

Sports

Thursday, September 5, 1991

The Battalion

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Steve O'Brien
Asst. Sports Editor

Questions that need answers

Is anyone else worried about the LSU game? Are the Aggies too young and inexperienced to have a chance?

Remember the last time the Tigers came to Kyle Field? Was Larry Horton's touchdown return on the opening kickoff the best moment in Aggie football over the last couple of years? Or did we yell louder when Aaron Wallace held Andre Ware's helmet in the air?

Why doesn't Kyle Field have natural grass? Isn't playing college football on artificial turf like having impure thoughts in church?

Could Darren Lewis have made all those great cuts on grass?

How overrated is Georgia Tech? Wasn't their Citrus Bowl mathcup against Nebraska the only real game they had to play all last season? They won, but isn't Nebraska and all of the Big Eight overrated as well?

At 6'3", Tech safety Ken Swilling has all the right tools but didn't S.C.U.D. missiles look good on paper too? Don't you have to be able to play man-to-man coverage to be called the best safety in college football?

How stupid is the new "no celebration" rule in college football? Doesn't it take away from the one thing college football has that pro football doesn't - emotion? Are they going to tell fans to yell softly in the future?

Was the rule started because of the way the Miami Hurricanes taunted and jeered the Texas Longhorns in the Cotton Bowl? Didn't the Longhorns do all the talking the week prior to the game?

Is it just me or did the 'Horns just get their butts kicked all over the field? Shouldn't the integrity of each program decide how a player acts?

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TIME FOR TAKEOFF

With the Ball gone, Doug Carter is ready to fill the ring - his way.

by Steve O'Brien
The Battalion

Before each game, fullback Doug Carter sits quietly in the A&M locker room by himself, waiting to take the field. Some players yell to get their adrenaline going. Carter turns his thoughts inward.

"I just sit there, and I try to picture what I want to do," Carter said. "I just want to do well. This is my chance, and I don't want to blow it."

Not that Carter has blown his chances, but when he came to A&M in 1987, he severely injured his right knee, tearing the anterior cruciate and mediate collateral ligaments. He successfully rehabilitated the knee and was ready to play in 1989, but there was someone in the way.

Robert Wilson, better known to Aggie fans as "The Bull," was comfortably positioned as the starting fullback.

"We were pretty good friends, and I knew that he was good," Carter said. "He was there when I came off my injury, so he was already in the starting spot, so I had to wait my turn."

Carter waited . . . and waited . . . and waited.

Carter, a graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School in Dallas, watched for two seasons as Wilson blocked and ran to stardom. In 1990 Wilson and Aggie tailback Darren Lewis made up a backfield said by some to be the best in the nation. Wilson, known for his ability to flatten defenders as he cleared holes for Lewis, was drafted in the third round of 1991 NFL Draft.

This season the waiting is over for Carter. He knows people are questioning his ability to fill Wilson's shoes.

"There's a lot of pressure," he said. "All eyes are on the fullback position. Will I create holes like Bull did and block like that?"

"I feel like I will."

Carter, brother of San Francisco 49ers defensive one of the most athletic members of the team



KARL STOLLEIS/The Battalion

After watching from the sidelines for three years, A&M junior fullback Doug Carter will get his chance to start this season.

by head coach R.C. Slocum.

"We won't miss a lick at the fullback position," Slocum said. "We'll miss Wilson's blocking on the edges, but he's (Carter) just as good a blocker up the middle. And we'll have much better running from our fullback this season. Where Wilson was five yards down the field, Carter will be 50 yards down the field."

At 6'10", 210 lbs., Carter motors to 4.5 seconds in the 40 yard dash even after injuring his knee.

Add to Carter's playing style, the ability to catch like no other fullback has at A&M in a long time. It should open up things for an offense that has been criticized in the past for its one dimensional running attack.

"It should make it harder on the defense," Carter

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Lady Aggies bounce back

Spikers knock over Lamar team

by Chris Whitley
The Battalion

The Lady Aggie volleyball team got back on the winning track Wednesday night with a victory over Lamar University in three straight games.

After losing two out of three matches in last weekend's Holiday Inn Invitational, A&M looked much sharper in their handling of the Lady Cardinals, 15-11, 15-5, 15-5.

The win improved the Lady Aggies record to 2-2.

"I think we needed a win, especially after the outing we had over the weekend," head volleyball coach Al Givens said. "We were real disappointed with the results of that."

A pivotal moment came in the first game when Lamar, who had been down 11-3, rallied to cut the deficit to 13-11. But senior Alysia McMath came back with an important kill that gave the Lady Aggies a game point.

"I feel like it was a positive game," said McMath. "We knew we could terminate play a lot more than what we were doing (in the first game). He (Givens) just told us to focus in and concentrate on the skills that we needed to get done."

After making it past the first game, the Lady Aggies cruised through the final two games. Givens remarked that it was nearly an all-freshman team that played in the third game.

"You need a match like that where you can get a lot of different people in and try some different things," Givens said. "We've said all along that it's going to take us a while to get some exper-

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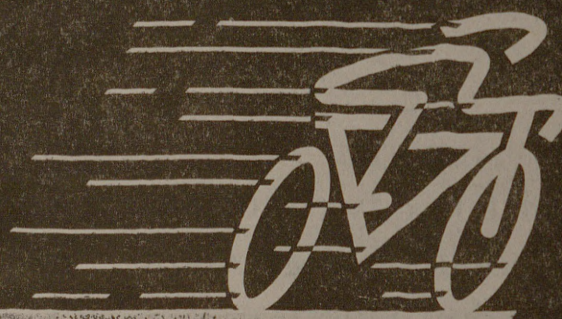
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