

Allen

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lahoma on September 10, Allen won the starting free safety job from senior Junior White.

A&M secondary coach Larry Slade said Allen's work ethic and desire have inspired the entire secondary to improve their play.

"The way it (Allen's intensity) has rubbed off has been pretty positive," Slade said. "The secondary prides themselves as playmakers. Those guys want to make plays and understand why he (Allen) is making plays."

"He's one of those guys that's going to his job and do it right every time."

Allen has recorded 23 tackles this season and his two interceptions tie him with sophomore cornerback Donovan Greer for the team lead. In A&M's 38-7 victory over Houston last weekend, Allen registered his first career blocked punt.

"I told Coach that I could get in there (to pressure the punt) if they (the coaches) gave me a shot at it," Allen said. "I was able to hit the seam and get in there to block the punt."

As for influences on his game, Allen said former A&M All-American safety Patrick Bates, now with the Los Angeles Raiders, provided an excellent model to pattern himself after.

"He was a big and physical guy, where as I'm a smaller guy," Allen said. "He was a great player and a smart player. I try to imitate some of the things that he did."

Allen now finds himself in the same kind of position Bates was in a couple of seasons ago. With continued success, the expectations to perform well will mount. Allen said he has taken all of the publicity and attention he has received this season in stride.

"I don't think that I've taken the success and let it go to my head," Allen said. "I still try to prepare for every game just like I always have."

Soccer team readies for weekend

By Stewart Doreen
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M women's soccer team will have a full load this weekend playing three games in three days.

"Athletically, this will be our most challenging weekend of the year," A&M head coach G. Guerrieri said. "We will play three full length competitive games in three days. It will be a real test for us."

Texas A&M (6-2-2) is coming off a 3-1 win over Texas Tech in Lubbock last Sunday outshooting the Red Raiders 32-7. The win finished off a 1-1-1 road stint.

The Aggies, ranked eighth in the South region, return to friendly confines of the Aggie Soccer Complex to host the University of Arkansas-Little Rock Friday (2-6-1) at 3:00 p.m.

"We beat Arkansas-Little Rock 2-1 last year," Guerrieri said. "It was a tight, hard fought game that we pulled out on a great goal by (sophomore midfielder) Kim Duda. All our players are going to have to be physically and mentally prepared."

The team will then travel to The Woodlands on Saturday to take on the U.S. Military Academy Lady Knights (10-3) at 2:00 p.m. as a part of the Women's Soccer Classic.

Lady Knight midfielder Holly Pedley

leads the team in all three statistical categories with 13 goals and 12 assists for 38 points. Forwards Alexis Albano and Kate Pendry for are tied for second with 22 points each.

"Army has a 10-3 record and is one of the strongest teams in the Northeast, Guerrieri said. "They have two very good forwards and are very disciplined."

The Aggies will again return home for a 3:00 p.m. Sunday game with the University of South Alabama Jaguars. Sophomore forward Amy Price leads the team in points while freshman goalkeeper Chrystal Emerson is holding teams to 1.26 goals per game.

"South Alabama is having a great first year," Guerrieri said. "They are a strong team, and we expect a very physical, challenging match against them."

Texas A&M sophomore forward Kristen Koop is the team's leading goal scorer (7) and points leader (16). Junior midfielder Corie Hammers is second in points with 11 (four goals and three assists). Sophomore goalkeeper Sunny McConnell has compiled a 5-2-1 record and 1.19 goals-against average which ranks tenth in the South region.

The Aggie Soccer Complex has been a graveyard for opponents in its inaugural season with the visitors having lost in all three attempts. In fact, the Aggies have never lost a home match in nine tries (9-0).

Volleyball hopes to extend streak

Netters prepare to face Notre Dame, University of Houston in weekend play

By Jason Holstead
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M women's volleyball team hopes to extend its three match winning streak tonight against the 25th-ranked University of Houston Lady Cougars. After an inconsistent beginning to the season, the Lady Aggies feel they are beginning to truly mesh into a team.

"I think the younger players are becoming more comfortable with the system and their teammates," head coach Laurie Corbelli said. "The other players have welcomed the younger players into a difficult situation because they knew there was potential (in the new players) to take (their) spots."

Senior outside hitter Jennifer

Bronner said the team is starting to come together.

"We are building a bond with each other out there on the court," Bronner said.

"We know where everyone is (on the court) and who is going to get the ball. We communicate well with each other."

The Lady Cougars (9-3 overall and 4-0 in SWC) are currently riding a six match winning streak, which includes an unbeaten 4-0 record on their home floor this season.

Houston is led by their outside hitter, Lilly Denoon-Chester, who leads the Southwest Conference in kill average (4.67) and blocking (1.29) and is second in hitting efficiency (.333).

Corbelli said the Lady

Cougars are a very efficient team that runs a basic offense.

"They probably have the player of the year on their team in Lilly Denoon-Chester. She is exceptional and will get her 15-plus kills per match," Corbelli said.

"They also have a surrounding cast of very strong players for their positions."

The Lady Aggies are currently in fourth place with a 2-2 conference record.

Texas A&M has not defeated Houston at Hofheinz Pavilion since 1987, losing the last six matches.

The Lady Aggies will return home Saturday night to host the rematch against 12th-ranked Notre Dame at G. Rolie White Coliseum.

The Irish handily defeated A&M (4-15, 4-15, 3-15) last month at the University of Colorado Coors Tournament.

Cleveland embarrasses Houston, 11-8

HOUSTON (AP) — The Cleveland Browns left the Houston Oilers red-faced on prime time television — again.

Cleveland used trickery on a 2-point conversion and Vinny Testaverde's 25-yard touchdown pass to Mark Carrier for an 11-8 victory over Houston on Thursday night as the Browns reached 5-1 for the first time since 1965.

It was another embarrassing nationally televised moment for the Oilers, beaten 30-14 on Oct. 3 by the Pittsburgh Steelers. The Oilers face another prime time date on Oct. 24 at the Philadelphia Eagles.

The Oilers were within 28 seconds of their first shutout loss in 18 years in the Astrodome when Billy Joe Tolliver threw a 5-yard TD pass to Lorenzo White.

When Tolliver completed a 2-point conversion pass to Haywood Jeffries, Houston trailed by the margin of Al Del Greco's missed 29-yard field goal attempt earlier in the fourth period.

Tolliver, who came in with 7 1/2 minutes to play, completed 9-of-17 for 115 yards.

Until the late show of offense, the Oilers (1-5) got their biggest cheer midway in the third quarter when Bucky Richardson completed a 1-yard pass to tight end Pat Carter, his second reception of the year.

The struggling Oilers have been criticized by owner Bud Adams and fans for not blending the tight end into their offensive package.

The Browns did just enough to get their fourth straight victory and a stronger hold on the lead in the AFC Central.

The Browns missed two early touchdown chances when Testaverde twice underthrew Carrier after the wide receiver had beaten cornerback Darryll Lewis.

Lewis intercepted the first pass and returned it 20 yards to the Oilers 49.

Lewis also intercepted a pass in the fourth quarter but penalties by the Oilers killed that opportunity.

Cleveland scored its points in the second quarter on Testaverde's 25-yard pass to Carrier with 8:21 left, Tom Tupa's 2-point conversion run and Matt

Stover's 35-yard field goal as time ran out in the half.

Testaverde hit Leroy Hord for a 23-yard pass to start the first-half touchdown drive, then avoided blitzing linebacker Michael Barrow and completed a 32-yard pass to Eric Metcalf.

Carrier sidestepped Lewis on the sidelines and dove into the end zone on the touchdown play.

On the conversion, the Browns completely fooled the Oilers when Tupa, the holder on placement kicks, took the center snap and ran untouched into the end zone.

Cleveland got another scoring chance when Houston's Webster Slaughter fumbled after being hit by cornerback Don Griffin. Pepper Johnson returned the fumble 10 yards to the Browns 45, setting the stage for the drive that was capped by Stover's field goal.

Richardson was 13-of-23 for 114 yards. He was sacked three times and rushed for 45 yards on four carries.

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Procedure To Order A Ring:

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