

Wednesday, September 27, 1989

# Lady Aggies sweep SWT, look 'down' in road win

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

The Texas A&M volleyball team took its two-game winning streak on the road Tuesday night, but not even a hostile crowd could stop the Lady Aggies from sweeping Southwest Texas State 15-6, 15-4, 15-8.

A&M took advantage of a lot of mistakes by an injury-riddled SWT team to improve their record to 5-4. SWT dropped to 2-14.

Although A&M never seriously was threatened, they didn't look dominating either. SWT committed over 20 errors in only 75 kill attempts and posted a -.053 kill average.

Kill average is determined by subtracting kill errors from successful kills and dividing that sum by the total kill attempts.

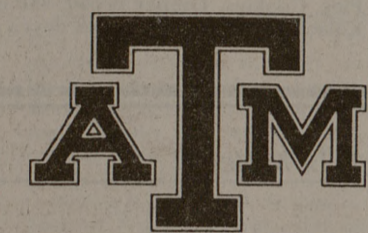
Lady Aggie Coach Al Givens said he was disappointed in his team's effort. "We played noticeably down tonight," Givens said. "We didn't have the fire that we displayed against Lamar or Chicago-Illinois. To be champions, we've got to develop a killer instinct."

"We looked good in spots. I thought that we served well early, but didn't pass well in the final game. Of course, we'll take this match as a win."

Givens said he was worried about an upset.

"I was scared at first," he said, "because I had visions of them upsetting us (like they did) in 1986. That loss cost us a host spot in the NCAA playoffs."

In the first game Tuesday night, the Lady Aggies jumped out to a 6-0



lead and never looked back. SWT slowly closed the gap to 9-5, but A&M scored six of the next seven points to end the game.

SWT scored the first point in the second game, but A&M scored the next six. From that point, SWT got only as close as 8-3. The Lady Aggies

scored seven of the final eight points to take a 2-0 lead in the match.

Givens took advantage of the lead in the third game to get some playing time for his younger players.

With the game tied 4-4, A&M took the next five points. SWT narrowed the game to 11-8 before the Lady Aggies racked up the final four points to complete the sweep.

Junior attacker Krista Hierholzer led the Lady Aggies with six kills. Amy Cummings and Yvonne Van Brandt added five kills each, and Kelli Kellen chipped in four.

Givens said that Kellen had a good night offensively. He also liked the effort of some of his younger players.

"Alycia Gonzales did a good job in the middle blocker role. She came in for Kelli, and played well," Givens said. "Barb Bella, Moniki Daniels, and Sheri Hermesmeier also had good games for us tonight. I think that our depth and flexibility showed up again tonight."

"We've won three games in a row now, and I think this will put us in a good mindset for this weekend's matches," he said.

The Lady Aggies return home to G. Rollie White Coliseum to play Eastern Kentucky Friday night at 7:30 and South Florida Saturday afternoon at 3:00.

# Can Aggies gel into contenders? Slocum hopes team forms winning chemistry

By Richard Tijerina  
 Of The Battalion Staff

As far as Coach R.C. Slocum is concerned, A&M's at a crossroads in the 1989 season. This weekend's game against Southern Mississippi could either make or break the team.

Slocum has the Aggies focused on Saturday night's game against the Golden Eagles, but he said on Tuesday that he's keeping his players aware that the game might mean a lot in November, when bowl bids are announced.

"It's a critical game to us I think from a bowl standpoint," Slocum said. "So although this to some right now might not be a big game, when you start counting wins and losses in November this is a real big game. I've tried to emphasize that to our team."

"This is one we desperately need to put in the win column to give us another win."

Another win might go a long way for Slocum's Aggies. Through three games this season, A&M has looked like the 1989 version of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. They looked great in their season-opening win over Louisiana State, terrible in their 19-6 loss to Washington and great again in their 44-7 romp over

Texas Christian.

It's that time of year in college football when the good teams gel and the bad teams fall apart, Slocum said. What he wants the Aggies to do most right now is to be consistent.

"We're in a formative stage right now as a team," he said. "We're trying to decide what we're going to be as a team."

## So. Mississippi at A&M

- Site: Kyle Field (72,387 cap.)
- Kickoff: 6 p.m.
- Ranking: A&M (22nd), Southern Mississippi (—)
- TV/Radio: The game will not be televised; KTAM (AM 1240)

You're always trying to get that chemistry to come together to the point where you are consistent and you are getting better every week."

That consistency might be hard to get after the Aggies had an open weekend. Although they needed the two weeks to help some players in the offensive line get over nagging injuries, a two-week break sometimes causes a team to come out looking flat in its next game. However, Slocum said that's not going to happen to the Aggies.

"I was pleased with our practices last week," he said. "We

didn't see any signs of (flatness) in our workouts, and yesterday we had a good workout. This is a week where we are trying to focus on each person to assume the responsibility of making us a better team."

The Aggies are facing a Southern Mississippi team that is 1-3 and coming off a disappointing 19-17 loss to TCU. Slocum said the burden of making sure there's no letdown from a two-week break is on the shoulders of the players.

"That's what we're working on desperately right now — for that reason we need to come out and play well in this game and show improvement in every area," Slocum said. "Each player has the responsibility of making that happen."

That chemistry that can propel a team is difficult to obtain, but it's a chemistry that Slocum said is crucial for A&M to attain.

"If you ever get that thing to catch, you start seeing it grow a little bit," he said. "If you ever get it going, it starts growing itself."

"But getting it started is the key." It could be the key to a great season for A&M. If the Aggies catch fire, they could be tough to beat. They play their key **See Slocum/Page 10**

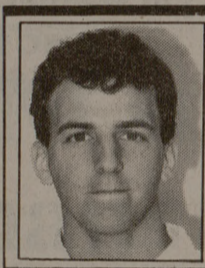
# Round of golf may not be best way to kill off slow afternoon

It was slow going in the sports department last week so I did the unthinkable. . . I golfed.

The Aggies had an open week, the Dallas Cowboys were all set for a sound beating from the Washington Redskins and I'd rather have Michael Dukakis' eyebrows than watch baseball. So what was I to do with a free weekend?

I could have caught up on all that studying I was letting slip by. You know, spend the weekend catching up on my Marketing reading or doing my Statistics homework.

Have you ever known a college student to pass up an opportunity to spend a free weekend studying? Right. And the Cowboys will go 13-3 this



**Clay Rasmussen**  
 Sports Writer

year. But I had to do something. I was bouncing off the walls. I puffed and tensed. I paced the floor back and forth. Then someone said it: "Why don't you go

out and golf a few holes? You know, swing a club and relax. Enjoy the day."

It's painfully obvious that this person has never golfed.

To understand the mental stress caused by golf, you have to understand the game and its origins.

Golf started in Scotland hundreds of years ago. What started as a war ceremony grew into a sport. Scots would decapitate their enemies and club their heads around an open field.

It was a great way to get some of the day's frustration worked out.

I guess this is why people today look to golf as an anxiety relief. Ask any golfer and he'll tell you otherwise.

There is nothing more stressful than

using a clubbed stick to knock a tiny white ball into a cup 250 yards away.

Executives take up golf for one reason, and it isn't relaxation.

They are accustomed to stress. They see it everyday, in the office and at home. Stress has become a big part of their lives and without it they are lost. Executives are comfortable with stress and somehow they feel comfortable on the golf course. They don't feel like they're missing out on anything.

So anyway, there I am on the golf course, determined to shoot the best round ever.

As I teed up on No. 1, I felt refreshed. Just me, nature and the simple game of golf. I took a few warm up swings and felt my adrenaline surge. This was the day I

would break 90 on my scorecard.

I stepped up to the ball and judged the distance, wind direction and other relevant factors golfers worry about. I addressed the ball (I'll spare you the golf jokes) and swung.

The divot (clump of turf to you non-knowers) I removed from the course with my club should grow back in about five weeks.

No problem. In golf, you are permitted what is called a Mulligan — a free shot. So, I teed up another ball.

Does everyone know what a slice is?

**See Rasmussen/Page 10**

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