

# SPORTS

THE BATTALION

Page 7 • Friday, October 25, 2002

## Aggies host struggling Nebraska Saturday

### NU will try to contain hot A&M offense

By Dallas Shipp  
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M football team is hoping to keep the offensive magic it has shown in its previous four games going strong against Nebraska this weekend at Kyle Field.

Nebraska will be coming to College Station looking for their first win on the road this season. The Huskers have lost at Penn State, Iowa State and Oklahoma State this season.

"The game will be a major challenge in a lot of ways," said Nebraska head coach Frank Solich. "The bottom line is, whether you are playing at home or on the road you have to play four quarters of good football."

Senior safety Terrence Kiel said the Huskers are a dangerous team that has a lot to play for coming into Kyle Field.

"Their pride is hurt," Kiel said. "We can't be concerned with what they've done in the past. They are going to come in here and play hard."

The Huskers will have to figure out a way to stop the new-found aerial attack of the Aggie offense.

"A month ago, everyone was asking me why we were so bad," said senior offensive lineman Taylor Whitley. "Now everyone is asking why we are so good."

About a month ago, A&M head coach R.C. Slocum relieved offensive coordinator Dino Babers of his playcalling duties and handed them over to assistant head coach Kevin Sumlin following A&M's loss to Virginia Tech on on Sept. 21.

"Anytime you change offensive coordinators it's a big deal," Slocum said. "It helped score more points and get more yards."

The offensive attack has been led by sophomore quarterback Dustin Long, who has broken

at least one school record in each of his last three starts. Against Texas Tech, Long broke the Big 12 record with seven touchdown passes in a single game. The following week, Long reached the 1000-yard mark against Baylor in his

sixth game behind center for the Aggies, the fastest in A&M history.

Last week against Kansas, Long passed for a school-record 399 yards.

Freshman quarterback Reggie McNeal added 29 passing yards to set a new school record with 428 yards of passing yards.

One player that has benefited from Long's success is junior wide receiver Jamaar Taylor. Taylor has hauled in 20 receptions for 425 yards and three touchdowns in his last four starts for A&M.

"Jamaar (Taylor) is a real good receiver," Kiel said. "He's always hyped up and enthusiastic about practice and games. I don't like having to hold him in one-on-one coverage."

On defense the Aggies have rebounded since giving up over 500 yards of offense to Texas Tech three weeks ago.

Since that nightmarish performance, the Aggies have given up less than 200 yards per game.

The Wrecking Crew has appeared strong against the run which should be extremely important against Nebraska which is the No. 1 rushing team in the Big 12, averaging 266.4



JOHN C. LIVAS • THE BATTALION

Texas A&M junior wide receiver Jamaar Taylor is hit by Kansas defensive back Donnie Amadi after making a reception from sophomore Dustin Long in the Aggies' 47-22 victory last week. Taylor will lead the Aggies in Saturday's matchup against Nebraska.

rushing yards per game.

Meanwhile, the Aggies haven't allowed a 100-yard rusher in 20 regular season games, dating back to the 2000 season.

Nebraska is the first team the Aggies have faced this season with a respectable defense. This weekend's game will be a test for A&M

and should give some indication of where the Aggies are going.

"We have to stay focused," Taylor said. "We have to stay hungry and I think we are right now. This A&M team hasn't even scratched the surface. I think with better competition we'll see more people step up."

**TEXAS A&M VS. NEBRASKA**  
**6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26**

**TEXAS A&M / NEBRASKA Predictions**

<b>Kevin Espinoza</b>	<b>31-21 Texas A&amp;M</b>
"Nebraska's season continues to spiral downward!"	
<b>Dallas Shipp</b>	<b>34-13 Texas A&amp;M</b>
"Long continues to be the man for A&M and lights up the 'Black Shirt Defense!'"	
<b>True Brown</b>	<b>28-17 Texas A&amp;M</b>
"Demoralized Huskers can't get past Wrecking Crew!"	

## Volleyball team prepares for tough road trip to Nebraska

By True Brown  
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M volleyball team will face its toughest match of the season Saturday when it travels to Lincoln, Neb., to play the red-hot Nebraska Cornhuskers.

No. 4 Nebraska has compiled a 17-1 overall record and is perfect in Big 12 play. Its lone loss this season came on Sept. 2 at the hands of now-No. 1 USC.

Since that loss, Nebraska has been on fire.

The Huskers have dominated, running off 15 straight wins. Thirteen of those wins have been sweeps. A&M is the only conference team that has not been swept, falling 3-1 in College Station on Oct. 6.

The Aggies (13-6, 5-5) are coming off a sweep of their own after

throttling Baylor Wednesday.

In the match, A&M posted a .284 attack percentage, its highest in league games this season. The Aggies had 76 digs in one of their better defensive performances in Big 12 play.

A&M head coach Laurie Corbelli said she was impressed by her team's performance and said the team's defense will be important for the rest of the season.

"That's something that we are going to continue to work on," Corbelli said. "It fits this team better. On past teams, we've had smaller players and maybe a little different style of play and we were able to dig a little faster. Now, I think we are going to make a tempo change with that."

A changed tempo may not be enough to help the Aggies against Nebraska.

The Cornhuskers have four of the top five individual attackers in the Big 12.

Senior middle blocker Amber Holmquist leads the league with a .401 hitting percentage. The 6-foot-4-inch senior from Houston also leads the nation in blocks.

Laura Jones and Melissa Munsch lead A&M's offensive attacks, combining for 7.5 kills per game. The duo recorded more than half of the Aggies kills against Baylor, and were just two shy of matching the Bears' entire team output.

Strong performances by both will be needed if the Aggies want to entertain thoughts of winning in Nebraska for the first time in history. The Huskers have not lost a home match since 1999.

First serve at Nebraska Coliseum has been changed and is scheduled for 3 p.m.

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- Commandant's Office (Military Sciences Building)
- Student Programs Office (2nd floor MSC)
- Student Activities Office (125 Koldus Building)
- Sterling C. Evans Library
- Office of Graduate Studies (302 Administration)
- Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs (10th floor Rudder)
- Office of the Dean of each College

Completed applications should contain an application form and one (8.5x11") activities page in 10 pt. font or above with one-inch margins.

The deadline has been extended. Applications are due to the Office of Graduate Studies or the Department of Student Activities no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, October 25, 2002. Applications may be personally delivered or sent through US Mail or Campus Mail to either:

Dept. of Student Activities  
ATTN: Who's Who  
1236 TAMU  
125 John J. Koldus Building  
College Station, TX 77843-1236

Office of Graduate Studies  
ATTN: Who's Who  
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302 Administration Building  
College Station, TX 77843-1113

Questions may be referred to:  
Sandy Brylidsen (862-1973)  
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