

# NANCE

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low right now. And why shouldn't it be with fair-weather fans who think that because it's lost two in a row the team sucks.

I'm including myself in this description, as much as I hate to admit it.

Instead of dwelling on the losses maybe we should look at

the good that could come out of this.

Like for instance, maybe McElroy will stay for another year.

Can you imagine what kind of team A&M would have with Brandon Stewart at

Pullig

quarterback and McElroy at running back? Now there's something to look forward to. Plus Brandon Mitchell is not having the best season and will probably not enter the draft, either.

I am confident that the Aggies have regrouped and will come out tomorrow playing like the team that A&M fans are used to seeing play.

Now that's something I look forward to.

# A&M aiming high in final conference relays



Evans Zimmerman, The Battalion

Texas A&M swimmer Stacie Karnes clears the surface during her 400-meter fly swim at last week's meet against Rice University. Karnes won the event with a time of 3:55.03.

## Rice University will host the final SWC Relays before the conference breaks up in 1996.

By Lisa Nance  
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M swimming teams are looking to make a big score at the Southwest Conference Relays this weekend in Houston. After posting two victories in double distance dual meet action last week against Rice, the A&M swimming teams will return to Houston to take part in the final Southwest Conference Relays, hosted by Rice.

All 11 conference swim teams will be present at tonight's relays which will begin at 4:00 p.m. at Rice Pool. Admission is free.

The 14-event slate, which is an all-relay format, will feature the women's races first, followed by the men's.

Head Men's Swimming Coach Mel Nash, said this weekend will be a good scouting and racing opportunity.

"It's a good way to kick off the season," Nash said. "All the confer-

ence teams will be there. It's a good way to get a preview of what everybody else has. Since it's all relays, you won't get to see a lot of individual swims, but you'll get to see more people on the teams and all the different strokes."

Nash said that because the relays are early in the season while most swimmers are in the distance stage of their training, this is a good opportunity to get a little bit of speed going.

"Right now, everybody's in the distance stage of their training, they're training really long and slow everyday, and they go to a meet where everything is short and fast so you're not really as focused on this at this time of the year. But it's a time for you to get some racing in and get a little bit of speed going."

Nash said their focus is more on conference and NCAA's at the end of the year.

"Swimming is a very 'focused on the end of the year' sport," Nash said. "You pound at the beginning, then you fine tune, then you rest for a month going into the big meets (SWC and NCAA). In swimming, theoretically, you could lose every single dual meet, finish last in every single invitational, and go to the conference meet and win the conference championship and go on

to win the NCAA's."

The A&M teams started off the 1995-96 season with dual victories last Friday. The Aggies took the top spot in all nine events to lead them to the 106-58 win. The women won eight -out-of-nine events to post a 104-54 victory.

Sophomore Stacie Karnes scored first place in both the 400-free (3:55.03) and the 400-fly (4:27.79). Sophomore M.J. Marano took first in the 1000-free (10:20.30) and second to Karnes in both the 400-free (4:03.91) and 400-fly (4:35.87). Seniors Denean Knapp and Julie Bates finished one-two in the 100-free, while Knapp and Karnes teamed with freshmen Tammy Lee and Amy Durfee to take first in the 800-medley relay with a time of 8:31.95.

For the men, senior Scott Wolf posted wins in both the 400-free (4:11.34) and the 800-IM (8:55.58) to lead the A&M men. Newcomer Jason Miles won both the 200-free (1:45.89) and the 1000-free (9:38.58) and swam the second leg of the first-place 800-medley relay with a time of 8:31.95.

After this weekend at Rice, both A&M teams will continue road action when they travel to the Metroplex for consecutive dual meets against TCU in Fort Worth on Oct. 20 and SMU in Dallas on Oct. 21.

## Classic matchup tonight in AL

### Randy Johnson, the best pitcher in the AL will face the Cleveland Indians' hard-hitting lineup.

CLEVELAND (AP) — This is the type of matchup that can become an October memory, the kind of moment that can make a single baseball game seem so special.

Randy Johnson vs. the Cleveland Indians.

The most intimidating, dominant pitcher the sport has seen in

years going against the most fearsome, fearless lineup in the game today. Facing each other on Friday the 13th, with the fate of a whole season at stake.

For Johnson, Game 3 of the AL playoffs at Jacobs Field will mark the fourth time in 12 days that he's been asked by the Seattle Mariners to carry them with his long, lanky left arm.

"If we don't win those games, we wouldn't be here right now," he said. "It just so happens I was pitching those games. Because I have risen to the occasion for those

games, there are expectations of me."

Johnson saved Seattle's season when he beat California in a one-game playoff for the AL West title on Oct. 2. Four days later, he helped the Mariners stave off elimination by beating New York in the opening round of the AL playoffs.

Then, the 6-foot-10 Johnson moved up even further in stature as if it seemed possible. Just 49 hours after throwing 116 pitches, he pitched three innings in relief and wound up the winner as the Mariners beat the Yankees.

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