



TERRY ROBERSON/THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M Men's and Women's Track and Field Teams will compete today through Saturday at the Penn Relay Carnival in Philadelphia, Pa.

A&M track teams set for Pennsylvania meet

BY TOM KENNEDY
The Battalion

The Texas A&M Men's and Women's Track and Field Teams are in Philadelphia, Pa., today for the Penn Relay Carnival at Franklin Field.

The meet, one of the marquee track events in the country, will host thousands of athletes from junior-high competitors to those in the professional ranks.

A&M track and field coach Ted Nelson said a meet of this size is one of the highlights for his program.

"All the kids look forward to it," Nelson said. "It's the only time they

compete in front of 45,000 fans that are very track-knowledgeable."

The relays will consist of traditional relays such as the 4x100-meter relay and 1,600-meter relay and less-frequently run relays such as the 4x1,600-meter relay and the shuttle-hurdle relay, an event in which the A&M men are listed as top contenders in.

The Aggies are looking to continue their recent successes as both squads resume action after placing second last week at the Texas Quad Meet in Austin.

The men are coming off their

SEE TRACK ON PAGE 12.

Two of a Kind

Men's doubles team strikes fear in hearts of opposing teams

BY AL LAZARUS
The Battalion

As most who have seen them in action would agree, it would be quite understandable to fear playing a doubles match against Dumitru Caradima and Shuon Madden.

With their menacing scowls and take-no-prisoners playing style, the Texas A&M Men's Tennis Team sophomores probably seem plenty frightening to their prospective opponents.

Add a No. 1 national ranking into the mix of booming serves and lightning-quick volleys, and the duo could be considered downright terrifying to any doubles team unlucky enough to be in its way.

"Most people are scared when they play us," Caradima said. "They know we're No. 1 because we're a good team that knows what it's doing out there."

Caradima and Madden, who have held the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's top ranking since Feb. 16, have compiled a 19-2 overall record during the 1998-1999 season. In February the duo won the Rolex National Indoors Championships, defeating teams ranked second, third, fifth and 10th in the nation on the way to capturing the prestigious title.

Madden, who was born in Caracas, Venezuela, was selected to Venezuela's Davis Cup team in 1997 as a doubles specialist. Caradima, born in Constanta, Romania, did not get much doubles experience during his junior tennis career. He credits A&M coach Tim Cass with his rapid development.

"I wasn't really a doubles player until I got here," Caradima said. "I felt I knew how to play doubles, but I got better when I came here and worked with Coach Cass and his knowledge of doubles."

Madden and Caradima are the Aggies' No. 1 and No. 2 singles players, respectively, but both are quick to point out that pairing two top players does not necessarily guarantee a strong dou-



SALLIE TURNER/THE BATTALION

Sophomores Dumitru Caradima and Shuon Madden have been a successful duo for the Texas A&M Tennis team this year, reaching the top ranking in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association.

bles team.

"You have to communicate well and understand each other's game," Caradima said. "Whenever we go out there it seems like we match up so well."

Madden said the duo's different personalities and playing styles make a good combination.

"We really compliment each other," he said. "He [Caradima] has a very good serve, so that gives me more chances to help out at the net."

Madden is the more emotional of the two during a match, often punctuating an overhead smash with a few words to his opponent or a steely-eyed glare, but Cass said Caradima plays

with a quieter intensity.

"Shuon plays with a lot of emotion, but Dumitru does, too," he said. "It's just quiet emotion. What they both share is a good understanding of tennis."

Being No. 1 throughout the spring season has had its disadvantages, Madden said.

"If opponents want to let our ranking intimidate them, that's up to them," he said. "But it can also be motivation for them because they want to go out there and beat the No. 1 team in the country."

SEE DOUBLES ON PAGE 11.

David Spade Sophie Marceau

A comedy about a guy who would do anything to get the girl of his dreams - and did!



Lost & Found

One of these dogs must be Spade.

ALCON ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS
A WAYNE RICE/INAMO ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION A FILM BY JEFF POLLACK DAVID SPADE SOPHIE MARCEAU "LOST & FOUND" PATRICK BRUEL ARTIE LANGE MITCHELL WHITFIELD AND MARTIN SHEEN
BASED UPON THE NOVEL BY JOHN DEBNEY PRODUCED BY TODD P. SMITH WRITTEN BY WAYNE RICE MORRIE EISENMAN ANDREW A. KOSOVE BRODERICK JOHNSON WITH J.B. COOK & MARC MECKS & DAVID SPADE DIRECTED BY JEFF POLLACK

PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED
Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 13

www.wb-lostandfound.com

STARTS APRIL 23 AT A THEATRE NEAR YOU.

You're almost out of school-



Isn't it time to get a life... style?

With graduation around the corner, your life's about to change. New priorities, New career - What about a new home? You got your education, so why not continue with the "smart strategy" and buy instead of rent?

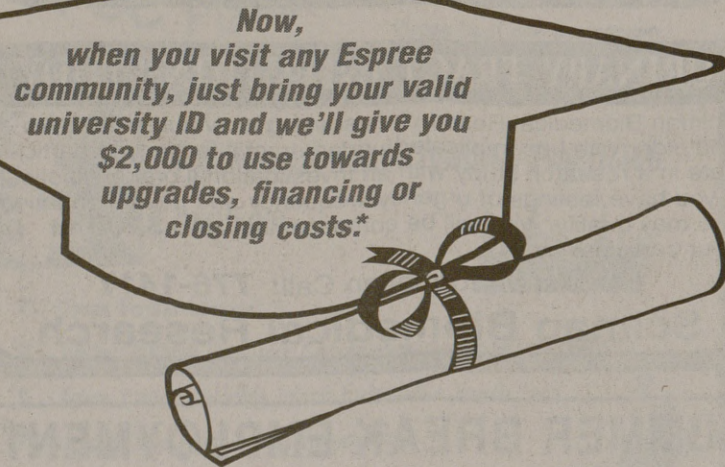
If you thought that buying a new home was intimidating, Espree's about to change your mind. We cut through the red tape to help you get into your first home.

Quickly. Easily. Our in-house financing with Hammersmith Financial Services makes qualifying for your new home simple with super financing options and streamlined buyer-friendly-service.

Just call (281) 440-2961 for information on our 14 popular Houston communities.

www.espreehomes.com

*Buyer must finance with Hammersmith Financial Services. This limited time offer not valid with any other offer or discount.



Now, when you visit any Espree community, just bring your valid university ID and we'll give you \$2,000 to use towards upgrades, financing or closing costs.*

ESPREE Homes

FROM THE \$70s

Easy Choice!