

From the Bleachers

Sit in the right seats!

SPORTS EDITOR:

We would like to enlighten all those who do not understand or know the proper seating arrangements in Kyle Field.

At every home game, there seems to be a seating controversy. Last season, we were lucky enough to have an usher explain the system to our entire system. Here's what he told us: You sit on the row that is on your ticket, and stand on the row that is in front of you.

This seems logical when one thinks about it. The people who sit on Row 1 stand on the row in front of them — Row 0. This allows for there to actually be 37 rows instead of 36.

It is not a complicated system, so why do so many people mess it up? We are very tired of being kicked out of our seats by some self-righteous jerk who thinks he knows everything, but who is wrong.

If everyone would cooperate with this system, then perhaps we would not be as crowded, and we would be able to concentrate on supporting the Aggies rather than fighting with each other.

Julie Uhlenhaker '91
Tracy Coleman '90

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.

Sports Car Club Autocross tests skills of A&M drivers

By Tracy Wenkel
Reporter

Automobiles ranging from vintage cars to pick-up trucks to Volkswagens were the featured attraction at the Texas A&M Sports Car Club's night autocross Saturday in the Kleberg Animal and Food Science Center parking lot.

"An autocross is a low-speed driving skill competition," said Autocross Chairman Eric Roberts, an aerospace engineer major from Odessa.

The participants drive through the course one at a time. Cars are placed into classes according to Sports Car Club of America rules.

Classes promote competitions among comparable cars; however, each driver's only true competition is against the clock, he said.

The top time of the night (TTON) went to Norm Jackson of Houston, who drove a 1988 Honda CRX. Second best overall was Roberts driving a modified Chevrolet Camaro.

The top half of the finishers in each class receive trophies. Classes included stock, which are average cars; street-prepared, which are modified cars; prepared, which are cars with racing slick tires; and vintage, which are cars made before 1972.

The trophies will be awarded at the Wednesday meeting.

Witty Young, a senior history major from San Antonio and a new member of the club, said, "The autocross was fun, a real thrill of my life. I felt when I finished that I was more accomplished in handling my car."

Young said she felt no discomfort or discrimination about being one of only five women in the competition. Everyone is ready to help and give advice, she said.

There is a ladies class. The women are competing, not only within their specific classes, but also among themselves.

The autocross followed a day-long driving school. The school began in the morning with classroom instruction.

The Sports Car Club adviser, John Holmgren, was guest speaker.

Holmgren outlined eight techniques to improve handling and performance including steering methods, how to handle a car through turns, and controlled braking and acceleration.

Holmgren, who conducts driver's schools for local police, also discussed the importance of safety in racing.

A pivot cone exercise, a slalom straightaway and an oval course comprised the course.

Vice president Chris Ramey, a sophomore political science major from Rockport, said, "Maneuvering exercises are designed to familiarize new drivers with

specific elements found in autocross courses."

Drivers are better prepared for a new autocross track, he said, when they have had the opportunity to practice the basics.

Van Tassel said all levels of driver expertise were participating in the driving school. Practice is an opportunity to improve, he said.

Mike Dill, a junior accounting and finance major from Hillsboro, said, "Driving an autocross doesn't hurt a car. But it does wear out the tires."

All cars are safety inspected to prevent accidents, he said. Inspections involve checking tires, batteries and braking ability.

Helmets provided by the club and seatbelts are worn by all drivers. The club has all participants sign an assumption of risk to release the club of all liability at their driving events.

Jennifer Humes, a sophomore accounting major from Rockwell and secretary of the club, said, "You don't need a sports car to participate. You just need to want to go fast and the enthusiasm to race."

The Sports Car Club presently has 90 members. Each semester the club sponsors four autocrosses, several rallies and scavenger hunts.

The club's next night rally will be this Friday 7 p.m. in the Zachary parking lot.

O'Donovan leads A&M at Rolex meet

Shaun O'Donovan led a solid performance by the Texas A&M men's tennis team this weekend in the Rolex Intercollegiate Tennis Championships in Fort Worth.

O'Donovan, A&M's No. 1 singles player, reached the quarterfinals in the singles competition and led a group of eight Aggies in advancing past the first round in the 16-team tournament.

Teams from every Southwest Conference school joined other teams from Arkansas and Texas in the tournament which serves as a regional qualifier for the National Indoor tournament in February.

Gustavo Espinoza, Matt Zisette, Chris Brown, Craig Whitteker and Doug Brown joined O'Donovan as first-round winners. None of them joined O'Donovan as a second round winner.

O'Donovan picked up wins over Steve Campbell of Rice, Nathan Ritchey of Texas Tech and Texas Christian's Eric Lingg in advancing to the quarterfinals.

Arkansas' Mike Brown, last year's SWC player of the year and the tourney's second seed, defeated O'Donovan 7-5, 6-4 in the quarterfinal match.

A&M Head Tennis Coach David Kent praised O'Donovan and said the O'Donovan-Brown match was the best of the tournament.

"Both are hitters," Kent said. "On the key points of the match Brown was just one shot better."

In doubles action, Whitteker and Espinoza reached the quarterfinals by upsetting Texas' Pat Flynn and Aaron Glass in the second round by scores of 6-2 and 6-3.

They had beaten Mikael Gavelin and Rigo Rosales of Arkansas-Little Rock in the first round in straight sets by scores of 6-2 and 7-6.

Whitteker and Espinoza were defeated by Rice's Larry Pearl and Ken Thome 1-6 and 3-6.

Three A&M teams advanced before losing in the second round.

O'Donovan teamed with Steve Kennedy for one first-round win while Doug Brown and Blake Barsalou also won their match. Zisette and Chris Brown were the other victorious first-round doubles team for A&M.

"I'm pleased with our overall depth," Kent said. "We have eight solid players. The whole goal of these tournaments is to try to get better and each time out we are."

Error-prone Oilers rally to beat KC 7-6

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston backup quarterback Brent Pease, frustrated by three earlier pass interceptions, ran four yards for a third quarter touchdown, rallying the error-prone Oilers to a 7-6 victory over Kansas City Sunday.

Pease, who replaced injured Cody Carlson late in the first quarter, spiked the ball in the end zone at the end of a 69-yard drive with 2:42 to go in the period.

Pease, getting his most extensive playing time of the season, had to call the Oilers' final two time outs in the goalline confusion before scoring the touchdown.

The Oilers had to overcome their own miscues. Two touchdowns were called back by Oiler penalties.

Tony Zendejas, who missed two field goals in the first half, kicked the extra point, giving the Oilers their first lead of the game.

The Chiefs took a 6-0 first half lead over the sputtering Oilers on field goals of 28 and 51 yards by Nick Lowery while Zendejas missed kicks of 37 and 50 yards.

Quarterback Steve DeBerg engineered the Chiefs to both field goals with three straight pass completions in each drive.

Houston's offense bogged down as Carlson left the game with a fractured thumb on his passing hand with 33 seconds left in the first half.

Mike Rozier picked up the Oiler running game in the second half and finished

with 141 yards on 27 carries against the Chiefs, ranked last in the NFL against the rush.

The Oilers improved to 4-2, while Kansas City dropped to 1-4-1.

Pease's first seven passes were incomplete, including two interceptions by Lloyd Burruss and Jayce Pearson. He finished with 3 completions in 14 attempts for 26 yards.

Chiefs safety Deron Cherry picked off another Pease pass in the third quarter, giving him a league-leading five interceptions this season.

Pease threw an apparent 46-yard touchdown pass to Ernest Givins in the second quarter, but the play was erased

on an illegal motion penalty against Drew Hill.

Prior to Pease's touchdown run, Alonzo Highsmith ran two yards for a touchdown, but it was called back on an illegal motion penalty against guard Mike Munchak.

DeBerg's pinpoint passing helped the Chiefs to their first half lead.

He hit Carlos Carson with a 33-yard gainer prior to Lowery's first field goal and passed 17 yards to Stephone Paige to set up Lowery's 51-yarder.

DeBerg finished with 163 yards on 15 of 30 completions.

Rypien passes 'Skins over Pokes 35-17

IRVING (AP) — Mark Rypien threw three touchdown passes and ran for another score on Sunday to rally the Washington Redskins to a 35-17 victory over the error-prone Dallas Cowboys.

Kelvin Bryant caught two scoring passes, ran for a touchdown and rushed for 118 yards as the defending Super Bowl champions evened their record at 3-3.

The Cowboys plunged into the NFC East cellar with a 2-4 record as Washington victimized Steve Pelluer with three interceptions.

Washington entered the game next to last in the NFL with a minus-eight take-

aways. The 'Skins forced Dallas into five turnovers.

Rypien, making his third start since Doug Williams was injured, and Bryant, taking over at running back from Timmy Smith, made the Cowboys pay for three first half mistakes to seize a 28-10 lead.

Then Rypien shortcircuited a Cowboys' comeback with a 24-yard, fourth-period scoring pass to Bryant.

Interceptions by linebacker Monty Coleman and strong safety Alvin Walton set up two 'Skins' touchdowns.

Timmy Newsome's 1-yard scoring run after a Rypien fumble gave Dallas a 7-0 lead.

But Rypien replied with a 13-yard scoring pass to Gary Clark.

Coleman's second quarter interception positioned the 'Skins for a 10-yard Rypien to Bryant scoring pass.

Bryant then scored on a 9-yard run after Walton's interception. Terry Orr recovered Kelvin Martin's fumble on the ensuing kickoff at the Dallas 23 and two plays later Rypien ran 19 yards for a score.

Pelluer threw a 35-yard fourth period touchdown pass to Martin before he was replaced by veteran Danny White, seeing his first action of the season.

White suffered Dallas' fourth intercep-

tion late in the game when Todd Bowles picked him off.

It was Washington's fourth consecutive victory over the Cowboys.

Tom Barnhardt, the Redskins' regular punter, pulled a quad muscle in his right leg during pregame warmups and rookie placekicker Chip Lohmiller also had to do the punting.

Lohmiller, who missed a 36-yard field goal in a loss to the New York Giants last week, missed a 41 yard attempt in the third period.

Dallas free safety Michael Downs missed most of the game with a groin injury.

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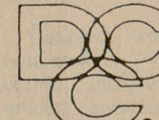
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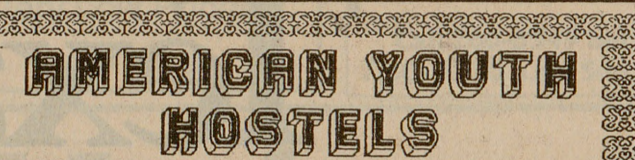
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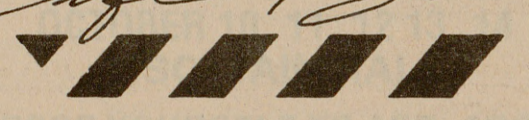
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