Wooley said.



Photo Courtesy of Scott Quintana

BROTHERLY LOVE Scott Quintana (right) with Junior Brandon Johnson (left), a member of the trombone studio who shaved his head in support of Scott.

“
I felt so much
appreciation
and gratitude
for the studio.”

SCOTT QUINTANA | BAYLOR SOPHOMORE

GREEN

PAGES 28-31

POSITIVES

- Friendship
- Renewal
- Growth
- Harmony
- Healing
- Restoration
- Endurance
- Health
- Luck

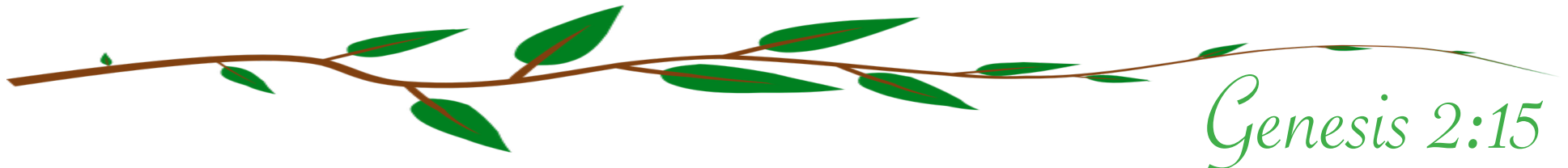
NEGATIVES

- Envy
- Greed
- Ambition
- Sickness
- Discord
- Judgmental
- Over-cautious
- Indifferent
- Inexperienced



Modeled by Bailey Brammer | Editor-in-Chief
and Kaitlyn DeHaven | Social Media Editor
Photo by Jessica Hubble | Multimedia Editor

“The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.”



Genesis 2:15

Baylor's sustainability goals align with Christian mission

JULIA VERGARA
Staff Writer

Influenced by its Christian mission, Baylor puts time and effort into caring for the environment with university-wide sustainability practices and programs.

Baylor's Sustainability Policy defines “sustainability” as the societal effort to meet the needs of present users without compromising the needs of future generations.

Smith Getterman, director of sustainability and special projects, said he believes it is a part of the Christian mission — both as individuals and as members of the Baylor community — to practice sustainability.

“When we talk about being good stewards of our resources, we're really talking about how the decisions we make impact our next door, national and global neighbor,” Getterman said. “When we care for God's creation, we are taking seriously the charge Christ gave us to ‘love our neighbors as ourselves.’”

Baylor has implemented various practices and programs for campus sustainability. For example, Getterman said the university recently installed an irrigation system which has resulted in a “dramatic decrease” in water expenditure during irrigation.

Baylor also has over 700 indoor and outdoor recycling locations on campus, as well as bike lanes and bike racks available for alternative methods of transportation.

The university has also been working on a five-year sustainability plan since February 2015 called Sustainable 2020. Getterman said this is the first time the university has had such high-level, long-term sustainability goals. There are four main focuses to the plan: dining, waste, energy and water.

In regards to dining, Baylor is striving to have 20 percent locally-sourced food in the campus residence halls. According to the 2017 update, the amount of locally-sourced food in residence

halls increased to 13.5 percent.

For waste, the university is hoping to achieve a 30 percent diversion rate, which measures how much waste is diverted from landfill for recycling. As of 2017, the university diversion rate increased to 26 percent from a 2010 fiscal year baseline.

In terms of energy, Baylor is striving to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 15 percent. In 2017, the use of electric energy was decreased by 15.1 percent from a 2010 fiscal year baseline.

For water, the goal is to reduce university-wide water use by 17 percent. In 2017, university-wide water use decreased by 15.1 percent from a 2010 fiscal year baseline.

Smith Getterman, Baylor Sustainability director



Courtesy of Smith Getterman

Cedar Hill senior Julia Frandsen-DeLoach, president of the Sustainability Student Advisory Board, said Baylor's sustainability practices were recognized in the Sierra Club's “Cool Schools” list and the Princeton Review Guide to Green College and Universities.

Frandsen-DeLoach said working toward sustainability is important because as the world grows and advances, people are using natural resources at an exponential rate.

“Finding better and more efficient solutions to how we live day-to-day not only is better for the environment but for everyone as well,” Frandsen-DeLoach said. “In the spirit of Baylor's mission, we are called to be stewards of God's gift of creation.”

The Sustainability Student Advisory Board's purpose is to give the university suggestions from a student perspective on improving campus sustainability efforts,

Frandsen-DeLoach said.

Frandsen-DeLoach has been a member of the board for three and a half years. She was first introduced to the board when she was a freshman, and since then she has served as secretary, vice president and president.

Frandsen-DeLoach said it has been a wonderful experience for her to see how much the board has grown since she first started and how much of an impact they have made over the years.

“This board allows us to be more engaged both on campus and in the Waco community as we strive to protect our precious

environment,” Frandsen-DeLoach said.

Houston senior Jenny Fox, co-vice president of the Sustainability Student Advisory Board, said they are a group dedicated to caring for God's creation. Fox said the group holds monthly meetings to discuss sustainability practices and how they can make Baylor and the surrounding community a better place to live.

Fox said she loves discussing how the board can improve sustainability on campus, whether that is through more recycling bins on campus, notifying maintenance about sprinklers or improving bike lanes.

Change can start small, Fox said. Individuals can do small things to eliminate waste such as using a reusable water bottle, using reusable bags when shopping and walking or carpooling to class.

“The choices you make, how you live your life and how it impacts the world around you should always be at the forefront of the Christian's mind,” Getterman said. “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples if you love one another [John 13:35].”

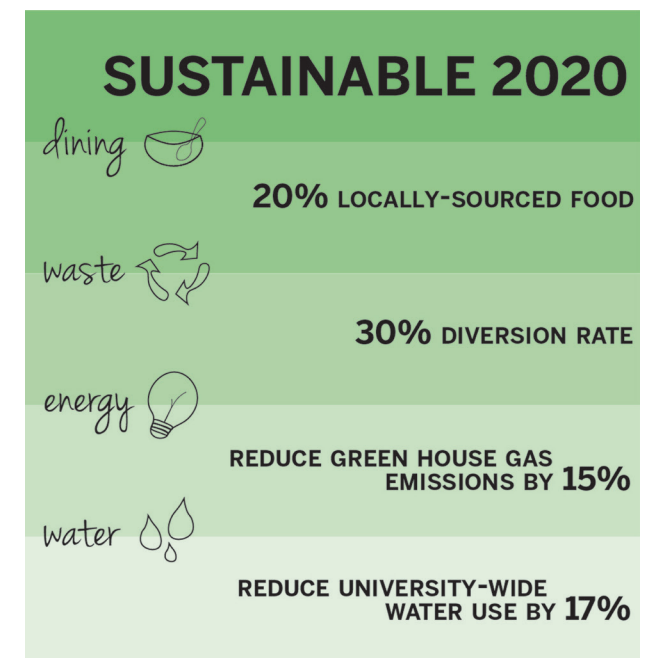


Illustration by Meredith Wagner | Arts and Life Editor

Baylor, Waco draw in newcomers through growth

MAX CALDERONE

Sports Writer

For some, it may be hard to remember a more notable increase in attention to a suburban city than the one currently happening in Waco.

Thanks to an increasingly recognizable University, a popular television program and a comforting culture of southern hospitality, what was once a small town in the middle of Texas has become a modern-day hotspot.

Over the last eight years, the city of Waco has seen an increase in population as close to 10,000 people have moved to the “Heart of Texas.” Data shows nearly a 10 percent increase in growth from 1990 to 2000 and again from 2000 to 2010.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that the population has grown more than seven percent since the last census taken in 2010. The city is raising the eyebrows of many, including prospective students and new business owners.

Jessica King Gereghty, vice president of undergraduate admissions and enrollment management, said although Baylor’s undergraduate population remains about the same, there has been a sharp increase in applications from high school students.

“For this year’s freshman class, we’ve had over 30,000 applications,” Gereghty said. “We’re hoping to enroll a little more than last year, but the University has had a priority to remain mid-size. We’ve set a goal of being around 14,300 undergraduate students.”

Baylor recently announced a waitlist for the fall semester of 2018 due to a high demand for enrollment among prospective students. Gereghty said Baylor has become more selective in its admissions process to create a more diverse campus life.

“We are not just reviewing a student’s academic files, but also reviewing their entire admissions application holistically to find the students that are both academically prepared to succeed at Baylor and then also the students that we believe will be a great fit with the mission and vision of the university,” Gereghty said.

Over the last five years, Baylor has expanded its recruitment reach across the nation, opening offices in California and Colorado, as well as internationally. Gereghty said the incoming freshman class will be about 60 percent Texas, as compared to 80 percent from previous years.

This is partly due to the attractive community of Waco itself. Gereghty said Baylor and Waco work hand-in-hand with each other to mutually benefit the central Texas community.

“Whatever is good for Waco is good for Baylor and whatever is good for Baylor is good for Waco,” Gereghty said. “The more well-known and the more expanded and vibrant our community becomes in Waco, the more we can attract a diverse and broad set of students.”

Jonathan Garza, a Baylor graduate and current realtor with Lucra Real Estate, said the way in which Waco has blossomed since his time as an undergraduate student is mind-blowing.

“It’s grown tremendously. From when I graduated in 2008 until now, it’s a night and day difference,” Garza said. “The amount of people that walk up and down downtown, the amount of tourists, it’s something new for Waco to adjust to.

Garza is in charge of commercial leasing and marketing and is working closely on a new project he said is sure to attract many Wacoans: Union Hall.

Union Hall is a food hall that will hold 21 vendors with room for more, including four restaurants in the corners of the building. Garza said he hopes Union Hall will become a staple in the downtown market, providing locals with a wide range of eateries.

“Baylor and the city of Waco have done a great job in the last 10 years at getting students to come downtown,” Garza said. “With the food hall, we’re just hoping to add a variety of food options. We’ve got some really unique options coming in.”

Garza said the increasing Waco market is becoming more and more attractive to business owners and out-of-towners, partly due to the youth in the community.

“There’s a lot of young creatives, young professionals that are here to help the Waco community,” Garza said. “They look really at the market, and they see what’s necessary. They look at things more on a bigger picture, at Waco as a whole, to meet the city’s needs.”

Union Hall has not set a specific timeframe for opening, though the owners are optimistic for sometime in the fall.

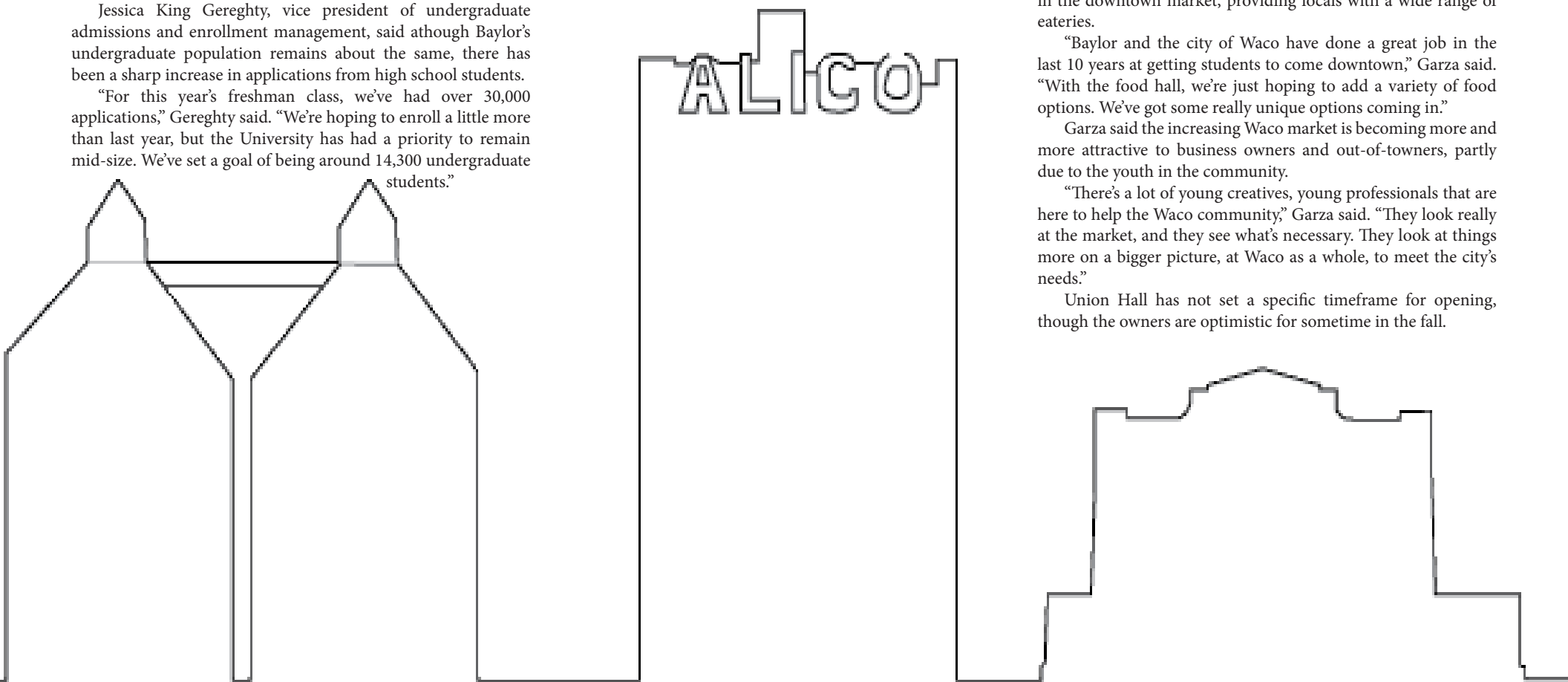


Illustration by Molly Atchison | Print Managing Editor

BAYLOR OFFERS POST-MILITARY OPTIONS

VETS program helps soldiers searching for higher ed opportunities

KALYN STORY
News Editor

Ryan Reynolds ate lunch in his car while listening to ESPN radio almost every day his first semester at Baylor. He befriended more professors than classmates during his first year on campus. The 30 year-old Oakland, Calif., native is not your traditional Baylor student; he commutes two hours a day to get to campus, he's married and a veteran.

While Reynolds was stationed at Ft. Hood, he fell in love with Texas. When he left the military in 2013, he knew he wanted to go to college in Texas, and he was pretty sure he wanted to go to the University of Texas at Austin; in fact, he had already committed there when he came to visit Baylor.

"I really just kind of showed up as a courtesy because I applied and they reached out," Reynolds said. "It's cheesy, but I just felt at home here. Like welcome here and like I belonged here. I can't really put it into words; just a feeling of this is where I'm supposed to be."

Reynolds said what really sold him was Baylor's Veteran Educational and Transitional Services (VETS) program.

Ryan Reynolds



Courtesy of Ryan Reynolds

He said the VETS program is put in place to help veterans transition from the military, from the "warrior mindset" into trying to find a new identity in the civilian world. Each veteran in the program takes a class to help them get acclimated and understand what Baylor offers its students.

Reynolds said finding his civilian identity had been a journey. Reynolds did not want to leave the military; in fact, he fought hard to stay in, but when he was medically retired, he wasn't sure what to do with his life outside of the Army.

"My entire life, I've always felt called to service and for most of my life I thought that that was through the military, serving my country and having the protector mindset. Through higher education I've realized I can still serve my community and my country," Reynolds said.

Reynolds is studying history; he is a McNair Scholar and has the goal of becoming a professor. Reynolds said at Baylor, he realized that he can continue to serve by educating future college graduates and making sure everyone has access to

quality education.

"Education is extremely uplifting, and being at a university you are around people that realize the upward mobility that exists in higher education," Reynolds said. "Fellow veterans push you to achieve your personal, academic and professional goals."

VETS program manager Kevin Davis said Reynolds in particular lifts his peers up and leaves a lasting impact on those around him.

"[Ryan's story] makes me reflect on my own life honestly — and drives me to give more of myself in my life as well," Davis said. "I think that is probably the best thing about Ryan — he inspires everyone around him to be better people."

Reynolds said although it can be tough sometimes being a non-traditional student at Baylor he believes non-traditional students can benefit a classroom.

"I think veterans have a unique experience," Reynolds said. "They're a little calloused and a little jaded and can sometimes be a bit crass but I think that is a nice element to add to a classroom because life is crass and jaded, it's not going to be smooth sailing."

Being able to connect with fellow veterans is something that Reynolds said helped change his



Courtesy of Ryan Reynolds

OFF DUTY Reynolds shared this photo as an example of what life in the military was like. For many veterans, transitioning to civilian life is challenging.

experience at Baylor.

"The veteran community is very unique. We are all extremely tight knit. Even though we may have just met each other, there are instant bonds that you can't really describe but it's just there."

Reynolds said the VETS lounge opening up last semester gave veterans a place to congregate between classes and connect with each other.

VETS program manager Kevin Davis said the lounge was something that VETS Founder Dr. Janet Bagby was really influential in establishing.

"[Dr. Janet Bagby] recognized the tremendous value in having a 'home away from home' for our vets," Davis said. "It is a place to re-energize and find familiar faces in a university setting that is primarily traditionally aged and backgrounded students."

Reynolds said he struggles with PTSD and severe anxiety. As a side effect he said he has the tendency to isolate himself and cut himself off from people, but he recognizes that is an unhealthy mindset.

About 10 months ago, he decided to put himself out there by going to counseling and finding proactive ways to challenge himself and deal with things that made him uncomfortable.

"I heard someone say 'don't double down on your strengths, triple down on your weaknesses' and that had a big impact on me to really challenge myself to get out of my comfort zone and overcome my fears and anything that might hold me back," Reynolds said.

Davis said Reynolds' story of strength and overcoming adversity encourages those around him.

"Ryan is a phenomenal student, and it is students like him that make me feel incredibly humbled to get to work in a position that I don't consider a job but rather an incredible and inspiring blessing," Davis said. "His leadership, humility, courageous vulnerability and honest pursuit of service gives everyone around him permission to wrestle through life in the same inspiring way."

Reynolds is getting ready to graduate in December and said he will be leaving Baylor a completely different man than the one who ate lunch in his car everyday. He said Baylor's Christian mindset impacted him during his time here and he will carry that grace with him.

"Another thing that appealed to me about Baylor is that I felt really cold and felt that I lost a lot of grace, and I wanted to be around people with grace," Reynolds said.

