I got all my sisters with me

Circle of Sisterhood: Panhellenic Council raises awareness for women’s education

MAYA BUTLER
Rapporteur

The women of Baylor’s Panhellenic Council are promoting women’s education this week with their philanthropy, Circle of Sisterhood.

The philanthropy builds schools for girls and women throughout the world in order to provide the education they would otherwise not receive. Members of Panhellenic Council had a table from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Fountain Mall Monday to spread the word about Circle of Sisterhood. The goal is to raise enough money to build a school so that more women can be educated.

According to its website, the Circle of Sisterhood is a foundation that is a “collective influence of sorority women to raise financial resources for entities around the world that are seeking educational barriers for girls and women facing poverty and oppression.”

The Woodlands senior Morgan Bruce, Panhellenic president, explained how the philanthropy connects with the values of the Panhellenic Council, an organization in charge of the current eight sororities on campus.

“We want to be good stewards of the resources we receive from our [members],” Bruce said.

“The philosophy of giving back, especially in this country, is so important,” Bruce continued. “And you can do that by helping girls and women in other countries...the goal is for us to keep building schools so more women can get education.”

Bruce is looking forward to the Circle of Sisterhood’s annual event Circle of Sisterhood Day this Friday at Fountain Mall. “We host a table from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Friday where we will discuss Circle of Sisterhood and our philanthropy,” she said. “We will have cookies there...people can come by and talk to us if they want to.”

Panhellenic members also started profit shares for each day of the week. Monday was Chipotle from 5 to 9 p.m., Tuesday is Chick-fil-A from 4 to 9 p.m. and Wednesday will be a partnership with fitness studios Rush Cycle at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, members will participate in the annual event Christmas on Fifth Street, where they will hang ornaments that students have written on explaining what education means to them. Friday at U-Swirl will be the final profit-share of the week.

The organization will return from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday on Fountain Mall to continue campaigning, with the last day being Sunday morning from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. “What does your education mean to you?” will be a question that members will ask people.

Bruce has been a member of Panhellenic for three years and is always looking for new members. “We are a very welcoming group,” she said. “We want to get people involved and give them a chance to learn about what we do and what we stand for.”

Bruce reveals that the Circle of Sisterhood is an important part of Panhellenic because it gives students the chance to continue helping girls and women after they graduate and become members of the workforce.

From what Bruce has seen, she does believe the Circle of Sisterhood is a very important philanthropy for Panhellenic Council. “It is so important to help girls get an education,” Bruce said. “I feel like being able to get a college education is really something that I'm very grateful for and very blessed, to be able to attend Baylor and pursue my dreams of higher education.”

CIRCLE OF SISTERSHOOD

Children found after reported kidnapping

HARRY ROWE
Staff Writer

A reported kidnapping at Miss Nellie's Pony Place in Cameron Park on Monday turned out to be a misunderstanding between family members, according to a police confirmed on Monday night.

The police reported a note that was written and put in the trunk of her car. The children were later found unharmed in Bell County.

The incident was reported by the Waco Police Department and the Bell County Sheriff's Office.

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The post said that the driver was seen putting children into the trunk of the vehicle and telling them to be quiet. The first post said.

Along with acting as a way to get information, the note was part of the Waco Police Department's official Facebook account, listing specific information and urging any Waco citizens with information to call the Waco Police.

According to the Facebook post, the incident was "recognized by two white females" when it left the scene it was last reported. The post said that the driver was described as a woman in her late 30s. The Facebook post was signed by AP. Patrick Swanton of Waco PD.

"At least one of the women was seen putting two, possibly three children into the trunk of the vehicle and telling them to be quiet," the first post said. "The vehicle was the "older model, light blue, possibly four-door-Toyota," according to Waco Police's Facebook. The incident where the kids were seen being shoved into a trunk was at Miss Nellie's Pony Place in Cameron Park. "They were located in the Bell County area with the assistance of the Bell County Sheriff's Office," Swanton said on Facebook. "We investigate the issue out of our own. No additional details will be released at this time."
Learn to be all ears

Do you want to find yourself in the middle of a conversation with a friend only to realize they’ve stopped listening and you are already planning what you’re going to say once you finish talking? Trying to explain your problems or share your joys with someone only to feel like they don’t care can be hurtful to friendships.

In today’s society, it can be extra difficult to truly give someone your full attention when you’ve trained to constantly be checking for your phone or other devices. It’s nearly impossible to be a good listener when you’re constantly alert for other messages. Many newscasters and important message coming in.

However, making the conscious effort to give someone your undivided attention when they’re talking to you can make them feel particularly appreciated and valued. Listening intentionally can improve trust and cultivate deeper relationships and maintain meaningful communication and connections. It can be hurtful when you ask someone what you’re already aware of, but it’s a rare surprise when you bring up a small detail they’ve only mentioned once or twice and your friend already heard and that you care about what they’re telling you.

Remember that humans pay attention to what matters the most to them. Let’s make sure to show our friends and loved ones.

Tips for remaining focused and attentive include making eye contact and maintaining distractions. If you’re in a situation where your friend needs to be heard, it’s easier to focus on them if you’ve left your phone in another room, and maintaining eye contact tends to make the conversation more intense and personal.

Make an effort to practice silence. As tough as it may be, sometimes we just need to be quiet in order for someone to get all of their feelings without us interpreting our own intentions and situations onto theirs. Sometimes well-intentioned people can respond to a complaint with a situation of their own that they think can relate but could be more different. If you don’t have a proper response to what someone tells you, don’t try to give advice or empathize. Just be there. Let them know that they are heard and that you care about what they’re telling you.

Making sense of what matters most to them. Let’s make sure to show our friends and loved ones however much they mean to us by paying careful attention to what they have to say.

COLUMN

Connect with people, not technology

MOOREA LONG

As I sat in church last Sunday, I watched a woman sitting alone in the back of the church looking at her Facebook feed during the sermon. Her young daughter looked up at her, and the mother kept scrolling. I realized that this little girl was learning at a young age that something is happening on her phone takes precedence over being involved in the world around her. Although most of the sermons would have been good for a small child to grasp, I would argue that children may never learn respect if their parents do not set a good example. I believe that, as a society, we are on a very slippery slope as there no longer seems to be a circle of respect handed down from generation to generation. Instead, respect is the least, and if we are not careful, we are soon to lose it.

According to a recent Mashable article reviewing by CNN, the average adult spends more than 10 hours each day consuming media on smartphones, TV’s and computers. The more we spend on devices and chatting with Alexa and Siri, the less time we spend connecting with real people. Younger generations are extremely attached to their devices and are replacing face-to-face conversations with text-based communication and losing the social rules and respect that our society was founded upon for us to adopt.

We get a glimpse of what media overload from our own dependence can do to a society such as this. At times, people seem barbaric as they fight to proclaim why their opinions are right and why everyone else is therefore wrong. In general, people feel emboldened to be more disrespectful when they can hide behind a keyboard.

At each generation becomes more immersed in technology and relating to devices in an ever increasing way. I think the need to unplug has never been greater. It’s time we get back to really living in the moment, making those around us feel like they matter and showing genuine concern for one another. We, as a society, need to make a conscious decision to build connections that do not depend on Wi-Fi, but people. What Maya Angelou said it best when she wrote, “If we lose love and lose regret for even one, then we lose our deficit.” Let’s put our phones down and start connecting with each other again. It’s critical to our survival.

Moorea is a freshman public relations major from Parkland, Fla.

COLUMN

Do short-term mission trips actually harm?

ELISE CROSLEY

Standards of Baylor Bears go on mission trips every summer, but is it worthwhile? While short-term mission trips can be a rewarding experience for some, they can also harm the communities themselves.

People often fly overseas for a week to build a well in an “underprivileged” part of the world, but more often than not, these situations are in the right place, too. And while it’s true that good intentions may be behind these trips, quick trips may be hurting more than they realize.

I experienced this firsthand when I visited a small community in the Dominican Republic called Chichigua. The mission organizations who had scheduled their week-long trip were working with the community to build development that was ready for a week because they didn’t have the resources to maintain it.

The next time you go on a mission trip, think about the long-term impact of the physical project you are doing. Is this a project the community can sustain after you leave? Is this a project the students can sustain with their own resources?

Turns out, the White Savior Complex in practice looks like this: foreign tourists post selfies with your kid (as if that’s the main reason you went to Kenya in the first place) but don’t bother to see the beauty of it, the culture, “This form of voluntourism exploits the lives, stories, faces, and culture of African people through social media (often in the form of selfies with African children)—imagine if there were a form of this with you and your kids. This form of serving is filled with pride and extreme hatred to the community they are visiting.

It is detrimental to a society when it is treated by outsiders as less than or “subhuman.” Any American child is a “Third World child.” Just because an American travels to a country in need, it doesn’t mean that they will not contribute anything to that world. However, it’s important to consider how our actions can affect the cultures we visit.

People often fly overseas for a week to build a well in an “underprivileged” part of the world, but more often than not, these situations are in the right place, too. And while it’s true that good intentions may be behind these trips, quick trips may be hurting more than they realize.

Another big issue with mission trips, especially short-term missions, is that they are often accompanied by “missionary mentality.” Missionaries have little to no understanding of the culture of African people, and how they can respond to a complaint with a situation of their own that they think can relate but could be more different. If you don’t have a proper response to what someone tells you, don’t try to give advice or empathize. Just be there. Let them know that they are heard and that you care about what they’re telling you.

Remember that humans pay attention to what matters the most to them. Let’s make sure to show our friends and loved ones however much they mean to us by paying careful attention to what they have to say.

Do you ever find yourself in the middle of a conversation with a friend only to realize they’ve stopped listening and you are already planning what you’re going to say once you finish talking? Trying to explain your problems or share your joys with someone only to feel like they don’t care can be hurtful to friendships.

In today’s society, it can be extra difficult to truly give someone your full attention when you’ve trained to constantly be checking your phone or other devices. It’s nearly impossible to be a good listener when you’re constantly alert for other messages. Many newscasters and important messages are coming in.

However, making the conscious effort to give someone your undivided attention when they’re talking to you can make them feel particularly appreciated and valued. Listening intentionally can improve trust and cultivate deeper relationships and maintain meaningful communication and connections.

It can be hurtful when you ask someone what you’re already aware of, but it’s a rare surprise when you bring up a small detail they’ve only mentioned once or twice and your friend already heard and knows exactly what you were talking about because of their careful listening. Listening well is even a top value in the business world.

A good way to work in missions overseas is by establishing a long-term organization that promotes relationships above all else in a community. This provides a way to short-term missions to be provided without hurting the community. Local organizations and churches can partner with organizations overseas and help solve what’s needed. However, this method can hurt if you’re not careful because there is a chance you may think about bringing a group in to help in a good idea or if they show up unannounced.

What I learned from my experience is that it is important to completely the work instead. For example, if a building needs to be built, you can’t just hire local community members and have them work instead of flying in a group of 30 college students. This approach begins and provides them with the funds needed to make a proper decision. However, there are many other projects that just need to be quiet in order for someone to get all of their feelings without us interpreting our own intentions and situations onto theirs. Sometimes well-intentioned people can respond to a complaint with a situation of their own that they think can relate but could be more different. If you don’t have a proper response to what someone tells you, don’t try to give advice or empathize.

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Bears in the Outback” offers study abroad for all

Baylor offers a few study abroad programs that are not specific to any major. One of these trips values students to Australia. The trip is highly recommended, with most of the learning being done out of the books, rather than in the classroom.

Student learn as they hike through the Daintree Rainforest and snorkel in the Great Barrier Reef.

Christopher Wynveen, program director and associate professor of health and human sciences, has been to Australia a number of times. He received his Ph.D. in recreation, parks and tourism science and did much of his research in Australia.

“The whole purpose of the trip is to show how Australians have lived and interacted with the natural environment,” Wynveen said.

“We look at how the Australians are managing the land and we talk to some modern European Australians and discuss similar issues,” Wynveen said. “Then we go to the Grattan Research Institute, which is one of the oldest rainforests in the world. That’s a real treat to see. It’s also the only place in the world where a rainforest ecosystem teaches a coral reef ecosystem. That has some unique characteristics to it. Then on to the trip on the Great Barrier Reef where we spend two days snorkeling.”

Las Vegas senior Taylor Ferrario attended the trip this past summer.

“My favorite part of the trip was snorkeling in the Great Barrier Reef and exploring the beautiful Haikadlu Island beaches. I was able to fulfill my lifelong dream of holding a koala bear and play with the Japanese language,” Ferrario said.

“This trip was truly insightful, and it was able to learn so much about Australian culture and wildlife.”

Applications are due Jan. 15, but those interested are encouraged to apply before Jan. 15, as the trip is often full by that time. For more information on Baylor in Australia, visit Baylor’s Bearabroad website and select either the semester or summer options.

“This experience was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and I would go again in a heartbeat,” Ferrario said.
Cameron Park flautists baby alligator during story time

LEADERSHIP from Page 1

Denton senior Brady Byrd has been involved in Christian Business Leaders for three years and currently serves as the group’s Waco committee in Christian Business Leaders for three years and for our members.”

Byrd said. “The most impactful part about CBL is the relationships I’ve built and the knowledge I’ve gained from current business professionals on how to integrate my faith into the business world.”

“I joined for fellowship with other believers that share the same occupation goals and to learn how to integrate my faith with my occupation,”

BRADY BYRD | DENTON SENIOR

which all work together to promote Christian Business Leaders as a group gaining experience while also serving kids.

“I think CBL is pretty involved on campus,” Minogue said. “Along with service events, we also participate in intramural sports, worship nights, social events and casual group hangouts.”

“Along with getting to pet different animals, such as turtles, from the zoo, the children were educated on different species and listened to a story time from zookeepers. Children interacted with a baby alligator for kids to interact with. The children at the Monday story time laughed and smiled as they petted the baby alligator who was brought out by one of the staff members.

“Cameron Park Zoo, said Cameron Park’s community outreach in the education department doesn’t stop at the pre-school ages. They also go to McLennan County elementary schools.

“Education animals are like zoo ambassadors, as they go out into Story Time, we take them in the zoo mobile to schools, to do programs, we do nursing programs with them,” Hegler said. “There are animals that are smaller, able to be handled animals. That is really a learning opportunity for kids this age, to be able to touch.

The operation reaches the goal of 18 members will be able to go on a mission trip to help oversees construction.

“Think the biggest thing with us being college students and senior women, specifically, we know how valuable education is,” Hegler said. “We can use what does it open for us as we get a college education; just being able to spread that opportunity to other people and other women in different countries is really important and special.”


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"We need a song teenagers can bang their heads to in a car. ‘Bohemian Rhapsody’ is not that song," music executive Ray Foster said when rock band Queen wrote the hit single. Now, the song is an intergenerational hit. Fans of the operatic rock song, which was in part produced by his former bandmates Brian May and Roger Taylor, praised a striking picture of a larger-than-life Mercury, full of stage one-hour and creative energy. Mercury (played excellently by Rami Malek) seemed to leap off the screen — one moment he was bullishly standing up to his traditional father, the next he was glazing across the stage in a spangled jumpsuit. Each and every move Mercury made on screen had a purpose, each scene told its own story and all of those stories flowed with the audience the context of the Mercury’s role.

Even the decision to show some facts seemed intentional — it went along with the idea that Mercury was a man of mystery, a caricature of himself, who always had conflicting renditions of what his life was, and who thrived in the possibility of all that he could be. The film carried strong undertones of inclusivity, love and family, and made for just as good a fictional tale as it did a biopic.

Carried even further by an incredible soundtrack, “Bohemian Rhapsody” spanned genres, just as Queen did. One moment it was soulful, and then it was pop and then it was everything in between and beyond. It allowed an entire generation to hear a song in a way they never would have before.

SOMEBODY TO LOVE

“The new film ‘Bohemian Rhapsody’ explores the life of iconic rock star Freddie Mercury. The film, while factually inaccurate in several ways, provides a beautiful portrayal of the man behind some of rock’s most famous songs.”

“BDomestic Box Office

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“Bohemian Rhapsody,” a biopic following Mercury’s rise to stardom, was released to mixed reviews. Critics thought the film glossed over or straight-up changed important factors in Mercury’s life, such as when and how he met his former partner Mary Austin, how and why he broke away from the band and the overarching theme of his struggles with sexuality and drug abuse. However, while factually it may not be the most accurate of movies, “Bohemian Rhapsody” forgot its factual accuracy in favor of a vivid, over-the-top depiction of Mercury. The film, which was in part produced by his former bandmates Brian May and Roger Taylor, painted a striking picture of a larger-than-life Mercury, full of stage one-hour and creative energy. Mercury (played excellently by Rami Malek) seemed to leap off the screen — one moment he was bullishly standing up to his traditional father, the next he was glazing across the stage in a spangling jumpsuit. Each and every move Mercury made on screen had a purpose, each scene told its own story and all of those stories flowed with the audience the context of the Mercury’s role.

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8 Mile (2002)
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Christine (1983)
Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs (2009)
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Friday After Next (2002)
Hellboy (2019)
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Next Friday (2000)
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The Big Lebowski (1998)
The Great British Baking Show: Masterclass (Season 5)
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The Ranch (Part 6)

INTELLIGENT LIFE

BY: DAVID REDDICK

SHERMAN’S LAGOON

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Memories of Alhambra (Season 1)
8 Mile (2002)
Astro Boy (2009)
Battle (2018)
Bride of Chucky (1998)
Christine (1983)
Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs (2009)
Crossroads: One Two Jaga (2018)
Friday (1995)
Friday After Next (2002)
Hellboy (2019)
Man v. Wild with Sunny Leone (Season 1)
Meet Joe Black (1998)
My Bloody Valentine (2009)
Next Friday (2000)
Reindeer Games (2000)
Shaun of the Dead (2004)
Terminator Salvation (2009)
The Big Lebowski (1998)
The Great British Baking Show: Masterclass (Season 5)
The Last Dragon (1985)
The Man Who Knew Too Little (1997)

Blue Planet (Season 1)
District 9 (2009)
Meet Joe Black (Season 1)

Man v. Wild with Sunny Leone (Season 1)
Meet Joe Black (1998)

Christmas on the Rocks (2018)

The Ranch (Part 6)

INTELLIGENT LIFE

BY: DAVID REDDICK

SHERMAN’S LAGOON

BY: JIM TOOMEY

What’s the best and worst Christmas song?

“I hate ‘Baby, it’s Cold Outside.’ Anything that sexualizes Christmas is a no. My favorite Christmas song is ‘A Christmas Song,’ I love it.”

MOLLY ATCHISON
Editor-in-Chief

“‘Santa Baby’ is the worst. It just is. I love ‘White Christmas’ because it feels like home.”

TAYLOR WOLF
Social Media Editor

“Michael Bublé’s whole album is the best Christmas album. The worst is ‘I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas.”

BEN EVERETT
Sports Editor

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The Ranch (Part 6)
Lady Bears sweep Las Vegas Thanksgiving Tournament

BEN EVERETT
North Central Staff Writer

No. 6 ranked Baylor women’s basketball came away with two wins from the Southwest Thanksgiving Shootout on Friday and Saturday in Las Vegas.

The Lady Bears (6-0) got a big performance from junior forward Lauren Cox in Friday’s 72-61 win over South Dakota State. Cox scored 28 points on 11-for-16 shooting from the field, while also grabbing 10 rebounds to help Baylor pull away for the win.

The Lady Bears held a slim-three-point lead at halftime, but later in the fourth quarter, Cox hit her fourth three-pointer of the game to give Baylor a 10-point lead. The Jackrabbits didn’t back down, coming back to cut the deficit to 26-23 with 1:33 left at the end of the first quarter. Baylor shot 18 percent in the first half to lead 47-35 at the break.

The Lady Bears led wire-to-wire and were sparked by junior Guard Kyndall Jackson’s first three-pointers in the 67-46 blowout win. Freshman forward NaLyssa Smith also dropped in 14 points in the victory.

Rhule looks to remain undefeated as he faces No. 13-ranked South Carolina at 6 p.m. Dec. 2 in Columbia, S.C.

EAGLES LEAD 14-0, ROUT REBELS

Baylor senior guard King McClure notched his 15th double-digit point game following his 15-21 win against the Texas Tech Saxton at AT&T Stadium in Arlington. The Bears failed to gain bowl eligibility last season with a 5-11 record in coach Matt Rhule’s first year.

The program coming from one win to season eligibility is one Rhule has been speaking about since last season and is part of the process of rebuilding the football team. With the win in their final game of the season, Rhule said it doesn’t matter who the team is.

“I think to speak to the character and what these guys are,” Rhule said. “You really know what it’s like when you win one game or two games … When you win one game, you preach the message all day about patience and progress and faith.”

In the matchup with Texas Tech, the Bears held in most categories and were able to get both the ground and passing game working together, something that Baylor fans haven’t seen too much of this season. Sophomore quarterback Charlie Brewer had a season-high three passing touchdowns in the victory, completing 75.3 percent of his passes for 388 yards. Brewer also had his way into the end zone with his legs for another touchdown. Brewer and running back Tresten Blackman just about everything clicking for the Bears not just on the offense, but on the defensive side of the ball as well.

“I thought that we played just a complete game, obviously, but I think pretty close to it,” Brewer said. “I thought we ran the ball extremely well. I thought the offensive line played incredibly, I thought the defense really did really well.”

The Lady Bears led in most categories and were able to cut into the Baylor lead. Most of the game seemed to click for the Bears and that is something the senior class was buying for after a tumultuous four years for the program. Senator offensive lineman Blake Lechner said this particular game was a meaningful victory to him and gave him the chance to lead the program with another chance at a bowl victory.

Baylor looks to remain undefeated as it faces No. 13-ranked South Carolina at 6 p.m. Dec. 2 in Columbia, S.C.

We went from one win to a bowl. The freshmen will know a bowl victory is what you’re supposed to expect. They’ll see this as the bare minimum.”

MATT RHULE | HEAD COACH

SECURE THE WIN

When it comes to what this means for the entire team, Rhule said being bowl eligible is good for the team “because of the experience it gives the younger players or redshirted players who haven’t played as much this season. Now they get another few weeks to practice and play in one final game. I also said about making a bowl assures the rebuilding process that he understood when he accepted the Baylor job. That process is coming to fruition even after just two seasons of him coaching at Baylor."

“I asked them to do some hard things, and they’ve done them. And they sometimes probably wanted to ask why they’re doing them,” Rhule said. “We went from one win to a bowl. The freshmen will know a bowl victory is what you’re supposed to expect. They’ll see this as the bare minimum.”

Sophomore running back John Lovett had a season-high 135 rushing yards and a rushing touchdown against Texas Tech and said even from what he has seen in the two years he has been here, there has already been much improvement.

“When this season started, I think the biggest surprise is when we took out our offense and changed our offense to a new offense, something that you think of all of the things we’ve done and the things we’ve changed, this is probably the most special,” Blackman said. “You think of all of the things we’ve done and the things that we’ve changed and what the next move is going to be. All year I’ve been, everything has changed, and this year it’s just natural,” Rhule said. “From the head coach, you want to see a hard work, that’s the right work.”

Baylor Sports Schedule

FOOTBALL SLIDESHOW >>

Re-live Baylor’s 35-24 bowl-clinching win over Texas Tech at

The fruits of the process

Baylor secures bowl bid in Rhule’s second year

Men’s Basketball Weekend Brief

Baylor men’s basketball squad swept their two games in the Emerald Coast Classic on Friday and Saturday in Niceville, Fla.

The Bears defeated the Patriots. Baylor held a slim halftime lead, but never trailed in the win.

Rebels pulled ahead 49-46 early in the second half and a brief 39-38 lead near the end of the first half, but the field in the loss to the Rebels on Friday. The Bears took to reach 300 wins.

Baylor sophomore forward Tristan Clark scored a 13 points in the 67-46 blowout win. Freshman forward NaLyssa Smith also dropped in 14 points in the victory.

Baylor junior wide receiver Denzel Mims hauls in a touchdown pass against T exas T ech Saturday in Arlington. Mims scored two touchdowns in the Bears’ 35-24 win over the Red Raiders. The Bears clinched a bowl berth for the eighth time in the past nine years with the win over the Red Raiders.
Luka Doncic has had a huge impact so far against top-tier teams such as the Golden State Warriors, with a .500 record and won games in November, now sitting at 9-9.

In the month of December, the Mavericks have been winning a bit more, but Daryl Morey’s trades for James Harden and Chris Paul have rocketed the Rockets to finish second in the Western Conference by ESPN and Sports Illustrated as they continue to build. The Rockets, on the other hand, came into the season picked second in the Western Conference by ESPN when it was a 3-3 toss-up to the Golden State Warriors in the Western Conference Finals last year.

"The Rockets haven’t quite lived up to those expectations yet. They started the season just 1-5, though they have been winning a bit more in the month of December, now sitting at 9-9.

Dallas, on the other hand, is flirting with a 500 record and won games against top-tier teams such as the Golden State Warriors, Oklahoma City Thunder and the Boston Celtics. Rookie guard Luka Doncic has had a huge impact so far, averaging 19 points per game. Edgewood junior and Mavericks fan Caymon Lyons said the team has looked better than expected to start the season.

"As a fan, I was hoping for a good start, and having early injuries from Harrison Barnes and Dirk Nowitzki, I wasn’t sure how the season would start,” Lyons said. "It has been better than expected and I could see us possibly catching a team or at least being competitive this year."

This rivalry is one that dates back to 1980. Recently, however, the Mavericks have an edge in the regular season series 8-7. Historically, the Rockets have an edge in the postseason series 8-7.

"It’s definitely a different stage," Lyons said. "You get to play every game like it’s your last but because if you don’t, it will be. It’s definitely an interesting experience and an awesome experience for those of us who haven’t been in the tournament yet. So I’m excited for our freshmen and I’m excited for us to hopefully go further than we’ve been in the past."

McGuyre said the Bears’ success as a program can be attributed to the leadership of President Linda Livingstone and athletic director Mack Rhoades.

"We’ve come a long long way at Baylor and it’s a product of starting from the top," McGuyre said. "President Livingstone loves our team she loves all of athletics. In a big part of what she’s about – Mark Brooks, creating Champions for Life. It’s not just a coach in the place where your rules and principles are kind of in full alignment with the university. That trickles down and pierces in these women that just love to compete. They love to play for the Lord. To go into the tournament and actually be the underdog or front or win a national championship, I think it will just be a beautiful byproduct of what we’re doing here at Baylor."

The Bears are going for their first ever win against Hawai’i in the Rainbow Wahine’s 6-0 all-time series lead.

**ATTACK THE PAINT** Houston Rockets guard James Harden drove to the basket in a game against the Detroit Pistons on Nov. 25 in Detroit. Houston and the Rockets face the in-state rival Dallas Mavericks on 7 p.m. Wednesday for the first time this season.

Huston leads the all-time regular season series 94-81.

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**Sports**

**Volleyball selected to third straight NCAA Tournament**

No. 25-ranked Baylor volleyball earned its third consecutive NCAA Tournament bid for the first time in program history.

The Bears are seeded to the Eugene Regional hosted by 15th-seeded Oregon. Baylor will face Hawai’i from the Big West Conference at 6:30 p.m. Thursday. If they make it to the second round, they will be facing the winner of New Mexico State and Oregon.

Baylor head coach Ryan McGarry said he is appreciative of the opportunity to play in the postseason and is satisfied with the team’s season thus far.

"It’s definitely a different stage," McGarry said. "You get to play every game like it’s your last but because if you don’t, it will be. It’s definitely an interesting experience and an awesome experience for those of us who haven’t been in the tournament yet. So I’m excited for our freshmen and I’m excited for us to hopefully go further than we’ve been in the past."

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