

Runners invade College Station for A&M Invitational

The A&M cross country team kicked off its season under the direction of new head coach Dan Waters last weekend by finishing second in men's and women's divisions at the Lobo invitational at the University of New Mexico.

"They fared really well in the altitude there," Waters said. "Everyone really competed hard. We know where our fitness level is, and we'll get a lot faster and a lot better."

Highlighting the men's showing in New Mexico were holdovers senior Jonathan Lewis and junior Matt McLeod, who finished eighth and 10th respectively.

McLeod and Lewis are some of the runners Waters will be looking for team leadership.

"Lewis is one of the best we've had, and McLeod looks to be one of the top five this year," Waters said.

On the women's side, Waters said last year's missed opportunities will translate into success this year.

"A couple of girls that either got injured or redshirted last year are getting to run," Waters said. "An underachieving team from last year has a chance to do some things."

Fourteen teams will participate in the two-day tournaments, including the University of Texas, Texas Christian University and Rice University.

"We'll run our race, work together and make sure we all run well at home," Waters said.

Runnin' wild



EVAN O'CONNELL - THE BATTALION

Aggie senior cross country team member and senior wildlife and fisheries science major Vanessa Kelly runs through Research Park. A&M is hosting an invitational tournament this weekend which will showcase 14 collegiate teams from around Texas.

Soccer

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A&M will offer.

"We wanted to play an out-of-region, top-25 team," Cano said. "Playing at one of the toughest places, against one of the best teams will be a test, and we'll find out how good we are."

The Anteaters are led by senior defender

Alyson Spencer and sophomore forward Britney Webster. Webster has two game-winning goals already this season. Yet, UC-Irvine has yet to be tested this year and traveling to A&M is a tall task.

"We started out kind of slow, but the last game we played well," Cano said. "Going to College Station is no easy task, and we will learn a lot about ourselves. Playing at A&M will get us going, and our kids will eat it up. We're looking forward to it."

Football

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type of offense that has given A&M's defense trouble over the past few years, as they like to spread the offense out and throw to multiple receivers. Clemson also likes to catch its opponents off-guard by frequently going to a no-huddle offense. However, the NCAA implemented a new rule this off-season aimed at helping defenses overcome these hurry-up offensive schemes. The rule states that the defense will be given the opportunity to rotate its players before the offense is allowed to snap the ball.

A&M defensive coordinator Carl Torbush said his team simply needs to be focused and ready to play every down.

"Instead of being able to hoop and holler a little bit after a big play, you've got to get ready to play the next play," Torbush said. "Hopefully it won't be a disadvantage, but in no way will it be an advantage."

Perhaps the scariest part of the Clemson offensive equation is Whitehurst, who Torbush regards as one of the elite.

"This guy is special. I think he's one of the top in the country when you talk about touch on the deep ball, touch on the short ball, the

ability to throw the deep ball accurately and on a line," Torbush said. "And he probably has as quick of release as I've ever seen."

With game-breakers like senior wide receiver Airese Currie, the Tigers aren't short on speed either.

"It's going to be as fine athletic team as anybody we're going to see," said A&M head coach Dennis Franchione. "We obviously have two or three outstanding teams on our schedule that are going to have great speed, but across the board speed - this team has it."

Like the Aggies, though, Clemson is a little banged up at the running back position. Junior Duane Coleman, last year's starter, has yet to play a down this season after breaking a bone in his foot last month, but is listed as questionable for Saturday's game.

Coaches from both sides hesitate to call this game vital, noting the importance of every game, but all understand how significant a win this weekend could be for their respective team.

For Clemson, it would mean getting back on track and living up to its high potential. The Tigers can't afford to open up 1-2 with all the obstacles that still lie ahead.

And for the Aggies, a win would mean making a statement to the rest of the Big 12. It would mean showing that they can contend with a top-level team with a high-powered offense.

The Match ups

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* - Depending on health status of Courtney Lewis
BRANDI DUNN • THE BATTALION

exposure.



YOU CAN STILL HAVE YOUR GROUP'S picture taken for Texas A&M's 2005 AggieLand yearbook. Photo sessions with Corps units, Greeks and Residence Halls are underway. Photo shoots for club sports and academic and other student organizations will begin in October. Space is limited, so turn in your contracts today. Follow these easy steps: (1) Download a contract from <http://aggieland.tamu.edu> or pick one up in room 004 Reed McDonald Building. (2) Fill out your contract and return it with payment to room 015 Reed McDonald. Questions? Call 845-2682 for details.

AggieLand2005
Texas A&M University



SENIORS.

We need your graduation portrait for the 2005 AggieLand yearbook.

Graduation portraits for Texas A&M University's 2005 AggieLand yearbook will be taken Monday through Friday, Sept. 13-24, 2004, in MSC Room 027. Hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day. There is no sitting fee required to be photographed for the yearbook.

To make your appointment, go to www.thorntonstudio.com. Go to Scheduling, then click New User, and complete with Registration Password: tam

Or schedule by calling Thornton Studio at 1-800-883-9449, or see the photographer beginning Sept. 13.

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Texas A&M University

Worship Directory

Catholic

St. Mary's Catholic Center
603 Church Avenue in Northgate
(979) 846-5717
www.aggiecatholic.org

Daily Masses
Mon.-Fri.: 5:30 p.m. in the Church
Tues. & Thurs.: 12:05 noon in the TAMU All Faiths' Chapel

Weekend Masses
Sat: 2:00 p.m. (Korean), 5:30 p.m. (English), 7:00 p.m. (Spanish)
Sun.: 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

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Church of Christ

A&M Church of Christ
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