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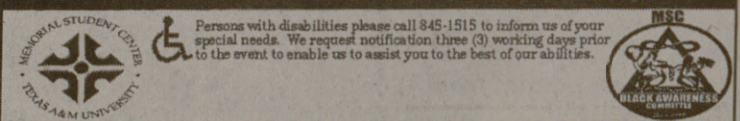
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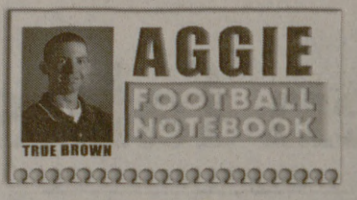
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# Sports

## Farris climbing A&M passing ladder



Air Farris

Junior Mark Farris, in just his second season as the Aggies' starting quarterback, quickly is becoming one of the most prolific passers in school history.

In his 14 career starts, Farris already has more 40-pass attempt games than any other quarterback in school history. Farris has surpassed the 40-attempt mark in both games this season to bring his career total to five.

After his 341-yard performance against Wyoming, Farris now has thrown for 200 or more yards in eight of his last nine games.

The school record for consecutive 200-yard games was set by Ed Hargett in 1968, when he did it in six straight games. Farris' current streak of five is the second longest in school history and the longest since Gary Kubiak's four game streak in 1982.

### Clockwork

Through its first two games, A&M has owned its opponents in time-of-possession, averaging

more than nine minutes of possession than its opponents. The Aggies are averaging 34:33 per game, while holding McNeese State and Wyoming to an average of 25:27.

The success on the clock is thanks largely to the Aggies' third-down ratio. A&M is 16-of-34 on third down tries. Opposing teams have managed to convert only five times on 24 tries.

The Aggies have not allowed a third-down conversion yet in the first quarter.

### Team leaders

Junior linebacker Brian Gamble is leading the Wrecking Crew with 16 tackles through the first two games of the season.

Gamble also has three tackles for a loss. Senior defensive back Jay Brooks is second, with 13 tackles. Brooks also has recorded a sack and a pass breakup.

On offense, sophomore wide receiver Jamaar Taylor, who transferred to A&M from Notre Dame, has garnered the most receiving yards, catching seven passes for 125 yards.

### Injury Report

Two more Aggies were added to the injured list this week when freshman running



With a 200-yard passing performance Saturday, quarterback Mark Farris moved into a tie for first in school history for consecutive 200-yard games.

back Keith Joseph and junior linebacker Jarrod Penright went down Tuesday in practice.

Joseph, the team's leading rusher with 167 ground yards, suffered an AC separation of his right shoulder and is doubtful for Saturday's game.

The injury may prompt football head coach R.C. Slocum to move sophomore

Richard Whitaker back to running back position. Whitaker started the season out at wide receiver since

for Bethel Johnson bruised his spleen against Wyoming Sept. 6.

Penright, who has eight tackles this season, sprained his right ankle and is questionable for Saturday's game.

### SPORTS IN BRIEF

#### NFL officials vote to accept contract, start work Sunday

(AP) — The locked-out NFL officials voted Wednesday to accept the league's new contract and will return to the field this weekend.

The deal is the same in total monetary value as the package proposed by the league on Sept. 4, although the specifics are different. It would double salaries in the first year and increase them by 100 percent in the fourth year of a six-year deal.

The replacement officials worked the final week of the preseason and the first games of the regular season.

### SLOCUM

Continued from Page 3A

because that's what it takes to be a good team," Gamble said. "Coach Slocum has been around some great defenses, and some great teams."

Slocum, along with the rest of the NCAA Division 1-A football coaches, have the toughest job in the country, and they can all point their finger at Oklahoma head coach Bob Stoops.

Stoops took the Sooners in only two seasons to the top, and claimed the national title with an unblemished 13-0 record.

Now every athletic director at any

school believes they can hire a young coach and win a national championship in two seasons. When they do not, the words, "Bob Stoops did it," soon precede a pink slip.

So, before you point your finger at Slocum, wait and see what the Wrecking Crew pulls off against Oklahoma State on Saturday at Kyle Field. If Slocum's talk drastically improves the Aggie defense's play, then there may be more "R.C. is a legend" remarks on more than just skywalk.

Brian Ruff is a junior sports management major.

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