August 2019

Are you ready for the second year of Jimbo? Let’s hope the Aggie Football team can do as well as Mark Patranella ‘82 did last year! For those of you new to WCAC Pick’em, our 2018 Champion became the first in history to snag the cash jackpot for a pick list of perfection. NOW GET YOUR PICKS IN FOR 2019 to see if you can get in on the big prize! Let’s check in with Mark in our defending champ interview.

Q: Everyone is dying to know your Aggie background for clues to how you pulled off your feat last year. What do you have for us?

A: I’m class of ’82 with a degree in agricultural economics. Grew up in Bryan/College Station and have been attending Aggie football games my whole life. I come from an Aggie family. My mother worked for the university for 63 years. My three siblings, three nieces and nephews, son and daughter in law are all Aggie graduates. My wife Debbie, is also as much as an Aggie as any of us. We married while I was still attending school and lived in Married Student Housing for a year.

Q: You have been a big supporter of our Club for a long time. What are your earliest memories of the WCAC?

A: I have been fortunate to have been involved with the Washington County Aggie Club since I moved to Brenham in 1982. The first few years I was here, we had Muster out at John’s Garnett’s place off FM 389. It was always a great get together. In the summer of 1982, A&M hired Jackie Sherrill as the new head football coach. He came to Brenham shortly after being hired and we had a huge crowd at Silver Wings to hear him. In fact, the Washington County Aggies paid for a full page ad in the Banner Press welcoming him to Brenham.

My most memorable Aggie Club event was the annual roast we had along with the t-sips. Apparently this is something that used to go on years before I arrived in Brenham. A group of us revived it and it was a great event (at least for the Aggies). John Garnett always represented the Aggies and would always do an unbelievable job. His material was always funny and extremely clever. He really stole the show each year. Since the Longhorns had no one that could compete with him, the event eventually moved away from a roast and more into invited outside speakers. Still a good event, but nothing like days of the roast.

Q: How did it feel to become the first Washington County Aggie to run the table on picking every winner?

A: It was awesome! I felt good about my picks when I made them. I know most everyone was enthralled with the ending of the LSU game, but I knew I had much more riding on the outcome than most. Washington County Aggie Club Football Prediction Champion!

Q: Do you have a prediction for how well you will do this year in the Pick’em contest?

A: I am planning on repeating as champion, of course. Remember- If you aren’t first, you’re last.
Football Pick’em Interview: Mark Patranella ‘82

**Q:** What are your expectations for the Maroon and White in 2019?

**A:** Hard to say. In a way, I think the team could be better but the record may not indicate it. Brutal Schedule. I am always optimistic about Aggie Football (with the exception of the Fran years). I will probably predict something close to last year, maybe slightly better.

**Q:** What player do you think will be the biggest surprise in 2019?

**A:** Not sure it would be a surprise, but I think Leon O’Neal will have a heck of a year. He really played well at the end of the season when he had his opportunity. I love his passion for the game and Texas A&M. Great Twitter follow if you do that type of thing.

**Q:** If you rank the “Big 4” games by who you want to claim victory over most, how do you order?

**A:** Alabama, LSU, Clemson, Georgia

**Q:** If you were head coach and A&M scored a TD with no time on the clock against Alabama, extra point ties it........do you go for 2 or overtime? What play do you call?

**A:** Go for the tie at home and the win on the road. I would call one of the plays that we used in the overtimes against LSU. They all seemed to work fairly well.

**Q:** What is your favorite A&M football game of all time?

**A:** Hard to say, there have been so many. I will give you my top 3.

- 1979 Texas game. I was in the student section. Aggies won 13-7
- 1985 Texas game. Loudest I have ever heard Kyle Field.
- 2012 Alabama game. Aggies shock the Tide at their place.

**Runners up:** 1999 Bonfire game, 2002 OU game, 1998 Nebraska game, 2018 LSU game

**Q:** Is there anyone you would like to personally challenge to compete better in the Pick’em contest?

**A:** I challenge all the Blue Bell Aggies to do their best to keep the Pick’em Champion here at Blue Bell. I feel confident we will.

**Q:** What’s the first thing you buy when you get offered a job with a guaranteed $75 million?

**A:** A 50 yard line West side luxury suite at Kyle Field. In fact, If I have that much money, I will probably have a lot more friends. So I probably will need to get two.

**PAST CHAMPIONS**

- 2015: Jim Kruse ‘92
- 2016: Jim Kruse ‘92
- 2017: Darren Huckert ‘02
- 2018: Mark Patranella ‘82
2019 Aggie Football Contest—Pick’em and Win!

Aggie Football is nearly here, and we are ready to crown a new champion. The rules are simple. Just pick the final score of each game during the season. Lucky pickers will receive a prize at season’s end. You can’t win if you don’t play! Print and fill in this page and send it in to washingtonaggieclub@gmail.com or just reply to the newsletter e-mail with your picks.

Name: ____________________________
Aggie Family Fun Night
Fireman’s Park
Wednesday, August 21st
6 - 8:30 pm
Dinner 6:45 pm
All ages welcome!
Odds and Ends

We had a GREAT response on scholarship applications. The committee is hard at work selecting recipients to be announced at Aggie Family Fun Night!

Check out our new text service information for another great way to be reminded of events. (Just text @6fe3ec to 81010)

Coming in September: Happy Hour OR Watch Party as we BTHO Arkansas!

The July luncheon was a lot of fun. Aggies from all over the county had a chance to air all of their complaints, grievances, constructive feedback about athletic facilities, operations, game logistics etc. with Kaitlyn Schindler ‘15, the Assistant Director of Special Events in the Athletics Department. Scot Obergefell, General Manager for Kyle Field got wind of the questions on tap had an emergency in preparing for the coming football season, which may or may not have involved hydration preparation. We were glad Kaitlyn could fill in as our target guest speaker and eat some chicken fried steak!
Documentary on 1999 Bonfire to premiere in Brenham on November 15th

The upcoming documentary "The 13th Man" honors and represents all the fallen Aggies from the 1999 Bonfire tragedy. On 11/18/99 a ninety-year old tradition came to a shocking end on the campus of Texas A&M when the bonfire collapsed and killed twelve students and injured twenty-seven others. With the 20 year anniversary upon us, acclaimed filmmaker Charlie Minn decided to give the fallen Aggies a much-needed voice.

"Any story will fade after twenty years. What a documentary can do is inform, educate and remind people about the Aggies who were deeply affected by the incident. Raising awareness for the fallen Aggies, representing and honoring them on such a landmark anniversary is critical. Let's never forget them." Minn said.

The much anticipated film "The 13th Man" opens on 11/7 at Premiere Cinemas and the Queen Theatre in Bryan for a minimum one week run. It will then open all over the state of Texas on Friday 11/15, including Westwood Cinema in Brenham.

For more theatre information and to watch the trailer please log onto www.13thmanfilm.com

Texas A&M Trap and Skeet Fundraiser Sporting Clays Shoot and Banquet
Sunday, August 25th, 2019
Boswell Porter 4-H Range (676 CR 247, Caldwell, TX 77836)
Individual Shooter $150, Team of 4: $550

The Texas A&M Trap and Skeet Club has been an important part of many Aggies' lives for over 40 years. This club not only gives an opportunity to compete against other schools at the National Collegiate level, but also provides an avenue for any student new to shotgun sports to learn about the games and participate recreationally. Our club is dedicated to preserving and spreading the awareness, respect, and appreciation of clay target sports, as well as develop skills that will be useful throughout our lives.

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