

Sports

Aggie medic

Lagan stays busy as A&M team doctor

By SHELLEY EMSHOFF

Battalion Reporter
Three hundred family members are a lot to care for, but Dr. Duane Lagan enjoys his job.

Lagan, associate director of A.P. Beutel Health Center, is the doctor for all Texas A&M University sports teams.

"I have to know the athletes like a family," Lagan said, "so I can function in response to their injuries." Lagan said he also must know how each individual reacts to injury.

Some athletes are afraid of getting hurt and others want to play when they are injured. It is Lagan's responsibility to know what an athlete can handle, both physically and mentally.

"Safety is first," Lagan said. "The player can participate with an injury if it won't worsen, though there will be pain."

He said athletes train daily by lifting weights and practicing, yet at the end of a game, a win or loss

is attributed to being mentally prepared and motivated.

"Like a skill, the athletes should be taught to be mentally prepared for the game," Lagan said. "Each player is individual."

Some need pepping up by yelling and some need to be calmed by a quiet voice, he said. More mental preparation is being used by athletes, Lagan said, although it is a gradual process at Texas A&M.

Lagan said he talks one-to-one with the athletes about any problem or concern.

"The players feel more open and seem to improve after talking," he said.

In addition to attending classes they must spend time in team meetings, practices and waiting as long as two hours to see the doctor.

Lagan's schedule is no less busy. After seeing other students until 4 p.m. at the Health Center, he goes to the Kyle Field Training

Room, where he sees athletes until 8 p.m.

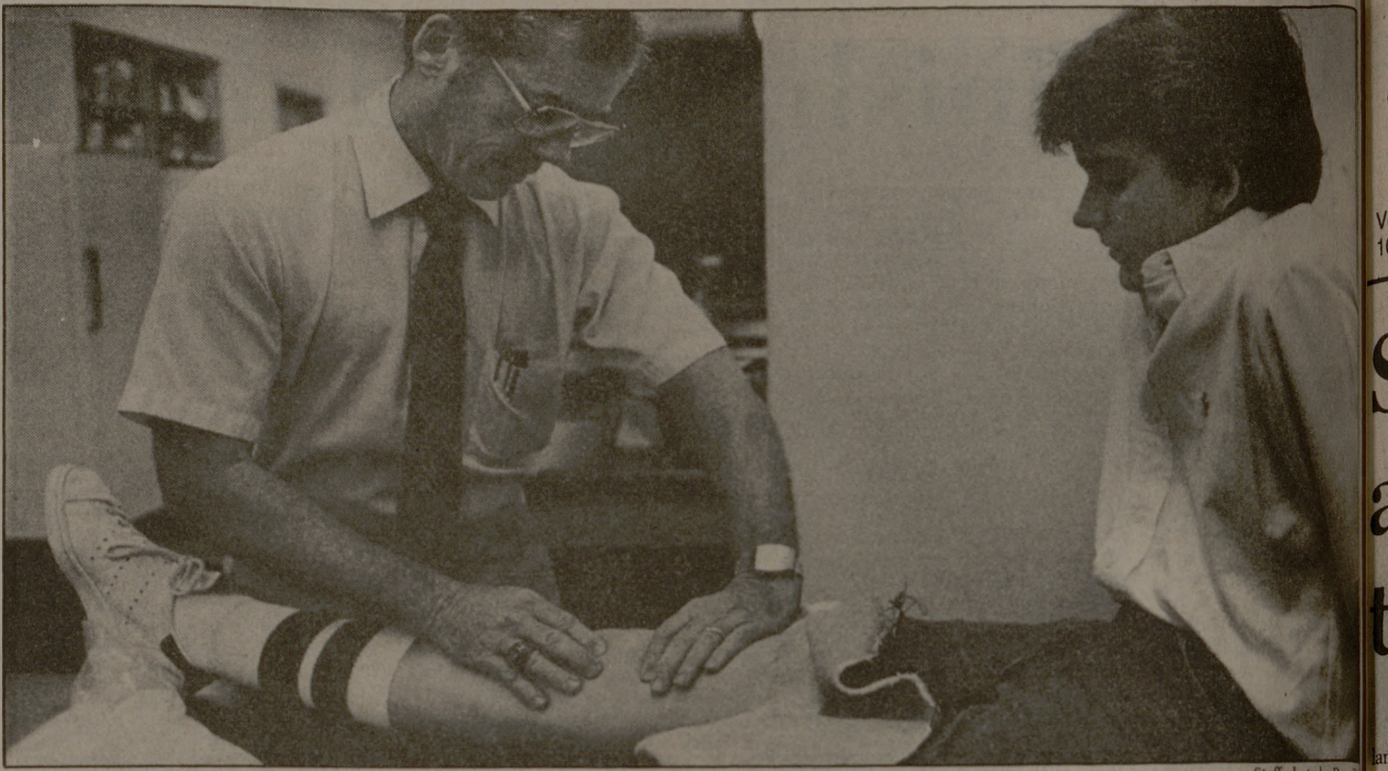
He travels to the Aggies' out-of-town football games and tries to attend as many sports activities as possible. He tries to stay near a central location where the greatest number of events are held, so he can help the most athletes.

Always attentive, Lagan watches athletes as they get up from the ground during a game, looking for injuries and abnormal posture.

This type of work is different than the private practice he formerly held in Oklahoma. He said he misses performing surgery on a regular basis.

Lagan said he loves to care for college-age people. In his private practice, he often delivered infants and cared for them throughout their lives.

Being in sports medicine allows Lagan a comprehensive care of his students — from skin rashes to broken bones.



Staff photo by David...

Dr. Duane Lagan, associate director of the A.P. Beutel Health Center and doctor for all Texas A&M University sports teams, works on the right knee of Robert Love, an assistant manager for the Aggie football team. Love, a high school

student, had a knee operation in July, and must have the knee checked periodically. Lagan's daily double duty includes working at the health center and tending to Texas A&M athletes' needs.

CFA schools dump NBC-TV contract

United Press International
BOULDER, Colo. — An NCAA official says a last-ditch move to restructure the organization's major-college division helped turn back a move by the College Football Association to gain control of television rights for major college football games.

The CFA, a Boulder-based organization of 61 of the nation's biggest schools, Monday informed NBC Sports that too few of its members had decided to participate in a \$180 million television package drawn up during the summer as a direct challenge to the NCAA.

The CFA package with NBC was announced just a few days after the NCAA unveiled its \$263.5 million agreement with ABC and CBS. Both agreements covered the 1982-85 seasons.

"I think the restructuring of Division I-A did say to many CFA members that the NCAA was being responsive," said NCAA Executive Director Tom Hansen, who was in San Diego Monday for a meeting of the association's Television Committee.

"I'm sure all member institutions now have faith that the new agreement (with CBS and ABC) is justified and the next four years will be better than ever for college football on television."

All CFA members are members of the NCAA, and all are Division I-A teams. The CFA-NBC agreement would have guaranteed each of the members at least \$1 million for the next four seasons, and at least two television appearances.

CFA Executive Director Chuck Neinas said: "Although a number of CFA members expressed interest in the NBC agreement there was a continued concern about the possibility of the NCAA initiating enforcement procedures."

Hansen, however, said the organization had never threatened CFA members. "There never has been a threat or absolute penalty mentioned," he said. "I don't believe this was a factor in their decision."

Neinas refused to say how many schools had agreed to participate in the CFA deal, but Oklahoma, Clemson, Georgia, Florida and Texas had publicly announced support for the package.

Following the announcement of the terms of the NBC agreement during the summer, each CFA school was given until mid-September to decide whether to participate. The deadline was extended until Dec. 14 after the NCAA announced that it would convene a special meeting on the television rights issue in St. Louis Dec. 3.

Under a restructuring approved in St. Louis, Division I-A will be reduced from 137 members to between 90 and 95 next year, Hansen said, and CBS and ABC each

must use 82 different teams in two years. That, he predicted, will "provide a large number of teams participating in TV games."

Dr. Ralph E. Christoffersen, president of Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colo., was encouraged by the St. Louis meeting. Last week, Christoffersen announced CSU would not participate in the NBC-CFA agreement.

"He (Christoffersen) felt there was significant progress made in St. Louis," said Gary Ozello, CSU's sports information director. "The main complaint of CFA is that everyone in the NCAA has the same vote. As a result, the small schools with 700 or so students are controlling the television policies of schools like Oklahoma. That has been their main complaint."

Wyoming Assistant Athletic Director Bill Young said UW voted against participating in the CFA-NBC agreement because "CFA has accomplished what it was organized to do, and that was the reorganization of the NCAA."

He said there is now a better chance Wyoming will be on television because of the reduction in the number of Division I-A schools.

The CFA, formed in 1977, includes most of the major independent and most major conferences, among them the Big Southwest, Southeast, West Coast and Western Athletic conferences. Big Ten teams are members of the CFA.

Arthur A. Watson, president of NBC sports, said: "I advised NBC that it would be able to deliver a sufficient number of teams to create a viable package under the terms of the agreement. NBC Sports is really disappointed that we will be in a position to pursue the objectives of our innovative football package."

It was apparent before today's deadline, however, many large schools would be behind the uprising.

The University of Colorado decided against participation Monday. President Arnold Weber said CU may support such a move in the future if the timing was and the national support in the law suit aimed at determining much control the NCAA has over a school's right to contract television network.

The suit is still pending in District Court in Oklahoma.



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