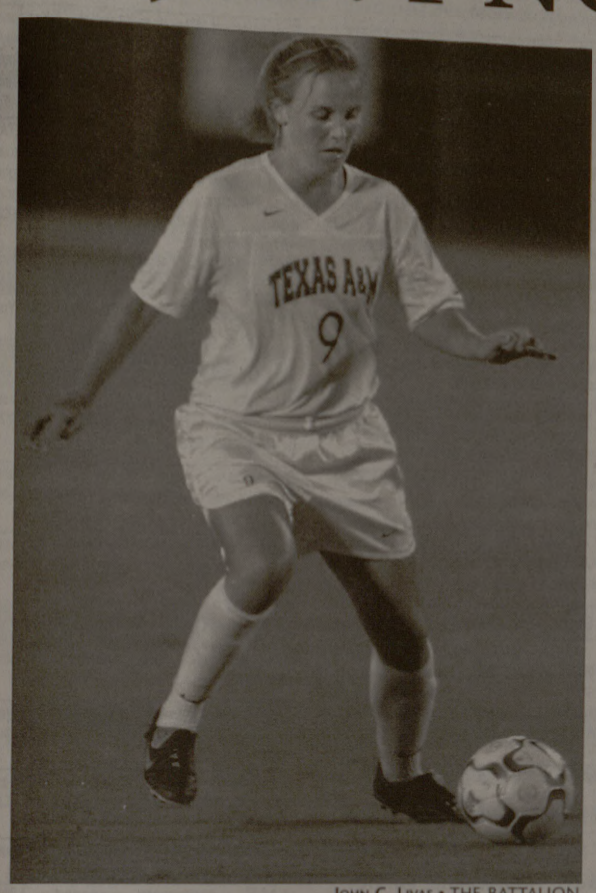
SC, No. 1 NC up next for A&M



JOHN C. LIVAS • THE BATTALION

Texas A&M midfielder **Kristen Strutz** and the Aggie soccer team play South Carolina tonight and No. 1 North Carolina on Sunday.

By Troy Miller
THE BATTALION

Being in college and having a mother look over your shoulder is not something most college students would look forward to, but for the Aggie soccer team, midfielder Kristen Strutz's mother-like qualities are exactly what the team needs.

Strutz has a lot of leadership responsibilities falling on her shoulders as the lone senior on the team, but she takes it all in stride.

"If there's ever been a player in our program that had a halo, it would be Kristen," said coach G. Guerrieri. "She puts a lot of care into other people. When you look at attributes of being captain, being unselfish is a high need."

The 2002 All-American leads on the field just as much as her attitude leads off of it. Strutz is tied for the team lead in goals with two on the season, but it's the fiery side of her personality that takes hold on the field.

"She's 'Spicy Ruter' on the field," said sophomore goalkeeper Kati Jo Spisak, who has allowed just one goal this season. "That's what we call her when her game face is on."

Now "Spicy Ruter" and the No. 5 Aggies (3-0) are faced with a Carolina weekend when they host South Carolina at the Aggie Soccer Complex Friday at 7:30 p.m. before squaring off against No. 1 North Carolina. The Aggies travel to Meyer Park in Spring, Texas, Sunday for a rematch of their 2002 Elite Eight game with the Tar Heels (4-0) at 1:30 p.m.

Strutz has not beaten North Carolina since she came to College Station, and the Aggies are 0-5 all-time against the Tar Heels. Now, with revenge from the NCAA Tournament on their minds, the Aggies feel they are ready for a historic win over the soccer powerhouse.

"I don't think we need to go into the game thinking we're playing North Carolina, the No. 1 team," Strutz said. "Of course we're the underdogs, but we just need to take it as any other game."

The hardest part of the weekend might be keeping the Aggies from overlooking South Carolina (2-2). The Gamecocks come to College Station after defeating Dartmouth, a perennial top-15 team, 3-1 in their last match.

"The information we're getting on the Gamecocks is that they are a team that is capable of beating us," Guerrieri said. "For us, all of our work this week will be in preparation for them. We won't do anything specific for North Carolina until after the South Carolina game is done."

Besides beating Dartmouth, South Carolina also took No. 19 Clemson into overtime before losing 1-0 at Clemson in the team's first game of the season. Now the Gamecocks are taking their first weekend road trip of the season, and it's the first time the team has ever played in Texas.

"I think (the weekend) will be good preparation for the Big 12 because then every game is important and you have to take it one game at a time," Strutz said. "Hopefully we won't look past (South Carolina), which I know we shouldn't, but I think it's important to emphasize one game at a time."

Potential is main focus for Aggies

By Rob Phillips
THE BATTALION

With the 2003-04 season approaching, the sense of urgency Texas A&M men's golf head coach J.T. Higgins has instilled in his players is not out of pressure, but out of potential.

Last season, an inexperienced A&M squad won its first tournament in four years and qualified for the NCAA Regionals before falling short of a berth in the NCAA Championship Tournament. A&M also placed fourth at the Big 12 Championship Tournament, the school's highest finish ever.

With fresh talent and another year of experience, Higgins and his players expect "bigger and better things" this season, including that elusive trip to nationals.

"Sometimes we were a very good team last year, and other times we didn't look so competitive," Higgins said. "I think really what we'd like to do this season is be competitive every single time we tee it up, play every tournament like it's our last tournament and really play with that kind of heart and determination."

A&M opens the season Friday at the William H. Tucker Invitational in Albuquerque, N.M., a setting Higgins is quite familiar with.

During Higgins' four-year stint as head coach at New Mexico, the Lobos made four NCAA Regionals and two NCAA Championship appearances. In 2001, Higgins coached New Mexico to a record three tournament wins and was named the Mountain West Conference Coach of the Year.

Even one of Higgins' former players has left Albuquerque for a Texas-sized reunion. Junior David Schultz, who played one season under Higgins at New Mexico, transferred to A&M this summer and now has two years of eligibility with his old coach.

"He's straight upfront with everything and he's always willing to help players with anything they need help with," said Schultz,

See **Higgins** on page 7

Parcells not only former Giant returning to NY as Cowboy

By Stephen Hawkins
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IRVING, Texas — Dan Campbell wasn't trying to escape New York, even though it wasn't his favorite place to live.

The tight end knew the Giants were going to be good. And the emergence of Jeremy Shockey, with his outstanding play and sometimes outrageous conduct, didn't bother Campbell — they are good friends.

As a free agent, Campbell just couldn't resist coming home to Texas to play for the Dallas Cowboys and their new coach Bill Parcells, who led the Giants to two Super Bowl titles.

"Beside the fact of leaving some coaches and friends that I really liked being around and playing with, that was the hardest decision because I knew they (Giants) were going to be a good team. You just knew it and could feel it," Campbell said Thursday. "At the same time, it shows I have faith in coming down here."

The Cowboys have won five Super Bowls, their last eight seasons ago. Parcells, who had been out of coaching since 1999, was hired after three straight 5-11 records.

"I had a good idea of what he stood for and what he was about. He's a winner, he's proven it. He knows what he's doing," Campbell said. "I know that we can be good, Dallas can be a contender again. To be a part of that on a team that can come back to where it once was is something that I definitely want to be part of."

On Monday night, Campbell and Parcells — whose last season with the Giants was the Super Bowl champion of 1990 — return to the Meadowlands for the first time as Cowboys.

Dallas (0-1) lost its season opener 27-13 to the Atlanta Falcons. New York beat the St. Louis Rams 23-13.

Campbell, who grew up in Glen Rose about 75 miles from Dallas and played at Texas A&M, was New York's third-round pick in the 1999 draft. In four seasons with the Giants, he established himself as one of the NFL's top blocking tight ends, and caught 43 passes.

ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY GAMMA PHI BETA SORORITY

Building on Tradition

Experience the opportunity of a lifetime!!

Become a member of the newest chapter of

Gamma Phi Beta Sorority

Texas A&M University

Informational Meeting	One-On-One Meetings	Philanthropy Night	Preference Night
Sunday, September 14, 2003	September 15-17, 2003	Thursday, September 18, 2003	(By Invitation)
MSC 201	MSC 228	MSC 225	Friday, September 19, 2003
7:30pm	9:00a.m.-8:30p.m.	6:00p.m. & 8:00p.m.	College Station Hilton

Questions?

Please call Gamma Phi Beta at 979.680.5747 or email at tamugammaphi@aol.com.

ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ ΓΦΒ

The Comfort Zone

OZONA

GRILL & BAR

Arriba! Arriba!

HOMEMADE MEXICAN FOOD

weekday lunch specials 11-4

520 Harvey R

College Station 694-

Celebrate 50 years of giving to A&M in fun, unforgettable 1950s style!

A&M '53 '03 foundation

Friday, Sept. 12
5 to 7:30 pm

The Texas A&M Foundation invites you — students, staff, faculty and their friends and families — to our 50th birthday party! Enjoy free 1950s-style food and drinks, music, games and cool party favors.

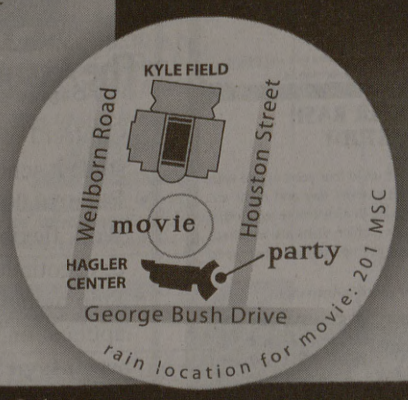
Be there, or be square.

DON'T MISS OUR "screen on the green" presentation of the 1985 classic starring Michael J. Fox

BACK TO THE FUTURE PG

FRI 8-10 PM

Arrive early with a blanket or lawn chair to claim your spot on the green space between the Hagler Center and Kyle Field's new south end zone.



For more info, call 979·845·8161 or e-mail amfoundation@tamu.edu

SPICMACAY

Society for Promotion of Indian Classical Music And Culture Amongst Youth

is honoured to present an

Indian Classical Dance Performance

by

*Padma Vibhushan**

Sonal Mansingh

produced by
Natya Dance Theater of Chicago

Sunday, Sept. 14th 6:00PM

Rudder Theater

Free and Open to All

*The second highest civilian honour bestowed by the President of India

For more information contact:
Abhishek Gupta 979.575.5501
spicmacay@stuact.tamu.edu
http://stuact.tamu.edu/stuorgs/spicmacay

Sponsored in part by
Department of Multicultural Services
Arts Council of Brazos Valley
and The Texas Commission on the Arts