

THE GREEN & GOLD

The Green & Gold newsletter provides a monthly glimpse into three of the four pillars of Baylor Athletics: Academic Achievement, Character Formation and Spiritual Growth.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

The Student-Athlete Center for Excellence (SACE) team would like to congratulate our December 2023 graduates! Your unique journeys have all led you to this incredible accomplishment. As you progress in your lives, we cannot wait to see all of the amazing things that you will do as Baylor Alum.

Ryan Patterson, Baseball
Jessica Batton, Equestrian
Natalie Hilty, Equestrian
Jacoby Clarke, Football
Drake Dabney, Football
Elijah Ellis, Football
Gabriel Hall, Football
Brooks Miller, Football
Matthew Jones, Football

Qualan Jones, Football
Braden Strauss, Football
Garmon Randolph, Football
Britta Snyder, Women's Golf
Madison Martin, Soccer
Jenna Patterson, Soccer
Adrian Boitan, Men's Tennis
Gontse Morake, Women's Track & Field
Ava Grace Haggard, Volleyball



SAAC TAKES ON ARLINGTON

This past December, two of our SAAC representatives, Dominika Silvestri (Marketing Committee Chair) and Nicholi Brown (ONE Committee Chair), were able to attend the Big 12 Student-Athlete Career Tour during the Big 12 Championship Weekend in Arlington, Texas. They had an amazing time learning and networking with other SAAC representatives from the conference. During the weekend, they were able to serve the community at a local hospital, participate in career programs, brainstorm on new SAAC initiatives and be recognized during the championship game. Overall, it was a great experience and wonderful way for our student-athletes to represent SAAC, their individual sports and Baylor Athletics.



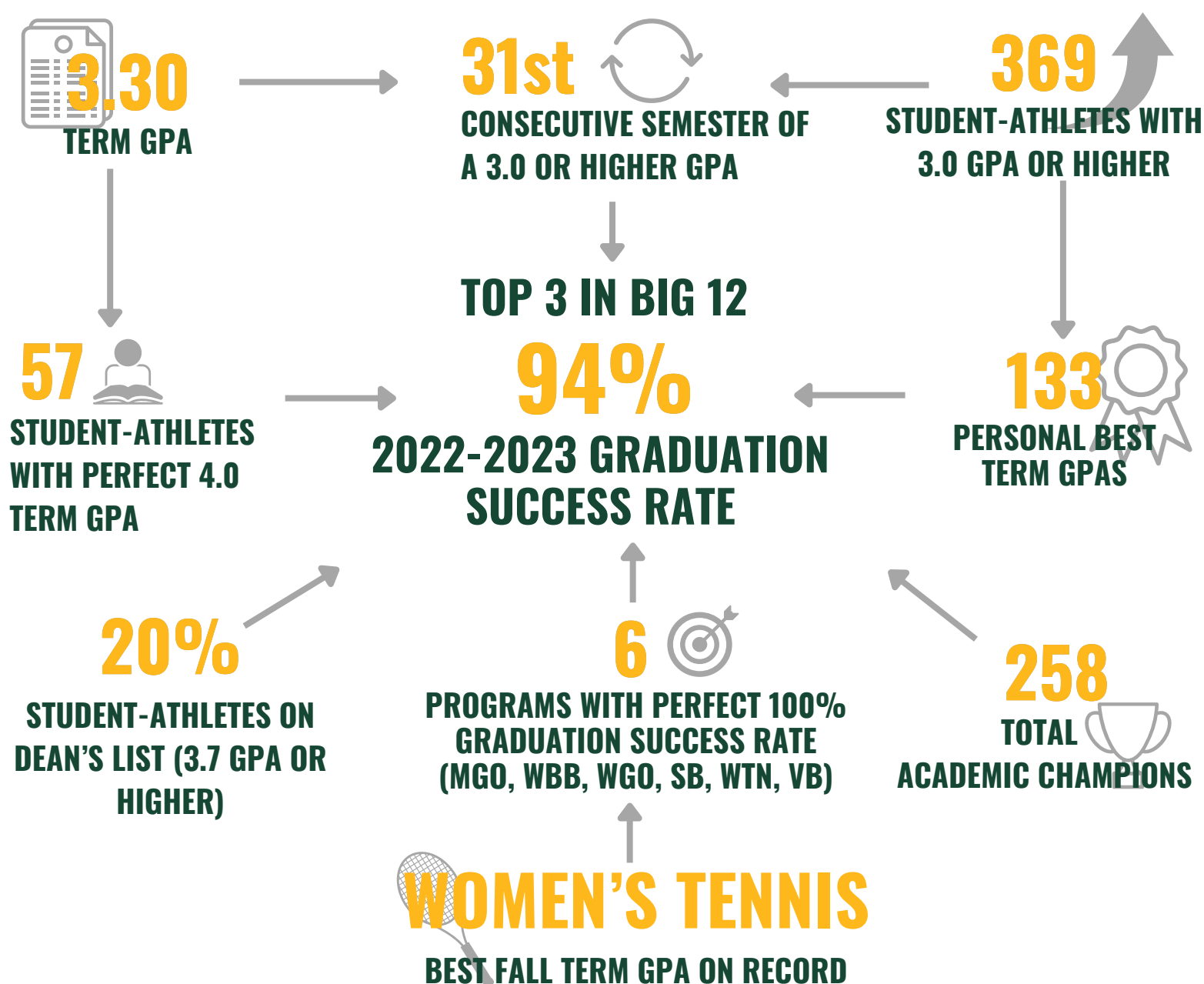
"The Big 12 Career Tour exposed me to a variety of career paths within Healthcare, and provided networking opportunities to meet various professionals that work in diverse fields. In addition, I was able to fellowship amongst fellow SAAC representatives across the Big 12, fostering friendship and community." - Nicholi Brown, Track & Field

"I had a wonderful experience at the Big 12 Career Tour. Being able to hear from other athletes and their college athletics experience was eye-opening. SAAC is such a great way to make an impact in our athletic departments, and I am grateful to be a part of it!"
- Dominika Silvestri, Equestrian

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

FALL 2023 ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

In celebration of the fall semester ending and the spring semester beginning, there is much to highlight in our academic space! We are so proud of the work that these student-athletes exhibited and know it will continue into this spring.



1A FAR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS

The 1A FAR Award recognizes student-athletes who have excelled immensely in the classroom while competing at the highest level of college sports. This award is given to student-athletes who graduate with a cumulative GPA of 3.8 or higher and have participated in at least two years of NCAA Intercollegiate Athletics at a Football Bowl Subdivision institution. Below are our winners!

Maddie Algysa	Soccer	Kamryn Kitchens	Acrobatics and Tumbling
Josie Bower	Softball	Elizabeth Kooiman	Soccer
Keri Collins	Acrobatics and Tumbling	Kayley Leckich	Soccer
Ben Conacher	Men's Track and Field	Sophia Leidner	Women's Track and Field
Cassandra Davis	Volleyball	John Mayers	Football
Dillon Doyle	Football	Grayson Moore	Acrobatics and Tumbling
Christopher Frantzen	Men's Tennis	Navarrette Alyssa	Soccer
Hailey Goodell	Women's Track and Field	Tyler Thomas	Baseball
Jamie Holodak	Women's Track and Field	Emily Tobin	Acrobatics and Tumbling
Daisy Kaufman	Equestrian	Lauren Traywick	Soccer

BIG 12 STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE MONTH



Josh White received the honor of being December's Big 12 Student-Athlete of the Month. We are proud of the many successes he has had since he became a Baylor Bear. Continue to be great, Josh!

“Being named Big 12 student-athlete of the month was very rewarding because it acknowledged both my academic and athletic journey at Baylor.”

LASTING IMPACT

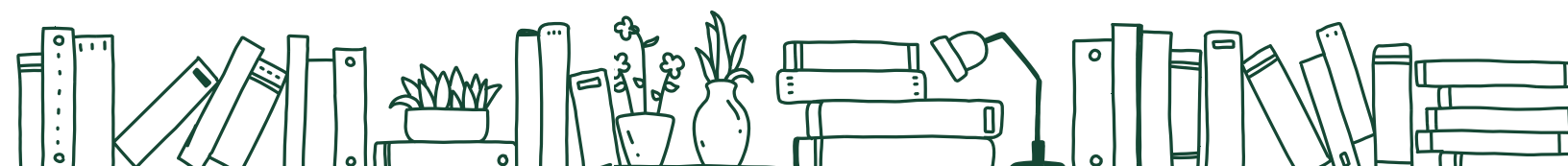
OUTWARD EXPRESSION OF INWARD CONFESSION

Last semester, Langston Love and Jayden Nunn (J-Nunn) expressed their desire to get baptized to Scott Brewer, head character coach and chaplain of the Baylor Men's Basketball Team, and Joshua Ehambe. Before expressing their desire for baptism, Langston and J-Nunn actively engaged in their faith. They participated in team Bible studies, made it a priority to attend church on Sundays when possible, attentively took part in game day chapels, and demonstrated a sincere eagerness to enhance their spiritual journey with Christ. After meeting with Joshua Ehambe to discuss the meaning of baptism, Langston and J-Nunn took the next step and got baptized at Highland Baptist Church. Although not perfect, Langston and J-Nunn have made great strides on and off the court, and it has been a pleasure to watch them become the leaders God is shaping them to be.



BEARS FOR BOOKS PART TWO

On December 14th, the final Bears for Books celebration for this school year took place at the women's basketball game against Delaware State. Two students from Kendrick Elementary, Juan Munoz and Adelinah Gutierrez, were recognized for fine-tuning their reading skills and comprehension throughout the fall semester. Although the Bears for Books initiative has concluded, our student-athletes will continue to serve the elementary schools in the Waco community in whatever compacity they are needed. We look forward to celebrating more students next fall!



STUDENT-ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT

When and where did you travel to study abroad? I studied abroad in Costa Rica over the winter minimester (January 2024).

What did you study while you were there? I took the HV80 Professional Internship for Health Science studies

What did the “day to day” look like for you? We stayed in a convent, so we woke up and had a typical Costa Rican breakfast each day. Then we went to several local communities and went door to door informing residents that we would be setting up a free medical clinic and asking if they needed an appointment for that afternoon or the next day. We would set up the clinic around lunch time, and then held appointments (with a local physician and physical therapist) for the afternoons and following full day. We would then usually go to a local Costa Rican restaurant for dinner and end the day with some group reflection time!

How did this experience prepare you for your future? My two weeks in Costa Rica pushed me out of my comfort zone in so many ways. It showed me how important confidence is as a healthcare professional. I had the opportunity to have hands-on experience taking care of patients. It was truly an incredible way for me to engage in my passion for and prepare for the future.

What was your favorite memory? My favorite memories are from the relationships I formed both with the patients and Costa Rican residents we interacted with, as well as the people on my team.

Do you have any advice or encouragement for student-athletes who are looking to study abroad? Do it! Even if the opportunity is short or looks different than a normal “study abroad”. It is so good to get outside of your comfort zone in a new place with a different group of people. I needed it more than I knew, and I would encourage anyone with the opportunity to go abroad to take it. I am yearning for a chance to go back!



MOLLY CANFIELD
EQUESTRIAN



When and where did you travel to study abroad? Over winter break, Dec. 28th through Jan. 7th, I went to Belize. While in Belize, I visited Orange Walk and the communities of Yo Creek and Santa Marta!

What did you study while you were there? While I was there, we did pop-in clinics in the communities, where we learned and practiced taking vitals, in-patient work, patient history and then collaborated with the doctors and pharmacists with diagnosis.

What did the “day to day” look like for you? The day to day was pretty busy. On clinic days, we started early and consisted of bus ride out the the communities, clinic set-up and then a full day of clinic. On the day before the clinic, we got to go into the communities, going house to house passing out appointment times for those in need of medical services. These days were very cool to get to go out to the communities and get to know the people we were serving and see the various people potentially in need of treatment. On one of the days, we held a field day for kids in the communities to come to the community center, where we played all sorts of games, did crafts and just got to hang out with the kiddos. That was for sure a highlight.

How did this experience prepare you for your future? This experience was a really amazing opportunity, and I learned so much just about Belize and some aspects of its culture, as well as learning to interact and treat patients. Getting some field experience in a new environment that wasn't a hospital setting was very educational. Getting to practice those skills of patient communication and administering vitals will be very helpful when going on to PA school and into the healthcare field.

What was your favorite memory? My favorite memory was the community center and playing with all of the kids from the community. Just getting to know and hang out with the kiddos was really special. I loved getting to learn some new games native to Belize culture that I hadn't heard of.

Do you have any advice or encouragement for student-athletes who are looking to study abroad? I think studying abroad is an amazing opportunity, and if you are given the chance, you should for sure go. Getting to experience a new culture, new language and serve is truly an amazing and rewarding experience.



ALICIA ANDREW
VOLLEYBALL

