

Aggies' new strategy: Win

A&M is trying to break its longest losing streak since 1988.

By Nick Georgandis
THE BATTALION

In three stunning weeks, the attitude of the Texas A&M Football Team has gone from "aim high" to "do or die."

Three weeks ago, the team was ranked No. 3 in the nation and was preparing for a grudge match in Boulder with No. 8 Colorado.

Since then, the Aggies have plummeted 19 spots in The Associated Press Poll and are attempting to get back into the Southwest Conference race.

"Right now, all we're thinking about is winning a ballgame," junior tailback Leeland McElroy said. "It's been three weeks since we've done that, and it's not a good feeling."

The Aggies' game against Southern Methodist University Saturday at Kyle Field presents A&M with two opportunities. First, the team can snap its two-game losing streak — the Ag-

gies' longest since 1988.

Second, A&M can gain revenge against the Mustangs from last year's 21-21 tie — the only blemish on A&M's 10-0-1 record in 1994.

Senior cornerback Ray Mickens said the team has placed the loss to Texas Tech out of mind and is confident in playing well for the season.

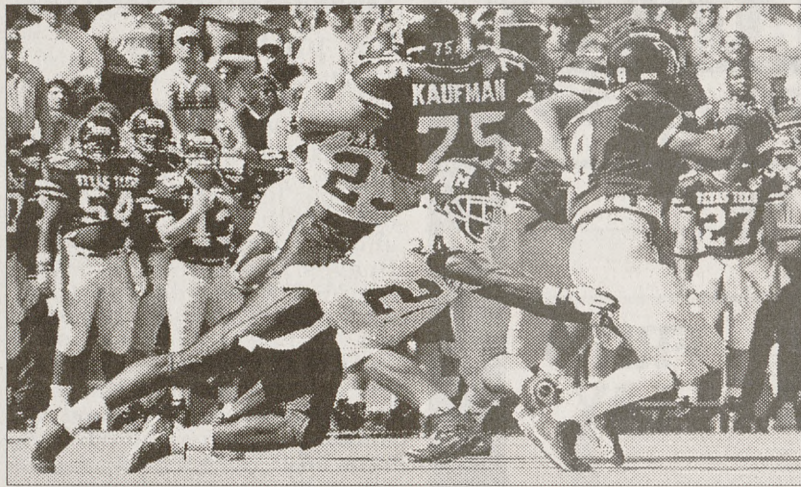
"The loss last week is behind us," Mickens said. "We haven't been playing A&M football lately."

In each of A&M's two losses, the offensive unit has been criticized for putting points on the board, while the defense was forced to spend large amounts of time on the field.

"I see inconsistency (in our offense)," A&M Head Football Coach R.C. Slocum said. "The thing that has affected us is our execution has not been as consistent as it needs to be."

Plenty of blame for the offense's woes in the 14-7 loss to the Red Raiders last Saturday was placed squarely on senior quarterback Corey Pullig.

Although Pullig threw three interceptions — including the



Robyn Calloway THE BATTALION

Texas Tech quarterback Zebbie Lethridge avoids a sack by Texas A&M cornerback Ray Mickens during Saturday's game at Lubbock.

game-winner returned by Tech's Zach Thomas for a touchdown — McElroy said it is unfair to blame one person for the loss.

"I don't think all the blame should go on one individual," McElroy said. "If we weren't in that situation to begin with, no one would get blamed. That last mistake is magnified a lot of the

time." McElroy himself is under scrutiny this week after spraining his left ankle in the third quarter Saturday.

"I didn't practice yesterday (Monday)," McElroy said. "There's some swelling there, but if I'm at all able to play, I will be out there."

Testimony begins against King

The first trial witness told the jury about King's insurance deals.

NEW YORK (AP) — Don King insures boxers.

The New York Yankees insure players.

Producers insure actors until they finish projects.

Those were lessons a jury learned Wednesday as testimony began in King's insurance fraud trial.

The trial's first witness, Suzanne Elizabeth Whalen, provided the jury in federal court in Manhattan with a

crash course about the insurance industry.

The jurors may need the knowledge to decide whether the promoter altered a boxer's contract to cheat Lloyd's of London of \$350,000 after a bout was canceled.

Whalen testified that as president of Hanleigh Companies, an insurance brokerage in Oradell, N.J., she helped obtain insurance for King for fights including a December 1990 Mike Tyson bout

that was postponed after he

hurt himself, and a 1991 fight between Julio Cesar Chavez and Harold Brazier.

The Chavez fight was canceled after the boxer, now the WBC super lightweight champion, cut his face while sparring.

Prosecutors said King submitted a phony contract to get Lloyd's of London to pay \$350,000 for training fees that were never paid to Chavez.

King's lawyers say the promoter had given the boxer more than \$700,000 in

advances and was making a legitimate claim.

Whalen testified the contracts she arranged for King with Lloyd's of London were among many she did over the years for the promoter. She said the premiums King had paid exceeded \$1 million.

The testimony by Whalen was meant by prosecutors to produce a foundation from which they hope to show King manipulated insurance companies to his gain.

King is most well known for his dealings with Tyson, who recently began his comeback against Peter McNeeley, an won a 89-second decision.



King

"It takes a special man to wear a Speedo" like you."

"That's just the funniest joke I've ever heard."

"No, that doesn't make your butt look big."

"It tastes just like mom used to make."

"You must have a high metabolism."

"You're telling me those are fake?"

"Have you been working out?"

"You look great in Spandex."

"I'm sure it's very big."

"Oh, you're so clever."

Top 20 suck-up lines.

"Wow. It looks so real."

"You're so photogenic."

"Chartreuse is your color."

"Honestly, I never noticed."

"You don't look a day over 25."

"I've never seen anything that big."

"No way. You mean those aren't real?"

"This is the best meatloaf I've ever had."

"You mean that's not your natural color?"

"She's your daughter? I thought you were sisters."



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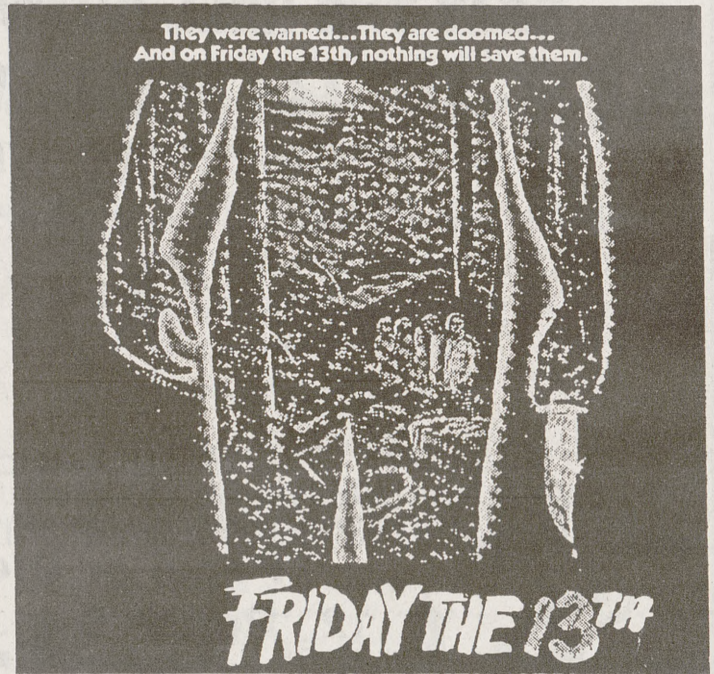
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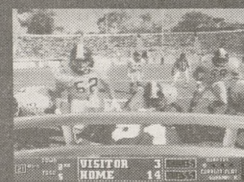
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