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1998:Sept.-

ggies try to contain Tech

BY AL LAZARUS
The Battalion

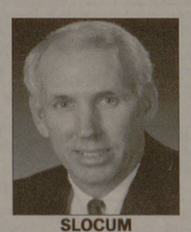
k, get some kryp- Superman is coming n.

years red and blue, has hes for 611 yards in two and is faster than a bunch of speeding iskers.

name is Troy Edwards next stop is Aggieland. Louisiana Tech receiv- lead the Bulldogs (0-2) yle Field Saturday at m. to take on No. 18 A&M (0-1).

's a rare combination of od size and exception- ed," A&M defensive coach Larry Slade said ards, who finished the gs' opening game t Nebraska with 21 s for 405 yards, the latter setting an NCAA record for all divisions.

A&M coach R.C. Slocum said he was surprised when he saw Edwards' numbers from the Nebraska game.


SLOCUM

"I've never seen that before; [405] yards receiving by one guy, that's pretty impressive," he said.

Louisiana Tech lost to the Cornhuskers, 56-27, but not before raising a few eyebrows around the nation, including those of Slocum.

"I think it's helped [prepare] us that [Louisiana Tech] did what they did against Nebraska," Slocum said.

The Bulldogs' second loss of the season came last Saturday against Central Florida, which afterwards boasted of stopping Edwards, though still allowing him 206 yards on 13 catches.

In its first two games, Louisiana Tech has averaged 559 passing yards and 45 catches per game, but the Bulldogs' offense is one-dimensional, as exhibited by a two-game total of -12 rushing yards.

After falling to Florida State, 23-14 in the Kickoff Classic, the Aggies are looking to avoid falling into a situation similar to 1996, when A&M fell to BYU in the Pigskin Classic and was not able to rebound in time for its next game, losing to Southwest Louisiana.

Slocum said he does not expect a situation similar to that of the 1996 season.

"I don't think there will be any kind of a hangover effect from FSU," he said.

In order for Slocum's prediction to hold true, the Aggies' young secondary will have to respond to yet another early-season challenge.

Freshman cornerback Jay Brooks, who has already defended one top receiver this year in Florida State's Peter Warrick, said Edwards is a different kind of receiver compared to Warrick.

"Peter Warrick has precise routes, but [Edwards is] more shake-and-bake. If you get him in the open field, he's going to go 80 or 90 yards," Brooks said.

SEE FOOTBALL ON PAGE 10.

Mr. Touchdown

Louisiana Tech wide receiver Troy Edwards finds no comfort in the aftermath of a record-setting performance at Nebraska

BY JEFF WEBB
The Battalion

RUSTON, LA. — Louisiana Tech's Troy Edwards retreated to the home dressing room and slumped in a chair next to his locker.

The senior wide receiver buried his head in his hands and cried, telling himself it would not happen again.

He removed his pads and jersey and left the locker room.

Edwards refused to go to the media room knowing the visitor's locker room, the home of the University of Central Florida this particular evening, would be close enough to hear the celebratory cheers of UCF's Daunte Culpepper and his teammates.

That was too devastating a thought for Edwards, even more insulting than the 64-30 loss the Golden Knights hung on the Bulldogs earlier in the evening.

"The word respect means a lot to me," he said. "But you have to earn respect. How are you going to get respect when you're losing? We don't deserve respect, any of us, because we keep losing.

"We should have made a bowl last year. Everybody is trying to prove a point to beat us. We've got to step up and win."

Edwards had to earn respect when he did not draw much attention at Huntington High School in Shreveport, La., where he played cornerback for three years before moving to running back for his senior year.

Arkansas, LSU and Wyoming recruited him despite the fact he measures only 5 feet 10 inches, but shied away when Edwards' academic standing was in question.

"I wasn't that big," he said. "People doubted me and doubted my skills. Some of the big schools came out there, but then backed out. I didn't want to go to those schools because they popped up too late. Tech was loyal to me ever since I was a sophomore. They just stuck with me, so I had to trust in them.

"Anybody can get overlooked. I don't hold a grudge against any school that didn't recruit me. I think it's their fault they overlooked the talent that I have."

Overlooking Edwards was a costly mistake for those schools that backed out.

He and junior quarterback Tim Rattay have utilized their unique relationship to accumulate for 611 yards of Rattay's 1114 yards passing.

Edwards set the NCAA record for receiving yardage against Nebraska in Tech's first game, catching 21 passes for 405 yards.

Rattay and Edwards worked with each other four or five days each week in one-on-one drills over the summer perfecting their timing routes and reads.

"Tim and I are better friends off the field," Edwards said. "We hang out and play around. I'll go over to his house or he'll go over to mine.

"Even our girlfriends are friends. We're really close and it's not just because we play football together. He can yell at me whenever he wants and I'll never get mad."

This season, Rattay and Edwards seem to be the only Bulldog players with a productive connection.

The team is 0-2 after losses to Nebraska and UCF, and the defense has given up 56 and 64 points, respectively.

But don't tell Edwards the defense is to blame.

SEE EDWARDS ON PAGE 10.

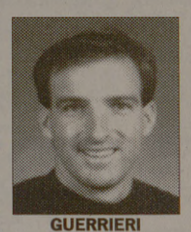
JEFF WEBB/THE BATTALION

ccer team preps for Wisconsin tourney

BY DOUG SHILLING
The Battalion

r the first time in this early season, exas A&M Soccer Team will head or a road trip. They will be taking wo tough teams weekend and will be playing an unopponent, one you might not of: grass.

'll be hard playing e road," Coach G. rieri said.


GUERRIERI

One of the things s a real difference s when we go on oad is the difference in grass. Our [at the Aggie Soccer Complex] is ort, tight and fast variety and the ball will roll so our speed of play is really good. When we go up north, we're going to play on a taller grass that's going to slow the ball down and that will be something we really have to make adjustments to."

The Aggies hope that the northern grass is kind to them as they will play in the Wisconsin Invitational at McClimon Soccer Complex in Madison, Wis. The Aggies play the University of Wisconsin Badgers at 7 p.m. Friday.

Wisconsin comes into the match with a record of 1-1 with the lone loss coming to fourth ranked University of Connecticut in the finals of the Connecticut Classic.

The Badgers will rely heavily on goal keeper Bridget Schwarting who has been impressive in the early going. Sophomore forward Allison Wagner, senior defender Shannon Brown and senior midfielder Lindsay Hoelter will also be Badger players to watch.

The Ags won the only previous meeting with the Badgers, posting a 2-1 victory last October in College Station.

On Sunday the Aggies play the Arizona State University Sun Devils at noon.

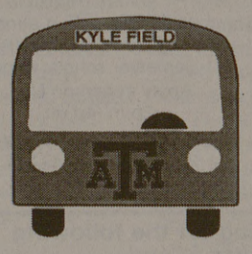
Arizona State (2-1), ranked seventh in the West region, is coming off an upset 4-2 win over the University of Massachusetts. The Sun Devils boast three players who are in the top 10 in Pac 10 in scoring: Forwards Jennifer Peterson and Karine Inoue and Midfielder Stacey Tullock provide most of the scoring punch for ASU.

This will be the first ever meeting between the Aggies and the Sun Devils.

SEE SOCCER ON PAGE 10.

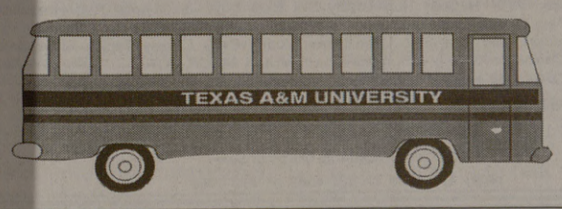
STUDENTS and FACULTY/STAFF•
•PLUS GUESTS•

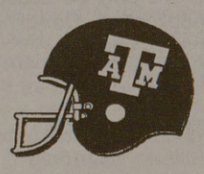
RIDE THE SHUTTLE
BUSES TO KYLE FIELD



he Texas A&M Athletic Department will be running student shuttle buses to home football games again this season! The buses will run on their normal routes. Students and Faculty/Staff plus their guests nay ride FREE!! Just show your game ticket to board the bus. The Student shuttle buses will start their regular routes 2 hours before kickoff and depart campus for 1 hour after the game is over.

RIDE THE STUDENT SHUTTLE BUS
FREE
TO HOME FOOTBALL GAMES

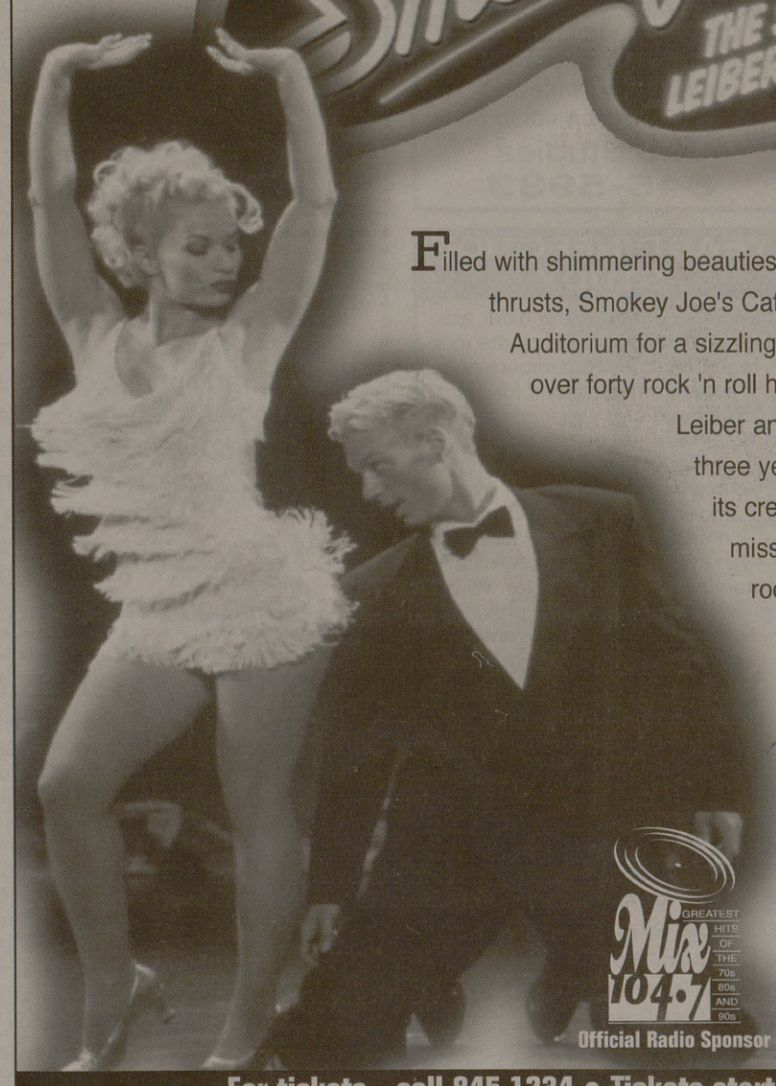




enlighten • entertain • inspire

Gettin' Shimmy Wit It

Smokey Joe's Cafe
THE SONGS OF LEIBER AND STOLLER



Filled with shimmering beauties, growling voices and pelvic thrusts, Smokey Joe's Cafe turns up the heat in Rudder Auditorium for a sizzling musical revue that features over forty rock 'n roll hits by prolific songwriters Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller. And, with over three years of Broadway sell-outs to its credit, you have no reason to miss this adrenaline pumpin', rockin' good time!

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