

Dreams of 63-14 become nightmare of 61-13 visions

I strolled into The Battalion newsroom Monday morning after being caught in the rain twice without an umbrella.

Nadja Sabawala

A dog barked in the distance. I knew what was happening. I had been a part of earlier incidences of the same kind.

Before I could scan the pages to find the mistake myself, everyone in the newsroom felt it was their responsibility to tell me.

"Go to the game Saturday?" they all chanted at once, waiting for a rebuttal after they had baited me all too well.

"Yeah, what about it?" "What was the score — certainly not 61-13."

Great. We just put the wrong score of the Aggies' victory over Southwestern Louisiana in huge type as a headline. I felt the telephone was just about to ring...

People I didn't even know were coming up to me and saying they've just answered a call of some guy telling us we're a bunch of idiots.

So, I'm going to write this now to inform all of you who think you're the first out of 40,000 to realize we've made a stupid mistake.

You're not. I got calls at 6 p.m. Monday to tell us we're idiots. I was about to retaliate. So was my staff and so were all the Batt people who were tired of fielding my calls.

Get a life, people. Yeah, I make mistakes, and I'm embarrassed for those of you who feel it's your purpose on earth to tell me something was misspelled or inaccurate or I forgot to capitalize some inane word.

Please, don't get this confused with differences of opinion that you have. I'd love to get good, constructive mail from anyone. But I don't get any mail with your views on anything.

The opinion page gets mail for months about topics that have gone the way of the dinosaurs. I haven't received any mail about anything. Not about the Southwest Conference, not about the

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AP Poll: The more things change ...

Ags stay at No. 12 despite big win; Irish stay No. 1

From Staff and Wire Reports

It obviously takes more than a 63-14 win and a new school record for offensive yards (774) for Texas A&M to move up in the national rankings.

The Aggies, who destroyed previously unbeaten Southwestern Louisiana Saturday on their way to racking up the second highest offensive yardage in Southwest Conference history, were in a position to move up in The Associated Press Top 25 College Football Poll.

Two teams ahead of A&M, which was ranked 12th, lost on Saturday: No. 4 Michigan and No. 9 Colorado. But while both dropped in the rankings, A&M stayed at No. 12 where it's been for two weeks.

That won't be a problem for A&M head football coach R.C. Slocum. He said Saturday after the win that the Aggies aren't quite Top 10 material.

Yet. "I have no idea if we are a Top Five or a Top 10 team," Slocum said. "I haven't even seen those other teams play. We've got a long way to go before we even worry about those things."

Another coach famous for worrying about his football team had little to worry about Monday when the poll was released. Notre Dame's Lou Holtz saw his Fighting Irish hold off Michigan Saturday, and the win bolstered the team's claim to No. 1.

Elsewhere, the Sooners soared and the Panthers plunged in this week's football poll.

After routing Pittsburgh 52-10, Oklahoma rose three spots to No. 11 and Pitt fell 12 places to No. 25. The Panthers almost dropped out of the rankings, just edging Fresno State by one point for the final spot.

Colorado dropped out of the Top 10 after losing to Illinois 23-22.

The Fighting Irish, who rallied to beat the Wolverines 28-24 Saturday night, received 44 first-place votes and 1,480 points from a nationwide panel of sports writers and broadcasters. That's an increase of seven first-place votes and 29 points over the previous week.

Colorado fell from ninth to 20th — its lowest ranking since last year's preseason poll.

The Buffaloes, who had a perfect regular season in 1989, are off to a rough start this year. They tied Tennessee in their opener and needed a last-minute touchdown to beat Stanford before losing to Illinois, which jumped six spots to No. 15.

Florida State moved past Auburn into second after routing Georgia Southern 48-

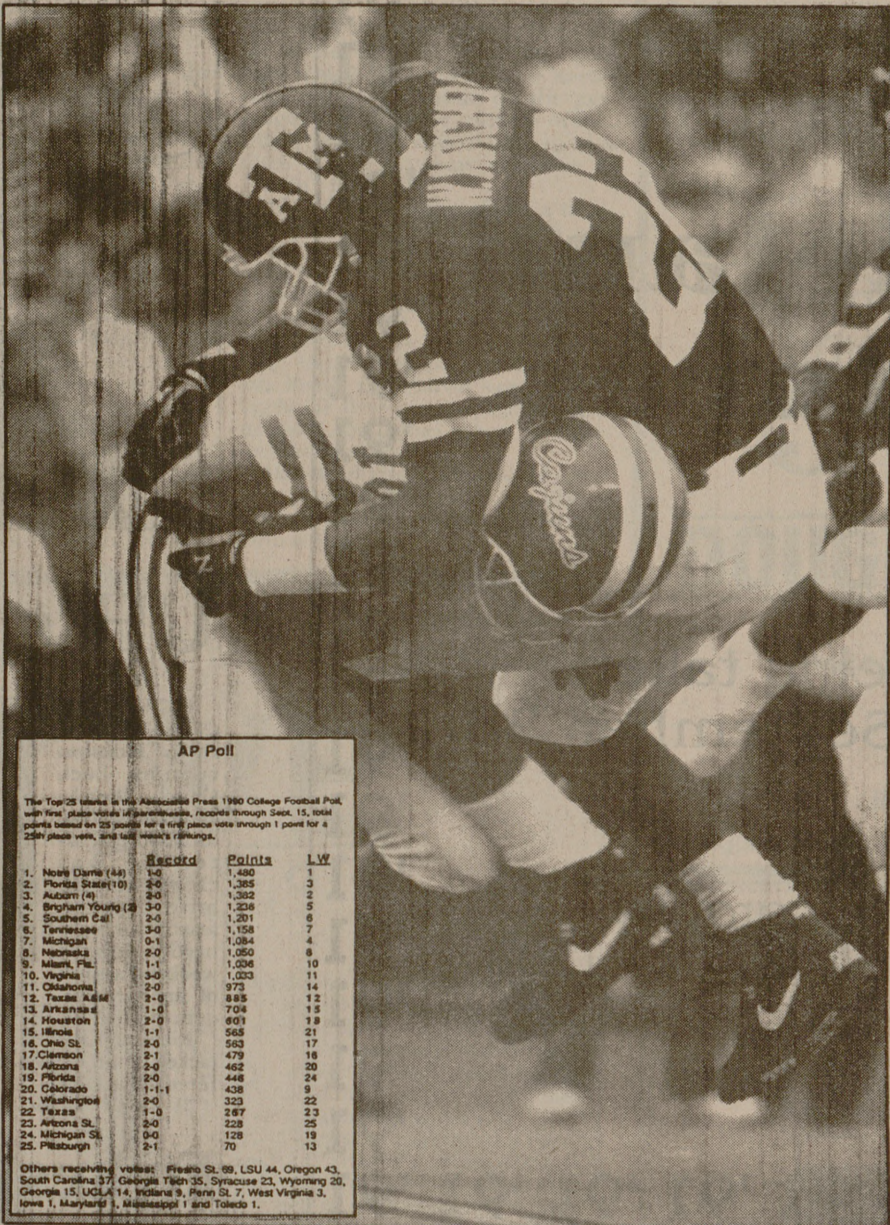


Photo by Jay Janner

Texas A&M remained ahead of the Southwest Conference at No. 12 in the AP Top 25 College Football Poll. The Aggies stayed in the same position as last week despite Saturday's 63-14 trouncing of Southwestern Louisiana.

6. The Seminoles got 10 first-place votes and 1,385 points, while Auburn, which beat Mississippi 24-10, received four first-place votes and 1,382 points. Brigham Young rose one spot to No. 4 after overcoming a 22-point halftime deficit to beat Washington State 50-36. BYU was listed as the top team on two ballots and received 1,236 points. Also moving up a notch were Southern Cal, to No. 5, and Tennessee, to No. 6.

Southern Cal beat Penn State 19-14 and Tennessee crushed Texas-El Paso 56-0. Michigan fell from No. 4 to No. 7 after losing to Notre Dame for the fourth straight year. Nebraska, which had the week off, remained No. 8, just ahead of Miami and Virginia. Miami, which rebounded from an opening loss to BYU with a 52-24 win over California, rose one place to No. 9. Virginia moved up a spot to No. 10.

Table with columns: Rank, Team, Record, Points, LW. Lists top 25 teams including Notre Dame, Florida State, Auburn, Brigham Young, Southern Cal, Tennessee, Michigan, Nebraska, Miami, Virginia, Oklahoma, Washington, Texas, Arizona St., and Pittsburgh.

No. 22 Texas worrying about No. 20 Buffalo

AUSTIN (AP) — No. 20-ranked Colorado is better offensively than last year's 11-1 team, which defeated Texas 27-6, Texas football coach David McWilliams said Monday.



McWilliams

McWilliams talked to reporters as students stood in long lines for tickets to Saturday night's game, which is expected to be a sellout of 77,809 even though it will be televised nationally on ESPN.

Kickoff is at 6:37 p.m., CDT. Colorado, was upset by No. 21 Illinois, 23-22, at Illinois last week, after defeating Stanford 21-17 and tying No. 7 Tennessee 31-31.

Texas won its first opener since 1985 by beating Penn State 17-13, and is now ranked No. 22.

The Longhorns had this past weekend off, and McWilliams said, "It was nice to have an extra week of preparation from a defensive standpoint."

"Their advantage is they've played three games and now, coming into the fourth game, they pretty much are going to be set. I'm sure," he said. "Whether it evens out or not, I don't know. It's tough to lay off two weeks and play."

But he said Texas "had good practices last week — the concentration was good, intensity was good ... certainly our team is ready to play."

McWilliams rated Colorado better offensively because of the experience gained by junior quarterback Darien Hagan, who sprinted 75 yards on the first series last year to set up Colorado's first touchdown against Texas.

"The scary thing is if you do stop Hagan, tailback Eric Bieniemy 'is a threat up the middle,'" he said.

Defensively he said, Colorado "looks a little younger."

"They're a good football team that maybe hasn't gotten some breaks at the end of the game," McWilliams said.

Several Longhorns are nursing injuries, including middle linebacker Brian Jones, tight end Stephen Clark, running back Lemel Foreman and defensive tackle James Patton. Asked if he hoped Colorado would have to pass more, McWilliams said, "You hope to make them beat you left-handed, if they're going to beat you, which for them is having to throw the football."

AMOCO INVITES ALL ENGINEERING, BUSINESS AND GEOSCIENCE STUDENTS TO A LUAU. Includes details on date (September 19, 5:00 to 10:00pm), location (Southwood Athletic Park Pavilion), and activities (buffet, games, prizes).

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