

Shane Garrett burned SMU for two touchdowns and 147 yards receiving in last year's 63-14 win at Kyle Field ...

Derailing the Pony Express

Ags face SMU in must-win conference game

By DOUGLAS PILS
 Of The Battalion Staff

Texas A&M, still in the hunt for a Cotton Bowl berth and hoping to continue its fun-loving ways, travels to Dallas Saturday to take on Southern Methodist at Ownby Stadium on the SMU campus.

Kickoff is at 1 p.m. The Aggies (5-2-1, 2-1-1 in Southwest Conference play) could chalk up some big numbers offensively, as the Mustangs (1-6, 0-4) have given up an average of 47.5 points and 527 yards in its four SWC games.

Going into a game expecting an easy win can prove to be dangerous, A&M head coach R.C. Slocum said, but he ex-

pects the team to rise to the occasion. "We know it will be a game where we need to come out and be motivated and with some enthusiasm if we expect to play well," Slocum said. "They're playing with more confidence than this time a year ago. You just hope that the kids are mature enough to know that when you get in a game like this, anything can happen."

"We've demonstrated that if we're not flying around we can become pretty average in a hurry."

Slocum said he expects SMU to come out firing and the team will have to be on its toes early, before the Mustangs gain too much confidence.

"Last year they took the opening kickoff and marched right down the field, so

we have respect for them," he said. "They've been in these kind of games before. I don't think they go out there in awe of some of the good teams."

The Aggies are coming off an impressive outing against Rice, when the defense allowed the Owls only 15 points — the lowest total since the North Texas game. Slocum said the Aggies must use the SMU game as a stepping stone toward a successful season, but he wouldn't say it would be a game where a lot of reserves would get playing time.

"We're going into this game just trying to improve on our own performance and trying to maintain the consistency and intensity that we had in the Rice

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... while Randy Simmons, who rushed for 77 yards last year, will return kickoffs against the Mustangs Saturday.

Meeting GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Hierholzer leading Lady Ags

By SCOTT WUDEL
 Of The Battalion Staff

Lady Aggie Krista Hierholzer knew she had some huge shoes to fill when she stepped onto the court of G. Rollie White Coliseum for the first match this season.

For three years, Hierholzer had played behind, or with, one of Texas A&M's greatest volleyball players in Yvonne Van Brandt.

Hierholzer had a feeling some would doubt her abilities to perform up to the level fans had come to expect of Van Brandt.

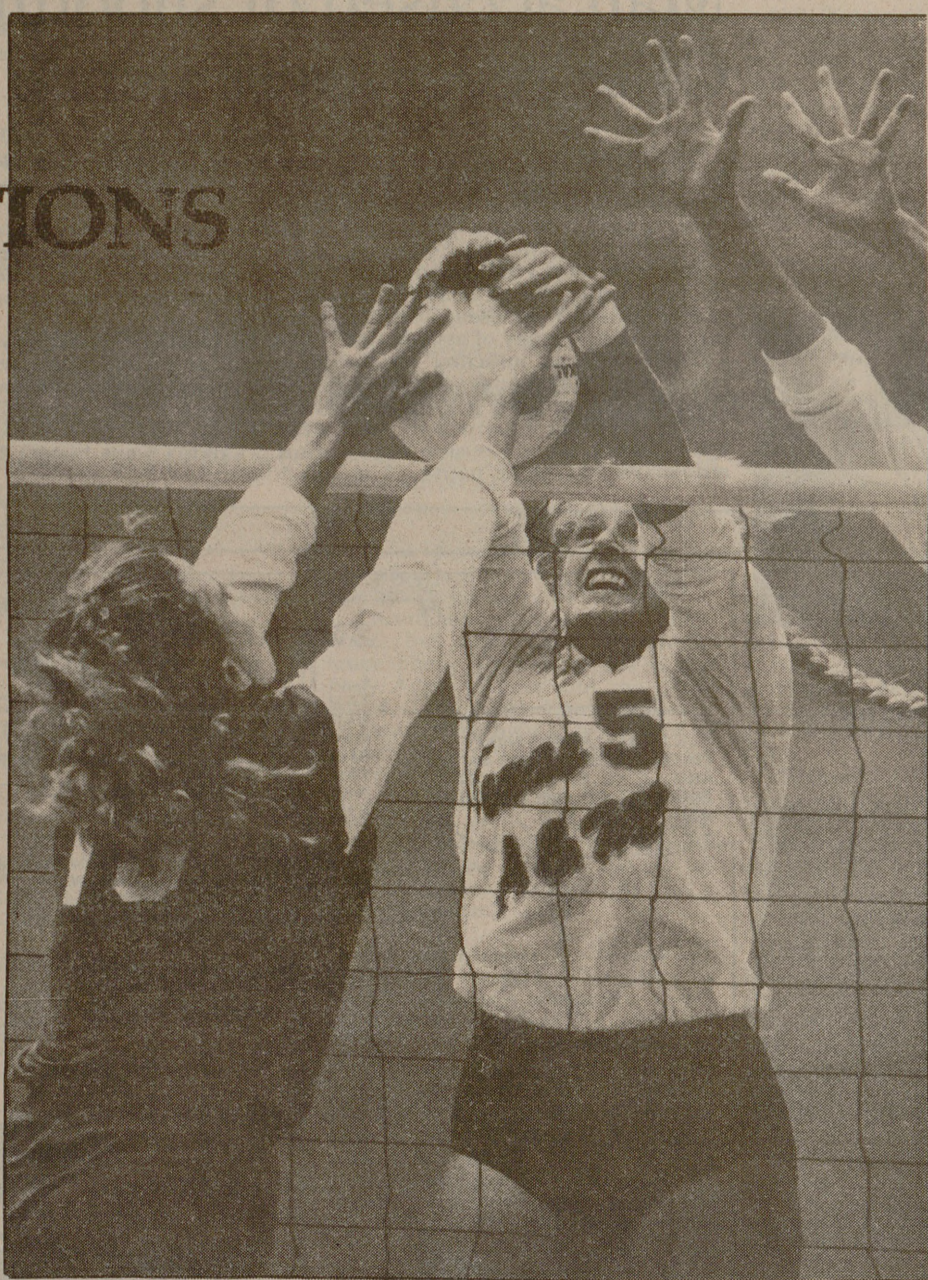
Van Brandt distinguished herself as a premier player in the Southwest Conference and a crowd favorite with her leadership and tenacious style during her career at A&M.

When Van Brandt graduated last year, Hierholzer was the heir-apparent to take her place. Before this season, she had shared the setter position with Van Brandt.

Now it's all hers, and despite any questions others might have about her ability, she says she never doubted it. "Not in my eyes," Hierholzer says. "But I think in everyone else's."

"(Van Brandt) was a great player, and she did a great job. But I'm at the point

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E. ROALSON/Battalion file photo

Krista Hierholzer (5), playing in the shadows of Yvonne Van Brandt most of her career, has stepped into the limelight for the Lady Aggies this season.

Smith: one interception away from SWC record

By RICHARD TIJERINA
 Of The Battalion Staff

Every Friday night, Kevin Smith dreams of Saturday. Game day. The time when he changes from cornerback to superhero.

In his dream, Smith intercepts four or five passes. He returns them all for touchdowns, like he did twice last week against Rice. Smith knows making dreams reality is sometimes too hard to do every week.

But that never stops him.

"Those visions go through my mind all the time," Smith said. "A dream never happens like you want it to happen. I sit down in class, and when the lecture's getting boring I draw a little diagram of the opposing team's route and I show myself intercepting the ball."

Smith, named Wednesday The Associated Press' Southwest Conference defensive player of the week for the second time this season, tied the conference record for career interceptions (18).

His touchdown returns of 35 and 78 yards gave him a SWC record-tying three career touchdown interceptions. He has the chance to break both records Saturday when A&M visits Southern Methodist.

Smith had one interception in last year's 63-14 A&M win at Kyle Field.

A junior, Smith said he has thought about skipping his senior year and entering the National Football League draft a year early. However, he said those thoughts were brief.

"Right now if I was to make a decision, I'd say I was 90 percent stay, 10 percent go," Smith said. "It's a thought that I'm sure goes through the mind of someone who's been successful. But you have to wake up and realize the reality of the whole situation. After this year, I'll only be 35 hours short of graduation. That's why I came here in the first place."

Smith almost didn't come to A&M at all. The West Orange-Stark product started receiving interest from recruiters his junior year, when Louisiana State and Oklahoma started knocking on his door.

A&M didn't bother to call until the final semester of his senior year.

But Smith said his choice was an easy one to make. He's not about to give it up by turning pro.

"Football is still fun," Smith said. "I still have a whole year, but after that, it's over. I don't want to give that up yet so soon — the



FREDERICK D. JOE/The Battalion

Kevin Smith, returning one of his two interceptions for a touchdown against Rice, needs one interception to become the SWC career leader.

college atmosphere. Those are the small things that help me make the decision of whether to stay or go."

With Smith, who said he committed himself before the season to become more aggressive as his size increased, the A&M defense has stayed in the same place — at the top of the SWC.

The Aggies rank second in SWC pass defense, and second overall, giving up 317 yards a game. Smith has already made more tackles through A&M's first eight games (38) than he did in all of 1989 (36).

He needs three more interceptions to pass his 1989 output when he was All-SWC. Even as a freshman, Smith has shown the ability to be at the right place at the right time. The only thing is, he can't explain why.

"I was watching (New York Giants cornerback) Everson Walls, and I'd say he's pretty lucky," Smith said. "He's coming up with a lot of interceptions, and I was thinking: does that happen only to certain players, and what is it?"

"I'm trying to analyze why it happens to

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Jury: no money for woman Tyson allegedly fondled

NEW YORK (AP) — Ex-heavyweight champion Mike Tyson won a unanimous decision Thursday when a jury decided he should pay no punitive damages for fondling a woman in a Manhattan disco.

The jury of five women and one man deliberated less than an hour before deciding Tyson did not have to pay Sandra Miller additional damages. A day earlier, they had ordered Tyson to pay \$100 in compensatory damages for the incident.

"I'm just happy they saw it as the truth," said Tyson, who denied the incident ever happened.

Miller's lawyers had sought \$2.5 million to punish Tyson for the incident that occurred Dec. 10, 1988, at Bentley's Disco.

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UT visits Tech in key SWC game

LUBBOCK (AP) — It's not Alabama versus Auburn, or Michigan taking on Ohio State, but there's no bigger game to Texas Tech than the yearly showdown with No. 14 Texas.

A win by the Red Raiders (2-6 overall, 1-4 in the Southwest Conference) would salvage their losing season and knock the Longhorns (5-1, 3-0) off the inside track to the Cotton Bowl.

"If you can't get up for this game, you don't have a pulse," said Texas Tech coach Spike Dykes. "This is about as big a game as there is for us."

The Red Raiders are hoping some of the magic that helped them to come-from-behind victories over Texas the last two years will rub off one more time.

While Texas coach David McWilliams hopes three times is the charm.

"We were very fortunate to win the last two years," Dykes said. "I don't know if the best team won, but we will take it."

McWilliams, who coached the Red Raiders for one year before taking the job at

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— Spike Dykes, coach, Texas Tech

Texas in 1987, said his players can't help but think about the losses to Tech.

"It'd be foolish to say they are not thinking about it," McWilliams said. "Regardless of the outcome of the game — good or bad — you use it as a positive, as a motivational tool. Tech certainly has the last two years to use as positive motivation."

Last year's loss to the Red Raiders sent Texas spiraling. The Longhorns entered the game ranked in the Top 25, coming off victories over Oklahoma and Arkansas and in the driver's seat to the Cotton Bowl.

But Jamie Gill's 65-yard touchdown pass

to Anthony Manyweather on third-and-26, late in the fourth quarter iced a Tech victory and triggered a 1-4 finish for Texas.

"We're not approaching the game any different," McWilliams said. "The difference between this team and the last two teams is that we have more seniors and more experience. When you have that you really don't have to say anything."

Texas has got plenty for Tech to worry about, including the SWC leading defense and a potent pass-run attack.

"Boy are they stingy," Dykes said. "They have gotten better each week. Most great teams start with a good defense and they have got one."

The Longhorns ground attack is led by Phil Brown and freshman Butch Hadnot, who verbally committed to Tech last year before enrolling at Texas.

McWilliams said Texas will have to contain Tech's passing attack, which ranks second in the SWC, averaging 267 yards a game.

Spurs guard Wingate indicted for sexual assault

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — San Antonio spurs guard David Wingate was indicted along with two companions on sexual assault charges in an alleged attack on a 22-year-old woman.

The indictment accuses Wingate, 26; Joel Mendiola, 27; and Edward Saunders, 23; of participating in the sexual assault of a San Antonio woman in June.

Mendiola was a friend of one of Wingate's roommates, and Saunders is a former St. Mary's University basketball player.

The two-count indictment was returned Wednesday by a Bexar County grand jury. If convicted, the men each face a maximum punishment of 20 years in prison.

Assistant District Attorney Sam Ponder said the woman claims she met Wingate and one of the men at a nightclub, and the three men later assaulted her after she became intoxicated and passed out.

HOUSTON ROCKETS
Ready to take off
 The Houston Rockets already are one step ahead of where they were last year: All-Star center Akeem Olajuwon is healthy./Page 12.

GP Busters
 University Interscholastic League cracks down on Gregory Portland coach Bruce Bush for meals provided to his players./Page 10.

Foreman waiting ...
 George Foreman faces one obstacle to reclaiming the crown Muhammad Ali took away — Evander Holyfield./Page 10.

Remember me?
 Darren Lewis' SWC rushing mark that he set against Rice virtually goes unnoticed. Associated Press Analysis by Denne H. Freeman/Page 12.