

THE IDOL ATHLETES



**KAITLIN
SMITH**

OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD



**JAKE
SCOTT**

BASEBALL



**SAMARA
HODGES**

INDOOR TRACK & FIELD



**EAN
BEEK**

FOOTBALL



**TORI
HINOJOSA**

BEACH VOLLEYBALL



**JALON
GATES**

MEN'S BASKETBALL



THE ATHLETICS EDITION



**ALISA
CHONG**

WOMEN'S GOLF



**ENGCH
RAMIREZ**

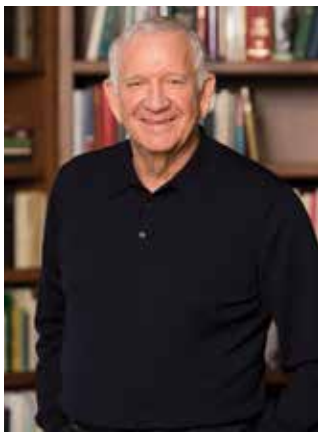
MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY



**NOOR
ABUKISHK**

WOMEN'S SOCCER





How we got back into the NCAA Division I is a very interesting story with many twists and turns – but a good outcome! The first day I was on campus at HBU at the start of the fall semester, 2006, I had lunch with Ron Cottrell, at that time our director of athletics, and we discussed the future of athletics at HBU, and specifically NCAA membership.

Ron told me he favored renewing our NCAA Division I membership and said he would look into the possibilities. The fact that we had been a member before made, we thought, re-entry easier to do. Within a short time, Ron came back to me, not only with the technicalities of NCAA membership and what it would take to re-enter, but also ideas as to how such a vision could unfold operationally.

There were many challenges — not the least of which was a lawsuit filed against the NCAA! – but Ron had great recommendations, the first of which was to bring Steve Moniaci to HBU to help us manage the process. Steve and Ron worked very well together with Steve (according to the plan that Ron and Steve worked out) eventually becoming the AD and Ron remaining in his role as head men's basketball coach and then becoming an associate athletic director.

The HBU Board of Trustees was enthusiastic about going back to NCAA membership – I remember one board member being tearful at the prospect. He had been a Division I athlete and remembered great days as an HBU student athlete.

Our reasons for wanting to rejoin the NCAA had everything to do with visibility for HBU and the engagement of our students and alumni in the life of the University. It took a lot of work, but the leadership of Steve Moniaci, with ongoing support from Ron Cottrell, and the courage and hard work of the coaches in the athletic department made it happen. And HBU has been stronger for it.

The benefits for HBU have been huge. It immediately increased our visibility and gave us a platform with which to publicize the University and attract additional student athletes.

We quickly enlarged the number of varsity sports all the way to 14, including many more opportunities for women student athletes. Today we have 17 NCAA Division I varsity sports, now that we have added men's golf and football and women's beach volleyball.

The addition of these varsity sports added positively to the male-female ratio at the University and has had many other benefits to HBU as well. For example, it gave us a more focused campus life in the fall, since now we can build Homecoming and Family Weekends around football games, which is traditional among American universities. Plus tailgating and a band!

And the impact of athletics on the engagement of our alumni has been significant. I'm also convinced that having Division I varsity sports has added to our general appeal when it comes to student recruiting.

One other amazing thing has been that – contrary to what people often assume – athletics has contributed more to the financial strength of HBU than it has demanded. In the first place, many of the scholarships we give are partial scholarships, so student athletes also pay a significant portion of their costs to come to HBU. Plus, we have donors who have invested in the athletic department who would not otherwise have given to the University.

Academically, our student athletes have a very high GPA, currently higher – this often surprises people – than the student body at large. The same is true for student-athlete graduation rates. That is, they're higher than the campus average. We are members of the Southland Conference, and we have developed a pattern of being the perennial winners of the conference academic award (four years in row) because of the performance in the classroom of our student-athletes. We've also had several Academic All-America honors in recent years for which students compete against every other Division I school in the country. I attribute these accomplishments to the commitment of the student athletes and, of course, to the support and leadership of the coaches and staff, not to mention our outstanding Academic Success Center and the Looper Learning Commons.

I'm very proud of our coaches for HBU athletics. They have the most well-rounded attitude of any athletic department I've ever known. They lead the student-athletes, not only competitively and athletically, but also and especially academically and spiritually. Our coaches truly care that our student-athletes are healthy and mature in every possible way. I'm also thankful for the very positive attitude our coaches have toward HBU as a whole. They care about the entire University, and they support all of the University's endeavors and projects both in the classroom and out. I can think of many instances where, when everyone at HBU had to do some belt-tightening with respect to budgets, the athletic department did the same.

It's exciting to think about the future of athletics at HBU. We have some more sports to add, especially women's sports, and we have additional facilities to build that will not only help athletics, but will help the entire University — for example, a special events center that will support basketball and volleyball, but also graduation services and special events like concerts.

Our vision for HBU athletics is that we continue to grow the number of sports as appropriate and that we press forward in our commitment to academic and personal excellence for student-athletes, while at the same time striving to be successful on the playing courts and fields. It's a challenge for anyone in NCAA Division I athletics, but we can do it. And I truly believe that, at HBU, we are doing it the right way.

Dr. Robert Sloan
HBU President



@DrRobertBSloan

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Athletics, Academics & Christian Principles: A WINNING COMBINATION!



ATHLETICS

HBU has 17 NCAA Division I sports that represent the University on a national stage. They allow HBU to draw exceptional athletes, serve as a main component of student and alumni experience, and elevate the school to a level that meets and surpasses other universities.





TURNING POINT

While HBU has a long history of athletic achievement, 2007 and 2008 marked a huge turning point in the life of the University. The Huskies started the process of transition and began Division I play; HBU was fully admitted back into the NCAA in 2011. The University also announced acceptance into the Southland Conference.

Now, HBU's thriving, NCAA Division I sports are football, volleyball, men's soccer, women's soccer, men's cross country and indoor and outdoor track, women's cross country and indoor and outdoor track, men's golf, women's golf, men's basketball, women's basketball, beach volleyball, softball and baseball.

The athletics department has taken huge growth and changes in stride thanks to its shared vision. Much of the success of the programs is due to the direction and support of HBU president, Dr. Robert Sloan.

"Our reasons for wanting to rejoin the NCAA had everything to do with visibility for HBU and the engagement of our students and alumni in the life of the University," Sloan said. "The benefits for HBU have been huge. It immediately increased our visibility and gave us a platform with which to publicize the University and attract additional student-athletes. One other amazing thing has been that – contrary to what people often assume – athletics has contributed more to the financial strength of HBU than it has demanded."

HBU director of Athletics, Steve Moniaci, credits Dr. Sloan's leadership. He also lauds the coaches who have ensured the teams are high-level contenders. "Teams always take after their leaders. They take on the characteristics of their coaches," he said. "All of them are very fine Christians and very much believe in the development of the individual athlete."

Associate athletic director and James Sears Bryant Head Men's Basketball Coach since 1990, Ron Cottrell, said, "This is a cliché, but I don't think we work. We enjoy what we do. It is a commitment level unlike most jobs, but it's rewarding and satisfying. I can't imagine doing anything else."

A BENEFIT TO ATHLETES

While the teams have amassed numerous wins, accolades and even championships, Moniaci looks at winning in multiple ways. "It's important that we win, but it's not the most important. The most important thing is the number of lives I feel like we've changed," he said. "We have 85 percent of athletes who graduate. The transformation from the children they came in as, to the young men and women they become, is rewarding."

HBU is able to teach and train student-athletes uniquely due to the campus environment, Moniaci said. "If you go out and walk across the campus, you're going to know who many people are and you're going to know something about them. That's just not the case at the larger institutions. And when you know folks, you care about them," he said.

Athletes are among the most involved students on campus. Many of them participate in the Fellowship of

Athletics teams have played a formative role in shaping the identity of the University since its early days. The first sports programs were baseball and men's basketball in 1964 (Looser, 2010). Program offerings continued to grow, and by the 1980s, University athletics had entered what Dr. Don Looser called a "golden era for intercollegiate sports" in his book on the history of HBU, "An Act of Providence: A History of Houston Baptist University, 1960-2010." At that time, the men's and women's gymnastics teams were nationally ranked, and the soccer and golf teams were nationally ranked as well.

The next decade, however, marked a scaling back in University sports. Looser notes, "The HBU Board of Trustees voted in 1991 to move intercollegiate athletics from the NCAA to the NAIA Division I in basketball, baseball, softball and volleyball. The Board further voted to eliminate men's and women's gymnastics and riflery, men's golf and soccer."

In the years to come, University sports programs prospered, and they enjoyed wide success at the NAIA level.

Christian Athletes and the Student Athlete Advisory Committee. Each year, teams participate in service projects through Southland Gives Back.

"There's a lot of volunteerism they do that doesn't get publicized," said Russ Reneau, HBU assistant athletic director for media relations and broadcasting. "They want to give back to the community."

Another less-known fact is that HBU athletes carry a higher average GPA than the student body as a whole; athletes' graduation rate is also higher. "We have won the academic award the last four years in the Southland Conference," Reneau said. "We pride ourselves in being the top academic institution in the league."

SCHOOL SPIRIT

Athletics competition provides an important outlet for school spirit and connection to the campus. "We always want as many fans as we can to be reached on as many platforms as possible," Reneau said. "I want students to know that it's free to come out and watch a game."

HBU's unique standing as a caring, Christian school with high-level competition draws recruits from around the United States and the world.

Cottrell said HBU appeals to athletes due to a number of factors. "Every kid is an individual. They look at it from their perspective – what is important to them," he said. "For some, it's the education and degree programs. For some, it's the Christian values. For some, it's the Division I. For some, it's the bigger city. Everybody has their own reasons why they feel HBU is the place for them. We check off the boxes for a lot of different people."

When they compete for HBU, student-athletes get more benefits than many imagined. Scores of athletes have become Christians as a result of their time at HBU, and each has grown in character. Combined with HBU's instruction, HBU athletes are set up for success.

Mary-Ellen Hall '88, softball head coach and senior woman administrator, joined the coaching staff in 1988. She said, "We are fortunate to be able to coach at a University that imparts Christian values. We demonstrate the importance of a solid moral and ethical foundation. We teach life skills. We believe in the importance of family and a profession and personal spirituality. We want them to be the best they can be on the field, in the classroom, and in their daily lives."

Reference

Looser, Don. (2010). *An Act of Providence: A History of Houston Baptist University, 1960-2010*. Halcyon Press.

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HBU Athletics Recent Academic Prowess

HBU athletes have taken the **top spot in academics for the last four years in the Southland Conference**. They carry a higher average GPA than the student body as a whole; athletes' graduation rate is also higher.

Four-straight **Southland Conference APR Awards** (Academic Performance Rate)

Women's Basketball **WBCA** (Women's Basketball Coaches Association) **Academic Top 25** Team Honor Roll (14th-Highest GPA in nation)

Men's Basketball: **5 Named to NABC** (National Association of Basketball Coaches) **Honors Court** (Third-most nationally)

Both Indoor and Beach Volleyball earned **AVCA** (American Volleyball Coaches Association) **Team Academic Honors**

Women's Golf: **5 WGCA** (Women's Golf Coaches Association) **All-America Scholars**

Men's Golf: **GCAA** (Golf Coaches Association of America) **Outstanding Team Academic Award**; **Nicko Martinez** named **Srixon/Cleveland Golf All-America Scholar**

2018-19 Google Cloud **CoSIDA** (College Sports Information Directors of America) **Academic All-Americans**:

Kayla Davenport
Volleyball

Demi Janak
Softball

Amanda Johnson
Women's Basketball

Ana Kriletic
Track & Field

**Four is the most HBU has had in a single year*

Q&A with Steve Moniaci

Steve Moniaci is HBU's fourth director of Athletics. For about a decade, he has overseen the operations of the department and its 17 NCAA Division I sports programs. During his tenure, HBU successfully transitioned back to NCAA Division I membership status, joined the Southland Conference, started a football program and a beach volleyball program, and built a 5,000-seat stadium on campus.

Tell us how you came to serve as the director of HBU Athletics.

I'm from a little town called Piqua, Ohio, which is about 25 miles north of Dayton, Ohio.

Career-wise, I was at Rice University for 26 years. I started out over there at about as low as you can start as an intern in the athletic department working in marketing and promotions. And over the course of 26 years, I was very fortunate to be able to

stay there that entire time. And when I left, I was the senior associate athletic director there – the number two person in the athletic department.

In 2006, I took a job at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. And then there were some family circumstances that brought me back to Houston. I got a call in late December from HBU president, Dr. Sloan. He wanted to know if I would come out and do a study for him about what it would take to get this University to come back to Division I athletics. I became the associate director of Athletics here, then interim director and director a couple of years later. The rest is history.

What was it like bringing University sports back to Division I status?

Up until 1990, HBU was in the Transamerica Athletic Conference as a Division I institution. We had a number of different sports – many of the same we're playing today. HBU had a very good history and was a very good Athletics department.

There was a change of college leadership and the focus wasn't on intercollegiate athletics at the highest level. And so initially, athletics was dropped, but then brought back at the NAIA level. And it was a strong NAIA Athletic department. The year that I got here in the spring of 2007, the University actually made an appearance in all five national championships that it competed in.

Interestingly enough, when Dr. Sloan asked me to look into what it would take, we started digging into the rule book. The NCAA, as most people know, has a lot of rules. The rule book is thick. We did some research and found a line in the book that if you had been a NCAA member prior, you could come back to Division I. It would take you three years to come back. And so in the spring of that year, we sent a letter to the NCAA asking for readmittance to the NCAA citing that rule and asking what that three-year period would look like.

Finally, in midsummer, we got a letter back from them saying, "Thank you for your application and your check for the membership fee. However, we meant to take that line out of the manual. It will be a seven-year process to come back into the NCAA."

Well, we somehow didn't think that was probably quite right because it was obviously written in the NCAA manual that it was only a three-year wait. We felt like the seven-year probationary period for a team that had been a Division I team before was a bit much. So we had a legal battle with the NCAA. Two-and-a-half years



later, we settled that suit. Neither side won. However, we got back into the NCAA, so you can figure out from there who actually won. It ended up being close to a four-year process. So, we came back into the NCAA as full members.

Please talk about establishing the HBU football program.

Almost as soon as we got back in Division I, Dr. Sloan asked me to take a look at what it would take to play Division I football. The NCAA has a rule that if you're Division I in all your sports, then any sport you add has to be Division I. If you're Division II or III, you can play up in one sport. But if you're in Division I in all the rest of your sports, whatever sport you start is going to have to be Division I. So we knew that we were going to have to start football at the Division I level.

So we knew that the most likely candidate for us was going to be the Southland Conference. It's a regional conference. We are surrounded by Southland Conference teams; that was really the conference that fit us best. We went up to meet with the commissioner of the Southland Conference. We had met with him a couple of years prior when we were in the transition period. He said at the time, "If you want in, you're probably going to have to start football."

So we went back to him and said, "Well, what if we started football?"

He said, "If you tell me you'll start football, we'll come down and do a tour of your campus with our membership folks and see if you're a proper fit for the Southland." Later in the fall, they came in and did a tour of the campus. We put on a really nice dog and pony show. It wasn't but a week later that they came back and said, "Assuming you're willing to start football, we're willing to take you in." And so that really was the impetus to get the football program started.

It's a major undertaking to establish a football program. It's hiring, recruiting, everything.

The first spring after we announced the football program, we had 11 or 12 young men on the campus who came out for spring drills. We did spring drills on an intramural field that was located about where the football field is now. I remember Coach Vic Shealy and I were out there lining off the field with a marker.

We went out and recruited, and I think our initial class was somewhere in the neighborhood of 60. We did it a little differently than some other folks have done it; that first year, we played football as a club sport. We started out our first game – our very first football game – at Sam Houston State. It was a very hot, late August, early September day. It was probably easily 110 or 120 degrees on the turf out there. We had a huge contingent and filled about half the stadium up there. I'll never forget, Dr. Sloan came up to me and said, "I

met more HBU alumni today than I've met in the five years since I've been president."

When the game was over, all of our fans went down to where the visiting team came off the field and stood and clapped for our kids. It really got us off on the right foot.

What are the latest developments?

When we got into football, we knew what we needed to have. And that's what we built. We needed to have about 5,000 seats. We needed to have a press box. We needed to have some locker rooms. But we're getting to the point now where, to keep up with everybody else, and to make advances out in the field with everybody else, we're going to need to improve our facilities. And so I formed a committee back in the early spring along with Coach Shealy to look at what it would take, how much it would cost, and then where we would go to get the resources to do a little bit more with the facility out there. And we're currently right now in the phase of putting all the numbers together to make sure that we know exactly what it's going to cost us before we go out and start asking folks to help us out.

Also, our beach volleyball program has just taken off. We're only in our second year and we were in the top 30 teams in the country this past year. We hope to get better next year. So that's a sport that's emerging within the NCAA.

What sets HBU Athletics apart?

As I always say, our athletic department is built on three pillars. Most athletic departments are built on two – academics and athletics. The really good ones do a good job at academics and athletics. We build on three. Our third leg is that of Christian principles. And so no one leg is any longer than another one, but I will tell you that, at the end of the day, the Christian principles one is probably the strongest. The analogy I always use is of a barstool. If you have a stool that only has two legs, it's going to be hard to balance on that stool. If you have a stool that has three legs, you're pretty solid.

How do HBU coaches stand out from others?

HBU coaches are role models. All of them are fine Christians and very much believe in the development of the individual athlete. We're a small institution where staff know the individual students. It's important that we win or lose, but it's not the most important thing. That's the message we try to impart to all of our coaching staff: love these kids.

We all work together as a team in the Athletics department. You can't do it alone. I'm very blessed to be here and to build something and work toward a vision.

HBU.edu/p56-Moniaci-1



Men & Women's Golf

Marcelo Trevino, Grace Cassity, David Shuster, Sara Zrnikova, Colin Mulligan





The HBU men's golf team has a goal to win on the golf course and in college courses, too. Team members regularly rack up recognitions for their academic prowess. David Shuster, head men's golf coach, said, "My inspiration in coaching is to continue to help student-athletes grow their minds to achieve both knowledge in the classroom and on the golf course as well. Golf is a great teacher of life's many peaks and valleys; it teaches them how to persevere through the tough times, and how all of the hard work will prepare them to overcome in the end. I want to see them learn continuously, and help them grow a strong mindset to win or reach higher levels of achievement in all of life's endeavors."

When recruiting athletes, Shuster looks for well-rounded young men. "I feel like we work hard to find the type of student-athletes that are confident, those who have success in the classroom, and those who aren't afraid to grind through the tough times and can work through to see the finished product," he said. "Each one of our golfers has a great opportunity to make a difference, to win championships, and to grow in Christ while getting a great education."

Senior player, Nickolas Martinez, said of his choice to play for HBU, "I was looking for a great coaching staff that was willing to work with me as a student-athlete. I wanted to become the best I could be in the classroom and on the golf course. This is what I always believed I could do at HBU."



Leadership, discipline, work ethic and dedication are also some of the values I have learned from my coaches."

Martinez sees his experience as a student-athlete benefiting him long-term. "I always thought that my ability to dedicate myself mentally and physically to something like the game of golf would be seen as valuable to the companies I hope to work for in the future," he said. "The game has taught me patience and perseverance, but the most important lesson I learned from all of this is



communication. In golf, you constantly communicate and meet new people, which in turn establishes relationships and eventual connections in the future."

Marcelo Trevino, a senior golfer, said, "Golf has taught me a lot of values, but the most important for me is to be persistent. I find a balance with friends, family, God, golf and school. Playing at the collegiate level is the greatest opportunity someone can have because it is formative for the players, and it is something we will never forget for the rest of our lives."

HEAD COACH: DAVID SHUSTER



COACHING PHILOSOPHY:

"I believe that coaching has to be a passion first. Secondly, you have to enjoy teaching others to become the best that they can possibly be by hard work, self-discipline, work ethic, respect, accountability and responsibility – both in the classroom and on the playing field."



Women's head golf coach, David Shuster, began coaching at a young age, leading summer leagues and working in his local recreation department. He competed in multiple sports, and eventually narrowed his focus to golf, which he played at the college level. After graduating from Angelo State University in 1980, Shuster went on to coach at the middle school and high school levels. He joined HBU as head men's and women's golf coach in 2007.

The women's golf team has enjoyed significant success, including winning four Great West championships, and winning two Southland Conference championships within the past three years.

Coaching players at HBU is particularly meaningful to

Shuster. "HBU's higher education, the preamble and the Ten Pillars Vision help to give our students, staff and faculty a wonderful vision of what it means to grow our knowledge in a Christian-based environment," he said. "To have the ability to hopefully mold the next generation into powerful leaders and Christ-followers is really what makes it a special place."

Sophomore player, Grace Cassity, was drawn to the legacy of the golf program. "My older brother, Trey, and older sister, Caitlyn, both played for Coach Shuster at HBU. Preston Stanley, my new brother-in-law, also played for Coach Shuster and was HBU's 2015 Male Athlete of the Year. Trey and Preston both earned a conference ring and my sister earned two when they played here," she said. "They all liked the school and the coaches, which made me more



confident in my choice of playing for HBU. My whole family is very grateful for Coach Shuster giving us the opportunity to play Division 1 golf."

Sara Zrnikova, a junior, said it is the coaches who make the difference. "The coaches are the main reason why I signed a letter of intent," she said. "We had great communication, and after my first call with them, I just knew I wanted to be part of the team. Golf taught me patience, confidence and faith. It also taught me that one bad hole does not necessarily mean that the whole tournament is lost.

The same principle works in life too."

Senior Alisa Chong said, "Each year, I went through an injury that prevented me from competing in a tournament. I tried really hard each time to bring myself back to competing condition. My team is amazing. We've all been through a lot individually and as a team, but we rise above it every time, which helped us win the Southland title in 2017 and 2018. My coach always reminded me that, if you keep going, if you keep working hard, it will eventually work out. In golf, we fail a lot, but it's a matter of seeing success in that failure."

ACADEMIC LEADER



**LUCAS
COAPMAN**
MEN'S GOLF

MANAGEMENT
GPA: 4.0

"A large part of coaching has to come from the heart; you have to show others that you truly care about them. Leadership and respect are things that are earned in time. Listen, learn and live it!"

ACADEMIC LEADER



**TIFFANY
NGUYEN**
WOMEN'S GOLF

BIOLOGY
GPA: 4.0



Men & Women's Indoor & Outdoor Track & Cross Country

Jessica Rabijs, Enoch Ramirez, Kaitlin Smith, Coach Theresa Fuqua, Denim Rogers, Garrett Gibson, Samara Hodges





Women's head coach of indoor and outdoor track and cross country, Theresa Fuqua, is among a small number of women who coaches both men's and women's track sports at her level. The programs have enjoyed much success, including having athletes qualify for the NCAA National Championship First Round.

Success in the sport is personal for Fuqua. "I began running in high school in Springfield, Ohio," she said. "I was a six-time state champion in distances from the 800 meters to cross country. I signed in 1983 to run at the University of Houston. I was a four-time All-American in events, both indoor and outdoor, in my time at UH. I also qualified and ran in the two Olympic trials. In my last year of eligibility, I started coaching

part-time at a local high school. It was my goal to eventually end up coaching in college. I consider it a wonderful fortune that I have been able to focus my entire career on coaching."

Sophomore Jessica Rabijs, a mid-distance runner, said, "When I was going through schools and scholarships to choose from, HBU gave me a special feeling when I came on my visit. Coach Fuqua was especially a reason I was attracted to the program. Personally, I loved the achievements she accomplished in her running career, as well as what she has been able to bring out of her mid-distance athletes in the past. Coach T is able to give each athlete their own, personal plan that benefits them in the most ways possible. We are not treated as just a number; we are treated as people and as a family."



One of her proudest moments on the team thus far was being a member of the recent, record-breaking distance medley relay. "Being the lead-off leg at the Southland Conference Championship, I made T very anxious by going out ahead of pace, though she supported me through the whole leg of my race, coaching me and cheering me on through it. I was able to keep the pace to lead off the race 20 meters ahead of any other school in the race," Rabius said. "In the end, we ended up being able to step up onto the podium."

Kaitlin Smith, a junior who competes in multiple events, including the heptathlon and pentathlon, said, "Competing for HBU is different compared to other schools because our program is small enough to get a lot of individual attention from our coaches. We get the chance to build a relationship with them instead of being treated like a point value, which is great. I am so thankful for the opportunity to compete at this level."

Visit HBU.edu/p54-Fuqua

HEAD COACH: THERESA FUQUA



COACHING PHILOSOPHY:

"My philosophy is rooted in a Christian-based, positive approach to teaching collegiate track and field athletes, not only aspects of sport, but also values and traits beneficial beyond their time as collegiate athletes. At the same time, I want to nurture their dreams on and away from the track. Sports teach us so much about ourselves."



Men's indoor and outdoor track and cross country head coach, Theresa Fuqua, takes a holistic approach to coaching. "My goals are simple – to keep pursuing my job in a way that allows athletes to be successful," she said. "I am very fortunate to have had a great deal of support from other coaches, mentors, and of course, my family. I feel beyond blessed to be at HBU, working with amazing people, coaching wonderful young men and women, and getting to do a job that I love. That, in itself, is a huge inspiration."

While opportunities are a blessing, achieving success takes a great deal of effort. It's a lesson she emphasizes to her students. "I often tell my athletes that you can't replace

hard work. This is true for everything in life, but in athletics, it is especially important. You have to be willing to work hard and it's not easy," she said.

Among the accomplishments of the athletes are success at the NCAA Championships. In 2019, HBU had its first NCAA All-American Athlete in Denim Rogers, who placed seventh in the decathlon.

Rogers, a junior, said the HBU coaches helped make running feel fun, something that resonated with him, since Rogers began running track at age 5. "That's what it's all about – enjoying what you do and making it enjoyable for students and athletes," Rogers said.

While he enjoys competing, Rogers maintains a relentless



work ethic. "I practice anywhere from three to five hours a day, seven days a week, on top of having a job. I go to class and find time to do homework, all while maintaining good mental and physical health," he said. "This has taught me to have great time management, dedication, and that if one thing does not go your way, just keep fighting until the end."

Junior long-distance runner, Enoch Ramirez, rarely takes a break, spending off-seasons running with a weighted vest. He relishes being on the HBU team. "In

high school, no one could actually keep up with me, but having training partners now makes the run fun. We encourage each other. I have learned to find a rhythm in my races, learned what type of runner I am, and have been inspired to be my best," he said. "I always give thanks to God that I have a chance to continue my running career. I see many peers who would love to be in my shoes. I give a huge 'thank you' to HBU for picking me out of the whole world to run."

ACADEMIC LEADER



KAITLIN SMITH

WOMEN'S CC/TRACK

KINESIOLOGY
GPA: 3.66

"There is a motto: 'An Education Through Athletics.' This can be taken in so many ways. I choose to look at it through the scope of how collegiate athletics educates us about who we are, what our place is in the world, and in many ways, defines our futures. This is exactly what collegiate athletics did for me."

ACADEMIC LEADER



CHRISTOS ZACHARIOU

MEN'S CC/TRACK

PSYCHOLOGY
GPA: 3.95



Women's Basketball

Shannon Jones, Julija Vujakovic, Lauren Calver

SAM HOUSTON STATE

CENTRAL ARKANSAS

ST. JOHNS

MCNEESE

ADAMS

NORTHWESTERN STATE

INCARNATE WORD





After being introduced to basketball at the age of 14, Donna Finnie never looked back. She received a scholarship to play at Lamar University in Beaumont, and then returned to her native Edinburgh, Scotland. Finnie had a feeling she would be back to Texas, and later accepted an assistant coach position at HBU in 2010 after coaching for FIBA (International Basketball Federation) Europe and identifying potential Olympic athletes.

"The transition from international coach to HBU was seamless because you can connect with people here," she said. "It's not a big school and it's such a great place to be because everyone is so welcoming and supportive."

In 2013, Finnie became the HBU head basketball coach. Finnie was the first international coach ever to be the head coach of a NCAA Division 1 basketball team. She is the

winningest coach at the Division 1 level in the HBU basketball program's history. Her international experience has been a boon for recruiting and for connecting her players with opportunities as well.

"I'm proud that we have given opportunities to several girls to play overseas when they finished their degrees at HBU," she said. "We have had girls play professionally in Australia, Romania, Ireland, Portugal, Spain, England, Luxembourg and Germany in the past six years."

When looking for players, Finnie emphasizes character. "We want players who are, first and foremost, good people. I'm looking for those who do things the right way and lead their lives by the Golden Rule. We want motivated young women who have goals and see HBU as the place that can help them achieve those goals."

Sophomore guard, Julija Vujakovic, invests substantial

2019-20 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL HOME SCHEDULE @ SHARP GYM



NOV. 17
U OF H
7 PM



DEC. 1
NORTHERN ARIZONA
2 PM



DEC. 18
SFAUSTIN
7 PM



DEC. 21
SE LOUISIANA
2 PM



JAN. 18
SAM HOUSTON
2 PM



JAN. 22
NICHOLLS
7 PM



FEB. 1
TX A&M CORPUS
2 PM



time in basketball and maintains strong study habits. "I am very organized," she said. "If I got bad grades at school, it would translate on the court, so I don't allow myself to fail in class."

The team has placed high consistently in the WBCA (Women's Basketball Coaches Association) Top 25 Honor Roll for players' GPAs. "Our girls take academics very seriously, and do an incredible job of balancing school with basketball demands," Finnie said. "We ensure we do everything we can to make sure our student-athletes are students first and foremost. We've been blessed that we've had some great players in our program

and great staff. If you can balance playing Division I college basketball over both semesters with maintaining a high GPA at HBU, then then you are going to be okay in whatever your next step in life is."

Lauren Calver, a senior forward, said athletics competition requires and builds confidence. "A lesson I have learned from basketball is to believe in myself," she said. "In basketball, you cannot succeed unless you believe in yourself and your teammates. Similarly, in life, you must have faith in your abilities to be successful and achieve your dreams."

Visit HBU.edu/p54-Finnie

HEAD COACH: DONNA FINNIE



COACHING PHILOSOPHY:

"The little details make the biggest differences. Pay attention to detail daily and have no excuses. We preach doing things the right way and knowing you have given your all."

ACADEMIC LEADER



**MEGAN
VALDEZ-CRADER**
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL INTL BUSINESS
GPA: 3.82



FEB. 8
NW STATE
2 PM



FEB. 15
LAMAR
2 PM



FEB. 19
ABILINE CHRISTIAN
5 PM



FEB. 29
MCNEESE
2 PM



MAR. 4
INCARNATE WORD
7 PM



Men's Soccer

Coach Ryan Pratt, Dominick Faletto, Gianluca Natera



WAC



Head Coach Ryan Pratt has led the team since transitioning from assistant to head coach in 2017.

"While soccer is rare at the D1 level in Texas, it is the world's most popular game!" he said. "Soccer is thriving in Texas at all levels – professional, college, high school and club – and I am very excited and humbled to have the opportunity to do what I love at an institution like HBU!"

Pratt played Division I soccer for the University of Alabama at Birmingham. When looking for players that fit his vision for HBU's team, Pratt said he looks for qualities in five main areas: "Physical: speed, quickness and strength; psychological: mental toughness; technical: overall skill level; tactical: reading the game and the situations around

them; and academics: performance as a student. We challenge ourselves to create an environment that is demanding physically and intellectually," he said. "We try to push our players outside their comfort zones to reach a higher level than even they thought possible. In doing so, we try to impart a rock-solid foundation of preparation and accountability."

In the 2018 season, seven players were named All-Western Athletic Conference honorable mention. Team members regularly are recognized for high academic achievement.

"We want to win conference championships and participate in NCAA tournaments," Pratt said. "While winning is critical, even imperative, it is not more important than



developing student-athletes and providing opportunities of growth academically, spiritually and socially, while helping each achieve the ultimate goal of a college education. I want to see our guys be as successful as they can be in all aspects of life."

Junior midfielder, Gianluca Natera, was named the MVP of the team for the 2018 season. "The most important achievements to me are the team achievements," he said. "I'm proud of the direction that we're going. I am very grateful to be part of this school and this team."

Senior Dequan Thomas, a forward, said, "Because HBU is small and everyone is like family, that alone is very empowering and helps us overcome and compete day in and day out with bigger schools. It is a blessing to be able to play a fairly rare sport at the Division I level. I am truly honored to be a member of this prestigious, hand-selected group."

Dominick Faletto, a senior winger, said he encourages fellow students and fans to see the team in action. "It is definitely worth your time," he said. "#SellOutSorrels."

HEAD COACH: RYAN PRATT



COACHING PHILOSOPHY:

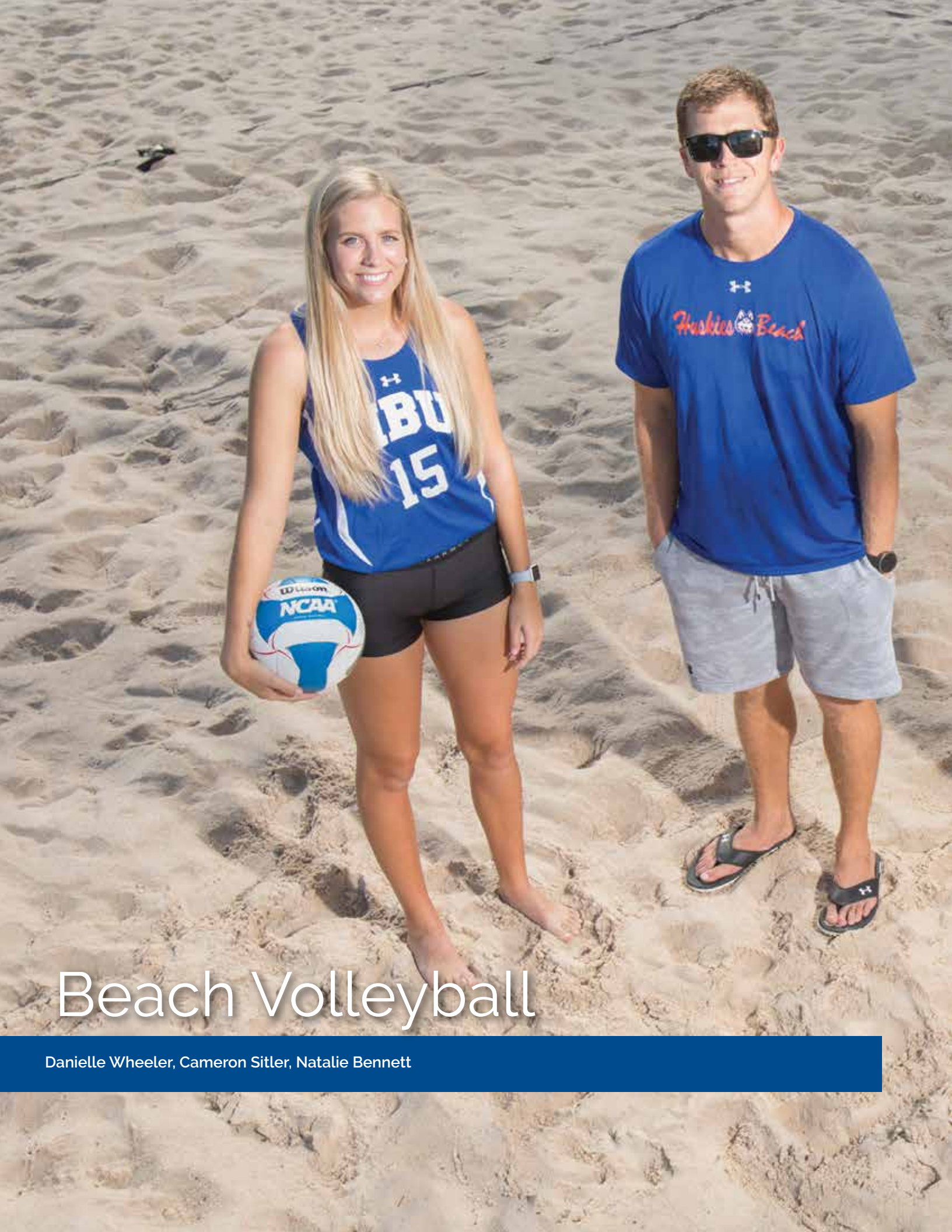
"We want to produce champions in every aspect of what we do. In the classroom, we strive to have individual GPAs and team GPAs well above the average of 3.0. Socially, we understand who we represent and try to be positive ambassadors for HBU. On the field, we like to play a high-energy, hard-working style of soccer while playing with class and character from the first whistle to the last."

ACADEMIC LEADER



**ABDULLAH
MIRZA**
MEN'S SOCCER

MARKETING
GPA: 4.0



Beach Volleyball

Danielle Wheeler, Cameron Sitler, Natalie Bennett





In August 2019, the Southland Conference announced that nine beach volleyball programs will compete under the championship oversight of the conference in 2020. Southland Conference beach volleyball opponents are Abilene Christian University, University of Central Arkansas, University of New Orleans, Nicholls State University, Sam Houston State University, Southeastern Louisiana University, Stephen F. Austin State University and Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi.

Beach volleyball differs from indoor volleyball; games consist of five dual matches with two players from each team. A doubles team match is taken by the pair who wins two sets. Then, the team dual is won by the team that wins the majority of the doubles matches (three of five). The fast pace and uniqueness of the sport have drawn

players and fans alike.

"Beach volleyball is the fastest-growing sport at the women's college level of all time," said Cameron Sitler, HBU head beach volleyball coach.

Sitler began playing indoor volleyball as a student-athlete in college, and spent summers competing in beach volleyball tournaments. His background in both indoor and beach volleyball gives him the perspective necessary to coach for skills and strategies. In the past several years, the HBU volleyball team has won the Southland Showcase back-to-back; team members have ranked as pair of the week nationally and have held their own against nationally ranked teams.

Sophomore Natalie Bennett plays as a defender on the team. "So many people are intrigued when I say I play



beach volleyball," she said. "They are very interested and often ask a lot of questions about the game."

Defender Tori Hinojosa, a senior, said transitioning from indoor to beach volleyball and playing for HBU has been rewarding. She was selected to be a member of the USA Volleyball Collegiate Beach National Team in 2019. "We and those before us were able to build a program and leave a legacy for our school," she said. "Being part of something that has so much love and support behind it is really one-of-a-kind."

Team captain, blocker Danielle Wheeler,

said entering into her last season of HBU beach volleyball is bittersweet. "To see how much the sport has grown in the three years I have been here has been amazing and humbling. It has been so cool to see the sport grow. Our fan base has increased, and the overall knowledge and respect for the sport has dramatically improved," she said. "I'm so excited to see how far this program has come and how much further it will go."

Visit HBU.edu/p56-Sitler

HEAD COACH: CAMERON SITLER



COACHING PHILOSOPHY:

"I believe in a program built on creating athletes who embrace their own training. We try to get our beach players to self-correct in order to allow for a player-driven culture with a focus on effort and purpose."

ACADEMIC LEADER



**BRENNAN
MILLER**
BEACH VOLLEYBALL

MARKETING
GPA: 3.90



Football

Ethan Beek, Jerreth Sterns and Coach Vic Shealy





After being a college quarterback, HBU head football coach, Vic Shealy, immediately entered into the coaching profession. He followed in the footsteps of his father, Dal Shealy, who was a division 1 football assistant and head coach for about 30 years before becoming the executive vice president of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

"I saw that power and influence of a coach in the lives of my dad's players and the impact a coach can make," Shealy said. "I think I got into it early on because I felt I would love being a coach."

Shealy achieved a successful coaching career of his own, particularly at Azusa Pacific University, where he was named the NAIA Coach of the Year, and received the Shutt Coach of

the Year Award from the American Football Quarterly.

When Shealy was named HBU's first head football coach in 2012, it was uncharted territory, even for an experienced team leader. "I don't think anybody in coaching gets into it thinking, 'I'm going to start a football program from scratch.' You don't ever set it as one of those boxes to check," he said. "There's been a lot of effort by a lot of folks – administrators, coaches and players alike."

The team played its first season in 2013, and entered in the first official season in 2014. The Husky Stadium became the home turf of the team with the inaugural game held there in 2014. Since that time, Shealy and his assistants have continued to develop players to help the team and individuals reach goals.



"I think every day we're out there, I see achievements made," Shealy said. "I'm reminded about how far we've come, but yet still how far we have to go."

Some areas that Shealy is especially proud of are the team's faith integration and athletes' academic standing. "We've been able to see more than 70 kids in our program come to make a faith decision. It is more than just football," he said. "Football is just one tool we can use to have an impact on about 110 lives on this campus."

The tone that Shealy and the other

coaches set is one reason Jerreth Sterns, a sophomore slot receiver, chose to play at HBU. "Our school and program are able to openly express their beliefs about Christ," he said.

Ean Beek, a sophomore running back, is one of three Huskies in his family. His mother, Karla Fouts Beek '96, was a volleyball player, and his brother, Ethan Beek, is a junior cornerback for the football team. He said of his time on the team, "I've learned how to really work together."

Visit HBU.edu/p65-Shealy

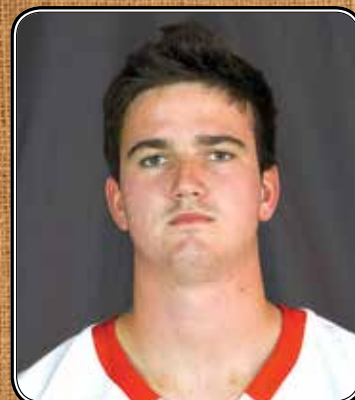
HEAD COACH: VIC SHEALY



COACHING PHILOSOPHY:

"My hope is that I live as Christ daily, and I strive to grow in my faith and deepen my relationship with the Lord. That's something that our coaches and staff manifest in their lives. We have to be about teaching those qualities. We want to give every player a great college experience. No matter their background, we create brotherhood; they learn to love and care about each other. You can expect to gain a yield back when you put in an investment."

ACADEMIC LEADER



**GARRETT
SCOTT**
FOOTBALL

FINANCE
GPA: 3.91



Softball

Heidi Jaquez, Amber Lotz, Coach Mary-Ellen Hall, Megan Hiers, Jessica Patak





After Mary-Ellen Hall '88 graduated from HBU, she immediately returned to her alma mater to serve as an assistant softball coach for the newly formed program. Since 1991, she has served as the head softball coach, and has guided the team through transition and growth.

"It has been amazing to see all the changes at HBU," she said. "I think back to when I was a student, and the campus looks so different. Because of the location of the softball field, we were able to watch the construction of the Morris Cultural Arts Center, the Hodo Residence College and Husky Stadium. Even though there has been so much change and growth at HBU, it has not lost the feel of a close-knit community."

Hall reached a major milestone – her 800th win – recently. She is quick to share the praise with others. "It takes dedication, cooperation and a lot of hard work year-in and year-out by the players, coaches and all the support staff," she said. "Our players' parents have been a huge support, as well as our alumni. The athletic director and HBU president have been imperative to the success of our softball program. Without the continued support of all these people, none of the success would be possible."

About four years ago, Hall faced her biggest challenge when she had a stroke. It wasn't long before she was back on the field and coaching her players. "The athletic director, Steve Moniaci, had said, 'You work on getting better and come back to work.' That gave me so much hope and motivation,"

2019-20 SOFTBALL HOME SCHEDULE



MARCH 6-7
*NICHOLLS



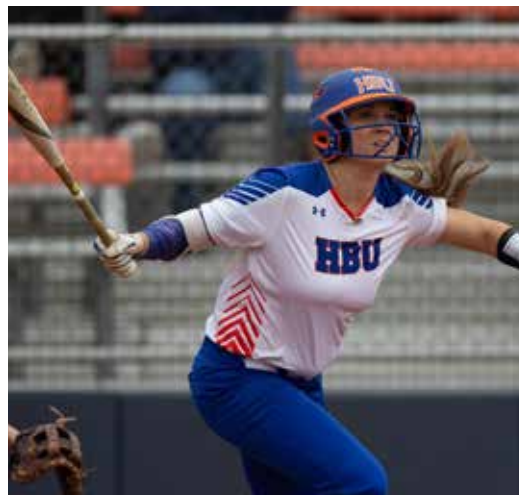
MARCH 27-28
*CENTRAL ARKANSAS



APRIL 10-11
*STEPHEN F. AUSTIN



APRIL 15
LAMAR



HEAD COACH: MARY-ELLEN HALL



COACHING PHILOSOPHY:

"We strive to consistently demonstrate excellence, positivity and passion in every opportunity – regardless of circumstance. This is done with gratitude, love, trust, determination, pride and respect for one another and the game.

These personal and collective efforts, with God's grace and blessings, allow us to become one in our endeavors and in our lives' walks with Him."

ACADEMIC LEADER



**SIERRA
HUMPHREY**
SOFTBALL

FINANCE
GPA: 4.0

she remembers. "I'm very lucky that HBU stands behind me and believes in me."

Second baseman Amber Lotz, a senior, said playing for HBU has reinforced lessons in teamwork. "I've learned from my HBU coaches to play the role they give me to the best of my ability and for the team's benefit, not my own," she said. "We always represent HBU with good sportsmanship."

Junior Jessica Patak, a pitcher, agreed. "One big thing softball taught me is responsibility," she said. "It helped me in college to balance sports and school. I am

also responsible to my team and people are counting on my contribution."

Heidi Jacquez, a senior and a catcher, said she will carry the lessons learned from softball throughout her life. "It has taught me to cooperate, to be less selfish and to listen to others' ideas. I have gained confidence as well, watching myself and the team grow. I've also gained a great work ethic. I have learned that nothing great comes easily, nor is it handed to you. If you want something in life, you have to work hard for it."

Visit HBU.edu/p55-MHall



APRIL 22
TEXAS STATE



APRIL 24-25
***SAM HOUSTON STATE**



MAY 1-2
***TEXAS A&M CORPUS CHRISTI**



Men's Basketball

Jackson Stent, Ian DuBose, Coach Ron Cottrell, Ty Dalton, Jalon Gates





Head men's basketball coach Ron Cottrell joined the HBU program in 1990 two years after he graduated from the University of Arkansas, where he also coached briefly. HBU had dropped basketball in the late 80s, and reinstated it beginning in the fall of '91. Cottrell has been leading the program ever since, and is now approaching 500 career wins.

During the NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) years, he led the team to the national tournament for 10 straight seasons. Since transitioning to NCAA Division I, the team has competed in two national tournaments.

Cottrell has high standards; it's a perspective that begins with recruiting players who are the right fit for the team, and

carries on to graduation and beyond. "It's very beneficial for guys to come to HBU," he said. "They get small class sizes and high-level instructors who are committed and want to see students succeed. As coaches, we try to be role models and set the expectations for how we're going to conduct our program and who we want the players to be. We can talk openly about our faith and share that with the guys. It makes HBU a special place. The competitive side of basketball is being able to play at the highest level there is, and we want to make sure we put the team in a position to be a success. We've had many men go on to pro-basketball. All of that work is also to see them get a degree, and grow up to be husbands and fathers and great men in the community."

2019-20 MEN'S BASKETBALL HOME SCHEDULE



DEC. 7
SAMFORD
7:00 PM



JAN. 2
CENTRAL ARKANSAS
7:00 PM



JAN. 11
LAMAR
7:00 PM



JAN. 15
NEW ORLEANS
7:00 PM



JAN. 18
SAM HOUSTON
7:00 PM



JAN. 29
INCARNATE WORD
7:00 PM



Jackson Stent, a senior forward, said Coach Cottrell and the coaching staff were major selling points in his decision to play for HBU. "They work together very well at practice and at games to create a great culture," he said.

Junior guard, Ty Dalton, said, "Aside from the Xs and Os of basketball, these coaches have taught me a lot about life – specifically loyalty and family. The coaches have helped me through a lot. Knowing someone has your back is a good feeling."

After almost 30 years, there is rarely a

week that goes by in which a former player doesn't stop by the basketball office. "They feel a connection to our program and remain very close," he said. "Many times you'll come to a basketball game and you'll see guys come who used to play together. We're like a family. They call or text me about what's going on in their lives. It's rewarding and a great thing about being here as long as we have."

Visit HBU.edu/p65-Cottrell

HEAD COACH: RON COTTRELL



COACHING PHILOSOPHY:

"How I coach is a reflection of where I am at HBU. I've been here for 29 years and love everything about the institution. Having high-quality academic young men on our campus is a trademark of who we are as a program. We take these young men, develop them, and produce high-character, high-quality young men who go out and are productive in today's society as great family men and men of God."

ACADEMIC LEADER



**IAN
DUBUSE**
BASKETBALL

KINESIOLOGY
GPA: 3.81



FEB. 1
TX A&M-CORPUS
7:00 PM



FEB. 8
NW STATE
7:00 PM



FEB. 19
ABILENE CHRISTIAN
7:00 PM



FEB. 26
NICHOLLS
7:00 PM



FEB 29
MCNEESE
7:00 PM



Women's Soccer

Alicia Torrez, Coach Misty Jones, Whitney Johnson





Since the HBU women's soccer program inception in 2006, Head Coach Misty Jones has served at the helm. Since then, the team has won three conference tournament championships (Great West, 2010, and Southland in 2014 and 2016), along with two NCAA appearances.

"It was great to be able to build a strong, competitive, family-oriented culture from the beginning," Jones said. "I instill core values like respect for others, hard work, never giving up, and servant leadership into my teams. One of our mottos has always been, 'In Your Name we play,' which reminds us that we represent Christ in everything that we do, and it is our responsibility to give everything that we have in all we do."

Jones knows about excelling in soccer. She was the four-year team captain and an all-conference, all-region, and academic all-conference player, as well as a leading goal scorer during her time playing soccer for Judson University.

"Sports are great for teaching life lessons," Jones said. "They teach that one's actions impact others. They teach students how to function as a team member, and how to put others above themselves. Sports reflect that hard work pays off. Sports take students out of their comfort zones and teach them that they can achieve more than they think they can. And through sports, students develop relationships with teammates and coaches that will last a lifetime."

Whitney Johnson, a senior midfielder and this year's



HEAD COACH: MISTY JONES



COACHING PHILOSOPHY:

"I believe that the impact on lives that I have as a coach is more important than the number of wins or championships I earn in my career."

ACADEMIC LEADER



**EMMA
DOOHER**
WOMEN'S SOCCER

LEGAL STUDIES
GPA: 4.0

team captain, said, "There is not a team like the team I have. They are truly a family. When I came on my visit and met the team, I immediately knew they would be my sisters and closest friends. I have never been on a team that is so accepting and caring about me, as not only a soccer player, but as a person as well."

Outside back player Alicia Torrez, a senior, was a four-year starter and a four-time team captain in high school. "Right away, I knew this program was different – in a good way of course!" she said. "The team is not just a team, but a family, and that is

felt. We all push each other to be the best we can be. Each day in the weight room and on the field, maximum effort is given. We fight for each other. We know what we are capable of and do not settle for less. The coaches have brought out more confidence in me as a player, which has carried over to other areas of my life. They have always held me to a high standard and pushed me to my full potential and more. I will forever be grateful for the player they have made me to be, as well as the person I have become, over the past four years."



Baseball

Coach Jared Moon '95, Bandon Bena, Trent Franson, Kyle Gruller





Even in high school, Jared Moon '95 knew he wanted to be a coach. The HBU head baseball coach played as a catcher for the Huskies, and after graduating, he volunteered with the team before becoming an assistant coach and then head coach in 2005. Under his leadership, the baseball team transitioned from NAIA to NCAA play. He led the team to 10 conference championships in the mid-90s to early 2000s, and to the Southland Conference championship in 2015. He was inducted into the University Hall of Honor in 2008.

Moon loves to win, and he first ensures his players and the baseball program is made of young men who are winners in several ways. "I try to impart respect. I look for people of high character," he said. "We've passed on a lot

of good players because we knew they wouldn't be a good fit for our University. We are looking for players with good Christian values who are all-around good people. We're not only trying to win ballgames, but to create good young men who will be good fathers and coworkers. It's ultimately more about the legacy they leave. It's not just winning a game or a championship. I want our guys to win at life."

It's a lesson that Brandon Bena, a senior outfielder, has taken to heart. "Who I am as a person – my character – will directly relate to what kind of teammate and ballplayer I am on the field," he said. "A regular gameday takes up six or seven hours of my day, with the game taking up about three hours. I ask myself, 'What I am doing during those other 17 to 18 hours?' If I am selfish, not working hard, not passing

2019-20 BASEBALL HOME SCHEDULE



FEB. 14-16
N. COLORADO



FEB. 19
TX STATE



FEB. 21-23
BALL STATE



MAR. 10
TX A&M-CORPUS



MAR. 13-15
S.F. AUSTIN



MAR. 20-22
CREIGHTON



MAR. 31
LAMAR



my classes, and overall not succeeding as a person, then how can I expect to find success during a three-hour game? Life and baseball go hand in hand."

Senior Kyle Gruller, a pitcher, said baseball has taught him "patience, how to control emotions, that success requires hard work, and how to win and succeed."

Senior infielder Trent Franson said, "The best part about baseball is that it is a team game that relies on individual success. The game is won through the work and unity of a team, while pressure is put on individuals to perform well. As a player, this makes

you conscious of how you must put in the time and effort in all parts of the game so that you are prepared to help the team achieve its goals. This sense of preparation is something that I see carry over to other aspects of my life and I think it provides a huge advantage. Our team has some big goals ahead of us for this coming year and we all want to work together to accomplish them."

Visit HBU.edu/p66-Moon

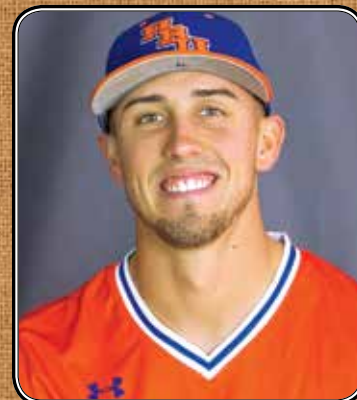
HEAD COACH: JARED MOON '95



COACHING PHILOSOPHY:

"The main thing I believe in is instilling in players that they have to hate to lose more than they love to win. Baseball is a game of failures; as in life, how you deal with failures helps determine your success."

ACADEMIC LEADER



**TRENT
FRANSON**
BASEBALL

BCEM/MBIO
GPA: 4.0



APRIL 3-5
TX A&M-CORPUS



APRIL 7
UTSA



APRIL 17-19
INCARNATE WORD



MAY 1-3
NEW ORLEANS



MAY 14-16
NICHOLLS



Volleyball

Hannah Lewis, Megan Patillo, Kelly Colwell, Coach Trent Herman





In the US, volleyball has historically been a women's sport, so it was fate that Trent Herman was introduced to the sport when he was. "I grew up in Kansas where they didn't have boys volleyball in school," Herman said. "I played basketball, golf and baseball. I picked up the sport of volleyball just before college and fell in love with the sport. I played volleyball at Fort Hays State University. I lost both my mom and dad when I was playing in college; I also became the legal guardian of my little brother. I grew up in a sports family. It is what I knew. My coach at the time talked with me about going into coaching. I had never thought of it as a career."

After graduating in 1999, Herman began to coach at the college level, first at Southwest Minnesota State University. At HBU, where Herman became the head volleyball coach in 2012, he found the perfect fit. "I have coached at big, public schools but miss the family feel of the campus and the interaction with the professors and staff. I want athletes to feel that they are part of something special. We provide a place where they can grow spiritually, academically, emotionally and physically."

Kelly Colwell, a junior outside hitter, said the family atmosphere is what drew her in. "When I came on my visit to decide if HBU was the school for me, two big things stood out



to me," she said. "One was the girls on the team. Their culture and the way they treated each other like family was really important to me. The second thing was the coaching staff. We always jokingly call Trent our Dad!"

Junior outside hitter, Mikayla Vivens, said, "My coaches truly care about our success after volleyball, and are not just there to win on the court."

HBU offers a unique combination of a small atmosphere with major competition, senior middle blocker, Megan Patillo, said, "You get

a mix of the small campus experience, but the athletic program competes along with some of the biggest schools in the country."

Hannah Lewis, a senior libero, said, "Going to HBU and playing for the volleyball program has been an amazing experience that I am so honored to have gotten the chance to have. I appreciate the program and the school for giving me a home for four years and giving me memories that I will never forget. As I go into my last season, I will cherish the time I have left."

HEAD COACH: TRENT HERMAN



COACHING PHILOSOPHY:

"My coaching philosophy is about the development of young people. It is a privilege every day to see the growth in the young people I get to coach and mentor. I get to know my players and their parents years before I actually get to coach them in school during the recruiting process.

God, family and program are what we always turn to for our staples. We believe in hard work on the court and giving back off the court to the community and our schoolwork."

ACADEMIC LEADER



**CAMIE
COPELAND**
VOLLEYBALL

BCEM/MBIO
GPA: 3.59



HBU was named to the
Top 10 in 2020
Best Online
Colleges
in Texas
 by the SR Education Group.



HBU Welcomes Record Class

Houston Baptist University is proud to welcome the largest freshman class in history. The fall 2019 freshman group is about 30 percent larger than the fall 2018 incoming freshman class. This growth far outpaces the national average of 2.4 percent annual student growth for four-year, private, nonprofit institutions, according to the most recent report from the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center. (Fittingly, the traditional HBU freshmen versus upperclassmen tug-of-war event the first week of school was won handily by the freshmen!)

Additionally, HBU has reached its largest graduate school enrollment. Undergraduate and graduate student enrollment together totals more than 3,800, the University's highest student number to date.

The freshman class is also the most diverse in University history; HBU ranks fifth in diversity among Regional Universities West according to the U.S. News

& World Report. HBU has the distinction of being a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI).

Dr. Robert Sloan, HBU president, said, "All of us in the HBU family are greatly encouraged by this record, entering class. It is deeply gratifying to see such strong affirmation of the University and the desirability of our degree offerings. We are confident that HBU students will continue to make a significant impact in the years to come in Houston and beyond."

Similarly, HBU continues to grow in programs. The fall of 2019 marked the start of seven new degree offerings, including the EdD in Executive Leadership in Mental Health and Human Services, the University's third doctoral program. HBU offers 72 undergraduate and 41 graduate degrees, along with 22 certificate programs. In addition to a robust, on-campus community, many students further their education through the Pampell Online Division.

Four New Endowed Scholarships Awarded by

Established in November 1974 as the President's Advisors, The Guild is a group of civic-minded, dedicated Christian women of many denominations joined together under the auspices of the president of Houston Baptist University to fulfill a unique role in the future growth and development of the University.

The Guild

In 1994, The Guild recognized the need to provide a specific focus for the group's fundraising efforts and developed a meaningful program benefiting the University and the community through the creation of a graduate scholarship program.

This year, The Guild awarded 21 Annual Scholarships and is proud to name four new Endowed Scholarship recipients and recognize continuing recipients.

Sue Collier Sloan
Endowed Scholarship
Michael Sam

Robert B. Sloan, Jr.
Endowed Scholarship
Eric Mingle

Sharon Elaine Saunders
Endowed Scholarship
Amanda O'Neil

Grace Gandy
Endowed Scholarship
LaToya Wynne



E.D. "Doug" Hodo
Endowed Scholarship
Phillip Morrow
2nd year

The Guild
Endowed Scholarship
Lucas Newton
2nd year

The Guild Presidents
Endowed Scholarship
Brent Watson
2nd year

As of May 2019, The Guild has contributed more than \$1.9 million to HBU for scholarships in the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences and the School of Christian Thought, special projects, and The Guild Institute in Christian Family Studies.

Since this program was established, The Guild has awarded a total of 291 Annual and 55 Endowed Scholarships.

HBU.edu/Guild



2020 HBU SPIRIT of Excellence GALA

Make plans to attend
the 2020 Spirit of Excellence Gala,
featuring guest speaker, Tim Tebow!

November 12, 2020



Tim Tebow is known as a two-time NCAA national football champion, Heisman Trophy winner, and a first-round NFL draft pick. He played for three years in the NFL for the Denver Broncos and the New York Jets before becoming a college football analyst for ESPN. He founded the Tim Tebow Foundation and is the author of two New York Times Best-Selling Books. HBU.edu/SpiritofExcellence



Kay Warren to Speak on HBU Founders Day

Houston Baptist University will welcome Kay Warren, cofounder of Saddleback Church and wife of pastor and author Rick Warren on HBU's Founders Day. She will speak at **11 a.m., Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019** in the Dunham Theater at HBU. Kay is an author, teacher and advocate, spreading a message of mental health awareness and resiliency after her son, Matthew, took his life.

The event is free and open to the public; seating is limited. It will be streamed live at HBU.edu/Live.

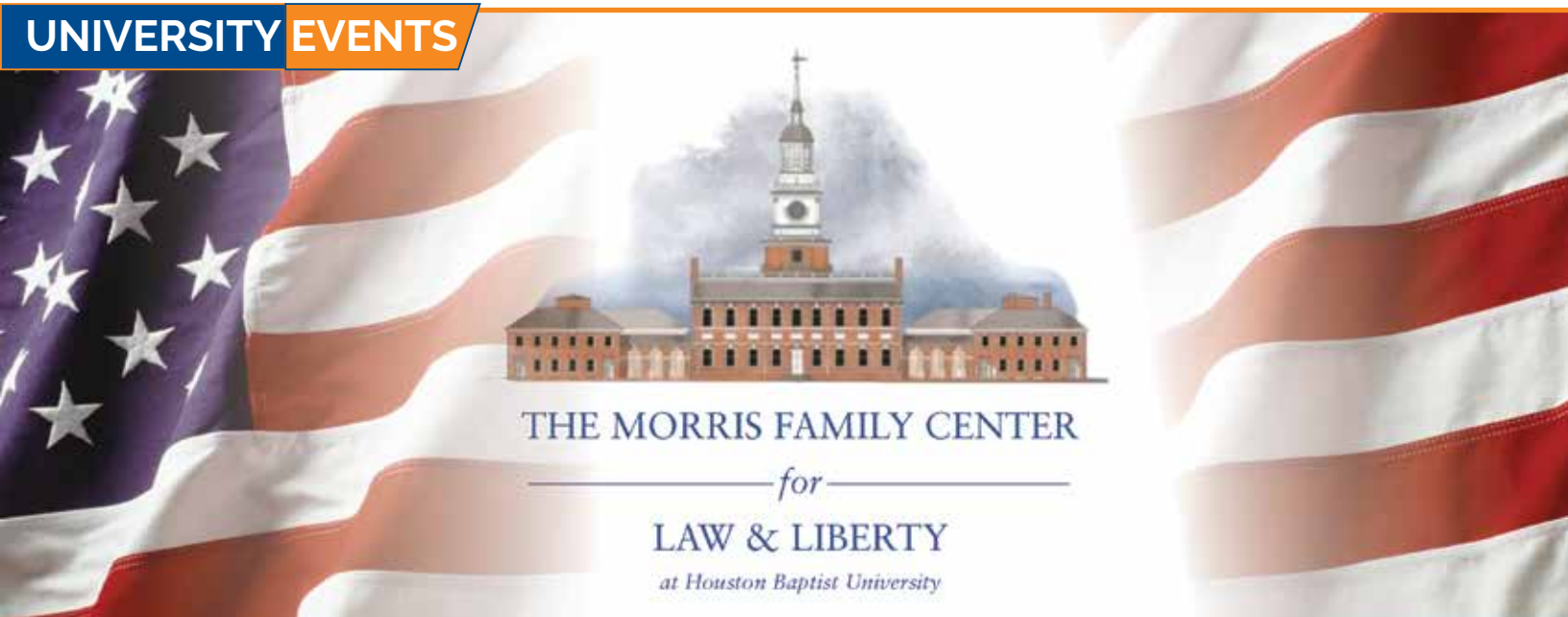
Lisa Simon Headlines Prince-Chavanne Distinguished Lecture



HBU was pleased to welcome alumna Lisa Morris Simon for the fall 2019 Prince-Chavanne Distinguished Lecture Series. Simon is chairman of Morris Strategic Investments and president of the Joella and Stewart Morris Foundation. She graduated with a BA from HBU with degrees in Math, Art and Education. Simon's broad and consistent support for HBU includes serving as a member of the HBU Board of Trustees and chairing the school's 50th anniversary Gala in 2010 with her husband, Jerry. Additionally, Simon has supported HBU's Museums, is a member of The Guild, and has furthered

the University in numerous ways through her involvement. Outside of HBU, Simon has served on boards and in organizations in Houston and beyond. She has backed causes including faith, health, women's well-being, business, historical preservation, the arts, and international relations. For Simon, success is measured by the quality of one's service and the relationship to the community in which one lives and works. Simon is the daughter of HBU founding father, Dr. Stewart Morris, Sr., and Joella Morris.

HBU.edu/p56-PrinceChavanne



University Celebrates Founding Father, Dr. Stewart Morris, & Ceremonial Groundbreaking



Dr. Stewart Morris, Sr., was born in 1919, and in 100 years, has accomplished much and given vastly. The University celebrates his life and legacy this year in a special way with the ceremonial groundbreaking of the Morris Family Center for Law & Liberty.

As the highest giver in University history, Dr. Morris announced the lead gift of more than \$10 million from the Joella and Stewart Morris Foundation for the establishment of the Morris Family Center for Law & Liberty; it will be housed in a building modeled after Independence Hall on HBU's campus. The Center will promote the American founding principles of liberty, the rule of law and free enterprise.

The contributions of Dr. Morris to HBU cannot be understated. Dr. Robert Sloan, HBU president, said, "There is no other single person more influential in the founding and earliest history of HBU than Dr. Stewart Morris, Sr. Humanly speaking, we would not be here without him. He continues to change the life of the University even today."

From securing funds for University land in the 1950s to helping ensure the success of the school, Morris put HBU on the path to becoming the national, comprehensive university it is today. Notably, Dr. Morris and his late wife, Joella, helped provide the beautiful Joella and Stewart Morris Cultural Arts Center, brought the Museum of Southern History in the Center to life, and supported the Morris section of Husky Stadium. In 2018, The Morris Family Center for Law & Liberty was established. Dr. Morris is the highest lifetime giver in the University's history. Recently, a bench with a seated statue in his likeness was added to the campus. Fittingly, the statue depicts him in his cowboy boots and hat, holding a Bible turned outward.

See photos here: [HBU.edu/Morris100](https://www.hbu.edu/Morris100)



HBU Alumni Association Hosts Spirit of HBU

The Spirit of HBU Alumni Awards Dinner & Walk of Honor Induction on Sept. 7 served to recognize University honorees for their achievements and contributions to HBU. Alumni Award recipient categories were Distinguished, Meritorious Service, Hallmark and Emma Key Faithful Servant Awards. HBU athletics inducted former student-athletes into the HBU Athletic Hall of Honor whose participation and contributions have enriched and strengthened the

University's athletic program.

The President's Award, Opal Goolsby Outstanding Teacher Award and the Mayfield Outstanding Staff Award recipients were inducted into the HBU Alumni Association Walk of Honor, located in the Bettis Quadrangle of the Brown Administrative Complex.

The University and the HBU Alumni Association are honored to host alumni and friends each year and honor them for their work and lasting impact on the community.



Distinguished Alumnus Award

Tadd Tellepsen
MBA '99

Sharon Saunders,
Distinguished Alumnus
Award recipient
Tadd Tellepsen MBA '99,
Jennifer Tellepsen,
Ellie Tellepsen,
Braden Tellepsen,
Hudson Tellepsen



**Meritorious Service
Alumnus Award**

Dr. Diane Williams BA '93



Hallmark Award

*Ron Cottrell, Associate Athletic Director
James Sears Bryant Head Men's Basketball Coach*



**Emma Key
Faithful Servant Award**
Abbey Hannah Brant '19



HBU Athletics Hall of Honor Awardees:

*(Not in order) Charlie Bonds '67, Brittane Gaines '13,
Jake Gonzalez '13, Kelsey Lou-Hing McGee '13,
Michelle Rich '10, George Sangira '10,
Jammie Weidert '11*



Mayfield Outstanding Staff Award

*Hunter Neesley '15
Joshua Dunn*



**Opal Goolsby
Outstanding Teacher
Award**

Dr. Agnieszka Czopik



President's Award: *(Not in order) Abbey Hannah Brant '19, Kaitlyn Cummings '19, Marcella Fick '19, Parnia Forouzan '19,
Corrie McCloy '19, Lindsey Moreno '18, Stephanie Perea '19, Diamondneshay Ward '19, Patience White '19,
Michael Alexander '18, Jonathan Rangel '19, Nicholas Zamora '19*

Center for Christianity in Business at HBU Hosts Fall Luncheon



The Center for Christianity in Business at Houston Baptist University hosted the Fall 2019 Networking Luncheon and Seminar on Sept. 27 in the Morris Cultural Arts Center featuring guest speaker Kevin Garland, CEO of Mountaire Farms. With 10,000 employees and more than \$2 billion in revenue, Mountaire provides an estimated two billion meals per year. As

the leader of such a substantial operation, Garland has striven to uphold the company's Christian and ethical standards.

The CCB at HBU serves professionals in Houston and around the world with a monthly podcast, with The Christian Business Review publication, via conferences and seminars, and through the Business Executive Training Certificate Program.

School of Nursing and Allied Health Hosts Annual Fall Luncheon



Luncheon Sponsors

Gold:

Memorial Hermann

Silver:

*Betty Beard
Bramble and Bee
Harris Health
Dr. Stewart Morris*

HBU Nursing and Allied Health Alumni at River Oaks Luncheon

The Houston Baptist University School of Nursing and Allied Health hosted the "Spotlight on Allied Health" Annual Fall Luncheon on Oct. 10 at the River Oaks Country Club. The event supported the school's scholarships and programs. The keynote speaker was Bob Marley, athletic trainer for the Houston Texans

and UT Health, as well as an HBU adjunct professor. Dr. Allene Lucas was the event honorary chair, and the luncheon chair was Marsha Eckermann '68. Luncheon honorees included The Dunn Foundation, the Hamill Foundation, and Toni Cotton '86, recipient of the Margaret Newman Outstanding Alumni Award.

Alum-A-Grams

1960s

David Appleby '69 is the owner of Texas Cruise and Travel.

1970s

Phil Head '77 is the medical director for Texas Occupational Medicine.

1980s

Kathryn Clark '86 is serving as a special education teacher for Fort Bend ISD.



Cathy Hill '88 has been promoted to chief development officer with American Productivity & Quality Center.

Rhonda Richter '88 recently retired from the United States Air Force after 24 years of service. During her military career, she served in a variety of positions and provided lifesaving support to 120 critically ill combat troops.

Hon. Jim Evans '89 is serving as an associate judge on the Harris County 507th District Court.

1990s

Lorena Callis '91 is now the principal of Wessendorff Middle School.

Sean Sims '92 is currently serving as the president of the Texas High School Gymnastics Coaches Association, teaching AP Macroeconomics and coaching men's gymnastics at L. D. Bell High School in Hurst.

Patricia Pena '94 is a bilingual instructional specialist at Midway ISD.

Sandra Hernandez '95 is now working as a professional school counselor for Houston ISD.

Donald Bobo '96 will be Mercer Consulting's new office leader for Southern California.

Sidney C. Imperial, OD '96 was recently recognized as one of the five best optometrists in Houston.

Danielle Durocher '99 has accepted the position of CEO for Keller Williams Realty in Lincoln Park, Chicago.

Nicole Sumlin '99 is currently the patient care manager at Texas Children's Hospital.

Dusten Melear '06 answered the call to minister as the associate music pastor at First Baptist Church of El Dorado, Arkansas. He and his wife, **Sally Ruiz Melear '05**, have three beautiful children.

Benjamin Rosenberger '09 is now the senior pastor of Bayshore Baptist Church.

2000s

Samantha Hamilton '10 is currently working as an EMT first responder for MCHD.

Jessica Nicole Tolbert '11 is now an emergency medicine resident

physician at the Crozer-Chester Medical Center in Cester, Pennsylvania.

Eduardo Guzman '12 directed the music in a cabaret of Irving Berlin tunes at Ovarions in Houston.

Matt Phenix '12 recently joined First Baptist Church Canadian as the interim pastor.

Nina Rodriguez '12 is currently the clinical projects manager/magnet program manager at Memorial Hermann.

Andrew Richardson '12 was recently promoted to senior digital marketing manager at Ignite International, Ltd.

Alexa Juneck '13 is now the senior marketing manager at AWS Global Accounts Team.



Jasmine Curry MED '16, MAP '14, BA '12 was promoted to be a data-driven instructional specialist for Houston ISD after teaching elementary students for three years. She will be serving as an instructional specialist for lower performing schools.

Rachel Greene '14 is a registered nurse working at Arnold Palmer Children's Hospital.

Let us hear from you! You are encouraged to submit your news items about yourself — promotions, marriages, births, travels and other bits of news — HI-RESOLUTION PHOTOS WELCOME. **Contact: HBU.edu/AlumniUpdate**

JT Newton '14 has been named assistant coach for football and baseball and a seventh-grade math teacher at Bangs Middle School in Bangs, Texas.

Ashleigh Nwanguma '15 will be joining the product liability group of Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P. as a law clerk.

Jose Parra '16 currently lives in Rhode Island and is a research coordinator at Carl J. Shapiro Institute for Education and Research at Harvard Medical School.

Anna Strickland '16 has joined the HBU staff as assistant women's basketball coach.



Shelby Miller-Hoot Box '17 married Brandon Box on July 7.

Breana Badger '17 has started a new position as development coordinator at JDRF International.

Hope Marie Hooper '17 is the director of Children's Ministries at Westminster United Methodist Church and will also be an early childhood teacher.

Colter Lasher '17 is playing basketball for the Geraldton Buccaneers in Australia and led his team to their first championship in 19 years at the 2019 SBL Grand Final.

Philip Parmar '17 recently published his first book, "The Royal Way."

Brenda Brocato '18 is currently working at The Source for Women as a communications specialist.

Ebonie Porch '18 is now a teacher at Goose Creek ISD.



Benny Agosto '86, Founder and Leader of Mexican-American Bar Association

At the Mexican-American Bar Association of Texas Foundation's 14th Annual Scholarship Luncheon, Benny Agosto, Jr. '86, presided over the event, which awards scholarships to outstanding law students who best exemplify leadership, commitment, justice and equality within the Hispanic community and beyond. "It is important that we encourage a new generation of lawyers to not only be

great lawyers, but to also give back to the legal community," said Agosto. As the current Houston Bar Association president and a partner at Abraham, Watkins, Nichols, Sorrels, Agosto & Aziz in Houston, Benny puts into action each day this philosophy of excellence and volunteerism.

Benny returned to campus where he delivered an inspiring account of his personal journey to the student body during the weekly Convocation.



Supporting Agosto at the event were fellow HBU Alumni: Kathryn Mickan '11, Randy Sorrels '84, Nefi Lopez '14, Steve Braun '80, Page Hernandez '05, Eduardo Borges MLA '12, Candace Desrosiers '94

HBU.edu/p56-Agosto

Husky Pups



Sally Grimes Johnson '12 and **Andrew Johnson '12**, welcomed their first son, Gideon Milton Johnson, on June 12.



Ashley D. Plaeger MEd '18 and her husband, Douglas, welcomed baby Logan Joseph on March 28. He was 18 3/4 inches and 6 lbs. 8 oz.



Tameka Anderson Abernathy MEd '07, BA '02 and her husband, Marcus, welcomed Ian Anderson on February 6. He was 6 lbs. 20 oz.

IN MEMORIAM

FORMER STUDENTS



France Gail Harris Easton '68 passed away on August 19 in Virginia Beach, Virginia. She received a Bachelor of Arts in English. She is survived by her

beloved husband, Richard Easton, MD.

Rike Allen '68 passed away on January 10. She was a loving wife, companion, mother, and grandmother who valued family, faith and a love of God.



Gerald "Gerry" Joseph Berard MSHRM '95 passed away on June 3.

landed his first - and only - job as an attorney. The firm was re-named as Simmons and Fletcher, as it is known today. He was a beloved husband, son, father and grandfather.

Ava Mathis MEd '00, passed away on May 27. She returned to HBU to pursue doctoral studies in 2017 until illness forced her to withdraw in 2019. She is survived by her loving husband, James Mathis.



Diann Allen '69 passed away July 10 in The Woodlands. She had just turned 72 on June 16, and was proud to have been inducted into

the HBC/HBU Golden Circle on May 4, 2019. She was very proud to have celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary with her husband,



Keith Milton Fletcher '77 passed away at the age of 63 in August after a battle with lymphoma. He received a Bachelor of

Arts in Economics from HBU. Upon completing his JD in 1979, Keith

Thomas Burke Cochran MBA '02 passed away August 19. He is survived by his wife, Ann Sours Cochran, and precious children.

Frank R. Adams MBA '02, died April 30 with April, his wife of 39 years, by his side. While Frank's cancer was in remission, he traveled to Denmark, Norway, Sweden, England and New Zealand. His final resting place is Ft. Logan National Cemetery in Denver where he was honored by the US Air Force for his eight years of service.

IN MEMORIAM

FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY

Robert Allen Platt Jr., 20, of Sugar Land passed away on June 26 as a result of a boating accident. He was born to **Kaddie Mahoney Platt '94** and **Robert Platt '95** on December 22, 1998. He was an incredible young man with a free spirit and a kind heart.

FACULTY/EMPLOYEES

Dr. John C. Hooker died Sept. 27. He was a professor of Biology, Physics, and Mathematics at HBU from 1975-2000. John trained for many marathons by running with his HBU buddies in midday heat. Qualifying for and completing the Boston Marathon was a proud accomplishment! After retirement, John was lucky to combine several of his passions, moving to Yellowstone National Park to work in bookstores throughout the park. His son is **Steven Hooker '96 BSN**.



Carol Ann (Bollum) Pickett died May 9. Carol served as transcript evaluator in the Office of the Registrar from 1980 to 1985. Her son, **Stephen Pickett '80**, graduated with a BA from HBU and received the 1994 Distinguished Alumnus Award.



Shannon Ann Sims passed away October 2. She served as an administrative assistant to the dean in the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences from 2007 to 2010; she worked with graduate education students.



Dr. Dawn Wilson (1962-2019)

Professor of Instructional Technology at HBU (1999-2019)

While working full-time teaching undergraduate and graduate students in the College of Education & Behavioral Sciences, Dawn fought a valiant, five-year battle with inflammatory breast cancer that quickly moved into her brain. Her struggle was relentless and filled with countless victories thanks to the wonderful doctors and medical staff who cared for her. Her extended family, Sunday School class, colleagues at HBU, and close friends all demonstrated in countless ways the supernatural love that is the heart of the Christian faith. She is survived by her husband Randy, her daughter Emily, son-in-law John, and grandson Jamie.

Walk in the Steps of Jesus!

2020



With Dr. & Mrs.
Robert B. Sloan

MARCH 13-21, 2020

Join the HBU President and University leaders on a captivating tour of the Holy Land.

Register Now! Limited Space!

The cost is \$5,500 per person roundtrip from Houston, payable to HBU. A passport copy is required upon registration. Cost includes airfare, hotel, breakfast and dinner each day, all transfers, taxes, tips and fees to all sites. (The fee is based on double occupancy; the single-room supplement will be \$1,179)

A \$1,000 non-refundable deposit is due upon registration.

Full payment is due December 11, 2019.



9-DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1 – FRIDAY, MARCH 13: Depart U.S.A.

Tour members meet for our flight to Israel. After dinner is served, it's time to sit back, relax, and enjoy the on-board entertainment to prepare for this exciting adventure of a lifetime

DAY 2 – SATURDAY, MARCH 14: Arrive in Tel Aviv, drive to Tiberias in Israel. Hotel U Boutique Kinneret, March 14-16

DAY 3 – SUNDAY, MARCH 15: Galilee, Mt. of Beatitudes, Capernaum, boat ride, Bethsaida, Magdala, Jordan River

DAY 4 – MONDAY, MARCH 16: Galilee, Cana, Nazareth, Mt. Carmel, Caesarea, Jerusalem. King David Hotel – Jerusalem, March 16-21

DAY 5 – TUESDAY, MARCH 17: Mt. of Olives, Palm Sunday Road, Garden of Gethsemane, Western Wall Tunnels, Temple Mount, via Dolorosa, Southern Steps, Church of the Holy Sepulchre

DAY 6 – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18: Shrine of the Book, Model City, City of David, Pool of Siloam, St. Peter Gallicantu, Garden Tomb

DAY 7 – THURSDAY, MARCH 19: Qumran, Ein Gedi, Dead Sea for swim/float

DAY 8 – FRIDAY, MARCH 20: Personal time/shopping. Optional: Jerusalem, Bethlehem Elah Valley, Jaffa. Farewell dinner and last overnight in Jerusalem

DAY 9 – SATURDAY, MARCH 21: Transfer from Jerusalem to Ben Gurion Airport, arrive in USA

HBU.edu/IsraelTour

With questions, contact Clay Porter
at CPorter@HBU.edu, 281-649-3467
or 281-468-2874



HBU

HOUSTON BAPTIST
UNIVERSITY

TOURS 2020

THINK ABOUT IT.



August 19 & 26
Steve Moniaci
Part 1 & 2 Athletics

Steve Moniaci joined HBU Athletics in January of 2007 and was the assistant athletic director prior to being named the interim AD in May of 2009. He became director of Athletics in February 2010. Moniaci oversees 17 men's and women's sports. During his time as director, HBU has transitioned back to NCAA Division I membership status, joined the Southland Conference, and started a football program which competes in the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS). Visit HBUHuskies.com.

HBU.edu/p56-Moniaci-1
HBU.edu/p56-Moniaci-2



September 2
Mike Licona
School of Christian Thought

Dr. Michael Licona is the founder and president of Risen Jesus and associate professor of Theology at Houston Baptist University. Dr. Licona studied world religions and investigated the evidence for them and for atheism. He is an author, coauthor and editor, known for books including, "Evidence for God: 50 Arguments for Faith from the Bible, History, Philosophy and Science. Visit RisenJesus.com. **HBU.edu/p56-Licona**



September 9
Melissa Cain Travis
School of Christian Thought

Dr. Melissa Cain Travis is an apologist who teaches in the Houston Baptist University School of Christian Thought. She is an author known for "Science and the Mind of the Maker: What the Conversation Between Faith and Science Reveals About God." She was notably featured on the cover of Christianity Today in April 2015 beside other prominent female defenders of the faith. Visit HcChristian.wordpress.com. **HBU.edu/p56-Travis**



September 16
Dr. Matthew S. Stanford

Dr. Matthew Stanford is the CEO of the Hope and Healing Center and Institute in Houston. He also serves as an adjunct professor of psychiatry at Baylor College of Medicine and at the Methodist Hospital Institute for Academic Medicine. As an author, researcher and educator, Stanford focuses on the interplay between psychology and faith issues. Visit HopeandHealingCenter.org.

HBU.edu/p56-Stanford-1



September 23
Dr. Steve Peterson
HBU Online

Dr. Steve Peterson is HBU vice president for Online/Digital Learning. The HBU Pampell Online Division offers undergraduate and graduate programs across the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, the School of Christian Thought, the Archie W. Dunham College of Business, the School of Nursing and Allied Health, and the School of Humanities. Visit HBUonline.com.

HBU.edu/p56-Peterson-1

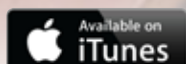


September 30
Dr. Michael Kraten
Archie W. Dunham College of Business

Dr. Michael Kraten is chair of Accounting for HBU and a professor of Accounting. Dr. Kraten focuses upon global business, entrepreneurship, sustainability and corporate social responsibility. He teaches courses including Financial Accounting, Management Accounting, International Accounting, and Leadership. He is eager to grow HBU's Accounting program and to connect with business leaders in the area. Visit HBU.edu/Business.

HBU.edu/p56-Kraten

Go to
HBU.edu/PODCAST
to view the full
podcast listing.



■ HBU PODCASTS AVAILABLE FREE ON iTunes



October 7
Kirkland Guillory
Archie W. Dunham
College of Business

Kirkland Guillory is majoring in Marketing. In the summer of 2019, she accepted an internship with Perry Homes. Her work has included providing research-based recommendations to impact sluggish sales for a new community, and preparing a press release related to the company's foundation. The Marketing program is part of the Archie W. Dunham College of Business, which gives students a foundation in theory and ideas as well as practical application. Visit HBU.edu/Business. HBU.edu/p56-Guillory



October 14
Lisa Simon
Chairman,
Morris Strategic
Investments
President, Joella
and Stewart
Morris Foundation

Lisa Morris Simon graduated with a BA from HBU with degrees in Math, Art and Education. Simon is chairman of Morris Strategic Investments and president of the Joella and Stewart Morris Foundation. She has served as a member of the HBU Board of Trustees, as well as on numerous boards and in organizations in Houston and beyond. Her broad and consistent support for HBU includes chairing the school's 50th anniversary Gala in 2010 with her husband, Jerry. She is the daughter of HBU founding father, Dr. Stewart Morris, Sr. HBU.edu/p56-Simon



October 29
Tyler Boyd
HBU Staff Counsel

Tyler Boyd is HBU's University counsel. He handles a wide range of legal issues in the areas of commercial, contract, business and employment law. He also is the general counsel of Beechnut Street Inc., an HBU subsidiary entity. When away from work, he enjoys spending time with his wife, twin boys and daughter. Tyler is in his third season as a football commentator

for the Huskies. A four-time USA National Water Ski Champion, he continues to compete. For the past 10 years, Tyler has been highly recognized as a water ski announcer as the voice of the Masters Water Ski Tournament.

HBU.edu/p56-Boyd



October 28
Michael Dooley
Student and
HBU Mock Trial
participant

Michael Dooley has served as the team president of HBU Mock Trial. Mock Trial involves an imitation trial involving a plausible scenario. The HBU Mock Trial team received an Honorable Mention at the 2019 American Mock Trial Association (AMTA) Open Round Championship Series (ORCS) in Tennessee, and was an Honorable Mention for the Houston Regional ORCS Tournament as well. Dooley earned a Top Witness Award at the Houston Regional Tournament.

HBU.edu/p56-Dooley



November 4
Dr. Stanley Napper
Dean, College
of Science and
Engineering

Dr. Stan Napper joined HBU in 2017. He is the dean of the College of Science and Engineering and is a professor of Engineering. Napper launched the University's engineering programs: Cyber Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. The University recently combined the former College of Engineering with the former College of Science and Mathematics. Visit HBU.edu/COSE.

HBU.edu/p56-Napper



Nov. 11
Cameron "Cam"
Sitler
Beach Volleyball
Head Coach

HBU became only the second university in the state of Texas to enter into Division I beach volleyball competition, along with Texas Christian University, beginning in

2016. Cameron Sitler joined HBU athletics in 2015 and has served as head coach of the beach volleyball program since 2018. With a background in both indoor and beach volleyball, he has led the team to successes including winning the Southland Showcase for the past two years. HBUhuskies.com

HBU.edu/p56-Sitler



Nov. 18
Dr. Dan Wilford
HBU Board of
Directors

Dr. Dan Wilford was president and CEO of Memorial Hermann Healthcare System from 1984-2002. He has served

on the board of directors of numerous organizations, including Houston Baptist University. He is a role model and mentor for many, having exhibited a strong work ethic combined with moral direction. Among his many honors is his induction into the Modern Healthcare Magazine's Hall of Fame. He is a former NFL referee.

HBU.edu/p56-Wilford



Nov. 25
Joanne Lemmons
'92
HBU Alumna

Joanne Lemmons studied English and Biology at HBU, and graduated in 1992. Since then, she has worked

in web applications and development. HBU has become a family affair for the Lemmons, and Joanne stays connected through the HBU Alumni Association. Alumni are among the best ambassadors of and friends to HBU.

HBU.edu/p56-Lemmons



**MIKAYLA
VIVENS**
VOLLEYBALL



**DEQUAN
THOMAS**
MEN'S SOCCER



**DENIM
ROGERS**
OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD



**JULIJA
VUJAKOVIC**
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



**GARRETT
GIBSON**
INDOOR TRACK & FIELD



**HEIDI
JAQUEZ**
SOFTBALL



**NICKO
MARTINEZ**
MEN'S GOLF



**JESSICA
RABIUS**
WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

