

# Sports

## Cole leads Agg defensive revival

**Player of the Week**  
Leon Cole

**By Doug Walker**  
Assistant Sports Editor

Hallelujah!  
The Texas Aggie defense used a dose of some old-time religion by defensive coordinator R.C. Slocum in an effort to motivate a unit that had allowed 102 points and 1,015 yards in the first three games of the season.

Defensive end Leon Cole probably hopes Slocum makes it a weekly event.

Cole had three quarterback sacks in last Saturday's game against Texas Tech to lead a solid performance by the defensive line as A&M shut down quarterback Billy Joe Tolliver and the Red Raider offense. Slocum wishes he had done it earlier.

"We had an old fashioned prayer meeting on Thursday," Slocum said after the game. "The whole thing was that we weren't getting it done. I think our players felt strongly that it was time to start playing like we're supposed to play."

"If we had done that earlier, we

would have had a lot better chance to beat the other teams we played."

The play of Cole and the entire Aggie defense earned Slocum's praise and allowed him to show off a new addition to his coaching wardrobe — a "Wrecking Crew II" hat. Slocum decided to wear it for the home opener as a challenge to the defense.

"I couldn't wear it (before Saturday)," Slocum said. "The way we played the first three games, the 'Wrecking Crew' never showed up. I put it on before the game and told them it was time to start wrecking somebody again."

Cole had a lot to do with the return of the "Wrecking Crew" as he pressured Tolliver even when the Aggie linebacker corps wasn't blitzing. He played a big part in stopping a Raider offense that had attacked him in last year's upset loss in Lubbock.

"I was getting revenge for last year's game," Cole said. "I didn't have good technique last year, and they were coming off the ball at me."

Head Coach Jackie Sherrill said the success of the defense was made



Photo by Eric Swellander

Leon Cole had a lot to celebrate Saturday. The senior defensive end sacked Tech quarterback Billy Joe Tolliver three times Saturday.

See Cole, page 10

## Astros begin search for Lanier's successor

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Astros started their search Monday for a manager to replace Hal Lanier with early speculation centering around Astros first base coach Matt Galante, former second baseman Joe Morgan and New York Yankees Manager Lou Piniella.

Lanier and three members of his coaching staff were fired Sunday after the Astros faded in the final month of the last two seasons.

General Manager Bill Wood said the Astros had no timetable for replacing Lanier, who led the Astros to the National League Western Division title in 1986, his rookie year as a manager.

Galante could be the choice if the Astros decide to pick a new manager from within the organization.

"Matt will be retained on the staff, and he is among those to be considered," Wood said. "We're looking for the best man available."

Morgan and team owner John McMullen are friends although Morgan turned down an offer to become the team's assistant general manager three months ago.

Piniella remained manager of the Yankees Monday, but there has been speculation that he would be dismissed.

The Astros retained coach Yogi Berra, pitching coach Les Moss and Galante and released third base coach Denis Menke, hitting instructor Gene Clines and bullpen assistant Marc Hill.

Wood said the first step would be to decide what kind of manager the Astros need to return them to competitive status.

"We'll narrow the list down and make a decision, the sooner the better," Wood said. "Part of the process will be trying to determine the type of characteristics we'll be looking for in a manager. We have a completely open mind. There is no prepared list ready."

## Steroid scandal made Olympics-watching far too strenuous

Whew! The Olympic Games are at an end.

It is a bit sad that the games are finished, but I can't help breathing a lengthy sigh of relief. The tension has been relieved.

Needless to say, the Summer Olympics were not a peaceful meeting of world athletes that came off without a hitch. It was a battle to even try and watch the competition, not to mention interpret the results.

The games of Seoul were confusing, intriguing and eventful. At every turn the unexpected pounced.



**Cray Pixley**  
Sports viewpoint

But then, the expected also was glaringly present.

The top issue was the spreading use of steroids.

These 1988 Summer Games were so hampered by the issue of steroid use that no sporting event could be taken at face value. The seemingly obvious result of a contest and its winner could not be taken for granted.

There always seemed to be the question of whether the athlete's stellar performance was aided by steroids.

For me, the specter of steroids spoiled the XXIV Summer Olympics. It was always in the background waiting to point its finger at a triumphant athlete.

I couldn't help it. While watching any track event, wrestling or boxing match, or anything beaming from Seoul, I was wondering whether or not the gold medal winner would test positive or just who would be the

next star of the Seoul Doping Center.

It's disconcerting to feel you are judging the brilliance of an athlete's performance by the criterion of whether or not some unpronounceable drug is kicking in like a large dose of Wheaties.

Throughout the Olympics I tried not to let the issue cloud my enjoyment of the events, but it was difficult. Each event final had to be taken with a grain of salt in case steroids were in use.

Like, "Oh don't get too excited over that world and Olympic record — it may be because the guy's on drugs."

It seemed as if everyday was marred by a great steroid scandal.

It got to the point where the journalists in Seoul could have had a preprepared story about a gold-medal-winning athlete testing positive for a banned drug and then crushingly stripped of the medal.

All the media dudes had to do was fill in

the blanks of the athlete's name, home country and sport.

The choice of filling in the blank for sport category could even be narrowed to weightlifting, boxing or track — the sports with the most prevalent steroid use in the Seoul Olympics.

It is all just a sad affair that still hangs on now that the Olympics have ended.

The biggest steroid scandal was Big Ben Johnson.

No one is sure what is going on or no one is saying. Johnson at first said there was something in his refreshment drink and now he says he hasn't knowingly taken banned drugs.

There is no out for Johnson — he lost his record, his medal, and the privilege of running for Canada.

Where is the real story?  
How can the Olympics be cleaned up?

More frequent drug testing it would seem.

What is so distressing is why these world class athletes would take the chance of disqualification by taking performance-enhancing chemicals. It sounds like a naive question, but the answer seems simple. It doesn't pay to take the chance.

An athlete may get lucky and slip through once but it will catch up with them and it may be after they have captured the Olympic gold.

Illegal drug use in the Olympics must be cleaned up, but there don't seem to be any easy solutions.

There will never be an official Olympic event called the 200-meter sprint for steroid users — I hope. But it did almost seem as if steroids temporarily won the events and pulled the stars from the sky in Seoul.

There was no glory in Seoul for users of banned substances.

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**is Your Voice**

**REGISTER TO VOTE:**

- if you are 18 years old, or will be by November 8, and a U.S. citizen, then you are eligible to vote Nov. 8;
- if you do not have a WHITE registration certificate with your current address, you are not registered to vote;
- when filling out your voter registration application, put your LOCAL RESIDENCE ADDRESS (your dorm room or street address) in order to vote locally on Nov. 8;
- the voter registration application must be postmarked no later than October 9.

**THEN VOTE REPUBLICAN:**

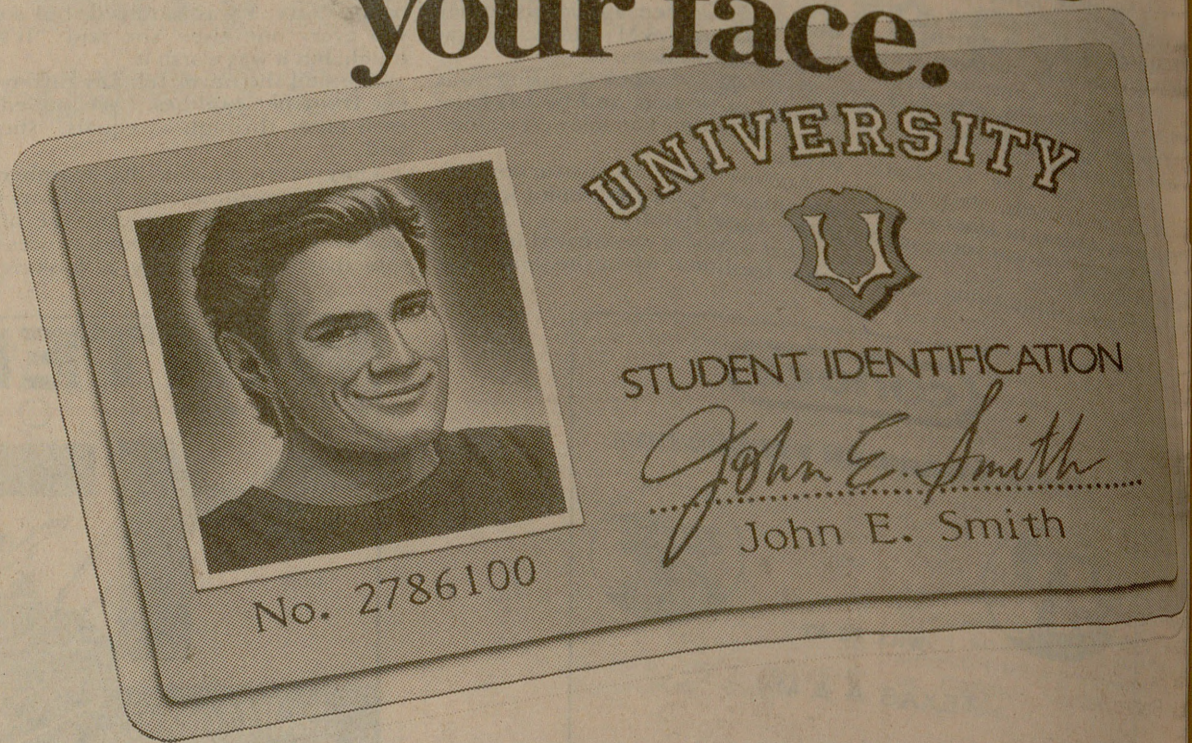
- under the Republicans more people are working today than ever before; 16.8 million new jobs have been created since November 1982;
- under the Republicans interest rates are down from 21.5 percent to 8.22 percent (in 1987), and inflation is down from 13.5 percent to 3.7 percent (in 1987);
- under the Republicans strong defense policies have kept America at peace and brought the Soviets back to the bargaining table.

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