

## Ags set to play Southern Miss

### No. 5 Aggies look to remain undefeated

BY BETH MILLER  
The Battalion

If senior quarterback Randy McCown and the Texas A&M Football Team seem nervous this weekend, it may be because they are playing a team that just posed as serious competition for sixth-ranked University of Nebraska.

The University of Southern Mississippi is a school that A&M football coach R.C. Slocum calls a team good enough to be in the Big 12 and that senior running back Dante Hall refers to as the most confusing defense the Aggies will play all year.

"They move around a lot," Hall said. "They don't sit in one position and give you time to read. In one second they could be here, and in another second they could be over there."

A&M will take on the Southern Mississippi Golden Eagles tomorrow at Kyle Field 2:30 p.m.

Southern Miss came close to defeating Nebraska last weekend but lost 20-13. Southern Mississippi's two touchdowns in the game stemmed from fumble recoveries by sophomore linebacker Roy Magee.



Sophomore 12th Man **Beau Schmidt** (middle) makes a tackle on a kickoff against Tulsa Golden Hurricane last Saturday. The Aggies host the University of Southern Mississippi tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. at Kyle Field.

The Aggies beat the University of Tulsa Golden Hurricane last weekend 62-13, scoring 28 points in the second quarter and 24 in the fourth. McCown threw for 320 yards and two touchdowns and

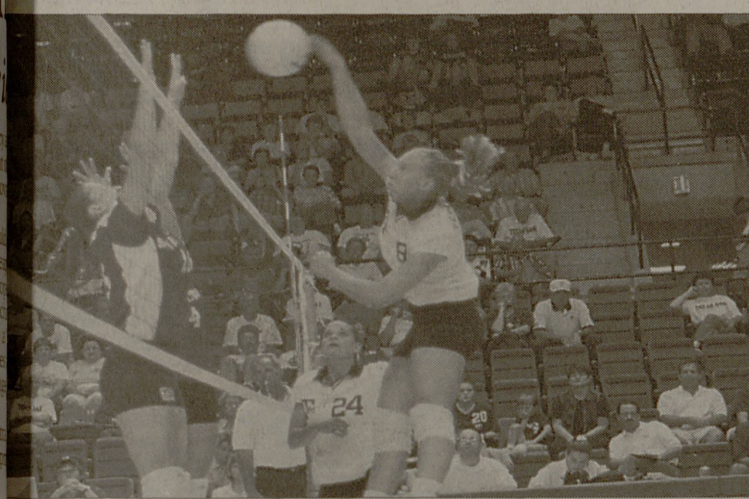
rushed for one touchdown.

Slocum said the Golden Eagles will be a difficult team to play not only because they have a potential first-round draft pick in Adalius Thomas, but also a good reputa-

tion, an aggressive schedule and good players and coaches.

Slocum said despite the Aggies' No. 2 national ranking offensively,

SEE FOOTBALL ON PAGE 8.



BRADLEY ATCHISON/THE BATTALION

middle blocker **Lauri Leahy** spikes the ball against the University of Missouri Wednesday night at G. Rolie White Coliseum.

## Volleyball hosts UT

BY BREE HOLZ  
The Battalion

Corbelli said the match should be very balanced. Both teams lost their star performers from last season, All-Americans Stacy Sykora of A&M and Demetria Sance of Texas.

"I think it's going to be an exciting match," Corbelli said. "We're equally strong, and ball-handling, defense, and net play are all going to be very important."

The Longhorns return three starters from a squad that finished 27-5 last season to place second in the Big 12 Conference. They lost in the Mountain Region Final at the 1998 NCAA tournament to Long Beach State University.

The Aggies and Longhorns last

SEE VOLLEYBALL ON PAGE 8.

## Soccer begins conference play against Longhorns

BY REECE FLOOD  
The Battalion

The Texas A&M Soccer Team is returning to Big 12 action this weekend, heading west today for a matchup with the University of Texas Longhorns, then will return home on Sunday to take on the Texas Christian University Horned Frogs.

The Aggies, 7-1 overall, are looking forward to Friday's game in Austin against the Longhorns who have a record of 7-2.

This year's Texas soccer team will be different from the Longhorn teams that have been seen in the past as they have a new coach, a new stadium and a new style of play.

Coach G. Guerrieri feels that due to the competitive nature between the Aggies and the Longhorns, this should be a very exciting contest. "It's hard to over look a rivalry

game," he said. "There's not many games bigger for any Aggie than a game against a Longhorn."

A&M has an all-time record of 9-0 against Texas, and Guerrieri said he hopes the Aggies maintain the winning streak.

"We want to continue to build on that record, if anything, out of respect to the players who have been here in the past and who have built that record up," Guerrieri said.

Junior forward Nicky Thrasher said she is looking forward to the game and hopes she can help the team become 10-0 against the Longhorns.

"It's always fun to have a rival, and right now we're 9-0 against them [Texas] so it makes it even sweeter," she said. "But G. said earlier if they beat us once, they're king of the world. We just have to go out there like we've been doing every game and play our hardest."

The Aggies will have one day to rest up and regroup before they take the field against TCU (5-2) on Sunday night at 7 at the Aggie Soccer Complex.

Coach Guerrieri said he thinks playing TCU will be a major challenge for the Aggies. They are a very organized team that emphasizes possession.

Freshman forward Sherry Dick is player Coach Guerrieri feels will have a major impact for the Horned Frogs.

"She's the kind of player that can run over you, shoot past you, she can do a lot of different things," Guerrieri said. "The way TCU plays, I'm sure that they'll be giving her a lot of opportunities as well as setting up a lot of play off of their possession."

This will be A&M's first home game in two weeks and Nicky Thrasher said she is excited about getting to play at home again after being on the

road so long.

"I'm sick of traveling," she said. "It's so much fun to play at home because of the crowd and our facilities are probably [among] the best in the country. Night games are so much fun and more people are allowed to come out because school's over and it's not in the middle of the day."

The Aggies are hoping for a big crowd at Sunday night's game. A&M students who attend the game will have an opportunity to take part in some unique deals.

Since campus cafeterias will be closed on Sunday night, those who show their student I.D. can purchase a meal deal, which includes a hot dog, popcorn and soda for only \$2.50.

Fans will also have a chance to enter a trivia competition sponsored by the Sterling C. Evens Library. The winner will receive a text book scholarship.



BRADLEY ATCHISON/THE BATTALION

Junior forward **Nicky Thrasher** dribbles the ball past a Naval Academy defender at the GTE Soccer Classic.

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Winner will be announced on the Women's Week web page on November 1st at <http://womensweek.tamu.edu>

Questions? Ask Dr. Datta at "sumad@tamu.edu"

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