

THE BATTALION

Wednesday • September 3, 1997

Classified
Ads

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ROOMMATES

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ROOMMATES

roommate needed. 316-Brentwood. 1brdm/1bath. Contact Rufina at 764-6546.

ROOMMATES

student or 25+, share 2brdm/1bath house. campus. 862-3997, 694-9523.

ROOMMATES

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ROOMMATES

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Kyle Field expansion will help A&M charge into the next century

Over the past few months much has been said and written about the remodeling and up-dating of Kyle Field to include two-level of luxury areas. It seems that most of the information circulating about these changes has been misinterpreted and ultimately misunderstood.

It seems that most of the uproar and negativity started when the administration realized that the grave sites of former Reveilles would have to be moved to accommodate the elevator shaft that allows access to the upper levels of the new addition.

While having to move the graves of our

beloved mascots leaves a bad taste in our collective mouth, the time always comes when progress must be made.

The Kyle Field renovation involves many more positive changes for A&M and the athletic department than it does negative.

First, the new area allows for several thousand additional regular seats that are

elevated to obtain a better view. The luxury area is divided into two levels. One level is for luxury boxes and the other is a club level that allows close to two thousand fans to enjoy the game from the comfort of their seats. The ticket price for the club level seats will include a full meal before the games and the ability to purchase concessions during the game.



LEN CALLAWAY
junior journalism major

Athletic Director Wally Groff said that "the accelerated purchase rates assigned to the luxury tickets will pay for most if not all of the bonded indebtedness." This means that the University did not have to pay out of pocket for the new addition. The cost was covered by leasing the new area to alumni and boosters.

Second, the elevator shaft that caused the move of Reveilles' graves in the first place not only services the luxury areas but also allows for access to the second and third levels of the new and old stands so that people who cannot walk the ramps are not forced into doing so. There has always been an elevator on the alumni side but there has been no way for students or visitors to reach the upper levels without walking the ramps.

Third, A&M cannot expect to attract the best football players in the country without state of the art facilities. How many of you that were overly upset about the moving of Reveilles graves will also be demanding blood if A&M were to lose to Texas this year. The A&M Athletic Department as a whole has an excellent opportunity to grow into a national powerhouse of sports with the inception of the Big 12. For some reason people seem to be uncomfortable with the notion that A&M could one day be known for athletic excellence as a rule, as well as academic excellence. No logical reason for these feelings can be uncovered, at least by this columnist. The entire A&M community stands to benefit from the proliferation of our world class athletic department.

If A&M can consistently recruit the best class of athletes then our chances of victory are greater. If A&M wins more, we can recruit better athletes each year. Good athletes get better, which means that we can graduate more athletes to the pro ranks than before. Pros are idols. This means that we have Aggie idols walking around the pro ranks succeeding and bringing notoriety to our program. Believe it or not, the facilities

available for a recruit to use are often equally important factors of consideration as returning starters, other talent, coaches, scholarship amount or previous season record. Besides, what better venue than the classroom and the television can Aggies use to show off our spirit, camaraderie, intelligence and traditions. A&M's reputation rests on academic and athletic excellence. Projects such as this one simply make it easier for A&M to remain an all around world class institution.

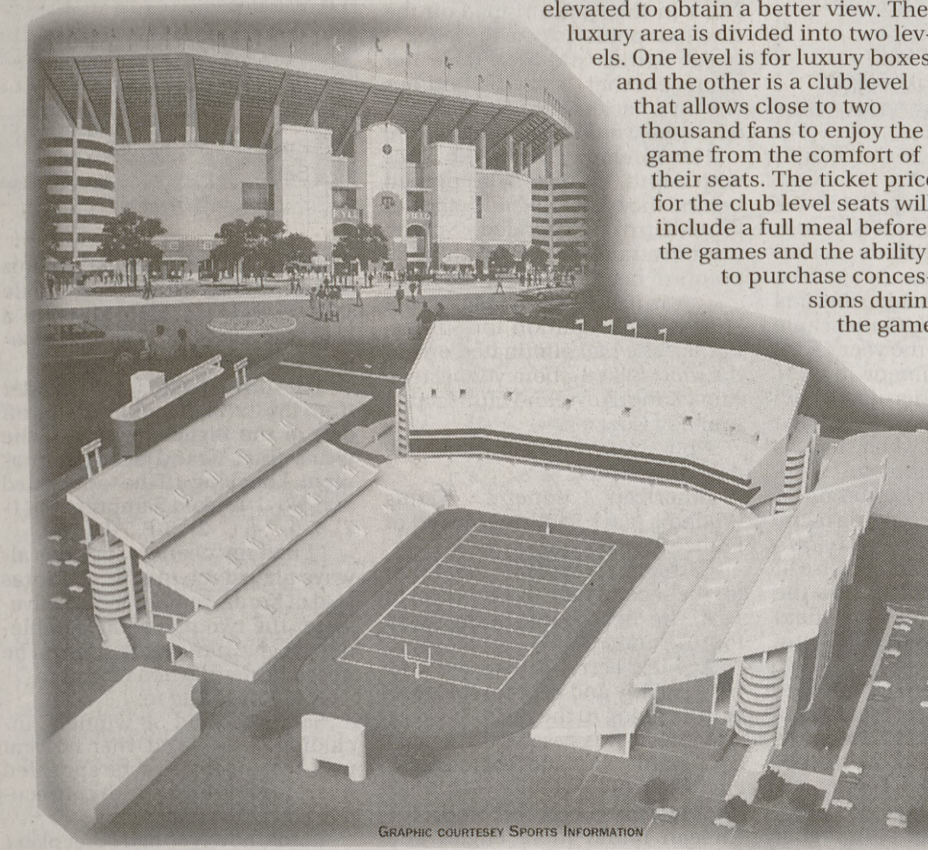
Fourth, G. Rollie White has been called the "holler house" for years because of the deafening noise level attained when all good Ags are properly motivated to raise a little hell with the opposition. The same theory applies to Kyle Field.

Fifth, the A&M football team is building and getting stronger. Truly powerful seasons are in our future. Where will we put all of the folks that want to see championship football at A&M if we don't have seats for them. Will we just put more folding chairs around the track? I think not.

Sixth, can anyone remember the traditionalist belly aching that took place when Kyle Field was reborn in the '70s with a third deck. Well, no one is complaining about the third deck now. How would we have survived the seasons of the eighties and the nineties thus far without the extra seating? The current A&M enrollment could not fit into Kyle Field without that addition.

While it is definitely a shame that our "first ladies" had to be moved and disturbed, the positive aspects and possible ramifications of the addition to Kyle Field far outweigh the injustice done to Reveilles I through IV. A more appropriate stance to take might be to be proud of A&M and the athletic program for being in demand and having the foresight to make this decision now. A&M should be a symbol of excellence in every aspect of its being. The horrible consequence of growth is that things can't always stay the same.

A&M should be a symbol of excellence in every aspect of its being and now is not the time to begin apologizing for growth and success.



GRAPHIC COURTESY SPORTS INFORMATION

Give us your weak, your tired...we'll play'em

BIG 12 CONFERENCE NOTEBOOK

Half of the Big 12 teams' seasons are underway. The first week featured a few match-ups that go against the scheduling trend of the second year conference. Like Nebraska, most schools schedule weak non-conference schedules to bolster records and give the coaching staff time to finalize the roster. But Texas Tech, Baylor and Oklahoma faced ranked opponents and lost.



JAMIE BURCH
senior speech communication major

ANYTHING FOR MONEY

What is the going price for humiliation? If you ask Akron of Ohio they'll tell you its \$450,000. The former Division-II school bumped to a home opener against Youngstown State to play Nebraska for the big payday. Nebraska defeated Akron 59-14 for its 37th straight win and 300th overall at Memorial Stadium. The Cornhuskers held a 644-243 advantage in total yardage, including 472-99 on the ground.

HEISMAN HOPEFUL LIGHTS UP RED RAIDERS

Peyton Manning began his Heisman Trophy campaign by torching Texas Tech, 52-14. Manning threw for a career-high five touchdown passes, tying a school single-game record. He retired in the third quarter having completed 26 of 38 passes for 310 yards, with one interception.

The Red Raiders offense felt the loss of Byron Hanspard

early. Tech had the football in Tennessee territory on its first five possessions and came away with one measly field goal.

Once the Vols' offense got in gear, it ran on all cylinders. In an 11 minute span, Tennessee scored five touchdowns on five consecutive possessions. The 10-3 lead exploded to 45-3.

OU "SPECIAL" TEAMS FALTERS AGAINST NORTHWESTERN

Sooner special teams coach Pete McGinnis answered the same question he faced at the end of each game last season. "What did I think about the special teams?" McGinnis said. "They weren't very special today."

In Northwestern's 24-0 win over the Sooners in the Pigskin Classic, Oklahoma committed six blunders on special teams — kicker Jeremy Alexander missed field goals from 36 and 42 yards, two of senior Brian Shackleford's punts traveled just 21 and 6 yards, and freshman Chris Lewis fumbled two kickoffs.

SEASON OPENER BEGINS CONFERENCE PLAY

Oklahoma State began its climb towards .500 with a 21-14 win over conference foe Iowa State. After finishing 4-8, 5-6 the last two seasons under head coach Bob Simmons, the Cowboys are hoping to turn the corner on the way towards a revitalized program.

Running back Nathan Simmons second touchdown of the game, a one-yard run with just under 10 minutes remaining, broke a 14-14 tie and led Oklahoma State past the Cyclones.

In his debut, Darren Davis, the starting tailback for the Cyclones and the brother of Troy Davis, gained a meek 51 yards on 16 carries.

BAYLOR BEARS — BRAVE OR WACO?

The Bears opened the season at home against No. 14

Miami. Over the last 13-plus seasons, the 'Canes are 99-4 against unranked opponents.

This one was over before it started with Miami leading 21-0 midway through the second quarter. Miami's Edgering James, replacing injured tailback Dyrall McMillan, scored three times as the Hurricanes crushed Baylor 45-14.

The loss magnified the Bears many weaknesses that Roberts had touched on during two a-days. During the summer workouts, Roberts said "there's a lack of speed and a lack of people to throw the ball. We've got to get a lot better."

Good luck improving before conference play against Fresno State (Sep. 6) and Michigan (Sep. 20).

Then the Bears will move onto Big 12 play with Texas Tech and Nebraska. At least those drubbings will be at Floyd-Casey

GAMES OF THE WEEK

Colorado State (1-0) at Colorado (0-0) — Folsom Field
The 104 year old rivalry should have all the flare of a WAC shootout. The two teams lit up the scoreboard last season in Fort Collins with the Buffaloes edging out the Rams 48-34.

Syracuse (1-1) at Oklahoma (0-1) — Memorial Stadium

Although the Orangemen began this season ranked in the Top 25, the team plummeted after a 32-31 overtime loss last week at the Carrier Dome to North Carolina State. Oklahoma leads the series 3-0, the first win coming in the 1959 Orange Bowl 21-6.

Baylor (0-1) at Fresno State (1-0) — Bulldog Stadium

The teams first meeting in 1993 was another WAC classic. Chuck Reedy's Bears downed the Bulldogs in a 42-39 comeback win. Based on Baylor's 37 passing attempts last week against Miami, this should be a repeat of the last match up.

A&M will return four lettermen from last season's squad.

Basketball releases 1997-98 schedules

The Texas A&M Basketball Teams released the 1997-98 season schedules. The men's schedule is highlighted by a February 2, 1998 meeting with the University of Texas on ESPN's "Big Monday". The Texas game will be one of six Aggie games featured on ESPN. The network will also feature a January 10 match up with The University of Oklahoma, a January 17 game at Iowa State University, the January 24 meeting at Oklahoma State and the January 31 game at Oklahoma.

A&M will open the season with an exhibition against North Melbourne on November 13 in G. Rollie White Coliseum. The regular season gets under way on November 22 when Stephen F. Austin comes to College Station.

Big 12 action starts on January 3, 1998 when the Aggies host OSU.

The Big 12 Tournament will be held March 5-8 in Kansas City, Mo.

The women's season get under way when Vanderbilt comes to A&M on November 18.

The Aggies will take part in the Shreveport Shootout and Northern Lights Invitational in Anchorage, Alaska before the Big 12 season opens on January 3 in Oklahoma.

The Women's Big 12 Tournament will also be in Kansas City March 3-7, 1998.

Sports Briefs

A&M golf teams in preseason rankings

Both the Texas A&M Men's and Women's Golf Teams will start their respective seasons in the MasterCard Collegiate Golf Rankings.

The women open the season ranked No. 15. The Aggies finished second at the Big 12 Championships a year ago and placed 17th at the NCAA Championships.

The Aggies return five lettermen from last year's team including Jamie Hullett who is ranked as the No. 16 female golfer

in the women's individual rankings. Coach Jeanne Sutherland will also welcome one of the nation's top recruiting classes to College Station this fall.

Texas A&M was the highest ranked Big 12 school in the preseason poll. Conference foes the University of Texas (22), University of Oklahoma (23), and Texas Tech University (25) were also included in the top 25.

The men will start the season as the No. 24 team in the nation.

Coach Bob Ellis, who enters his 24th season at A&M is coming off his best season since 1984 when the Aggies finished 10th at the NCAAs. Last year, A&M was 13th.

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