



Baylor's Stephen Jaeger watches his shot while practicing with his team at Black Creek.

## Smooth-handling import

BY KELLEY SMIDDIE

STAFF WRITER

Two weeks ago, Stephen Jaeger got out of an airplane around 10 p.m. after a 15-hour flight from his hometown of Munich, Germany.

He arose early the next day. Soon he was experiencing his first sausage and egg biscuit at a local fast food restaurant. Shortly after that, he hit his first tee shot on the way to a 1-over par 73 at The Honors Course.

"It was a good day," Jaeger said. "I played pretty well."

Jaeger is a junior at The Baylor School, a place he learned of from nearly halfway around the world. While earning an education is the main reason he came to Baylor, coach King Oehmig doesn't mind having him on the golf team.

"We've had foreign students who were golfers before," Oehmig said. "They've ranged from terrible to OK. Nice kids, but..."

"I was real skeptical, except that his resume said he had two course records in Germany, he played on the German national team, and he had finished second in the Bavarian Amateur. That kind of piqued my interest a little bit, but still, how do you know?"

Jaeger was unable to be in Chattanooga by Aug. 8 when the Red Raiders held team qualifying. Oehmig had his lineup set for the season-opening Preview Challenge tournament when Jaeger arrived. But the coach also allowed others to play individually. Jaeger among them.

He was moved into the team

■ *New Baylor golfer is settling in nicely with the Red Raiders team far from his German home.*

lineup for the second day of the tournament. Jaeger finished third overall at even par after his 1-under 71 helped Baylor's boys win the team championship.

Oehmig said he had assistant coach Joey Westmoreland following Jaeger the first day of the tournament. He caught up with them after six holes.

"Joey said, 'This kid's a player,'" Oehmig said. "I watched him the next few holes. He's extremely long and accurate. He has a very controlled ball-flight."

Jaeger's father, Klaus, is a travel agent, so Stephen has traveled extensively with his family and played golf in several countries. So far the only other course he has played in the United States has been the The Virginian Golf Club in Bristol, Va., when the Red Raiders and Lady Raiders competed in the Tullis-Oehmig Cup matches Aug. 19.

Sophomore Ryan Thornton was a playing partner of Jaeger's.

"We've actually hit it off really well," Thornton said. "He's really easy to get along with. It was amazing to see him step off a plane and shoot 73 at a course he's never seen before. We didn't know what to expect."

"There's no telling how good he is yet. We've only seen him play a couple of times. He's

a great ball-striker. He seems to have a pretty solid game all around."

Oehmig said he sees Jaeger as a regular teenager. He likes hanging out at Baylor's student center and playing ping pong. He was first into the swimming pool on the trip to Virginia.

Jaeger said an organization in his country helped him locate several boarding schools in the U.S., and he felt Baylor was the best fit for him.

Jaeger said he likes all of his classes and teachers. Because of what he called a lack of care by those in the school system he came from, he said Baylor is "like paradise."

Jaeger's English — slang included — is only slightly flawed, and spoken with a slight accent. Of his teammates, Jaeger said: "They're all cool."

He's been told that a state championship is the ultimate prize for a high school golf team in the U.S., although he's unsure of what level of competition that is. To him, it sounds like he would "prefer to play there."

The Red Raiders need No. 1 player Harris English, a University of Georgia commitment, to return from a wrist injury in order to make a run at their fourth consecutive Division II state title. Oehmig said he doesn't know if Jaeger can play at English's level, but he knows he'll be in the lineup from here on.

"We were strong before Stephen came in," Thornton said. "All it can ever do is help to have one more great player."

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BY LINDSEY YOUNG

STAFF WRITER

TRENTON, Ga. — It's not as if people are saying bad things about Ashley Boyd. On the contrary, rivals speak of Boyd as if she's the most dangerous hitter on the planet.

But that's just it. Boyd, the Dade County senior softball star, wants to be known for more than just her impressive talents at the plate. When you hit over .400, blast 10 home runs and drive in a third of your team's runs, it's hard to ignore the obvious.

Boyd, however, is also the Lady Wolverines' top pitcher, a position she earned last year in leading the youthful team to a berth in the Class AA sectional round. Ashley Boyd

In mentions of the best two-way players in northwestern Georgia, Boyd often is right behind Ringgold's Jessica Cross, Gordon Lee's Kaity Holloway and Lakeview-Fort Oglethorpe's Lauren Flores.

She may be moving into the midst of that list. This past week she had a three-hit, nine-strikeout shutout win over Holloway and the Lady Trojans.

"Her approach is so much better now," Dade coach Jill Higdon said. "She's been working on it for three or four years now, and she's so strong mentally. She's always been a good pitcher, but now she's getting to the next level. It's good that people are starting to notice."

Boyd, already a two-time Best of Preps selection, takes very little credit for her pitching prowess. She prefers to focus on her team and its search for a second state title



## HIGH SCHOOL SI

### VOLLEYBALL

Early Bld tournaments at Oak Ridge and Farragut

BAYLOR 2, LAVERGNE 1

Baylor	27	22	15
Laverigne	25	25	12
Tournament totals:	Morgan Sledge 58 d, 32 k, 26 a, 5 ace; Whitney Anderson 81 a, 19 ace, 3 b, 24 c, 9 k; Brittany Scoggins 47 k, 88 d, 7 b, 5 ace; Jesse Hildebrand 10 ace, 17 k, 5 b, 39 c; Ashley Lawrence 20 k, 0 b (B)		
Record:	Baylor 8-1		

Other scores:

Seminole

BAYLOR 2, FARRAGUT 0

Baylor	25	25
Farragut	14	19
Quarterfinals		
BAYLOR 2, EAST RIDGE 0		
Baylor	25	25
East Ridge	22	22

Pool play

BAYLOR 2, OAK RIDGE 0

Baylor	25	25
Oak Ridge	17	20

Gr  
Wh  
High  
15  
5k, 1  
2a, 1

Whit  
Blec  
High  
Broo  
Whi  
Eac

Seo  
Mar  
High  
2k, 1  
Toyo