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for September
Carla Alexander
Special Recognition to:
Devrah Otten
Danielle Hill

Is A.C.A. the best for you?
Free Seminar
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Monday, Oct. 12
7:00 p.m.
University Chiropractic Clinic
209 E. University Dr.
(next to the Black-Eyed Pea)
Free analysis
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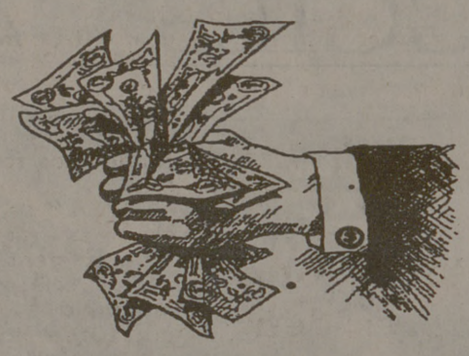
Cheri Zdziarski, Study Abroad Financial Aid Advisor, hosts an Informative Meeting for students studying abroad on Texas A&M Study Abroad Programs.
Come, Listen, Learn how Study Abroad can be financially in reach for **YOU!**
Tuesday, October 13 3:00-4:00 pm
251 W. Bizzell Hall
Study Abroad Programs, 161 W. Bizzell Hall, 845-0544

Free LSAT Preview!
The Princeton Review and the MSC MBA/Law Committee invite you to spend 90 minutes learning about the LSAT.
We will discuss what the LSAT really measures and how law schools use your LSAT score. We will teach you how the test writers think and how you can use this knowledge to your advantage. In just 90 minutes, you will learn enough about the LSAT to begin adding points to your score!
Tuesday, October 13th
8:00 pm Rm 501 Rudder
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Letters to the Sports Editor

Readers sound off on Aggie football team

I've got two letters for you: t.u.

To all those who have taken it upon themselves to slam the football team for not winning as well as you think they should, I have just two letters. . .t.u.

Since when does the student body of this university think that mere winning isn't enough. At that other university, coaches are fired and the team held up to ridicule for not performing up to a few peoples' standards. But here at A&M, there is a long tradition of supporting the team through thick and thin.

If you don't think the team should be No. 5, that's your problem. The boys didn't choose to be ranked that high. Apparently, a group of 150 sports writers from around the country believe they are the fifth-best team in the nation.

The Aggies are 5-0 and continue to find ways to win. I guess the only thing they haven't won is the acceptance of a few ungrateful letter writers and columnists.

Steve Warren
Class of '81

Old Ags disgusted at team criticism

I was a freshman and my husband was a sophomore when we defeated Texas, 37-12, back in 1984. That was one of the greatest days in Aggie football history, which came at a time when we were happy to win any game by any number of points to any team.

Even when we became accustomed to seeing the Aggies win, we never took it for granted because we were there when victories were few and far between, and we still know all the words to "The Twelfth Man."

This morning, we read the Dallas Morning News and learned that A&M students are criticizing and making cruel remarks about our beloved Jeff Granger. I have one thing to say to these people: There's a school down in Austin that would love to have you and where you would fit right in.

In disgust—

Bonnie O'Donnell-Martin
Class of '88
Gregory Martin
Class of '87
Dallas, TX

'Want-to-bes' have problem with QB

This is addressed to John Delgado, Glenn Portie, and all you other "want-to-be" athletes. You've completed maybe four years of high school athletics, and now that carries over, if you're lucky, to your outstanding intramural activities. So this makes you experts on what should happen with the football team.

You guys, and everyone else who agrees with you, are are so full of it. For most of you who are griping, the last time your foot touched grass was when you were about to mow it.

Everybody has a solution, but there is no problem. We are ranked fifth in the nation and you gripe. Is it so hard to remember when we were not even ranked? Is it difficult for you to remember that Slocum was our coach then also? Well, he has brought us from where we were to where we are now, so he must feel that Jeff is the right man.

So all this comes down to is that you have a personal problem with Jeff. Well, deal with it! I don't see you out there on the field. And as for mentioning the Olympics, you can't even comprehend what they mean. Quit griping until you're part of the team. Until you are, all of you who just sit back and gripe, you will never be anything but a "want-to-be."

Mike Miller
Class of '93

Granger, Slocum deserve a break

Give Jeff Granger a break! For the past month and a half now it seems that everyone and their grandma have come out and said someting derogatory about our starting quarterback. I agree with you that Jeff has not lived up to his potential or '91 form, but his slow start shouldn't mean that he should be criticized as harshly as he has been (after all he's still an Ag, and Ags don't do that to one another).

Coach Slocum has started Jeff for the first five games and we're 5-0! Yes, maybe we should have five blowouts, but a win is still a win.

The bottom line here is that Coach Slocum knows football and what's best for our football team. His choice of starting Granger instead of benching him has produced five wins, even with the whole state of Texas, not to mention our campus, in an uproar. And it looks like Jeff will continue to start for the "Fightin' Texas Aggie" football team. Criticizing Jeff for his current play is not going to help his confidence and energize him back to '91 form.

The only way for us fans to help Jeff battle back to form is to encourage him, not belittle him. He's going to start whether we like it or not, and I still believe [he] can bounce back to the Gran[deur] of our '91 Cotton Bowl march. [Be]come on Ags, support our fel[low] Ag! Heck, this isn't Austin.

Gig 'em Jeff!!

Michael Cord[illegible]
Class of [illegible]

Granger proved his mettle against Tech

Kudos to Jeff Granger's performance on Saturday! He did [not] have a perfect game, but he performed brilliantly on the cruc[ial] last drive of the game. When [he] turned two near-sacks into fi[rst] downs, he displayed presence [of] mind and determination rare[ly] seen in college and even p[ro] quarterbacks.

Hopefully, this will silence the detractors who have absurd[ly] suggested that Slocum replac[ed] Granger. Who do these fo[ols] think they are? Do they th[ink] Slocum is going to replac[e] Granger on the basis of the opi[n]ions of a couple of guys who [the] extent of involvement with the football team is probably [no] more than watching them at Kyl[e] Field and on TV?

Nothing positive can resu[lt] from this criticism. I'm sure tha[t] Granger and the other team members are fully aware th[at] they have not performed up t[o] their number five billing. I'm also sure that they don't need to hear the babblings of some unap[]preciative idiots to do everything within their power to improve their gameday performance. Such criticism needlessly undermines Granger's confidence, one of the most necessary elements to be intact for Granger to function as a quarterback and team leader.

Greg Marmolej[illegible]
Class of '9[illegible]

Gardere

Continued from Page 7

While directing the Longhorn victory, Gardere became the first quarterback from either school to win the annual rivalry four times.

The Texas offensive line helped the Longhorns to 450 yards of total offense against a Oklahoma team which is big on defense.

"We knew we were going to have to put points on the board," Mackovic said. "Today, a number of players contributed. We could not wait for Oklahoma and see what would happen and then try to catch up to them. We tried to strike early and get as many points as we could."

And the Texas defense pressured OU quarterback Cale Gundy, sacking him six times.

"We showed them we could stop the run," Texas defensive lineman Bo Robinson said. "Then we went after the quarterback. They were doing a lot of two-step drops which makes it hard to put pressure on the quarterback, but we managed to do it."

Oklahoma coach Gary Gibbs said his team played well but that Texas had the upper hand.

"Texas controlled the game in the second half," Gibbs said. "It was pretty close there in the first, but they came out and really took it to us. Our kids fought hard, but you have to give Texas credit. We didn't lose the game. Texas won the game."

Slocum

Continued from Page 7

from, according to Slocum, is the way he returned to the football team.

He had originally quit the team to pursue baseball, but after he failed to make the U.S. Olympic team this summer, he rejoined the club and instantly became number one on the depth chart.

Still, Slocum said that some people saw his transition back to football in a negative light although he, himself, does not see it that way.

"There were those who saw that as a negative thing," he said. "I personally have never felt any of that at all. For me, I thought it was absurd for someone to question a young man who had the possible opportunity to represent his country in the Olympics.

"To hold that against a young person, to me, is just beyond my imagination. He's not some Russian or something. He's one of our guys."

As for the season itself, A&M still is perched among the ranks of the undefeated.

And Slocum believes that the Aggies, given a few breaks, have the potential to win the national championship.

"I think you'd have to be less than honest if you didn't look down the schedule and say that if we continue to improve, we might," he said. "Potentially and hypothetically, there's not a team on our schedule that we could say that we've got no chance against.

"But because of the way football is, anyone of them could beat us, too. There's just so many variables."

Before the season, Slocum had promoted a new pro-style offense that he intended to use to replace the ground-oriented game of old. With the on-again, off-again passing that the Aggies have shown so far this season, he admits that it will take time for the new scheme to develop.

"I don't know how long it will take us," he said. "It will likely take more than one season to ever be where I really want it to be."

However, even with the success that tailbacks Greg Hill and Rodney Thomas have had this season, Slocum said he will not rely solely on the running game and forego throwing the ball.

"I'm not really tempted to do that because I know that ultimately for us to be what I want us to be we've got to get to the point where we can consistently throw the football," he said. "We will ultimately make progress and continue to make progress to where, at some point, we'll be able to say that we're a pretty good passing team."

The fact that A&M has not been winning games in the convincing manner of last season does not affect Slocum at all. He said that it's hard for him to complain about a team that has yet to lose a game.

"If you had told me in July that we would have to play three of our first four games on the road and be in the open date after Tech and still be 5-0 and in the top 10 in the nation, we'd take that going away and be thrilled with it," he said. "Any combination of points, any comebacks, if we get ahead hang on, whatever."

"And that's the way I still feel. If we want any more than that, then we're greedy."

Have the Aggie faithful become greedy? Are certain people asking for too much? In a sport where millions of dollars and increasing booster support have raised the stakes of winning, even claiming victory in every game isn't enough.

Slocum takes all this in stride however. He said that he understands the tendencies of people to hope that their team can improve on past successes.

"You always want more," he said. "You always want to win more games. When we do win more games, we want to win more points.

"I understand that. That's part of human nature."

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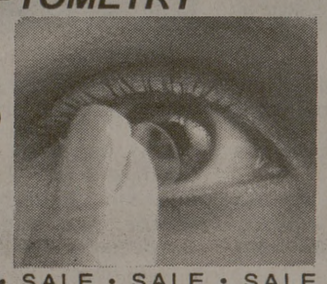
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Whitley

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not the same team that puts up 28 points in the first quarter and laughs off the rest of the game.

And as much as fans hate to admit it, Bucky Richardson is gone. Jeff Granger is not Bucky, nor does he pretend to be.

Although Granger has definitely not been a Davey O'Brien Award candidate this season, he deserves at least some praise for A&M's game-winning drive against Tech. It still amazes me how he avoided that sack on third down and eight that probably would have cost him the game.

Nevertheless, the Aggies' average margin of victory this season has been a mere 7.4 points a game compared to 25.9 last year. The Aggies have come from being down or tied to win in every game this season. Last year, they only had to come from behind once.

But the biggest fear about watching this team and seeing how the Aggies have barely squeaked by opponents all season long is the helpless feeling that the other shoe is about to drop.

There just seems to be a sense that one of these days, they're not going to be able to make the incredible comeback to win.

What A&M needs more than anything is an impressive victory over a resurgent Rice Owls ball club on Saturday. A big win would prove to fans and AP voters that the Aggies do have the talent that everyone thought they did.

But another close win or a loss will keep the Aggies' stigma alive.

The credo at this school is that if it happens more than once, it's a tradition. It is imperative for A&M to start a seven-game tradition of blowout victories.

In the weak, lackluster Southwest Conference, the Aggies are expected to ravage through the schedule just as they did last season. Whether that's a fair expectation or not, anything less would be a disappointment.

That alone is pathetic enough.