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## QUALIFICATIONS:

Faith, Hope and Love

## SALARY:

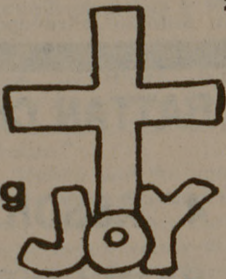
None

BIBLE CLASS  
9:30 a.m.

SUNDAY  
10:45 a.m.  
and 6 p.m.

## REWARD:

The joy of spreading  
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## Skip Walker

# Just wants wins

By MARLA GAMMON  
Battalion Sports Staff

Skip Walker. That's a name that's been around for awhile. For any fan of Texas A&M football it's a name that will be sorely missed next year.

For the past four football seasons Walker's name has shown up in A&M's starting backfield. He is one of the nine seniors that will letter for the fourth time in their career at A&M.

Walker belongs to Coach Emory Ballard's first bunch of recruits. He attended high school in Del Valle, on the outskirts of Austin. After his senior season he was contacted by such schools as TCU, Rice, Southwest Texas, Texas A&I and UT. But he decided on A&M.

"I wanted to go to a major college to play football and get a good education. I visited a lot of schools and liked A&M the best."

One might think that it would not be advantageous for a running back to play in the same backfield as Bubba Bean. But Walker has proven that he deserves the All-SWC honors he received his sophomore year. He ranks No. 4 on A&M's all-time rushing chart and has a 4.5 yard average this year. Walker was beset by injuries last year, as was the entire Aggie backfield. So far this year they have been fortunate as far as serious injuries go.

The Aggies return to Kyle Field this week after three straight games on the road. Skip says there is a

definite advantage playing before a home crowd.

"Sure you can hear the noise. Once a play begins you can't, but after a play you can tell if a crowd is fired up and it helps. You do something good at Kyle Field and all hell breaks out. Even if it's just getting a first down. Out of town, where there's not many Aggies all the enthusiasm has to come from the team."

Mental preparation is important in anything a person does but it's especially so in football. Coaches can only help with the physical preparation during the week and it's up to individual players to prepare themselves mentally. For Walker that preparation comes the night before the game.

"The night before a game is when you get mentally ready. For most games you don't have time the day of the game. For a 1:30 game you get up and eat and it's time to go. If it's a night game that day is just a continuation from the night before."

The Aggies have not been consistently shining this year but they still haven't lost a game. Despite their 6-0 record the grippers came out early in the season and are still around. How does this affect the team?

"I take it in stride," says Walker. "I've been here long enough. I get mad cause people don't know the whole story. They just look at the score. A person has to be a part of it to really understand. You won't ever satisfy everybody."

Many thought the Aggies had an off game last week when they beat winless TCU by only eight points. The pressure will be on them Saturday when defending SWC champion Baylor comes to town. But in Walker's thinking the team will perform as they need to.

"Every week when we play we have to play like the No. 5 team. Sure there are letdowns but we can correct them. The pressure's on us now. We know we have to perform well. It's all a matter of getting mentally ready. It's also a matter of proving to ourselves that we can play like we're supposed to."

The Aggies have been in the Top Ten since the beginning of the season. They are the favorite to win the SWC, and for those two reasons alone it is imperative that they perform well each week. The pressure is on them but they know they can achieve what they want.

"Going undefeated is a goal but winning the conference is what we're really striving for. We can get ourselves together, look at what we have and decide what we have to do. Nobody said anything before the season started, we just decided to win it. But we can't win by looking ahead. That's one good thing about this team. We're taking it one week at a time."

There are five weeks left in this season. With Walker and the attitude that he and the whole team have they should achieve their goals.

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## Golf is individual game

By PAT EDMONDSON  
Battalion Sports Writer

The golf team is in a rebuilding phase in an effort to bring its program national prominence. Part of the rebuilding program includes the newly developed driving range located behind parking lot 50 just east of the Zachry Engineering Center. The new facility consists of 3 targets, a bermuda grass tee, and a practice green. Both the tee and the practice green are irrigated. "It is a nice facility," said Coach Bob Ellis, "and it should develop into a better one in the future."

The other part involves the hard work and dedication shown by the 17 members of the squad. The team has been expanded to 17 players from last year's 12, some of whom Ellis recruited very heavily in order to get a wide variety of players. Walk-ons were also given a chance to qualify for the team. "I wanted to give anyone who was willing to pay the price an opportunity to play," said Ellis. "I don't feel a youngster should be deprived of his ability to compete simply because he is not on scholarship," he added.

This fall, the team has competed in three tournaments. During the Southwest Conference Fall Tournament held at Texarkana, Ark. on Sept. 15 and 16, the Aggies qualified for the final 36 holes, finishing fourth out of nine schools. A week later, the squad entered the Oklahoma City University All-College Tournament against a strong field. They played poorly though, finishing twelfth out of 20 entries. "It was

not a strong finish," said Coach Ellis. "We should have done better." Last week, the team played against The University of Houston and Houston Baptist University at Kingwood Country Club in Houston. Due to rain, the last round was postponed and they ended up in the second position with a combined score of 313. Qualifying begins next Tuesday for the upcoming Jimmy Demaret Invitational to be held at Pan American University Nov. 6-8 in Edinborough. "I am looking forward to that," commented Ellis. "It is a great format for a tournament."

The fall tournaments give Coach Ellis an opportunity to prepare his players for Conference competition during the Spring semester. "I can observe who plays well under pressure and then try to determine why some of these players do not perform well in these circumstances," he said. "I can work with the individual and iron out certain areas of his game," he added. "This gives him the confidence needed to overcome the problem."

"Golf is generally an individual effort," Ellis continued. "Yet there is a fine line between the individual playing for himself and playing for the team. A person will go only to a certain length when playing for someone, and is therefore limited. But he will strive more if it is beneficial to his own cause. That is why the player has to acquire the self reliance to be aware of others on his

team, and that he too is a member of the team."

Overall, the outlook for the future is encouraging. "Our toughest competition should come from Texas and Houston," said Ellis. "We are stronger than we were at this time last year. The attitude of the players is solid and I think we will be right up at the top with the other schools."

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Last month, 13 of the top schools in the nation competed in the University of New Mexico Tucker Intercollegiate Golf Tournament. Both men and women were entered in the competition. The tournament featured such prominents as Tulsa, Arizona, Stanford, Florida, Houston Baptist, and others.

Brenda Goldsmith brought the first place trophy home for the Aggie women, firing a 54 hole total of 227 and tying a women's course record with a 74 in the second round. She defeated Nancy Lopez of Tulsa by one stroke, last year's runner-up in both the Women's U.S. Open and the Western Amateur Open.

"She was really up for it," said Women's Golf Coach Kitty Holly. "She played her heart out and I am very proud of her."

The women golfers will compete next against Houston Baptist University Nov. 27-28 at Inwood Forest Country in Houston.

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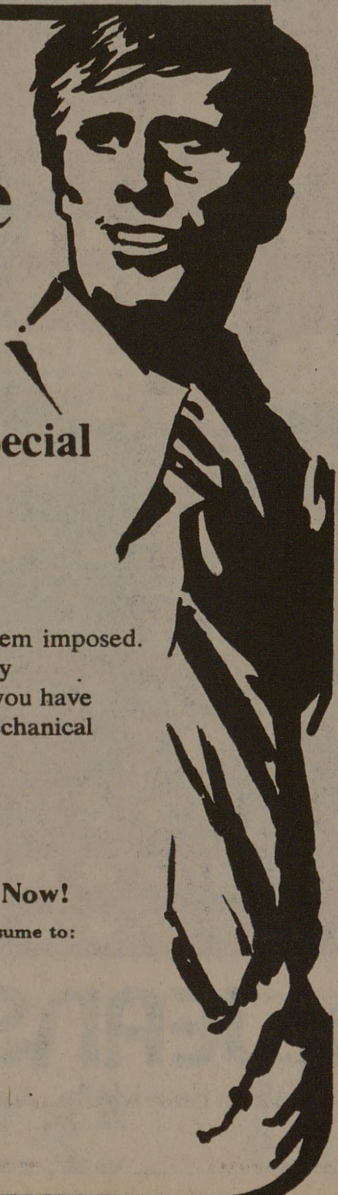
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