

# From the Bleachers

For richer, for poorer

SPORTS EDITOR:

Well Aggies, here we are already three games into the season and things just aren't turning out the way we expected. I guess since the second half of the Nebraska game, things have been on a down swing for our Aggies. Whether it is the NCAA, a tough schedule or Hurricane Gilbert, something has sapped the luck so far from a season that had so many high expectations. (I can hardly remember A&M getting outscored three in a row.)

So what do we do? I've heard quite a few people complain about our defense not rising to the test, our coach causing us not to be able to let us return to the Cotton Bowl. I guess this is the time to cry and complain about this season's misfortunes and feel sorry for ourselves. Right? Wrong!

These may be tough days, but these are the times that Aggies must rise up and show what

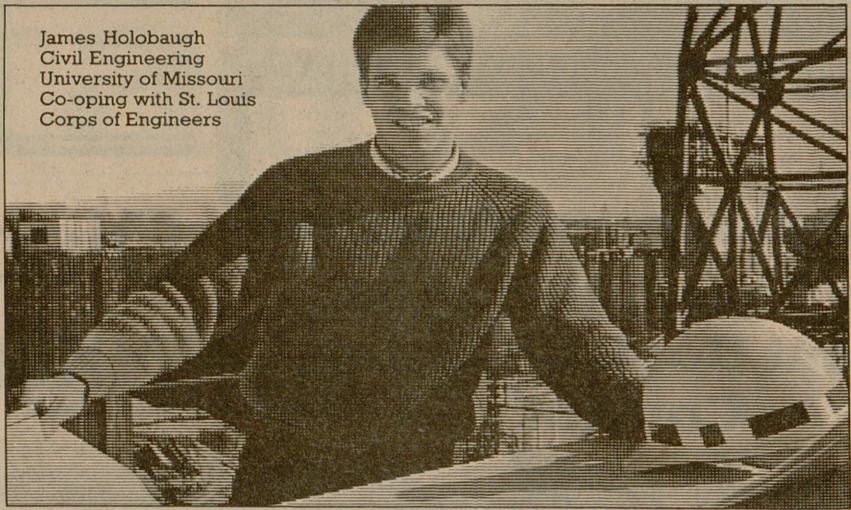
type of a student body we know and boast we are. People in the state of Texas and around the nation know the type of backing A&M is famous for, and the way we love our teams; however our responsibilities as Aggies go far further than just mere fan support. We are the 12th Man, and that in itself says a lot about the character of Aggies. On the field we aren't spectators; we are participants in that sporting event. We can and do make a difference. . . .

Wearing our Southwest Conference Champion T-shirts and throwing cotton at football games are nice extras, but we should also receive satisfaction from the fact that we are the best student body in the nation.

**Steve Keathley '89**  
Yell leader

*Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words in length. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit letters for style and length, but will make every effort to maintain the author's intent. Each letter must be signed and must include the classification, address and telephone number of the writer.*

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## 12th Man Scoreboard

### Scrimmage kicks off women's rugby season

The rugby season kicks off this Sunday for the Texas A&M women's rugby team with a scrimmage in Dallas.

The season opener will be followed by a pair of scrimmages on October 9 at the Ormond Simpson Drill Field on the A&M campus. The scrimmages are meant to help prepare the team for regular season and tournament action.

"We have to get a lot out of these scrimmages since we don't get to play very often," Head Coach Shari Coleman says.

Tackling, traveling and team-

### 12th Man Sports

"We have to travel to find good competition, good teams to play," she said.

Women's rugby is not an inter-collegiate sport, so teams are usually organized by areas instead of by universities.

The team will travel to four tournaments during the fall and spring starting with the first in Little Rock, Ark., Nov. 12. The tournaments are particularly strenuous because teams play as many as three games each day.

### Men's rugby team kicks off year with wins

By kicking off the season with two victories the Texas A&M men's rugby team is well prepared for its upcoming home opener against Texas on October 15.

Matches over Sam Houston State and the Bay Area Club of Houston have yielded victories for the club's 'A' and 'B' teams.

The club is competing in the Texas Rugby Union and hopes to advance to the national in club play and collegiate competition.

"Teams are representing the club in an 'A' side and a 'B' side."

### Men's Rugby

team member John Beard said. "We won in both sides in our opening two matches with the 'A' side winning 22-0 over Bay Area."

Club president Rick Roda said rugby is an aggressive sport.

"It looks familiar to the childhood game 'tackle the man with the ball,'" he said.

The rugby club practices Tuesday through Thursday at 6 p.m. behind Zachry Engineering Center parking lot.

## SWC starts for Lady Ags against Tech

The Texas A&M football team isn't the first team to open its Southwest Conference season. The Lady Aggie volleyball team beats it by a day.

The Lady Aggies play host to Texas Tech tonight at G. Rollie White Coliseum in both teams' SWC openers.

A&M is 7-5 on the season and is coming off a three-set win over Sam Houston State Wednesday night.

McDonalds is sponsoring Shout Night Friday. The first 250 people through the gate will receive mini-microphones and coupons. A spirit and yelling competition will also highlight the evening.

## Class of '88 dedicates stadium gift

The halftime of Saturday's football game between Texas A&M and Texas Tech will feature the dedication of one of the class gifts of the A&M senior class of 1988.

A sign reading, "Welcome to Aggieland — Home of the 12th Man" will be officially dedicated at halftime of the game by the Gift Committee of the Senior Class Council.

The sign cost \$9,400 and was funded by money raised from several events including the Freshman Ball, Boot Dance, Howdy Dance and Ring Dance. The sign is permanently anchored to the stadium deck walls of the second and third decks of the east grandstand of the stadium.

Stabler Sign Co., of Bryan, assembled, designed and painted the sign.

The Class of '88 raised a total of approximately \$40,000 and is using the remainder of the money for various projects around the campus.

## Scott snaps losing streak, Astros nip Braves

ATLANTA (AP) — Mike Scott allowed four hits in seven innings to break a personal five-game losing streak and Kevin Bass had three RBI as the Houston Astros beat the Atlanta Braves 5-4 Thursday night.

The Braves lost for the eighth time in nine games.

Scott, 14-8, struck out five and walked none. He broke another personal five-game losing streak, winning for the first time in six career decisions at Atlanta. Dave Smith worked two innings to earn his 27th save.

The Astros trailed 3-1 after three innings, but tied the game against Tom Smoltz, 2-7, in the fifth. Hatcher singled and took third on Gerald Young's single. After Young stole second, Bass hit a two-run single.

Billy Hatcher's seventh homer made it 4-3 in the seventh and Young added an RBI single in the eighth.

### Field hockey face-offs end in two losses

Tulane and the University of Dallas handed a pair of one-point losses to the Texas A&M field hockey team last weekend.

Field hockey is an Olympic sport, but not one that has garnered much media attention during the current Olympics. However, the club has been at A&M for over eight years now and has fielded a team all during that time.

"Field hockey is the second most played game in the world behind soccer," club president Asif Qureshy said.

"Some of the top teams in the

### 12th Man Sports

world come from such countries as West Germany, Australia, England and Pakistan, which is the defending Olympic champion."

"The game originated in England," Qureshy said. "It has the same basic strategies of soccer in moving the ball, but it is much faster."

Currently the A&M field hockey club has 20 members, six of whom are women. Qureshy said he is expecting a full women's team later in the semester.

### Cyclist rolls to bronze in Colorado Springs

Texas A&M cycling team member Annette Wolfe roared to a bronze medal in the Women's Sprint competition to highlight her participation in the National Collegiate Cycling Track Championships in Colorado Springs, Colo., earlier this week.

Wolfe's third-place finish combined with a seventh place in the points race to earn her seventh place in the overall national womens rankings. Her performance also enabled the A&M team to move to 15th in the national rankings for track racing.

### Aggies drift to third place in Austin regatta

The Texas A&M sailing team cruised to a third place finish in the McCarthy Cup regatta in Austin last weekend.

Teams representing Spring Hill College (Ala.), Tulane, Houston, Rice, Texas (the host school), Southern Methodist and Baylor joined the Aggies in the largest team sailing racing event of any type in Texas.

### 12th Man Sports

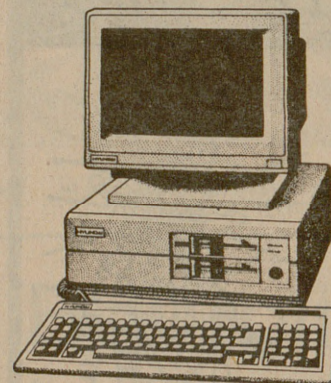
Recently the team competed in a meet at the University of Oklahoma and placed among the leaders in 4-man team competition.

In the 'A' division, the team of Mike Ashton, Todd Jones, Tom Aimes and Russell Kay blazed their way to a third place finish. The 'B' division saw A&M collect another third-place finish as Bobby Benavides, Patrick McGrath, Steve Corsano and Larry Boyd raced for the Aggies.

### Sailing

Spring Hill won the event ahead of Tulane and A&M, which placed third, instead of first because of a protest, team member Jeff Wheelless said.

The regatta was conducted as a team race emphasizing strategy over speed.



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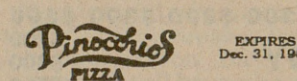
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