

Fall's final farewell to football

It's actually over, no more football, college or professional, for what will seem like an eternity.

And no, the Pro Bowl doesn't count.



Sean Frerking
Sports editor

When the Cowboys' James Washington picked up Thurman Thomas' second fumble early in the third quarter of Super Bowl XXVIII and ran it 46 yards for Dallas' first touchdown, football, as we knew it, was put to rest for the season.

The sport that is so exquisitely and violently played on fall Saturdays and Sundays will take a six-month hiatus.

We at Texas A&M have spring football. But, unless you are a sports fanatic or work on The Battalion's sports staff, that doesn't really count, either.

What we need, almost require, is a sports substitute: something football fans can fall back on during those wee hours of the morning when they are suffering the shakes from football withdrawal.

Perhaps as students we should devote our excess intellectual energies to our studies. But I just don't have that much discipline.

Thankfully, both A&M basketball teams are hot and leading the conference. The intensity at G. Rollie White Coliseum is tremendous, but it still doesn't carry the bone-crushing impact of a hit by an Aggie inside linebacker.

A&M baseball begins in a week or two. But to get the same rush of adrenaline from the boys of summer as you do from watching football on TV, you have to be at Olsen field or listening to the game on your grandfather's old AM radio.

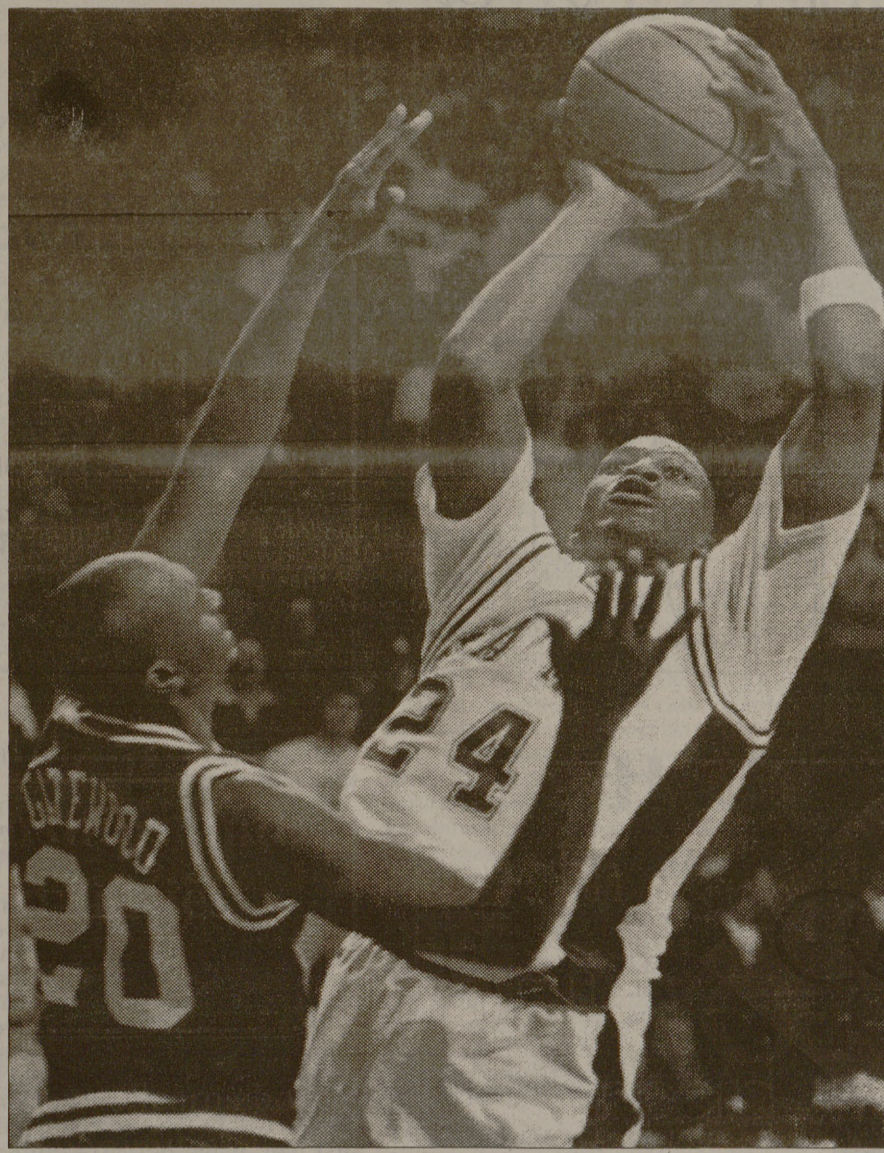
My grandfather still uses the old relic and won't give it up.

Swimming, track, tennis and softball at A&M are great, but I have to be able to associate with the players.

I simply don't have the athletic talent to be able to comprehend the skills necessary for those sports.

But when I see a punishing tackle or devastating block, I can understand the pain. I can appreciate football's violence.

If only A&M had a figure skating team.



Kyle Burnett/The Battalion

Joe Wilbert, right, shoots during Texas A&M's win over the SMU men's basketball team, 69-60. Wilbert led all scorers with 28 points. The win keeps the Aggies atop the Southwest Conference standings with a 5-0 record. The men's next home game will be Feb. 9 against Oral Roberts University.

One
for
coach

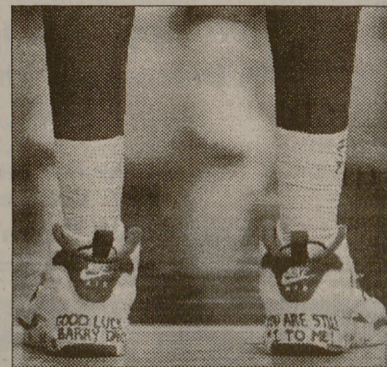
Aggies squeak out victory against SMU

By Jose de Jesus Ortiz

THE BATTALION

Forward Joe Wilbert honored his high school coach with a game-high 28 points as Texas A&M downed Southern Methodist University 69-60 to stay atop the Southwest Conference on Saturday.

With "GOOD LUCK BARRY DAVIS" written on one shoe and "YOU ARE STILL No. 1 TO ME!" on the other, Wilbert said he was try-



Kyle Burnett/The Battalion

Joe Wilbert's tribute to his high school coach, Barry Davis. The Bryan High coach was placed on leave of absence last week.

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Lady Aggies corral tired Mustangs

The Associated Press

DALLAS — Lisa Branch scored 26 points and had three steals Saturday night, leading Texas A&M to a 77-65 victory over Southern Methodist.

Martha McClelland added 17 and 10 rebounds as the Lady Aggies (13-3, 5-0 Southwest Conference) ended a four-game losing streak to SMU.

The Lady Mustangs (10-5, 2-4) trailed 42-33 at the half, and got back into the game as A&M hit just 32 percent from the floor in the second half.

SMU cut the lead to 67-64 with 2:33 to play, but the Lady Aggies finished the game with a 10-1 run.

The Lady Mustangs were led by 15 points each from Leslie Frazier and Kerri Delaney. Delaney led SMU with 10 rebounds.

Texas A&M 77, SMU 65

Texas A&M.....42 35-77
SMU.....33 32-65

A&M	min	fg-fga	ft-fta	pts	reb
Canada	26	0-3	2-4	2	9
Branch	38	9-19	5-5	26	5
Cerry	22	2-5	1-4	5	3
Burket	29	5-8	2-3	12	7
McClelland	29	6-13	5-10	17	10
Tucker	7	0-0	3-4	3	0
Ford	3	0-1	0-0	0	1
Little	6	0-0	0-0	0	2
Biermann	2	0-0	1-2	1	0
Ferguson	15	1-3	0-0	2	2
Williams, C.	2	1-1	0-0	3	0
Miller	21	3-8	0-0	6	5
Totals	200	27-61	19-32	77	44

SMU	min	fg-fga	ft-fta	pts	reb
Gleason	28	2-4	0-0	5	4
McLaughlin	23	3-9	2-2	8	1
Guziec	30	3-7	0-2	6	4
Frazier	32	4-11	4-6	15	6
Delaney	37	6-17	3-5	15	10
Watson	10	0-0	0-0	0	0
Devine	25	4-7	3-4	12	8
Ford	12	1-4	0-0	3	0
Totals	200	23-59	13-21	65	33

Cowboys capture consecutive title

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — The Dallas Cowboys have staked their claim as the team of the '90s.

The Buffalo Bills grabbed a loser's label that could last longer than that.

The Cowboys and the Bills both made Super Bowl history Sunday, thanks to two unlikely stars, James Washington and a redeemed Leon Lett.

Washington, a backup safety, had a hand in 17 of Dallas' points as they beat the Bills 30-13 and won their second straight NFL title and sent Buffalo to a record fourth straight Super Bowl defeat.

No franchise in the history of American team sports has lost a championship game

Buffalo loses fourth straight Super Bowl with poor second half

four straight times.

"You have demonstrated you're the team of the '90s," NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue said as he presented the Vince Lombardi trophy to coach Jimmy Johnson and owner Jerry Jones of the Cowboys.

But defensive end Charles Haley, who played for San Francisco's "team of the '80s," was more hesitant to make the claim.

"It's too early," he said. "Let's see what we do next year."

Emmitt Smith, who surprisingly was named the game's MVP over Washington, ran for 132 yards and two touchdowns as Dallas became the 10th straight NFC team to win the league's title game by outscoring the Bills 24-0 in the second half after trailing 13-6 at halftime.

But it was Washington who turned the game around as the Cowboys became just the fifth team to win in consecutive years and tied San Francisco and Pittsburgh with four Super Bowl victories.

Washington returned a fumble 46 yards for a touchdown, intercepted a pass in the fourth quarter that led to another score, and forced a first-half fumble that led to a field goal.

Both fumbles were by Buffalo's star running back, Thurman Thomas, whose frustration seemed to symbolize the entire team's.

"We've tried to get playmakers at every position," Johnson said. "We've got them at backups."

"We want to get the players that will do the things they must do to win the game."

Lett, who has had to endure two notorious gaffs, made the play that turned the game, stripping Thomas of the ball on the

See Lett/ Page 6

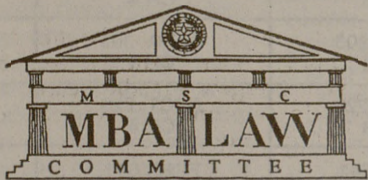
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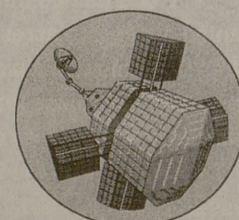
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TEXAS A&M AND THE NCAA: What is the relationship?

Tuesday, Feb. 1, 1994
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A roundtable discussion led by
Tedi Zalesky-Ellison
Director of Athletic Compliance Office

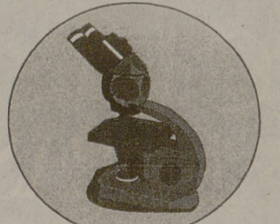
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