

CB puts receivers in ... Greer and Present Danger

After spending his freshman year in the shadow of All-American Aaron Glenn, Donovan Greer has come into his own at cornerback.

By Philip Leone
THE BATTALION

Not just anybody can play cornerback at Texas A&M.

You have to be something special — an extraordinary athlete with lightning speed, killer instincts, cool nerves and quiet confidence.

As a member of the attacking "Wrecking Crew" defense, you have to earn your keep by playing man-to-man coverage most of the time.

As a two-year starter at cornerback, junior Donovan Greer knows from experience the perils of playing the position for the Aggies.

However, with blistering 4.34 speed and loads with talent, Greer comes well-equipped to handle his cornerbacking chores.

Greer had a remarkable career at Elsik High School in Alief and was heavily recruited by a

number of major college programs.

Alabama and Ohio State came knocking, and even last

week's opponent Colorado was in the running for the blue-chipper's services before Greer changed his mind on visiting the campus in Boulder.

"A buddy of mine was also going to fly up there on one of his recruiting visits, and he told me the night before the trip about a dream he had where the plane crashed into the side of a mountain," said Greer. "So I just said 'Forget it' and decided that A&M was the place to be."

Texas A&M Secondary Coach Larry Slade said he is glad that Greer made the decision to play college ball in College Station.

"He has all the attributes we look for in a cornerback," Slade said. "He has outstanding speed, great instincts, and he also brings some toughness with him."

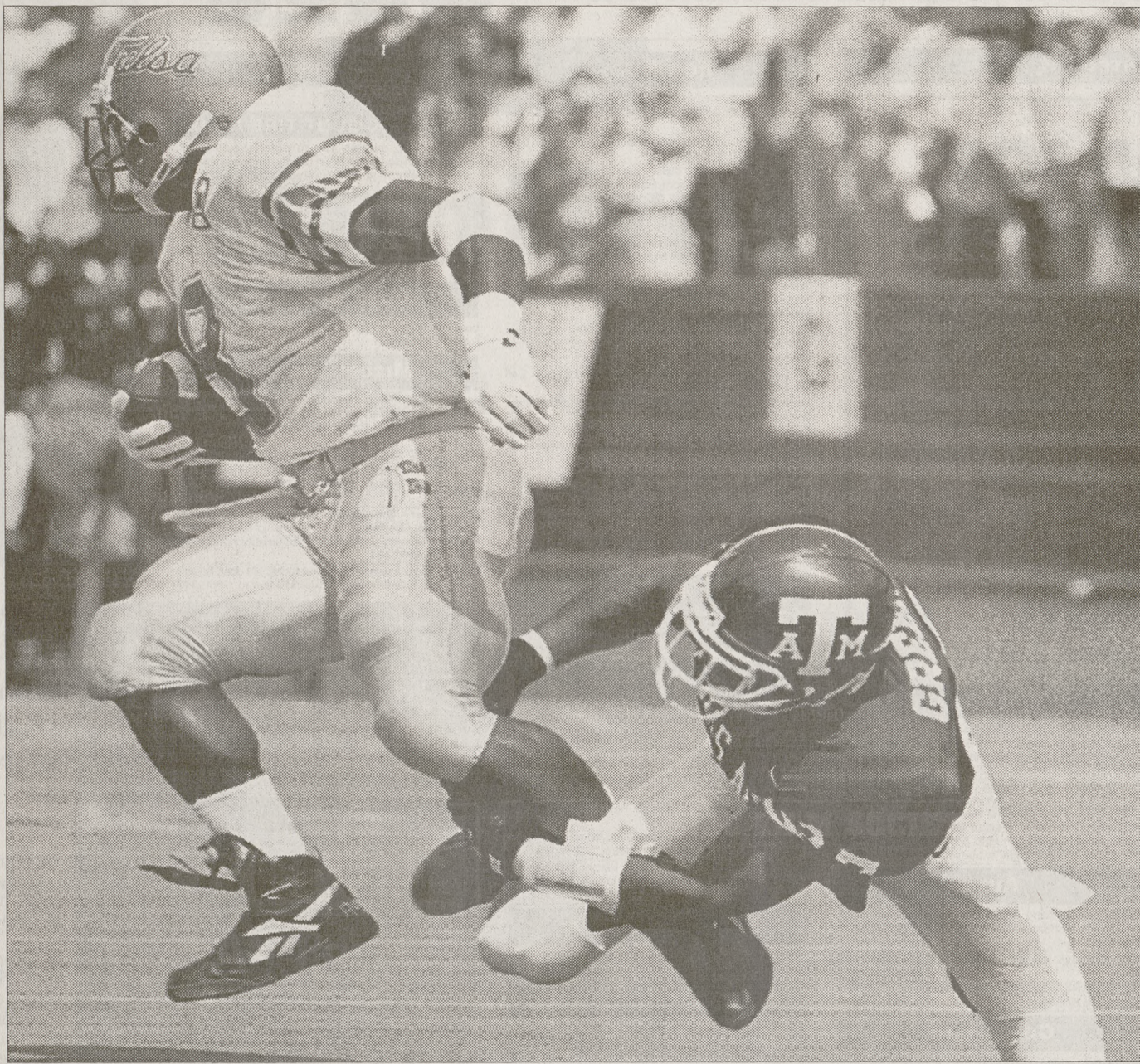
As a true freshman in 1993, Greer saw action as a backup in a defensive backfield that featured All-American Aaron Glenn, who is now playing professionally with the New York Jets.

Another standout in that team's defensive secondary was All-Southwest Conference performer Ray Mickens, who still starts opposite Mickens this year.

Greer contributed nine tackles in 1993, with one interception and one pass broken up.

Last season, Greer started opposite Mickens and grabbed three interceptions and made 57 tackles on his way to earning his own All-SWC honors.

His biggest game of last season came against Rice at Kyle Field. Greer recorded nine tackles as the Aggies barely won a defensive struggle with the Owls, 7-0.



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

Texas A&M junior cornerback Donovan Greer prepares to wrap up a Tulsa receiver during the Aggies' 55-9 win over the Golden Hurricane Sept. 16. In 1994, his first year as a starter, Greer made 57 tackles and earned All-SWC honors.

Both Glenn and Mickens have influenced the younger player.

Greer feels fortunate to have had the opportunity to benefit from their experience.

"I only spent a season with Aaron, but he was always willing to show me some of the finer points on coverage technique," said Greer. "I'm pretty close to Ray, though."

"He's kind of been my big brother. This is his fifth year here, and if I have a doubt about something or feel like I'm doing something wrong I go to him to see what he thinks."

Though he had set All-Southwest Conference and All-American goals for this season and his senior year, Greer also has aspirations of joining former Aggie secondary greats like Glenn and Kevin Smith of the Dallas Cowboys.

Slade feels that his corner has definite professional possibilities.

"He has all the qualities that the NFL guys look for," said Slade. "He's just a quality young man who handles adversity well and plays with a lot of confidence. And you have to be that way to be a great cornerback."

Soccer team faces top-ranked talent

The Aggies host the Post Oak Mall Soccer Classic this weekend.

By Lisa Nance
THE BATTALION

With the Aggie Football Team idle this week, sports fans will still have the opportunity to see a nationally-ranked team play ball.

The No.18 Lady Aggie Soccer Team will play host to four teams this weekend in the Post Oak Mall Soccer Classic. The tournament will feature the fifth-ranked Lady Mustangs from SMU, the 14th-ranked Vanderbilt Commodores, the Creighton Lady Jays and the North Texas Eagles.

Head Women's Soccer Coach G. Guerrieri says that this will be a good opportunity for fans to see some excellent soccer.

"This weekend will be an unshuffling for the Central Region," Guerrieri said. "We've got the number one through four teams in the region coming into Aggieland. This is a great weekend to come and see some high-level ball because all of these teams are quality teams, teams that like to knock the ball around and who like to attack. It's not going to be an ugly weekend by any stretch of the imagination."

The tournament will kick off today at 2 p.m. with No.5 SMU playing No.14 Vanderbilt. Following that game, No.18 Texas A&M will take the field against Creighton at 4:30 p.m.

"Creighton has had some terrific games this season and is a polished and experienced team," Guerrieri said. "They will probably be our toughest home game that we've played in a long time."

In conjunction with the tournament Saturday, the A&M coaching staff and players, as well as the coaches and players of the visiting teams, will host a free youth clinic for children ages five through 12. The clinic will begin at 3 p.m. at the Aggie Soccer Complex.

THE BATTALION'S 1995 STAFF PICKS

THE MATCH-UPS	Nick Georgandis	Kristina Buffin	David Winder	Tom Day	Lisa Nance	Philip Leone	Robin Greathouse	Rob Clark	Sterling Hayman	Stew Milne	Kyle Littlefield	Michael Landauer	Gretchen Perrenot	Stacy Stanton	Jody Holley	COMMENTARY
#24 Texas Tech at Baylor	Baylor	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Baylor	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Tech: Big 12 tag-a-longs square off
#21 Texas at SMU	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	UT: Notre Dame too tough, SMU just right
Rice at Army	Army	Rice	Rice	Rice	Army	Rice	Rice	Rice	Army	Rice	Rice	Army	Rice	Rice	Rice	Rice: SWC Game of the Week
#15 Notre Dame at #7 Ohio State	Ohio State	Notre Dame	Ohio State	Ohio State	Notre Dame	Ohio State	Notre Dame	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	OSU: Syracuse Rice boils Irish
#4 Colorado at #10 Oklahoma	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Oklahoma	CU: This team seems pretty good ..
#20 Alabama at Georgia	Alabama	Georgia	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama: No Bobo, no way for UGA
#15 LSU at S. Carolina	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU: Tigers on the prowl
Jaguars at Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers: Unanimous! The world is ending!
Cowboys at Redskins	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Redskins	Cowboys	Cowboys: Stanton won't give up...
K.Anderson vs. N.Van Exel	Anderson	Van Exel	Van Exel	Van Exel	Van Exel	Anderson	Van Exel	Van Exel	Van Exel	Anderson	Van Exel	Anderson	Van Exel	Van Exel	Anderson	Van Exel: Can we say shootout?
J.Smith vs. K.Garnett	Smith	Smith	Smith	Smith	Garnett	Smith	Garnett	Smith	Garnett	Garnett	Garnett	Garnett	Smith	Garnett	Garnett	Garnett: But he has to be in by curfew
S.O'Neal vs. H.Olajuwon	Olajuwon	Olajuwon	Olajuwon	Olajuwon	Olajuwon	Olajuwon	Olajuwon	Olajuwon	Olajuwon	Olajuwon	Olajuwon	Olajuwon	Olajuwon	Olajuwon	Olajuwon	Olajuwon: Shaq didn't learn in The Finals!
Last Week	8-4	10-2	9-3	11-1	9-3	9-3	9-3	8-4	7-5	7-5	9-3	9-3	9-3	4-8	7-5	125-55 (.694) Dr. Ray Bowen:
Cumulative	31-17	38-10	36-12	38-10	36-12	36-12	35-13	33-15	34-14	35-13	37-11	39-0	34-14	28-20	34-14	522-198 (.725) 9-3 last week

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