



**BAYLOR "B"**  
ASSOCIATION

**2022 Board of Directors  
Reference Guide**



# WALTER ABERCROMBIE

Executive Director

Football 1978 - 1981

Walter Abercrombie is currently the Executive Director of the "B" Association and an Associate Athletics Director at Baylor University. His responsibilities include providing overall leadership & guidance in the association, directing day-to-day operations, and coordinating fundraising. Abercrombie has served on several Head Coach hiring committees while at Baylor, and in 2020 was appointed by the Baylor Board of Regents to the Commission on Historic Campus Representation, serving as co-chair. He also currently serves as a board member for Baylor Scott & White Hillcrest Baptist Medical Center.

## Background & Family

Born and raised in Waco, Texas, Abercrombie attended University High School where he excelled in football. Today, Walter and his wife Kim reside in Waco. Together they have four children — Wesley, Warren, Ryann, & Peyton.



## Baylor & Education

Abercrombie was an All-American & three-time All-Southwest Conference football player between 1978 & 1981. As a team captain & four-year starter, he helped lead the Bears to a conference championship in 1980 & two post-season bowl appearances. After retiring from pro football, Abercrombie returned to Baylor to graduate with a BS degree in Education & he earned an MS degree in Athletic Administration from Baylor University's School of Education.

## Life after Baylor



Following his playing career at Baylor, he was selected as the 12th overall pick in the first round of the 1982 NFL Draft. Abercrombie went on to an eight-year pro career, playing with the Pittsburgh Steelers & the Philadelphia Eagles. After receiving his Masters, Abercrombie began his second career as an academic advisor on Baylor's Athletic Academic Support staff in 1992. In 1995, Abercrombie received the NFL's first Fellowship in Athletics Administration. He left Baylor to begin the fellowship assignment at the American Football Coaches Association as Director of Education & Special Projects. There, he teamed up with his former college football coach, the legendary Grant Teaff. Abercrombie returned to Baylor in 2004, after being hired as the "B" Association's first full-time Executive Director.



# TAMMY HARDIN

## Associate Director of Operations

Tammy is currently the Associate Director of Operations for the Baylor "B" Association where she manages office and accounting procedures for the association, as well as maintenance of the Letterwinners Lounge. She also heads up planning for letterwinner events, assists with alumni recognitions, and has served in this capacity since 2007.

### Background & Family

Tammy was born in Waco but grew up moving all over Texas with her family before settling back down in Waco her freshman year of high school. She graduated from University High where she was very involved with theatre arts & cheerleading. Tammy is the mother of two sons, Justin (30) & Chase (27). She is also a really cool grandmother (Gigi) to Anthony, Aryana, and Christian.



### Baylor & Education

Tammy did not attend Baylor but was honored to be awarded "Baylor Alumni by Choice" in 2009. She was nominated by Dutch Schroeder, which made the award even more special to her. Also, in 2017, Tammy was especially honored to be awarded an Honorary Membership in the Baylor "B" Association by its Board of Directors. So, while never having attended Baylor (to-date) she could not feel more a part of the Baylor family. After raising her children and while working full-time at Baylor, Tammy did return to school to complete her degree and earned a B.A.A.S. in Business from Tarleton State in 2017.

### Career & Life



Before coming to Baylor, Tammy received several years of municipal experience from her time working at City Hall for the City of Woodway as an accounts payable specialist, as well as prior administrative experience working for Waco ISD.



# RANDY MARTIN

## President

Athletic Trainer 1973 - 1975

After retiring in 2019, Randy Martin and his wife moved to Waco where he has been volunteering his time through Baylor's athletic department. He cannot express how excited he is to be a part of this Letterwinners group and how much he is looking forward to working with all the board members this year.

## Background & Family

Martin is from San Antonio, Texas where he attended Robert E. Lee HS. His parents, A.J. & Marianne Martin met at Baylor. Martin's father played baseball & football at Baylor from 1948-1951. Martin and his wife, Pam, have one daughter who lives in Dallas with her husband. They have 3 grandchildren-- Madeline, Jack, & Claire. Claire's first word was "Baylor"--so they may have a good shot at a 4th generation attending Baylor.



## Baylor & Education

Martin went to Baylor to play baseball, but during fall baseball 1972, he tore his ACL. While in the training room, Martin got to know then head trainer Skip Cox. Skip got together with Dutch Schroeder & Jack Patterson, & they offered him a full scholarship with Skip training him how to run the Equipment Room. For the next 3-1/2 years, Martin was the Equipment Coordinator. He graduated with a double major in Management & Marketing.

## Life after Baylor



Martin worked in his family business from 1976 to 2019. After his father passed away, he became President & CEO of Programme Martin, Inc. It was a very small company that did personalized custom closets for clients worldwide. Martin was fortunate to get to do the closets in the White House for President George W. and Laura Bush, and each time a new President comes into office, they have adjusted the closets to meet their needs. He did this for the Obamas, the Trumps, and the Bidens. Other clients include Lee Iacocca, Carl Lewis, Mary Lou Retton, Dr. Denton Cooley, Hakeem Olajuwon, David Robinson, Doc Rivers, Jeff Bagwell, Craig Biggio, Glenn Frey with the Eagles, and Barbara Streisand, just to name a few.



# JON TOPOLSKI

President-Elect

Baseball 1996 - 1999

Jon Topolski and his wife live in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where Topolski runs an independent financial advisory office serving clients throughout Texas, Oklahoma, and several other states.

## Background & Family

Topolski was born in Indiana, but his family moved to Houston in 1978 where he later attended Cypress Creek H.S. Topolski's parents still live in the house he was raised in. Although he and his wife don't live in Texas anymore, and in fact, he married an Okie, they bring their three daughters (10, 8 and 2) to as many games as their activities will allow. Topolski has turned his wife into a fan & his daughters bleed green & gold.



## Baylor & Education

Topolski grew up Catholic & Baylor was the last place that he thought that he would go. He was headed to Notre Dame academically, but still wanted to play baseball, if possible. Topolski got an offer to come to Baylor because of one play. Literally, one play. The coaches weren't even at that specific game to recruit him. He wanted to go to Notre Dame, but God wanted him at Baylor. He was offered room & books to come to Baylor and he knew that is where God wanted him to be. Topolski met some amazing people & has been proud to call himself a Baylor Bear ever since. He finished his eligibility in 1999 but graduated with a double major in Finance & Financial Service/Planning in the fall of 2000.



## Life after Baylor



Topolski had the opportunity to play professional baseball after Baylor in the Houston Astros organization. He was drafted in 1999 and played one short season & five full seasons in the minor leagues before retiring from baseball and beginning his current career in financial planning and asset advisement. Topolski started at UBS in the Woodlands, TX before leaving for an independent financial advisory firm named Vineyard Financial Group, outside of Tulsa, OK, where he currently serves as the President of the organization.



# MIKE SIMS

Vice President

Athletic Trainer 1979 - 1980

Mike Sims currently lives in Hewitt, Texas and is working as the Manager of Sports Medicine at Southwest Sports Medicine and Orthopedics in Waco.

## Background & Family

Sims was born and raised in Cedar Hill, Texas, where he served as a student trainer at Cedar Hill High School, graduating in 1975. Sims, his wife, son, and daughter are all Baylor graduates.



## Baylor & Education

Sims has a Bachelor of Science in Education from Baylor University and a Master of Science in Physical Education from Baylor University. A fun fact about Sims is that he attended 486 consecutive Baylor Football Games in his 42 years working at Baylor.

## Life after Baylor



Following graduation, Sims was hired as Baylor head trainer Skip Cox's assistant in 1981. In 1984, Sims became Baylor's Head Trainer and was promoted to Director of Sports Medicine in 1993. He was promoted to Assistant Athletics Director in 2006 and Associate A.D. in 2015. He retired from Baylor in 2017 and began working at Southwest Sports Medicine and Orthopedics. He has won various awards and achievements for his work in his field and is nationally recognized.





**PHIL  
DUREN**  
Treasurer  
Track 1966

Phil Duren currently lives in Goldthwaite, Texas. He and his wife own a ranch near Mullin, Texas that has facilities for weddings, reunions, and other events.

## Background & Family

Duren is originally from Goldthwaite, Texas where he attended Goldthwaite High School. In 1978, Duren married his wife Sherill. They have 4 daughters and 9 grandchildren.



## Baylor & Education

Duren ran cross country and track (half mile and mile) for Coach Clyde Hart. In 1972, Duren graduated from Baylor with his BBA with a concentration in management.

## Life after Baylor



His post-Baylor career saw Duren working in the banking business in Waco, Fort Worth, Arlington, Goldthwaite, and Evant. He retired from FirstCity Financial in 2014. He has served as the "B" Association Treasurer since 2016. Duren was the first representative for the "B" Association to serve on the Baylor Board of Regents.



# CODY CARLSON

Past President

Football 1983 - 1986

Cody Carlson currently lives in Waco, Texas with his family where he works as a business development and communications specialist in the healthcare business development space. He served as the President of the "B" Association for the 2021 Board of Directors and is currently the Past President.

## Background & Family

Carlson is from San Antonio, Texas, where he attended Winston Churchill High School. Carlson and his wife Barbara have three children: Anna & Micah (twins) and Isaac.



## Baylor & Education

As quarterback, he guided the Bears to three bowl games and was named MVP of the team's Liberty Bowl victory over LSU in 1985. A two-time All-Southwest Conference selection, Carlson was named to Baylor's 1980-1989 All-Decade Team, and was also honored as the SWC's Outstanding Player of the 1980's. Carlson graduated in 1986 with his BBA in Marketing.



## Life after Baylor



Drafted by Houston in the third round of the 1987 NFL draft, his post-Baylor career saw seven seasons in the NFL as a quarterback for the Houston Oilers, passing for 4,469 yards and 21 TDs. Carlson was inducted into the Baylor Athletic Hall of Fame in 2000. Following his NFL retirement, Carlson began his career in healthcare, previously working to represent clients before the Texas State Legislature and as a communications coordinator at a children's hospital.





# DUSTY SANDERSON

**Executive VP Emeritus**

Athletic Trainer 1976 - 1979

Dusty Sanderson currently lives in Amarillo, Texas with his wife where he works in the Oil and Gas Industry.

## Background & Family

Sanderson is originally from Amarillo, Texas where he attended Tascosa High School. Dusty is married with two grown sons. He has one daughter-in-law & one granddaughter.



## Baylor & Education

Sanderson was a student trainer from 1974-1979 at Baylor. He graduated in 1979 with a Bachelor of Arts in Biology.

## Life after Baylor



Sanderson has owned and operated his own oil and gas properties business for the past 38 years and is a member of the American Association of Petroleum Landmen. He served as the "B" Association's Regent representative from 2017 - 2020 and was selected as the Association's Executive Vice President Emeritus for the Board of Directors in 2021.



# KEN COOPER

Director

Football 1970

Ken Cooper has been a custom home builder and land developer in and around Waco since 1983 and is currently developing two new subdivisions in West Waco and Lorena.

## Background & Family

Cooper is originally from Dallas, Texas, where he attended Woodrow Wilson High School. He met his wife, Debbie Davis Cooper, at Baylor in Sophomore English in the Armstrong Browning Library. Together they have 3 sons who all graduated from Baylor, and a daughter who slipped away to Texas Tech.



## Baylor & Education

Cooper started as Baylor quarterback on the Freshman Team in Fall of 1970. He followed his brother, Randy Cooper, who was a three-year starter for the Bears from 1968-1970. The first day of practices in 1971 we had to run the Bear Mile, and Cooper beat Godfrey White to the finish line. He helped Roger Goree and Derrel Luce become All Americans by providing a "perfect picture" in practice for the next three years. Cooper graduated in Spring of 1974 with a BBA, major in Marketing. He received his MBA at the end of summer 1975.



## Life after Baylor



Cooper and his Baylor teammates are still close friends over 50 years later, and he is proud to have participated with Tommy Turnipseede, Steve Swinney, Bubba Hicks, Neal Jeffrey, Randy Martin & others that continue to get together because of the "B" Association.



# MARTY CRAWFORD

## Director

Baseball 1993 - 1996

Marty Crawford currently serves as an officer with the Texas School Alliance, a member of both the Legislative Committee for the Texas Association of School Administrators and the Legislative Council with the University Interscholastic League, and as ex-officio and advisor to the Mentoring Alliance with operations in Tyler and Waco.

## Background & Family

Born in Post, TX and raised in the East Texas towns of Lindale and Carthage, he played his prep baseball career at Grand Prairie High School for Baylor grad & Texas High School Hall of Fame coach Mike McGilvray. Crawford & his wife of 25 years, Alanna, are proud parents of three children: daughters, Ashton and A.J., and son, Jackson, who is currently a junior at Baylor.



## Baylor & Education

Crawford lettered 4 years from 1993-96 for coaches Mickey Sullivan & Steve Smith, while also taking classes from Dutch Schroeder. Crawford holds a Bachelor of Education from Baylor University, a Master of Education from The University of Oklahoma, and Doctor of Educational Administration from Texas A&M-Commerce.



## Life after Baylor



Crawford's post-Baylor career saw two years in the Philadelphia Phillies minor league system before choosing K-12 education as his profession. He worked in Highland Park and Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISDs as a teacher and coach; as Hillcrest High School principal in Dallas ISD; superintendent of schools in West ISD; and since 2014, superintendent of the 18,000+ student Tyler ISD. In addition, Crawford was inducted into the Baylor Athletic Hall of Fame in the Class of 2008.



# ANGELIQUE CUNNINGHAM

Director

Track 1997 - 1999

Angelique Cunningham and her family currently reside in Dripping Springs, Texas, where she is actively a private coach.

## Background & Family

Cunningham grew up in The Hague, The Netherlands, where she graduated from IMC Academy in Rijswijk, The Netherlands. Her husband is Track and Field letterman, Jeffrey Cunningham, who served on the "B" Association Board for 5 years. Their daughter Mackenzie is a junior at Dripping Springs HS and hopes to attend Baylor University.



## Baylor & Education

After winning the Dutch 200m track and field title, Cunningham came to Baylor on a track and field scholarship. Angelique became a 5-time NCAA All-American, 1998 Big XII Champion and 1998 NCAA Champion in her time as a Bear. Baylor's 1998 NCAA 4 x 400m relay team was the first Women's National Championship in Baylor Athletic department history. She held the Big XII Outdoor 4x400m relay record for 15 years, held the Dutch National record for 18 years, and still holds the Baylor school record. Cunningham graduated with honors from Baylor in 2000 with a double major in marketing and international business and a minor in German. Cunningham is fluent in five languages.



## Life after Baylor



Since her time at Baylor, Cunningham has served on the Board of Trustees, served as Athletic Director, and Coached track for 12 years at Austin St. Michael's Catholic Academy where they won three team state championships, and coached 39 state champions who broke 11 state records. In addition, she coached former BU cornerback Jameson Houston.



# CHRIS DULL

Director

Football 1991 - 1994

Chris Dull recently partnered with private equity firm Thompson Street Capital Partners to acquire Freddy's Frozen Custard and Steakburgers, a four-hundred-and-fifty-unit quick service chain based in Wichita, Kansas. Dull now serves Freddy's as CEO. Well respected in the restaurant and franchise industry, he is a frequent speaker / panelist at conferences and forums. He has also served on multiple industry & non-profit boards.

## Background & Family

Chris Dull is married and has two children.



## Baylor & Education

Dull graduated from Baylor University (in 1995 with a BS in education) where he was a four-year letter winner (91-94) and captain for the Baylor Bear football team (93).

## Life after Baylor



Dull started his career at an entry level position with Marble Slab Creamery, Inc., where he quickly rose through management. In 2007, as Executive Vice President, he led the brand through a go-public sale to NexCen Brands for \$21 million. Dull then became President of NexCen Franchise Management. When NexCen Brands was acquired by Global Franchise Group (GFG) in 2010, Chris set his sights on maximizing the potential of the company's most promising concepts in the QSR space as President & CEO. Today, Global Franchise Group has a portfolio of six brands. Chris is credited with creating its multi-branded platform, vertically integrating the company's manufacturing business & adding a corporate store vertical to the GFG business with the 2014 acquisition of Hot Dog on a Stick & the acquisition of Round Table Pizza in 2017. Dull championed the successful sale of Global Franchise Group from Levine Leichtman Capital Partners to Lion Capital LLP and Serruya Private Equity.





# NICK FLORENCE

Director

Football 2009 - 2012

Nick Florence currently serves in the Bear Foundation as Associate Athletics Director for Major Gifts, where he oversees capital projects and leadership gifts. He joined Baylor University Development in 2013 following a successful Baylor football career. He also oversees athletics fundraising efforts for the Baylor University Give Light campaign, which announced the largest current gift in university history in May 2019.

## Background & Family

A Dallas, Texas, native, Florence attended South Garland High School in Garland, Texas. Florence is married to the former Rachel Scott, who is also a Baylor graduate.



## Baylor & Education

An All-American quarterback for the Bears, Florence set Baylor's single-game & single-season passing yards records. He was named Big 12 Scholar-Athlete of the Year and a first-team Academic All-American following his senior season, when he capped his career off with a win over No. 17 UCLA in the 2012 Holiday Bowl. Florence earned a BBA in economics from Baylor in 2011, and he completed an MBA at BU in 2013.

## Life after Baylor



Post-Baylor, Florence climbed from a graduate intern in University Development in 2013 to his current role as Associate AD for Major Gifts, which he assumed in June 2019. His first full-time position at Baylor was as Assistant Director of Development in 2014, and he was elevated to Director of Development for Athletics later that year.





# TIM JACKSON

Director

Baseball 2006 - 2007

Tim Jackson currently resides in Round Rock, Texas where he is entering his 12th year with the Round Rock Express and 7th year as the team's General Manager.

## Background & Family

Jackson is originally from Cedar Hill, Texas where he attended Cedar Hill High School. He has been married to Patty Jackson (BS, Education, '08) since 2012 and together they have two daughters, Emma (4) and Audrey (1).



## Baylor & Education

Jackson played two seasons for Baylor Baseball (2006, 2007). A 2007 team co-captain, Jackson was named second-team CoSIDA/ESPN Academic All-District VI as a senior. He also earned first-team Academic All-Big 12 Conference honors in 2007 and was named to the Big 12 Conference Commissioner's Honor Roll five times. While obtaining his Master's he served as the Director of Operations for Baylor Baseball (2008, 2009). Jackson has his BS, Communications (2008) and MEd, Sport Management (2009).

## Life after Baylor



His post-Baylor career saw Jackson joining the front office of the Round Rock Express Baseball Team - Triple-A for the Texas Rangers.



# ZONA JONES

Director

Football 1985

Zona Jones currently splits his time between Waco and Beaumont, Texas, as a board-certified trial lawyer practicing in the areas of personal injury, commercial and consumer class action litigation. He is a partner at Harrison Davis Morrison Jones P.C. Jones is also member of the Country Music Association (CMA) and the Academy of Country Music (ACM). Bilingual in Spanish, Jones is a member of the State Bar of Texas, the District of Columbia Bar Association, Texas Trial Lawyers Association (where he has served as a director), the Jefferson County Bar Association and the McLennan County Bar Association.

## Background & Family

Jones is a 5th generation Texan. Jones moved with his family from West Texas to South Florida where his dad worked for Shelton Ranches. Jones graduated from Clewiston High School in Clewiston, Florida in June, 1981.



## Baylor & Education

He enrolled at Baylor in the fall of 1981 where he played for Coach Teaff until multiple knee injuries ended his playing days during his junior year. He completed his BBA degree at Baylor in 1985. He went on to attend St. Mary's University School of Law in San Antonio, Texas, where he graduated in May of 1989.



## Life after Baylor



Prior to joining Harrison Davis, Jones was a partner at Provost & Umphrey. He practiced law with legendary Baylor trial lawyer, Walter Umphrey, for more than 18 years. Over the course of his legal career, Jones has been involved in and handled several significant, high profile product liability cases. These include representing multiple victims in the explosion of the BP refinery in Texas City, Texas, over 300 people injured/killed by defective surgical sutures, over 500 injured by defective hip implants, and others.



# STEVEN LANG

## Director

Track 1974 - 1976

Steve Lang is currently retired and resides in Kingsland, TX. He is very excited about this opportunity to work with the Baylor "B" Association Board of Directors.

## Background & Family

Lang was born in Abilene, TX and raised in Odessa, TX. He graduated from Odessa Permian High School in 1972 where he played basketball & ran track. He has been married to Jill Lang since 1995. Lang has two children from his first marriage & both children and their spouses are Baylor graduates. Lang also has two stepsons from his current marriage & both are UT graduates.



## Baylor & Education

Lang attended Baylor University on a Track & Field scholarship from 1973-1976, running for Coach Clyde Hart. He was the first in his family to earn a college degree, so the opportunity to attend Baylor was very special. He received a BS in Education in 1976 and an MS in Education in 1978, both from Baylor. Lang was a four-year letter winner in Track, running on the sprint & mile relay, as well as other individual sprint events. His mile relay team made the NCAA Finals in 1974, 1975, and 1976. Lang's mile relay teammates and himself believe they started the tradition of quarter-miler "U" at Baylor.

## Life after Baylor



After graduating from Baylor, Lang was a High School teacher and coach for five years (1978-1982). He spent two years at Galena Park HS (Jr. Varsity Football and Head Track Coach) & three years at Klein HS (Freshmen Football and Head Track Coach). In 1982, Lang completed a BS degree in Applied Mathematics from University of Houston and changed careers to Information Technology (IT). He worked in various roles within IT at a few different companies in Houston and Singapore from 1984 until 2020.



# DONNIE LAURENCE, JR.

Director

Football 1992 - 1995

Donnie Laurence, Jr. currently resides in San Antonio, Texas. In 2019, he formed a partnership with Stone Oak Wealth Management in San Antonio, TX creating an independent financial advisory firm. For the past two years Stone Oak Wealth Management was recognized by the San Antonio Business Journal as one of the fastest growing companies in the region.

## Background & Family

Laurence was born in Mt. Pleasant, Texas. He was a 4-sport athlete at Kerrville Tivy High School in Kerrville, TX. He was coached by his father, Donnie Laurence, Sr., who is also a Baylor Letterwinner. Laurence and his wife, Jill, have two sons and two daughters. Their daughter, Morgan, just began working in Baylor's Student Athlete Center for Excellence as the Assistant Character Formation Coordinator.



## Baylor & Education

Laurence was recruited by Grant Teaff and Cotton Davidson as a middle linebacker. He was a 4-year Letterwinner for the football team and played one year of baseball. In the 1993 game vs. UT, Donnie played 3 different positions: H back, Full back & Tail back. Laurence was Academic All- Conference in 1995 & 1996. In 1996, he graduated with a BS in Education-Mathematics & Kinesiology. Dutch Schroeder taught several of his classes. Laurence then earned a post-graduate scholarship from the NCAA that allowed him to obtain his master's degree in Education Administration in 1998.



## Life after Baylor



Following graduation, Laurence was hired in San Antonio, Texas as a teacher & coach at Churchill High School. He coached varsity football/track & freshman basketball. After opening San Antonio Reagan High School in 1999, He leveraged his mathematics degree & entered the financial industry. Laurence has enjoyed a 22+ year career in the financial services industry. He was able to achieve premier advisor status at the following companies: UBS, Wells Fargo Advisors, and Raymond James.



# KING MCCLURE

Director

Basketball 2016 - 2019

King McClure is currently in his second year as an ESPN Basketball Analyst.

## Background & Family

Valedictorian of his high school class at Triple A Academy in Dallas, Texas, McClure was the No. 5-ranked recruit in Texas in 2015.



## Baylor & Education

McClure graduated from Baylor in December 2018 with a degree in health, kinesiology and leisure studies. He played four years for Coach Drew. Before he left the university following the spring of 2019 semester, Baylor Coach Drew sat down and talked with him about a potential career in broadcasting.

## Life after Baylor



Fresh out of Baylor, McClure served as an ESPN college basketball analyst during the 2019-20 season. When he learned that his first ESPN+ streamed broadcast would be Baylor's season opener against Central Arkansas on Nov. 5, 2019, McClure felt a great sense of relief because he was teamed with John Morris. McClure still harbored ambitions of trying to make an NBA roster but went the analyst route due to a pre-existing heart condition.





# ALICE MELENDEZ

## Director

Basketball 1974 - 1975

Alice Melendez moved to Waco in January 2022 from Houston, Texas. Melendez loves spending her time reading and playing golf.

## Background & Family

Melendez grew up in Waco where she attended Waco High School, Class of 1972.



## Baylor & Education

Melendez played three sports during her time at Baylor: Softball 1971-1975, Basketball 1973 -1974, and Track 1973. She feels fortunate that an athlete could play multiple sports. This experience really helped later in her coaching career. Melendez holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Baylor University in 1975 and a Master of Education from Grand Canyon University in 2011.

## Life after Baylor



After Baylor, Melendez taught for 27 years at St. Agnes Academy (a college preparatory school) where she coached Cross Country and Track & Field, and taught Health & Physical Education. She also served as the Sports Information Director and the Assistant Athletic Director. She then worked for 15 years at Houston ISD where she taught Health & Physical Education and coached Tennis, Golf, and Volleyball.





# JORDAN OESTREICH

Director

Softball 2012 - 2015

Jordan Oestreich, formally Jordan Strickland, now works for Baylor in the Alumni Engagement department handling various traditions and alumni programs. It is a blast – she loves it!

## Background & Family

Oestreich is from Princeton, Texas and had the privilege of being on the Baylor softball team for four years, 2011-2015. She is recently married to her very best friend, Andrew, and they live in Woodway with their sweet Golden Retriever, Tucker.



## Baylor & Education

Oestreich graduated from Baylor with her bachelor's degree in Communication in December 2014 and finished her master's degree in Sport Management in May 2016. Her favorite memory from playing for Baylor softball was finishing 3rd at the World Series in 2014. Baylor had an incredible team that year and pulled off the largest WCWS comeback victory, against Kentucky. Down 7-0 in the bottom of the 6th inning with 2 outs, they came back and won in extra innings.

## Life after Baylor



Oestreich lived in Dallas for a few years after graduation and decided it was time to come back home to Waco in the fall of 2019. Her and her husband are members at Harris Creek Baptist Church and think the world of their community here.



# ALONZO PIERCE

Director

Football 1988 - 1991

Alonzo Pierce owns and operates several businesses in healthcare and digital mining, all of which have allowed him to give back, whether through employment or meeting the needs of the less fortunate. His journey continues as his new ambition is to receive a Master of Divinity and Doctorate in Theology.

## Background & Family

Pierce is originally from San Francisco, California. He moved to Houston, Texas, where he graduated high school from Jack Yates Sr High in the 3rd Ward area in 1987. Pierce is married with a family and resides in Cypress, Tx. He attends Church Without Walls where the Pastor is Reverend Ralph West.



## Baylor & Education

Pierce received a football scholarship to attend Baylor & graduated with a BA in Telecommunication. Having a chance to attend Baylor allowed him the opportunity to learn many more values that were learned outside of his mother's home that he still cherishes to this day. Many brotherly bonds were built, and accountability was taught by the coaches at Baylor, and especially by Coach Grant Teaff.



## Life after Baylor



The best way to describe Pierce is that he has a giraffe size heart. He believes you must pour yourself into others which allows them to grow; you must love your neighbors even when you shouldn't; you have to be grateful for what you have and who you are; do good before you can do great. All these values are what he leans on to become as great as he can be until it's time for him to receive his imperishable person.



# KATIE SMITH

Director

Volleyball 2014 - 2017

Katie Smith currently lives in Waco, TX and is the Director of Business Operations for Baylor's Athletic Department.

## Background & Family

Katie Smith is from Plano, Texas & attended Prestonwood Christian Academy. Her and her husband, Chase, met in the MBA Program at Baylor after he graduated from Baylor Law School and married in March of 2020. They love calling Waco home and are expecting their first child in June of 2022!



## Baylor & Education

Katie tore her ACL her freshman year, so she stayed through her red shirt senior year. Her undergraduate degree was a BBA in Business (Sport Sponsorship & Sales). Smith stayed for her MBA during her 5th year of playing Volleyball. Katie absolutely loved her time as a student-athlete at Baylor. She is thankful for how her teammates, coaches, administrators, professors, and others in the Baylor community invested in her during her time as a student-athlete to help her grow in so many ways - specifically in her faith and education!



## Life after Baylor



Following graduation from Baylor, Katie began working in her current role at Baylor.



# DON TRULL

Director

Football 1961 - 1963

Don Trull is now retired and is living in Missouri City, Texas.

## Background & Family

Trull attended Southeast High School in Oklahoma City. Trull has been married 59 years to Judy Copple Trull (attended Baylor) and they have three daughters, all of which are Baylor graduates. They have nine grandkids (7 girls, 2 boys). Of the grandchildren, three attended Baylor, one attended UT, one attended TCU, one attended OK State, one attended Texas A&M, one attended TX State, and one is at Ridgepoint HS. He has one great granddaughter.



## Baylor & Education

Passing for more than 4,000 yards and 27 touchdowns in his collegiate career, Trull left an indelible mark on the Baylor record books while becoming the school's first-ever NFF National Scholar-Athlete. A 1963 First-Team All-American and First-Team All-SWC selection, Trull led the nation in touchdowns & passing yards his senior season. He was a two-time winner of the Sammy Baugh Award for leading the country in completions (1962, 1963), & he finished fourth in Heisman Trophy voting as a senior. Trull became Baylor's first two-time First-Team Academic All-American honoree in 1962 & 1963 as well as the school's first NFF National Scholar-Athlete (1963). Trull led the Bears to the 1961 Gotham Bowl & the 1963 Bluebonnet Bowl under coach John Bridges. He earned his BA in Math with a minor in Biology from Baylor, & was awarded the Earl Blaik Award for Graduate Study while attending law school from 1964-65 at South Texas College of Law.

## Life after Baylor



Drafted by both the Houston Oilers and Baltimore Colts, Trull played six years in the AFL and NFL with the Oilers and Boston Patriots and also played in the Canadian Football League, the World Football League and even one game in the Continental Football League. Following his pro ball career, Trull worked as the Freshman Team Head Coach for the University of Arkansas before transitioning to the business world. His many other roles have included serving as President for the NFF Touchdown Club of Houston Chapter, NFL Alumni Director, vice chairman of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, and as a member of the Fort Bend County Water Board of Directors. Trull is a Baylor Hall of Fame inductee, and he was named to the school's all-decade team. In 2013, he was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame.



# CAROL WOLFE

Director

Volleyball 1998 - 2001

Carol Wolfe currently works at ExxonMobil where she is the Chemical Plant HR Manager. She and her husband love God, America, and all things travel. They are members of First Baptist Church of Zachary where Tyler serves on the security team, Wolfe serves in the children's ministry and coaches Upward basketball. You will find the Wolfes weekend camping in their RV monthly, and they aspire to visit as many new countries as they can. Wolfe looks forward to working with you all to carry on the proud traditions and support of the Baylor "B" Association.

## Background & Family

Wolfe was born and raised in Pflugerville, Texas where she attended Pflugerville High School just like her mom and her mom's parents did. She played varsity volleyball & basketball all four years of HS. Wolfe's husband Tyler is also a Baylor graduate & a US Army Veteran. They have lived all across the country & now reside in Baton Rouge with their four children. Kensi (12) loves playing the violin & art, Preston (10) swims & likes robotics, and twins Lexi and Maddi (8) both love softball & play piano.



## Baylor & Education

Wolfe started at Baylor in the fall of 1998 where she played volleyball all four years and pledged Kappa Delta sorority. She graduated in 2002 with a dual degree in Human Resource Management and International Business.

## Life after Baylor



Post Baylor Carol earned her master's degree in Human Resource Management from Texas A&M & moved to Washington DC where she began her professional career at Lockheed Martin. Upon arriving in DC, she joined the local Baylor alumni chapter. It was through this chapter that she met a fellow graduate who introduced her to her husband, Tyler.