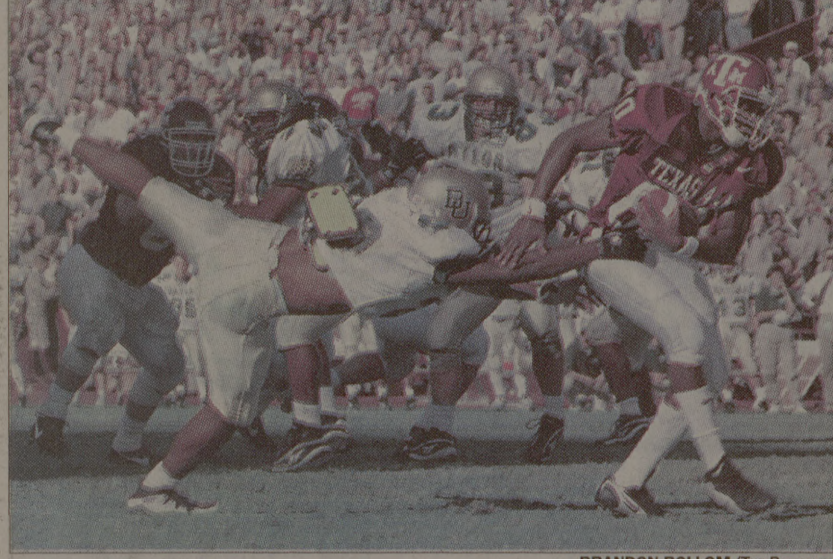


BREAK ON THROUGH

Sophomore Chris Cole is emerging as a big play wide receiver for the Aggies



BRANDON BOLLUM/THE BATTALION

Sophomore receiver **Chris Cole** makes a catch against Baylor. Cole has come up big for the Aggies in the past two games.

By **JEFF WEBB**
Staff writer

Texas A&M is said to lack experience in the receiving corps this year. The Aggies run a five man rotation at wide out that includes one junior, three sophomores, and one freshman. However, sophomore receiver Chris Cole would have everyone believe he is the elder of the bunch in experience. "How experienced do you have to be?" the true sophomore said. "One game is enough to be ready to play college football. We're a bunch of sophomores with lots of experience. Next year we will be loaded and we're going to end this year with a bang." Despite having an attitude that comes across as being almost cocky, Cole's teammates have learned to rely on him and his big play capability. That confidence in

the receivers has quickly developed after the last three games. "We knew Chris was going to be a great receiver for us," quarterback Brannndon Stewart said. "He's a fast guy and it's good to get him some experience." Cole has come up big in the last two games. In the Oklahoma State game, Cole came up with the game tying touchdown catch that propelled the Aggies to an overtime win. "I drowned in it," said Cole. "I replayed it in my mind a hundred times that night. I really enjoyed getting some recognition." "It was a big play for us," wide receivers coach Steve Kragthorpe said. "We felt it would be there all game long. Chris did a great job of running the corner route and Leroy did a great job of clearing it out and making it man to man." On a fourth down play against Baylor, Cole took a short slant up the

middle for a touchdown that broke the spirit of the hapless Bears. "They called a slant and they were blitzing," Cole said. I shook him [the defender] and took it in. It was nothing special. To be honest with you, I didn't even know it was fourth down, I just tried to catch it." "Chris Cole is a guy with big play capability and the ability to get deep," coach Slocum said. "The fourth down play last week was the biggest play in the ball game." While Cole seems to benefit the most from big plays in the passing offense, he claims it is mere chance that he gets the call. "We're all dependable receivers," Cole claims. "If the right people are in at the right time, it makes it better for everyone. Whoever happens to be in the rotation gets the luck of the draw." Cole has benefited from plays called for number 80, but he earns

the looks in practice week to week. "They play each week based on their performance in practice," Coach Kragthorpe said. "We like to say 'Those who display will play.'" Cole could have gone to higher profile programs, but chose Texas A&M for a specific reason. He wanted to publicize the passing game. "I felt that I would bring a passing game here," Cole said. "I wanted to make A&M known for their receivers. That's what every recruit must believe." With the passing game clicking like it has in recent weeks, you may one day hear the name Chris Cole mentioned as the reason that Texas A&M started running a Fun 'N Gun offense like the Florida Gators. But most likely Cole will provide balance to an Aggie offense that has lacked it in the nineties. Opponents take note; that's no small accomplishment.

Expos' Martinez ends Atlanta's win streak

NEW YORK (AP) — Pedro Martinez ended the Atlanta Braves' streak of NL Cy Young Awards at four, easily beating Greg Maddux and Denny Neagle. Martinez, put on the trade market by Montreal immediately after the season, received 25 of 28 first-place votes and 134 points in balloting released Tuesday by the Baseball Writers' Association of America. Maddux, who won the award four consecutive times from 1992-95, was second with the remaining first-place votes and 75 points. Neagle, his teammate on the Braves, was third with 24 points, followed by Philadelphia's Curt Schilling with 12 and Houston's Darryl Kile with seven. Atlanta and Maddux have combined to monopolize the award in recent years. After Tom Glavine won it in 1991, Maddux won it with the Chicago Cubs in 1992, then repeated in his first three seasons with the Braves. John Smoltz then won it last year. Martinez, a 26-year-old right-

hander, joined with Schilling to become the first pair of pitchers in 25 years to reach 300 strikeouts in the same season. Martinez went 17-8 and led the majors with a 1.90 ERA, becoming the first ERA leader with 300 strikeouts since Steve Carlton in 1972. Opponents hit just .184 against him, the lowest average against any major league pitcher last season. His 305 strikeouts were second in the majors, 14 behind Schilling's total, and his 13 complete games led both leagues. With a 65-39 career record, Martinez is more sought after than any of the free-agent pitchers on the market. The Expos, not wanting to pay a large salary in arbitration and afraid of losing him to free agency after 1998, have said they intend to trade him this offseason. Martinez, Montreal's first Cy Young winner, gets a \$100,000 bonus for leading the voting. Maddux gets a \$150,000 bonus for finishing second and Neagle gets \$75,000 for finishing third.

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- Light Refreshments

The Texas A&M University Student Publications Board is accepting applications for

Editor
THE BATTALION
(including radio and online editions)
Spring 1998

The Spring '98 editor in chief will serve from Jan. 12 through May 8, 1998.

Qualifications for editor in chief of *The Battalion* are:

- Be a Texas A&M student with a minimum 2.0 overall and major GPR at the time of appointment and during the term of office;
- Have at least one year experience in a responsible editorial position on The Battalion or comparable daily college newspaper, -OR-
- Have at least one year editorial experience on a commercial newspaper, -OR-
- Have completed at least 12 hours journalism, including JOUR 203 and 303 (Media Writing I and II), JOUR 301 (Mass Comm Law) and JOUR 304 (Editing for the Mass Media), or equivalent.

Application forms should be picked up and returned to Franca Cagle in the Student Publications office, room 012 Reed McDonald Building. Deadline for submitting application: 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 12, 1997. Applicants will be interviewed during the Student Publications Board Meeting beginning at 1 p.m. Monday, November 17, 1997, in room 221F Reed McDonald Building.

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