

# Patriots' Mowatt denying harassment charge

## NFL commissioner's decision expected to be later this week

BOSTON (AP) — Tight end Zeke Mowatt, ending his silence on the allegations, denies he made lewd remarks to a reporter in the New England Patriots' locker room.

Lisa Olson of the Boston Herald said she was harassed as she sat on a bench interviewing defensive back Maurice Hurst on Sept. 17, a practice day.

"I am deeply troubled by what has been said about and attributed to me," Mowatt said. "The only comment I made to the reporter was: 'You are not writing; you are looking (at us). That is all I said and all that I personally am aware of.'

"In hindsight, perhaps that was inappropriate. And I apologize for

any embarrassment that comment caused her," he said.

The reporter said Mowatt stood close to her, exposed himself and made lewd remarks.

She said several other players whom she could not identify made similar comments. Reports indicated Mowatt was fined \$2,000.

The Herald said five players were involved.

Mowatt said that his "religious values and my character would never allow me to do or say anything as disrespectful as has been reported to

any human being."

Mowatt, who said he was "equally hurt by this situation," said he hoped that it could be resolved so that he could do what he came to the Patriots for — help them win a championship.

Earlier, NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue ordered Mowatt to report to the NFL office in New York by last Friday. But the meeting was put off until the counsel was appointed.

"We'll probably have a decision early (this) week," an NFL spokesman said.

On Thursday, Patriots owner Victor Kiam said the team would cooperate fully with the independent counsel, who will be appointed by the league.

But Kiam's remarks, five days after the incident, helped to ignite the situation.

He was quoted in an interview with the Herald as saying, "I can't disagree with the players' actions."

"Your paper's asking for trouble sending a female reporter to cover the team. Why not stand in front of her if she's an intruder," he said.

After last Sunday's 41-7 loss in Cincinnati, Kiam called Olson "a classic bitch," according to at least two reporters standing near him in the Patriots' locker room. Kiam has insisted he said only that he called Olson "aggressive."

Kiam's remarks spurred the local chapter of the National Organization for Women to urge women not to buy goods made by Remington Products Inc.

Remington makes electric shavers and targets much of its business to women.

NOW condemned the players' behavior as "intolerable and illegal," and called for them to issue "a formal and substantive apology."

In a written statement Thursday, Kiam said, "We look forward to the opportunity to present the facts as we know them to the independent investigator."

"I repeat my apology to the reporter, Lisa Olson, and regret any remarks which I made which may have been misconstrued as having condoned the locker room actions. I am truly sorry that any offensive incident occurred. We have a wonderful team and organization comprised of many outstanding individuals."

## No. 11 A&M's tempers flare in 17-8 upset

By NADJA SABAWALA  
Of The Battalion Staff

BATON ROUGE, La. — The temperature in Louisiana State's "Death Valley" stadium brought even the most sedate players to boiling point. Just ask Texas A&M's Darren Lewis.

The senior tailback was ejected in the second quarter of the Aggies' 17-8 loss in a game which flew almost as many flags in the state of Texas.

The sellout Tiger Stadium crowd of 77,703 was treated to a penalty showcase as LSU picked up four 15-yard penalties for unsportsmanlike conduct. A&M had one when Lewis threw a punch at an LSU player who had pushed him out of bounds.

Aggie head coach R.C. Slocum said Lewis claimed he was tackled out of bounds and tried to push his tackler back.

"Sure, I'm upset with Darren," Slocum said. "Those are things that you talk about and you work on. You can't make those kinds of mistakes. It's a mistake that a young player made in a crucial situation, and you can't do that."

Added to the loss of Lewis, A&M's offense failed to capitalize on the free yardage handed out by an overanxious Tiger squad. Senior quarterback Lance Pavlas went into the game without an interception but left with three — the first on his first pass of the game.

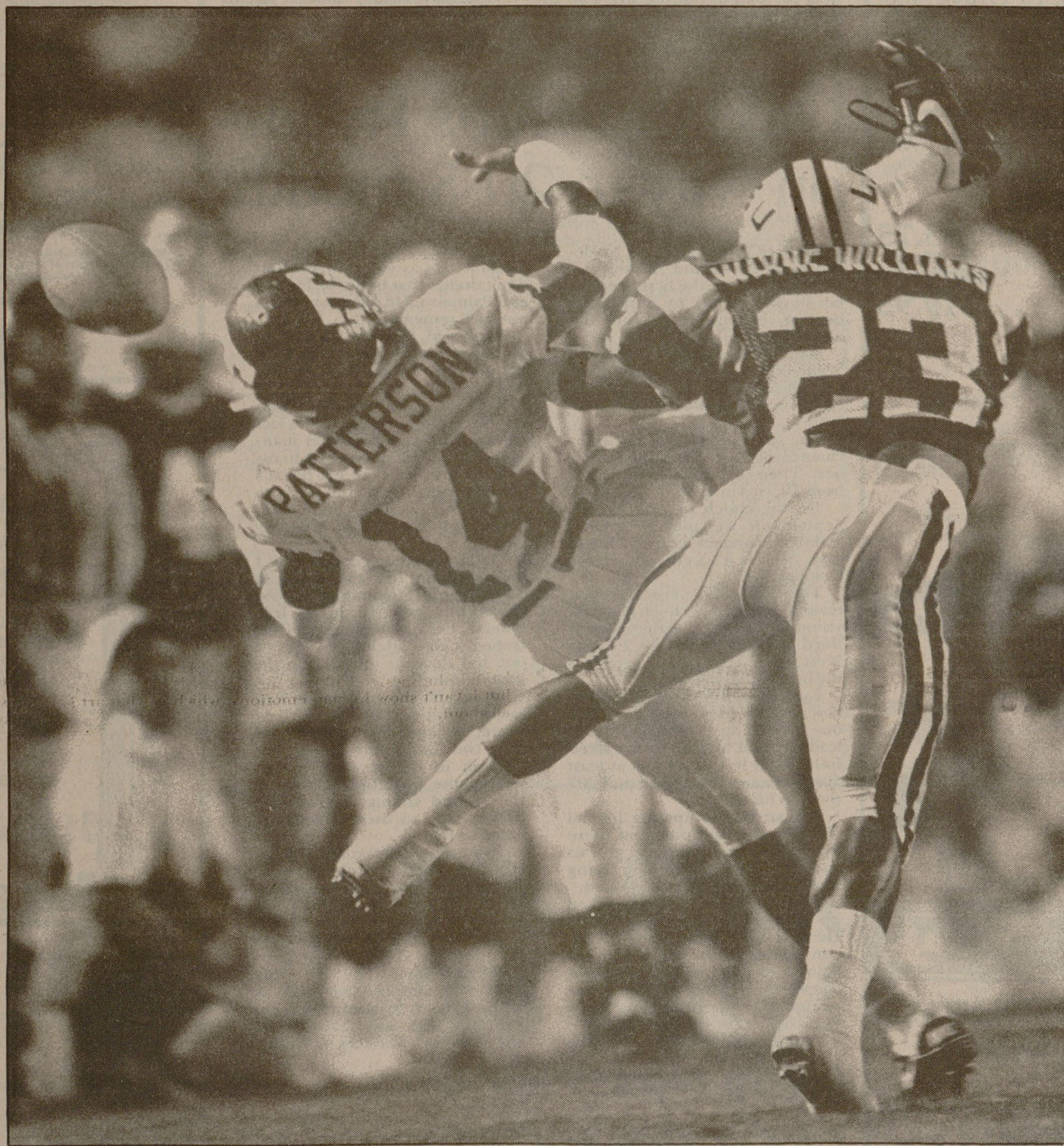
"It was bad play on my part and I take responsibility for those interceptions," Pavlas said. "Sometimes it happens and you've got to bounce back. Our team did a good job of not letting the turnovers make us quit."

A&M and LSU (both 3-1), played an uneventful first half, with the greatest yardage occurring on penalties. The Tiger bench was flagged in the first quarter for unsportsmanlike conduct, damaging what was shaping up to be a scoring drive. Instead, LSU was forced to punt from their own 44.

After Lewis' ejection, the Aggies attempted an end-around pass on a reverse. Wide receiver Felton Ransby's pass to Shane Garrett was tipped up and intercepted on the LSU 9-yard line.

The Tigers drove into field goal range with 1:29 remaining in the first half, but the kick was blocked by A&M's Derrick

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LSU's Wayne Williams breaks up a second quarter pass to Cornelius Patterson.

Photo by Phelan M. Ebenhack

## Slocum: Lewis call should have been offsetting

By RICHARD TIJERINA  
Of The Battalion Staff

Texas A&M head football coach R.C. Slocum said Sunday he thought the referee should have called offsetting penalties on the play where Darren Lewis was ejected from A&M's 17-8 loss to Louisiana State.

"I was very disappointed that he was ejected in the game," Slocum said of the play early in the second quarter. "I thought it should have been offsetting penalties. But that's a judgement call and obviously I wasn't wearing the striped shirt."

The play occurred when the Aggies were driving deep into LSU territory for the first time of the night. Lewis ran around the left side for a five-yard gain when Tiger cornerback Derriel McCorvey pushed him out of bounds.

Words were exchanged, and Lewis threw an at into McCorvey's head. The Aggies were penalized 15 yards for unsportsmanlike conduct, and Lewis was thrown out of the game.

The game was called by an all-Southwest Conference officiating crew.

"Both teams were getting after each other," Slocum said. "People were flying around and hitting each other. One of their players got right in Darren's face, slapped him upside the head and said something to him. Darren retaliated and got caught."

Slocum said the call was crucial not only because Lewis, who had gained 31 yards in the game, was ejected, but it halted the Aggies' drive. On the next play, LSU intercepted an A&M pass on the nine-yard line.

"At that time we were moving the football into scoring position," Slocum said. "On that play, it's going to be second-and-five at the 25, and it turned out to be second-and-20 back on the 40."

Backup running back Randy Simmons came in for Lewis, and ended up with 77 yards on 15 carries.

"Darren was making some plays," Slocum said. "Darren has a particular feel for running a number of the plays we run. It certainly took away from our offense. We had an All-American tailback sitting on the bench for almost three quarters."

"That's a distraction to your team. Not only do you lose him on the field, but it takes away from your team a little bit mentally."

## Aggie doubles team makes it to Monday final

From Staff and Wire Reports

Texas A&M junior tennis player Matt Zisette defeated LSU's Johan Melbrink 6-3, 7-5 at the All-American Tennis Tournament in Austin Saturday, and A&M tennis coach David Kent said the win should give Zisette the confidence to have a good year.

Melbrink, LSU's No. 1 player, finished last year ranked No. 17 in the country.

The Aggie tennis team also saw action in the A&M Five-Way tournament, which included Baylor, Rice, Texas Christian and Oklahoma State. A&M freshman Mark Weaver lost 6-4, 2-6, 6-3 in the semifinals to OSU's No. 2 player, Justin Stead.

The A&M doubles team of freshman Adam King and senior Steve Kennedy, unseeded in the doubles draw, advanced to the semifinals and will play the top-ranked doubles team of Stead and Eric Fahnestock from OSU in the finals.

The match begins at 9 a.m. at the Omar Smith Tennis Center.

Fahnestock and Stead also will face each other in the singles final tomorrow. The time for the match has not been determined yet.

## Givens: 'We're making progress' Lady Ags sweep on way to weekend tourney crown

By SCOTT WUDEL  
Of The Battalion Staff

The Texas A&M women's volleyball team found that a change of scenery may have been just what the doctor ordered.

The Lady Aggies won the tournament in three matches to win the Texas A&M-Hampton Inn Invitational this weekend at G. Rollie White Coliseum.

The Lady Aggies won the tournament for the first time in the four years the school has hosted it.

They lost only one game in three victories over the University of Northeast Louisiana, the University of New Orleans, and Southern Illinois University.

The Aggies defeated UNL 15-6, 8-15, 15-7, 15-6 Friday night. Saturday A&M was victorious over UNO 15-13, 15-11, 15-7, and SIU 15-6, 15-8, 16-14.

Last Wednesday following A&M's loss to Sam Houston State and its seventh loss in the last eight tries, Coach Al Givens said he wished he was a psychologist so that he could help the team with its woes on the court.

Givens said he was pleased with the Aggies' performance in the tour-

**"As far as winning the tournament, that feels great. We needed these three wins in a row to pick ourselves back up after the losing streak."**

— Elizabeth Edmiston, tournament MVP

nament.

"Each match we progressed and got better during the tournament," Givens said. "And the level of play on our side of the court and the flow is just so much better."

The Lady Aggies appeared ready to play in front of the home crowd in their first match against Northeast Louisiana.

Both teams duelled it out until the Lady Aggies scored five straight points and took the lead 6-3 in the first game with impressive play from the A&M frontline.

The Aggies blocked shots continuously throughout the night to keep the Lady Indians off balance.

Elizabeth Edmiston's service ace ended the second game quickly and the Lady Aggies appeared to have the momentum to end the match in three games. But the Lady Indians

surprised the Aggies and took the third game.

The Lady Aggies let Northeast Louisiana make the mistakes that would turn into Aggie points. Edmiston and Krista Hierholzer combined to block a UNO kill and win the match.

A&M converted one out of every four kills it attempted in the match. Outside attacker Kim Mitchell had seven of A&M's 53 kills and said the team was ready to come home and play in more familiar surroundings.

"We've been on the road a lot, and played some tough teams and tough matches," Mitchell said. "It is just nice to be at home. It felt so much better."

"We just decided amongst ourselves that we were going to have fun and enjoy the game and play as good

as we can," she said.

Amy Cumings had a game-high 14 kills and Hierholzer posted 49 assists.

Saturday the Lady Aggies continued their aggressive play.

UNO had jumped out to an 8-2 lead in the first game, but Raychelle Michalke came off the A&M bench to give the Aggies a boost and tie the game at 11. The Aggies held off the Buc-kettes to win the game.

A&M was down in the second game, 10-6, but pulled out another win.

A&M wasted no time finishing the match, grabbing an 8-2 lead with the help of Diane Robertson's kills. Michalke again came in to add important kills to the Aggie offense before Genny Wood's long kill gave the Lady Aggies the final point and the match.

Edmiston led the Aggies with 13 kills and Sheri Hermesmeyer was impressive on defense with 16 digs.

Saturday night the Lady Aggies had to beat SIU to ensure themselves of the tournament victory.

Hierholzer led the team throughout the match with her play — blocks at the net, kills and assists.

Cumings ended the second game

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## Razorbacks sloppy, but win anyway

LITTLE ROCK (AP) — Arkansas Coach Jack Crowe wanted to use Glen Ray Hines to do the punting in the second half against Colorado State, but he never got the chance.

"I like punting much more than the alternative we chose in the second half," Crowe said.

He was referring to four Arkansas turnovers — Quinn Grovey's first pass interception of the season and three fumbles.

Still, the Razorbacks survived. Grovey made the key plays in a six-play, 74-yard drive that broke a 17-17 tie in the third quarter. Tailbacks Ron Dickerson and Aaron Jackson turned in some big runs in the 83-yard drive that wrapped up a 31-20 decision over the Rams.

"We felt we could wear them down and would have the opportunity to control the game with our running game in the fourth quarter," Crowe said. "That's what happened. Our backs did a good job of running in the fourth quarter."

Dickerson, who netted 80 yards on 13 carries, got the final TD drive started when he ran over a defender on his way to a 30-yard gain.