

At a
GLANCE

SPORTS BRIEFS

Alamo Bowl tickets still available for students

There are approximately 900 of Texas A&M's original allotment of student tickets for the 1995 Alamo Bowl against Michigan.

The tickets cost \$40.50 with a student ID card and can be purchased from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. through next Wednesday at the athletic ticket office at G. Rollie White Coliseum.

If all the tickets are sold, the University is allowed to request more from the game. There were 669 tickets sold Thursday.

Death of coach ruled suicide at Cornell

ITHACA, N.Y. (AP) — The death early Thursday of a Cornell University assistant men's basketball coach was ruled a suicide.

Neither Cornell nor Ithaca Police released the circumstances of Michael Taylor's death. It was ruled a suicide by Tompkins County Medical Examiner Dr. John Maines.

"All of us are deeply saddened," said Susan H. Murphy, vice president for student and academic services.

Authorities were summoned to Taylor's off-campus home about midnight by a roommate. Fire department personnel attempted to revive Taylor, but were unsuccessful, police said.

Classes continued as scheduled Thursday, said Linda Grace-Kobas, a university spokeswoman. Extra mental health workers were called in to help anyone needing counseling, she said.

NBA referee O'Donnell retires after 28 years

NEW YORK (AP) — Jake O'Donnell, who officiated more than 2,100 regular season games and 279 playoff games during his 28 years as an NBA referee, has retired, the league announced Thursday.

O'Donnell also worked 39 NBA Finals games during a career that began in 1967-68.

"Jake has been, without question, one of the greatest referees this league has ever had," commissioner David Stern said. "Every fan and every person associated with the NBA owes him an enormous debt of gratitude for his work. Not only did he handle one of the toughest jobs in sports for 28 years, he excelled at it."

UPCOMING EVENTS

A&M Football

The Aggie Football Team will conclude its 1995 schedule with a bowl matchup against the University of Michigan Thursday, Dec. 28 at the Alamo Bowl in the Alamodome in San Antonio.

NFL Football

Sunday: Detroit Lions at Houston Oilers, 12 p.m.
Philadelphia Eagles at Dallas Cowboys, 12 p.m.

NBA Basketball

Friday: San Antonio Spurs at Chicago Bulls, 7 p.m.
Washington Bullets at Houston Rockets, 7 p.m.

Women's Basketball

The Women's Basketball Team will travel to Hawaii for the Maui Invitational this weekend.

Powerhouse Gators end A&M's run

The Lady Ags finished their season 23-7, their best record since 1993, when they went 27-8.

Staff and Wire Reports

The Texas A&M Women's Volleyball Team's quest toward a NCAA Championship ended Thursday night in Gainesville, Fla.

Matched against a superior opponent in the University of Florida Gators, the Lady Aggies were demolished in three straight games, 15-4, 15-13, and 15-4.

The loss dropped A&M to 23-7 on the season while the fourth-ranked Gators improved their overall season record to a pristine 35-1.

It was the Lady Aggies' first-ever trip to the NCAA Sweet 16, and it was also one of the least effective performances of the season for A&M, which never truly got its offense going while the Gators seemingly scored at will.

The first game was a clinic in why the Gators have lost just once this season.

Florida converted 17 kills in 34 total attacks while committing just five errors for an outstanding hitting percentage of .353.

Meanwhile the Lady Aggies fumbled to find their offense — scoring just five kills while committing six errors en route to a .040 hitting percentage.

The second game was A&M's best shot to get into the match, but the team came up just short in the 15-13 loss.

The Lady Aggies were able to stay close with a .152 hitting percentage, committing seven errors this time but also recording 14 kills.

The Gators made six errors, but still managed a hitting percentage of .231.

The third game was near carbon-copy of the first, with the Gators racking up a gaudy .347 hitting percentage while the Lady Aggies could only manage a .163 mark.

In all the match took just one hour and 17 minutes before a crowd of 2,248.

For Lady Aggie seniors Suzy Wentz, Andrea Williams and Dana Santleben, Thursday was the final game of their careers.

As has become the norm over the past two seasons, Suzy Wentz was the Lady Ag-

gies' leader in assists, adding to her all-time Southwest Conference leading total with 28.

Although Wentz struggled to a .143 hitting percentage, she did record eight kills and three service aces.

Williams, who has emerged this season as a dominating offensive threat, was the Lady Aggies' go-to player against the Gators.

Williams recorded a team-high 11 kills while making just two errors. She recorded a .346 hitting percentage and had four digs.

Santleben was not as lucky as her two fellow seniors. The outside hitter recorded just two kills in 15 total attacks while committing three errors for a .067 hitting percentage.

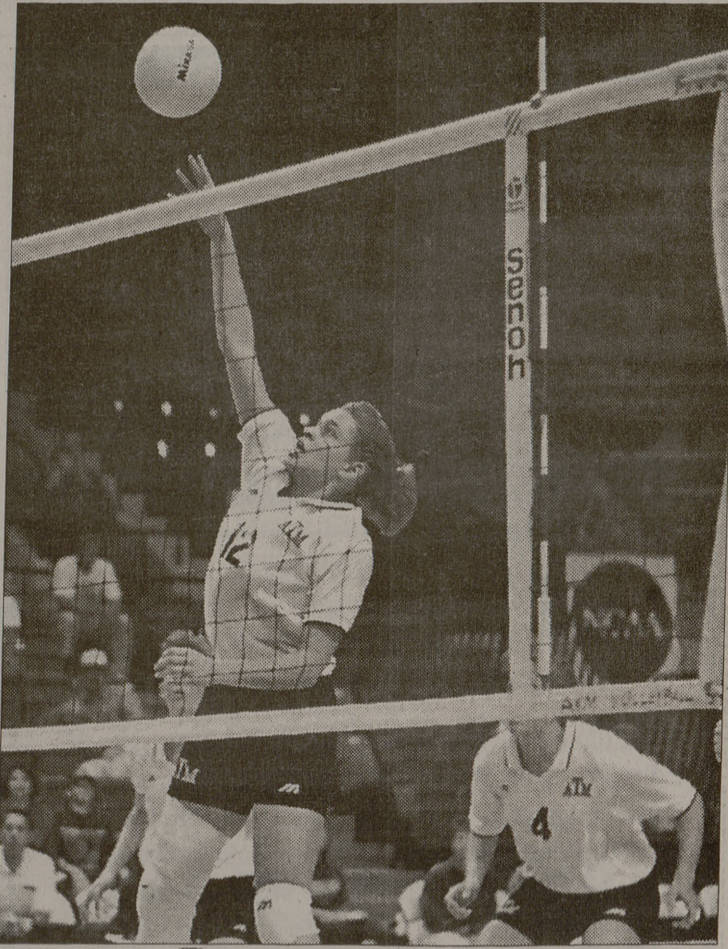
Fortunately, not all of the Lady Aggies' stars are graduating seniors.

Coming back for next year are junior middle blocker Page White, who recorded five kills and a .235 hitting percentage, sophomore middle blocker Cindy VanderWoude, who had seven kills, three digs and two block assists.

Freshman outside hitter Stacy Sykora, who had one of her most solid games of the 1995 season, recording five kills with three errors in 12 total attacks for a .167 hitting percentage to go along with seven digs.



Wentz



Evan Zimmerman, THE BATTALION

Texas A&M senior outside hitter Andrea Williams prepares to tap the ball over the net during the Lady Aggies' win against South Carolina.

Early disappointments overshadow 8-3 season

The A&M Football Team finished 19th in the nation.

By Lisa Nance
THE BATTALION

They started the season at No. 3 in the nation with the chance of a national championship within their reach. But the reality of an 8-3 season and a ranking of No. 19 has left Aggie fans wonder-

ing what happened?

But as the season got off to a start, the Aggies' national championship hopes and McElroy's Heisman shot slowly started fading. Aggie fans figured the team would take the final Southwest Conference crown. But that did not happen either.

The Aggies ended the season 8-3, putting them at second in the conference for the first time since 1990. They will face Michigan in

the Alamo Bowl on Dec. 28.

Defensive Coordinator Phil Bennett said that a win over Michigan is what the Aggies need.

"I know as a staff we've talked about how important this Michigan game is to us," Bennett said. "Nobody wants to lose to their archrival and not perform well in a bowl game. A win would kind of sweeten the taste in our mouth

right now.

"Playing a team like Michigan and beating them probably gives you more credibility than beating a team like Virginia Tech, even though Virginia Tech is ranked higher."

Although the end was bitter, the season started out well with a 33-17 win over Louisiana State and a 52-9 pummeling of Tulsa.

Offensive Coordinator Steve Ensminger felt that Aggies got the season off to an exceptional start.

"I thought the season started out really well," Ensminger said. "We played well early in the year against LSU and Tulsa. We were able to move the football and score some points."

From there, the Aggies went to Boulder, Colo., for what was supposed to be their biggest game of the year, a game that would finally prove that A&M could play with the rest of the big-time teams.

The Aggies played the Buffaloes well for three quarters, but made too many mistakes to win. They lost the game 29-21.

Ensminger blamed his offensive unit for dropping the Aggies'

McElroy earns All-American honors

A&M's featured back rushed for 1,122 yards this season.

NEW YORK (AP) — During his four years at Nebraska, Tommie Frazier has been the ultimate team player, winning lots of games, but few individual awards. Until now.

The senior quarterback recently won the Johnny Unitas Award and was honored as the Big Eight's offensive player of the year. He also is one of the favorites to win the Heisman Trophy this weekend.

Frazier added to his collection Wednesday when he made The Associated Press All-America team.

The all-purpose player is Leeland McElroy of Texas A&M, who rushed for 1,122 yards, caught 25 passes for 379 yards, returned nine kicks for 208 yards and scored 16 touchdowns.

Ohio State and Nebraska each placed three players on the AP team.

Along with Eddie George, the Buckeyes had wide receiver Terry Glenn and offensive lineman Orlando Pace. Frazier was joined by Nebraska center Aaron Graham and defensive lineman Jared Tomich.

Joining Pace and Graham on the offensive line are Jonathan Ogden of UCLA, Jason Odom of Florida and Heath Irwin of Colorado.

Rounding out the offense is placekicker Michael Reeder of Texas Christian. Reeder was 23-of-25 on field-goal attempts and made all 20 of his extra-point tries.

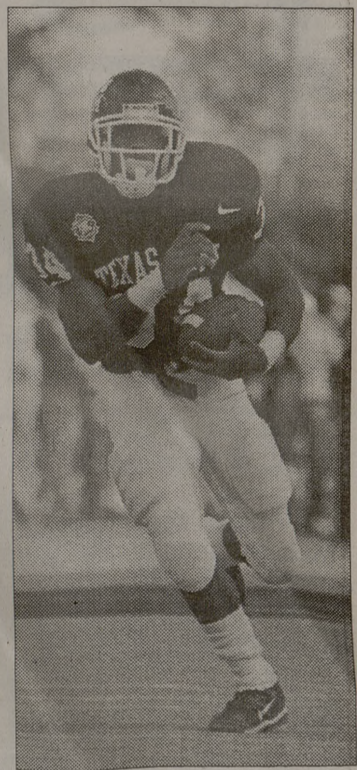
The defense is led by Arizona lineman Tedy Bruschi, the only repeater from last year's team. Bruschi had 14 1/2 sacks to tie the NCAA career record of 52 set by

Alabama's Derrick Thomas.

Also on the defensive line are Tomich, Cornell Brown of Virginia Tech and Marcus Jones of North Carolina.

Tomich was one of the leaders of Nebraska's swarming defense, which held opponents to 78 rushing yards and 13.6 points per game. He had 10 sacks and 24 quarterback pressures.

Brown had 103 tackles, including 14 sacks and 11 other stops behind the line.



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

Tailback Leeland McElroy heads upfield during a game at Kyle Field.



Evan Zimmerman, THE BATTALION

Texas A&M noseguard Eddie Jasper manhandles Houston Cougar running back Jermaine Williams while Brandon Mitchell and Reggie Brown look on.

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THE BATTALION STAFF PICKS

	Nick Georgandis/ Tara Wilkinson	Kristina Buffin	David Winder	Tom Day	Lisa Nance	Phillip Leone	Robin Greathouse	Rob Clark	Sterling Hayman	Stew Milne	Kyle Littlefield	Michael Landauer	Gretchen Perrenot	Stacy Stanton	Jody Holley	COMMENTARY
THE MATCH-UPS																
#14 Michigan at #19 A&M	Michigan	Michigan	Texas A&M	Texas A&M	Texas A&M	Texas A&M	Texas A&M	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	Texas A&M	Michigan	Texas A&M	Michigan: Can we say disillusionment?
Texas Tech vs. Air Force	Air Force	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Air Force	Texas Tech	Air Force	Air Force	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Tech: Raiders send out their own air strike.....
#9 Texas vs. #13 Va. Tech	Va. Tech	Texas	Va. Tech	Texas	Texas	Texas	Va. Tech	Texas	Texas	Texas	Va. Tech	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	UT: At least somebody in the SWC can win a bowl
#1 Nebraska vs. #2 Florida	Florida	Nebraska	Florida	Florida	Nebraska	Florida	Nebraska	Florida	Florida	Nebraska	Nebraska	Florida	Nebraska	Nebraska	Florida	Florida: Too much offense for champs to repeat....
#6 Notre Dame vs. #8 Fla. State	Notre Dame	Fla. State	Fla. State	Fla. State	Fla. State	Fla. State	Notre Dame	Fla. State	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Fla. State	Fla. State	Notre Dame	Fla. State	Fla. State	FSU: Absolutely nothing on the line in boring bowl
#3 Northwestern vs. #17 USC	USC	Northwestern	Northwestern	Northwestern	Northwestern	Northwestern	Northwestern	Northwestern	USC	Northwestern	Northwestern	Northwestern	USC	Northwestern	USC	UN: Wildcats dreamy season gets even rosier.....
#7 Colorado vs. #12 Oregon	Oregon	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	CU: No Aggie will ever bet against them again.....
#15 Penn St. vs. #16 Auburn	Auburn	Auburn	Auburn	Penn State	Penn State	Auburn	Auburn	Penn State	Penn State	Penn State	Penn State	Auburn	Penn State	Auburn	Penn State	PSU: Nittany Lions and Tigers, oh my.....
#4 Ohio State vs. #4 Tennessee	Tennessee	Ohio State	Ohio State	Tennessee	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Tennessee	Ohio State	Tennessee	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Tennessee	OSU: Eddie George's Heisman celebration party?
Nevada vs. Toledo	Nevada	Nevada	Nevada	Nevada	Nevada	Nevada	Nevada	Toledo	Nevada	Toledo	Toledo	Toledo	Nevada	Nevada	Nevada	Nevada: Toledo's undefeated? Come on.....
Lions at Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Lions	Oilers	Oilers	Lions	Oilers	Lions	Lions	Lions	Oilers	Lions	Lions	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers: Two teams out of the race, playing for ???
Eagles at Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Eagles	Cowboys	Cowboys: As long as it's not the Redskins.....
Last Week	3-9	3-9	7-5	7-5	5-7	7-5	4-8	5-7	5-7	7-5	6-6	5-7	6-6	6-6	5-7	81-99(450) Somethin' smells in here.....
Cumulative	90-71-4	111-50-4	120-41-4	125-36-4	113-48-4	117-44-4	101-60-4	108-53-4	108-53-4	117-44-4	117-44-4	120-41-4	108-53-4	99-62-4	102-59-4	1661-739-60 (482) Georgandis rests out pick space.....