

## A&M archery club on target

*Editor's Note: The following article is part of an ongoing series examining the various club sports that operate at Texas A&M.*

By John Martin  
The Battalion

Anyone familiar with the bow and arrow knows archery is a mental sport. Like most sports, archery demands practice for improvement, but members of the Texas A&M Archery Team who are trying to improve their control and accuracy focus on the mental aspect.

"There is no real secret to shooting archery," said team member Jason Lowery. "The key is practice, because the sport is a big mind game and you need a lot of mental training."

The team placed second at the Collegiate National tournament this past spring behind Arizona State University. The fact that the team is made up mainly of walk-ons who first took up the sport as physical education requirement only heightens the accomplishment.

"The reason why ASU wins the tournament is because they offer archery scholarships and are able to recruit archers that have shot all their lives and have more experience," Lowery said. "Most of our team comes from the archery classes."

Lowery said archery is a year-long sport, with various tournaments around the nation. The team holds practice tournaments against the University of Texas, and competes in major events like the Southern Regionals, Olympic Festival tryouts, and the World Team competitions.

"Anyone can join the club. All they have to do is pay their dues and come shoot," he said. "The team is chosen from the top four men and women shooters in the club, and they represent the University."

The team currently boasts four All-American archers, with Lowery, Maria Cantu, Sherrill Jarrell, and Liz Bech receiving the honors.

In her first Nationals, Shannon Cowles finished 18th overall in the individual tournament. Former top A&M archer Eric Brumlow has been selected to represent the United States in the Pan-American games this summer.

In the fall the team looks to build on this year's successes, and continue the trend of national prominence.

"We've got an excellent tradition here," Lowery said. "We're excited about the future."



The Texas A&M Archery Club has gained a national reputation for excellence in recent years. In 1990-91 it placed second in national competition and had four team members named All-American.

## Bowls meet with potential candidates to fill fourth spot in football alliance

ATLANTA (AP) — The fourth bowl to become part of an alliance that could give college football a postseason meeting of the nation's Nos. 1 and 2 teams will be announced on Wednesday.

"We decided to sleep on a final decision on this thing and have a conference call tomorrow," Atlantic Coast Conference commissioner Gene Corrigan said Tuesday after a daylong session in which five bowls made their pitch to become the fourth bowl in the alliance.

"At 3 p.m. Eastern Time tomorrow we'll let the decision out," Corrigan said, adding that no decision had yet been made.

The alliance of the Cotton, Orange and Sugar bowls with the ACC, Big East Conference and Notre Dame is seeking a fourth bowl in the group that would pair eight teams in the four postseason events. The three bowls have contracts to take the champions of three conferences — the Southwest to the Cotton, the Big Eight to the Orange and the Southeastern to the Sugar.

It is believed that the fourth bowl in the mix will be either the Fiesta in Tempe, Ariz., or the Citrus in Orlando, Fla.

Those two made hour-long presentations to the alliance Tuesday, along with representatives from three other bowls — the Blockbuster, the Gator and the Holiday.

"We didn't even take a straw vote," Corrigan said. "Straw votes end up being votes and somebody talks."

The Citrus Bowl thought it would be able to identify a new corporate sponsor during the day, but Bob Moore, president of the bowl's committee, said a final word on that wouldn't be known until next week.

"I think we gave them a good presentation," Moore said. "We're very pleased that the coalition members conducted the thing extremely well. There was no politics involved."

"We've been asked by the group not to talk about specifics," Chuck Johnson, president of the Fiesta Bowl, said following his group's presentation.

Johnson said that adding the Fiesta to the alliance will "bring a western flavor to the mix. People have enjoyed the trip to the desert. We hope it's a one-bowl mix."

The flap over the state of Arizona not approving a Martin Luther King Jr. holiday in last year's election apparently won't be an obstacle.

"As far as we're concerned, we supported the holiday," Johnson said.

Corrigan said the King holiday issue was discussed, but he also noted that the NCAA played a regional basketball tournament in Arizona earlier this year.

The Fiesta had offered a berth in last season's bowl to Virginia, which rejected the offer following the election defeat of the King holiday proposal.

John Reid of the Holiday Bowl said his presentation dealt more with the future, wanting the alliance to include the Western Athletic Conference in the mix at some point. He noted that the WAC is the only conference in the College Football Association not included in the mix. The Big Ten and Pac 10 conferences don't belong to the CFA and send their champions to the Rose Bowl each year.

"We told them last week we're prepared to step up to the plate," Reid said. "Is the door slammed forever? They said, 'No, not at all.'"

Money is one of the biggest factors involved, with bowls expected to ante up at least \$3 million per team.

Matt Morrill, chairman of the Blockbuster, said his team paid out \$1.6 million last year, but added that coming up with \$3 million would be no problem.

"We feel very confident we can do \$3 million in 1993," he said. "We feel we can do more."



David Leahy  
Sportswriter

## Give a hand for the ump

We love to boo them. We love to ridicule and mock them. We love telling them they need glasses and even love imitating them. No, I'm not talking about athletes. I'm referring to umpires.

When it comes right down to it, major league baseball umpires are like most typical Americans: working a job and trying to make a living. Sure, they get paid a little more than typical Americans, but compared to baseball's million dollar babies, it's minuscule.

Umpires also have a dirty job. No one seems to like or respect umpires today. They're constantly being harassed during games, they have dirt kicked on them, they're bumped, pushed, cursed at, and sometimes even spat upon. Plus, have you ever heard a crowd cheer an umpire (besides for Leslie Nielson in the "Naked Gun"?)

You might start hearing cheers for one particular baseball umpire, though. In fact, a standing ovation is well deserving of this man. He is Steve Palermo. If you haven't heard by now, Palermo's off-field heroics early Sunday morning almost cost him his life.

Palermo is 41 and has umpired in the American League since 1977, but Sunday morning was his closest call as an umpire. Palermo and former Miami Dolphin defensive lineman Terence Mann were shot trying to prevent a mugging of two waitresses in a Dallas restaurant parking lot. The restaurant, Campisi's Egyptian Restaurant, is a popular hangout for sports figures.

Mann was shot in the neck but released from the Dallas Presbyterian Hospital on Monday morning.

Palermo, who was shot in the back, is listed in fair condition at Parkland Hospital in Dallas. Concern has mounted that Palermo might be partially paralyzed.

In today's society, it's nice to see an unlikely hero step forward to help preserve justice and do what's right. But when you stop and think about it, umpires do what's right everyday. In their best judgement, umpires have to call balls and strikes, outs, balks, missed bases, dropped balls, stolen bases, home runs, and fan interference.

Steve Palermo — like all umpires — doesn't get much recognition. There isn't an award given to an umpire for exemplary work both on and off the field as there is for ballplayers (the Roberto Clemente Award). There is no MVU for Most Valuable Umpire. When umpires do get recognized, it's usually for throwing a player or coach out of a game, or for making bad calls that cost teams ballgames.

When Palermo returns to umpiring, he might hear a few cheers and perhaps receive an ovation, but come game time it's back to those recurring boos and jeers. Once again the fans will be letting out their emotions and frustrations of the day, but for Palermo it will be another day at work.

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