

Center of attention

Freshman Seth McKinney followed his brother to the gridiron

BY JEFF WEBB
The Battalion

Seth's brother." That is how people always referred to Texas A&M starting freshman center Seth McKinney.

Now, even with the oldest McKinney brother starting for the Indianapolis Colts, Seth seems to be getting most of the press and — like Mom and Dad have always been Aggie fans — the attention of Aggie fans — the attention of the family.

"They try to see my games," McKinney said. "It's a team thing in college. In the pros, it's more of an individual thing. They love the Aggies, but they have no ties to Indianapolis."

McKinney learned under his brother during his redshirt year in 1997 and earned the starting job over sophomore Toby McCarthy. McKinney said his brother was, and still is, a valuable resource for advice.

"It's weird because he is a professional," McKinney said. "You don't get any higher than that except in Bowling."

"I call and tell him my troubles. He'll help me out."

Yankee players visit bed-ridden Strawberry

NEW YORK (AP) — Darryl Strawberry remained hospitalized Monday, recovering from cancer surgery. He was cheered by a visit from New York Yankees teammates, who showed him the uniform they will wear in his honor during the AL championship series.

Strawberry had a 2 1/2-inch cancerous tumor removed from his chest on Saturday and remained hospitalized Monday at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center. Doctors said the cancer had not spread and he was optimistic.

About half a dozen Yankees visited Strawberry on Sunday and more said they were going

following Monday's workout.

"I couldn't have been more pleased," Yankees manager Joe Torre said. "Straw was very alert. He looked real good. I mean, he was sitting up. Of course, the one complaint he had is he is not going to be able to eat for a couple of days."

"But he shook hands with everybody, and we really had to say, 'Let's go,' because he was chatting away."

The players gave Strawberry a cap with his No. 39 stitched on the back, and told him they plan to wear similar caps during the playoff series against Cleveland.

Dwight Gooden, his close friend and former New York Mets teammate, plans to visit Strawberry before the Yankees and Indians play Game 1 on Tuesday night.



JAKE SHRICKLING/THE BATTALION

Freshman Seth McKinney made his first career start against the then-No. 2 Florida State University Seminoles in the Kickoff Classic.

Louisiana Tech], I told him the things I was doing wrong. He told me a bunch of things to help."

McKinney's first start was tougher than most freshman experience. He started against Florida State University, the No. 2 team in

the nation at the time.

McKinney was responsible for snapping the ball on every play of the Aggies' most important game in years.

SEE MCKINNEY ON PAGE 8.

Aggies spice up goals with celebrations

BY MICHAEL TAGLIENTI
The Battalion

In the NFL, you are penalized 15 yards if you do it. In Major League Baseball, a pitcher will throw at you if you do it.

In soccer, you are cheered and imitated around the world if you do it.

While not accepted in most sports, celebrating after a score is not only accepted in soccer, it is expected. Post-goal celebrations have become an integral part of the game.

During the World Cup, the news was filled with images of players celebrating scoring goals for their country.

The Texas A&M Soccer Team uses many different post-goal celebrations to commemorate its goals against other teams.

Sophomore forward Nicky Thrasher said team

members plan their celebrations before the game.

"Before every game we all get together and try to figure out which celebration we are going to do," Thrasher said.

Thrasher said a post-goal celebration is a way of having all the hard work finally pay off.

"If you score a goal you should show everybody how hard you worked your butt off to get the goal in the back of the net," Thrasher said. "You get complimented for doing it, so it is always fun to figure out what you are going to do and then go out and have fun with it."

Thrasher said the team tries to be original when thinking of different types of celebrations to do.

"Some of them we try to come up with on our own," Thrasher said. "You don't see many World Cup teams doing leapfrog or anything like that."

While they add color to the game, coach Kat Conner said like anything, if you see enough post-goal celebrations you will see some good and some bad.

SEE CELEBRATION ON PAGE 8.



THRASHER

A&M gets chance to avenge Baylor loss

The Texas A&M Soccer Team went 1-1 last week to bring its season record to 6-4.

The 12th-ranked Aggies lost 2-0 to No. 13 University of Nebraska Friday. A&M defeated the Iowa State University Cyclones 2-0 Sunday. The Aggies are 1-1 in Big 12 Conference play.

their next six games at home before going on the road to complete their season.

The Aggies are 44-5 all time at the Aggie Soccer Complex with two of those losses this year.

Looking For Revenge

The Aggies will have a chance to get revenge when they face No. 25 University of Baylor Friday. Baylor dealt the Aggies their only Big 12 loss last year. Baylor scored a controversial goal in the first half of a game that went to overtime with the score tied 1-1. The Bears scored a goal to win the game.

A&M leads the all-time series with the Bears 2-1. Baylor achieved their first national ranking in the history of their program earlier this year when they beat Southern Methodist University 3-1.

Join the Aggies; See the World

A&M soccer players might not be able to travel all over the world

(though the team did travel to Canada last year), but they do get to play against players from all over the world.

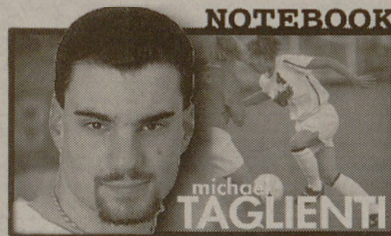
John Walker is the coach of the Nebraska soccer team and the assistant coach for the Canadian National Team. Nebraska has six players who hail from Canada, and play for Walker on the national team.

The Aggies recently played the University of Hartford. Hartford's roster included players from Norway and Sweden.

Player of the Week

The player of the week for the Aggies is junior goalkeeper Melanie Wilson. Wilson faced 22 shots, rejecting all but two of them. Wilson recorded another shutout in the Aggies 2-0 defeat of the Cyclones. Wilson has 3.5 shutouts on the year.

Michael Taglienti is a senior sports management major.



NOTEBOOK

MICHAEL TAGLIENTI

Home Cookin'

The Aggies will try to improve their Big 12 record with two home games this week. A&M will face Baylor Friday and Texas Tech Saturday. The Aggies play five of

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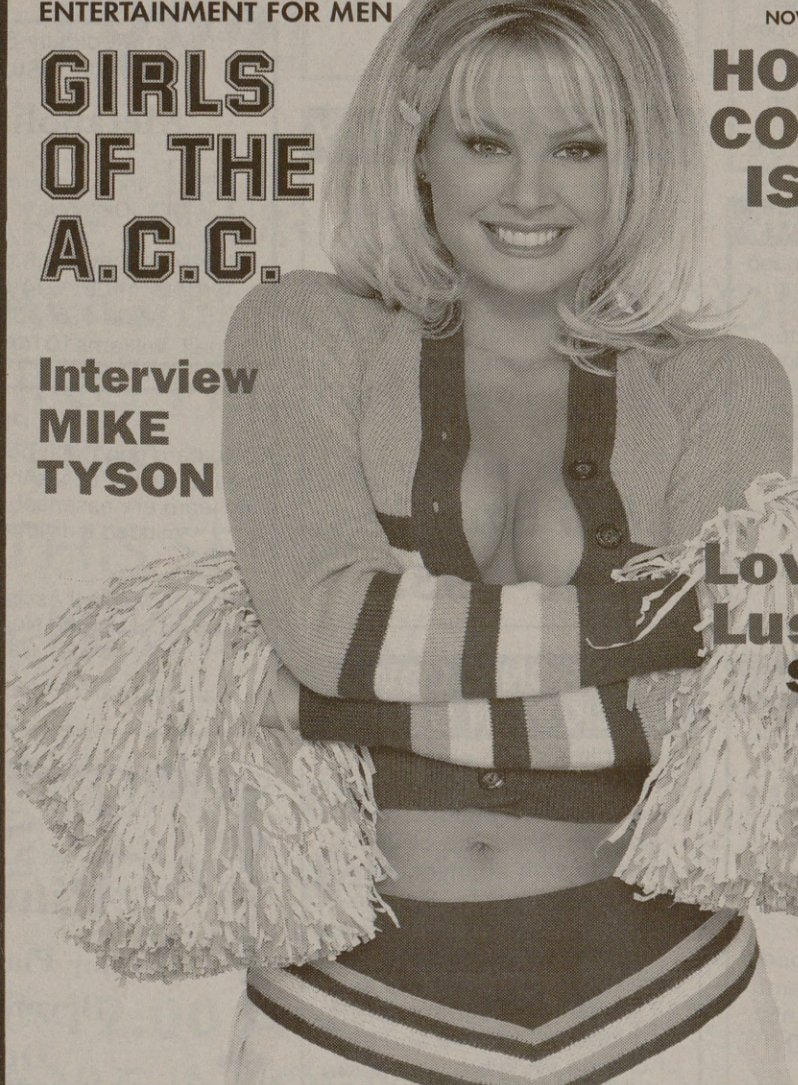
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GIRLS OF THE A.C.C.

HOT, HOT COLLEGE ISSUE...

Interview
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