

Art Briles Announces 2016 Baylor Football Signing Class

Group of 22 student-athletes represents highest-ranked recruiting class in Big 12 Era.

#SignBU Central

BRANDON BOWEN

DL -- 6-4, 235 -- Trophy Club, Texas (Byron Nelson HS)

Consensus national top 300 recruit and two-sport star from Byron Nelson High School in Trophy Club, Texas... Defensive lineman, ranked 63rd-best overall recruit nationally on Rivals100, 130th on Scout300, **172nd on PrepStar Top 350 All-America team** and 254th by 247Sports... Also played wide receiver at BNHS under head coach Brian Polk... National position rating among defensive ends: third by Rivals, 18th by Scout, 19th by 247Sports and 55th by ESPN... Top 50 Texas recruit, ranked seventh in state by Rivals, seventh on Lone Star Top 100, 29th by Scout, 37th by 247Sports, 39th on Austin American-Statesman Fabulous 55 and 57th on Dave Campbell Texas Football Texas Top 150 and among Top 30 on Waco Tribune-Herald's Top 100... Named 2015 first-team All-District 5-6A, led Byron Nelson to 6-5 mark and bi-district finals... State champion high jumper, won 2015 Class 6A title with leap of 6-7.0... Son of former MLB pitcher Ryan Bowen and nephew of three-time NBA champion Bruce Bowen... Other uncles attended Baylor, including Bears letterman and NFL running back Le'Shai Maston.

BRILES ON BOWEN

"Brandon is a tremendously explosive individual. He has a big body, so that's the thing that is so intriguing about him. He has so much upside potential, and he's just a great kid that really loves the game. He is a high jumper and a long jumper. He has a chance honestly to win state in both this year. So we're extremely excited about him. His dad played Major League Baseball, and it's just a tremendous family."

DEVIN DUVERNAY

WR -- 5-10, 195 -- Sachse, Texas (Sachse HS)

Blue chip recruit and unanimous national top 100 prospect from Sachse (Texas) High School... All-American wide receiver and decorated track athlete considered fastest high schooler in Texas... Rated nation's No. 41 recruit on Scout300, named Under Armour All-American... Ranked 50th overall national prospect on ESPN300, 52nd on Rivals100, 72nd on Top247, **86th on PrepStar Top 150 Dream Team**... National position rating among wide receivers: third by ESPN, fourth by Scout, eighth by Rivals, ninth by 247Sports... Rankings among prospects in Texas: fifth by Rivals, seventh by 247Sports, ninth by ESPN, 10th on Austin American-Statesman Fabulous 55, 12th on Lone Star Top 100 and 13th on Dave Campbell Texas Football Texas Top 150... Named 2015 All-Midlands (Scout), All-USA Texas first team (USA Today) and to Subway Super Team (DCTF) following senior season at SHS under head coach Mark Behrens... Two-time all-state honoree, finished prep career with nearly 5,000 all-purpose yards, totaled 40 TDs and almost 3,000 yards receiving... Named 2015 first-team Class 6A All-State receiver after leading SHS to 7-4 record and to bi-district finals... Totaled 1,142 yards and 16 touchdowns on 62 receptions, and 520 yards and six TDs on 47 rushing attempts as senior... Named 2015 Texas 6A-5A Receiver of Year and first team All-District 11-6A... Earned all-state distinction at two positions as junior in 2014, Class 6A honorable mention at both receiver and all-purpose athlete... Had 997 yards and 13 TDs on 63 catches, and 290 yards and three scores on 33 rushes, named first-team All-District 11-6A at receiver... Earned 2013 first-team All-District 11-5A honors as sophomore after totaling 774 yards and 11 TDs on 46 receptions and 267 yards and two scores on 25 runs... Also scored two kick-return touchdowns to help lead Sachse to 11-1 record and area finals... Blazing runner, 2015 Class 6A state 100-meter champion, clocked 10.27 seconds, nation's third-fastest prep time... Also anchored 400-meter relay squad to seventh-place finish (41.38)... Twin of fellow Baylor signee and SHS teammate Donovan Duvernay.

BRILES ON DEVIN DUVERNAY

"What can you say? Devin ran the fastest 100-meter time in the nation last year at 10.27. For a guy that plays football, he has phenomenal athletic skills that are kind of unequaled. We are extremely excited to get the opportunity to work with him, get him in our program, and watch him develop and flourish. We're excited to just get him on the field and let him showcase his skills, and have him help us win championships; which is what he's going to do."

PATRICK HUDSON

OL -- 6-4, 325 -- Silsbee, Texas (Silsbee HS)

Blue chip recruit and unanimous national top 100 prospect from Silsbee (Texas) High School... **Imposing, All-American offensive lineman rated nation's 35th-best recruit on PrepStar Top 150 Dream Team**... Named Under Armour All-American... Ranked 56th overall national prospect on ESPN300, 62nd on Rivals100, 68th on

Scout300 and 82nd on Top247... Rated nation's top offensive guard prospect by ESPN, additional position ratings among guards: No. 2 by Rivals, No. 3 by Scout and No. 4 by 247Sports... Rankings among prospects in Texas: second on Austin American Statesman Fabulous 55, fourth on Lone Star Top 100, fifth by ESPN, sixth by Rivals, sixth on Dave Campbell Texas Football's Texas Top 150, 11th by 247Sports, 16th (top guard) by Scout... Two-way player at SHS under head coach Bobby McGallion... Named 2015 All-Midlands (Scout), All-USA Texas first team (USA Today) and to Subway Super Team (DCTF) following senior season... Selected honorable mention 2015 Class 4A All-State and first-team All-District 10-4A after leading Silsbee to 11-3 record and state quarterfinals while playing on both offense and defensive lines... Named 2014 first-team All-District 10-4A as junior... Earned 2013 District 21-3A Offensive Newcomer of Year honors as sophomore on 9-3 SHS squad that reached regional semifinals... Powerlifter at Silsbee, placed second in 2015 Texas High School Powerlifting Association Championships Division 2 super heavyweight division with combined lift of 1,800 pounds (690 squat, 395 bench and 715 dead lift) as junior... Won 2014 Region IV Division 2 super heavyweight division with combined lift of 1,615 pounds (615 squat, 380 bench and 620 dead lift) as sophomore.

BRILES ON HUDSON

"Pat played both sides of the ball this year for Silsbee, and they had a good run. Pat was a big part of it. He is the highest ranked lineman in the state of Texas and a tremendous athlete. The thing that really intrigued us about him besides his passion, his personality, and his mentality, is his overall physical strength. He was the state powerlifting runner-up last year, and of course has a chance to win it this year. His goal is to break **Andrew Billings'** national mark, which he has a very legitimate shot to do. So it's going to be a lot of fun watching that transpire."

KENAN IVY

DB -- 5-9, 180 -- Lancaster, Texas (Lancaster HS)

National top 300 recruit and All-American defensive back from Lancaster (Texas) High School... Fleet, athletic, three-year starter under head coach Chris Gilbert at LHS... Ranked No. 266 national recruit on ESPN300 and **No. 309 on PrepStar Top 350 All-America listing...** Named Semper Fidelis All-American... National position rankings: 14th-rated safety by ESPN, 50th by Rivals, 50th by Scout, 72nd-rated cornerback by 247Sports... Rankings among Texas prospects: No. 45 by ESPN, No. 89 on Dave Campbell Texas Football Texas Top 150, No. 95 by Rivals, No. 110 by 247Sports... Ranked 49th regionally by ESPN... Led Lancaster to 10-4 record and 2015 state quarterfinals as senior... Selected 2015 first-team All-District 14-5A at safety after accumulating 72 tackles, 12 PBUs and one interception as senior... Named 2014 first-team All-District 14-5A safety as sophomore... Totaled 52 tackles and three interceptions for 2014 bi-district finalist LHS squad that finished 7-4... Made 48 tackles as sophomore... Also participated in track at Lancaster, anchored 2015 Class 5A state title-winning 4x100-meter relay as junior.

BRILES ON IVY

"Kenan is talented and extremely fast. He's a guy that can really turn and run, a tough guy who's physical. He anchors for Lancaster's 4x100 and 4x200, if they ran 4x400 he would anchor that also. If you anchor their relay teams, you can run. So this guy is extremely fast, a really good football player, and a great leader. He's been a great leader for Lancaster for a long time."

KAMERON MARTIN

RB -- 5-9, 180 -- Port Arthur, Texas (Memorial HS)

Consensus national top 300 prospect, versatile all-purpose athlete from Memorial High School in Port Arthur, Texas... Four-year starter in football under head coach Kenny Harrison, also record-setting track athlete at MHS... Ranked No. 112 overall national recruit on Scout300, **No. 156 on PrepStar Top 350 All-America team** and No. 242 on Rivals 250... Member of USA Football national team (under 19) for 2016 International Bowl in Arlington, Texas... National position ranking: sixth (running back) by Scout, eighth (all-purpose back) by 247Sports, 19th (RB) by ESPN and 32nd (APB) by Rivals... In-state rankings: No. 14 on Dave Campbell Texas Football Texas Top 150, No. 20 on Lone Star 100, No. 25 by Scout, among top 30 on Waco Tribune-Herald Top 100, No. 32 on Austin American-Statesman Fabulous 55, No. 52 by ESPN, No. 78 by 247Sports... Named to 2015 Subway Super Team by Dave Campbell Texas Football... Amassed more than 3,500 combined rushing and receiving yards and 44 TDs in prep career... Totaled 962 yards and six touchdowns on 143 carries, and added 10 receptions for 133 yards as senior... Named 2015 first-team All-District 21-6A running back... Had 903 yards and 17 TDs on 153 rushes and 140 yards and TD on 10 catches as junior in 2014, selected first-team All-District 21-6A kick returner... Had monster season as sophomore, rushing for 1,060 yards and 16 TDs on 130 carries to lead Memorial to 8-4 record and area finals... Named 2013 second-team All-District 21-5A running back... Made varsity debut as freshman in 2012, totaled 319 yards and four TDs... Track star at Memorial, anchor on 4x200-meter relay team that set national record with time of 1:23.84 at district meet, and later captured 2015 Class 6A state title in event.

BRILES ON MARTIN

"Kameron is the No. 1 ranked running back in the state of Texas and two or three overall in the nation. He's one of those guys that has a tremendous upside. He's got a great personality, great spirit, and he's a person of great character and caliber. Besides being a really outstanding football player, he anchored the 4x200 team that set the

national mark and will anchor the 4x100, 4x200 this year and probably run the 4x400 also for them, so he's tremendously gifted in track and field."

J.P. URQUIDEZ

OL -- 6-6, 300 -- Copperas Cove, Texas (Copperas Cove HS)

Consensus national top 200 recruit from Copperas Cove (Texas) High School... All-American offensive lineman rated nation's No. 155 overall prospect on ESPN300, No. 173 on Rivals250 **and No. 196 on PrepStar Top 350 All-America listing**... Played under head coach Jack Welch at CCHS... Named Semper Fidelis All-American... National position rating among offensive tackles: 17th by ESPN, 30th by Scout and 48th by 247Sports... Top 100 prospect in Texas, rated 22nd in state by Rivals, 23rd by ESPN, 25th on Austin American-Statesman Fabulous 55, 52nd on Dave Campbell Texas Football Texas Top 150, 64th by Scout, 73rd on Lone Star 100, 77th by 247Sports and on Waco Tribune-Herald Texas Top 100... Named to 2015 All-USA Texas second team by USA Today... Named 2015 first-team All-District 12-6A as senior... Senior stats: graded 93 percent, 14 pancakes, 33 de-cleats... Played junior season at DeMatha Catholic High School in Hyattsville, Md... Member of DeMatha squad that won Washington Catholic Athletic Conference championship... Started as sophomore lineman for Copperas Cove team that finished 6-5 and bi-district finalists in 2013... Played in 2012 Eastbay Youth All-American Bowl as eighth grader.

B.J. AUTRY

OL -- 6-3, 320 -- Mobile, Ala. (Blount HS / Coffeyville CC)

Junior college All-American transfer offensive lineman from Coffeyville (Kansas) Community College, enrolled at Baylor in January 2016, will participate in spring drills... Rated nation's No. 1 offensive guard prospect on ESPN JC50 and No. 1 by 247Sports, ranked No. 2 OG on Scout Juco Top 100... **Earned 2015 PrepStar JC All-American status**... Ranked 27th overall recruit by 247Sports, 34th on ESPN JC50 and 40th on Scout Juco Top 100... Played two seasons at Coffeyville under head coach Aaron Flores... Led Coffeyville to 8-3 record and 2015 No. 14 final ranking as sophomore, named honorable mention All-KJCCC... As freshman in 2014, selected first-team All-KJCCC for Coffeyville squad that finished 9-3... Prepped at Mattie T. Blount High School in Eight Mile, Ala., played on both sides of line under head coach Mark Hurt... Earned 2013 Class 6A All-State honors as senior, led Blount to 9-2 record... Given name is Branton.

BRILES ON AUTRY

"B.J. is very athletic. He was very dominant his junior season and backed off a little last year, so we have to fire him up and let him cut loose here. He has a tremendous amount of talent and a great upside in front of him. I can't wait to tap in and watch his true athletic ability come out."

TREN'DAVIAN DICKSON

WR -- 5-11, 175 -- Navasota, Texas (Navasota HS)

Blue chip recruit and record-breaking consensus national top 200 prospect from Navasota (Texas) High School... All-American receiver earned acclaim in 2014 after shattering national record for single-season receiving TDs with 39... Rated nation's 31st-best overall recruit on Scout300... Named U.S. Army All-American, Scout All-American and MaxPreps All-American... Additional national recruit rankings: 72nd by 247Sports, 124th on Rivals250, 198th on ESPN300, **281st on PrepStar Top 350 All-America listing**... Rated nation's No. 4 receiver prospect by Scout... Additional position rankings among receivers: eighth by 247Sports, 24th by Rivals, 27th by ESPN... Named 2015 Gatorade Texas State Player of Year... Top 30 Texas recruit: No. 6 on Austin American-Statesman Fabulous 55, No. 7 by Scout, No. 10 on Dave Campbell Texas Football Top 150, No. 13 by 247Sports, No. 16 by Rivals, No. 23 on Lone Star 100, No. 30 by ESPN... Broke Texas career receiving TDs record with 76 in three seasons... Three-time all-state honoree at Navasota under head coach Lee Fedora, catalyst to 28-game winning streak and 2014 state title... Totaled 211 career receptions for 4,502 yards and 76 touchdowns... Led NHS to 12-1 record and 2015 area finals as senior... Named 2015 Class 4A DI Player of Year, first-team Class 4A All-State, first-team All-USA Texas (USA Today), All-Midlands, first-team All-Greater Houston and District 11-4A MVP... Totaled 1,516 yards and 24 TDs on 82 catches, added two interception-return TDs as defensive back (three total picks) and punt-return TD (scored 27 total TDs on 92 season touches)... Led Navasota to perfect 16-0 mark and Class 4A DI state championship as junior, named MVP with 12 receptions for 177 yards and four TDs (two in OT) in title-game win over Argyle... Turned heads nationally with breakout junior season in 2014, led nation with 2,163 yards and record 39 TDs on 90 receptions... Yardage total (2,163) ranks third all-time in Texas single-season history... Earned 2014 national honors from MaxPreps: first-team All-American, National Junior of Year, Medium Schools National Player of Year... Named 2014 first-team Class 4A All-State, District 11-4A MVP and All-Greater Houston (Houston Chronicle)... Helped NHS to 10-2 record and 2013 area finals as sophomore... Caught 39 passes for 823 yards and 13 TDs... Earned 2013 Class 3A All-State honorable mention, also first-team All-District 18-3A and District 18-3A Newcomer of Year... Standout in basketball and track at Navasota, named 2013-14 District 18-3A MVP in hoops as sophomore... Volunteered with Special Olympics and NHS Life Skills special ed program.

BRILES ON DICKSON

"Tren is a fun guy and a great player. He set every record in Texas high school receiving history, caught more

touchdown passes than anybody that ever played the game. He's a pleasant, good person with tremendous jumping, ball tracking, and speed skills. We're really excited that he's on campus. He's done a great job adjusting. He's a great addition to the receivers we signed this year."

ZACH SMITH

QB -- 6-4, 220 -- Grandview, Texas (Grandview HS)

National top 300 recruit from Grandview (Texas) High School... All-American quarterback and three-time all-state honoree, rated nation's 224th best overall prospect on ESPN300... Named Semper Fidelis All-American... Rated **No. 333 overall national recruit on PrepStar Top 350 All-America listing**... Record-setting QB under head coach Casey Walraven, also two-time all-state pitcher at GHS... Career passing yards (10,217) and TDs (113) rank among top 10 in Texas high school football history... Ranked No. 309 overall recruit by 247Sports.com... National position rating: No. 10 by ESPN, No. 11 by Rivals, No. 12 by 247Sports, No. 24 by Scout... Top 50 recruit in Texas: 26th on Lone Star 100, top 30 on Waco Tribune-Herald Top 100, 35th by ESPN, 40th on Austin American-Statesman Fabulous 55, 41st by Rivals, 43rd by 257Sports, 47th on Dave Campbell Texas Football Top 150... All-time leader in all passing categories at Grandview... Finished three-year varsity career with 10,217 yards and 113 TDs passing and 482 yards and 11 scores rushing... Selected 2015 second-team Class 3A All-State after leading GHS to 12-1 record and to regional finals as senior (team averaged 48.9 ppg)... Threw for 3,877 yards and 46 TDs (8 interceptions) on 251-of-375 passing (67 percent), added 334 yards and six TDs on 92 rushes... Named 2015 District 9-3A Offensive MVP and All-Johnson County MVP... Earned 2014 Class 3A All-State honorable mention, first-team All-District 9-3A and Johnson County Co-Offensive Player of Year honors as junior... Totaled 3,399 yards and 34 TDs (seven interceptions) on 200-of-301 passing and 149 yards and five scores on 48 rushes... Earned national player of week honors after GHS win over Maypearl, threw for 491 yards, eight TDs and no interceptions (20-for-25)... Named 2013 honorable mention Class 2A All-State and District 12-2A Offensive Newcomer of Year as sophomore after leading Grandview to 9-3 record and area finals... Passed for 2,940 yards and 33 TDs... Standout in baseball for GHS, earned 2014 and 2013 Class 2A All-State honorable mention at pitcher, also twice named district MVP (earned 2013 first-team All-District 10-2A honors as sophomore infielder)... Three-time academic all-district honoree.

BRILES ON SMITH

"Zach has been on our radar for a long time. We offered him at camp two years ago, and he committed and has done nothing but improve. We saw, even back then, that he has tremendous potential. We're tickled to death that he's at Baylor and he's done a great job adjusting. He has a tremendously quick release and is mobile enough to make things happen with his feet."