

Sports

Thursday, November 21, 1991

The Battalion

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Anthony Andro
Sportswriter

Chuck shouldn't take money from faithful fans

Nov. 25 and 26 will be days that will live in infamy for Texas A&M sports fans. Chuck Knoblauch, former A&M baseball great and current American League Rookie of the Year, will be making a return trip to Texas A&M.

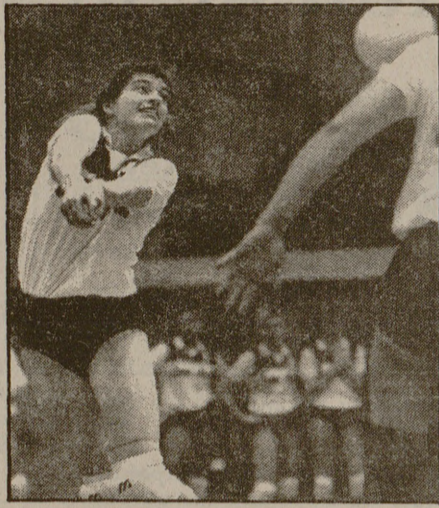
This is it. This is everyone's opportunity to see an Aggie who has made it big. Everyone can go and congratulate him on his success and tell him what a good job he has done.

All you have to do to see Chuck is pay five dollars. What? Hold on a minute here, Chuck. Is there a dinner included in this five dollar fee? No.

What is this? For five bucks, seven if you don't buy an autographed ticket in advance, former A&M shortstop and now Minnesota Twin Chuck Knoblauch will sign your baseball card, your baseball or whatever you ask him to. What a bargain.

Alright everyone, take a pen and sign your name. Good job. Now do

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HUY NGUYEN/ The Battalion

Diane Robertson defends a Texas Tech spike Wednesday night in A&M's loss.

Tech dashes A&M's postseason hopes

By Scott Wudel
The Battalion

For a while, the Texas Tech volleyball team must have felt like it was putting on a clinic Wednesday night.

The Red Raiders showed A&M everything they had offensively, running the Lady Aggies all over the court. Then, defensively, Tech slapped back everything the Aggies threw at them, seemingly with relative ease. Before the A&M team realized it, it was down two games and on the verge of losing a third. More importantly, it was losing its hopes for postseason play.

A late rally was too little to salvage a victory against the 17th-ranked Raiders. Tech defeated A&M 15-5, 15-4, 15-13 and end A&M's Southwest Conference sea-

son at 5-5. The 16-16 Aggies also missed their preseason goal of finishing third on the conference.

The Raiders improve to 24-5, 8-2 in the SWC.

A&M volleyball coach Al Givens said his team had hoped to redeem itself after a poor performance in Lubbock earlier this season.

"It was a little bit of deja vu," Givens said. "In Lubbock we played bad."

"The only saving grace tonight were some of the people out there towards the end that showed some spark. We know we're capable of playing better. We're not making any excuses. We just didn't show up."

A&M was down 13-6 before sophomore Genny Wood held serve for seven points and tied the score. A group made up mainly of reserves rallied the Aggies

during the stretch. But the wake-up call came too late. The Red Raiders pulled themselves back together and ended the match two points later.

The Lady Aggies couldn't find a groove in the first two games. Tech raided the A&M defense with a relentless offense, and watched the A&M team dive and chased down balls all over the court. When A&M did get ball back over the net, it was returned with force before they could turn around. A&M's frustration led to error.

Givens said the need to redeem themselves hurt the Aggies more than it helped them.

"They were so intent on playing well," he said, "that they just pressed too

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Odd Man Out

A&M linebacker Otis Nealy makes best of changing defensive role

By Anthony Andro
The Battalion

Otis Nealy is a starting outside linebacker for the Texas A&M football team. But at times, it's hard to prove it.

Nealy is the Aggies' odd man out on defense.

Against the University of Houston, Rice University and Texas Christian University this season, Nealy rarely played. This Saturday's game against Southern Methodist University may be the same story.

These teams all run versions of the Run-and-Shoot offense, so the Aggies play defense with five defensive backs

and three linebackers. So out comes Nealy and in comes defensive back Kary Vincent.

But Nealy knows he still has to be ready to play in those games.

"My biggest role in games like that is to be used whenever I'm needed," Nealy said. "Mostly I just end up playing on special teams."

Nealy keeps his head up. He knows when he is not in there, it is for the best of the team.

"I don't get down because I know what they are doing," he said. "Our goal here is to go to the Cotton Bowl. That's all that matters."

If the Aggies win this weekend, they clinch a Cotton Bowl berth. Despite

Nealy's hiatuses, he has played a big part in the team's success.

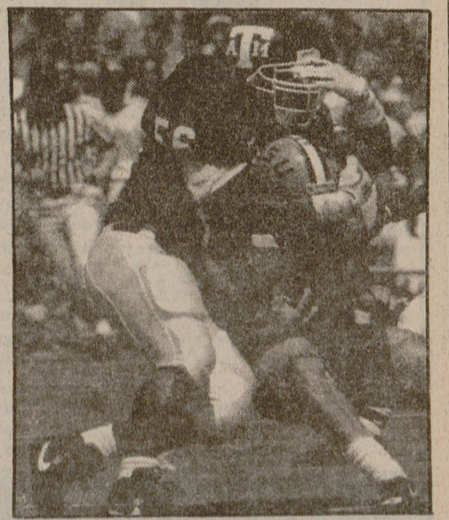
Nealy knows what the Aggies must do to beat SMU.

"They're mainly like Houston, a Run-and-Shoot team, so we just have to cover their receivers and bring in the pass rush," he said. "We just have to get them roused up."

Despite not starting two games, Nealy has 21 tackles and two sacks this season. Nealy is part of the "Wrecking Crew" defense that has sacked opposing quarterbacks more than any other Southwest Conference team — 44 times.

"We're the number two defense in the

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RICHARD S. JAMES/ The Battalion

A&M linebacker Otis Nealy makes a tackle against Louisiana State University.

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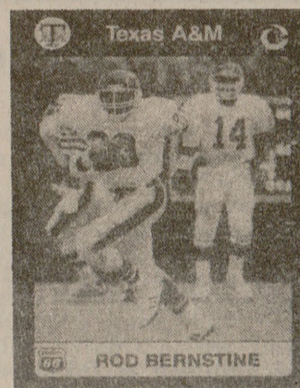
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