

# Sports

## Sherrill wants to forget LSU loss

By Ken Sury  
Sports Editor

The last thing Texas A&M Head Football Coach Jackie Sherrill wants to think about is the loss to Louisiana State University. After all, the Aggies play North Texas State on Saturday.

And Sherrill said the team can't dwell on the loss and the possibly ruined chances for a national championship.

"If you're going to let it linger, then you've got problems," Sherrill said at his weekly press conference Tuesday.

A&M fell to 16th in Tuesday's Associated Press poll, while LSU moved into eighth.

Although most people would consider the Mean Green of NTSU little threat to A&M, Sherrill is concerned about the Aggies' performance against LSU, especially a lackluster defense.

"We sat back defensively, instead of going after them," Sherrill said. "The time we did go after them, we had two young linebackers in there and they (LSU) went 66 yards downfield (for a touchdown)."

Sherrill said the Aggies will have to be aggressive Saturday because North Texas State employs a wishbone offense that could pose trouble.

"It'll be a problem to adjust," Sherrill said. "We have to get used to a whole set of new defensive schemes."

The wishbone is geared to a running attack, something A&M doesn't see much of with the more pass-oriented offenses used by Southwest

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A&M's Johnny Holland (11), Larry Kelm (65) and Rod Saddler (99) try to prevent an LSU touchdown by Harvey Williams, but he spun around them for a score in A&M's 35-17 loss.

Photo by Dean Saito

## Volleyball team hopes to improve against Bearkats

By Doug Hall  
Sports Writer

Despite the fact that Texas A&M volleyball team is entering its second week of play with an impressive 7-2 record, head coach Al Givens is not taking tonight's 7:30 game with the Division 2 Sam Houston State Bearkats lightly - and with good reason.

In last year's season opener, the highly regarded Aggies stumbled, bumbled and tripped to an embarrassing three-game defeat at the hands of the Bearkats.

"Many of our players returning from last year's squad remember that loss," said Givens, who is in his first year at A&M. "This year we are trying to improve on the things we have been doing right and to minimize our mistakes."

"I think we handle the transition game better than I expected. I wasn't sure about our three-person passing or our ability to attack from the back row."

"I've been pleased that the players have responded so well."

Defensively, Givens said he has changed the team's mindset by making them more aggressive at the net and implementing five different defensive options.

"Defense has been our mainstay this year," he said. "We'd really like to get our offense on track. But that has been our own deficiency - not somebody else stopping us."

In addition to its strong defense, Givens said the team's diversity and passing game are strong points.

"I think we're a lot more balanced than last year's squad," he said. "If you look at our statistics, we have four or five attackers contributing instead of one or two."

"That balance makes us hard to play against, and when we're passing well, we're almost impossible to stop."

Givens also said that between the second and third games of tonight's match, five fans will have the opportunity to hit three serves each at designated targets to win free pizzas.

"A lot of people think, 'Gosh, why can't you get that serve in' without understanding the skill involved," Givens said. "It's not that easy, especially to hit into a designated area."

"This is our attempt to get them involved in the game," he added.



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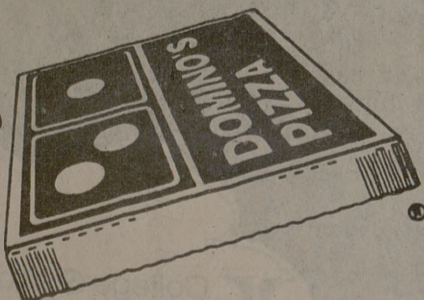
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