

# Karnes looks to make waves

By JEREMY FURTICK  
THE BATTALION

Call her a dreamer, but do not say she lacks vision. Stacie Karnes, a junior on the Texas A&M Women's Swimming Team, has slowly made her way into the national spotlight taking one step at a time. Ranked as one of the top collegiate swimmers in the country, she said reaching this level of recognition was never one of her major concerns.

By originally setting smaller, more realistic goals and reaching them, she has accomplished more than she ever dreamed. "I really don't look ahead too far," Karnes said. "I guess the only long-term goals I have deal with the (current) season. I take things step-by-step, one meet at a time."

Karnes began swimming when she was 10 years old. She said her parents supported her interest in swimming just as they supported every sport she wanted to play. "I wanted to do it all," she said. Swimming, softball, basketball, tennis—I even played in a boys' baseball league when I was young. I would just run up to my parents and say, 'I want to play this,' and they would give me a chance to try it.

"I can remember having to change clothes in the car between events because my schedule was so jam-packed." The time finally came, though, when Karnes had to decide what she wanted to pursue into the next stage of her life. "As I got older, I narrowed my activities down," she said. "But I finally decided to work exclusively on swimming when I got

to high school." Even after participating in the Junior Nationals while in junior high and devoting herself to high school swimming, Karnes did not look ahead to college.

"I wasn't considering competing in college when I got to high school," Karnes said.

"Swimming was just my best sport and also my favorite, so I decided to focus on it."

Based on the success she experienced at Clements High School in Sugarland, Karnes made a wise decision. She was a four-time high school All-American, won two titles at the 1994 Texas state meet, and participated in the Senior Nationals while attending Clements.

In two years of NCAA competition, Karnes has earned honorable mention All-American accolades twice. Last year, she placed 14th in the 200-freestyle at the NCAA Championships and qualified for the 500-free and 200-butterfly, while also swimming in the 200-, 400- and 800-free and the 400-medley races.

Texas A&M Women's Head Coach Don Wagner said Karnes has been limited to what she believed she could accomplish.

"Stacie believes she can do more now," Wagner said. "This summer, she scored lifetime bests at the U.S. Senior Nationals."

He also said she has stepped into a leadership role for the team.

"Stacie is not someone that leads with words, she does it with actions," Wagner said. "And with her confidence higher than ever, her actions are loud."

Freshman Monica Stroman said Karnes worked hard to earn her role as the leader of the team.



Tim Moog, THE BATTALION

Junior Stacie Karnes's leadership and focus will prove valuable as the Aggies enter the Big 12.

"Stacie worked herself into the position as the leader of our team, we didn't just put her there because of her reputation," Stroman said. "She sets the pace for the rest of the team to follow."

Despite all of her accomplishments in only two years of college, Karnes' goals remain small compared to what others think she could possibly achieve.

"I'm not really thinking about a career after college right now," Karnes said. "My main goals are to win the first-ever Big 12 Conference Championship and next, I guess, is just to swim well in our next meet."

**"My main goals are to win the first-ever Big 12 Conference Championship and next ... is just to swim well in our next meet."**

Stacie Karnes  
A&M junior swimmer

frames•sweatshirts•boxers•calendars•cards•posters•t-shirts•caps

*Inspirations*

Post Oak Mall

Come Get Your A&M Sweatshirts or Longsleeve T-shirts to Wear to Saturday's Game!

Yes, We Take Aggie Bucks™ !!

frames•sweatshirts•boxers•calendars•cards•posters•t-shirts•caps

Take a ride on the wild web side.

<http://www.tom-light.com>

**TOM LIGHT**  
Geo  
BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION

2525 Hwy. 6 South Between Briarcrest & Boonville, 776-7000

**ITALY ENGINEERING**

Spent Summer Session I at Santa Chiara, the Texas A&M Study-Center in the small town of Castiglione Fiorentino located in the central region of Italy. All classes earn TAMU credit and are taught in English by A&M faculty.

**COURSES**

- ENGR 204: Conservation Principles of Continuous Media
- ENGR 482: Engineering Ethics
- ENGR 489: Mechanics of Italian Structures
- MEEN 212: Engineering Mechanics I (Statics)
- CVEN 205: Engineering Mechanics of Materials (Strength of Materials)
- PHIL 489: Professional Ethics in the International and Cultural Context
- LBAR 333: Italian Civilization and Culture

THE NEXT INFORMATIONAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY  
OCTOBER 29 AT 5:30PM IN H.R. BRIGHT RM 131.

For more information Please Contact:  
TAMU Study Abroad Programs (409) 845-0544  
Ms. Kayleen Helms (409) 845-0734

Applications Still Being Accepted

## MSC Variety Show Presents

# MASTERCARD ACTS

## A Talent Search for America's



## Best Student Musicians and Comedians

Enter Today for Your Chance to Win \$15,000!

FOR MORE INFO CALL: 845-1515

Applications Due Friday, October 25th



RAIDERS

from Page 9

ld Nebraska's...  
tack to a below...  
ards, and held...  
nning back...  
6 yards on 19...  
ast weekend...  
ere averaging...  
ds per game...  
acing the lik...  
ahoma State's...  
Georgia's Rob...  
lor's Jerod D...  
s' June Henle...  
rs have manage...  
ents to 93.1...  
test...  
said the Tech...  
ested this seas...  
ell.

efense is des...  
e run," Armour...  
o secret we pl...  
s) run. We feel...  
ybody."

ead Coach S...  
d the Aggies...  
but he does...  
reak opponent...

had a strange...  
"They've had...  
untimely great...  
em and un...  
alls. It's just...  
you can't win...  
y've got a good...  
hey're certainly...  
certainly playing...  
s of teams sc...  
of you.

hing gets to...  
irection for...  
up for lost...  
the Aggies will...  
d is uncertain...

USE

-9471

AVILLE

7-11

William J. B...

T

ALL NIGHT

ALL 11

ality Pontiac