



GUY ROGERS • THE BATTALION

Junior quarterback **Mark Farris** tries to escape an Iowa State defender Oct. 27. **Farris** and the Aggies have lost three consecutive games.

## Coaching not only problem with Ags

**For** just a moment, forget about R.C. Slocum, offensive coordinator Dino Babers and the high-ups that are taking the heat for the Aggies' horrid finish to the regular season.

After entertaining thoughts of a Big 12 South title just a month ago, A&M fell off the face of the college football world thanks to finishing the month of November with an 0-3 record, including a 12-0 embarrassment on the road against Texas Tech.

Slocum, Babers and Co. cannot be put solely at fault for A&M's trials and tribulations.

Lackluster performances by junior quarterback Mark Farris have contributed to each mark in A&M's loss column this season. And it is not a new trend.

This year has been the continuation of what was started last season. To compete with the elite teams of the nation every year (like A&M should), the Aggies must have a big-game quarterback.

And a big-game quarterback Farris is not.

While it should be noted that Farris did something no other Aggie quarterback has ever done when he surpassed the 2,500-yard mark last season, it has been showings like Friday's 16-for-37 performance that have cost A&M wins in must-have games.

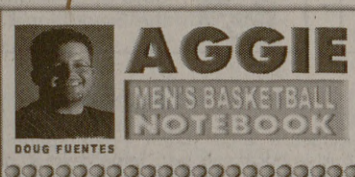
The rundown of Farris's big-game performances in 2000 and 2001:

- Nov. 11, 2000 against No. 1 Oklahoma: The Aggies lead the eventual national champions for most of the contest. Ahead by three points with

See **FARRIS** on page 10.

## Aggies up and rolling

3-0 team finds success early this season, signs another prep star for 2002-2003



The Texas A&M men's basketball team improved to 3-0 on the season with a 91-70 victory over Texas A&M-Kingsville Monday at Reed Arena. The Aggies will play games two and three of a five-game homestand this weekend when they host Long Beach State on Friday at 8 p.m. and Loyola-Marymount Sunday at 2 p.m.

### Scoring in Bunches

The Aggies scored 60 points in the second half against A&M-Kingsville on Monday, tying for the ninth most in a half in school history. It was the most points in a half since a 99-96 victory over Long Island during the 1989-1990 season.

Also against Kingsville, for the second time this season, 12 A&M players scored. Prior to this season, the last time A&M had 12 players score in a game was a 114-90 victory over Florida International during the 1989-1990 season. Nine players scored in the Lamar game Saturday.

### Bean on a Roll

A&M forward Keith Bean lead the Aggies' second half charge against A&M-Kingsville on Monday, scoring a career-high 20 points (17 in the second half) on 8-of-8. Fourteen of those points came in a three-

minute span of the second half A&M basketball coach Melvin Watkins was looking for something in his halftime speech to fire his team up after its lackluster first half performance, and he might have found the way to press Bean's button.

"I threatened to take all their meal money," Watkins said. "That must have gotten across to Keith (Bean) in particular."

The 6-8, 260-pound Bean is known for his appetite. When he transferred to A&M two years ago from North Carolina State, he tipped the scales at 300 pounds. He made a pact with his equally overweight father, Fabian Bean, to lose weight and fell to 240 last season (his dad also lost more than 50 pounds). Bean bulked back up last summer, this time in the weight room but still has a healthy appetite.

### Signing the Future

Monday, the Aggies rounded out their 2002 recruiting class when Luis Clemente of Maine Central Institute in Pittsfield, Maine, signed a national letter-of-intent to play for the Aggies.

Ranked as the 17th best fifth-year prep school player in the country by Hoop Scoop and Basketball Times, the 6-foot-8, 225-pound Clemente is a native of Puerto Rico.

"Luis is a little bit unknown

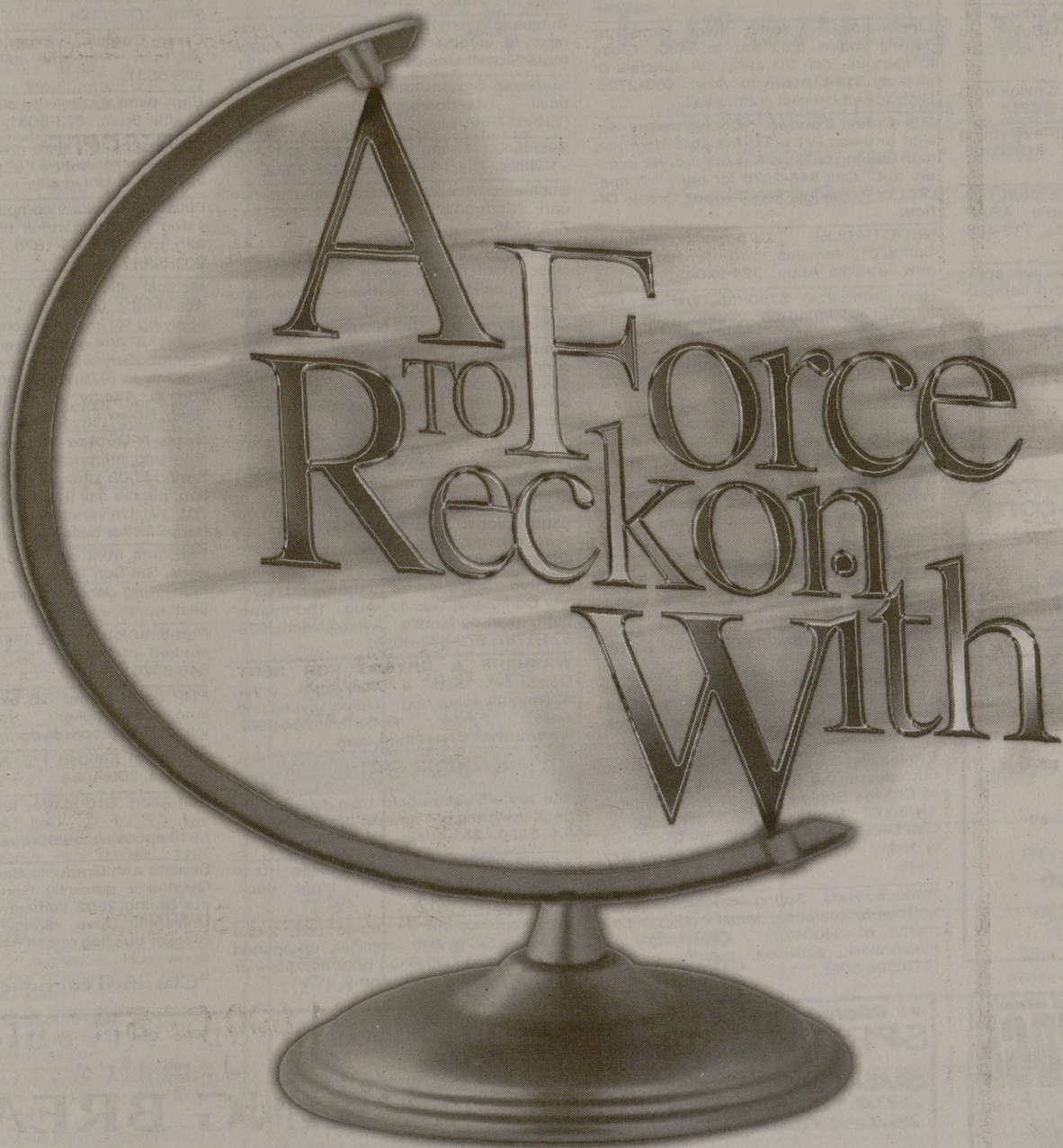
See **AGGIES** on page 10.



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Junior forward **Keith Bean** hangs on the rim after dunking the ball Nov. 14. **Bean** exploded for 20 points against Texas A&M-Kingsville Monday.

# AROUND THE WORLD



It's Powerful. Resourceful. And packed with potential. Texas A&M University Student Engineer's Council and the Business Student Council are presenting "Around the World" with Equiva Services LLC. Your journey begins on November 28th at 5:30 p.m. Join us in 601 Rudder for Food, Door Prizes and a Raffle Drawing. At Equiva, we understand the true source of success - our people. There's never been a greater time to energize your career in petroleum refining, distribution, marketing, transportation and crude/lubricant operations. We're hiring more bright minds interested in the rewards of working together to create a successful future. Learn more about your career possibilities with us this Wednesday!

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