

the **battalion**

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ANSWERS to today's puzzles

S	P	A	T	M	I	S	S	S	T	A	R	S
L	O	D	E	N	O	A	H	T	A	B	O	O
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6	2	9	5	7	1	4	8	3
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1	9	3	2	5	7	8	4	6
4	7	6	1	9	8	2	3	5
5	8	2	4	3	6	7	1	9

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Yell Leaders' choice to nullify votes disappointing

I was disappointed to learn that the Senior Yell Leaders decided to "nullify" the student body election results.

It seems everyone ignores the fact that the Yell Leaders agreed, as they had done for decades, to subject their elections to the rules established by the student body's representatives in Student Senate. Not only did they agree to abide by these rules, but they agreed to submit themselves to the authority of Judicial Court to resolve disputes.

It is evident that the votes of the student body were not counted correctly. As a result, a lawsuit was filed with Judicial Court. At this point the process was being followed.

But then the Senior Yell Leaders decided that they had the authority to "nullify" the results. While they wanted to ensure votes counted, they actively sought to ensure the exact opposite by advocating that the original votes of 10,000-plus students be ignored. Had they done

nothing, the Judicial Court would have resolved the issue, as they did on Monday by ordering a recount.

Rather than let Judicial Court resolve the issue, the Senior Yell Leaders created an issue by calling for a special revote on Wednesday. Students have no right to set the process for this election. Candidates have no recourse to Judicial Court. There are no guarantees of a fair process.

And somehow this is something to be celebrated? Surely not. Rather, students

should oppose this revote, lobby for the election process to be fixed by Senate and send a message to the yell leaders that their elections must be conducted by the same rules that govern all campus elections. Student body elections should be governed by the rule of law established by the representatives of the student body as a whole, not three Senior Yell Leaders or government bureaucrats.

Cody T. Vasut '09



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Lucky No. 13: A&M outlasts Dallas Baptist, extends streak

By Lawrence Smelser

In its biggest test yet, the No. 11 Texas A&M Aggie baseball team got its 13th win of the season Tuesday, defeating Dallas Baptist 7-5.

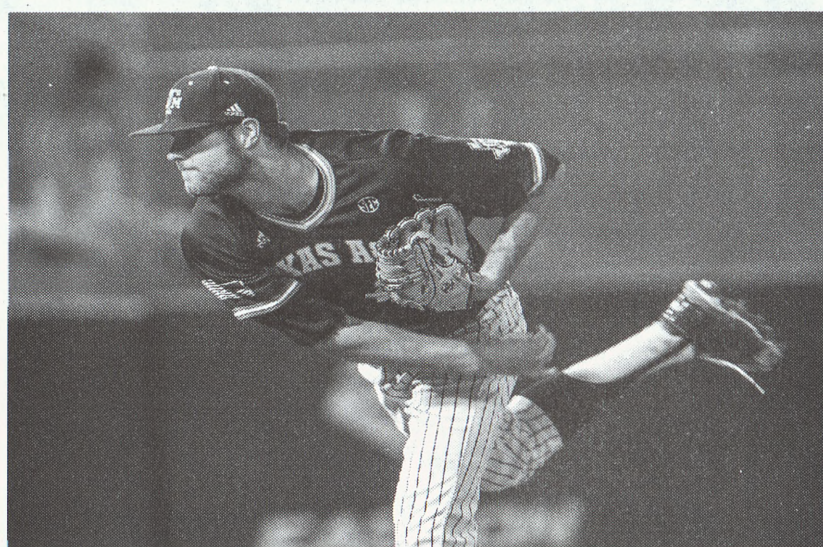
Texas A&M head coach Rob Childress discussed the hard-fought win after the game.

"We saw as good a pitching staff as we've seen all year, and may see for some time," Childress said. "There were a lot of punches thrown by both teams and we were fortunate to come out on top."

After 13 home games in a row, undefeated Texas A&M will finally venture outside the confines of Olsen Field this weekend for a tournament at Minute Maid Park.

Childress said he has learned a lot about his team in the 13-game streak.

"We have come ready to play every game," Childress said. "We haven't taken any team lightly. We have 15 guys who are capable of producing at the plate and we have lot of guys who get things done on the mound. Now we'll see how



Turner Larkins pitches at Olsen Field Tuesday night as the Aggies won 7-5 against Dallas Baptist.

they react when they are in an unfamiliar surroundings."

Four runs in the fourth inning off five consecutive hits put the Aggies up 5-2. A solo home run from Logan Taylor gave the Aggies their fifth run, but Dallas Baptist would not give up.

After Dallas Baptist tied the game at 5-5 at the top of the seventh inning, Ryne Birk singled to left field in the bottom of the seventh inning and brought home junior Michael Barash to regain the lead at 6-5 for Texas A&M. The Ag-

gies would add one more in the bottom of the seventh as a walk with the bases loaded enabled Blake Allemant to score and give the Aggies a 7-5 lead.

Starter Turner Larkins went 4 2/3 innings, striking out five and giving up four runs, three of them earned.

The Aggies next game will be in Houston on Friday against Nebraska for the Astros College Classic.

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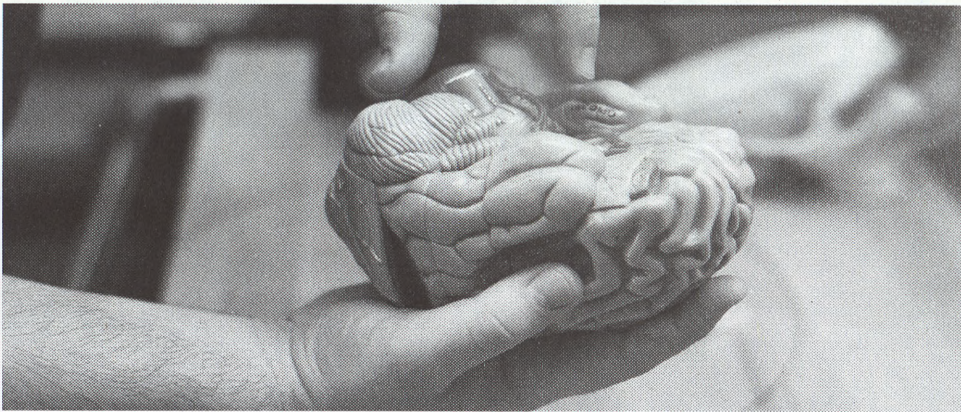
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Every 18 minutes, a brain aneurysm ruptures, causing death in 40 percent of cases and permanent neurological deficiencies in 66 percent of those who survive.

RESEARCH CONTINUED

Boyle said. "The most important thing is collagen, it is a lot more stable and stronger material. It stabilizes aneurysms and prevents a new one from forming. Years down the line, there is a healthy tissue and no risk of rupture."

Maitland said the platinum coils used in the current method are blood-filled, balloon-like bulges in the walls of a blood vessel. If the coil ruptures, it could cause neurological damage which can be debilitating or even fatal, especially if near the brain.

Maitland has worked on the memory foam for 20 years. The research is a collaboration between Maitland's

Biomedical Device Laboratory and the startup company Shape Memory Therapeutics. Shape Memory Therapeutics has contracted with BioTex, Inc., an Aggie founded medical device manufacturer based in Houston, to lead product development and manufacturing.

The recent \$2.5-million grant will be helpful for the research because it is an important step in bringing the technology to human trials, a step Maitland said is important to ensure the treatment's safety and success.

"A lot of people don't understand that if you create a prototype that is for medical technology, quite frankly, in a lot of cases if you don't take it

to human it will die, nobody will take it on because it's too risky," Maitland said. "So everything that we do is risk reduction."

Maitland's team includes colleagues from his department, the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at Texas A&M and the Mayo Clinic Medical School.

Hasan said the uniqueness of their lab is their ability to synthesize the foam on their own.

"The unique thing about our lab is that we have taken this material which is plastic, regular plastic and we are able to make foam out of them which is a significantly hard thing to do," Hasan said.

ALLEN CONTINUED

he is ready for the challenge.

"You know, coming in last year obviously I learned the system quick, but as you can see in the first scrimmage it's a totally different atmosphere coming into that — but I can see the guys are rallying around me a lot," Allen said. "We got a lot of chemistry with the O-line and receivers and stuff and it's going well."

His confidence and improvement has not gone unnoticed, said teammate and fellow quarterback Connor McQueen.

"The two biggest improvements to me are his confidence and his leadership," McQueen said. "After the season ended, he really took this team over as his own and stepped into the leadership role. Even though he is only 18, he has really stepped up and become one of the leaders on this team."

Allen High School quarterback and A&M signee Kyler Murray has drawn buzz from Aggie fans even without yet setting foot on campus as a student.

"He deserves it, the kid's never lost a game in his life," Allen said. "He's a Texas legend. I know everyone here is

from Texas and I'm from Arizona, so I don't get that love yet, but I mean he's a legend around here. So he's going to step in, he's going to put the work in just like I did, but it's going to be a fun competition."

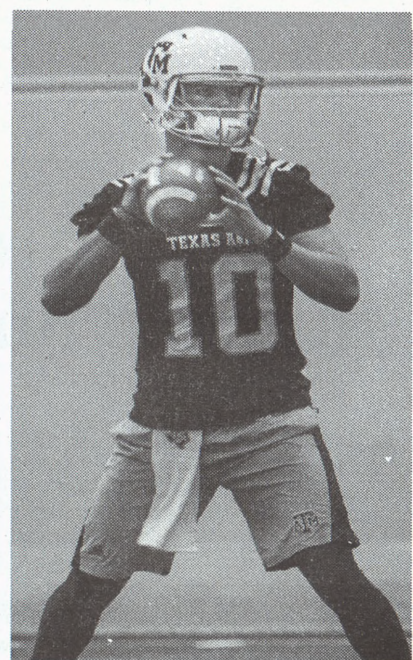
That increased leadership role is especially important given the lack of quarterbacks on the roster, said offensive coordinator Jake Spavital.

"That is a good sign, especially when you don't have much behind him right now and waiting for Kyler to come in the fall," Spavital said. "But right now he is taking it by the horns and running with it."

There are plenty of injuries on the team, including receiver Josh Reynolds, but Allen takes that in stride. He uses this time to develop better chemistry with his receivers.

"Yeah no doubt, I think that's big. I think me and Spav talked about that coming into spring, I mean not to knock it, but him being hurt it frees up other time for other guys," Allen said. "So when Josh is tired and we need other guys to step up it will be better, because we have that chemistry now."

Texas A&M will host its pro day Wednesday.



Kyle Allen, who started five games last season, completes drills during day two of spring practice Tuesday.

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