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SPORTS BRIEFS

Lady Aggie Volleyball Team falls to UT in four

The 18th-rankedTexas A&M Women's Volleyball team traveled to Austin last night to face the seventhranked University of Texas to fight for a chance to share the final Southwest Conference crown.

However, the Lady Longhorns defeated A&M 16-14, 6-15, 15-11 and 15-12 to win their fourteenth SWC title in fifteen years.

Sophomore Blalack earns SWC accolades

A&M sophomore forward Bryn Blalack was named the final South-west Conference Player of the Week yesterday. This is the second time this

season she has received the honor.
In the SWC Tournament last weekend, Blalack scored a goal with less than 14 minutes to play in the championship game to tie Southern Methodist University, 2-2, although the Lady Mustangs won 4-2 in over-time. Blalack was selected Most Valu-able Player of the tournament.

The Lady Aggles will host Clemson University in the first round of the NCAA Tournament this Sunday at the Aggie Soccer Complex.

UPCOMING EVENTS

A&M Football

The Aggies travel to Houston tonight to play a SWC game against Rice University at 7 p.m.

□ Receiver Donte Hawkins is looking to make an impact in

his first year. By Philip Leone THE BATTALION

Life should be a breeze for Texas A&M wide receiver Donte Hawkins.

He has height; he has speed; and he has clocked plenty of playing time this season as a true freshman on a big-time college football team. So what could possibly be bother-

ing Donte Hawkins?
The number 37, that is the problem. Hawkins says that it is the loathsome number the A&M coaching staff condemned him with

when he reported for two-a-days this summer. "I came in, and it was like, 'Here, put this on and shut up, kid'," Hawkins said. "I wore

28 in high school, and that's my number. It's special to me. Man, I just hate 37." Hawkins has reason to think back on his high school days as being special.

He was a virtual pass-catching machine at Round Rock High School, catching 160 passes for 878 yards and 41 touchdowns in his varsity career.

However that was not enough for Hawkins. He also starred on the basketball court and the baseball diamond and was a burner on the track team.

His remarkable speed and athletic ability plus his 6 feet, 2 inch, 180 pound frame

brought just about every major college recruiter to Hawkins' doorstep.

The University of Nebraska and the University of Florida were leading contenders for the receiver's services, but Hawkins credits the easygoing feeling at A&M for bringing him to College Station.

"It's sort of hard to really put it into words," Hawkins said. "It was just the comfortable feeling and relaxed atmosphere that brought me here. That and the fact that A&M is so close to home that my folks

can come see me play."

After recovering from an early season shin fracture, Hawkins has grabbed nine passes for 63 yards in the five games he was able to perform in.

A&M Receivers Coach Les Koenning Jr. believes Hawkins has the potential to devel-

op into a great Aggie receiver.
"He has real soft hands and catches the ball well with his eyes and hands," Koenning said. "Will he ever be a great receiver for us? I think he definitely has the potential. It's just going to take some maturing and some hard work

Koenning also likes his receiver's work habits and his good-natured personality.

"It was just the comfortable feeling and relaxed atmosphere that brought me here."

Donte Hawkins A&M wide receiver

"Donte is just real conscientious with what he wants to do on the field," Koenning said. "And he's also a real neat, comical kid. There's always something comical going on with Donte.

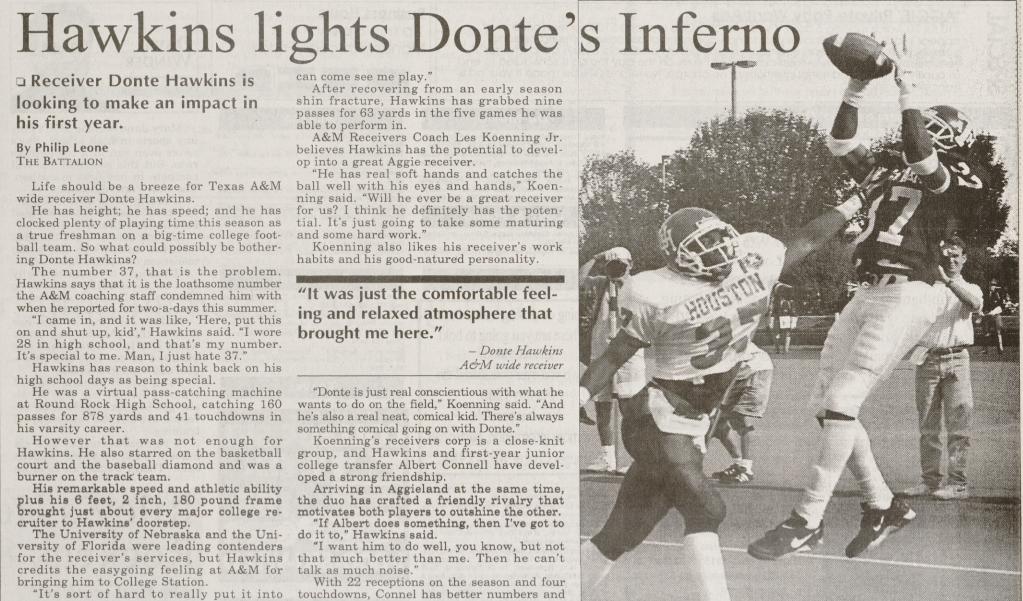
Koenning's receivers corp is a close-knit group, and Hawkins and first-year junior college transfer Albert Connell have developed a strong friendship.

Arriving in Aggieland at the same time, the duo has crafted a friendly rivalry that motivates both players to outshine the other. "If Albert does something, then I've got to do it to," Hawkins said.

"I want him to do well, you know, but not that much better than me. Then he can't talk as much noise.

With 22 receptions on the season and four touchdowns, Connel has better numbers and has grabbed more attention than Hawkins.

What does Hawkins have to say about his buddy's superior statistics?
"Don't worry. I'll catch him."



Tim Moog, THE BATTALION

Freshman wide receiver Donte Hawkins makes a leaping catch in the endzone for a touchdown against the University of Houston last week.

THE BATTALION'S 1995 STAFF PICKS

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	(
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3 DAYS

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COMMENTARY

A&M: A storied, one-sided rivalry ends tonight.... Tech: A storied, very boring rivalry ends Saturday. Baylor: Ponies more Bears' speed (Read Miami)..... UT: 'horns continue march toward Kyle Field...... Nebraska: Huskers face toughest challenge yet..... Auburn: Tigers take a bite out of Bulldogs... Northwestern: The impossible dream continues.... Washington: No one knows in that Wacky PAC! LSU: Ole Miss can't hold that Tiger Oilers: A win from .500? The end must be near Cowboys: Game of the Year? Yawnnnnnnnnnnn... Bryan: Brazos Valley ain't big 'nuff for both of them 116-64 (.644) Nick wins week, economy collapses 1196-505-105 (.691) Tom Day, rock of consistency



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