

SWC golf, tennis tournaments start Thursday

Fifteen top golfers meet for SWC medalist honors

By CLIFFORD BROYLES
Battalion Sports Writer

Fifteen golfers from seven Southwest Conference schools will be on hand Thursday as they open 72 holes of medal play for the Southwest Conference individual championship.

The meet opens on the A&M golf course at 8 a.m. with the golfers slated to play 36 holes Thursday and 36 Friday.

Team champion Texas Tech will have four players on hand, with runnerup Arkansas allowed three. The Aggies, Southern Methodist University and Texas Christian will have two players each. Baylor and Rice, which held up the lower end in the league's

Other top contenders expected to be back that performed last year include Stan Atgelt, SMU senior from Corpus Christi, who is the top returnee from last year and Brad Wilemon of Tech. Atgelt was fourth last year with a 297 and Wilemon tied for sixth with 301.

Jim Whittaker of Tech had 303 for ninth and Don Brown of Baylor had 319. Brown is expected to be Baylor's lone golfer.

Chuck Brownfield of Arkansas shot 322 last year and will be one of three Razorbacks at the meet.

The real surprise of the meet could be junior Mike Mosser of the Razorbacks, who defeated the number one player of every conference team in dual match play. Either Bill Brown or Jim Cisne will join them at the tournament.

Joining Whittaker and Wilemon for champion Tech will be Steve Thompson, a senior from Lubbock and a fourth player that has not been nominated.

SMU will have freshman Mike Huebinger from San Antonio, who has been more impressive this year than Atgelt, and a third player that has not been announced.

Rice after finishing last will have only representative and coach John Plumbley has nominated freshman John Scott from Daingerfield to make the trip for the Owls.

The Aggies last captured an individual honor in the meet in 1963 when Eugene Byrd took the individual title. The year before John Lively won it for the Aggies and two years before that Lively and Dick Duple shared the title for A&M. Between the years of 1960-64 the Aggies won four consecutive team championships.

The defending team and individual champion from last year aren't back. Individual champ Dean Overturf of Texas, who shot a one over par 289 last year, has finished his eligibility and the Longhorns as a team have dropped out of competition in the league.

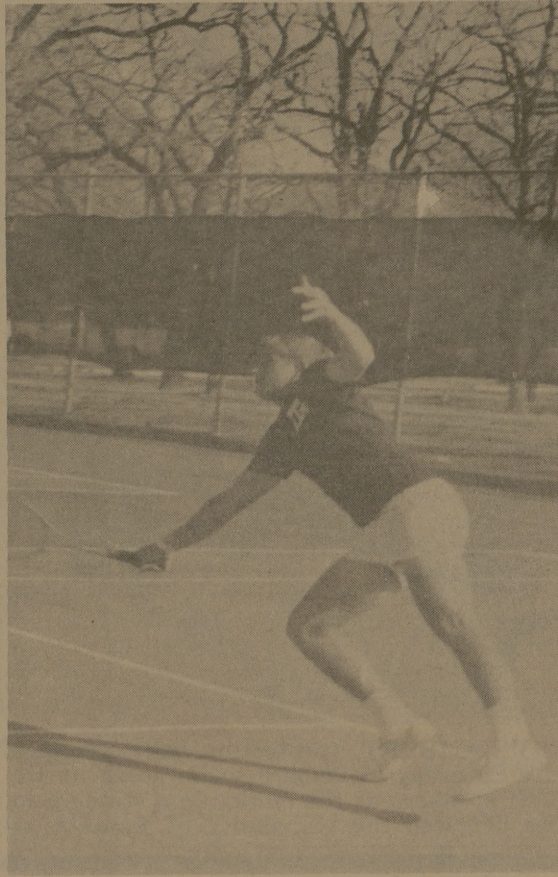
Last year Overturf and teammates Tom Kite and George Machock were the top three golfers. Machock and Kite were back this year but the Longhorns decided not to play by conference regulations and dropped out of the golf race.

In final match play standings for this season were:

Team	W	L	MB
Tech	26½	9½	
Arkansas	24	12	2½
SMU	21	15	5½
A&M	20½	15½	6
TCU	14	16	8½
Baylor	8	28	18½
Rice	6	24	17½

600 for Aaron

ATLANTA (AP)—Slugging Hank Aaron of the Atlanta Braves became the third man in major league baseball history to reach the 600 home run mark for his career Tuesday night when he cracked his eighth of the season in a game against San Francisco.



The Texas Aggies' tennis hopes ride on the efforts of Dickie Fikes, left, and Jon Ragland, the team's number one doubles unit. The twosome will be the number one seeded doubles team in the SWC tennis meet beginning Thursday morning through Saturday afternoon on varsity courts. (Photo by Mike Rice)

Aggies face Houston in Thursday twinbill

By CLIFFORD BROYLES
Battalion Sports Editor

The Texas Aggie baseball team hosts the University of Houston in a non-conference doubleheader Thursday on Kyle Field.

The teams will meet beginning at 1 p.m. with the first game set for seven innings and the second for nine.

The double bill will be important to both squads as the Aggies will be out to get back in the winning mood; it will be their last tuneup before the Texas-Austin series Monday and Tuesday.

The Cougars swept a doubleheader from Lamar Tech Tuesday to bring their record to 24-13, and a sweep of the Aggies could put them in the picture for an NCAA spot.

Coach Tom Chandler will be back for the Aggies. Chandler left the Sharpstown General Hospital in Houston Saturday and returned home in time to meet the Aggies as they returned from Fort Worth.

Chandler said that the TCU series was just one of those things that can happen in baseball.

"TCU right now has the whammy on us and they seem to win no matter what."

It's just something that can happen in baseball, he pointed out. He gave an example of the year the New York Mets won the world series. The Mets conquered the world but lost 11 of 12 games to the Houston Astros. No matter what the Mets did the Astros always won.

Chandler added that it hasn't always been that way.

"When I first started coaching we used to always rough up TCU, and it was Rice that had it going

then. Rice really put some crucial losses on us."

The Aggies are expected to go back to their system of using three pitchers in each game in the twinbill. That system was successful when the Aggies won doubleheaders from St. Mary's and Houston on the road during Easter.

Chandler hasn't named the starters for the doubleheader but left-handers Bruce Katt and Jackie Binks and righthanders Paul Czerwinski, Charlie Kelley, Pat

scored and 45 base hits. He leads the team in stolen bases with 7. Carroll Lilly has 10 doubles, Billy Hodge leads in triples with four and bases on ball with 24. Chris Sans has 21 runs batted in and also leads in strikeouts with 18. Lilly also leads in fewest strikeouts having fanned only four times in 104 at bats, or once over 26 times at the plate.

The probable starting lineup for Houston will be:

Mike Clark, catcher, .478; Eddie Henderson, shortstop, .319; Russ Schroeder, third base, .287; Bill McLain, first base, .267; David Vinson, centerfield, .243; Phillip Terrell, leftfield, .243; Tom Kaiser, rightfield, .198; Don Hill, second base, .165 and the pitcher.

The probable starting lineup for the Aggies will be: Butch Gutzman, .302, shortstop; R. J. Englert, .352, leftfield; Dave Elmendorf, .375, centerfield; Billy Hodge, .366, catcher; Jim Sampson, .322, Larry Smith, .340, or Gene Reinartz, .216, rightfield; Chris Sans, .314, first base; Carroll Lilly, .356, second base; Jimmy Hacker, .274, third base; and the pitcher.

Chris Sans

Jamison and Charlie Jenkins will see some action.

Houston is expected to start ace righthander Elroy Olthold in one of the games. Olthold, with a 7-0 record, has established a record for the most wins by a Houston pitcher in one season. Two weeks ago, while the Aggies were playing the Tech series, Olthold pitched a shutout against the University of Texas at Austin in Houston. Since that time the Longhorns have scored 72 runs in five games.

Another righthander, Johnny Hatcher, is expected to draw the other job. Hatcher—a hard-throwing righthander—has a 4-3 record and was the starting pitcher in the second game of the first doubleheader between the two teams. He suffered an injury after pitching the first inning of that game, however, and was the losing pitcher.

The 24 wins for the Cougars is a school record. The doubleheader will close out the regular season for Houston.

Houston boasts two hitters over the .300 mark on the squad with catcher and outfielder Mike Clark hitting .478 and shortstop Eddie Henderson .319.

The Aggies have nine players over the .300 batting mark for the season, with Dave Elmendorf leading with a .375 average. Chris Sans is the team's leading hitter in Southwest Conference play with a .418 average and has upped his season's average to .314 after being down to .250 only three weeks ago.

In individual statistics this season, Butch Gutzman leads in at bats with 139, total bases with 59 and sacrifice flies with four. R. J. Englert leads with 29 runs

Loaded Owls to play without Estep in SWC net Classic

By MICHAEL RICE
Battalion Sports Writer

Coach Sammy Giammalva said it so nicely the other day when he was discussing the Southwest Conference Championships in tennis: "The championship team has already been determined; the tournament is really for individuals."

The tennis championships which are scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. Thursday may be sort of anti-climatic to Giammalva; however the competition on varsity courts should provide an excellent opportunity for tennis buffs to see some really top-notch athletes in action. Action will continue through Saturday.

The past four conference championships have gone to Giammalva's Owls and they should be about as strong as ever this week. However Rice will be without the services of three-time All-American Mike Estep due to exams and paper work he must complete as he is a graduating senior.

"I sure hate to lose him," said Giammalva, "because since he and Zan Guerry have been here we've won the past four conference championships, and haven't lost to Texas during those four years."

Have no fear, though, Rice will be bringing Harold Solomon, who is at least as good if not better than Estep, from whom Solomon has stolen the number one spot on the team.

Solomon, a freshman from Silver Springs, Md., reached the semifinals last week in the River Oaks Tennis Tournament before losing to the eventual champion, Cliff Richey. Solomon will be the number one seed in the singles.

On their way to winning the SWC team championship in dual match play, which is their fourth straight, the Owls were beaten by Texas A&M and Southern Methodist, once each.

The picture's not too bleak for the A&M netters, however, as the doubles team of Dickie Fikes and Jon Ragland is seeded as the number one doubles team of the meet. Fikes and Ragland succeeded in tallying a 5-0 record against conference opponents.

Ragland, who was redshirted last year, teamed with Pete Faust to win the SWC doubles championship two years ago as

a sophomore. Fikes, a junior, reached the singles quarterfinals last year before being eliminated.

Coach Omar Smith plans to use the other doubles team of Connell and Mike Hickey as the second team for A&M.

It may be interesting to note that since A&M entered tennis competition in 1916, an A&M team has yet to win the team championship title. The only real successes A&M has had were R. G. DeBerry, who won the singles title in 1952; the first place doubles team of Richard Barker and Lois Rojas in 1964; and the Ragland-Faust victory in 1969.

If it's any consolation, though, A&M did move up one in the conference standings over last year's fifth place. Rice, naturally led the conference this year with 40 wins and only two losses.

What can one expect from the other teams in the conference in their bids for points in the tournament? Plenty of rough competition is the only answer.

SMU will be moving in with only one Texan on its team, Steve Browne. The Mustangs, who lost to Rice 6-1 for the team title and once to A&M, will be depending on John Gardner and Ian Russell, both from Australia; and Californians Jay Paulson and Woody Blocher. Gardner lost to Rice's Estep last year in a split set semifinals.

The University of Texas at Austin is hinging its hopes on Avery Rush, John Nelson, Dan Nelson, and either Ron Touchon or Marc Wiegand. Texas pulled in third in the conference standings behind SMU.

Texas Tech, which placed fifth behind the Aggies, will be playing James Chisholm, Walter Hammerick, Robbie Sargent, and Joe Ben Whittenburg.

The close race for last place in the conference saw TCU beat out Baylor for the bottom honors this year. Baylor will be fielding John Adams, George Moncada, Dan Novak, and Tom Sheives.

TCU's best will be Juan Carominas, John Fletcher, New James, and John Kritzer.

The final team standings for this year were Rice (40-2); SMU (35-7); Texas (27-15); A&M (23-19); Texas Tech (12-30); Baylor (8-34); and TCU (2-40).

Netters whip UH in final warmup

The Texas Aggie tennis team—in its final warmup before the Southwest Conference meet this weekend—Tuesday defeated the University of Houston 4-3 in a practice match at John E. Hoff Tennis Center on the UH campus. A&M defeated Houston 4-2 earlier this year.

The Aggies started off by winning the number one match as Dickie Fikes won over Jim Rambeau, UH, by default. Ronnie Flores, UH, def. Jon Ragland, A&M, 6-1, 5-7, 6-4.

Richard Lay, UH, def. Mike Hickey, A&M, 6-1, 6-2. Tom Gustavson, UH, def. Tommy Connell, A&M, 6-3, 7-5. Dan Courson, A&M, def. Gene Rhodes, UH, 4-6, 6-4, 7-5.

Doubles: Fikes - Ragland, A&M, def. Flores-Lay, UH, default. Hickey - Courson, A&M, def. Gustavson-Rhodes, UH, 2-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Horns crush Dallas Baptist

AUSTIN (AP)—Texas pounded Dallas Baptist 11-6 and 14-0 Tuesday in its final non-conference competition before next Monday's Southwest Conference baseball showdown with Texas A&M in College Station.

The Longhorns, who have now won 22 of their last 25 games to move their season mark to 30-9, used 12 and 17-hit attacks to defeat Dallas Baptist.

Walt Rothe had three hits, including a two-run homer, his ninth of the year, in the first game. David Chalk went four for five and John Langerhans had a three-run double in the nightcap.

Dallas Baptist, now 12-16 on the year, led 6-3 in the opening game after two-run homers by Mike Samuells and Gerald Tutrow.

Results of the Houston match are:

Singles: Dickie Fikes, A&M, def. Jim Rambeau, UH, by default.

Ronnie Flores, UH, def. Jon Ragland, A&M, 6-1, 5-7, 6-4.

Richard Lay, UH, def. Mike Hickey, A&M, 6-1, 6-2.

Tom Gustavson, UH, def. Tommy Connell, A&M, 6-3, 7-5.

Dan Courson, A&M, def. Gene Rhodes, UH, 4-6, 6-4, 7-5.

Doubles: Fikes - Ragland, A&M, def. Flores-Lay, UH, default.

Hickey - Courson, A&M, def. Gustavson-Rhodes, UH, 2-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Sports Car Club slates autocross

A Sunday driving event that will be new to most area sports car buffs is scheduled by the Texas A&M Sports Car Club.

The English style autocross will be held on a grassland course off the west loop (FM 2818) south of College Station, announced club president Tom Wedel.

Professor Allen Parker, visiting professor from England in the Aerospace Engineering Department, will be event master. The competition consists of three timed runs—with the best counting—on a half-mile course including two straights and several bends. Cars will be run by classes. Two cars will run at a time, separated by a half lap.

"This event is ideal for normal road cars," emphasized Kerry Bonner, who noted the club will meet Thursday at the Old College Station City Hall.

"The event will not damage vehicles and no tire wear occurs," he added. "It is almost impossible to roll or otherwise damage a car on sod."

Additional information and entry forms will be available at the 7:30 p.m. Thursday meeting.



Steve Veriato

dual match play, will be allowed one representative in the competition to determine the conference's medal winner.

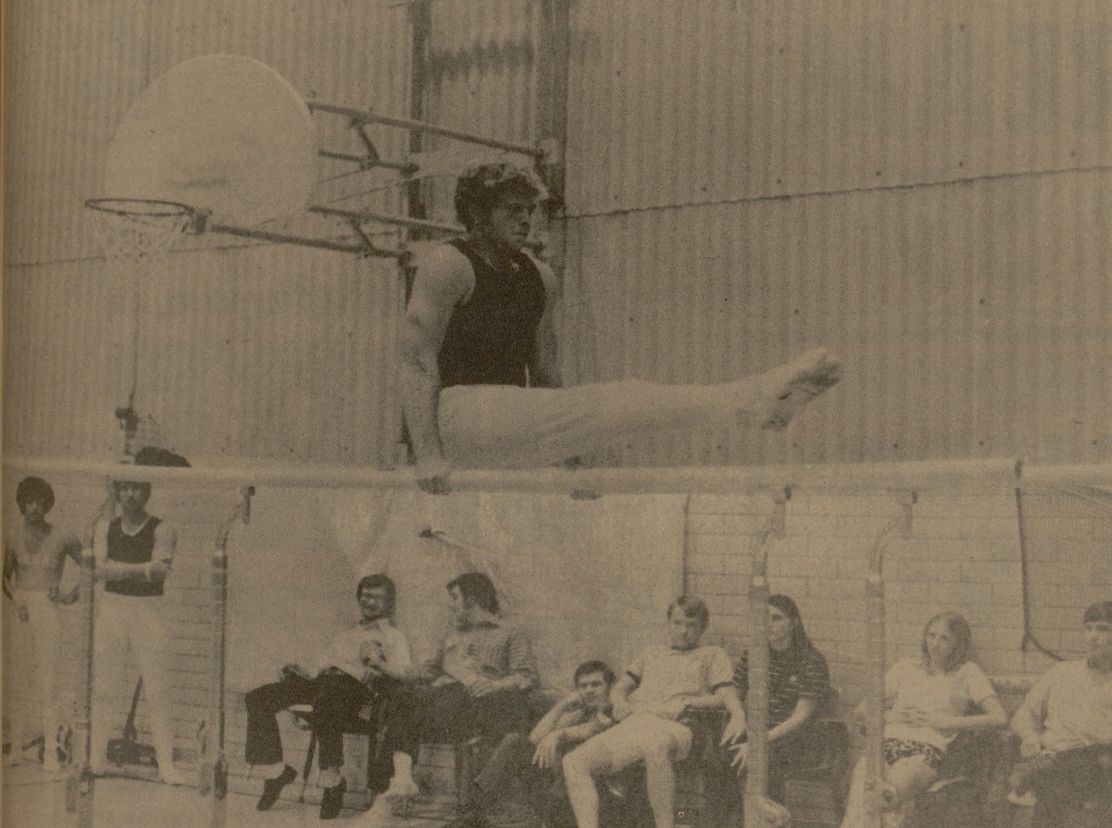
The Aggies of coach Henry Ransom are expected to pick between any of three golfers for their representatives for the meet. Ransom said that Steve Veriato, Tommy Johnson and Tommy Shelton will have a play-off today to decide who will play in the tournament.

Veriato, a sophomore from Hilo, Hawaii, shot 306 last year at Houston to finish eleventh. Richard Ellis, and Duke Butler, two other Aggie golfers last year, were in the meet.

Ellis was fifth with 299, and Butler withdrew from the meet after shooting 82 in the first round.

2 sports end intramural play

Playoffs are underway in two sports in intramurals this week. Class A and C softball and tennis will complete their season Thursday marking the end of the spring intramural program with the exception of swimming.



Randy Brown of the Texas A&M gymnastics team performs on the parallel bars in Saturday's meet with the University of Texas at Austin at G. Rollie White Coliseum. A&M's women's team had a meet with TCU at the same time. Brown's teammate Rex Stratton won the event. (Photo by Mike Rice)