

## Ken's streak ends in 2,632

TO (AP) — It was a short run for Cal Ripken Jr. after ending his astonishing streak of 2,632 consecutive games in the lineup on Monday.

Ripken, 35, was back in the lineup on Monday, the same team he had been in since the streak started on Aug. 18, 1982.

Ripken said he did not want to contemplate his decision to end the streak. "I was sure he made the right decision," he said.

Ripken said he had no regrets, no second thoughts. "I'm proud of what I did during this conference at Skyline," he said.

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## Aggies shutout for first time

The No. 7 Texas A&M Soccer Team lost to the No. 20 Stanford Cardinal 3-0 on Sunday. A&M was supposed to play two games last week, but their Tuesday night game with the Texas Longhorns was canceled because of rain.



Michael Taglienti - NOTEBOOK

The last time the Aggies were shut out was in the first round of the NCAA playoffs, when A&M lost to SMU 1-0. The loss to Stanford was the first A&M loss by more than one goal since a 5-3 loss to the University of San Diego in the first round of the 1996 NCAA playoffs.

The three-goal margin ties with the UNC game as the Aggies' second worst loss ever. The largest margin of defeat in an A&M soccer game was in 1994 when the Aggies lost to No. 1 North Carolina 4-0.

Coach G. Guerrieri said the loss against Stanford was more a case of Stanford playing well than A&M playing poorly. "Stanford played like world beaters," Guerrieri said.

The Aggies' next game is Friday at 7 p.m. at the Aggie Soccer Complex against SMU.

The game against the 20th-ranked Cardinal marks the beginning of the toughest stretch of the Aggies' schedule. Four of the next five teams A&M faces are or were ranked in the national top 25. SMU was ranked in the top 20 in the preseason but dropped out after a 3-1 loss to Baylor.

Next comes a game in Ames, Iowa, against the Iowa State Cyclones then back home to Aggieland to face the 20th-ranked Baylor Bears. Baylor attained its first top 25 ranking ever last week after their defeat of SMU.

With the 3-0 loss to Stanford, the Aggies were shut out in the regular season for the first time since Oct. 20, 1996 when the Aggies lost to the University of North Carolina 3-0. At the time, UNC was ranked No. 2 in the country and the Tar Heels went on to win the national championship.

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## ELIAS

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Even with all her personal achievement, Elias said a major reason for her coming to Texas A&M was because of her family ties to the school. "My sister came here and I came to visit her," Elias said.

Guerrieri said he was also impressed with Elias when she came to visit. "[She was] someone who we [the coaches] fell in love with when we were going through the recruiting phase with her back in 1995. She's come in and has always been a positive standard for the team to follow."

As soon as Elias set foot in Aggieland she began making her presence known. In only the fifth game of her freshman season, she was inserted into the starting lineup, a position she has never relinquished.

For her efforts made during her first year, she received A&M's Most Improved Player award. Her play remained solid during her sophomore and junior years when she started every game.

Both years she was selected second-team all-region. Of all her personal and team achievements, Elias said the highlight of her soccer career

came at the end of the 1997 season. "Winning the Big 12 and beating Nebraska is definitely the best moment I've had in soccer," she said.

After the 1997 season, Elias was chosen as the team captain for this season, an honor she said she looks upon with a great deal of pride.

"It's a leadership role and I feel like I have to set a good example for the other girls on the team," she said. "It's a real honor."

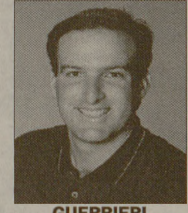
Senior forward Rebecca Stewart, who has played with Elias throughout her career, said the choice of Elias as captain was a great one. "What sets her apart from everyone else is her dedication and being a leader," Stewart said.

"She stepped into the role of being a captain this year and has done a great job. She does a good job of getting everyone together, bringing their spirits up and trying to get them focused."

For her senior year, Elias said that she and the team have set some goals for this season. "We are definitely going to try and defend our championship," Elias said. "We are also going to try and make it further into the playoffs and hopefully make it to the Final Four."

Despite his late arrival, Wise said fitting in with the team has proved an easy task. "I get along with everybody," he said. "Everybody gets along with each other. This is the first team I've ever been on where I've seen that."

coached, and I thought he was a pretty cool guy." Since his recent arrival, Wise said his positive feelings about the team's prospects have continued. "I think we have some great players," he said. "We just need to work, and we're



GUERRIERI

## RECRUITS

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"My prep-school coach told me he was a good coach, and so did everybody else I talked to," Wise said. "And when I came here to watch a practice, I liked the way he

## Tough Schedule

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## Shut Out

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Michael Taglienti is a senior sports management major.

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