

A&M recruiting class ranked

From staff and wire reports

According to Soccer Buzz magazine, the Texas A&M soccer recruiting class of eight incoming freshmen ranks seventh nationally among Division I-A schools and tops in the Central Region.

"Recruiting is the lifeblood of a program," A&M soccer coach G. Guerrieri said. "It keeps talent coming in, but the talent that you have attracts talent."

"I think if you look at what it was that attracted the No. 7 class in the country, it was the fact that we play a high level of soccer."

According to the web magazine, the Aggies reached the top with the late signing of Amber Childers, who finished high school a year early to play collegiate soccer like her teammate Nicky Thrasher.

Childers combines with National Pool player Michelle Royal and standouts Angela Barker, Cameron Chorn, Anne Tamporello, Laurie Lovoi, Jodie Mitchell and Jaimie Marden to form a stellar rookie class.

"We've had the newcomer of the year the last two years in this conference (Big 12)," Guerrieri said. "I don't know if that trend will continue, but I know I am very comfortable with the kids we have coming in."

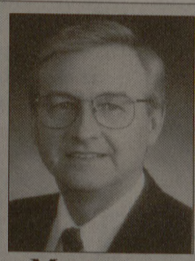
"I know I've got a smile on my face all day long and so do the rest of the coaches because we know it's going to be a year that can really be fun and rewarding."

A&M and Nebraska, whose class was ranked 10th nationally and second in the region, were the only two Big 12 Conference schools listed among the top-25 classes.

Red Raider Reckoning

Texas Tech could face NCAA additions to self-imposed sanctions after official decision is made

HOUSTON (AP) — Texas Tech allowed a receiver to play after learning of an NCAA memorandum suggesting he was improperly readmitted to the university in 1995, according to newly released documents examined by the *Houston Chronicle*.



MONTFORD

Texas Tech knew about an NCAA memo written by a senior official in the membership services department weeks before the Red Raiders played their Dec. 29, 1996, Alamo Bowl game, the newspaper reported last week.

However, the Lubbock school allowed junior Malcolm McKenzie to play, and McKenzie continued playing last season, catching 42 passes for 462 yards and two touchdowns.

His eligibility is among several possible rules violations under review by the NCAA Division I Committee on Infractions, which heard the Texas Tech case last April in Cleveland. School officials expect a decision to be announced by month's end.

The school already has imposed three years' probation on its athletic program, including substantial scholarship cuts in six sports.

The NCAA committee could

add to Tech's punishment.

Texas Tech Chancellor John T. Montford said school officials didn't believe they were bound to react to the memo because it was not an official rules interpretation and because the university thought it was doing nothing wrong.

"I can tell you there may have been wrong decisions made at the time, but I believe they were good-faith decisions based on evidence and advice of counsel," Montford said. "I don't think there was any flagrant disregard of a memo or anything like that."

The memo was part of a case summary prepared by the NCAA enforcement staff prior to the hearing.

It was released June 23 to reporters who have been requesting it under the Texas Open Records Act for the previous two months.

The McKenzie situation was one of several allegations submitted by the NCAA to Texas Tech in an official letter of inquiry last October.

The letter accused the school of widespread mistakes in 18 areas.

Rampant errors in academic certification and financial aid distribution uncovered by an internal audit accounted for two of the 18 matters covered in the NCAA letter.

Texas Tech agreed with many of the allegations in a response made public April 14, but disputed the charges related to McKenzie.

McKenzie, suspended for academic reasons in the spring of 1995, was readmitted because he



THE BATTALION file photo

The Texas Tech University football team already faces a self-imposed three-year probation period for NCAA violations. The NCAA will decide whether further sanctions are needed for the Malcolm McKenzie situation.

made an A in American History during a San Antonio College summer school course. McKenzie only earned a B, but a San Antonio College professor agreed to raise the grade if he did extra-credit work during the fall.

McKenzie needed the A for readmission to Tech.

When McKenzie didn't complete the assignment, Thomas M. Settles, the San Antonio College professor, sent a letter to the Texas Tech registrar's office in December 1995 complaining he'd been "conned" by McKenzie and Tech coaches who promised to help the player do the extra-credit project.

The NCAA contends McKenzie received special treatment for his athletic status and that Texas Tech failed to act when confronted with evidence of possible infractions.

Cowboys' LaFleur looks for bigger role in 1998

WICHITA FALLS, Texas (AP) — Tight end David LaFleur was the forgotten man in the Dallas Cowboys offense last year.

He is just hoping that in new coach Chan Gailey's wide open offense, there will be some plays designed for him.

"I'm very optimistic about this season," LaFleur said, a first round draft pick two years ago out of Louisiana State University. "Last year was a learning experience for me. Now, I'll be in an offense a lot like the one we had in college. I think they'll get the ball to me particularly if linebackers pick me up man-to-man."

Gailey, the former Pittsburgh offensive coordinator known for his inventiveness, said he is counting heavily on the 6-foot-6, 260-pound LaFleur to contribute this year.

"David's development is very important to us this season," Gailey said. "We look for him to make a big jump in production from last year and if he does, it will really help our offense."

LaFleur mostly blocked for the Cowboys last year and did that well. In one game, he had five pancake blocks.

LaFleur showed his promise against Cincinnati in a late-season game when he caught his first NFL touchdown passes on tosses of 13 and 12 yards from Troy Aikman.

"I think I showed in that game what I'm capable of doing," LaFleur said. "It's a matter of working on the same page with Troy and having him get confidence in me."

Aikman says that will be no problem.

"I think David is going to work well in this new scheme," Aikman said. "He is tall and makes a great target. I think we'll be going to him much more this season."



AIKMAN

San Francisco's Bronson grieves for Jasper murder victim Byrd

STOCKTON, Calif. (AP) — The shocking racial killing in Jasper, Texas, that rocked the state and the nation hit San Francisco 49ers reserve safety Zack Bronson on a personal level.

"I was born and raised in Jasper, Texas, and in my 24 years, I never heard anything like this. All we can do is pray nothing like this ever happens again," Bronson said softly, speaking after the team's sweltering training camp workout Sunday.

Bronson knew the slain man, James Byrd Jr., as a family friend. Byrd, a 49-year-old African-American man, was murdered June 7 when he was tied behind a pickup truck and dragged several miles to his death. Three young white men were arrested in the racially charged killing.

"I grieve for his family," Bronson said. "May his soul rest in peace. I feel racism can be in any city you go to. Unfortunately it happened in my hometown."

"All I can say is Jasper is really not like that. It's a wonderful place to live. If I had a choice where to raise a kid, that would be my No. 1 choice. The main thing is for all of us to come together and learn from this and live in peace."

Bronson, a three-time NCAA Division II All-American at McNeese State, made the 49ers roster as an undrafted free agent last season and appeared in every game. He recalls meeting Byrd at family gatherings during his college years and last saw him in May when Byrd sang at the home of friends.

"He could really sing," Bronson said, whose father was especially close to Byrd. "He sounded a little bit like Al Green."

Bronson also returned to Jasper, a town of about 8,000 people, about two weeks ago and he said the sadness in the community remains palpable.

"Everything was kind of flat around there," he said. "Everybody is in grief. But the case is in the best hands right now. It's in the hands of the law."

Sociologist Harry Edwards, a 49ers consultant and one of the few people in the organization in whom Bronson confided about the incident, said he's encouraged by Bronson's words.

"Zack has wrestled with this," Edwards said. "He's deeply affected and angered by it."

Astros topple Giants in 12th

HOUSTON (AP) — When Derek Bell fell behind 0-2 in the count to Robb Nen with the bases loaded in the 12th inning Sunday, he knew exactly what to look for.

"I knew Nen wasn't going to throw one in the dirt with the winning run on third," Bell said. "I figured he'd try to get me to chase one. He gave me a fast-ball away, but it was up a little bit and I got the bat on it and punched it through."

Bell singled home Bill Spiers with one out, sending the Giants to their fourth consecutive loss and eighth defeat in their last nine games. The Giants' 1-8 mark is their worst for a nine-game road trip since 1992.

Spiers doubled with one out in the 12th off Nen (6-2) and Craig Biggio was intentionally walked before Ricky Gutierrez walked. Bell, hitless in his four at-bats, lined a single up the middle.

"That was a tough pitch to hit against one of the toughest relievers in the game," Houston manager Larry Dierker said. "It's a little surprising. You don't often do that off someone like Nen."

Nen declined comment after the game.

Doug Henry (5-2) pitched the 12th for his first win against his former team. He pitched in 75 games for the Giants last season.

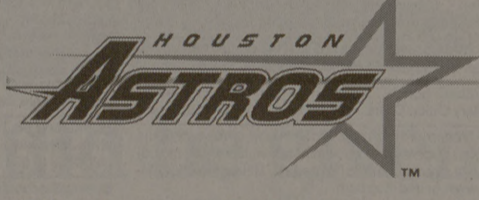
"Early in the year it meant more to me but now they're just another team," Henry said. "I'm over any anxiety of wanting to beat my former teammates."

The Giants held Houston scoreless for 10 consecutive innings after the first, but San Francisco hitters were 0-for-11 with runners in scoring position.

"We had opportunities in almost almost every inning," San Francisco manager Dusty Baker said.

"We just couldn't get that two-out hit. That's the way this road trip has gone. Hopefully now that it's over that will be the end of it."

"When breaks go against you it's like a snowball rolling downhill. I think we're at the bottom of that hill now. Hopefully now we can go back home and start our way back up."



Moises Alou went 3-for-5 with a three-run homer for the Astros. Barry Bonds homered and Rey Sanchez had three hits for the Giants.

Trailing 3-0, San Francisco scored three runs in the fourth.

Bill Mueller led off with a single and Bonds followed with his 20th homer, a shot off Pete Schourek. One out later, Charlie Hayes hit his sixth homer.

Alou hit a three-run homer in the first inning off Giants starter Mark Gardner after Bell and Jeff Bagwell drew two-out walks. Alou's homer, his 23rd, matched his career-high set last year with Florida.

After Alou's homer, Gardner retired 18 of 22 between the first and eighth innings, and allowed only three hits — all singles — during that span. He allowed three runs and four hits in seven innings.

Schourek allowed three runs and five hits in five innings.

2 reasons why you should take our GMAT course.

You'll score more
Princeton Review student's GMAT scores improve an average of 80 points*. With an average final GMAT score of 590, TPR students significantly out-score students from other GMAT prep courses.

There are few guarantees in life . . .
We're one of them. If you're not happy with your score, we'll work with you-at no additional charge.

CLASS STARTS ON JULY 25TH AND SPACE IS LIMITED TO 15 STUDENTS. CALL TODAY!

Call or visit us at **409.696.9099**
www.review.com

THE PRINCETON REVIEW

Dive into Summer
with the MSC Visual Arts Committee!

Field Trip to Historic Galveston!
Saturday, July 25 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Pre-registration is required.
Sign up in person until July 20
10am - 4:30pm in the MSC Forsyth Center Galleries
(across the hallway from the MSC post office)

Non-refundable registration fee
\$10 students, \$20 non-students
Please have health insurance information ready.
Limited to 24 participants, so register early!

For more information:
Tel: 409/845-9251
e-mail: vac@msc.tamu.edu

Please call 845-9251 to inform us of any special needs.

LSAT

The law profession is hot again...

Lawyers top the chart of high-paying, fast-growing occupations recently compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The Bureau indicated that between 1994 and the year 2005 there would be 286,000 job openings for lawyers—a 28% increase.

—Newsletter of the Law School Admission Council, March/April 1997

Not since the high-rolling days of the late 1980's have New York's corporate law firms wooed the top law students so assiduously. The economy is surging, lawyers are doing very nicely, thank you.

—The New York Times, August 14, 1997

So many firms are recruiting talent that competition recently for top law school graduates and well-regarded mid-level associates... many of the lawyers recruited have about seven offers on the table.

—The Washington Post, March 27, 1997

Bottom times just keep getting better for the law business. "We're having another great year in 1997 for merges and acquisitions, real estate, tax, litigation, product liability, you name it," exults Robert Sheehan, executive partner at Skadden, Arps, Meagher & Flum.

—The Wall Street Journal, July 1, 1997

And Kaplan, the world leader in test prep, can help you succeed.

KAPLAN
1-800-KAP-TEST
www.kaplan.com

expert teachers
superior materials
smart technology
proven results

LSAT is a registered trademark of the Law School Admission Council.