

# SPORTS

THE BATTALION

Page 7 • Wednesday, September 8, 2004

## Quick and Quiet

### Courtney Lewis is quietly making big moves on the field

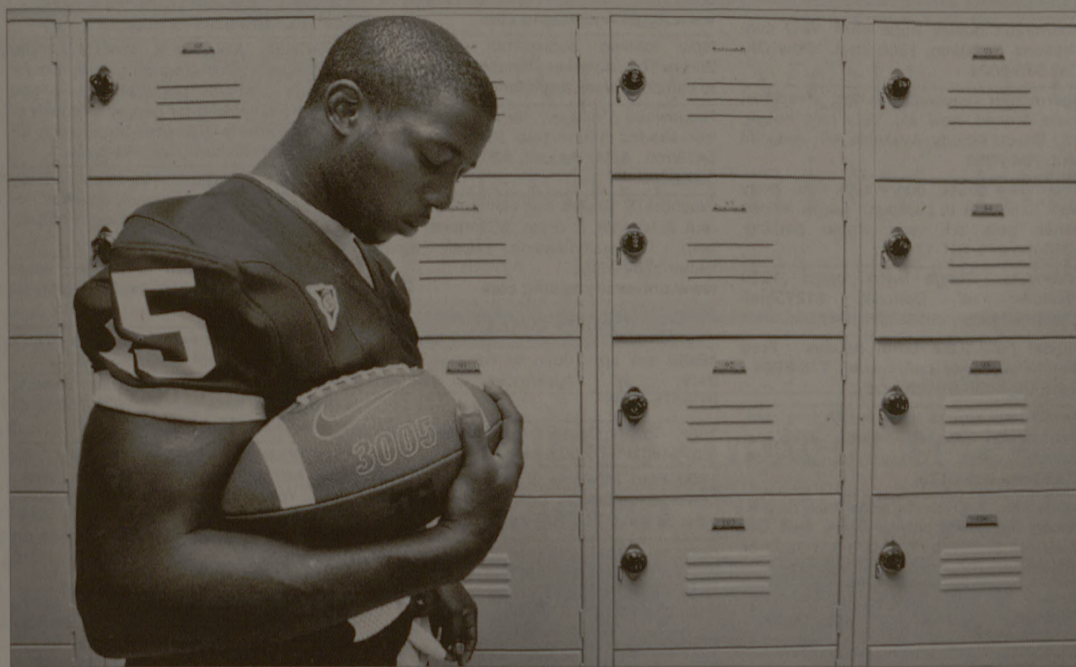
By Jordan Meserole  
THE BATTALION

This moment was THE moment. The next six seconds would be the rest of Courtney Lewis' career. As he stepped up and took his place behind quarterback Reggie McNeal and the 75,000-plus crowd hushed to a slight hum, butterflies began to flutter in Lewis' stomach more than ever. This was the moment he had been working and waiting for and, as the ball slipped into McNeal's hands, Kyle Field suddenly turned into a blur.

Seven yards later, Lewis had just finished his first collegiate rushing attempt in front of a near-capacity Texas A&M home crowd, a feat many high school running backs strive to accomplish. Not many fans in the stands knew the redshirt freshman's name then, but Lewis didn't care — he just wanted the ball again.

"At first I was nervous — real nervous," Lewis said. "But after that I was excited and relieved. I was more and more eager to get on the field again."

Coming to A&M, a school where fans salivate over top high school recruits, Lewis came from Madison



JOHN C. LIVAS • THE BATTALION

A&M sophomore running back Courtney Lewis quietly gained 1,024 yards last season while splitting time. The back has earned full-time duties this season and is looking to repeat last season's success.

High School virtually unknown. He was a small back, weighing in around 175 pounds, known for his speed and not much else. Many fans were more preoccupied with Derek Farmer, who was a little more highly touted than Lewis.

"When I first came here, I didn't have much that was appealing to too many coaches," Lewis said. "I'm sure they probably thought I wasn't going to make it through a season or even a game. But I worked hard in the weight room my redshirt year and learned my role."

A&M head coach Dennis Franchione said there wasn't much he knew about Lewis upon his arrival to College Station in the summer of 2003. Franchione said he watched some game tape of Lewis in high school but beyond that was clueless to his potential.

"Courtney's abilities started to really register with me at the Arkansas State game," Franchione said. "I had seen him working hard in practices, but I didn't really know what he could do until he got out there."

If Lewis had only one game to catch the coaches' eye, he certainly did it in the Aug 30 game against Arkansas State University. In just two quarters, Lewis gained 74 yards on 13 carries and made it into the end zone twice. His second touchdown, which came near the

See Lewis on page 9

## A&M volleyball 3-0 win over Texas State has family ties

By Jon Gilbert  
THE BATTALION

It was a reunion of sorts for the Kolkhorst family last night at G. Rollie White Coliseum. Yet, it was Texas A&M junior Kari Kelly who came out on top as she defeated her cousin, Texas State senior Krystal Kolkhorst, to win family

bragging rights.

The Aggies also established bragging rights over their interstate competitor, as they beat the Bobcats for the 11th consecutive time 30-14, 30-22 and 30-13. A&M got back on the winning track after a recent loss to UCLA with a thrashing that took only one hour and 20 minutes.

"We were able to put it to them right away," said A&M head coach Laurie Corbelli. "I thought we came out ready to play. I did see a letdown, but I thought they recovered very well. We had each player focus on a few things to work on. We wanted to not make any defensive errors, and we did a good job of that."

The Aggies set the tempo from the

very first point of game one. Junior Kendra Felder's well-placed serves helped the Aggies jump to a 5-0 lead. The Aggies had an enormous advantage on the front line against the much shorter Texas State.

A&M had 43 kills compared to the

See Volleyball on page 9

### SIDE NOTES

ON 9



Continuation of the volleyball team's win against Texas State and running back Courtney Lewis success story.

### Coming Thursday

Kyle Davoust explores some of the recent NCAA decisions handed down on rule interpretations, such as the USC-Mike Williams case.

### BRIEFLY

A&M running back Courtney Lewis is expected to miss Saturday's Wyoming game with a minor injury, but is expected back by the Clemson game.

Roy Oswalt became the NL's first 17-game winner and the Houston Astros extended their winning streak to 11 games with a 9-7 victory over the Cincinnati Reds.

The Texas Rangers capitalized on a seven-run second inning to defeat the Chicago White Sox 10-3 to stay 7.5 games behind the Red Sox for the AL Wild Card race.

The "Lone Star Showdown" is now the official moniker for any athletic games between A&M and the University of Texas.

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### TEXAS A&M ICE HOCKEY TEAM

Informational Meeting  
Wednesday, September 8, 2004  
at 9 p.m.

Room 281 Rec Center

Team Website:  
[www.tamuicehockey.com](http://www.tamuicehockey.com)

or contact Nick Hansen  
at [tamu\\_ice\\_hockey@hotmail.com](mailto:tamu_ice_hockey@hotmail.com)

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