

State and Local

Pint-sized yell leader amuses, arouses crowds at A&M games

By Angie Matocha
Reporter

tended Aggie football and basketball games with his family last year.

Mrs. Kunkleman says Tommy got his start when he began going on the court at basketball games with the yell leaders and they seemed to enjoy him.

"The yell leaders told him that he needed an outfit like theirs," she adds. And Tommy's grandmother, Alene Steenson, obliged by making an outfit for him.

"I have a buckle just like theirs," Tommy says.

"He does wear his uniform to the Aggie football games," Mrs. Kunkleman says. But the A&M officials won't let him go on the track at Kyle Field, she says. "That makes him very irate because he feels he should be down there with the yell leaders."

Tommy has attempted to learn the A&M yells both from the yell leaders and from watching them on his own.

Troy Ireland, senior yell leader, says, "He gets confused sometimes with the yells, but I think he's funny. When he does the yells with us, he steals the show."

Tommy has received a favorable amount of publicity in the community with pictures of his antics adorning *The Battalion*, the *Bryan-College Station Eagle* and the cover of the December 1986 edition of *Texas Aggie* magazine. But Tommy's biggest thrill came when he appeared in a small clip about an Aggie volleyball game report on the KBTX-TV 10 p.m. news.

"He was so excited he couldn't wait for his daddy to come home to tell him about it," Mrs. Kunkleman says.

A kindergartner at South Knoll Elementary School in College Station, Tommy says he likes going to school. His mother boasts that his teacher has hung his picture in his classroom.

Tommy says Marty Holmes is his favorite yell leader.

"I like him because he has a bald head," the blond youngster says, referring to Holmes' Corps-style haircut. "Next time, I'm gonna get one."

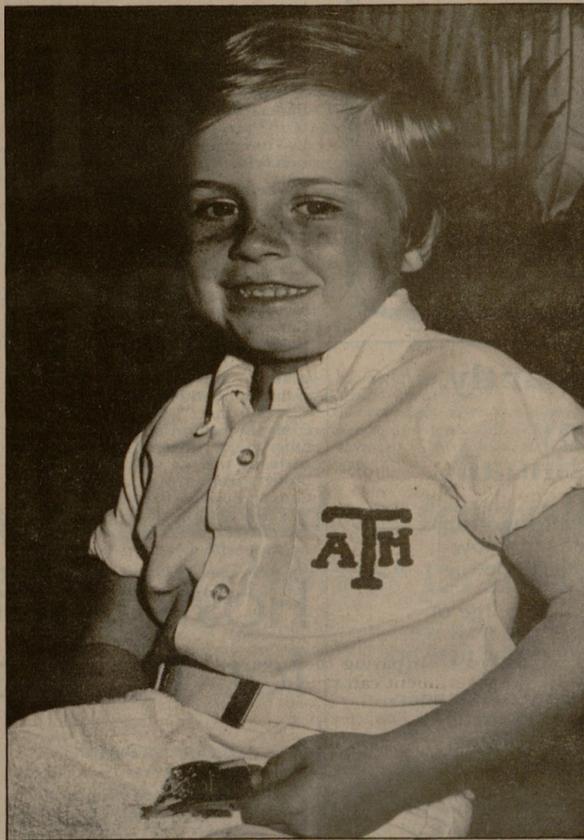


Photo by Doug La Rue

Tommy Kunkleman polishes his yell leader belt buckle.

Mrs. Kunkleman says, "He had his hair shaved before basketball season, but it quickly grew out."

The pint-sized yell leader, who has attended all the home volleyball games and one home basketball

game this season, probably will continue performing at Aggie events for as long as he can get away with it, she says.

"I'm gonna be a yell leader and play football," Tommy says.

A&M visitor indicted for assault

By Robert Morris
Staff Writer

A New Braunfels teen-ager was indicted Thursday for aggravated assault in connection with a Nov. 23 hit-and-run accident that occurred on the Texas A&M campus.

Witnesses said Roxanne Williams, 17, hit Richard H. Cutrer Jr., 21, on his motorcycle as she pulled out of Parking Annex 24 onto Bizzell Street.

Williams, who was visiting a friend, was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated and failure to stop and render aid at the time of the accident.

Bob Wiatt, director of University Police, said the DWI charge is pending. Williams will be tried in the 86th Brazos County Court. The court date is pending.

Cutrer suffered a skull fracture in the accident and was in a coma for several days. He is recovering at the Texas Institute for Research and Rehabilitation in Houston.

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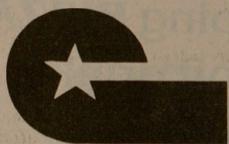
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