

Carter; President Catch

By KURT ALLEN
Battalion Sports Staff

At first, it looked like a misprint on Texas A&M's team statistics' sheet. It seemed a little unlikely that one player out of 11 pass receivers could have caught over one-third of the team's passes and gained as many yards as all the other players put together.

However, a quick rechecking of figures proves that's exactly what senior flanker Gerald Carter has done. Through the first six games this season, the 6-1, 183-pound Bryan High product has caught 18 passes for 273 yards.

With five games still to play this season, Carter is already close to surpassing his last year's performance of 22 catches for 372 yards. Yet, despite being the statistical giant of the receiving department, Carter said the Aggie game plan has not been to throw to him more than anyone else.

"So far it just seems to have worked out that way because of circumstances," Carter said. "A lot of it has to do with the type of defenses teams have been using against us this year. Like in the Houston game, the Cougars starting playing cover-two on our back side and also man-to-man on the flanker side. I just happened to be the guy who was the most open because of that."

This is Carter's first year to play in the flanker position. Last year he played as a wide receiver in Emory Bellard's wishbone offense, the same position he played during his first two years of college ball at Tyler Junior College.

Before that, he had been an all-district and all-state wingback for Bryan High School. Carter said he's actually had very few adjustment problems in switching to flanker and enjoys the position as much as anything he's ever played.

"Because a flanker is basically the same thing as a split end, I haven't had to completely learn a new position like some guys," he said. "What I like most about playing flanker is that most of the plays in our I-formation come to the strong side and that means that I'm more involved."

Carter certainly had his share of the Aggie passing game against Houston last Saturday. Of nine passes completed by quarterback Mike Mosley, five were to Carter for 59 yards. Texas A&M netted a total of 87 passing yards against the Cougars.

Carter said he thought the Aggies played a good game in losing to Houston, but that they certainly could be better, especially in the passing department.

"We did play a good game, but that doesn't mean we couldn't stand to make some improvements," he said. "We're basically a big-play-oriented offense, and that's where the problem's at. So far this year, we haven't gotten the big play. Not once have we been able to really bust open a pass for a big gain."

Carter added that while the team is certainly disappointed about the outcome of the Houston game, the players' attitude is still hopeful and the coaching staff is not rushing to make sweeping changes.

"Of course, we're still kind of down after a loss like that. Anyone

would be. But we're getting it back together. Our workout Wednesday was our first real day of practice this week, and I'd have to say we didn't look too bad. As far as any changes, we'll still be going with the same basic offense. That means we generally run the option and try to keep the ball outside."

Since Texas A&M has an open date this weekend, the players' thoughts will naturally be turning to

the task of beating Rice in Houston next week. As far as what to expect from the Owls, Carter said it's hard to tell at this point.

"We really don't know what they'll be doing against us, because our scouting report hasn't come in yet. After losing to TCU, I'm sure Rice will be looking for somebody to take their frustration out on. We certainly don't take any team lightly. I'm quite sure it'll be a tough game."

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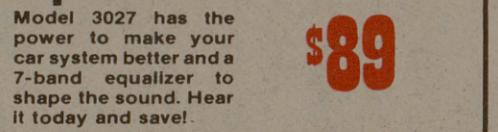
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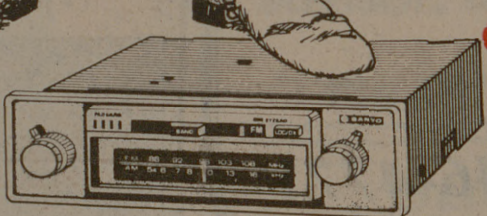
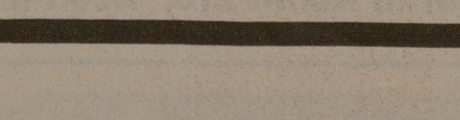
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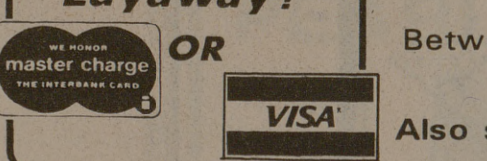
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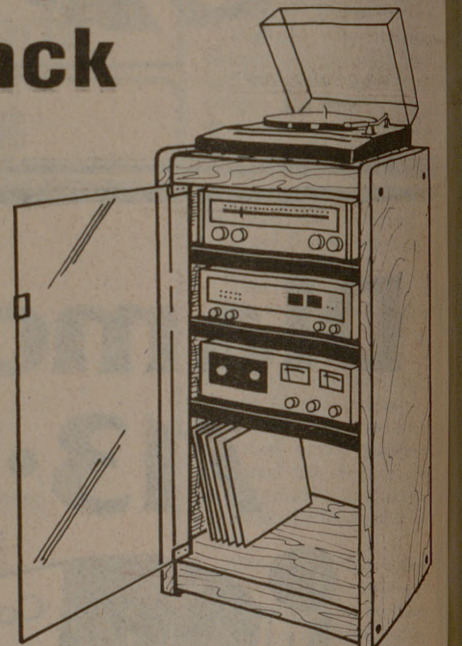


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Ag women host tennis tournament

By CAROLYN BLOSSER
Battalion Sports Staff

The women's tennis team will host the Texas A&M Invitational Tournament this weekend at the varsity tennis courts located by the University Police Department.

Matches begin at 2 p.m. Friday with A&M facing North Texas State, and Rice playing Lamar University. Saturday at 9 a.m. it will be A&M vs. Lamar, and North Texas vs. Rice.

The final matches of the tournament start at 2 p.m. Saturday with A&M playing Rice and North Texas playing Lamar.

The tournament will be the Aggies' only appearance at home this fall, and A&M coach David Kent expects to see "top flight women's tennis."

"There should be very spirited and competitive matches," he said.

The No. 1 singles seed for A&M is sophomore Pam Hill from Beaumont. Hill was a four-time state champion in high school but had to lay off this past summer because of tendon trouble in her foot.

"She is one of the best athletes in school," Kent said. "She played varsity volleyball for A&M last year and then played varsity tennis in the spring."

Also playing singles for A&M will be Maylyn Hooten, Judy Willard, Terri Neutze, Kathleen Sissom and Lilianna Fernandez, seeded second through sixth, respectively.

Teaming up for doubles will be Hill and Hooten, Sissom and Neutze, and Willard and Fernandez.

"Doubles is our forte," Kent said. "The girls play really outstanding."

Also seeing action for the Aggies this weekend will be Ferol Hinkle, Elise Richardson, Chris Douglas and Alexis Hefley.

