

as Ali upset over stolen items set to be auctioned in Los Angeles

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Muhammad Ali made a sentimental journey to his old high school Wednesday, traveling in memories but upset over plans by an auction house to sell items that the boxing great contends were taken from him.

Many of Ali's items will be auctioned in Los Angeles next month, and the former champ wants them back.

"Somebody stole stuff from me," Ali said later Wednesday during an Internet chat with fans.

The cherished personal souvenirs are among more than 3,000 items from the boxing great's career that are to go on the block at Christie's Los Angeles on Oct. 19. Ali and his wife, Lonnie, are not involved in the auction and do not plan to buy anything.

Asked if he wanted some items

back for a museum planned in Louisville to honor him, Ali replied, "I wouldn't mind but it's nothing to cry over."

Items include his 1960 Golden Gloves trophy, which could draw at least \$30,000, and an Aug. 23, 1966-dated letter Ali wrote to the draft board requesting new classification.

It was the last letter sent before he refused induction. That action cost

him his boxing title, got him banned from competition and made him a national hero to some and a draft-dodger to others.

There are also items that used to be stored in his father's home in Louisville that were sold without Ali's approval. Those items — photo albums and trophies — fell into hands of collectors when they were left when his father's home was vacated.

A spokesman for Christie's in New York declined to immediately respond to Ali's remarks on Wednesday.

The former heavyweight champion conjured flashes from his past in a sentimental return to Central High School, firing jabs at a young boxer amid cheers from students.

"This is his high school," Central High School Principal Harold Fenderson said. "He is excited

about being here. He is the greatest champ of all time."

It was part of Ali's return to his hometown this week to attend an amateur boxing tournament and tribute named in his honor.

At Central High, Ali was known as up-and-coming amateur boxer Cassius Clay. He graduated before winning the gold medal at the 1960 Olympics at Rome.

Soccer climbs to No. 3 in new poll

The Texas A&M Soccer Team rose from No. 5 to No. 3 in the latest Soccer America Top 25 Poll. The Aggies made the jump after defeating Iowa State and then No. 4 Nebraska over the weekend. The No. 3 ranking is the highest poll spot the team has ever held.

Junior Sharon Pickering was named to this week's All-American Team. She is the second Aggie player to earn the honor, joining senior teammate Bryn Blalack who was named to last week's squad.

The team received another honor this week when sophomore goalkeeper Melanie Wilson was named the first ever Big 12 Player of the Week after posting two shutouts.



Wilson

SMEDSRUD

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"Seeing the end so close affects me and as a coach we wish all of our players could see that and realize when the end is," Corbelli said.

She plays with a conviction and that's what she's really all about."

For Smedsrud, it is one game at a time and she will worry about the end when that arrives.

"I thought it would be a bigger deal but I am just taking it one game at a time and think about the end later," she said. "I am trying to enjoy it more because it is my last season. I'm trying to remember the little details."

FERRELL

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You can bet that your brother cares more about you than he does about coach Slocum.

You've got the best deal going. You have a guy that knows the good and the bad things that have happened. You can't go wrong with that."

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For years Slocum has said he wants an offense similar to the one run by the Dallas Cowboys (except with the ability to get the ball in the end zone).

After Steve Ensminger, last season's offensive coordinator was fired, Slocum hired Steve Marshall to fill the role. Against Sam Houston anyway, a Cowboy style offense is what he got. A&M showed the same strong ground game they've always had, but there was a new high completion percentage passing attack which has been missing over the years.

Marshall said he still wants the completion percentage to improve to about 65 percent, it was about 58 percent against the Bearkats. Last season the Aggies completed just 48 percent of their passes.

He said the key to A&M's passing success is the ability to throw out of the same formations their best running plays come from and utilize play action.

"All the sets we're going to present to the defense, we've got to run out of those sets and we've got to throw the ball deep," Marshall said. "If we do those two things effectively, we'll be very productive."

Chris Ferrell is a sophomore journalism major

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