The Collegiate Water Polo Association’s Texas Division Conference Championships were held at the Student Recreation Center’s Natatorium on October 23-24. The tournament consisted of schools in the Texas Division; Texas, Baylor, Rice, University of Houston, Texas Tech, and Texas State. The men’s team advanced to the final round of the championship where they finished second to Texas. Wesley Fikes, the men’s team captain, pinpointed some standout players of the game, who he believes will make the conference team, these players include himself, Andrew MacDonald, Cameron Glass, Kevin Goepel (goalie), and Bryan Coyle. Defensively the game was won by the Aggies, but conditioning will definitely be a big part of workouts come fall, which Wesley believes will give them the winning edge in the conference next year.

Conference Standings:
1. Texas
2. Texas A&M University
3. Texas Tech University
4. University of Houston
5. Rice University
6. Texas State
7. Baylor University

Women’s Rugby Gives Back

By Catherine Harper

The Women’s Rugby team has made it a goal to be more involved in the community this year. After helping the men’s team with the Gareth Jones Rugby Challenger Cup last spring, the team felt they could do more. The team started by helping contribute to the canned food drive held by Sport Clubs Association. Then on the morning of November 20th, before watching the football team BTHO out of Nebraska, the team participated in Get Fit College Station sponsored by Project Sunshine. The ruggers set up a table and helped the kids see what rugby was all about by passing the ball around and telling the visitors a little bit about the game of rugby. The team also decided to sponsor a child for Christmas. The club bought gifts for a young girl who may not have had much of a Christmas otherwise. The women feel that by giving back to their community, they can make a difference in kids’ lives as well as spread a love for the game of rugby.
Aggie Wrestling Makes Its Mark

By Christopher Parker

You would be hard struck to find a student organization, let alone a Sports Club, that has come as far in the past 18 months as the Wrestling team has done. Through a well managed budget and active leadership, Aggie Wrestling went from barely competing to earning Most Improved Sport Club for 2010. “This year we are more organized than ever,” said Vice President Nathan Hill. “We communicate well as an officer group and are hosting tournaments where our Wrestlers can compete 3, 4 and 5 times at one meet.” One of those meets, the Aggieland Open, is that took place on December 4th. A&M is hosting teams from the 3 main governing bodies in collegiate wrestling, the NCAA, NAIA, and NCWA. “Not only does it allow us good quality opposition, but we have the opportunity to increase awareness about our program on the national stage,” Hill states. The 2010-2011 season has been prolific so far for the Aggie Wrestlers; losing their only matches via voids and competing soundly at both the Southwest Open and dual meet in San Marcos. The Aggie Wrestlers are also competing in the Lone Star Duals on the 15th of January and are hosting the Texas State Championships on the 19th of February.

Women’s Volleyball Spring Outlook

By Rachel Benson

This year the women’s club held tryouts in September and had 60 women try out, the team took 21. The team most recently hosted a round robin with teams from Texas Tech, UTSA and A&M. The volleyball 1st team went undefeated and the 2nd team only lost one game, to A&M’s 1st team. The club had their last tournament for the fall semester at the Baylor Winter Classic tournament the first weekend of December. The team this year is comprised of a full roster of talented and competitive players that have all played and excelled at the high school level and at the junior club level. “We are more than teammates; I think every girl in the club can say that some of their best friends are on this team,” says Taylor Purswell, President of the team. The team’s goals for this year are to win the Southern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association Championships (SIVA), which is the conference that they compete in that is comprised of schools all over Texas. The team hopes to win nationals again, after both teams winning two titles this past season. The team’s next big event is hosting their annual volleyball tournament for juniors ages 13-15. The club’s main goal besides winning nationals this year is to start an endowment that will help to carry on the Volleyball Club’s already stellar reputation. “I would be very happy to know we helped ensure the financial stability of the club and potentially the opportunity for scholarships for future players for many years to come” says Taylor.

Sport Club Fall Accomplishments

Paintball— Ranked 1st in the nation by the National Collegiate Paintball Association—Class AA

Men’s & Women’s Soccer— Won the Region IV Tournament to advance to Nationals.

Women’s Soccer— Advanced to the semi-finals of the 2010 NCCS National Soccer Championships. Caitlin Hendler and Julie Conn received All Tournament honors in the Women’s Championship Division.

Cycling— Won their 11th consecutive South Central Collegiate Conference Mountain Bike Championships.

Water Ski— Placed 9th overall at the National Collegiate Water Ski Association (NCWSA) National Championships, Division I; 4th non-scholarship team in the nation. Also placed 3rd in the NSWSA South Central Region.

Men’s & Women’s Polo— Won the Fall Fandango Tournament (which is similar to a regional tournament).