



Gwen Ueding | Cartoonist



GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

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EDITORIAL

# ‘Your year’ starts with you: Apply yourself

It’s a new school year, but not a new you. Don’t reinvent yourself; just work smarter at making this your year. It doesn’t matter if this is your first year on Baylor’s campus, your last or somewhere in between. This is the first truly normal year we’ve had as a collective student body since that one spring break that seemed to go on forever.

This year, you won’t have socially distanced classes, and you won’t have to keep up with the latest COVID-19 guidelines. Your only responsibility is yourself. Put your personal well-being first. However, prioritize your education and class attendance as much as possible. Try your hardest to say yes to things, and don’t back out at the last second for an extra hour in bed — this includes saying yes to going to class!

Whatever your goals are for the year, figure out how to make this school year the one you look back on and wish you could live again and again because it held “the good old days.”

There’s no point in going to a school that costs over \$60,000 every year if you aren’t planning on applying yourself to make sure this really is the year you see through rose-tinted glasses.

If your goals include finding lifelong friends and building enduring relationships, get involved in the things that give you joy. It doesn’t always have to be something you put on your resume; it can simply be something you get a kick out of. From the Unicycle Academy to the Bears Quidditch Association, Baylor has various clubs to get involved in. You don’t have to join every single club or organization out there, though. Maintaining balance is key, and the letters in your



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Instagram bio don’t determine your social wealth. Just apply yourself socially. Remember that this isn’t high school where you see the same people at the same times every day. People drop classes and miss social events here and there. You have to show

intentionality and interest to form worthwhile relationships. Otherwise, this year will be a very lonely experience.

While it’s important to pour into friendships, don’t discredit the need to pour into yourself in some way too. If your cup is empty, you can’t help others the way you want to. Be sure to figure out what you need to replenish your soul. Whether that’s a solo activity like meditation, music or viable sleep, advancing yourself personally isn’t something to put on the back burner.

It’s overwhelming to juggle so many things at once, but don’t forget the reason you came to Baylor in the first place: education. Even if you’re not paying full tuition, you still worked hard to get those scholarships, grants or loans. Don’t cut yourself short by not prioritizing your grades.

If you know you’re going to struggle in that class, develop a relationship with the professor. Make sure they can recognize your face when you go into their office at the end of the semester asking to get your grade bumped.

Saying “this year will be better” isn’t going to get you anywhere, so work at achieving your goals. It’s easy enough to start out on the right foot, but make sure you maintain those good habits and don’t grow complacent as the year progresses.

Take personal time, but don’t get lazy. You can start from scratch, but know yourself and set realistic goals. If you need accountability, build it into your schedule or find an accountability partner.

All in all, make this year *your* year. These are the good old days in the making.

## Revamp or recycle: Syllabuses should be more accurate

NICK COOK  
Web Editor



Every semester, the first day of classes is always predictable: go to class, find a seat, get the syllabus, leave 10 minutes early and throw the syllabus in the recycling bin on your way out because you will never use it again. When professors start to go over the syllabus, one thing that is almost always said is that the information on the syllabus “is just a guide and can be changed.”

The syllabus should be used as a guide, but more accurately. The schedule typically attached to the syllabus is significant for those who are organized and create plans for every class and assignment. When a class falls behind the schedule and assignments get moved or scrapped, students start to struggle and get lost in all their assignments.

Instead of relying on students to adjust their schedules and be prepared for the assignment dates to change, professors should be more prepared to keep the class on track. This will help professors who have multiple sections of the same course, as each section will be at the same point at the end of each class. Additionally, professors will be able to help students more effectively and won’t need to know each student’s section number in order to effectively help them.

Professors will know exactly where students are in class and what they are most likely to be struggling with, and it will be easier for them to grade assignments when each section is working on the same assignment. In addition, students will be more inclined to attend office hours for help.

Students can create better study groups as well. No section would be ahead of another, and each one would be taught the same information at the same time. Creating a study group of students who are learning the same content would allow students to help their peers by offering a different view of the same information.

The syllabus is a very useful piece of paper when it is used in the right way and not completely disregarded by professors as the semester progresses.

When followed, students can better prepare for tests, quizzes and assignments, and professors can grade faster. The semester goes better overall.



### East Village Dining Commons

The only second-story dining hall that provides wall-to-ceiling windows. EV has the nicest views on campus and pancake night.



### The Penland Crossroads

Penland has the most variety. No debate. Not only do you get the best variety, but the food is consistently the best on campus.



### 1845 at Memorial

If you look up the term “over-rated” in the dictionary, there is a picture of Memorial Dining Hall. Memo had no votes from The Editorial Board.



### Brooks Great Hall

Yes, you have less to choose from, but if you have fewer choices you’re more likely to be happy with the decision you make. Baylor’s version of Hogwarts.

Gwen Ueding | Cartoonist

## Don’t sleep on the first week of school

MAGGIE ALEXANDER  
Social Media Editor

Gearing up for the first week of school can be a challenge for any student. After a lackadaisical summer off from studying, tests and quizzes, it can often be difficult for students to revamp their mindsets to be academically focused.

For many students, the first week is taken slowly and easily; however, the first week of school might just be the most important week of the year for the reasons listed below.

### 1. The first week of classes sets the tone for your routine for the rest of the year.

Whether it be waking up to your alarm, getting to class on time or navigating the campus parking garages, the first week of classes sets the example for the routine you will build for the rest of the semester. When you put into practice the routine you want to achieve, it is more likely to happen.

This is also a chance for students to see what works for them and what doesn’t, regarding how they spend their time throughout the day. According to Northwestern Medicine, incorporating a healthy routine can help with stress levels, mental health and anxiety.

### 2. First impressions matter.

“You don’t get a second chance to make a first impression,” Dr. James Uleman, a psychology professor at New York University, said.

Whether or not you allow yourself to judge someone else based on your first interaction, your subconscious mind is constantly making judgments and assessing the environment you are in. First impressions really do matter, and in the case of the first week of classes, you are making an impression on new

professors, new classmates and potential new friends.

### 3. Where you sit on the first day of classes could be your assigned seat for the rest of the year.

The first week of classes is all about getting comfortable. That being said, the first day of classes is all about picking the right seat. Professors are famous for saying, “Where you are sitting now is where you will be sitting for the rest of the year.”

Choose your seat wisely. Sit somewhere you feel comfortable. Whether that be the front, back, sides or middle, sit where you feel like you will be most successful in the class.

### 4. Professors usually go over their syllabi in detail for the only time.

The first week of classes is vital for the academic success of students. This is the only time of the year during which professors go through their syllabi in detail. This time is insightful for students because they can hear professors’ expectations from their perspectives. This time also provides specific insights for class success, such as extra credit, late work policies and make-up exams. The class when a professor explains a syllabus is important not to miss.

It is time to hit the ground running. Don’t sleep on or through the first week of school. Use it to start your semester out strong.



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# MOVE 2 BU



**FRESHIES** Freshmen pick up their Welcome Week packages at Penland Residence Hall.



**WELCOME** This year, Texana will serve as home for about 150 first-year female students. Only 150 first-year female students are allowed to live in this residence hall.



**TEAMWORK** A father and son build dorm furniture together along with another resident.



**HOLD IT** Student volunteers help the 3250-3300 freshman class move into Martin Residence Hall on Wed. Aug. 17.



**AFTERMATH** Drinks are scattered along the edge of the Kokernot Residence Hall after a long, hot day of moving.



**HEAVY DUTY** MOVE2BU services were available for students moving in to their dorms to assist with getting belongings from the car straight to the room.





Olivia Havre | Photographer  
Hall.



Katy Mae Turner | Photographer  
Students. As of this term, only freshmen



Katy Mae Turner | Photographer

**REUNITED** After a summer apart, students celebrate being back on campus and seeing their friends again.



Kenneth Prabhakar | Photographer  
resident's parent they while moving in to South Russell Residence Hall.



Grace Everett | Photo Editor  
**DYNAMIC DUO** Students unload dorm furniture from residents and parent's cars at Kokernot Hall.



Grace Everett | Photo Editor  
**NEW BEGINNINGS** Students chat over move-in day and their new home of Kokernot Hall.



# Baylor relocates Rufus Burleson statue

CAMILLE COX  
Staff Writer

On July 13, Baylor officials removed the Rufus Burleson statue previously located at the front of The Quadrangle, following the lines of the Commission on Historic Campus Representation's 2021 report.

According to Jason Cook, co-chair of the Campus Experience Project Team, the initial plan for the statue was for it to be relocated immediately to a less prominent area on campus; however, because of the fragile state of the statue, it will return to campus after its refurbishment is finished.

"We immediately found that the statue was unstable and that it needed to have extensive refurbishments," Cook said. "This is all with the hope that the statue will be reinstalled by the end of the fall semester."

In early 2021, the commission — which was composed of members of the Baylor Board of Regents, faculty, staff, alumni and students — presented its recommendations to President Linda Livingstone and the board of regents after investigating and analyzing the university's history.

Cook said the regents established the commission in the summer of 2020 after significant racial strife broke out across the United States.

"Instead of simply issuing a statement, like so many other universities had done, the administration said we need to do an in-depth analysis and look at our own history to see if anything there might be problematic," Cook said.

In the report, the commission details the life of Rufus Burleson, who was Baylor's president from 1851 to 1861 at the Independence campus and from 1886 to 1897 at the Waco campus. In his life, Burleson was a slave owner, a Confederate chaplain and a prominent promoter of the "Lost Cause" following the Civil War. While serving as president, Burleson encouraged 50 Baylor students to join the Confederate Army.

"Although Burleson deserves recognition for his leadership as Baylor's president and for his contributions to the Baptist denomination during the early history of Baptists in the State of Texas, he arguably stands as the most controversial of all of Baylor's early leaders due to his attitudes and behaviors with regard to slavery and the Confederate Army's role in the American Civil War," Baylor's Burleson biography reads.

Along with the decision to move the Burleson statue to an area between Draper Hall and Georgia Burleson Hall, the board approved a four-phase plan to implement the recommendations of the commission.

These steps include changing the name of Burleson Quadrangle to The Quadrangle, reconceptualizing and redeveloping the area surrounding Speight Avenue and The Quadrangle, adding historical information throughout campus, and designing and addressing the monument for the unknown enslaved.

Houston junior Nayiri Ohanian said she understands the need for the removal of the statue but simultaneously realizes people may be upset about its relocation.

"I kind of have an indifferent opinion about this decision because I don't have any legacy here, but I understand how people with deep ties to Baylor might be upset with this," Ohanian said. "At the same time, it's a new day and age, and a lot of things have to change to be progressive and inclusive."

Cook said the Campus Experience Project Team now works to tie each decision to the commission report to address the recommendations. They will be working side by side with Sasaki — an architectural firm with



Lariat file photo  
**RELOCATION** Rufus Burleson leaves Baylor Quadrangle and undergoes repairs in Austin.

previous university design experience — to develop a comprehensive plan for the campus' historical components.

"We really want [The Quadrangle] to become a space where the Baylor family comes together and the university's past, present and future can be celebrated together," Cook said.

## HEADED HOME from Page A1

"We want to have programs going from major places on campus," Davis said. "We're thinking libraries ... as well as the business school, the BSB and others that are spread out a bit."

Davis said there will be a schedule of times for various routes posted online when available. Walkers will be equipped with identification stickers, knowledge of emergency numbers and emergency pole locations and procedures to lead walkers to safety in the event of danger.

"We have locations spread out so that if you do have to walk alone [to the meeting spot], it'll be just across the street rather than across campus," Davis said. "It'll help students get from place to place and make some new friends along the way."

Other activities outside of the walks will be included with program memberships to build community and provide a place for students to make new friends. Possible events include bowling, tailgate parties and movies.

Davis said although he had never felt unsafe on campus, he had experienced some of his personal belongings being stolen. He said the stress of wondering what else could happen was a shared concern for a lot of other parents and students.

"We have been talking to a lot of families and heard a couple of stories, as well as stories in the news near campus of muggings, carjackings, [situations] like that where people might be robbed walking alone," Davis said. "So our thought process is that safety in numbers will really help."

The Baylor 2021 fire safety and security report cited an increase in sex offenses reported to the university from 2018 to 2020, as well as 103 offenses pertaining to dating violence, domestic violence and stalking over the three years combined.

Additionally, Waco's location puts the community at special risk for human trafficking.

Unbound Waco works to fight human trafficking in the community. According to its website, Waco sits in the middle of the "Texas Triangle," which is considered one of the most heavily trafficked regions in the U.S. Unbound outreach coordinator Charlie Crockett said because of this, there is an urgency for the community to know about human trafficking.

"The Texas Triangle is the movement of the three major highways that run throughout the state of Texas and the U.S as a whole," Crockett said. "These highways connect right here and in the heart of Texas, making what we call the Texas Triangle."

Crockett said these highways are avenues used by traffickers to move victims from place to place, resulting in traffickers stopping in towns around the highways, Crockett said.

"Because we're in the center, there's a much higher frequency that these people will be stopping here to stay in motels or hotels, to shop in our grocery stores and just be around," Crockett said. "We are able to see victims more than we would somewhere else because there's a higher chance they will be stopping here."

Davis said Headed Home is very aware of the issue and hopes to help aid this problem.

"This [program] is a great way to prevent that," Davis said. "Headed Home helps with that problem, probably the most out of all the problems we hope to help."

Crockett said Headed Home is a great idea because overall safety and awareness is key. Getting people used to coming alongside one another in a protective way helps us notice other things as well, according to Crockett.

"[Having] something where [students] sign up to literally walk alongside somebody to keep them safer than they were is something we absolutely encourage," Crockett said. Crockett said it is important to educate yourself and identify your personal vulnerabilities that dangerous individuals are looking to use against you.

Unbound works to empower victims, survivors and youth to stay safe, and Crockett encouraged Baylor students to assert their influence by volunteering in their community.

"The impact of a college student coming to talk to a young girl or boy — to speak worth and responsibility into them or just to tell them that they actually can do something better with their life — is immeasurably impactful," Crockett said.

Austin senior and student body president Hunter Walker said via email that safety is incredibly important to both student government and the greater institution of Baylor. He also said he wishes to remind students to remain vigilant and wise with their decision-making when they return to campus and to understand the other safety resources available to them.

"Baylor Department of Public Safety's Campus Guardian App [is] free to download and allows the user to send an alert to the Baylor Police Communications Center," Walker said. "Another Baylor resource is the After-Hours Baylor University Shuttle, which is also free for students and runs from 6:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., Mondays through Thursdays."

Applications for Headed Home walkers are still open and can be found on their website. For more updates and information to come, visit Headed Home's Instagram.

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Photo Illustration by Olivia Havre  
**CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL** Prism plans to host weekly meetings based on things the community wants to do or learn about.

# Prism plans for fall semester

**LUKE ARAUJO**  
Staff Writer

After being chartered by Baylor in April, Prism is setting up its plans for the fall semester.

Prism, an LGBTQ+ and allies student organization, is focusing its efforts on “continuous learning for the Baylor community,” as well as giving voice for LGBTQ+ students to the administration.

Prism is also focused on creating opportunities for students to access resources through education, connection, and belonging.

Heber Springs, Ark., senior and Prism president Lor Duncan said that with Prism functioning as an official student organization, it has entered the stage of planning activities.

“We plan to have weekly meetings based on things the community wants to do or learn about,” Duncan said. “Our focus is creating community and a space to learn and grow together, and we want our meetings to reflect that.”

Duncan said Prism also hopes to host a formal and other social events during the school year. It also plans to hold recruitment events.

Bryant, Ark., sophomore William Alverio, Prism secretary and treasurer, said the organization wants to have larger, more open meetings monthly.

“We have discussed that there will be a meeting time that is frequent and

like advocacy resources and will open avenues for queer people, gender non-conforming people or people of different faiths to talk to others who share their experiences. Additionally, Prism will be speaking with contacts outside of Baylor — including alumni who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community — to form a network of advocacy resources.

“We are going to have resources and support systems publicly stated where people can easily find it on our social media,” Alverio said. “We are also planning to have a Baylor-affiliated website with health resources and things like that. It is about getting those resources collected and getting the word

out.” As the semester approaches, Alverio said Prism asks for patience from those in the student and faculty population who are interested in being a part of and supporting Prism.

“We are working diligently to get Prism up and running,” Alverio said. “We will definitely be solidified and ready to go for this fall semester.”

**WILLIAM ALVERIO | PRISM TREASURER**

available to members, with some meetings being open to non-members as well,” Alverio said. “One of our biggest priorities is that we want to protect people’s privacy, because there might be students who are not comfortable with their sexuality, gender identity or religious affiliation yet. We want to make sure to protect them from being outed or being scolded by the public.”

At meetings, Alverio said Prism will cover topics

“One of our biggest priorities is that we want to protect people’s privacy.”



Photo by Katy Mae Turner | Photographer  
**SOMETHING NEW IS BREWING** Starbucks and Chick-fil-A are back in business on campus after a summer of renovations.

# Starbucks, Chick-fil-A to reopen after renovations

**SARAH WANG**  
Staff Writer

Moody Memorial Library’s Starbucks and the Bill Daniel Student Center’s Chick-fil-A have reopened after months of renovations.

On May 16, only four days after the end of spring semester finals, Moody’s Starbucks began its renovations. Sean D. McMahon, the district manager for Aramark Collegiate Hospitality, said the renovations were planned to be completed in time for the start of the fall 2022 semester.

McMahon also said Starbucks requires a minor update every five years and a major renovation every 10 years; due to COVID-19, Moody’s Starbucks was past its 10-year scheduled renovation. Starbucks required the Moody location to update furniture, fixtures and equipment.

“The renovation will increase production space to improve service,” McMahon said. “Other additions include the Starbucks reward program and mobile ordering.”

Esther Zhao, the chief business officer of undergraduate admissions, said she is excited

about Moody’s Starbucks renovation.

“Mobile ordering sounds very convenient for clients,” Zhao said. “I would love to visit after the renovation and share it with friends if I get a pleasant experience.”

Additionally, McMahon said renovation costs were covered by a renovation and refresh fund in Starbucks’ contract with Baylor.

“All price increases are due to inflation and pushed down by Starbucks,” McMahon said.

On June 1, the SUB’s Chick-fil-A began its renovations, which were due as part of its licensing agreement.

According to McMahon, they also wanted to expand to a full Chick-fil-A service instead of the express operation they ran previously, offering more options to students.

Students can expect a full menu and faster service time upon Chick-fil-A’s reopening McMahon said. Renovations will not affect the product prices.

“The remodel will bring an expanded footprint, self-order kiosks for faster service and an expanded menu,” McMahon said.

# TIMELINE OF ABORTION DECISIONS IN 2022

BY CAMILLE COX | STAFF WRITER

Over the summer, the Supreme Court’s reversal of Roe v. Wade made regulating abortion a state’s right. In Texas, abortions are illegal after a fetal heartbeat is detected. This timeline provides a look at the decisions made throughout the nation.

**May 2**

Politico leaks the 98-page Supreme Court draft to the public revealing the initial decision to overturn the abortion ruling of Roe v. Wade.

**June 24**

The Supreme Court voted to uphold Mississippi’s Gestational Act, which overturned the previous 1973 Roe v. Wade decision. This decision gave states control over the fate of abortion rights.

**June 24**

Gov. Greg Abbott and Attorney General Ken Paxton both issue statements praising the Supreme Court’s decision, agreeing that the state of Texas will move to continue reversing Roe v. Wade.

**July 8**

President Joe Biden signs executive order “Protecting Access to Reproductive Health Care Services.”

**Aug. 25**

The Texas “trigger ban” law will go into full effect. The ban will include criminal and civil penalties for abortion providers and recipients of abortion.

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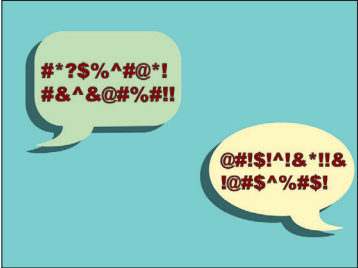
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DUELING FANS

Rom-com enthusiast vs action film aficionado: two movie-lovers go head to head. **pg. B2**



SCHOOL HACKS

Looking for ways to find cheaper textbooks? Check out this list for lots of hacks! **pg. B3**



**She wasn't just reacting for the camera; I could tell she actually meant her reaction. It's kind of cool being able to be like, 'Wow, I actually made an impact on her to.'"**

Baylor student Nolan Screen meets "Today" show anchor Hoda Kotb. **pg. B3**

BaylorLariat.com

Crossing paths in the corridor: new art exhibit in Moody, Jones libraries

**AVERY BALLMANN**  
Arts and Life Writer

Beginning in May, the Crosshatch Corridor, began receiving a transformation of new student artwork that had been submitted to the fifth annual Climate Crisis Art Exhibit in the spring. The Crosshatch Corridor, located on the first floor of Moody Memorial and Jones Libraries, and other library exhibits are overseen by Eric Ames, assistant director for marketing and communications for ITS and libraries. "We call them that because in art, a crosshatch is laying two lines on top of each other to make something new," Ames said. "We like the idea of the libraries and the art department crosshatching together."

Winter Rusiloski, associate professor of art painting, works on the library exhibition committee with Ames and provides her students' pieces for the exhibits. This year is the first time her students' submissions from the Climate Crisis Art Exhibit are featured in the library, even though she had student submissions in spring 2021. "It's awesome they're supporting us," Rusiloski said. The Climate Crisis Art Exhibit is hosted by Waco Friends of the Climate, a local grassroots organization. After the success of the 2021 show, Dr. Alan Northcutt, director of the organization, reached out again to Rusiloski to see if her students were interested in submitting pieces to the show. Rusiloski was met with enthusiasm. "Rusiloski grasps the

danger of the climate crisis and does a wonderful job inspiring her students to enter and helping them in the creative process," Northcutt said. "As a result, the Baylor students have been major award winners in the judged competition of the show." Tulsa, Okla., senior Natalie Stitt placed second in the college division of the Climate Crisis Exhibition. Her painting, "Firelight," is now featured in the Crosshatch Corridor. Stitt participated in the exhibition in 2021, but when choosing her topic this time, she saw many pictures of the Dixie Fire in California circling the news outlets. "I saw [the Dixie Fire], and it was a really captivating photo, and I thought it was really pretty; the colors in the picture are gorgeous, but obviously, it's a really, really



Kenneth Prabhakar | Photographer

**ACTIVISM THROUGH ARTWORK** New artwork has been placed in the corridor between Moody Memorial and Jones Libraries discussing the results of the climate crisis.

sad thing that is happening," Stitt said.

**NEW ART >> Page 2**



Photo courtesy of Daniel Pennington

**FESTIVAL DEBUT** Baylor grad Daniel Pennington's film, "Mac and Cheese," debuted at the Deep in the Heart of Texas Film Festival in July.

Baylor alum's film debuts at festival

**LILY NUSSBAUM**  
Arts and Life Intern

Every July, filmmakers and moviegoers alike gather at the historic Hippodrome Theatre for the Deep in the Heart Film Festival. This past summer, Baylor alumnus Daniel Pennington's film was one of 160 projects featured. The Deep in the Heart Film Festival is a three-day celebration and exhibition of independent films. Projects shown include short films, music videos, screenplays and feature films. Featured on Moviemaker's "20 Great Festivals for First-Time Movie-Makers" and FilmFreeway's "Top 100," the festival has grown since it first began six years ago. "If something feels local and near to you, you don't know that it's actually beneficial and good," Samuel Thomas, creative director of the Deep in the Heart Film Festival, said. "We are well-known and recognized not only with locals but also with the U.S. and internationally." Pennington said he has always loved movies and grew up memorizing and quoting them. He said that during his time at Baylor, he found the kind of stories he wanted to tell. In his first non-Baylor film festival debut with "Mac and Cheese," Pennington said he tells the story of one man's desire to play the superhero. The man's choice appears morally righteous, but it becomes twisted as the film progresses. The film ultimately questions the ethics of heroism. "What if you really want to do something with your life, but it's going to have negative impacts on others?" Pennington said. "How do you weigh out which is right and which is wrong?"

Pennington wrote, directed and edited "Mac and Cheese," but he said his favorite role to assume was directing, with writing coming in as a close second. "I love working with actors," Pennington said. "I love the process of collaboration. I love the problem-solving." Fellow Baylor alumna Sarah Allen collaborated on films with Pennington throughout their four years of college. She said she first saw the screenplay in its early stages and commandeered the role of assistant director when production began. "He didn't really even ask," Allen said. "It was just assumed that I would help on his set because we always just help on each other's sets." Allen said Pennington's sets are always a good balance of fun and work. She said he tends to focus on his actors and the details of set design. Allen said such attention stems from a steadily growing confidence Pennington gained in his own artistic vision. "By the time he was making 'Mac and Cheese,' he knew exactly what his vision was," Allen said. "He knew how to execute it, and he wasn't going to let it go." Maverick Moore, a senior lecturer within the department of film and digital media, assisted Pennington during development, production and editing. He said sometimes there is a lack of consideration when a cheap and quick alternative tempts film students. However, in Pennington's film, he said he noticed a distinct creative voice. "It had a really thoughtful and precise vision," Moore said. "You could tell that every shot, every choice was deliberate, and it was directed in a way that was informed and assured."

Students share summer abroad experiences

**AVERY BALLMANN**  
Arts and Life Writer

As the spring semester ended, Baylor students traveled back home or stayed in Waco, but some adventurous Bears continued their studies outside of the Baylor bubble. Holly Joyner, assistant director of marketing and communications for the Center for Global Engagement, said Baylor facilitated 30 faculty-led programs with 516 students studying abroad this summer. "In terms of importance, you can look at the research and the literature, but it clearly shows that students who go abroad sometime during their four years generally are increasing in their academic group," Joyner said. Joyner said it's rare to have a student say their study abroad experience didn't make an impact on their life. "Anecdotally, students come back, they almost always say it was one of their most pivotal experiences," Joyner said. "They might have had a great eight semesters at Baylor, but that study abroad experience is usually like the crown jewel or capstone of

was spent in nature. "We had some guest lectures, but it was essentially a lot of traveling, so we were kind of all over the place," Davis said. "We traveled to a bunch of different places. And then at each place, we would usually have some kind of outdoor recreation-type activity, whether that's snorkeling on the Great Barrier Reef, hiking in the Daintree Rainforest. And then we would have lectures that the idea was they would correspond with the things



Ella Whatley

that we were doing." Also during the summer one session, Franklin, Tenn., sophomore Ella Whatley was studying the history of Spain and common Spanish vocabulary in Madrid. Whatley's experience was an interactive classroom and real-world approach with added opportunities to have hands-on practice with native speakers. "I've always wanted to take that extra step of immersing myself and living with a host family," Whatley said. "I picked Baylor in Madrid because that gave me the opportunity to live with a host family and take some of those Spanish classes that I need for my degree." Whatley said she has been enrolled in Spanish classes since she was 13, but, because of the pandemic, she wasn't able to practice speaking as much as reading. Because of the study abroad and many three-hour traditional



Casey Davis

their time in college." Rockwall senior Casey Davis studied in North Queensland, Australia, during the first summer session. Davis is a recreation and leisure services major, and the majority of his trip

Spanish dinners with her host family, Whatley said her speaking and reading skills are now at the same level. "I still keep in touch with my host mother; we text back and forth in Spanish," Whatley said. "She liked to teach my roommate and I Spanish phrases that you wouldn't normally pick up on. It was like idioms and phrases non-native speakers just wouldn't know." Whatley said her favorite phrase is "me da corte," which means "how embarrassing for me." Davis also said he ran into phrases that Australians and Americans share. He said he found that in these experiences, Australians were very friendly toward him and his group. He even braved trying Vegemite — a thick, dark brown Australian food spread. "Because we are becoming a more global society, Baylor sees that as a really important area of growth for our students, because we don't want our students left behind in the global marketplace," Joyner said. "We want them to feel confident and secure when applying for jobs, whether they be domestic or international, when they graduate." Joyner said their application pool was significantly larger this year because of the demand from students who were not able to study abroad during the pandemic. There was so much interest to study abroad prior to the summer that Baylor sent six groups over winter break, and they plan to keep those programs for the upcoming winter term. "It was one of the greatest experiences in my life," Whatley said. "I will carry that with me as continued encouragement to continue to study Spanish because it inspired me to get a glimpse of being able to communicate in a different language."



# Students share ins, outs of the Outdoor Adventure Line Camp

CLAY THOMPSON  
Arts and Life Intern

Every Baylor student knows about the long-held campus tradition of Baylor Line Camp, which introduces incoming students to campus and forges bonds that can last a lifetime. However, even seasoned Baylor students might not know that there is another kind of Line Camp available to first-year students: Outdoor Adventure Line Camp.

This unique camp experience is planned and run by Baylor Outdoor Recreation — a department dedicated to helping those at Baylor engage in recreational and leisure activities that help to “equip individuals to live balanced, holistic and healthy lifestyles,” according to its website. The purpose of OALC is to “participate in team building activities, backpack for four days and three nights, rock climb and go whitewater rafting.” Zac Huston, assistant director of Outdoor Adventure Campus Recreation, said OALC is more than that.

“What happens on campus, during your time on the trail, you get all of that to the nth degree,” Huston said. “On the trail, they’re not meeting 250 other new Bears, but they’re really forming significant relationships. It’s really a reflection, that power of reflection that students get when they take time to unpack

and unplug. We really have created the Baylor experience without even stepping foot on campus in many ways.”

Huston said Campus Recreation had sort of bounced around several locations, such as Colorado, Arkansas and North Carolina, to give more opportunities for both Texan and out-of-state first-year students to be able to access and attend the camp. They had settled at a base camp in an area near Taos, New Mexico, in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, and while they did run into some challenges this year, Huston said that he felt the camp was a success.

“The biggest obstacle we experienced this year was the New Mexico fires,” Huston said. “There were wildfires in the region that we were at camp. So the biggest thing we were wondering was, is the fire going to stop? Is the rain going to come? And like most every summer in New Mexico, it shifted to monsoon season just a few short weeks before we got there. We did stay in contact with parents and monitored the situation. But yeah, when we got there, the weather was incredible, and there was so much connection and community flowing there.”

Loveland, Colo., sophomore Sophia Schuemann said Outdoor Adventure Line Camp went very well this year. She attended OALC the year before as a first-year student, and this year, she got to come



Olivia Havre | Photographer

**OFF CAMPUS ADVENTURES** Incoming freshmen take place part in Outdoor Adventure Line Camp held in New Mexico.

back to serve as a student guide herself.

“As a student guide, I basically get to come along and guide them through the things we did — so rock climbing, backpacking and whitewater rafting,” Schuemann said. “When I went the year before as a freshman, I don’t think I realized how much care and effort is behind it. So coming back and getting to be that person was pretty cool.”

Schuemann said she first wanted to go to OALC last year because she found it on the Baylor website, and she had been doing outdoor activities her entire life. She said

returning this year as a leader was really fun for her as well, because she loved getting to know the new freshmen who attended and getting them excited for Baylor.

“It was really fun because all of the people that were there went from like, the experiences that I had to never having been outside in their life, and it was kind of cool to be exposed to a lot more people that I had never been around,” Schuemann said. “When I came back this year as a leader, with the new freshmen, getting to know them and getting them to love campus and love the people that are on it — that

was just really fun.”

Idalou freshman Addison Heinecke said she had never really gone camping before this camp, but activities like backpacking were exciting to her.

“I think my favorite part was being able to get so close to people in such a short time,” Heinecke said. “Also, the nature, the views were incredible. I felt I got a greater appreciation for nature and just found that community that I’ll have at Baylor.”

Heinecke said her time on the trip was great and that it got her excited to try out other outdoor experiences and

activities when she arrives at Baylor.

“I think this trip really opened my eyes to a lot more activities and clubs that I can join once I get there,” Heinecke said. “I would tell other students that I was a little nervous at first because I hadn’t done a lot of the things on the trip that we were going to be doing, but I really loved it. If it sparks your interest, but you’re not sure if you would like to try it out or not, I would say try it out, because there’s no better place than to learn something new with Outdoor Adventure. You’ll make friends and really strong bonds.”

# Student sound off: action films vs. rom-coms

EMMA WEIDMANN  
Arts and Life Writer

Movie lovers can be divided over what makes a good film. Is it explosions, or is it explosive romance? Is it attention to detail and plot, or is it the way the movie makes you feel that really matters? Two Baylor students weighed in with their opinions.

Lancaster sophomore Daniel McCowan is an action and drama fan, while McKinney junior Shea Berthelot is a proud lover of rom-coms.

**What is your favorite movie or director?**

**McCowan:** “My favorite is Wes Anderson. Wes Anderson is, by far, on the top of my list when I go to watch movies. I remember watching ‘Fantastic Mr. Fox.’ It’s just a great movie. I love the stop-motion and the lighting, everything. I liked ‘Grand Budapest Hotel’ for its story — how [the main character] was the busboy going and experiencing all these things.”

**Berthelot:** “I recently



Olivia Havre | Photographer

watched ‘You’ve Got Mail,’ which is really, really good. I would say ‘You’ve Got Mail’ is my favorite right now. I read a lot of rom-coms, so that’s a lot of where I get my stuff, too.”

**What do you think is the biggest difference between these genres?**

**McCowan:** “I haven’t seen many rom-coms except ‘Clueless.’”

**Berthelot:** “I love all types

of movies. When you just need something to watch that is not part of a whole universe and does not have big stakes or a whole series — to just enjoy and not have to think about — I wouldn’t sit down and watch ‘Avengers: Infinity War’ or ‘A New Hope.’ I’d watch ‘You’ve Got Mail’ or another movie like that.”

**What is something about romantic comedies that you don’t like?**

**McCowan:** “Sometimes they’re really sappy, and they’re hard to get into at first. Once you get into it, it’s too much. But I liked ‘The Devil Wears Prada.’ I liked the fashion and the central theme about being in the working world and moving up through that while trying not to wrong anybody.”

**Berthelot:** “I recently watched ‘Sleepless in Seattle.’ I just don’t get it. No. 1, if

the roles were reversed, it would be so creepy. No. 2, they didn’t really have a connection until the very end. I felt like it was not emotionally involving. She was so stalkery, and it was creepy. A lot of times, I feel like they’re not as fleshed out as they could be, and some toxic relationships are overlooked. I watched ‘Jerry Maguire’ recently, and it was not a feel-good movie. I was stressed out the entire time, and I feel like people can idealize unhealthy relationships in these movies. I don’t know why they’re sticking around so long.”

**What is something about dramas that you don’t like?**

**McCowan:** “Sometimes they’re slow. But that can be good, because I can multitask and tune back in 15 minutes into the movie and I’m not too lost.”

**Berthelot:** “I love action and drama, but you have to be in a certain mood to watch it and you have to be committed to watching the whole series

to understand what it all means. With Marvel movies, it can be kind of a confusing experience if you’re not completely invested and obsessed with it.”

**What stuck with you about your favorite genre?**

**McCowan:** “The scene in ‘Black Widow’ when they were all around the table and revealed they were really secret operatives and not a real family — it was dramatic to me, but it was done really well. That’s why Marvel movies are really good, because they’re like a mixture of a straight Michael Bay film and just really good content.”

**Berthelot:** “That’s a tough question. The world is always tough, and it’s nice to come back to and rely on a rom-com. Even if it’s predictable, even if it’s corny, those are oftentimes the best ones. The stupid, crappy little Hallmark movies can be the best when you’re just in a horrible mood. When the world is so crazy and you don’t know what’s going to happen next, you can always rely on a rom-com as a steady factor.”

## NEW ART from Page 1

“A lot of human homes are getting destroyed, a lot of habitats for animals, and so I wanted to paint a picture that was beautiful and captivating to viewers but also devastating and sad to see.”

Stitt toiled on her painting for 35 hours in her Advanced Art Three class.

As she fabricated her work over the course of the month, her professor, Rusiloski, was working on her own piece for the exhibit.

“I would bring them into my studio because my studio is right next to the painting studio where I teach, so I would show them what I was doing,” Rusiloski said. “That was really nice to participate along with them.”

Rusiloski never forced her students in her oil painting or advanced painting classes to submit their work, but they all did paint and research on the topic of climate change. In this year’s exhibition, 24 pieces

of artwork were submitted by Baylor students, and the Crosshatch Corridor is a small sampling of the pool that participated.

“Long term, my goal would be that we will build a nice collection of student art that we could rotate through in different spaces all the time,” Ames said. “We want to show just how many different things our students are doing, and we feel like the libraries are a really good place to do that.”

Because of the amount of material Ames has in storage, his goal is to rotate the artwork once every month or two to keep the library’s interior refreshing. The Crosshatch Corridor will specifically house student artwork, while the Crosshatch Gallery, located on the first floor of Jones, will be for faculty and invited artists.

“The art community at Baylor is pretty small. Not many people who aren’t art majors or minors come

over there, so it’s nice that paintings are hanging in another part of campus,” Stitt said. “It’s a great honor. There’s famous professors and other people who actually get their paintings hung in Moody, so it’s really cool to be a student and have my pieces hanging there too.”

Stitt’s and other Baylor students’ pieces are for sale and can be purchased online. Students will be able to walk the Crosshatch Corridor and gaze upon Natalie Stitt’s,

Jessica Johnson’s, Abigail Olsen’s, Zara Montoya’s and Brenden Burress’ work until October.

“I think it’s important for us to have environments that are engaging and have more to look at than nicely painted blank walls,” Ames said. “Maybe that’s calming, but I think it’s more important for us to engage with art and different exhibit content and things that make you think and inspire you.”



A&L

# Baylor student meets ‘Today’ show hero

ERIANNE LEWIS  
Arts and Life Editor

When Austin junior Nolan Screen woke up at 5 a.m. on Aug. 3, he had no idea that a few hours later he would be interviewed on national television by one of his role models. That morning, Screen caught a train from New Jersey to the ‘Today’ show’s studio in New York City. Within a few hours, he appeared on the show and was able to meet a true inspiration to him: ‘Today’ show anchor Hoda Kotb, who he had written a letter to 10 years prior.

To his surprise, she wrote back, which is something Craig Melvin, ‘Today’ show anchor, said she always does. A decade later, Kotb remembered Screen and the letter he had written all those years ago, and she was brought to tears.

“To see her reaction was something that was priceless for me,” Screen said. “She wasn’t just reacting for the camera; I could tell she actually meant her reaction. It’s kind of cool being able to be like, ‘Wow, I actually made an impact on her too.’”

Screen said Kotb began to tear up to the point that the hair and makeup crew came out to give her

a few touch-ups. Kotb said she was surprised by the realization that she had made such a strong impact on him that he was moved to pursue journalism further, Nolan said.

‘Today’ show producer Kevin Schatell was also there during Screen and Kotb’s encounter.

“Hoda is the epitome of a role model ... She leads with her heart and goes above and beyond to make others feel seen.”

KEVIN SCHATELL |  
‘TODAY’ SHOW PRODUCER

Schatell spoke highly of Screen’s kindness and enthusiasm and said he knew Kotb was moved by the chance meeting, as it was apparent in her eyes.

“Hoda is the epitome of a role model,” Schatell said. “She leads with her heart and goes above and beyond to make others

feel seen.”

Screen transferred from St. Edwards University in Austin in the spring semester after realizing Baylor had a journalism program that he felt may be a better fit for him.

Screen said he wants to be a broadcast reporter, aiming to make it on national television. He said he wants to give viewers the best possible experience through his reporting.

Screen said this semester, he is most excited to experience the year-round Baylor traditions that he couldn’t participate in prior to this semester.

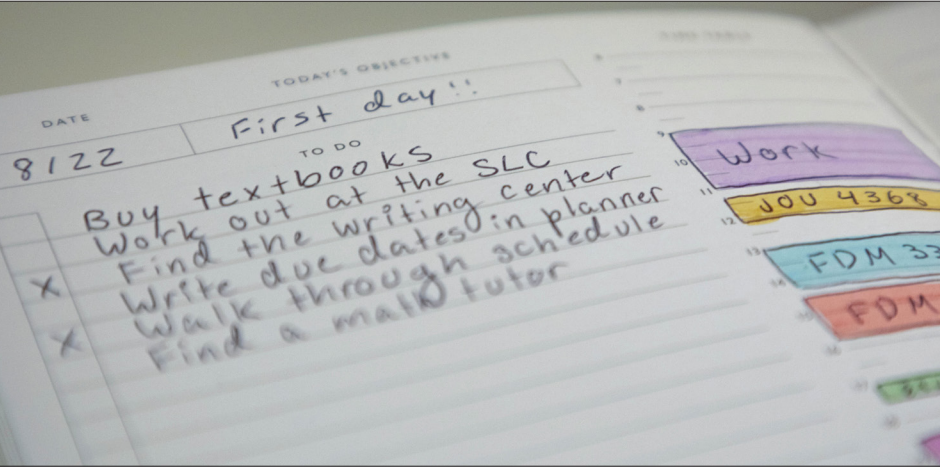
Other than Kotb, Screen said he looks to his family for inspiration, as well as journalists on shows like ‘60 Minutes’ and ‘Sunday Morning.’

David Yeomans, meteorologist from the Austin NBC affiliate station (KXAN), has transformed from another role model and inspiration into more of a mentor for Screen.

“[Yeomans] went to my high school, and we are now friends,” Screen said. “He’s been helping me kind of go through the journalism career, and he’s been an extremely great mentor.”



Photo courtesy of Nolan Screen  
**CELEBRITY** Austin junior Nolan Screen smiles after meeting ‘Today’ show anchor Hoda Kotb, his longtime role model.



Katy Mae Turner | Photographer  
**ORGANIZATION** Buying a planner is a great way to organize different events, tasks and assignments throughout your week to stay organized.

## Sic this semester: resources on campus

EMMA WEIDMANN  
Staff Writer

The beginning of the semester is upon us, and with it comes concerns about buying textbooks, starting new classes and handling the costs of tuition and supplies. On top of that, it’s important to remember to take care of yourself both physically and mentally as classes go into full swing. For freshmen especially, coming to Baylor for the first time can involve a huge learning curve in adapting from the routine of high school.

Freshman or not, here are some tips to help you hit the ground running this semester.

### ACADEMICS

- Many students face the stress of buying textbooks at the beginning of each semester when thinking about the price tag. There are a few options when it comes to buying books, and opinions differ on whether it’s cheaper to buy from the bookstore or buy online from sites like Amazon.
- Some students swear by buying their textbooks online or used from retailers like Half Price Books. Others borrow used books from friends or classmates. What some students may not be aware of is that the Baylor Bookstore will match the price of any textbook with Amazon, Barnes and Noble or a local store up to a \$100 difference per book and with a \$1,000 limit on the price adjustment per student. When you go into the bookstore, make sure you have the actual listing you want to match with pulled up on your phone — not a screenshot — and make sure the ISBN numbers of both books are identical.
- It’s always a good idea to go to the office hours that each professor offers

to their students weekly. Your professors will be glad to answer questions about the course or discuss any hangups you may have about the content. And in general, building a relationship with your professors will greatly improve the college experience.

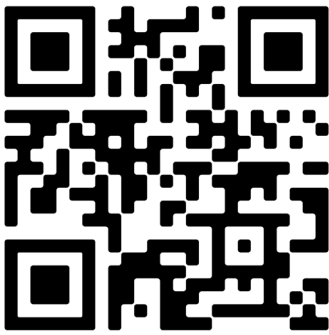
- College courses often require more time dedicated to studying and assignments than what new students might be used to. For those in need of assistance with any course, there are tutoring services available at the Paul L. Foster Success Center in the Sid Richardson Building.
- For help on essays, the Writing Center is located on the second floor of Moody Memorial Library and provides revision and editing services, as well as research strategies, design, organization and help on citations and bibliographies — resources proven to raise grades.
- One of college’s most important and most unforgiving lessons is learning how to manage time and keep up with all the items that are on students’ plates. A resounding piece of advice from students of all ages is to keep organized with a planner. That way no deadlines, due dates or important information are lost in the bustle of college life.
- It’s a good idea to look through the syllabuses your professors give out and write down any dates they may give immediately, including reading assignments, quizzes, tests and anything else the professor thought important enough to note in advance.
- Another common suggestion is to find your classes early and create a mental image of the location of each class, especially how far away they are from each other and how long it will take to travel

between them. This way, you’ll never get caught sweaty and out of breath, running up several flights of stairs with only 10 minutes to get from one class to another that’s on the other side of campus.

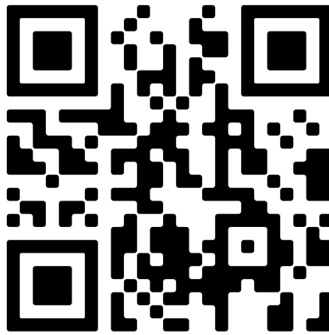
### HEALTH

- Being a well-rounded student is about more than just keeping up with classes and schoolwork; it’s also about maintaining physical and mental health.
- Baylor offers several options for those struggling to find enough food. In addition to this, an active Baylor family-run nonprofit, the On Campus Mom Foundation, has helped hundreds of students find and pay for healthy and accessible meals as well as assisting with the costs of textbooks and other supplies.
- The McLane Student Life Center is free for all students, faculty and staff. Amenities includes every workout machine under the sun, including treadmills, stationary bikes, weights and much more. There are indoor courts for tennis, basketball and other sports as well as an indoor track and swimming pool.
- The SLC is also home to the wellness center and mental health services that are easily accessible to students. If spiritual resources rather than therapy are more your speed, Baylor has an outstanding faith-based support system for students in Spiritual Life.
- No matter your major or how many hours of classes you’re taking, make sure to take advantage of every resource Baylor offers to help alleviate some of the weight of extra costs, school and anything life throws at you this semester.


### Baylor Counseling Center




### Student Life Center




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**SOCCER PREVIEW**

New coach, new players, new approach to winning  
**pg. B5**



**BEARS IN THE NFL**

Catch up with former Baylor Bears who were drafted into the NFL  
**pg. B6**



**It's good to be ranked, but it's not really important in the grand scheme of things."**

Christian Morgan, senior safety. **pg. B5**

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# JUST KEEP WINNIN'

## Freshman aims to elevate Baylor volleyball

**GIO GENNERO**  
Sports Writer

Bears fans, it's time to get familiar with Baylor volleyball freshman setter Averi Carlson — a Dallas area native fresh off an unprecedented high school career at Lovejoy High School. During that time, she found a lot of success that she looks to carry over into the green and gold.

Carlson is not only the top-ranked setter in the class of 2022 but also the highest-ranked recruit in Baylor volleyball history — No. 4 in her class, according to PrepVolleyball.com. During Carlson's freshman year in 2018, her team was one win away from being state champions, and they came back with three straight state championships to cap off an incredible tenure.

In Carlson's senior season, she accumulated nearly 1,000 assists on her way to a state championship MVP and was named the Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year — a title that has been awarded since 1995. Its first winner was Kerri Walsh Jennings, a three-



Kenneth Prabhakar | Photographer

**SETTING THE GOLD STANDARD** Averi Carlson sets for a spike during the first woman's volleyball scrimmage of the year at the Ferrell Center on Wednesday, Aug. 17.

time beach volleyball Olympic gold medalist. The elite list Carlson joined also includes 2021 beach volleyball Olympic gold medalists April Ross and Alix Klineman.

In Carlson's MVP state championship game, she recorded a triple-double with 10 kills, 16 assists and 10 digs. In her time at Lovejoy, the program won 90% of its

matches (record of 161-18).

Carlson graduated high school early in December 2021, allowing her to enroll at Baylor the following spring. At the Gatorade National

Volleyball Player of the Year event, Carlson said the honors she received along with her early enrollment at Baylor gave her confidence as she entered a new chapter of her life.

"It definitely helps a lot, just to be recognized as a great athlete," Carlson said. "It's just very special, and I'm very grateful. It was great that I came [to Baylor] early. Learning how to balance school and sports and getting to play in a few spring games was a lot of fun."

Being so highly ranked, Carlson said she is aware of the added pressure to perform at a high level, although her teammates have been helping her work through it.

"There definitely is [added pressure]," Carlson said. "I have great teammates though that make it much easier. Coming in the spring, I was really nervous. Just getting to play with them and learn from them helped a bunch. They are great leaders and great friends."

Head coach Ryan McGuyre had nothing but high praise for the four-time All-American while speaking on everything Carlson brings to the table, both on and off the court.

**AVERI CARLSON**  
**>> Page B5**



Assoah Ndomo | Photographer

**TIED GAME** Baylor soccer midfielder Gabby Mueller dribbles the ball against Minnesota Thursday at Betty Lou Mays Field.

# Baylor soccer draws home opener 1-1

**ANNAGRACE HALE**  
Sports Writer

After a long night at Betty Lou Mays Soccer Field, Baylor soccer began its season with a 1-1 draw against the University of Minnesota. First kick was delayed by almost two hours after the initial start time due to weather.

The explosive offense head coach Michelle Lenard's team displayed in their two exhibition matches lacked, but as the game progressed, momentum built, leading to dangerous offensive opportunities.

"There's a lot of nerves this game — just the first real game of the season, a lot of new players and just overall a good Minnesota team," fifth-year senior midfielder Maddie Algya said. "We just need to be more confident. Confidence is key."

The Bears (0-0-1) started with seven new faces in the lineup against the Golden Gophers (0-0-1). After losing standout goalkeeper Jennifer Wandt last year, the position is up for grabs. Junior keeper Lauren Traywick stepped up to guard the net with four crucial saves.

Unfortunately for the green and gold, it was not five. Within the first six minutes of the second half, Minnesota had a corner opportunity and launched the ball toward the left side of the net. Traywick tipped the ball, but it wasn't enough, as the ball hit underneath the crossbar and fell into the goal.

"I don't think that goal needs to happen, if we handle that corner-kick situation better," Lenard said. "We made an error there. And that comes from our back line and our goalkeeper. We need to step up the pressure on that ball and have all the players out of the box."

Now down 1-0, the error was a wake-up call for Baylor, as the squad began to play with more urgency. More passes were being strung together along the sidelines, and momentum was building in the final third. Junior midfielder Ashley Merrill proved to be dangerous on several occasions up top along with Algya, but neither could find the net.

The Bears made eight substitutions throughout the game, attempting to find an

**SOCCER OPENER >> Page B6**

## SPORTS TAKE

# Give Serena love before it's too late

**MICHAEL HAAG**  
Sports Editor

There's no question that Serena Williams has changed the sports world forever, especially after dominating the game of tennis for almost three decades. Williams recently announced she is stepping away from the sport, sending a wave of shock through the entire world that the 2022 U.S. Open may be the last time fans get to see her compete.

This is a great reminder to never take things for granted. Many people, along with myself, fall victim to this in the sports world because we've grown up with consistent legends, and it feels like they will never go away. I've always been able to watch LeBron James throw down a dunk or see Tom Brady hoist the Vince Lombardi Trophy for the umpteenth time. Seeing said people age and eventually be forced to step away from the game is hard to imagine and should make all fans remember to appreciate what's in front of them before it's gone.

I remember being a little kid who knew nothing about tennis, watching Williams serve at 120 mph or more and being awestruck. The 23-time Grand Slam champion knows a thing or two about success in her profession, and that trickles down a long way. The impact Williams has on



Associated Press

**LEGEND OUT** Serena Williams leaves the court after her loss to Belinda Bencic during the National Bank Open tennis tournament Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2022, in Toronto.

the sports world is not talked about nearly enough, because even with all of the debates people have over who is the greatest athlete of all time, the four-time Olympic gold medalist is often overlooked.

The sheer dominance Williams has had with a racket in her hand is unheard of. Her accolades speak for themselves, as the Compton, Calif., native has had a profound impact on the game of tennis and for women in the sports world. Let's not forget: Williams won her first Grand Slam at the age of 17 in 1999.

Yes, you read that correctly — just 17 years old.

Think about what that does to a kid growing up. A Black woman from Compton was on the biggest stage competing and thriving before she was old enough to vote. For me, it was not only an inspiration to succeed amid adversity but also a huge deal for women who are pursuing what feels like impossible things.

Talk about girl power. There will never be another Serena Williams — that much is clear. All things come and go, but one thing I will always try to remember is this: Don't take greatness for granted, and cherish it before it's gone.



Sports

# Evolving game: Baylor soccer’s new, up-tempo approach under Lenard

ANNAGRACE HALE  
Sports Writer

The floodlights shine on Betty Lou Mays Soccer Field once again as Baylor soccer is soon to kick off its 2022 season play. Although the setting is the same as before, a lot has changed within the Bears’ program. An evolved style on the pitch can be witnessed thanks to some new faces on the sideline.

One of these faces is head coach Michelle Lenard, who stepped into the role of Baylor soccer’s new head coach last December. Replacing Paul Jobson after his 14 seasons with the program, Lenard arrives with 14 seasons of NCAA Division II success under her belt. She built a strong program at Dallas Baptist University with a 20-77-26 record coupled with 13 conference championships.

Last season, the Bears finished third in the Big 12 and, although the team held a winning record of 4-2-3, they struggled to produce offensive opportunities with a goal average of 1.1 per game. However, the green and gold’s backline — more recognizable as the “No-Goal Patrol” — proved to be consistent with fifth-year senior Kayley Ables commanding the field from the defense.

This is where Lenard finds a sweet solution, presenting her vision of a Baylor team that will have an explosive offense without compromising the defense. Ables, who was selected to the All-Big 12 second team, said she is all for Lenard’s proposition.

“If we have the best defensive game of our lives, the best we can do as defenders is tie without forwards to score,” Ables said. “So that’s definitely something we’re pushing right now but without losing our defensive identity.”

In years past, the team would rely on forwards to finish the ball, but that’s not how the new Baylor program sees the game. With depth on the bench coupled with versatile players, the Bears believe they can produce more.

Graduate student forward Taylor Moon, who recorded four goals last season, knows the importance of putting the ball in the back of the net. Moon, who was the only other Bear to be named to an All-Big 12 team, joining Ables on the second team, also sees the value of multiple positions having the ability to attack the ball.

“We have a lot of people that are capable to score, and we have a more offensive mindset this year,” Moon said. “Rather than just our forwards scoring, we’ll have a lot more of our midfielders and maybe even outside backs scoring and assisting, so that’s exciting.”

Lenard said versatility is what makes the Bears dangerous, and that is the key to her game plan.

“We don’t want to be that team that’s easily marked, but rather be dangerous in all positions,” Lenard said. “It’s great if you have one kid scoring a bunch of goals, but honestly, it’s really difficult ... Then the opponent can come and put a couple players on them and take that one player out of the match.”

On paper, it’s simple: Score goals, win games. However,



**HUDDLE** Coach Lenard at the Baylor vs. Minnesota soccer game on Thursday, August 17. The Bears scored a late goal to secure a draw with the Golden Gophers at Betty Lou Mays Field. .

the act requires unity.

With 34 players on the roster, coherence is important, especially with all the new faces. Fifteen new players have been added to the squad — five transfers and 10 freshmen. The rest is composed of returners.

Among the veteran players, Moon leads the team at the top and emphasizes the importance of everyone being “on the same page,” working toward the same goal, literally and figuratively. Moon said the objective is obvious.

“We want to win the Big 12 — that’s our ultimate goal — and [to] get into [the] postseason,” Moon said. “All the younger people and transfers have bought into what Michelle [Lenard] is saying and what the captains are saying, and I think it is going really well.”

During their two exhibition games, the green and gold proved they not only believe in Lenard and her style of play but also have the ability to carry it out on the field. In both their 3-1 victory against Louisiana State University and 2-1 win at the University of Texas at San Antonio, the Bears capitalized by utilizing a variety of players in different types of positions.

Against an LSU defender, Ables claimed a goal along with senior midfielder Maddie Algysa and freshman forward Annika Fedell. Junior midfielder and DBU transfer Ashley Merrill buried

two in the back of the net against UTSA.

Additionally, the Bears were exposed to other teams’ approaches and systems.

“We got the opportunity to play against two different styles, two different systems,” Lenard said. “Really happy with both results, but more so happy with the team’s ability to problem solve and find ways to score goals in both games.”

Looking ahead, Baylor’s schedule is daunting, and that is no accident. Lenard said the team needs to be tested before conference play. With powerhouse soccer schools like the University of North Carolina and the University of Florida on the schedule, the Bears are slated for a challenge — one Ables said they embrace with confidence.

“I think these games are harder, but I think these are what’s going to best prepare us for games whenever we play harder teams, because we also have a very hard conference,” Ables said. “I think we’re going to be best equipped to start out the season than probably any of our other competitors.”

Baylor opens its season with a two-game home-stand, as its first opponent is the University of Minnesota at 7 p.m. on Thursday at Betty Lou Mays Field. Before hitting the road, the Bears have one more home match against the University of Wisconsin, set for 7 p.m. Sunday at Betty Lou Mays Field.

## Preseason polls serve as benchmark for No. 10 Baylor football squad

ANNAGRACE HALE  
Sports Writer

As football season quickly approaches, preseason rankings put Baylor at No. 10 in the nation in both the AP Top 25 and the coaches poll. This preseason mark serves as only a starting point for a Bears team that claimed a dramatic Big 12 Championship and a sweet Sugar Bowl victory last year.

“It’s the first time I’ve been ranked since I’ve been here, preseason,” fifth-year senior safety Christian Morgan said. “It’s good to be ranked, but it’s not really important in the grand scheme of things.”

Starting the 2021 season unranked and still finding great success, the Bears know this number will not determine the course of the upcoming season. Completing last season at No. 5, the highest finish in program history, the new preseason placement in the top 10 does not change the team’s main goals nor affect the work put in during practice.

Such is the case for sophomore defensive back AJ McCarty, as he said the probability of the green and gold climbing in positioning is high but that the squad is still finding its footing and building relationships before season play.

“I obviously believe that we have the ability to go all the way this year as long as we can connect,” McCarty said. “I’m not really looking into all

the rankings and all that right now because it would throw my mind off of what really matters. But — personal opinion — I think that [we] have a good push to be high this year.”

The last time Baylor was ranked in the preseason top 10 was in 2015, finding themselves at No. 4. Regardless of being included in the top 25 before play, the team changes and evolves each year. New talent rolls in, and old talent rolls out. This season is no exception.

“[Last season’s team and this season’s team] are completely different,” Morgan said. “We have our strengths and weaknesses. It really just depends on how much you work. Last year’s group really came in every day and worked. No, I’m not going to say this group is going to be better. We have to come in, and we have to work every day because we have high standards that we want to achieve.”

As head coach Dave Aranda’s team looks to suit up for the season, the polls serve only as a benchmark of outside perception. The coming weeks will give fans a better indication of what to expect on a game-to-game basis.

The Bears have a few more weeks until they play host to the University at Albany, with kickoff set for 6 p.m. on Sept. 3 at McLane Stadium. Live coverage will be available via Big 12 Now on ESPN+ or ESPN Central Texas 1660 AM radio.



**PRESEASON HYPE** Baylor football enters 2022 with sky-high expectations, as they rank number 10 in both the AP Top 25 and the USA Today Coaches Poll.

AP TOP 10 COLLEGE FOOTBALL POLL		
#1	ALABAMA SEC	
#2	OHIO STATE BIG TEN	
#3	GEORGIA SEC	
#4	CLEMSON ACC	
#5	NOTRE DAME IA INDEPENDENTS	
#6	TEXAS A&M SEC	
#7	UTAH PAC-12	
#8	MICHIGAN BIG 10	
#9	OKLAHOMA BIG 12	
#10	BAYLOR BIG 12	

## AVERI CARLSON

from Page B4

“She’s an incredible learner,” McGuyre said. “She’s open to change. She’s humble. Stress and pressure never get to her. And we’re going to have incredible consistency at setter.

The girls love her so much. For us that are more reserved and steady, to show glimpses of her goofiness makes it more enticing to be around.”

Senior outside hitter Lauren Harrison said age is the biggest difference between this year’s team and last year’s, but this freshman group

is looking strong so far. Before ever playing a true regular season game with her, Harrison gave Carlson her flowers.

“They’re all very talented to be so young,” Harrison said. “Averi is probably one of the best players I’ve played with, and she’s just a freshman.”

The team looks a lot different with eight freshmen and three seniors,

compared to the 2021 group that featured 11 seniors. However, the future of Baylor volleyball is in good hands with this new talented group of freshmen led by Carlson. She is a proven winner who has already earned respect and faith from her coaches and teammates.

“Obviously, I want to win a national

championship,” Carlson said. “But just making the team better is important to me.”

Baylor volleyball’s season begins at 4 p.m. on Aug. 26 at the Schollmaier Arena in Fort Worth. As part of the Big 10/Big 12 Challenge, Baylor will be facing off against the University of Minnesota.





Lariat File Photo

**ONCE A BEAR, ALWAYS A BEAR** Baylor is well represented in the NFL, thanks in part to six players being drafted in 2022, and each of them have a unique chance to make a name for themselves.

# What are they up to now? Update on newest Bears in NFL, 2022 outlook

With more players drafted to the NFL from Baylor than from any other school in Texas this offseason, here is an update on the Bears

**GIO GENNERO**  
Sports Writer

During the offseason, Baylor had six players drafted into the NFL — more players selected in this year’s draft than from any other school in Texas. With so many Bears turned pro, it can be hard to keep up with each of their journeys post-draft. To make it easy, here is an update on each draftee from this past summer.

The first from the green and gold taken off the board was safety Jalen Pitre who was picked 37th by the Houston Texans. The Houston native has reportedly been standing out in training camp and finished with four tackles and a tackle for a loss in his first game. Being a higher draft pick on a team that’s been struggling gives Pitre the unique chance to build a name for himself early on.

Not far behind Pitre, speed-threat wideout Tyquan Thornton was selected by the New England Patriots in the second round. He caught both passes thrown his way during his preseason debut, the first resulting in a touchdown. Being on the Patriots could go one of two ways for Thornton. The organization is great with player development, which could get Thornton to where he needs to be. However, playing for head coach Bill Belichick means a shorter leash, which could work against Thornton.

In the third round, the Los Angeles Chargers selected safety JT Woods, who almost had an interception in his first go at preseason action, but the interception was called back because of a teammate’s penalty. The defense that Woods was drafted to is absolutely stacked and gives him the best chance at early success in his career. With elite teammates like Khalil Mack, Derwin James Jr. and Joey Bosa wreaking havoc on opposing offenses, it’ll create a lot of opportunities for the ball hawk in Woods.

Another third rounder was linebacker Terrell Bernard, who was taken by the Buffalo Bills. Bernard came away with a huge “scoop and score” fumble recovery that he took 69 yards to the house for the first touchdown of the game. Bernard is also now running with a solid defense; if he can make a starting role quickly, he’ll be in solid hands.

The next guy embodies “once a Bear, always a Bear”: In the sixth round, running back Tresten

Ebner learned he would be taking his talents to the Chicago Bears. In Ebner’s first look of the preseason, he showed his versatility when he got touches on the ground, special teams and through the air. This is where he shines; his versatility as a receiving back and great returner will give teams plenty of reasons to keep him around.

Cornerback Kalon Barnes was taken in the seventh round by the Carolina Panthers, allowing Barnes to reunite with former Baylor head coach Matt Rhule. His connection to Rhule and the lack of consistency from the Panther’s defense means more opportunities for Barnes to prove himself in the league if he can outwork the other defensive backs on his team.

Running back Abram Smith went undrafted, but he later signed to the New Orleans Saints as a free agent. Smith ran well in his preseason opener but unfortunately turned the ball over after fumbling. Being undrafted, he will have an uphill battle to earn his spot, but the converted linebacker will be making waves.

Big 12 Championship hero and defensive back Jairon McVea signed to the defending Super Bowl champs: the Los Angeles Rams. He is currently fighting for a spot on the depth chart, but if he is as locked in as he was in the “McPlay,” then I’m sure he can make it happen.

Current senior safety Christian Morgan said watching the former Bears in the big leagues is inspiring and motivating not only to himself but also to the whole team.

“It was crazy,” Morgan said. “Coach Aranda put them up in a team meeting. He showed us the guys making plays. He basically showed us where those guys came from and said, ‘Keep on grinding, because if you keep on grinding, this is where it can take you.’ It was pretty eye-opening to see.”

Sophomore defensive back AJ McCarty echoed Morgan’s thoughts, as he said seeing guys from last year already doing great things is “inspirational.”

“It’s really inspirational, especially since preseason just started, so they’re all out there making plays,” McCarty said. “To think they were on our team last year, it’s pretty cool, seeing them be able to thrive, rise up, play in the league and make plays.”

2022 VOLLEYBALL

SCHEDULE

AUG.

17 GREEN vs. GOLD

20 TEXAS A&M (EXH)

26 MINNESOTA FORT WORTH, TEXAS

27 WISCONSIN FORT WORTH, TEXAS

SEPT.

1 PEPPERDINE

2 SAN DIEGO ST. MALIBU, CALIF.

3 UCSB MALIBU, CALIF.

8 COLORADO ST.

10 ARIZONA ST.

10 EVANSVILLE

13 NORTH TEXAS

15 TULSA

16 SAM HOUSTON

16 MCNEESE ST.

21 TCU\*

28 IOWA ST.\*

OCT.

1 KANSAS\*

5 OKLAHOMA\*

8 WEST VIRGINIA\*

12 RICE

15 TEXAS\*

19 TEXAS TECH\*

22 KANSAS ST.\*

26 OKLAHOMA\*

29 WEST VIRGINIA\*

NOV.

2 TEXAS TECH\*

5 KANSAS\*

12 TCU\*

16 IOWA ST.\*

19 TEXAS\*

26 KANSAS ST.\*

\*BIG 12 MATCH

HOME

AWAY

2022 BAYLOR SOCCER

SCHEDULE

Aug 11 // LSU // 7:00PM

Aug 14 // AT UTSA // 7:00PM

Aug 18 // Minnesota // 7:00PM

Aug 21 // Wisconsin // 7:00PM

Aug 25 // Florida // 4:00PM

Aug 28 // N. Carolina // 12:00PM

Sept 1 // AT Houston // 7:00PM

Sept 4 // Iowa // 7:00PM

Sept 8 // AT San Francisco // 6:00PM

Sept 11 // AT Gonzaga // 1:00PM

Sept 18 // AT SMU // 7:00PM

Sept 23 // Oklahoma\* // 7:00PM

Sept 30 // AT Texas\* // 7:00PM

Oct 6 // Kansas\* // 7:00PM

Oct 9 // Kansas St.\* // 1:00PM

Oct 13 // AT Iowa St.\* // 6:00PM

Oct 16 // AT W. Virginia\* // 2:00PM

Oct 20 // AT TX Tech\* // 7:00PM

Oct 23 // TCU\* // 1:00PM

Oct 27 // Oklahoma St.\* // 7:00PM

Oct 30 - Nov 6 // Big 12 Championship

\*Big 12 Conference Match // Home Matches in Bold // All dates and times subject to change. All times Central

## SOCCKER OPENER

from Page B4

offensive system that clicked.

“Fresh legs helped,” Lenard said. “But I think just finding players who could get on the ball and have some composure and find a simple pass helped us to get into the way we want to play, which I think led to the goal.”

The players who capitalize on building momentum came from the bench. Sophomore forward Haven Terry and freshman forward Skye Leach connected in the final third. Leach split Minnesota’s backline, leading Terry to goal, curving the ball around the Gopher goalkeeper and into the back of the net.

“I mean it was awesome because I kind of had to play underdog, honestly, because I was on the bench,” Terry said. “I got put in for the last 15 minutes, and I feel like I made a change.”

Baylor remained on the attack, looking for a potential winning goal.

As the clock wound down, there were glimpses of greatness. Junior Gabby Mueller created chances in the midfield, faking out defenders while some other good connections came from senior forward Elizabeth Kooiman and junior midfielder Sarah Hornyak, who crashed the box, searching for goals.

Time was not in the Bears’ favor, and despite good chances, due to a new NCAA rule ending regular season games at the end of regulation

time, the match ended in a draw.

“We want to be applying the pressure,” Lenard said. “When we did that, we took over the momentum of the game. It just [took] too long for that to happen, and we weren’t able to string together long enough moments. I think that is [the] new system: new team and a lot of young players on the field.”

Baylor finishes out its two-game home-stand against Wisconsin at 7 p.m. at Betty Lou Mays Field. Lenard and the squad will look to use Thursday’s draw as a stepping stone in order to get in the win column.

“Hopefully we can build off of this and have a little more established periods of that type of play in the next game,” Lenard said.

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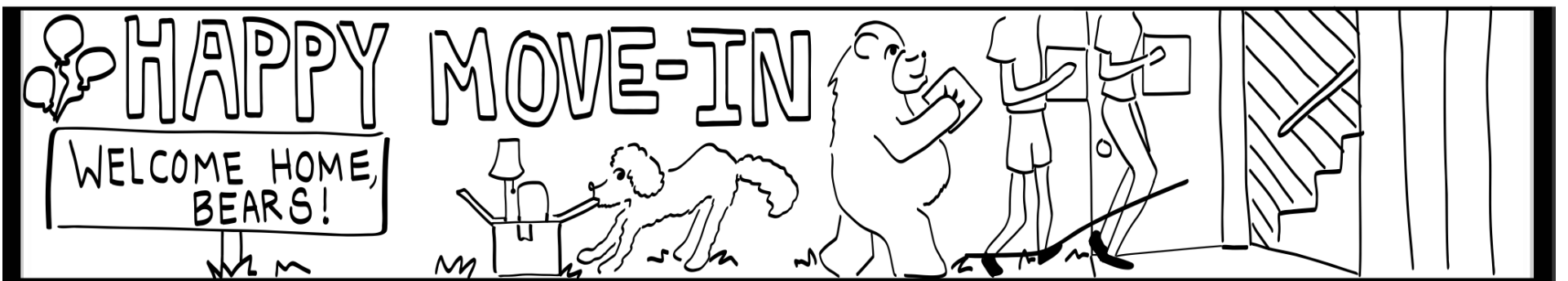
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