

**Zoeller still  
looking with  
golf friends**

GREENVILLE, S.C. (AP) — Fuzzy Zoeller, still stinging from the uproar over insensitive remarks about Tiger Woods, said again yesterday that his comments after the Masters were meant as a joke — then kidded with black golfer about eating fried chicken and watermelon. Zoeller had teed off yesterday at a pond hole of the Thornblade classic pro-am charity event when black golfer, Victor McBryde, led to him, "Hey, Fuzzy." Zoeller responded, "Go get you some fried chicken." When McBryde called back for Zoeller not to forget the cornbread, Zoeller finished the exchange with, "How about some watermelon?" Zoeller and McBryde both said they were friends and meant nothing by the comments. "What's appropriate in America anymore?" Zoeller said. "What I did at Augusta was kind of a joke and I got nailed for it." McBryde, a district manager for a nut chain out of Winston-Salem, N.C., said he and Zoeller

**The definition of student-athletes**

GTE honors A&M's top scholars at banquet

By CHRIS FERRELL  
THE BATTALION

The life of a student athlete is not a typical college life. There are the hours upon hours of time spent in the gyms, pools, and practice fields. There are games and mid-week road trips. There is the time spent in the weight room and trainer's office treating injuries. And, oh by the way, the same classes and work load all other students must take.

Last night, the Eighth Annual GTE/Texas A&M Athletic-Academic Award banquet was held to honor A&M's outstanding student athletes. "I think what's real important to remember [is] that the reason why

they're (student athletes) here is for academics," senior associate athletic director Lynn Hickey said. "They get visibility because of their athletic ability, but the reason we want them here is to do well in school, to graduate, to carry on the Aggie tradition wherever they go."

The program, which was the first of its kind, was established in 1989 to recognize athletes who excel both on and off the field. To be eligible for an award, the athlete must have a 3.0 or higher grade point ratio.

Senior Texas A&M baseball team member Johnny Hunter and senior women's swimming team member Jennifer Guillory were honored as the Bill Erwin Scholar Athletes of the Year.

"It's something that I wasn't really expecting," Hunter said. "I never thought it was possible. It feels good to win an award like this because all the years of hard work have really paid off."

Hunter, a political science major, leads the Aggies in home runs and has been a driving force behind their late season run.

Guillory is a senior captain for the Lady Aggies. She is a biomedical science major who has carried a 4.0 GPR all four years at A&M. Earlier this year, she was recognized as State Farm Insurance's National Student Athlete of the Year.

See **ACADEMICS**, Page 10

Student-athletes receiving awards for a 4.0 GPR

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Baseball</b><br>Todd Finkel<br>Robert Fullick   | <b>Men's Swimming and Diving</b><br>Pat McDermott<br>Mark Naftanel  |
| <b>Women's Basketball</b><br>Kera Alexander  | <b>Women's Swimming and Diving</b><br>Lauren Buckalo<br>Jennifer Guillory<br>Danielle Svehla  |
| <b>Football</b><br>Christopher Kardys<br>Eric Sandrock<br>Joseph Vasquez                                     | <b>Women's Tennis</b><br>Monica San Miguel  |
| <b>Women's Golf</b><br>Jennifer Emmons   | <b>Track and Cross Country</b><br>Drew Bird<br>Stephen Erath<br>Richard McDonald<br>Taneshia Canady<br>Natalie Dierschke<br>Amy Stanberry |
| <b>Soccer</b><br>Linda Castillejos<br>Tania Castillejos<br>Yvette Okler<br>Rebecca Stewart<br>Carrie Wheeler |   |

**Aggie baseball  
clinches Big 12  
spot with sweep**

By CHRIS FERRELL  
THE BATTALION

There are a few recommendations any good mechanic will make before letting a driver go on a road trip: always change the oil, monitor all fluid levels, and be sure to check the tires.

The Kansas University Jayhawks probably forgot to tighten their lug nuts before Sunday's game with the Texas A&M Baseball Team, because the wheels fell off in a hurry as Aggies cruised to a 8-0 victory at Olsen Field.

Texas A&M capitalized on an error-filled fourth inning by scoring five runs on three hits to blow the game open. Kansas had six errors on the afternoon.

Sophomore center-fielder Jason Tyner led A&M's offensive charge going 3-for-5 with two RBIs and two doubles. The Aggie bats were hot all weekend as the Jayhawk pitchers were lit up for 28 runs over the three-game set.

The victory completed a three-game sweep and secured the Aggies' spot in the Big 12 tournament, which will be held May 15-18 in Oklahoma City.

"I think it showed a great deal of maturity [from] the leadership on our team that we didn't fold the tent after the discouraging Texas loss," Head Coach Mark Johnson said. "Of course, our fans and for-

mer students were discouraged by it, and we feel that. They're mature enough to get themselves back up and not die and not get discouraged, or disgruntled or start pointing fingers. They came back out and had a great week."

By sweeping Saturday's double-header 10-5 and 10-9, the Aggies put themselves in position to lock up a conference tournament berth. However, A&M has higher goals.

"I don't think we ever expected not to make the Big 12 tournament," Tyner said. "The whole season is about getting to a regional because once you get to a regional, anybody can win a national championship. We're just trying to stay hot."

Johnson said the team now will try to compile as many wins as possible to improve their seeding.

"I don't know where that puts us, because [we] will have to compare with everybody at the end," Johnson said. "I almost apologized to our team because I went into the meeting and said, 'Congratulations, we're in the tournament,' which was a major goal. And then I came back and put pressure on them saying, 'You know guys, the more wins we get, the higher we'll be seeded in the tournament.'"

A&M also is looking to sure up the pitching staff. Sunday, freshman Chris Fulbright, the normal Tuesday starter, took the mound and locked up his spot in the rotation with six scoreless innings.

See **AGGIES**, Page 9

**Political correctness  
spins out of control**

Zoeller incident shows media have sold out

You say potato, I say po-ta-to and Dan Quayle says potato.

The media were quick to point out the former vice president's spelling error. It's that microscopic eye of today's press that makes a spectacle out of inconsequential events and a mountain out of a mole hill.

The sports media are no different. They too have sold out to the politically correct movement, which is making a mockery out of journalistic integrity. Unless you have been under a rock or on a deserted island for the past year or so, the public has been subjected to many sordid examples of this sickening trend.

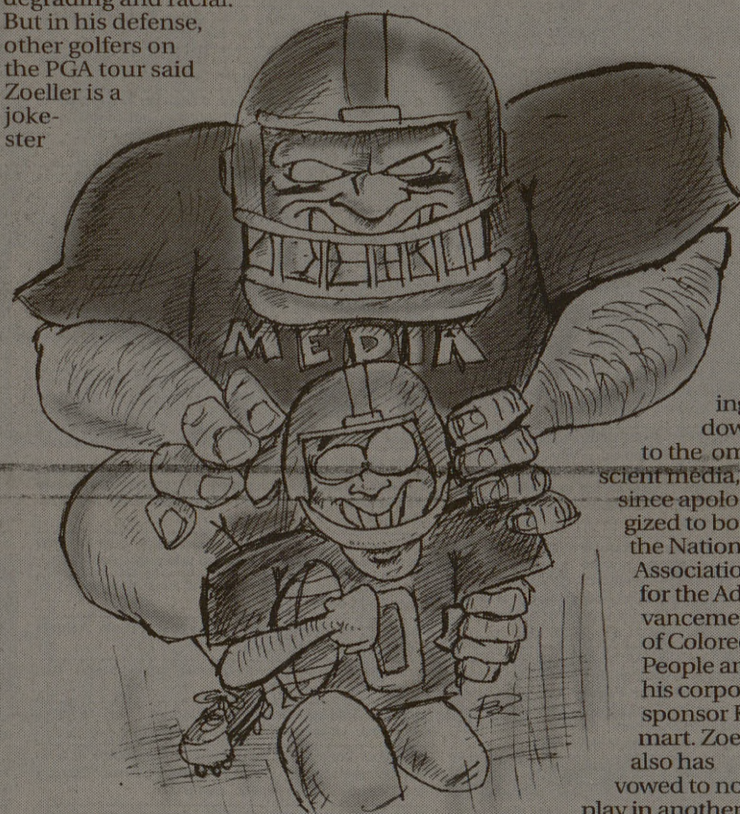
Take for example, golfer Fuzzy Zoeller's comment about Tiger Woods. On the final day of the Masters, Zoeller, the 1979 Masters winner said to CNN, "Pat him (Tiger) on the back, say, 'Congratulations, enjoy,' and tell him not to serve fried chicken next year at the annual champions dinner ... or collard greens, or whatever the hell they serve." Zoeller's comments are both

degrading and racial. But in his defense, other golfers on the PGA tour said Zoeller is a jokester

Sportswriter



Jamie Burch  
Senior speech  
communications major



ing down to the omniscient media, has since apologized to both the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and his corporate sponsor K-mart. Zoeller also has vowed to not play in another tournament until he

and said he meant no harm. Eight days later, Zoeller issued a public statement of apology, adding that he has, "nothing but the utmost respect for Tiger." Apologize and bury the hatchet. At least that is what should have happened. Instead, Zoeller, bow-

Why should Zoeller apologize to anyone other than Woods? His remark was directed toward Woods and no one else.

See **BURCH**, Page 9

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