A new era began for Baylor football on Dec. 7, 2016, as Matt Rhule (pronounced RULE) was introduced as the 27th head coach to lead the Bears program.

Rhule, a 20-year coaching veteran, arrived in Waco fresh off leading Temple University to the 2016 American Athletic Conference championship. He guided the Owls to the school’s first back-to-back 10-win seasons and bowl berths in 2015 and 2016, and a two-year 14-2 record in AAC play. He spent four seasons as head coach at Temple and 10 total seasons at the school.

The Owls earned their first top 25 ranking in 36 seasons under Rhule’s guidance (in 2015) and among the 29 All-AAC honorees produced by Temple in his four seasons as head coach was 2015 Bednarik Award and Nagurski Trophy winner and two-time All-American Tyler Matakevich. Rhule also mentored 10 players invited to the Senior Bowl as a head coach, and had 70 players earn Academic All-AAC honors in his first three seasons.

Rhule led Temple to the 2016 AAC championship with a 34-10 victory over Navy in the title game and earned a bid to the Military Bowl. Nine players from the 10-3 squad received All-AAC honors and the Owl defense ranked third nationally allowing just 275.9 yards per game.

In 2015, Temple won the AAC East and played in the league’s inaugural championship game. Rhule’s Owls finished with a school-record 10 wins (10-4) and played in the Boca Raton Bowl. Thirteen of his players earned all-conference honors, led by consensus All-American and AAC Defensive Player of the Year Matakevich. Temple defeated Penn State for the first time in 73 years and climbed to No. 22 in the AP Top 25 poll.

Temple’s win total improved to six (and a .500 record) in 2014 from two in Rhule’s first season at the helm in 2013. The Owls allowed just 23 fourth quarter points all season in 2014.

Rhule returned to Temple after coaching with the New York Giants under head coach Tom Coughlin in 2012. He worked closely with Pat Flaherty in coaching the offensive line. The Giants finished 9-7 and averaged 335 yards on offense. Offensive guard Chris Snee earned 2012 Pro Bowl honors.

Prior to his stint in the NFL, Rhule spent six seasons as a top assistant under Al Golden in his first tenure at Temple, the final four seasons directing the offense in coordinator capacities.

In the spring of 2012, he was promoted to co-offensive coordinator after serving as the assistant offensive coordinator and tight ends coach, as well as the recruiting coordinator under Steve Addazio in 2011. Temple’s 2012 recruiting class was ranked No. 1 in the Mid-American Conference and helped lay the foundation for the program’s transition to the Big East Conference.

In 2011, the Owls finished 9-4 and won the Gildan New Mexico Bowl, Temple’s first postseason victory since 1979 (just the fourth bowl game in school history). Rhule mentored two-time first-team All-MAC selection tight end Evan Rodriguez. For the second time in Rhule’s tenure, the Owls set the Temple single-season rushing yardage and rushing touchdowns records behind All-MAC junior running backs Bernard Pierce and Matt Brown.

Rhule helped guide Temple’s 2010 team to an 8-4 record, and the school’s first back-to-back winning seasons since 1978-79. A school-record six offensive players earned All-MAC honors.

In 2009, Rhule’s offense helped TU win a single-season record nine consecutive games en route to a 9-4 mark and first-place tie in the MAC East. Under Rhule’s guidance, the Owls set the Temple single-season rushing yardage record. A school-record five offensive players were named All-MAC, including three on the first team. All-American Pierce rushed his way into the Temple record book and 2009 MAC Freshman of the Year honors.

Under Al Golden, Rhule took the reins in 2008 as offensive coordinator, helping the Owls to their most wins in nearly two decades. Quarterback Adam DiMichele set a school record with six touchdowns in a 55-52 win over Eastern Michigan.

He also coached the TU quarterbacks. He coached the defensive line in 2006 and served as the quarterbacks coach and recruiting coordinator during the 2006 and 2007 seasons. For three consecutive years, Temple’s recruiting class was ranked No. 1 in the MAC (2006, 2007, 2008).

From 2002 to 2005, Rhule was an assistant at Western Carolina under head coach Kent Briggs, serving as assistant head coach during his last three seasons. In 2005, he was offensive line coach and run game coordinator after directing the linebackers his first three years. Rhule was special teams coordinator during his tenure in Cullowhee (N.C.). In 2005, the Catamounts led Division-I-AA in kickoff returns, averaging 27.44 yards per return. Sophomore Mike Malone was named first-team All-Southern Conference after averaging 31.29 yards per kickoff return, ranking second nationally. Two offensive linemen earned second-team all-league accolades.

In 2004, WCU ranked 12th nationally in total defense and 15th in pass defense, largely due to the production of Rhule’s linebacker corps. The team’s top five tacklers were linebackers in its eight-man front scheme. In 2003, the Catamounts led the SoCon in rush defense for the first time in school history.

Rhule arrived at Western Carolina after serving as assistant defensive line coach at UCLA in 2001. He assisted in coaching five Bruins to All-Pac-10 honors as the team posted a 7-4 record under head coach Bob Toledo.

From 1999 to 2000, Rhule served as an assistant coach at Mid-American Conference member Buffalo, directing the Bulls defensive line in 2000 and working as assistant defensive line coach in 1999. In 2000, the team’s sack total increased from 12 to 27, utilizing a 3-4 alignment. Buffalo also earned its first two wins over Division I-A programs that season.

Rhule began his coaching career as a volunteer assistant at Penn State, in the spring of 1998 before working at Albright College in Reading, Pa., for the 1998 season. At Albright, he coached the linebackers in a 4-3 scheme and recruited western and central Pennsylvania.

Rhule played four seasons at linebacker with the Nittany Lions under Joe Paterno. A three-time Penn State Scholar-Athlete, he earned Academic All-Big Ten honors in 1997. He received his undergraduate degree in political science from PSU in 1997 before earning his master’s degree in educational psychology from Buffalo in 2003.

Born Jan. 31, 1975, Rhule spent his childhood in New York City before moving to State College, Pa. as a teenager. He is married to the former Julie Nibert. The couple has a son, Bryant, and two daughters, Vivienne and Leona.

**QUOTES**

**Matt Rhule, Baylor Head Coach:**

“I am truly honored and humbled to join the Baylor Family, and I can’t thank President Garland and Mack Rhoades enough for this incredible opportunity. Baylor is a tremendous institution with a history of football success and I know the passion that so many have for the Bears will help bring the community together to reach even greater heights. I am excited to get started.”

**Mack B. Rhoades IV, Baylor Director of Athletics:**

“We could not be more excited to welcome Matt, Julie and their children to the Baylor Family. When we set out on our search for a new leader of our football program, we wanted a coach who shared our values, who had demonstrated success, who showed a true commitment to the overall student-athlete and who we believed could lead Baylor to a national championship. We found all of that and more in Matt and I know that he will be a perfect fit with the Baylor Family.”

**Dr. David Garland, Truett Seminary Dean/Former Baylor Interim President**

“This a great day for Baylor University and the beginning of a new chapter in our football program. Matt is the absolute right man at the right time to lead us forward and I am confident that his values are our values and that his teams and student-athletes will make us all proud, on and off the field.”
Grant Teaff, Former Exec. Dir. of American Football Coaches Association

“Frankly, I could not be happier with Mack Rhoades’ selection of Matt Rhule as Baylor’s head football coach. I have watched Matt for the past 15 or 16 years as he has developed into one of the top young coaches in America. Matt is a perfect fit for Baylor and is truly an outstanding coach of strong, positive character traits. Furthermore, Matt knows and understands the tremendous value in our Texas high school coaches and their products. I can only reiterate how impressed I am with the quality of the man and his ability to coach. Baylor is clearly on the way back with this selection.”

Andy Reid, Kansas City Chiefs Head Coach

“Matt’s a phenomenal football coach and an even better person. He’ll bring great integrity to Baylor University and a great work ethic. He’s a top-notch person and a relentless recruiter. My hat’s off to Baylor, I think they brought on board one of the best young coaches in the game.”

Kevin Negandhi, ESPN

“I think Baylor couldn’t have found a better coach and mentor to lead its program than Matt Rhule. He’s the epitome of what you want in a college football coach and he passionately cares about his players. He changed the culture at Temple, a perennial doormat. He’s committed to representing the right things about a university, and Baylor hired an authentic person ready to shape young men and to deliver results in the community.”

WHAT THEY’RE SAYING ON BAYLOR’S RHULE HIRE

“This is an outstanding hire!”
- Tim Brando, FOX Sports

“Baylor is getting a hell of a coach and a better man.”
- Kevin Negandhi, ESPN

“That’s a great get for Baylor.”
- Ralph Russo, Associated Press

“A tremendous hire for Baylor... culturally a good fit. He’s a guy who does things the right way.”
- Mark Schlabach, ESPN

“Rhule is a really good hire.”
- George Schroeder, USA Today

“Rhule did wonders at Temple... great hire by Bears.”
- Adam Rittenberg, ESPN

“Matt Rhule is... a guy with integrity... and an excellent coach.”
- Paul Zeise, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

“Baylor’s hire of Matt Rhule is a good one... a good match.”
- Gil Brandt, NFL.com

“Matt Rhule is an outstanding coach.”
- Kirk Herbstreit, ESPN

“Really good hire by Baylor.”
- Albert Breer, MMQB.com

“What a hire for the Bears.”
- Matt Fortuna, The All-American

“Wow. Good for Baylor for landing Matt Rhule. He’s awesome.”
- Barrett Sallee, CBS Sports

“Outstanding hire for Baylor.”
- Ahmad Brooks, ESPN
Phil Snow
DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR
CAL STATE HAYWARD, 1978

Phil Snow is in his first season as Baylor defensive coordinator. He arrived with head coach Matt Rhule following four seasons in the same role at Temple.

A veteran with 34 years of collegiate coaching experience, Snow has served as defensive coordinator at seven previous schools, among them UCLA, Washington, Arizona State and Boise State. He also coached four seasons in the NFL with the Detroit Lions.

He spent four seasons at Temple under Rhule, and his squad led the American Athletic Conference in defense in both 2015 and 2016. The 2016 defense ranked third nationally in total defense (allowing just 282.5 yards per game) and 11th in scoring (18.4 ppg) to help lead TU to an AAC championship and 10-4 record.

Snow’s 2015 defense at Temple led the conference in most defensive categories, including rushing and scoring, and boasted his fifth first-team All-American in linebacker Tyree Kirmoh. The 2014 Owls’ defense ranked fourth nationally in scoring (17.5 ppg, an improvement from 29.8 the previous season). Temple made 30 takeaways to rank among the top five programs nationally (including a nation-best 19 fumble recoveries). The unit allowed just 186.9 passing yards and nine touchdown passes on the season.

Prior to Temple, Snow spent three seasons as defensive coordinator and defensive backs coach at Eastern Michigan University. Under Snow’s guidance, EMU ranked 88th nationally and third in the Mid-American Conference passing defense in 2012, giving up just 212.75 yards per game. Senior linebacker Justin Cudworth and senior defensive end Andy Mulumba were second-team All-MAC honorees.

Snow orchestrated a major turnaround during the 2011 campaign, ranking 35th nationally and third in the MAC in total defense. The Eagles gave up 350.3 yards per game, an improvement of 103.8 yards per contest. In 12 games, the Eagles’ defense allowed just 292 points for a total of 24.3 points per game.

From 2005 to 2008, Snow coached in the NFL with the Detroit Lions, where he mentored the linebackers.

Prior to his stint in the NFL, he coached at the University of Washington in 2003 as co-coordinator and in 2004 as defensive coordinator. Snow spent two seasons as the defensive coordinator at UCLA, where he mentored current UCLA head coach Matt Rhule during the 2001 season. The Bruin defense led the Pac-10 in total defense in Snow’s first season. The unit also finished the season ranked second in the league in rushing defense and scoring defense. In addition, linebacker Robert Thomas, a first-round selection by the Rams in the 2002 NFL Draft, earned 2001 Pac-10 Defensive Player of the Year honors. Kenyon Coleman was the defensive winner of the Morris Trophy as the Pac-10’s best lineman. The 2002 team participated in the Las Vegas Bowl.

Prior to UCLA, Snow spent nine seasons as the defensive coordinator at Arizona State and helped lead the Sun Devils to the 1996 Rose Bowl, 1997 Sun Bowl and 1999 and 2000 Aloha Bowls. The 1996 ASU squad finished fourth in the national polls, and Snow’s defense ranked first in the conference in rushing defense (98.0), passing defense (104.2) and total defense (306.2). It held Nebraska scoreless in one game and limited opponents to fewer than 10 points in five games that season.

His defensive units ranked among the top three in scoring defense in the Pac-10 in three of his last five seasons at ASU. In 2000, the Sun Devils led the nation in fumbles recovered and ranked third in the country in turnovers created. The group was headlined by Pac-10 Defensive Player of the Year Adam Archuleta, and conference freshman of the year, Terrell Suggs.

Snow was defensive backs coach at California from 1987 to 1991. The 1990 and 1991 squads won the first back-to-back bowl games (Copper and Citrus) in school history. The 1991 team moved up as high as No. 6 nationally and played in the school’s first New Year’s Day bowl game in 33 years.

Prior to Cal, Snow was an assistant at Boise State from 1982 to 1986. He was a defensive backs coach in his first season at Boise before becoming the defensive coordinator in 1983 and holding that position through the 1986 season. In addition, he was the top assistant to the head coach from 1984 to 1986. His Boise State defense ranked sixth in the nation in 1986.

Snow took his first collegiate job at Laney College in 1979 as a defensive backs coach before taking over as the defensive coordinator in 1980 and 1981.

A 1978 graduate of Cal-State Hayward, Snow began his coaching career at the high school level, coaching at Berkeley (Calif.) High School in 1976 and at his high school alma mater, Winters (Calif.) High School, from 1977 to 1978.

The Woodland, Calif., native, earned his associate’s degree at Sacramento City College in 1975 before completing his bachelor’s at Cal-State Hayward. Snow and his wife, Debra, have two sons, Philip (a golf letterman at Nevada) and Jacob.
Jeff Nixon is in his first season serving as Baylor’s co-offensive coordinator and running backs coach. Nixon reunited at Baylor with head coach Matt Rhule, who he coached alongside at Temple in 2006.

A veteran offensive coach with NFL experience, Nixon spent the previous decade coaching at the professional level. He arrived at Baylor from the San Francisco 49ers, where he spent the 2016 season coaching the tight ends.

Previously, Nixon coached for five seasons with the Miami Dolphins, where he mentored the running backs from 2011 to 2015. Under Nixon’s guidance, Lamar Miller led the team with 872 rushing yards and tied his career high with eight rushing touchdowns in 2015. Miller also set career highs in receptions (47), receiving yards (347) and touchdown receptions (two).

In 2014, the Dolphins ranked second in the NFL in average yards per carry (4.69). Miller eclipsed the 1,000-yard mark for the first time in his career, rushing for a career-high 1,099 yards, the most by a Dolphins running back since Ricky Williams rushed for 1,121 yards in 2009.

Nixon oversaw a running backs corps led by Miller, who paced the unit with 709 rushing yards in 2013. Daniel Thomas set a career-high with six total touchdowns (four rushing and two receiving).

In 2012, Nixon guided a unit that finished eighth in the AFC in rushing yards per game (112.6) and fourth in rushing touchdowns (15). In his first season with the Dolphins in 2011, Reggie Bush rushed for a career-high 1,086 yards while Thomas led all AFC rookie rushers with 581 yards.

Nixon joined the Dolphins after spending four seasons (2007-2010) as a member of the Philadelphia Eagles coaching staff, assisting special teams and offense, with a focus on the running back position. During his tenure with the Eagles, Nixon helped coach All-Pro running backs Brian Westbrook and LeSean McCoy, as well as All-Pro full back Leonard Weaver. Nixon also helped DeSean Jackson develop into an All-Pro punt returner during his tenure with the Eagles.

Prior to joining the Eagles, Nixon served as the running backs coach at Temple in 2006. From 2003 to 2005, Nixon coached at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, where he worked with the running backs and tight ends, and served as a special teams coordinator and recruiting coordinator. Under the tutelage of Nixon, running back Eldra Buckley developed into an All-American and went on to play five years in the NFL.

From 1999 to 2002, Nixon spent four seasons as the running backs coach at Shippensburg University. Nixon coached four all-conference running backs while at Shippensburg, including All-American and eventual Green Bay Packers Pro Bowl fullback John Kuhn.

Nixon coached at Princeton in 1998 as the school’s running backs coach after beginning his coaching career in 1997 as a student assistant coach at Penn State.

A New Brighton, Pa., native, Nixon played running back for West Virginia in 1993 and 1994 before transferring to Penn State, where he earned spots on both the Dean’s List and the Big Ten Conference All-Academic Team. He earned a degree in elementary education from Penn State in 1998 and a master’s degree in education administration from Shippensburg in 2003.
Glenn Thomas is in his first season serving as Baylor’s co-offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach.

Thomas, who spent the previous two seasons as Rhule’s offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Temple University, brings to Waco seven years of NFL coaching experience and 11 years of coaching in the state of Texas.

In two years at TU, one as quarterbacks coach and the second as offensive coordinator, Thomas helped the Owls win 20 games and capture the 2016 American Athletic Conference title. Under Thomas’ direction in 2016, the offensive production increased 46.9 yards per contest (from 366.7 to 413.6) and 2.6 points per game (from 29.8 to 32.4). In his first season at Temple, Thomas mentored junior quarterback P.J. Walker as he threw for 3,295 yards and 22 touchdowns on 230-of-395 passing. In two seasons working with Walker, Thomas helped the signal caller become Temple’s all-time leader in pass attempts (1,410), completions (803), passing yards (10,273), TD passes (72) and total offense (11,100).

Prior to his arrival at Temple, Thomas spent seven seasons in the NFL. He was the Atlanta Falcons quarterbacks coach for three seasons after four seasons as an offensive assistant. During his tenure in Atlanta, the Falcons offense was its most productive in franchise history, and quarterback Matt Ryan soared to new levels each season.

During the three seasons when Thomas guided Ryan, the former first round pick out of Boston College threw for more than 4,500 and 26 touchdowns in each season, earning Pro Bowl honors in 2013 and 2015. Ryan cemented himself as the best quarterback in franchise history, supplanting Steve Bartkowski with 28,166 career passing yards and 181 touchdowns. It was under Thomas that Ryan set career and franchise single-season highs in passing yards (4,719), touchdown passes (32) and completion percentage (68.6) in 2012.

Aside from his work with Ryan, while Thomas was in Atlanta the offense featured perennial All-Pros Roddy White and Julio Jones at wide receiver, Michael Turner at running back, and Tony Gonzalez, arguably the best tight end to play in the NFL.

From 2001-07, Thomas spent his coaching tenure at Midwestern State. As a graduate assistant coaching wide receivers from 2001-04, the Mustangs won the Lone Star North Division Championship in his first season. Thomas oversaw the school’s passing game and quarterbacks in the 2004 campaign and helped guide MSU to its first NCAA playoff appearance in school history while recording an 8-3 record.

Thomas transformed Midwestern State’s offense into a powerhouse while serving as offensive coordinator from 2005-07. In 2007, his offense led the entire NCAA in total offense (550.0 yards per game) and rushing yards per game (317.0).

Thomas found time to work with the Baltimore Ravens between seasons at Midwestern State. He was responsible for working with wide receivers (2002-03, 2005) and helped with Baltimore’s quarterbacks. It was also in Baltimore where he was introduced to Falcons head coach Mike Smith. The two worked together during Smith’s tenure with the Jacksonville Jaguars for one season (2004).

Following his graduation from Texas Tech, Thomas began his coaching career as a student assistant at his alma mater from 1998-2001.

A native of Eastland, Texas, Thomas and his wife, Felicia, have two sons, Hayden and Dylan.
Francis Brown is in his first season at Baylor since arriving with head coach Matt Rhule following six seasons at Temple. Brown, a talented recruiter, is the assistant head coach and works with the Bears defensive backs.

He served his final four seasons at Temple under Rhule and defensive coordinator Phil Snow, coaching the Owls cornerbacks. He added the title of associate head coach prior to the 2016 season at TU.

In 2016, Brown helped former receiver Nate Hairston complete his transition to starting defensive back at Temple. Following his senior season, Hairston earned invites to the 2017 Senior Bowl and the NFL Combine.

In 2015, Brown’s squad of corners was led by Tavon Young and Sean Chandler. Chandler was a second-team All-American Athletic Conference selection who totaled four interceptions and two touchdown returns. Young went on to be a fourth round draft pick by the Baltimore Ravens in the 2016 NFL Draft.

In 2014, Brown’s unit shined due to the play of Young and Chandler. Young earned All-AAC honors with four interceptions and a conference-best 153 return yards. The secondary helped Temple’s defense decrease passing yards allowed by more than 100 per game from the 2013 season (186.9 from 298.6). Passing touchdowns decreased from 24 to nine.

Brown was named a top recruiter in the AAC by Rivals.com in 2014, in part because of his recruitment of Chandler. The 2015 class included four-star recruit Kareem Ali from Timber Creek High School in Pennsauken, N.J.

Brown served as a defensive graduate assistant during the 2012 season, and he spent 2011 working as the assistant director of internal operations. Prior to moving to the collegiate level at Temple, Brown coached the defensive backs at Paul VI High School in Haddonfield, N.J. The New Jersey native also worked as a football trainer at Nexxt Level Sports in 2009-10, training South Jersey athletes, and helped with several area summer camps.

Brown received his bachelor’s degree in criminal justice from Western Carolina in 2006. Playing under assistant head coach Rhule, the team captain was a 2005 All-Southern Conference first-team honoree at cornerback for the Catamounts.

Following graduation, Brown had two short stays with the Cincinnati Bengals during the 2007 and 2008 seasons.

Brown received his bachelor’s degree in criminal justice from Western Carolina in 2006. Playing under assistant head coach Rhule, the team captain was a 2005 All-Southern Conference first-team honoree at cornerback for the Catamounts.

Following graduation, Brown had two short stays with the Cincinnati Bengals during the 2007 and 2008 seasons.

Brown was a three-time all-conference quarterback at Camden High School, setting a then-school record with 47 touchdown passes. He married his high school sweetheart, Teara, and they have two children, Francis Jr. and Brayden.
Bicknell was an NFL coaching veteran in his first season on Matt Rhule’s staff at Baylor. Bicknell works with the Bears wide receivers.

He came to Baylor after spending one season as the San Francisco 49ers wide receivers coach. Prior to that, he was in the same role with the Philadelphia Eagles for three seasons.

With 26 seasons of professional and collegiate coaching experience, Bicknell was part of an Eagles offensive unit that set franchise records in points, touchdowns, passing yards, completions and completion percentage during his time with the team.

In 2016, Bicknell mentored 49ers wide receiver Jeremy Kerley to career highs in receptions (64) and touchdowns (3).

In 2015, Bicknell coached a receiving corps that became just the third group in Eagles franchise history to feature three players with 50-plus receptions in the same season, after accomplishing the same feat in 2014. His wide receiver group assisted quarterback Sam Bradford in setting the single-season franchise records for completions (346) and completion percentage (65.0). Second-year wide receiver Jordan Matthews had 85 receptions, which tied for the fourth-most in Eagles single-season history, and led the team with 997 receiving yards and eight touchdowns.

In 2014, Bicknell helped wide receiver Jeremy Maclin, who suffered a torn ACL in training camp a year prior, return to the field and establish career highs in receptions (85), receiving yards (1,318) and touchdowns (10) en route to his first career Pro Bowl selection. Additionally, under Bicknell’s watch in 2014, Matthews went on to rank second among Eagles rookies in receptions (67), receiving yards (872) and receiving touchdowns (eight).

Under the guidance of Bicknell, wide receiver DeSean Jackson set career highs in receptions (82) and receiving yards (1,332), and tied his career high with nine touchdowns as he was selected to his third Pro Bowl. Fellow wide receiver Riley Cooper set career-highs in receiving yards (835) and touchdowns (eight).

Bicknell joined the Eagles after three seasons with the Buffalo Bills, serving as their wide receivers coach in 2012 and tight ends coach from 2010-11. In 2012, Bicknell coached wide receiver Stevie Johnson to his third consecutive 1,000-yard season as he led the team with 79 receptions for 1,046 yards and six touchdowns. In 2011, tight end Scott Chandler caught six touchdowns, tying the franchise record for a tight end in a single season. Bicknell worked under 49ers offensive coordinator, Curtis Modkins, from 2010-12 on the Buffalo Bills staff. Prior to his arrival in Buffalo, Bicknell spent the previous three years with the Kansas City Chiefs as the tight ends coach (2009), offensive line coach (2008) and offensive coordinator/offensive line coach (2007). In 2008, Bicknell’s offensive line paved the way for a rushing offense that tied for the AFC lead with 4.8 yards per carry while Chiefs guard Brian Waters earned the fourth Pro Bowl selection of his career.

Before joining the NFL ranks, Bicknell served as the offensive line coach at Temple in 2006. Prior to his time at Temple, he spent eight years in NFL Europe (1998-2005), including stints as the offensive coordinator and offensive line coach for the Cologne Centurions (2004-05) and Berlin Thunder (2001-03). During his time in Europe, Bicknell won three consecutive World Bowls as part of the coaching staff of the Thunder (2000-01) and Frankfurt Galaxy (1999). In 2002, Bicknell oversaw a Berlin offense that led the league with 3,704 yards from scrimmage and 2,667 passing yards. In his first season as offensive coordinator, Bicknell’s unit ranked second in the league with 3,243 yards from scrimmage on the way to the team’s second straight World Bowl title in 2001.

Bicknell began his coaching career at Boston University, where he coached safeties (1993), running backs (1994) and linebackers (1995-97).

A native of Holliston, Mass., Bicknell was a three-year letterman as a tight end at Boston College (1989-91). He comes from a football family as his father, Jack, was the head coach at BC from 1981-90 and spent 13 seasons as a head coach in NFL Europe before retiring in 2007. His brother, Jack, Jr., served as the assistant offensive line coach for the Miami Dolphins (2012-15) after spending five years coaching in the NFL as the assistant offensive line coach for the New York Giants (2009-11) and offensive line coach for the Kansas City Chiefs (2012) and Pittsburgh Steelers (2013).

Bicknell and his wife, Stacey, have two children: Gabriella and Grace.
George DeLeone is a 47-year coaching veteran in his first season at Baylor. DeLeone coaches the Bears offensive line.

He came to Baylor after spending the 2016 season on Matt Rhule’s staff at Temple, where he served as the run game coordinator and offensive line coach. He also coached at TU as offensive coordinator in 2006 and 2007, when Rhule moved from a defensive assistant to coach quarterbacks in 2007.

DeLeone, who has six years of experience coaching in the NFL, has spent 41 years on the college sidelines and coached in 14 bowl games, including the Fiesta, Orange, Peach and Sugar Bowls.

Prior to his second stint at Temple, DeLeone spent two seasons (2014-2015) with the Cleveland Browns coaching their offensive line. In 2015, the Browns had two Pro Bowl players, both offensive linemen, center Alex Mack and left tackle Joe Thomas.

DeLeone worked at his alma mater, UConn, from 2011-13, serving as the offensive coordinator and tight ends coach for the first two years before becoming associate head coach and offensive line coach in 2013.

From 2008 to 2010, DeLeone coached tight ends for the Miami Dolphins. Prior to those three seasons in the NFL, he spent two seasons as offensive coordinator at Temple.

In 2005, DeLeone served as the running game coordinator and offensive line coach at Ole Miss.

From 1985 to 2004, with the exception of one season in the NFL, DeLeone spent 19 years at Syracuse. He helped guide the Orange to 12 bowl games (8-3-1 record). While working with the offensive line at SU, five of his players were drafted by the NFL, and as offensive coordinator five players were named first-team All-Americans. SU won three BIG EAST Championships during DeLeone’s tenure there (1996, 1998 and 2004).

DeLeone was SU’s offensive coordinator for nine years (1987-96), and he built a pro-option attack that ranked as one of the most balanced and productive offenses in the country. In that span, SU earned eight bowl bids and had quarterbacks who ranked among the national leaders in passing every year and in the top six four times. In 1993, Marvin Graves re-wrote the quarterback’s section of the SU record book, and DeLeone helped point former SU standout Donovan McNabb in the same direction.

In 2003, DeLeone’s offense produced a 1,000-yard rusher for the fourth consecutive season. Walter Reyes gained 1,347 yards, the second-best single-season rushing total in Syracuse history. Reyes accumulated 1,135 yards in 2001, one year after Dee Brown amassed 1,031 yards in 2000.

Following a one-season stint coaching the offensive line for the San Diego Chargers in 1997, DeLeone returned to Syracuse as associate head coach and defensive coordinator in 1998 before becoming associate head coach, offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach in 1999. For the next five years, DeLeone was associate head coach, offensive coordinator and offensive line coach.

DeLeone came to Syracuse from Holy Cross, where he was the offensive coordinator and offensive line coach for one season in 1984. Prior to Holy Cross, he spent four seasons at Rutgers coaching under Frank Burns from 1980-83. He moved to RU as the defensive line coach in 1980, became defensive coordinator and linebackers coach for two seasons, and moved to offensive line and special teams coach for his final year.

The New Haven, Conn., native began his coaching career at Southern Connecticut in 1970 as an offensive line coach. The 1970 Owls were the Eastern Football Conference Champions. He was promoted to head coach in 1976, a spot DeLeone held through 1979 before moving to the Division I level at Rutgers.

DeLeone graduated from UConn in 1970 with a degree in physical education and earned a master’s degree in physical education from Southern Connecticut in 1971. He is a graduate of Fairfield Prep (Conn.) High School. He is the father of two sons, Andy and Mark, and is married to the former Barbara Tringali.
Joey McGuire is in his first season on the Baylor coaching staff, where he works with tight ends.

McGuire came to BU after a legendary run as head coach at Cedar Hill (Texas) High School. He led CHHS to three state championships in 14 seasons, including back-to-back titles in 2013 and 2014. He took Cedar Hill, a program that hadn’t won a playoff game prior to his tenure, to 12 straight playoff appearances.

McGuire’s teams amassed a 141-42 record, won state titles in 2006, 2013 and 2014, made four title appearances (runner-up in 2012), won nine bi-district championships and seven district championships.

McGuire was named the 2013 Texas Coach of the Year by MaxPreps, Dallas Morning News SportsDayHS and Chevy Silverado after leading Cedar Hill to the Class 5A state title. He earned Class 5A Coach of the Year honors in 2013 by the TSWA, Dave Campbell’s Texas Football, NFF Dallas Club and the Padilla Poll, and he repeated in the 2014 Padilla Poll. In 2006, he was honored by the Dallas Cowboys as the Coach of the Year.

A two-time district coach of the year honoree (2005-06), he has coached in all but two Under Armour All-American games and was a head coach of the 2013 Semper Fidelis All-American Bowl. He served as head coach for the north in the 2014 THSCA All-Star Football Game.

McGuire was promoted to head coach at Cedar Hill prior to the 2003 season and took over a program that had gone eight years without a winning season. From 1997 to 2002, he served as an assistant at CHHS.

Prior to CHHS, McGuire began his coaching career at his alma mater, Crowley (Texas) High School, where he spent two seasons (1995-96) as an assistant. He earned his bachelor’s degree in 1995 from the University of Texas at Arlington in 1995.

McGuire and his wife, Debbie, have two children, daughter Raegan and son Garret. Garret was a quarterback at Cedar Hill and is a walk-on at Baylor.

THE ROBINSON FILE

PERSONAL
Hometown: Camden, N.J.

EDUCATION
College: Penn State, 2008 and 2011

PLAYING EXPERIENCE
Penn State (2004-06), defensive tackle

COACHING EXPERIENCE
2007-08 Penn State, student assistant
2009-11 Penn State, graduate assistant
2011-12 Penn State, defensive line
2012-13 Penn State, director of player development
2014-15 Temple, defensive line
2016 Temple, defensive run game coordinator/defensive line
2017 Baylor, defensive line

POSTSEASON EXPERIENCE
2005 Orange Bowl (player, Penn State)
2006 Outback Bowl (player, Penn State)
2007 Alamo Bowl (coach, Penn State)
2008 Rose Bowl (coach, Penn State)
2009 Capital One Bowl (coach, Penn State)
2010 Outback Bowl (coach, Penn State)
2011 TicketCity Bowl (coach, Penn State)
2015 Boca Raton Bowl (coach, Temple)
2016 Military Bowl (coach, Temple)

THE MCGUIRE FILE

PERSONAL
Hometown: Crowley, Texas
Family: Wife: Debbie; Daughter: Raegan; Son: Garret

EDUCATION
College: UT Arlington, 1995

COACHING EXPERIENCE
1994-96 Crowley High School, assistant coach
1997-2002 Cedar Hill High School, assistant coach
2003-2010 Cedar Hill High School, head coach
2017 Baylor, tight ends

POSTSEASON EXPERIENCE
2006 Texas HS State Championship (head coach, Cedar Hill)
2012 Texas HS State Runner-Up (head coach, Cedar Hill)
2013 Texas HS State Championship (head coach, Cedar Hill)
2014 Texas HS State Championship (head coach, Cedar Hill)

Elijah Robinson is in his first season at Baylor after arriving with head coach Matt Rhule following three seasons at Temple. Robinson coaches BU’s defensive line.

Robinson coached the defensive line at Temple from 2014 to 2016, holding the title of defensive run game coordinator in his final season. He mentored six All-American Athletic Conference selections at Temple, including 2016 honoree Haason Reddick (first team) and Praise Martin-Oguike (second team). The 2016 Owls’ rush defense ranked 25th nationally, allowing just 130.4 yards per game, and met team’s yearly defensive goal of 40 sacks.

In 2015, Temple recorded 33 sacks, including a season-high 10 in the win against Penn State. Two linemen, defensive tackle Matt Ioannidis and defensive end Nate D. Smith were named first-team All-AAC. Smith led the team with 7.0 sacks for 47 yards, while Ioannidis ranked in the top three for tackles for loss with 10.5.

His Temple line led the team to 27 sacks and 79 tackles for loss in 2014, and Ioannidis and defensive end Martin-Oguike were named All-AAC. Ioannidis notched 47 tackles and a team-leading 11.0 tackles for loss while Martin-Oguike’s 7.5 sacks were the most by an Owl since 2010.

Prior to Temple, Robinson spent 10 seasons at Penn State as a student-athlete and staff member. The former PSU defensive tackle had his playing career cut short after suffering a neck injury during spring practice in 2006. He earned his bachelor’s degree from PSU in 2008 and spent three years as a graduate assistant, 2009 with academics and 2010-11 as defensive graduate assistant, before earning his master’s degree in 2012.

During the final two months of the 2011 season, Robinson served as defensive line coach assisting Larry Johnson. He worked with eventual NFL players Devon Still, Jared Odrick and Aaron Maybin.

In the Camden, N.J. native’s last two years at PSU he served as director of community relations and NFL liaison under head coach Bill O’Brien.
Mike Siravo is in his first season at Baylor since arriving with head coach Matt Rhule following four seasons at Temple. Siravo guides BU’s linebacker corps and serves as the recruiting coordinator.

Siravo served his final four seasons at Temple coaching the linebackers under Rhule and defensive coordinator Phil Snow. He previously spent one season (2006) at Temple under then-head coach Al Golden as recruiting coordinator and linebackers coach.

He coached linebackers for the Owls and served as defensive run coordinator and recruiting coordinator during the American Athletic Conference championship season in 2016. Linebackers Avery Williams and Stephaun Marshall both earned 2016 All-AAC honors and Siravo was named the 2016 national linebackers coach of the year by FootballScoop.

Siravo coached two-time All-American and 2015 Bednarik Award and Nagurski Trophy winner Tyler Matakevich, who also won AAC Defensive Player of the Year honors.

Prior to returning to Temple, Siravo spent six years (2007-12) at Boston College as defensive backs coach and recruiting coordinator. He coached a secondary that helped three B.C. defenses rank in the top 10 nationally in interceptions: 2007 (second, 25), 2008 (first, 26) and 2010 (eighth, 20).

In 2007, Siravo was part of a staff that led Boston College to an 11-3 record and No. 10 final AP ranking. The Eagles ranked second nationally with 25 interceptions. He mentored free safety Jamie Silva, a consensus first-team All-American and Jim Thorpe Award finalist.

During his one-year stint at Temple in 2006, Siravo coordinated the Owls’ recruiting class ranked No. 1 in the Mid-American Conference that included future NFL players Steve Maneri and Andre Neblett.

He coached linebackers and served as recruiting coordinator at Columbia from 2003 to 2005.

Siravo began his career as a graduate assistant at Boston College from 1998 to 2000. The former walk-on earned a scholarship and lettered two years at linebacker under head coaches Dan Henning and Tom O’Brien. He earned Academic All-Big East honors as a senior.

A Pawtucket, R.I., native, Siravo earned a bachelor’s degree in history from Boston College in 1998. He also earned a master’s degree from his alma mater in administrative studies of business in 2000. He and his wife, Alison, are the parents of three children, William, Evelyn and Henry.
SUPPORT STAFF

ANDREW ALTHOFF  
ASSISTANT ATHLETICS DIRECTOR FOR SPORTS PERFORMANCE  
LORAS COLLEGE, 2006

Andrew Althoff joined the Baylor University staff in February 2009 as Assistant Director of Olympic Sports. Currently, he serves as Assistant Athletics Director for Sports Performance integrating the physical, psychological and social aspects of student-athletes’ performance into a practical approach. Althoff also works as a performance coach with the football team.

Althoff comes from Valdosta State University where he designed and implemented programs for numerous sports including football, which won the national championship in 2007.

Prior to Valdosta State, Althoff was at Loras College. At completion of his collegiate athletic career with football, he became a student coach. There Althoff worked with strength and conditioning, as well as football. He also interned, during summer 2006, at University of Iowa working with the strength and conditioning program for Olympic sports.

He currently holds a masters in education from Valdosta State University and a bachelors degree in sports science with minors in biology and coaching from Loras College. Additionally, he has certifications from the National Strength and Conditioning Association, The Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches Association, USA Weightlifting and is Functional Movement Certified.

Althoff resides in Waco with his wife Chrissie and three sons Tucker, Joel, and Eli.

JARRED ALWAN  
GRADUATE ASSISTANT COACH  
TEMPLE, 2016

Jarred Alwan joined the Baylor football staff in June 2017. He serves as a defensive graduate assistant.

A native of Cherry Hill, N.J., Alwan was a four-year letterman for Temple at linebacker. He helped the Owls to a 2016 American Athletic Conference championship under head coach Matt Rhule. He played in 50 games in his career with 28 starts. He finished his Temple career with 200 tackles, 44 tackles for loss and 4.5 sacks.

Alwan earned his bachelor’s degree from Temple in 2016.

THOMAS ARENDS  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF PLAYER PERSONNEL  
OREGON, 2012

Thomas Arends joined the Baylor staff in January 2017. He serves as associate director for player personnel.

Prior to moving to Baylor, Arends spent two seasons (2015-16) as director of recruiting operations and high school relations at Oregon. He served as associate director of player personnel for head coach Mark Helfrich and the Ducks from 2013-14.

He served as a recruiting student assistant under former Oregon head coach Chip Kelly from 2009-12, working with director of player personnel Jim Fisher.

During Arends’ time on staff at Oregon, the Ducks had five first round NFL draft picks. The program had 25 players drafted overall during his tenure. Oregon played in two national championship games, three Rose Bowls, one Fiesta Bowl and had 11 players earn All-America honors.

A native of Sisters, Oregon, Arends graduated from Oregon in 2012.

JEFF BARLOW  
DIRECTOR OF EQUIPMENT SERVICES  
MISSISSIPPI STATE, 2002

Jeff Barlow is in his 15th year at Baylor and serves as the director of equipment services for the Bears’ football program.

He works closely with Nike to assist in the design of the Bears uniforms, which were voted “College football’s best uniform” in a 2014 Sporting News poll.

A native of Vicksburg, Miss., Barlow received his bachelor’s degree in business administration from Mississippi State in 2002. As an undergraduate, Barlow served as a student manager for the Bulldog football program from 1998 to 2002.

In the summer of 2002, Barlow served a training camp internship with the NFL’s Houston Texans. He is also a certified member of the Athletic Equipment Managers Association.

Barlow and his wife, Laura, have one son, Jakob.
COACHES & STAFF

**SHAWN BELL**
OFFENSIVE ANALYST
BAYLOR, 2006

Former Baylor great Shawn Bell joined the football staff in December 2016. He serves as an offensive analyst.

The former record-setting Baylor quarterback returns to his alma mater following 10 seasons on the sidelines at the high school level, the last eight as head coach at Cedar Ridge, Magnolia West and Clifton.

Bell spent the 2016 season at Cedar Ridge High School, in Round Rock, Texas, where he was named District 13-6A Coach of the Year after leading the Raiders to an 11-1 mark and the school’s first-ever district championship.

From 2010 to 2015, Bell was head coach at Magnolia West High School in Magnolia, Texas. He led the Mustangs to the postseason every year and compiled a six-year record of 44-27.

His first head coaching stint was in 2009 at Clifton (Texas) High School. In 2008, Bell worked under his father, central Texas coaching icon and long-time China Spring head coach Mark Bell, on the CSHS staff. He began his coaching career in 2007, working with the wide receivers at Stony Point High School in Round Rock.

Bell rewrote the passing records during his time as Baylor’s quarterback from 2003-06, owning 28 school records at the conclusion of his career. His 5,666 career yards and 38 career touchdowns currently stand as the fifth most all-time at BU.

He was a 2006 All-Big 12 honorable mention selection following his senior season. Bell’s legacy includes an unforgettable Baylor highlight when he threw consecutive completions to Dominique Zeigler for a touchdown and game-winning two-point conversion in overtime to defeat No. 16 Texas A&M, 35-34, in 2004 in only his third career start.

Bell also was a 2006 NFF National Honor Society selection, two-time Baylor Dean’s list recipient, two-time first-team Academic All-Big 12 honoree and eight-time member of the Big 12 Commissioner’s Honor Roll. He graduated in May 2006 with a degree in education and earned a master’s degree in sports management in 2007.

A native of nearby China Spring, Bell was an all-state quarterback under his father at CSHS and finished his prep career ranked third all-time in Texas history with 8,437 passing yards. He and his wife, Hali, have two sons, Cannon and Braxton, and a daughter, Saydi.

**KIRK BRYANT**
GRADUATE ASSISTANT COACH
MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE, 2015

Kirk Bryant joined the Baylor football staff in May 2017. He serves as an offensive graduate assistant.

Prior to moving to Baylor, Bryant spent the 2016 season as wide receivers coach and director of operations at East Texas Baptist University. Before ETBU, he served as running backs coach for one season at Mississippi College in 2015.

A native of Bullard, Texas, Bryant played wide receiver and special teams four seasons at Mississippi College. He led Mississippi College in receiving his senior year while scoring one touchdown.

Bryant earned his bachelor’s degree from Mississippi College in 2015. He was a member of both the American Southwest Conference All-Academic team and Gulf South Conference Academic Honor Roll during his career.

**COREY CAMPBELL**
ATHLETICS PERFORMANCE COACH
GEORGIA, 2013

Corey Campbell joined the Baylor staff in April 2017. He serves as an athletics performance coach with the football program.

Campbell enjoyed a brief stint as assistant director of football strength and conditioning at Purdue University prior to moving to Baylor. He spent the 2016 season at Cincinnati, where he worked with the football, cheerleading and golf programs. While with the Bearcats, Campbell assisted with the overall design and coaching of performance training for the football program, and oversaw the internship program.

Prior to Cincinnati, Campbell spent time as a strength and conditioning graduate assistant at Georgia College and as an intern at the University of Georgia.

A two-year letter winner as a fullback and special teams standout at Georgia, Campbell played four seasons (2010-13) for the Bulldogs and was named a game captain four times during his senior year. The Bulldogs went 36-18 during his career and made four bowl appearances.

Campbell graduated from Georgia in 2013 with a bachelor’s degree in biological science and earned a master’s degree in kinesiology from Georgia College in 2016.

**Josh Cochran**
GRADUATE ASSISTANT COACH
TEXAS, 2014

Josh Cochran joined the Baylor football staff in February 2017. He serves as an offensive graduate assistant.

Cochran spent one season in 2016 as offensive line coach and run game coordinator at East Texas Baptist University. He worked during the 2015 season as offensive line coach at Lindale (Texas) High School.

Cochran spent the 2014 season as a student assistant coach at the University of Texas under offensive line coach Joe Wickline and offensive coordinator Shawn Watson.

A three-year letterman on the offensive line at the University of Texas, Cochran was a freshman All-American in 2011. He played in 31 games with 23 starts before being forced to retire in 2013 due to injury. He was an Academic All-Big 12 first team selection and a four-time member of the Big 12 Commissioner’s Honor Roll.

A former high school All-American, Cochran is a native of Hallsville, Texas. He earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of Texas in 2015.
Evan Cooper joined the Baylor football staff in December 2016. He serves as director of player personnel. Cooper served as Temple’s director of player personnel during the 2015 and 2016 seasons under head coach Matt Rhule.

He spent six months in 2015 at the University of Miami with Al Golden. Prior to that, he was a member of Rhule’s initial staff as a defensive graduate assistant in 2013 and director of external operations in 2014.

He spent two seasons as the defensive backs coach at Westminster Academy in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., while working as a student advisor.

A four-year letterman for the Owls, Cooper received his degree in sport and recreation management from Temple in 2009.

He is married to the former Andisha Hoilett. The couple has a son, Evan III.

Jake Cox joined the Baylor staff in January 2017. He serves as associate director for athletic performance with the football program.

Prior to Baylor, Cox spent three seasons as the head football strength and conditioning coach at Villanova from 2014-16. At Villanova, he oversaw all aspects of the Howie Long Sports Performance Center, while directing strength and conditioning for football, including strength training, speed, agility, conditioning, flexibility, mobility, soft tissue work and nutrition.

Cox moved to Villanova after a one-year stint at Temple in 2013, where he worked under head strength and conditioning coach Jeremy Scott and head coach Matt Rhule. He coached the Owl football team in strength and metabolic conditioning methods.

From 2011 to 2013, Cox was the director of nutrition and assistant strength and conditioning coach at Colorado. His first full-time position was at Akron from 2010-2011, where he served as an assistant strength and conditioning coach. Before his position at Akron, Cox was a strength and conditioning graduate assistant at Stephen F. Austin from 2008-2010. He has also held internships at Iowa, Baylor, Mid-America Nazarene and Kansas.

After playing two years at Iowa Central Community College, Cox transferred to Kansas where he was a two-year letterman on the offensive line from 2005-06. Cox graduated from Kansas in 2008 with a bachelor’s degree in health. He earned a master’s degree in kinesiology from Stephen F. Austin in 2010. Cox is married to the former Jennifer Himmelsbach.

Matthew Delgado joined the Baylor football staff in January 2017. He serves as director for football technology.

Delgado came to Baylor from Temple, where he served as video coordinator on head coach Matt Rhule’s staff from 2014-16. In that capacity, he coordinated all practice and game tape for the coaching staff, broke down opponent film, oversaw the video library and created video highlights for internal and external use.

Delgado joined the Owls after a three year stint with the University of New Hampshire where he was the director of video operations as well as their NFL/Pro liaison. Prior to his time at UNH, he worked in player personnel and was responsible for video operations for the San Jose SaberCats of the Arena Football League.

The Cupertino, Calif., native graduated from San Jose State in May of 2010 with a degree in communications. While at SJSU, Delgado got his start in football interning for the San Francisco 49ers where he worked on draft and other film evaluations for their football operations department.

Rob Dvoracek joined the Baylor football staff in January 2017. He serves as a defensive quality control coach.

Dvoracek worked as a student assistant coach at Temple University in 2016 under head coach Matt Rhule. It was his third season on the staff and fifth with the football program. Dvoracek was a two-year letterwinner for the Owls in 2012-13 before suffering a career-ending injury and transitioning into coach.

The Allentown, Pa., native attended Parkland High where he was a standout at both fullback and linebacker. He was a two-time conference All-Academic honoree before earning his bachelor’s degree in adult and organizational development from Temple in 2015. He completed a master’s degree in educational leadership at Temple in 2017.
Samantha Diamond joined the Baylor football staff in January 2017. She serves as associate director for football administration.

Diamond spent four years working in the Temple athletic department and three years with the football program. Her final season at Temple in 2016, she served as the coordinator of football staff scheduling and special events/external camp liaison assisting in all matters related to scheduling and special events for the head football coach and staff. Her main responsibilities included coordination, securing availability, execution and scheduling of the various obligations required by the coaching staff as it pertains to interactions with Alumni Relations, the Office of the President, Board of Trustees, Advancement/Owl Club, various colleges on campus and Athletic Administration.

From 2015-16, Diamond served as the coordinator of football administration, responsible for managing the team’s recruiting database. Diamond moved to Temple football after serving as a sports psychologist for the Temple volleyball team.

Prior to working with Temple volleyball, Diamond spent six months as a mental conditioning coach at IMG Academy in Bradenton, Fla., serving over 1,000 student-athletes and campers.

Diamond earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Temple in 2011, a master’s degree in exercise science and sport psychology from Ithaca College in 2014, and a master’s degree in education from Temple in 2016.

Jessica Jefferson joined the Baylor football staff in July 2017 as assistant to the head football coach.

Jefferson came to Waco with experience in professional football and digital media. In addition to work with BFG Marketing as social media manager, she served as an associate social media producer with Sports Illustrated during late 2016.

She also spent time with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in 2016 and New York Jets in 2015 as a social and digital media assistant.

Jefferson worked from 2013-15 as a digital media student assistant with the Clemson University football program. She also worked as a recruiting administrative assistant with the Tigers during that time.

A native of Charleston, S.C., Jefferson graduated with a bachelor of arts from Clemson in 2015.

Ryan Kelly joined the Baylor football staff in January 2017. He serves as associate director for football operations. Prior to moving to Waco, Kelly served from 2015-16 at Temple as assistant director of football operations.

Kelly joined the program from Coastal Carolina University, where he served during the 2014 season as a recruiting assistant. He oversaw many aspects of the recruiting process for the 2014 Big South Champions in the FCS, including scheduling visits and handling NCAA paperwork.

Kelly spent three seasons at Anna Maria College in Paxton, Mass. from 2011-13, where he was the director of football operations. He began as running backs coach in 2011 before being promoted to special teams coordinator the following year. He handled recruiting for the football team before earning his promotion to oversee recruiting for all 17 varsity teams for the Division III School. He also taught special needs students in the area.

The Albany, N.Y. native earned his bachelor of science in physical education from Norwich University in 2011. He earned four varsity letters on the football team, winning the Eastern Collegiate Football Championship in 2009, the same year he was named Norwich’s Special Teams Player of the Year. He also pitched for the baseball team, transitioning from the starting rotation to the bullpen, earning four varsity letters.

Kelly is married to the former Kristina Lane.

Kevin Kroboth joined the Baylor staff in January 2017. He serves as an athletics performance coach with the Baylor football program.

Kroboth came to Baylor after five seasons at his alma mater Temple working under the direction of Baylor director of athletic performance Jeremy Scott. His final two years (2015-16) he served as assistant strength and conditioning coach after three years as a graduate assistant.

The Temple football letterman was a member of two bowl teams with the Owls and a member of the school’s all-time winningest senior class. A 2011 third-team All-Mid-American Conference honoree at safety, Kroboth started all 13 games as a senior, one of only nine Owls to start every game. He finished the 2011 season second in tackling with 76 stops, a team-best seven break-ups and three interceptions. Kroboth played in the 2011 Casino Del Sol All-Star Game following his senior season. He was named the team’s 2008 Special Teams MVP as a true freshman.

Kroboth began his football playing career at Nazareth (Pa.) High School, playing quarterback and safety for the Blue Eagles. The team captain finished his prep career with 692 rushing yards and six touchdowns. A two-time All-Lehigh Valley Conference selection, Kroboth played in the McDonald’s All-Star Classic.

The Nazareth, Pa., native earned a both bachelors and master’s degrees from Temple. He is married to the former Amber Corbo.
Matt Kuehl  
ATHLETICS TRAINER  
MINNESOTA, 2007

**Matt Kuehl** joined the Baylor staff in August 2017. He serves as an athletics trainer with the football program.

Prior to moving to Baylor, Kuehl spent three seasons at Northern Illinois as the head football athletic trainer from 2014-17. Kuehl also served on the athletic training staff at Kansas from 2010-14.

Kuehl worked as a graduate assistant athletic trainer at Arizona State from 2007-09 and spent one year as a seasonal intern with the New England Patriots in 2009-10.

Kuehl earned a bachelor’s degree from Minnesota State-Mankato in 2007 and a master’s degree from A.T. Still University in Mesa, Ariz. He was born in Denver, Colo. and played football and wrestled at Luther Preparatory School in Watertown, Wis.

A native of Hartland, Wisc., Kuehl is married to the former Emily Thomas.

Matt Lombardi  
OFFENSIVE QUALITY CONTROL  
DELAWARE, 2013

**Matt Lombardi** joined the Baylor football staff in February 2017. He serves as a quality control coach on the offensive side of the ball.

Lombardi moved to Baylor after spending three seasons from 2014-16 on the football staff at Louisville. He worked as a graduate assistant with the Cardinals coaching tight ends for two seasons from 2015-16. Lombardi spent his first season at Louisville in 2014 as a special teams quality control assistant.

He spent the 2013 season as a scouting intern with the Cleveland Browns.

His father, Michael, spent three decades working in the NFL including a stint as general manager of the Cleveland Browns from 2013-14. He is currently a football analyst for The Ringer. Lombardi’s brother, Mick, is an assistant coach with the New York Jets.

Lombardi graduated from Delaware in 2013. He is married to the former Julie Levites.

Bobby Maffei  
DEFENSIVE QUALITY CONTROL  
NEBRASKA, 2011

**Bobby Maffei** joined the Baylor football staff in January 2017. He serves as a defensive quality control coach.

Maffei came to Baylor after spending the 2016 season as the cornerbacks coach at Tennessee Tech. Under the guidance of Maffei at TTU, Maleek Hall finished the season with 30 tackles, 10 breakups, two interceptions and one sack. His cornerback group finished with 30 combined PBUs.

Maffei also served as director of community outreach during his stint at Tennessee Tech. During that time, the Golden Eagles completed more than 1,000 hours of community service.

Previously he spent two seasons (2014-2015) on Matt Rhule’s staff at Temple as a graduate assistant working with the defense and special teams.

Maffei moved to Temple from Pace University where he was a wide receivers coach and recruiting coordinator in 2014.

Prior to his appointment at Pace, he spent three seasons at Central Connecticut State in a variety of roles. He began as director of football operations where he organized team travel, directed summer camps, and organized recruiting visits. In 2011, along with his operations role he handled quality control for the defense.

In 2012, he became the wide receivers coach and in 2013 added the responsibility of special teams coordinator. Under Maffei’s tutelage, Deven Baker earned a training camp spot with the Oakland Raiders in 2012. In 2013, Tyrell Holmes was named to the All-Northeast Conference team at receiver and Rob Hollomon led the NEC in kick-off returns at 29.6 ypr – a total that ranked 10th nationally.

The Trumbull, Conn., native, began his coaching career as a student assistant at Nebraska. He graduated from Nebraska in 2011 with a bachelor’s degree in educational and human sciences. He completed a master’s degree in educational leadership at Temple in 2016.
SUPPORT STAFF

Sean Padden joined the Baylor football program in December 2016. He serves on head coach Matt Rhule’s staff as associate athletics director for football operations.

Padden spent 2015-16 at Temple as the associate athletics director and chief of staff for director of athletics Pat Kraft and served as sport administrator for football after two seasons with the director of operations title.

Padden returned to collegiate football in 2013 after an eight-year stint in the corporate world. Prior to that he volunteered as the defensive line coach at Monsignor Bonner High School in Drexel Hill, Pa. during the 2012 season. He was a volunteer coach for the West Philly Tarheels youth football team from 2008-10.

Padden served as the defensive line coach at Fordham University during the 2002-03 seasons. Prior to Fordham, Padden spent two seasons from 2001-02 on the Columbia staff as the outside linebackers coach, winning a Patriot League championship in 2002.

His coaching career began at Albright College, where Padden coached the defensive line for two seasons from 1997-98, working with Rhule who coached the linebackers in 1998. Padden moved to the University of Albany for two seasons, one as the defensive tackles coach and one as wide receivers coach.

A three-year letterman for Catholic University, Padden won the scout team player of the year award as a junior in 1995. He graduated with a bachelor’s degree in accounting in 1997 and served as a student assistant alongside coaches Terry Smith, Adam DiMichele and Frisman Jackson. Padden was a member of B Body Bearers (1998), serving as the strength coach for the Penn State Boxers (1997-98) and as a personal trainer (1995).

A Norristown, Pa., native, Padden earned a master’s degree in higher education administration from Albany in 2005.

Robert Perez joined the Baylor staff in October 2010. He currently serves as associate director for football technology.

Perez was hired full-time as video coordinator during the 2010 season. Prior to his promotion, he worked as a student assistant on the football video staff from 2005-09.

A native of Angleton, Texas, Perez earned a bachelor’s degree from Baylor in 2010.

Jeremy Scott joined the Baylor staff in January 2017 as director of athletics performance for football. He previously worked four years at Temple with head coach Matt Rhule in the same capacity.

Scott has dedicated his career to career to optimizing the performance of collegiate and professional athletes. He was recognized for his achievements in 2011 with the prestigious designation of Master of Strength and Conditioning Coach.

Prior to Temple, he spent the 2012 season at Princeton.

Scott worked at Penn State for 15 years from 1998-2011 serving as assistant strength and conditioning coach and speed coach including one year as a graduate assistant. At Penn State, he helped train 14 first-team All-Americans and 40 first-team All-Big Ten student-athletes. In addition to his work as a strength coach, Jeremy was responsible for developing players’ speed, agility and quickness. His expertise was a valuable resource in preparing players for the drills used at the NFL Combine. Scott has trained hundreds of players for the NFL Combine and NFL Camps, including the number one overall pick in 2000, Courtney Brown, in Penn State’s NFL combine prep program. During his tenure, PSU made 11 bowl appearances and won two Big Ten titles.

His work experience also includes designing and implementing a strength training program for the United States Marine Corps Company B Body Bearers (1998), serving as the strength coach for the Penn State Boxing Club (1997-98) and as a personal trainer (1995).

The Wilkes-Barre, Pa., native received his bachelor’s degree in fitness management from Lock Haven University in 1996 and his masters degree in health education from Penn State in 1999. Scott is married to the former Cory Beth Wickizer, and they have a daughter, Emma, and son, Evan.

Damiere Shaw joined the Baylor football staff in January 2017. He serves as an offensive quality control coach.

Shaw spent one year as a student assistant coach for Temple under head coach Matt Rhule in 2016. Shaw previously served as a student assistant with the Owls for three seasons from 2013-15.

Shaw made the transition from player to coach following a head injury as a freshman. While a student assistant, he worked with the wide receivers alongside coaches Terry Smith, Adam DiMichele and Frisman Jackson.

During the 2015 season, Shaw worked closely with former Temple and current New York Jets wide receiver Robby Anderson as he posted the second-most receiving yards in program history.

The Chester, Pa., native earned a bachelor’s degree from Temple in 2016. He is married to the former Miah Shockley.
SUPPORT STAFF

Emily Smith joined the Baylor staff in July 2017 as associate director for football operations.

Prior to moving to Waco, she spent three seasons from 2014-16 as administrative associate for the Kennesaw State football program. While with the Owls, Smith coordinated all day-to-day administrative duties in addition to assisting with on-campus recruiting as KSU completed its first two seasons of competition in 2015 and 2016.

Smith previously served as recruiting operations coordinator at North Carolina State in 2013. While a member of the Wolf Pack football program, Smith was responsible for assisting the director of player personnel in managing daily recruiting operations and logistics. She also assisted the director of high school relations in the organization and operations of all camps and clinics, and managed and coordinated the Student Athletic Hostess program and its involvement in different recruiting functions.

Prior to arriving in Raleigh, N.C., Smith was an assistant account executive/events associate at Atlanta, Ga.-based MELT, LLC for two years. In that role, Smith coordinated site visits with clients and vendors. She also prepared activation for Coke Zero at the 2011 and 2012 NCAA Men’s Final Four, and worked with Coke Zero in managing Bracket Town at the 2013 NCAA Men’s Final Four.

Smith spent nearly two years as assistant to the director of football operations and head coach at Auburn from July of 2009 to April of 2011 where she assisted the program during its 2010 national championship season. Among her responsibilities, Smith was the primary contact for coaches during Southeastern Conference and national championship events, and played an active support role in top-five recruiting classes in 2010 and 2011.

Smith, who got her start in athletics serving as a student worker in the Auburn Athletics Department from 2007-09, graduated from Auburn in 2009 with a bachelor’s degree in communications with a minor in business.

Stephen Smith joined the Baylor football staff in July 2017 as associate director for player development.

Prior to joining the Bears, Smith spent two seasons from 2015-16 at the University of Tennessee as a defensive quality control assistant.

Smith worked for seven years as a football assistant coach at Cedar Hill (Texas) High School under current Baylor assistant coach Joey McGuire.

He helped guide the Longhorns to three Texas state titles (2006, 2013-14).

While at Cedar Hill, he spent time as both co-offensive coordinator and tight ends and halfbacks coach.

A native of Dallas, Smith played at Southwestern Assemblies of God University in Waxahatchie, Texas from 2003-04. He graduated from SAGU in 2006 with a bachelor’s degree in history.

Emily Smith
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR FOOTBALL OPERATIONS
AUBURN, 2009

Stephen Smith
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR PLAYER DEVELOPMENT
SOUTHWESTERN, 2006

Tyrone Smith joined the Baylor staff in July 2017. He serves as an athletics performance coach with the football program.

Prior to joining the Baylor staff, Smith spent six months at Cincinnati as an assistant strength coach working primarily with the football and cheerleading programs. He completed sports performance internships at Ohio State in 2016 and Penn State in 2015.

Smith lettered on the defensive line at Penn State from 2013-14. He recorded double-digit tackles for his career after joining the team as a walk-on in the spring of 2012.

The Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania native graduated from Penn State in 2015.

Tyrone Smith
ATHLETICS PERFORMANCE COACH
PENN STATE, 2015

Dave Snyder joined the Baylor staff in July 2017. He serves as director of sports medicine working specifically with the football program.

Snyder moved to Baylor after serving as assistant athletics director for sports medicine and head football athletic trainer at Tennessee-Chattanooga from 2012-17.

Prior to his arrival at UTC, Snyder worked as the assistant football athletic trainer for the University of Kansas from 2006-12. During his tenure, the Jayhawks won the 2007 Orange Bowl and the 2008 Insight Bowl.

He earned a master’s degree from The Citadel in 2005, where he was a resident assistant with the football team. Snyder completed internships with the Indianapolis Colts (2002) and Tampa Bay Buccaneers (2005).

A native of Ocilla, Ga., Snyder is a certified Athletic Trainer by the NATABOC and holds a certification as a Corrective Exercise Specialist by the NASM. He graduated from the University of Georgia in 2003, where he worked as a student athletic trainer with the football, baseball and volleyball teams and was on the sidelines working with the Bulldogs at the 2001 Music City Bowl.

Snyder is married to the former Erin Daily. The couple has two children, Jack and Hollis.

Dave Snyder
DIRECTOR OF SPORTS MEDICINE
GEORGIA, 2003
Mike Wallace joined the Baylor football staff in January 2017. He serves as associate director of player personnel.

Wallace spent three seasons on the Temple football staff under head coach Matt Rhule, working as a student assistant coach from 2014-15 and as a graduate extern in 2016.

He spent the previous seven seasons as the assistant head coach under Hall of Fame coach Ron Cohen at George Washington High School in Philadelphia, Penn. At GW, he coached numerous division one players including two high school All-Americans (defensive linemen Justin Moody and Sharrif Floyd). Floyd was the 23rd pick in the first round of the 2013 NFL Draft by the Minnesota Vikings.

Under the tutelage of Wallace, George Washington High School won four Public League titles during his seven year coaching span, including three straight from 2007-2009, and again in 2011.

A four-year letterman for George Washington High School, Wallace entered the coaching ranks directly from high school, joining the GW staff. Wallace earned a bachelor’s degree from Temple in 2016.

David Wetzel joined the Baylor staff in December 2016. He serves as associate athletics director for football relations.

He returned to his alma mater after 25 seasons coaching at the high school level in Texas, including the final 13 years from 2004-16 as head coach and athletic coordinator at Ronald Reagan High School in San Antonio. He also served as the president of the Texas High School Football Coaches Association at the time of his hiring. His overall head coaching record at three high schools was 163-71.

Wetzel led Reagan to seven district championships and five regional finals over a nine-year span, including undefeated district titles in each of his last four seasons, and amassed a 114-42 record over 13 years. In his second season at Reagan in 2005, he led the Rattlers to the school’s first winning season in school history.

Prior to Reagan, Wetzel spent four seasons from 2000-03 as the head coach at Killeen High School. He led the 2000 squad to its first playoff berth since 1994 and the 2001 team to the 5A Division II regional quarterfinals.

He spent the 1998-99 seasons as head coach and athletic director at Hyde Park Baptist High School in Austin, advancing to the state semifinals both years. Wetzel began his coaching career as an assistant at Ellison High School in Killeen from 1992-97, where he served as offensive coordinator, secondary coach and wide receivers coach over his tenure.

Wetzel lettered two seasons at wide receiver for Baylor in 1990 and 1991 under legendary head coach Grant Teaff. He graduated from Goldthwaite High School in 1987 and played on the 1985 state championship football team. He was named all-state as a defensive back and All-West Texas as a receiver.

He and his wife Shana are the parents of three boys, Garren, Skyler and Chase.

Cedric Whitaker joined the Baylor football staff in July 2017. He serves as a defensive graduate assistant.

Prior to joining Baylor, Whitaker served on staff at Texas Lutheran University from 2014-2017. He graduated from Texas Lutheran in 2015.

In addition to his work at TLU, Whitaker also served as a defensive back coach with USA Football through regional development camps and international competition.

A native of Houston, Whitaker lettered four years at TLU as a defensive back. He played in 38 games in his career and tallied 86 tackles.