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STUDY ABROAD & GET TAMU CREDIT

INFO MEETINGS

WED. MARCH 30, 11:30AM
THUR. MARCH 31, 10:00AM

251 BIZZELL HALL WEST

STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS 161 BIZZELL HALL WEST 849-0544

Chancellor and Mrs. William H. Mobley

cordially invite you to

a reception for

Dr. and Mrs. Luis Proenza

candidate for the position of

President

Texas A&M University

Monday, April 4, 1994

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

292 Memorial Student Center

A man of many talents

By Stewart Doreen
The Battalion

Danny McCray fulfilled his dream when he anchored the Texas A&M's mile relay to the national championship earlier this month, and in doing so has elevated himself as one of the greats in the long line of sprinters in A&M history.

"Danny is one of the best 400-meter runners we've ever had at Texas A&M," Head track coach Ted Nelson said. "That is saying a lot in that we've had a young man who has set a world record in the 440-yard dash and guys who have won conference three years in a row. It is a big step to say he is the best talent we've ever had here, but he really is."

McCray, a sophomore sociology major from Killeen, came to A&M as a first-team high school All-American in track. His time of 45.4 seconds was the nation's top prep mark in the 400-meters. He also finished second in the voting for national prep athlete of the year by Track & Field News.

McCray has lived up to the billing that followed him from high school level with his immediate success. In his freshman year, he qualified for the NCAA Outdoor Championships in the 200-meters, 400-meters and as an anchor on the 400-meter and 1,600-meter relays. The 400-meter relay posted a collegiate best time of 38.97, and the 1,600-meter relay's time at the Longhorn Invitational was the second fastest in the world

through early May. "Danny is the type of guy that you like to anchor your relay," Nelson said. "He wants to finish



Mary Macmanus/The Battalion

Danny McCray, the anchor of the A&M 1600-meter relay, splits time between spring football drills and track practice.

first and hates to get beat."

The winning continued into this season when the sophomore anchored the Aggie 1,600-meter relay to the national title at the NCAA Indoor Championships in Indianapolis.

"Winning the national title is the most special feeling I've had in sports," McCray said.

If McCray's track accomplishments are not enough, he is also a member of the A&M football team. Even though he has not made big impact in his first two seasons, coaches hope the red-shirt freshman can make an impact improving the skills that made him one of the nation's top prep receivers.

"I think Danny has made great strides," Head football coach R.C. Slocum said. "He has the potential to become a starter. Track has just limited his progress."

McCray does admit the pressures and time constraints that go along with playing two sports are demanding, but there is nothing that can be said to make him quit one sport or the another.

"If I had to quit one of the two sports, I would not be happy," McCray said. "I've been doing both since the eighth grade so it is like a way of life."

Right now, McCray sees the track team contending for the Southwest Conference track championship. However, he would like to see more support from student body. He hopes more attention will come to the program that features many athletes that rank with the nation's best.

"We have so many guys on this team that rank the best in the country and in the world," McCray said. "The fans can make the difference between someone quitting and someone going for the gold."

Awards

Continued from Page 5

Chuck Henderson pulled in other major award of the evening earning the title "Mr. Hustle" from assistant coach Porter Moser.

Although not on the evening program, junior forward Wilbert was also recognized Tuesday night for his being named the Southwest Conference All-Newcomers Team and being named the Houston Post's SWC Newcomer of the Year.

Before a closing prayer by Wilbert and a video of season highlights, Barone summed up the season in moving fashion.

"When the season started, one gave this team a chance of doing what they've done," Barone said.

"These five seniors change what was going on at this university, because you can't win until you establish an attitude. This team will hold the fondest spot in my memory because of how they changed that attitude."

Baseball

Continued from Page 5

Left handed junior pitcher Spencer McIntyre allowed one hit, gave up one walk and struck out four in two innings of relief work for A&M. Kevin Beirne also worked two innings, allowing one walk and striking out two.

Beirne, a freshman from The Woodlands who doubles as an outfielder for the baseball team, is going through spring football practices with the A&M football team.

"Kevin was four miles off his usual juice," Johnson said. "He's coming off spring football, so he doesn't have the juice he usually has."

Diener

Continued from Page 5

coaching opportunity or I'd be an ignorant guy."

Diener's mother, Ann Diener of Dallas, told members of the media in a special conference call late Tuesday night that she was proud of her son.

"Every year about this time I start to really get on Drew about finding a good job for the summer," Mrs. Diener said. "It looks like he really found a good one this year."

Diener said that he had to explain to his mother that the job was not just for the summer but would require work all year round.

"She didn't take it kindly to the fact that I'm going to have to withdraw from school and put my education on hiatus for a while," Diener said. "It took a little prodding but when I explained to her that I am probably going to flunk out after this semester anyway, she was forced to agree."

Although Diener has not yet received word from Jones that he indeed has the job, he plans to begin withdrawal procedures from the University Wednesday morning.

"I'm sure I have it," Diener said. "I was the first person to apply for the job once it became open."

"Never have I been the first person to apply for a job and not gotten it."

He said that he will not even consider the possibility of Jones not going ahead and hir-

ing him.

"Hell, I'm a Dallas boy, been a Cowboy fan since I popped out of my momma's belly almost 20 years ago," Diener said. "Jerry's got to consider that."

"He's good people and I'd bet the farm he'll hire me."

Diener's devotion to doing whatever it takes to do a good job at the helm of "America's Team" is not what will be in question if he is hired. What will be held in question is the fact that Diener has never coached at any level and has minimal knowledge of the game.

Diener likens his situation to that of Earvin "Magic" Johnson's who was hired last week to coach his old team, the Los Angeles Lakers.

"Magic has no experience in coaching but his presence alone will drive the Lakers to victory," Diener said. "Although I never played football for Dallas, I figure that the presence of a life-long fan like myself on the sidelines should have a comparable effect."

Still one has got to consider Diener's qualifications, which are slim to none. Better yet, what will coaches, players, and executives around the NFL think of Jones if he indeed hires Diener? Granted, his vulgar display of drunken misbehavior in an Orlando bar last week that forced Johnson to resign, is not the wisest move ever made in professional sports.

But by hiring Diener, does Jones want to further his growing reputation as a football buffoon or will he do the smart thing and save face by hiring a man with legitimate

football experience?

Talk around the sports world says that Jones would like to hire a college coach to succeed Johnson, but hire a college student?

However, this is the infamous Jerry Jones that the media, the NFL, and couch potatoes nationwide are talking about; the same Jerry Jones that made an idiot of himself in his handling of Johnson and the Cowboys' first head coach Tom Landry.

For Diener's sake, let us hope that he knows what he is getting into if Jones does hire him.

"I don't think that J.J. and I'll bump around too often," Diener said. "I'm a humble kid that as of right now lives in a 12'x15' cell in the Commons and drives a piece of crap that is sitting in the repair shop waiting for someone to blow it up."

"Obviously, in terms of ego, I have none." With all the talk about Diener succeeding Johnson in Dallas, most of the Cowboy players are dismissing the notion.

One unidentified Cowboy player responded to the news that Diener might be his new boss with a chuckle that unmasked a 50-million dollar smile.

A confident Diener said he that he is ready to leave A&M and get on to the job that he believes awaits him in Dallas.

"I know that the job is mine," Diener said. "It's just a matter of time before I'm holding up the Vince Lombardi Trophy and celebrating the Cowboys' third consecutive Super Bowl victory."

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MSC Black Awareness Committee

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