

SPORTS
BRIEFS

Barone adds Kelvin Lee as assistant coach

Texas A&M Head Basketball Coach Tony Barone announced that he has hired Kelvin Lee as an assistant basketball coach. Lee replaces Frank Haith, who accepted a similar position at Penn State last week.

Lee had served the last three seasons as an assistant coach at Saint Louis University. Saint Louis went 23-8 last season, advancing to the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

"I have seen Kelvin in the field working and have always been totally impressed with the way he carried himself," Barone said. "Kelvin brings to our staff a tremendous enthusiasm. We are pleased to be able to attract a coach such as Kelvin from a quality program such as Saint Louis."

A&M Basketball walkon tryouts Saturday

The Texas A&M Men's Basketball Team will hold walk-on tryouts Sunday at 6:00 p.m. on the main floor of G.Rollie White Coliseum.

Anyone needing more information should call 845-4531.

Cook shots eight under, takes lead in Vegas

LAS VEGAS (AP) — John Cook, trying to make up for a miserable year at a tournament he won in 1992, shot an 8-under-par 64 Thursday and shared the second-round lead of the Las Vegas Invitational with Bob Tway.

Cook and Tway were at 13-under, topping a field of pros who had another field day on the three desert courses that again proved most accommodating to low scoring.

They had plenty of company, though, with Billy Mayfair, Mark Brooks and Curt Byrum a stroke back at 12-under and five others in at 11-under with three rounds left in the \$1.5 million pro-am tournament.

Tway actually has a raw score of 130, one stroke ahead of Cook, but both are 13-under because they have played different courses. The last two rounds will be on one course.

An ankle injury and the marked improvement of Dat Nguyen have limited linebacker Trent Driver's playing time.

By David Winder
THE BATTALION

Penciled in as a starting inside linebacker at the end of preseason, sophomore Trent Driver was expected to have a breakthrough year. Four games into the season, Driver has yet to break into the starting lineup.

"Coach (Phil) Bennett said he's only going to play who produces, he's not going to play favorites," Driver said. "I guess I haven't been producing."

Bennett, the Aggies defensive coordinator, said Driver's playing time has diminished because of the improvement of Dat Nguyen and a nagging ankle injury.

"I haven't been disappointed in Trent's play," Bennett said. "He just let Dat Nguyen get ahead of him. I'm going to put the best three of four people on the field."

"I guess I haven't been producing."

— Trent Driver
A&M linebacker

Nguyen) have split the time. I think they complement each other well. Dat is more of a finesse player, at 210 pounds he gets bounced around in there. Trent is a more physical linebacker at 225."

In high school, Driver was named an all-state linebacker and the Class 4A Defensive Player of the Year in 1994. But even with the success in high school, Driver found adjusting to the college game a difficult task.

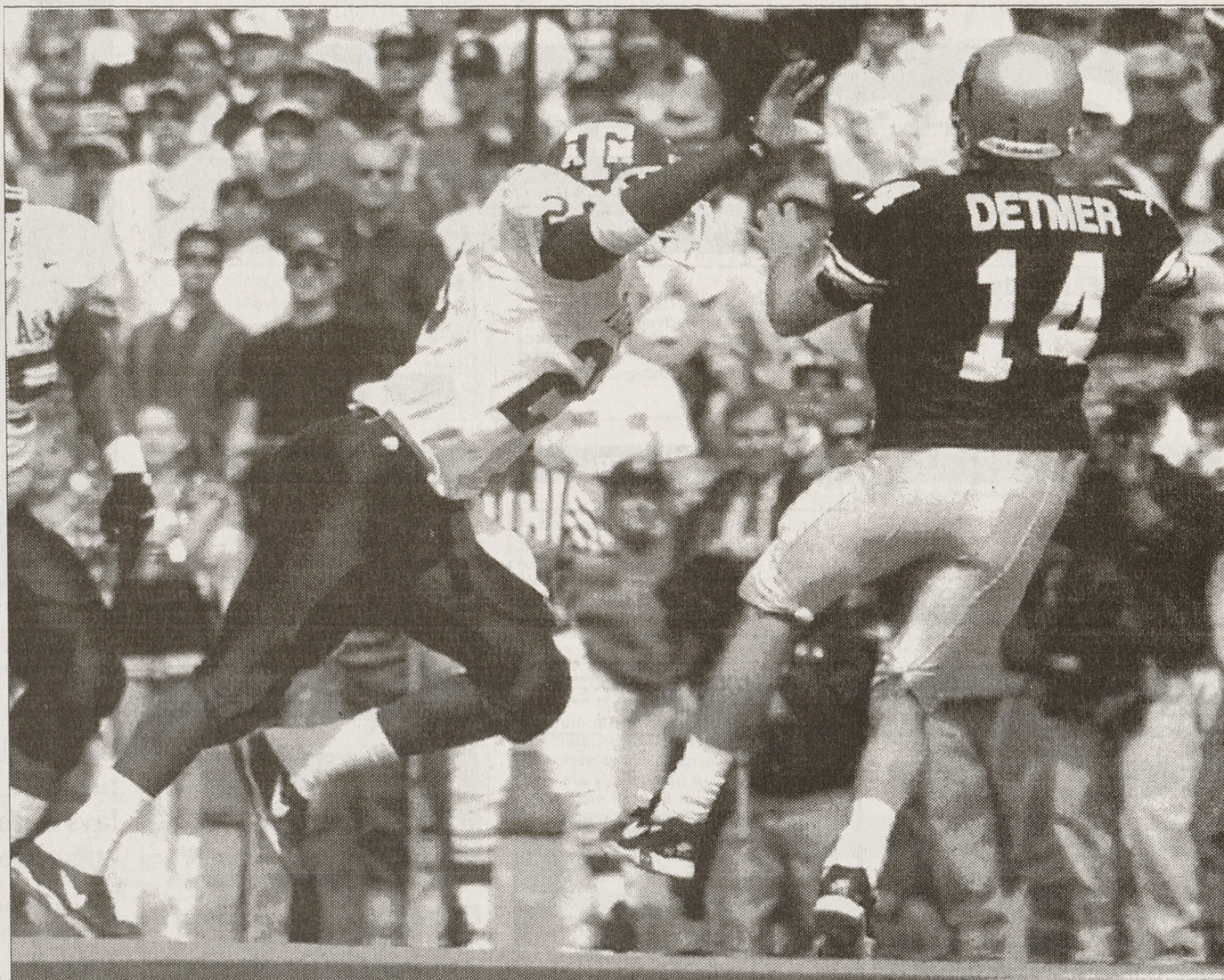
"In high school, it was more laid back, it really wasn't that hard," Driver said. "They're going to run such-and-such, you see it coming and you stop it. Not that hard."

"In college, there's always a chance for anything to happen. It's a different game. If you don't come to play you will get crushed."

Driver said former A&M linebacker Reggie Graham helped him to get assimilated to college football.

"He always helped me out with drills and after practice," Driver said. "He was there to explain things to me. He helped me emotionally, too. Reggie is a player who plays with a lot of fire. If I could play with half the fire he does, I think I'd be a good player."

In a backup role last year, Driver had 13 tackles and one quarterback sack. He also caused a fumble



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

Texas A&M sophomore linebacker Trent Driver harrasses Colorado quarterback Koy Detmer during the Aggies' 29-21 loss at Colorado Sept. 23. Driver has been sidelined by injuries and has had difficulty gaining playing time this season.

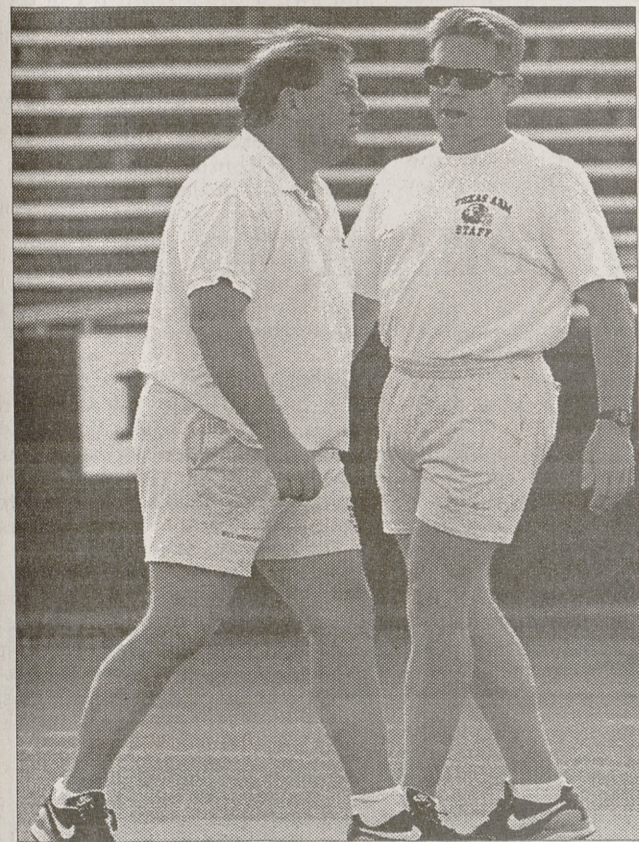
in the Oklahoma game which led to a touchdown in the Aggies' 36-14 victory.

"I think Trent has great instincts, along with size, quickness and intelligence," Bennett said. "He reminds of a linebacker I coached at Purdue, Fred Strickland (currently with the Green Bay Packers). They have the same build and their lower bodies are

so powerful." Driver arrived at A&M with four other blue-chip linebackers in Nguyen, Quinton Brown, Warrick Holdman and Philip Meyers.

"We call ourselves the Fab Five," Driver said. "I think we can be as good or better than any other linebacker class at A&M."

Sean Slocum has coaching in the blood Pointing fingers no way to solve problems



Evan Zimmerman, THE BATTALION

A&M's outside linebacking coach has coached with his father at A&M since 1989.

By Philip Leone
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M Outside Linebacker Coach Shawn Slocum grew up on a football field.

He was the annoying little kid who ran around during practice and chased balls, pestered players and generally got in everybody's way. As R.C. Slocum's son, football was all he knew.

Following his father from Texas A&M to the University of Southern California and back again, Slocum had every opportunity to take in the game and hang around big-time college football players. And according to Sean, his father's long hours and duties as a defensive coach never took away from his responsibilities at home.

"My father did a great job of not bringing home the problems and worries associated with coaching," said Slocum. "Growing up, I always respected his actions because he was such an even tempered man. That taught me a lot about life."

After his gridiron days at Bryan High School were over in 1983, Slocum stayed at home and made the 12th Man Kickoff Squad under then Aggie Head Coach Jackie Sherrill. Slocum graduated from A&M in 1987 with a degree in construction management, then moved to Hous-

ton to pursue that career. However, the nine-to-five grind of working for a construction developer was not for Slocum, and he longed to throw his energies into football once more.

"Football had always been such a positive thing in my life, and I just couldn't live without it — couldn't stand not being around it," Slocum said. "So I called my dad from Houston one night and told him I wanted to coach. He laughed and said 'You don't want to do that', but my mind was pretty much made up at that point."

In 1989, Slocum quit his construction job in Houston, moved back to Aggieland, and took a serious cut in pay to work as a graduate assistant under his father, who had just been named A&M's new head coach.

After serving a season in that role, Slocum decided to join Paul Hackett's staff at the University of Pittsburgh in the same capacity, but found his way back to College Station when the Aggie tight end coaching position opened in 1991.

Slocum made the switch to his current position in 1989. He is also in charge of the kicking game specialists. Up-and-coming junior outside linebacker Jimmie Irby feels that his young position coach has things under control.

"Coach Slocum is cool, you know; he makes sure we take care our business out on and off the field," Irby said. "He's not too serious because it's not like we're a bunch of high school kids just messing around needing to be told what to do all the time."



LISA NANCE
SPORTSWRITER

After last week's game at Tech, Leeland McElroy said that the Aggie team was not playing at "one accord."

I wondered if he meant team unity. It would be really easy for a team who started out as the No.3 team in the nation and has fallen to the No.22 team in the nation after losing two games in a row to face a little tension among themselves and start pointing the finger.

While the rest of the world seems to be blaming quarterback Corey Pullig, the A&M team is standing behind him. During The R.C. Slocum Show this week, Slocum defended his quarterback saying he would continue to start Pullig because Pullig is still the best quarterback that A&M has.

At the press conference this week, the players defended Pul-

lig as well. His roommate Hunter Goodwin said that to blame just one guy is ridiculous.

"For anyone to say it's one guy's fault is ridiculous," Goodwin said. "Corey's had tons of pressure put on his back, and he's almost been expected to carry this offense through the past two weeks. You can't ask that of anybody. I think that it's about time that maybe some of the other guys step up and take the pressure on themselves."

As the quarterback, and one of the seniors, Pullig is in the position as the team leader. The players obviously respect him, the coaches continue to put their trust in him, but what about Pullig?

Like Goodwin said, Pullig has carried the weight of the losses on his shoulders. He's taken the blame, along with the criticism, and, for the most part, he's done a good job. If the players can defend him, and the coaches have enough trust in him to continue him as starting quarterback, why shouldn't we?

The team has the talent, their confidence is just a little

See NANCE, Page 8

THE BATTALION'S 1995 STAFF PICKS

THE MATCH-UPS	Nick Georganidis	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
SMU at #22 Texas A&M	SMU	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M: Disgruntled Nick attempts 0-12 week
Baylor at Houston	Houston	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor: UH could be worst in Division I-A....
TCU at Rice	Rice	TCU	TCU	Rice	TCU	TCU	TCU	TCU	Rice	TCU	TCU	Rice	TCU	Rice	Rice	TCU: Frogs vs. Owls in Trials of Life
#25 Texas Tech at Ark. St.	Ark. State	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Ark. State	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Tech: Oh, the tortillas will be flying!
#13 Oklahoma vs. #18 Texas	Texas	Oklahoma	Texas	Texas	Texas	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Texas	Texas	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Texas	OU: Sooners make James Brown feel bad
#3 Florida at #7 Auburn	Auburn	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida	Auburn	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida: Spurrier finally breaks Bowden jinx..
#6 Tenn. at #12 Alabama	Alabama	Tennessee	Alabama	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Alabama	Tennessee	Tennessee: Alabama's home not so sweet....
#4 Ohio St. at #21 Wisconsin	Wisconsin	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	OSU: Wisconsin's got a killer schedule
#24 Washington at #16 Stanford	Stanford	Washington	Washington	Washington	Washington	Washington	Washington	Washington	Washington	Washington	Washington	Washington	Washington	Washington	Washington	Washington: Huskies want to be leader of PAC
Oilers vs. The Off Week	Oilers (Larry)	Off Week	Off Week	Oilers (Curly)	Off Week	Off Week	Off Week	Off Week	Off Week	Off Week	Oilers (Moe)	Off Week	Off Week	Off Week	Off Week	Off Week: Houston just not playing "Oiler Ball"
Cowboys at Chargers	Chargers	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Chargers	Cowboys	Cowboys: Chargers offense has no voltage ..
Raiders at Broncos	Raiders	Raiders	Raiders	Raiders	Raiders	Broncos	Broncos	Raiders	Broncos	Broncos	Broncos	Broncos	Broncos	Broncos	Broncos	Broncos: Elway's magic kicks in again
Last Week	4-8	9-3	9-3	9-3	9-3	9-3	7-5	10-2	7-5	9-3	8-4	7-5	7-5	7-5	8-4	Last week's guest picker, Toby Boenig went
Cumulative	40-27-2	49-18-2	48-18-2	52-15-2	49-18-2	49-18-2	45-27-2	47-18-2	45-27-2	48-17-2	49-18-2	50-17-2	45-22-2	39-28-2	44-23-2	6-6, the worst record ever by a guest picker.