

Sul Ross Group (SRG) Bulletin Fifty-Five



April 13, 2022

NOTICE: The Sul Ross Group (SRG) is subordinate to the Association of Former Students (AFS) and functions under its auspices. The AFS has revised its policy to provide that only members of the SRG can or will receive these bulletins from their system directly, so the “Opt-In” selection will no longer apply to non-SRG persons.

Corps of Cadets Members Prevail in Yell Leader Election



Figure 1 - Students celebrate 5 for Yell's victory by the 12th Man Statue on Friday, March 4, 2022. Photo by Robert O'Brien.

As reported by Robert O'Brien in *The Battalion* on March 4, 2022, the “Five for Yell” Corps of Cadets slate won the student body election for the 2022-2023 Yell Leaders. Thomas Greve '24 and Trevor Yelton '24 were chosen to be the Junior Yell Leaders, and Zac Cross '23, Kipp Knecht '23, and Nathan Drain '23 were selected as the three Senior Yell Leaders. Zac will serve as the Head Yell Leader in the coming academic year.

The Five for Yell slate was contested by a group of non-Corps students known as “Ags 5 for Yell”. There were 11,527 eligible ballots out of approximately 73,000 students, or roughly 15%. The Corps members prevailed by nearly 2/3 to 1/3 showing a strong preference for the Corps Yell Leaders. Both of the newly elected Junior Yell Leaders expressed a goal of tightening the bond between the Corps and non-Corps students.

In addition to the election of the Yell Leaders, Case Harris '23 was elected Student Body President for the 2022-2023 academic year.

To read the full article click on the link below:

[Case Harris elected for SBP; Kipp Knecht, Zac Cross to return with 5 for Yell | News | thebatt.com](https://thebatt.com/news/case-harris-elected-for-sbp-kipp-knecht-zac-cross-to-return-with-5-for-yell/)

Texas A&M School of Law Among the Top Two in Texas



Figure 2 - View of the proposed new buildings for the downtown campus in Fort Worth for the Texas A&M School of Law.

“Texas now has two law schools nestled within the top 50 of a new ranking from the *U.S. News & World Report*.” According to *Dallas Morning News* writer, Valeria Olivares.

“Ranked at No. 46, Texas A&M University’s law school in Fort Worth joins the University of Texas at Austin’s own among the top campuses in the country for students seeking a career in the legal industry. UT’s law school stands at No. 17. Since we decided

to invest in the school and really try to turn it around, we went from unranked just a couple of years ago to shooting up the rankings,” Texas A&M University System spokesperson Timothy Eaton said. “It usually doesn’t happen like that. Olivares said, the state has 10 law schools, including Southern Methodist University, the University of North Texas at Dallas and Baylor University, among other institutions. For a long time, the state only boasted UT’s law school among the best rated.”

“Texas A&M’s school has gone up more than 100 places out of the nearly 200 law schools accredited by the American Bar Association since it was acquired by the system in 2013. We have not seen a law school advance this far this quickly,” Texas A&M’s School of Law Dean Robert Ahdieh said. “In some sense, that is very much a reflection of the mindset of Texas A&M.”

“The rapid rise comes eight years after the Texas A&M system purchased the Fort Worth school for a total of \$73.5 million from Texas Wesleyan University in 2013 — making it the first public law school in North Texas. The system had been interested in adding a law school for more than 40 years,” Olivares reported.

“That’s unheard of, it’s unprecedented,” said Karen Gren Scholer, U.S. district judge for the Northern District of Texas, about Texas A&M “catapulting” its way up.

The school’s efforts to establish itself as a national leader in the area is “paying off dividends” and that the legal community will recognize its work, Gren Scholer said.

For those who have an on-line subscription to the *Dallas Morning News*, click here to read the entire article:

https://www.dallasnews.com/news/education/2022/03/28/texas-ams-law-school-joins-ut-among-the-top-ranked-programs-in-the-country/?utm_source=headtopics&utm_medium=news&utm_campaign=2022-03-29

Texas A&M hires Georgia's Joni Taylor as women's basketball coach



Figure 3 - Texas A&M Head Women's Basketball Coach, Joni Taylor

As reported by James Hernandez, 2021 SEC Coach of the Year, and seven-year Georgia women's basketball head coach Joni Taylor, will take the reins of Texas A&M's women's basketball program, Ross Bjork, Athletic Director announced.

She replaces Hall of Fame head coach, Gary Blair. Blair coached the A&M women's basketball team for 19 years and won the national championship in 2011. The hiring will make Taylor the eighth head coach in program history and marks her second head coaching position.

"I am extremely excited and humbled to have the opportunity to lead the Texas A&M women's basketball program," Taylor said in a release. "You are talking about a program that is rich with tradition and an institution that leads not only in the SEC but in the country. I am excited to get there and meet the team and immerse myself and our family into Aggieland."

Taylor, 43, boasts 14 years of coaching experience within the Southeastern Conference and compiled a 140-75 (.651) record through her time in Athens as the head coach at the University of Georgia, which included four NCAA Tournament appearances.

Taylor has also been the recipient of the Spalding Maggie Dixon Rookie Coach of the Year and was honored as a semifinalist for the prestigious Werner Ladder Naismith National Coach of the Year Award in 2018.

Welcome to Aggieland, Coach Taylor!

To read more go to the link:

<https://12thman.com/staff-directory/joni-taylor/2021>

Patricia Lynn Corder Blume

The SRG Board wishes to express its deep condolences to fellow Board member, Jay Blume '63, on the death of his wife of 60 years, Patricia (Trish) Blume. Jay and Trish married during Jay's junior year at A&M, and they travelled the world together as Jay rose to the rank of Major General in the U.S. Air Force. Trish passed away on March 5, 2022 after courageous battle with illness. She was a devoted wife and mother and will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

Texas A&M Leads Hypersonic Research and Testing at RELLIS Campus



Texas A&M University has been named the lead institution for a university consortium for hypersonic aerial vehicle research, and to facilitate that research a one-kilometer hypersonic test tunnel is being constructed at the RELLIS campus.

Rodney D. Bowersox, professor of aerospace engineering at Texas A&M, is the principal investigator for Texas A&M

University's world-class hypersonic research team that participated in a suborbital experimental rocket launch over the Atlantic Ocean. It was conducted for the Air Force Scientific Research Lab at the NASA Wallops Flight Facility in Virginia.

Two other Texas A&M aerospace engineering professors, Helen L. Reed and Edward B. White, also play major research roles. The flight's goal was to collect scientific data to better understand, predict and control the flight path of objects flying at hypersonic speed, which is at least five times the speed of sound.

Bowersox was at Wallops Island for the launch.

Read more about the test flight here:

<https://www.afrl.af.mil/News/Article/2967247/afrlafosr-to-conduct-rocket-launch-at-nasa-wallops-for-hypersonics-research/>

Aggies Have Near-Miss in NIT Final Basketball Game

By Olin Buchanan (Excerpted from TexAgs.com)



Figure 4 - Quenton Jackson dunks the ball.

The Aggies fell one point short of winning the National Invitational Tournament at Madison Square Garden in New York being outscored by Xavier on a last-second basket 72-73.

Shunned by the NCAA Tournament selection committee on March 13, the Aggies were relegated to the less prestigious National Invitational Tournament.

A&M (27-12) blew out four NIT opponents by an average of 14.5 points. Victories over Alcorn State, Oregon, Wake Forest and Washington State were by double-digit margins.

The Aggies — the last Southeastern Conference basketball team still playing at the end — clashed with Xavier (22-13) for the NIT championship Thursday at Madison Square Garden.

Before the game senior guard Quenton Jackson '22 said Of course, we wanted to do it in March Madness, but the opportunity we had on the table was in the NIT. We've taken full advantage of it. We've got one more game. It'll be amazing."

The Aggies had been amazing, especially on the defensive end.

Meanwhile, going into the game Jackson was leading A&M with a 14.6-point scoring average. Henry Coleman III '24 was averaging 11.1 points and 6.2 rebounds, and Tyrece Radford '23 was averaging 10.7 points and 6.2 rebounds.

After a mid-season eight game losing streak, A&M made changes in the starting lineup, went to a four-guard offense and went on a streak of 11 victories in the last 12 games.

Jackson said the Aggies actually benefitted from their mid-season slump.

"Everything that went on this year... that's something that needed to go on just for everybody in their lives," he said. "It's a story behind everything. As long as you're locked in and learning the story, you're really good."

The Aggies finished the season with a 27-13 record with most of the starters returning next season.

To reads the rest of the article go to the link below:

[With something to prove, Texas A&M faces Xavier on Thursday for NIT crown | TexAgs](#)

Maroon and White Spring Football Game

As reported by Robert Cessna in the *The Eagle* on April 10, 2022, the Maroon & White spring football game was held on Saturday, April 9, before a large sunny day crowd of over 22,000. The event was played as a full game with the team divided between the maroon and white teams. Three quarterbacks, LSU transfer Max Johnson '24, Haynes King '24, and true freshman, Conner Weigman '26, alternated. The final score was 30-24 with the maroon team prevailing. Passing by all three quarterbacks was hampered by the wind. We've been throwing it really well all spring," Coach Jimbo Fisher said. "I was really pleased until today in some of the things we did. I think the weather had a little bit to do with it. But hey, you've got to play in those days when the wind is 30 mph." According to Coach Fisher, the only injury was to an ankle of OL Jordan Spasojevic-Moko '24. Avery Hughes '24, a walk-on, had two interceptions for the day, and returned one 24 yards for a

touchdown. “He had an opportunity to make two plays and he did a really nice job,” Fisher said.

Two true freshmen had outstanding days. Anthony Lucas '26 led the defensive team in tackles, and wide receiver Evan Stewart '26 had seven receptions for 75 yards. Many top-shelf recruits were on hand to watch the game and further establish relationships with coaches and current players.

To read the full article go to the link:

https://theeagle.com/sports/college/aggiesports/football/texas-a-m-gbs-struggle-in-windy-conditions-as-walk-on-grabs-spotlight-at-spring/article_22eb0066-b876-11ec-a794-7b42003daa84.html

NOTES

The A&M System and Texas A&M University leadership may be reached at:

Chancellor Sharp: chancellor@tamus.edu

The Board of Regents: vickie@tamus.edu or jbell@tamus.edu

President Banks: president@tamu.edu

Interim Provost Scott: t-scott@tamu.edu

Athletic Director Bjork: rrabun@athletics.tamu.edu

You can reach us at: SRGpresident@AggieNetwork.com. The Sul Ross Group (SRG) Board of Directors are responsible for producing and editing these SRG Bulletins, with transparency to and advice from The Association of Former Students, under whose auspices we operate. We do so in keeping with one of our four charged SRG Constitution's Purposes, which is keeping our represented SRG Membership informed in a timely manner. To access information about us as the elected SRG Board of Directors, and our Constitution, please refer to our new “**SRG Tab**” (Under “**Programs**”) on The Association's website, at: AggieNetwork.com. One can access information about us, including the current 2022-2023 SRG Board of Directors, The SRG's Constitution and By-Laws, and the SRG's history and what we're about.