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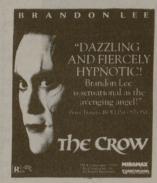


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CPORTS

Wednesday • September 14, 1994 Wednesday • S

Lady Aggie netter takes center court

White ready to spike challenge of starting role

By Drew Diener THE BATTALION

Lady Aggie middle blocker Page White did not begin playing volleyball until she was a sophomore at Converse Judson High School. Now, as a sophomore at Texas A&M, the hard-working White is starting

for the Lady Aggies.
"I think our middle is pretty equal, and (starting) is not necessarily a permanent thing," White said. "I just have to contin-

ue working to keep it."

Last season, the little used White appeared in only 10 matches for the Lady Aggies, chalking up nine kills, 14 digs, and five blocks. Over the off-season, however, she worked hard, making the necessary improvements to earn her current role as a

basically young and inexperienced and had to work a lot on the fundamentals.

Head coach Laurie Corbelli said that White really began to show positive strides last spring when the team participated in a tournament at Stanford University. "We played some of the top teams in the

country and no one stopped her," Corbelli said. "I think that gave her the confidence to come in this year and be a starter

Good blocking and attack skills are among the strengths that have propelled White to the position that she currently holds. Her .381 hitting percentage leads the Lady Aggies, while 55 kills rank her third on the team. In addition, she has

played in every game of all five matches.

At Judson High, White was an firstteam All-City selection as a senior, leading her team to a 26-9 record and the state regional quarterfinals. In addition to starring on the volleyball court, White was also a three year starter on the basketball team, earning All-District and All-City honors in her senior year.

starter.

"They (the coaching staff) taught me a lot of mental skills," White said. "I was Longhorns should solidify White's current status on the team. While many first year

starters might be nervous about playing their team's arch rival, White is not.

"I'm pumped up and really ready (to play Texas)," White said. "I've never gotten a chance to play against t.u."

Although White has risen to a level exceeding that of last season's, Corbelli said

there is still room for improvement. "She needs to work on her speed of attack," Corbelli said. "Although she's work ing on it right now, she can get so much quicker. Her timing on blocks and back court play are not bad but can get better.

"She's got a lot of improvement to do which is exciting because she's already

White not only has high expectations for herself, but also for her team this sea-

"We have lots of talent, with good peo-ple coming in and great returners," White said. "It (success) is just going to depend on how quickly we develop and play to



A&M offensive lineman Tim Vordenbaumen takes a break from protecting QB Corey Pullig.

Switch

Continued from page 5

"It's a big change because I came to here to play defense that's what A&M is known for," Vordenbaumen said. "I really didn't know if I could do it. It's difficult position to learn because there's so many different tech-

niques.
"There's a lot more things you have to learn compared to what you have to learn on defense."

Vordenbaumen admits he felt the nervousness that comes with the first start. The feeling worsened with the first start in Kyle Field last week against the Oklahoma Sooners.

"There's more nerves kicking in for the home game than there were against LSU because I had friends saying 'I will be watching you," said Vordenbaumen. "You see how crowds come out in big games. It's a big, thrilling experi-

Vordenbaumen admits the pressure of the season is lessened with the accomplishments he has earned off the field. In the summer, he graduated with an accounting degree and has already received the benefits that comes along with the hard work he demonstrated in the classroom.

"I feel fortunate that I have companies extending offers to me to come to work," Vordenbaumen said. "I can go to school this year and play football knowing I do have job offers.

"It makes for a much more re-laxed atmosphere. This enables me to concentrate on football and have a fun season

Vordenbaumen has three Southwest Conference Championship rings, but with the Aggies on probation for the 1994 season, will not be able to collect his fourth. This is something that is disappointing to him, but says that the years of playing football have been good to him. It is those memories that he can take with him when he leaves Texas A&M.

"Playing football is a process that most people don't get a chance to experience," Vorden-baumen said. "I've made some great friends, good memories and had some fun times; things I'll remember for the rest of my my life."

Capriati to return to grass in October

CLEVELAND (AP) - Jen nifer Capriati, who left the women's tour last year and was later arrested on drug charges, wants to return to tennis in early October.

The player's agent, International Management Group said the 18-year-old star has requested wild-card entries to the Barilla Indoors tournament in Zurich, Switzerland and the Porsche Tennis Grand Prix in Filderstadt, Germany. "Obviously she's getting

ready to play again. These are pretty big tournaments," said Linda Dozoretz, president of Linda Dozoretz Communica tions in Los Angeles, which represents Cleveland-based IMG. "Martina Navratilovais scheduled to play in them, so they are pretty important."

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