

News in Brief

Church to host Easter service

Central Baptist Church will host what may be the largest local church service ever at the arena this Easter weekend.

The service, April 22 at 10 a.m., is free of charge. Seating will be available and dress is casual.

"We want this to be a place where folks can come and worship in a relaxed environment, listening to their friends and participating with us as we celebrate the resurrection of Lord, Jesus Christ," Pastor Osborne said in a press release.

Osborne said all local churches are invited to celebrate Easter of the millennium.

"We think this first Easter new millennium is special because so many people are coming and worshipping." Central, which is the congregation in Bryan-Coleman, invites all local residents including students, who are ready to have plans to attend on Easter Sunday to join in commemorating the first Easter of the new millennium.

This year's service will be the first time in more than a century that all members of Central are able to worship at one time on the same roof.



SALLIE TURNER/THE BATTALION

A&M junior **Cody Hubbell** hits a forehand during his match against Oklahoma State University's **Chris Bates** Wednesday at the Varsity Tennis Center. The Aggies defeated the Cowboys 5-2.

No. 7 Ags down Cowboys

A&M men's tennis team improves to 13-0 at home

BY AL LAZARUS
The Battalion

With the seventh-ranked Texas A&M men's tennis team clinging to a 3-2 lead over No. 51 Oklahoma State Wednesday night at the Varsity Tennis Center, all eyes turned to court No. 1.

After breaking OSU's Matt Prentice to take a 5-4 lead in the third set, A&M junior Dumitru Caradima had a chance to serve for the match and clinch the decisive fourth point for the Aggies.

Then things really got interesting.

A Caradima shot that appeared to be in was called out by Prentice. The chair umpire overruled the call without the required verbal appeal from Caradima, sending OSU coach James Wadley into a frenzy. Wadley jumped from a courtside bench and threw a crumpled water cup at the umpire, drawing a point penalty.

A&M men's tennis coach Tim Cass soon joined in the fray, and the two

coaches sent verbal volleys back and forth while the situation was discussed by a contingent of umpires.

When the controversy finally was sorted out after a seven-minute delay, Prentice's call was upheld, making the game score 15-15.

"I was just trying to protect my player on the call, and so was Tim," Wadley said. "The official made a mistake, and when I tried to correct him he didn't want to be corrected."

A cool Caradima rendered the argument moot by holding serve to win, 5-7, 6-1, 6-4.

The Aggies then tacked on the doubles point to make the final score 5-2.

"I'm extremely proud of Dumitru and the way he handled himself," Cass said. "He certainly handled himself much better than I did."

Oklahoma State was no stranger to controversy heading into Wednesday night's match with A&M. Earlier in the

day, the Cowboys' 4-3 victory over Kansas on Apr. 2 was overruled — knocking them out of a tie with the Aggies for second place in the Big 12.

The Cowboys' victory was overturned after Kansas accused them of making an illegal lineup change. The ruling sent the Jayhawks into a second-place tie with A&M and set up a showdown between the two teams Friday at noon at the Varsity Tennis Center.

Playing singles first because of a chance of rain, the Aggies jumped to a 2-0 lead after quick victories from sophomore Jarin Skube on the No. 5 court and freshman Ryan Newport at No. 4.

Skube handily disposed of OSU's Jeremy Ewert, 6-0, 6-2. Newport then defeated the Cowboys' Frantisek Krepelka, 6-4, 6-2.

Sophomore Keith From gave the Aggies their third point with a 7-6, 7-5, victory over OSU's Chris Bates on the No. 2 court.

Softball travels to take on SHSU

BY BREE HOLZ
The Battalion

The Texas A&M softball team will be in action Thursday when it travels to Huntsville to take on Sam Houston State University at 4 p.m.

Saturday, the Aggies return home to battle Big 12 rival University of Nebraska in a doubleheader beginning at 2 p.m. at the Aggie Softball Complex.

The Aggies have stormed into fourth place in the conference after winning five straight games, including a sweep over the University of Missouri last weekend.

A&M holds a 25-14 overall record and a 5-4 record in the Big 12 Conference.

The Bearkats are at 15-31 overall, and

are in last place of the Southland Conference with a 3-20 record.

A&M and SHSU met in the Aggies' first game of the 2000 season in College Station where A&M was victorious, 3-1.

Nebraska sits alone in second place in the Big 12 conference with a 8-2 conference mark. The University of Oklahoma is currently in first place with a 12-1 record.

A&M and Nebraska met earlier this season at the Capital Classic in Sacramento, Calif. The Aggies defeated the Huskers, 1-0.

Sophomore second baseman Lisa Klam said the Aggies' recent offensive improvement is due to gained confidence.

"Everyone seems to be getting more relaxed at the plate," Klam said, "more comfortable and not tense at all."

Five of the nine Aggie starters are hitting above .300 with freshman catcher Selena Collins leading the way with a .368 average.

"Our hitters are confident, and it shows," said A&M softball coach Jo Evans. "They've stepped up in the clutch with timely hits when they've been down, and that shows a lot of character."

The Aggies struggled in the beginning of conference play, dropping their first four games, including a 8-0 loss to the University of Texas.

"I think that we hit our low spot at the start of conference, and now we're back on our way up," Klam said. "We're continuing to improve in all areas of our game, and I think we'll peak at just the right time — in the heat of our biggest conference games."

Freshman pitcher Kara Weikel has given the Aggies an extra boost on the mound with a 7-5 record.

"Kara has really started to be consistent with her pitching," Evans said. "She has handled the pressure very well and seems to be settling in to the lineup."



EVANS



PATRIC SCHNEIDER/THE BATTALION

A&M freshman shortstop **Crystal Martin** jumps to avoid a University of Missouri player during the Aggies' series against the Tigers last weekend.

Correction

In Wednesday's "Marriage" article, the victim was named as Kristen Tarver. The correct name is Kristin Tarver.

SPICMAC

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Tickets: Students - \$5, Children - \$5, Adults - \$15

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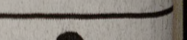
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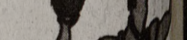
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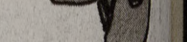
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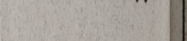
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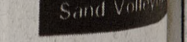
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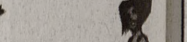
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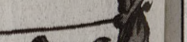
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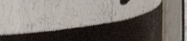
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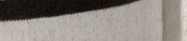
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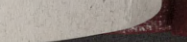
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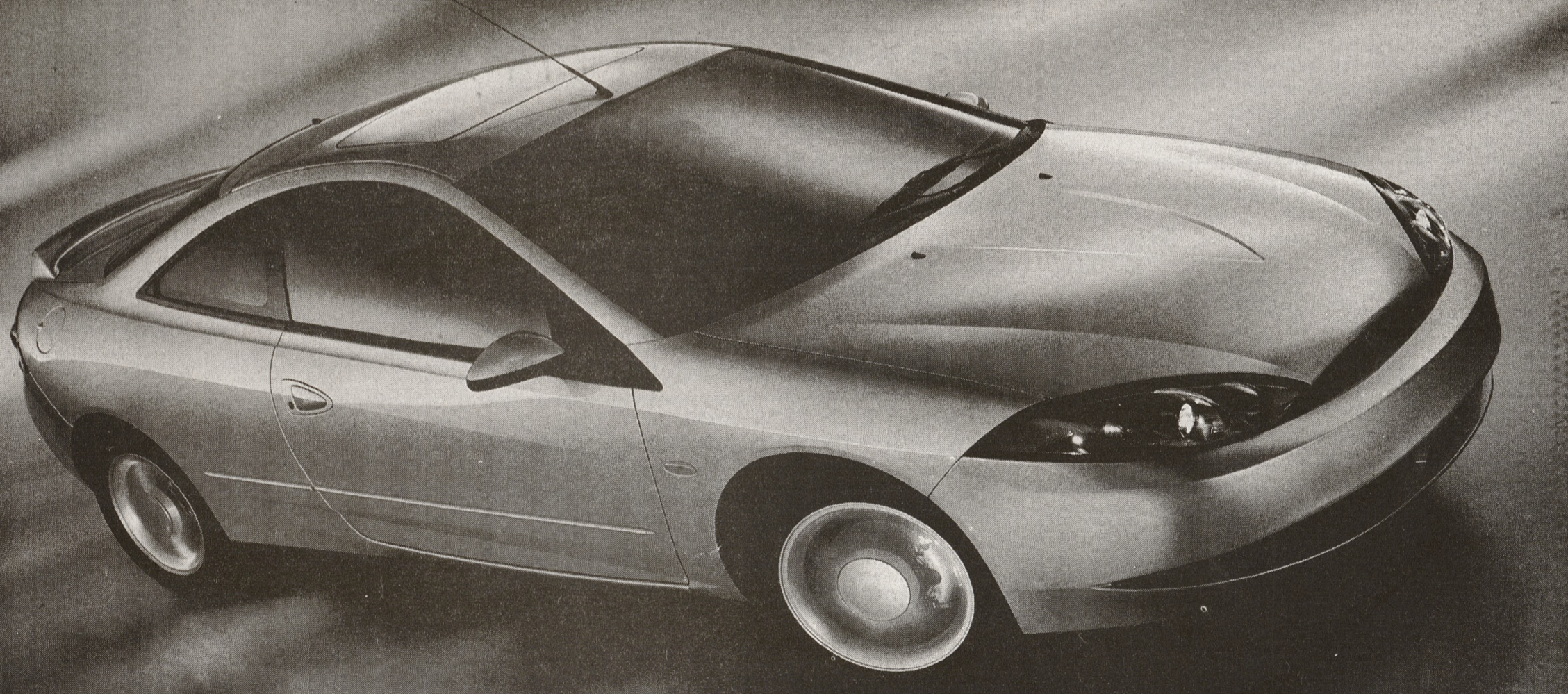
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