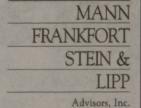
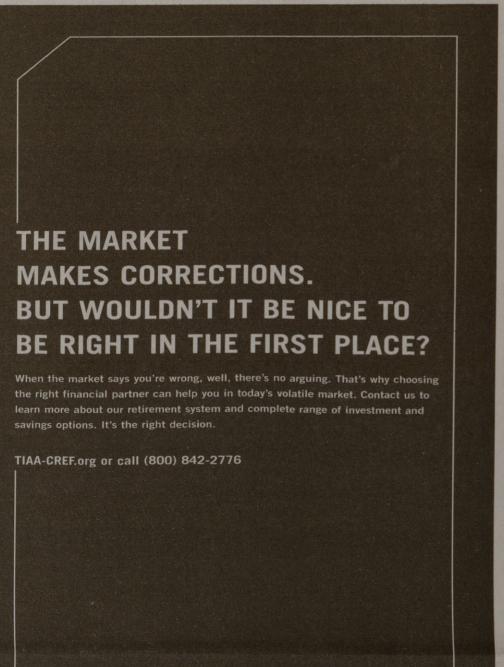
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Ags get set for Texas Relay

By Marcus White THE BATTALION

The top 30 collegiate track and field teams in the country, including members of the Texas A&M men's and women's track and field teams, will converge in Austin this week for the 76th annual Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays.

The Texas Relays will also draw some of the world's top professional track and field athletes, including 2000 Olympic 100-meter gold medalist Maurice Greene and 100-meter world's record holder Tim Montgomery.

The Texas Relays have become one of the marquee track and field events of the outdoor season. University of Texas officials are expecting nearly 20,000 track and field fans to pack into the Mike A. Myers Stadium and Soccer Field. "It's a good chance for individuals to go out

and compete for conference qualifying bids, but it's really more about competition," said Kyle Stephens, associate UT athletic director. "This is arguably the second largest collegiate meet of the season. There is a higher level of competition across the board. Traditionally, the Aggies compete in several

outdoor events before the Texas Relays. Despite a lack of outdoor competition to prepare for the relays, A&M Head Coach Ted Nelson said he expects the meet to serve as an indication of how well the team might do in the Big 12 competition.

"This is an unusual situation for us in that it's only our second outdoor meet of the season. We're still in a kind of experimental stage," Nelson said. "This is also the first real prestigious meet of the season and it will be good for us to get out there and compete against the best athletes in the United States and see where we are as a team.

The Texas Relays mark the first outdoor competition of the season for seniors Timothy Bonn and Chris Pinnock, two Aggie men primed to make a powerful impact with Big 12 and NCAA implications. Earlier this season, Bonn placed third at the Big 12 Indoor Championships. Pinnock continued his success in big meets, finishing third in the men's 110-meter hurdles at the NCAA Indoor National Championships.



ALISSA HOLLIMON . THE B

Sophomore distance runner Jesse Mader of for the Aggies. The Texas Relays begin today

Last season, Pinnock took third in the) Outdoor Championships and second in indoor competition. Last week the Aggie men and women for

second and third respectively at the Tom Invitational in Houston, thanks in part to: standing performance by the Aggie throwin which picked up five first-place finishes.

Senior Katy Doyle returned to acti weekend for the first time since under 'Tommy John" surgery to repair an injury elbow. After spending nearly two years in bilitation, Doyle overcame the potentially ending injury by taking home the gold med a regional NCAA qualifying bid in the wo javelin with a throw of 151 feet 8 inches.

"It was a tremendous return to compe Katy," said A&M Associate Head Coa Marcinkiewicz. "She's worked very hard back into action and it's good to see her out Doyle was part of a larger javelin tea

swept the top five spots in both the mer women's events. Junior Luke Marrs le Aggies in the men's division (230-00).

The four-day Texas Relays begins to Austin with the multi-events kicking off at

Piazza has suspension reduce

Piazza's suspension for charging the mound in spring training was reduced to four games, and the New York Mets' All-Star catcher will start serving the penalty Wednesday.

The decision to shorten the ban by one game was made Tuesday by Bob DuPuy, baseball's chief operating officer. He heard Piazza's appeal Monday after New York's season-opening 15-2 loss to the Chicago Cubs.

"Naturally, I'm glad the suspension has been reduced," Piazza said. "I just want to put

NEW YORK (AP) — Mike this all behind me so I can concentrate on baseball the rest of the season.

> The Mets were off Tuesday. If games are played as scheduled, Piazza would be able to return to the lineup Sunday against Montreal.

Bob Watson, baseball's vice president in charge of disci-pline, originally issued a fivegame suspension and \$3,000 fine after Piazza charged Los Angeles reliever Guillermo Mota during an exhibition game, dropped his appropriate game March 12. Piazza, who exchange for the comm

house looking for the pitch "I believe that we did w our points effectively," Pi said Monday after the

minute appeal hearing. Mota originally was pended for five games, appealed and had it cut to games last week.

Montreal slugger V Guerrero, suspended for games for charging the m in another spring tra had been hit by a fastball, later er's office cutting the pe went into the Dodgers' club-

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, & Transgendered Aggies:

with other things to think about."

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of the ALLIES program at Texas A&M. You have An AGG
Each ALLY has attended a voluntary training seminar (known as an Advance), has resource information available, and has pledged to provide a "cofe boyon" a Veterior The individuals listed below are members pledged to provide a "safe haven", a listening ear, and support for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered (GLBT) members of the Texas A&M community. If you need someone to talk to, contact an ALLY or look for the ALLY placard, posted near each ALLY's office or residence hall room.

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Suzanne Shanks Kate Koles

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Peggy Holzweiss
Sandi Osters Mai Bui Terri Buitron Abbey Bunning Michelle Butler Tim Byrns Darby Roberts TAMU Libraries Vicki Carter Sheetal Desai Allison Byrum Chris Campbell Robin Cappel Chris Carlin Deana Luza Brenda White Chris Cason

Jennifer Cowart Juliana Cruz Clay Cunningham Leah Davies Casey Deen Melissa Dickson Justin Dowden Brandon Duke Brandy Edkins Leah Edmundson Carrie Edstrom Melanie Edwards

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If you are willing to become an ALLY, a training session is scheduled for Tuesday, April 8th, 5: 9:00pm TO REGISTER: please completed online regisration form at:

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