

# Indians finally solve Johnson

□ Cleveland begins the World Series against Atlanta Saturday.

SEATTLE (AP) — The Cleveland Indians overcome it all — Randy Johnson, the Kingdome and history.

The epitome of bad baseball for four decades, the Indians reached the World Series for the first time since 1954, beating the Seattle Mariners 4-0 Wednesday night to win the AL playoffs 4-2 behind seven shutout innings from Dennis Martinez.

The Mariners, for the fourth time in 16 days, asked Johnson to save their season. Relying on his slider more than his overpowering fastball, he kept his team close until Carlos Baerga's homer capped a three-run eighth, and Johnson left to a standing ovation that included the applause of Indians pitcher Orel Hershiser.

Martinez, though, matched Johnson pitch for pitch, holding the Mariners to four hits in sev-

en innings. At 40, he finally won for the first time in the postseason and became the oldest pitcher to win a league championship series game.

Now the Indians, who won 100 times in the regular season and swept Boston in the first round of the playoffs, will take on the Atlanta Braves, the team with the best record in the National League.

The World Series starts Saturday night in Atlanta. Greg Maddux, likely to win his fourth straight NL Cy Young Award, will start Game 1 for the Braves. Orel Hershiser, 7-0 in the postseason, will likely pitch for Cleveland.

The last time the Indians went to the World Series, they were wiped out in four games by the New York Giants. The low-light of that event in 1954 was Willie Mays' catch against Vic Wertz.

Cleveland last won the World Series in 1948, beating the Boston Braves. Bob Feller was the star of that team, and the Hall of Fame pitcher was at the Kingdome on Tuesday night



# A&M football team in need of quick fix

TOM DAY

SPORTSWRITER



There's a strange feeling floating around Aggieland these days, foreign to anyone who has followed the sports scene here the last two or three years.

The Aggie Yell Leaders have come under fire for their efforts, or lack thereof, at A&M football games this season. Eyebrows have already been raised at the pending expansion of Kyle Field and the approved measure of converting its playing surface to natural grass.

But at the forefront, there's one burning question most people have been debating and mulling over lately: What's wrong with the Aggie football team?

The Aggies have looked just plain sick the last four weeks, and fans have had a hard time dealing with it. Entering this season, A&M had built a gaudy 32-3-1 record over the last three years, and fans aren't accustomed to seeing the Aggies lose.

But that's what they've done recently. The team had not lost more than one game in the regular season since 1990, but this year they lost two in a row, and it was almost three.

This was supposed to be A&M's season of promise. One week, they're the No. 3 ranked team in the country and talking national championship. The next, their Southwest Conference unbeaten string is over, and the team is suddenly anchored with a .500 record. To top it off, the Aggies were forced to eak out a home victory over SMU in front of a noticeably depleted student section.

Quarterback Corey Pullig and the offense are under fire. The coaching staff is feeling the heat. Blame is being thrown around everywhere.

There is no joy in Mudville.

But don't fret, Aggies, there is hope for the future. It may be hard to believe, but A&M's performance against SMU has a silver lining. I know it was the weak and hapless Ponies, and that the Aggies had no business even letting them stay in the contest past the pregame coin flip. But there are some positives that can be taken away

from that game.

First, the game-winning drive and touchdown in the game's waning seconds showed the Aggies they are capable of performing under the gun. If the opportunity presents itself again, the team realizes it is capable of moving the ball in the one-minute offense when the game is on the line.

"It was good for our team to play in a game like that after going four weeks since we've experienced a victory," Head Coach R.C. Slocum said. "It was better for us to win like that than to smooth to a victory. I think this will do more for us in reality."

The SMU victory also proved a huge confidence booster and a good experience builder for the young A&M team.

"We have young players and a lot of them haven't been in these (close game) situations," Slocum said. "It's good for a young team to play in those and great for us down the road."

Although times are tough right now, Slocum and his team are far from writing this season off. Slocum said the team can point back to three years ago, when the A&M team got off to a slow start.

"The year we went 12-0 (1992), we played against Stanford and stumbled through that whole ball game," Slocum said. "But we found a way in the end to win it. We came on and built on that and ended up having a great season."

The team is fired up heading into the Baylor contest this weekend. Plus, the Aggies have bulletin board material to light a fire under them.

Baylor linebacker LaCurtis Jones was quoted Tuesday as saying, "I feel they got a couple more losses coming ... They're a team ranked highly that just got too hyped with itself, reading papers... If we go out and play hard and do what we're supposed to do, we should win the game."

If those fighting words don't motivate the Aggies, nothing will.

I think the Aggies' problems can best be defined as a slump. In reality, the defense isn't playing that badly and the offense isn't any worse off talent and ability-wise than any other A&M team in the last three years.

But as far as slumps go, the Aggies had better break out of this one in a hurry. Their fans are losing faith, and there aren't many teams left on the schedule like SMU who will feel obliged to cough up a victory when the game's on the line.

# Aggie Soccer Team enters final homestand

□ The team has entered the Top 10 for the first time ever.

Staff and Wire Reports

The Texas A&M Soccer Team will begin its final homestand of the 1995 regular season today by hosting Nebraska, the eighth-ranked team in the Central Region.

The Aggies are ranked second in the region with a record of 12-3, and climbed four spots to claim the No.10 spot in the latest issue of the Soccer America Collegiate Top 20 Poll.

It is the Aggies first appearance in the Top 10, and the team's highest ranking ever.

The Aggies are led by junior forward Kristen Koop, who brought in A&M's second Southwest Conference Player of the Week award Tuesday after recording four goals and three assists to pace the Aggies to three wins on the road last week.



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

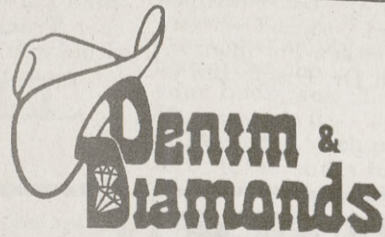
Aggie Diana Rowe brings the ball upfield against Texas Tech.

## CLASS OF '96 MEETING

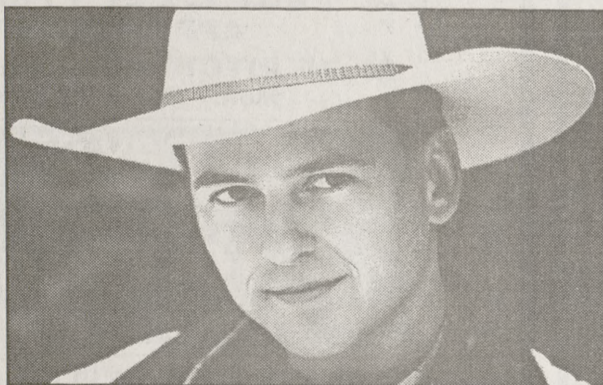


General Class Meeting Wednesday  
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Wednesday **RETRO NIGHT**  
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Hottest Dance Music from the 80's  
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Thursday **DAISY DUKES PARTY!**

The Best in Country Dance Music  
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Friday **NIGHT LIVE!**

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email [acm@cs.tamu.edu](mailto:acm@cs.tamu.edu) for more information  
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**Undergraduate Student Requirements:**

- You must be a degree seeking student and have a total of 95 credit hours reflected on the Texas A&M University Student Information Management System. (A passed course, which is repeated and passed, cannot count as additional credit hours.)
- 30 credit hours must have been completed in residence at Texas A&M University if you successfully complete one semester at Texas A&M University prior to January 1, 1994. 60 credit hours must have been completed in residence at Texas A&M University if your first semester at Texas A&M University was January 1994 or thereafter, or if you do not qualify under the successful semester requirement. Should your degree be conferred with less than 60 resident credits, this requirement will be waived after your degree is posted on the Student Information Management System.
- You must have a 2.0 cumulative GPR at Texas A&M University.
- You must be in good standing with the University, including no registration or transcript blocks for past due fees, loans, parking tickets, returned checks, etc.

**Graduate Student Requirements**

If you are a December 1995 degree candidate and you do not have an Aggie ring from a prior degree, you may place an order for a '95 ring after you meet the following requirements:

- Your degree is conferred and posted on the Texas A&M University Student Information Management System; and
- You are in good standing with the University, including no registration or transcript blocks for past due fees, loans, parking tickets, returned checks, etc.

If you have completed all of your degree requirements and can obtain a "Letter of Completion" from the Office of Graduate Studies, the original letter of completion may be presented to the Ring Office in lieu of your degree being posted.

**Procedure To Order A Ring:**

- If you meet all of the above requirements, you must visit the Ring Office no later than Wednesday, October 18, 1995, to complete the application for eligibility verification.
- If your application is approved and you wish to receive your ring on December 13, 1995, you must return and pay in full by cash, check, money order, or your personal Visa or Mastercard (with your name imprinted) no later than October 20, 1995.

Men's 10K - \$309.00	14K - \$422.00
Women's 10K - \$174.00	14K - \$203.00

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