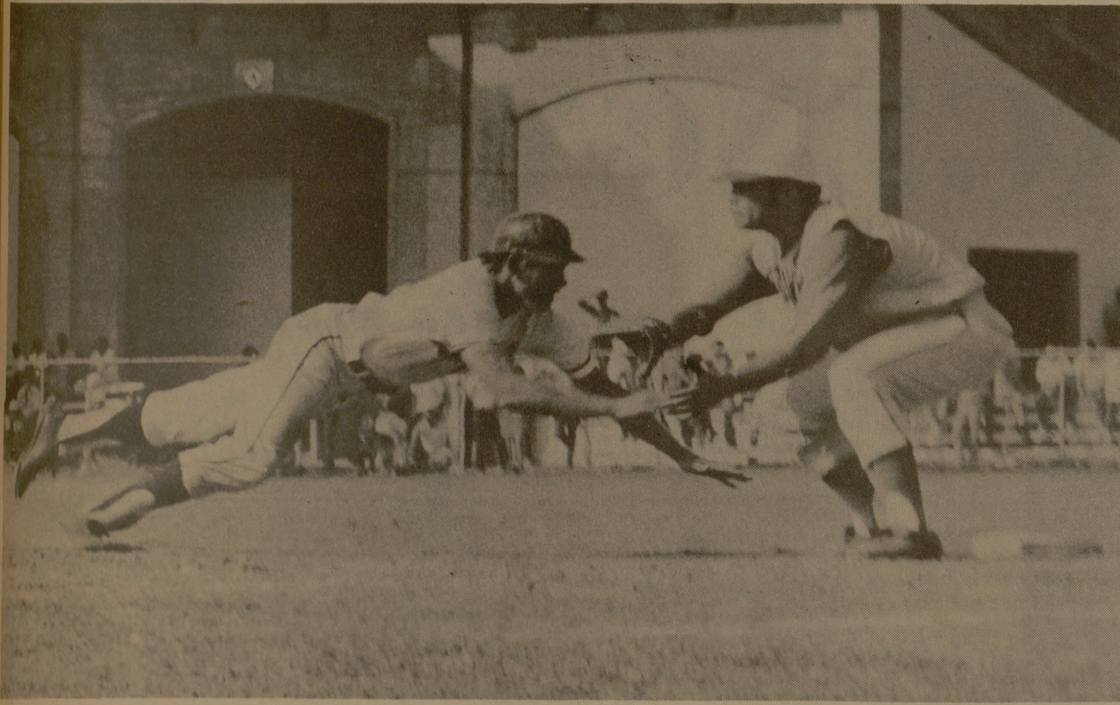


Longhorns win SWC crown with double win over Aggs



DAVE ELMENDORF scrambles back to the safety of first base, while Texas' first baseman John Langerhans waits for the ball from the pitcher of the second game, Mike Beard. (Photo by Mike Rice)

By CLIFFORD BROYLES

It wasn't too long ago that the Texas-Austin Longhorns were playing the Texas Christian University Horned Frogs in Austin. Before the series the Frogs had a 4-2 record and the Longhorns a 3-3 record.

The Aggies were 6-0 and the conversation piece was who to root for in the series.

One Aggie, who is a veteran of conference play, came up with the answer. "I want TCU to win three. I've seen Texas down by three this way before and yet when the smoke cleared they went to Omaha. I want them out of there."

Now it's over except for a final game between the Aggies and Longhorns today at 3 p.m. on Kyle Field, and the Longhorns, although not officially entitled to a trip to Omaha and the College World Series, won the right to advance in that direction with a doubleheader sweep of the Texas Aggies 9-6 and 3-0 Monday on Kyle Field.

Texas has not lost since they were 3-3 and now own a 14-3 record while the Aggies are mired in the mud with a 12-5 record and five consecutive conference losses.

But the downfall came in a different manner than expected as the Aggies knocked Burt Hooton, the Longhorns' strong-armed junior, around like a drum, while jun-

ior lefthander Mike Beard, twirled a nifty gem in the nightcap.

Texas jumped to a 9-2 lead in the first game, rapping Aggie starter Bruce Katt for 13 hits and nine runs before he departed in the top of the fourth. That was the inning that Texas scored eight runs, overcoming a 2-1 Aggie lead.

A&M took the lead in the bottom of the third on a rbi single by R. J. Englert and a bases loaded walk to Chris Sans.

Hooton was in constant trouble after staked to the big lead with David Chalk rapping a bases loaded triple and Walt Rothe driving home two with a double.

The Longhorn righthander from Corpus Christi was touched for 11 hits and six runs, while walking five in the opener. He threw an unbelievable 148 pitches in the seven inning opener and only a pitcher of his capability could do the job he did. It seemed near the end that he was about to give out but seemed always to get the curve ball over the plate at the right time.

Aggie reliever Norm Montgomery took over for Katt and turned in a sterling performance allowing the Longhorns only two hits over the final three and two-thirds innings.

The Aggies' biggest threat late in the game came in the sixth when they loaded the bases with

one out with a 9-5 deficit. Sans was up and he rattled a hard shot to Rothe in right but the ball was caught and there was no chance for the runner to try to score. Carroll Lilly followed with a clutch hit to cut the lead to 9-6 but the rally ended shortly thereafter.

The second game was a Beard masterpiece. It was a turn of events for the lefty, who in his last Southwest Conference outing, was bombed by weak-hitting Rice, allowing them five hits and runs and walking seven before he left in the sixth. Monday, though, you had to wonder where he got a 4.80 era as he stifled the Aggs on three hits before giving way to the seemingly untireable Hooton in the eighth with a 3-0 lead.

The Aggies managed few hard hit balls off Beard and not until Sans beat out a roller down the first base line in the fourth did the Aggies manage a hit. Then Dave Elmendorf punched a slooping single to center in the sixth and R. J. Englert ripped a hard liner to right, in the eighth. Englert's blow, plus an error put him on third, ending Beard's stay as Gustavson went to Hooton for the final four outs.

Chalk at third handled five chances and Mike Markl at second eight in the nightcap as the Longhorns played flawless defense.

Two Aggie errors, however,

opened the Texas scoring in the nightcap with Langerhans driving home the first run in the fifth with a single and then the third run of the contest with a double high off the centerfield screen in the seventh. Rothe had the other rbi and the former pitcher finished his day with five hits in seven times at the plate, raising his average to .492 in conference play. Last year he was a pitcher.

The combined effort of Beard and Hooton in the second game marked off pitching performance by Paul Czerkinski before the beyond capacity crowd estimated at 5,000 persons in the game. Czerkinski, victim of the two unearned runs in the fifth, allowed only six hits and remarkably in the clutch early early in the game.

The Longhorns will now advance to the next round of the NCAA playoffs with the confrontation to be either a three or four team tournament, that could include possibly number one ranked Pan American, the University of Houston or the Southland Conference champion.

Rice wins tennis title; Ragland and Fikes second

By CLIFFORD BROYLES

Outstanding Rice freshman Harold Solomon and three-time All-American senior Zan Guerry defeated the number-one-seeded doubles team, Texas A&M's Jon Ragland and Dickie Fikes, in a split set tennis match for the doubles championship of the Southwest Conference on varsity courts Saturday afternoon.

The Owls made it a clean sweep when Solomon defeated Guerry in the singles finals Saturday morning after all four Rice singles entries gained semifinal berths in play Friday.

Solomon and Guerry took the first set 6-3 after breaking from a 3-3 deadlock in the match and then the twosome battled the second set down to the wire.

Playing by the tie breaker rule that says when the score is tied 6-6, you play a tie breaker. That's one game with the winner to be the first team to score five points.

The Aggies jumped to a 3-1 lead in the tie breaker game with Solomon serving twice, but the Owls scored twice to tie it 3-3. The Aggies then got to serve and the teams split the points to send it to a 4-4 tie and the deciding serve with a Rice point giving them the set 7-6 and the match, but an Aggie win putting them into a third set.

But the return shot on an Aggie serve by Solomon slipped off the edge of his racket and the Aggies were still alive.

Then in the third set Solomon and Guerry twice broke the Aggies' serves as they battled to a 5-2 lead and a seemingly easy win the third set. But Fikes and Ragland came back winning a game while Solomon was serving to cut the margin to 5-4 but the Owl duo held on to win 6-4.

Solomon took the singles title with a 6-3 4-6 6-3 win the single final and showed his su-

periority in the doubles finale when he contributed an abundance of crucial points with his unusual doublehanded style that enables him to get tremendous velocity on his shots.

Solomon reached the final with Friday win over teammate Jorge Berman and Guerry defeated another Owl Gul Pellizzi. Despite the Owls success they left three time All-American Mike Estep in Houston where he is finishing up some work, as he is graduating this spring.

Fikes and Ragland advanced to the doubles finals with the aid of the breaker when they defeated Tim Vann and Jay Paulson of Southern Methodist. The Mustang duo won the first 6-4 and Ragland and Fikes battled back to tie the match and then won the tiebreaker 5-1 in the third set.

All Aggie singles players were eliminated in the first day of the three day event.



TENNIS COACH Omar Smith congratulates A&M's top tennis aces, Jon Ragland and Dickie Fikes, on a job well done after Saturday's championship round in the SWC Tennis Championships. Ragland and Fikes finished second in doubles behind the Rice team of Harold Solomon and Zan Guerry.

UH now in conference after unanimous vote

The Southwest Conference voted the University of Houston into the league Monday the first change in the membership since Texas Tech was admitted 15 years ago.

The vote was unanimous.

The Cougars needed only six votes from the eight conference members.

Houston, a long-time independent, will not compete for the conference football championship until 1976, although it already has games scheduled with members such as a Sept. 11 contest with Rice.

Alan Chapman, Rice faculty representative to the conference, made the motion for Houston to

be admitted and this was seconded by J. Neils Thompson, faculty representative of Texas, who was the prime supporter of Houston's bid to become a league member.

Southwest Conference faculty representatives and athletic directors had resumed their discussion of the Houston question at 8:30 a.m. Monday after a nine-hour session Sunday.

The Houston situation apparently hit a last-minute snag Sunday. Newsmen had been told to stand by for a news conference at 1 p.m. but no announcement was made.

Houston has about 25,000 students and is a noted golf and basketball power.

The Cougars also have made such great strides in football recently that major powers such as Mississippi and Mississippi State have dropped them from their schedules because Houston no longer is an easy early season contestant.

The school is one of the few major schools in the country making money off its athletic program. The Cougars have an attractive football arena in the spacious Astrodome—the only such stadium in the world with a roof.

It is the fourth time that Houston has been a member of an athletic conference. The Cougars were in the Lone Star Conference 1946-48, Gulf Coast Conference 1949-50, and in the Missouri Valley Conference 1951-50.

Houston became athletically a major college in 1951 by NCAA designation.

In basketball, Houston owns a 163-44 record for the last six years and has played in six of the last seven NCAA tournaments. Houston holds a 179-51 record against Texas schools in basketball.

In the last five years, the football team has compiled a 38-12-2 mark and finished in the top 20 in The Associated Press polls in the last five years.

The Cougars, current NCAA golf champions, have won the title 12 out of the last 15 tries.

Officials vote to change golf championship format during weekend business conclave here

The Southwest Conference drastically changed its format for determining the golf championship Monday in an apparent move to get Texas back into league competition in the sport.

Howard Grubbs, executive secretary of the conference, said "We will decide the golf championships possibly with two tournaments."

Grubbs said one tournament may be held in the fall and another in the spring.

"I will go to work immediately with the golf coaches in the conference to determine a course of action," Grubbs said. "There will be no more round-robin golf championships."

The round robin procedure prompted Texas to withdraw from conference championship play this year because the Longhorns felt a medal play format would be much more suitable.

Grubbs said, however, that under the new formula, the athletes will be limited to 12 days per semester in which they can miss classes to play. Only five players will be allowed to go on a trip to a tournament site.

Grubbs announced these other actions:

—The SWC business meetings no longer will be held in conjunction with the track championships.

—The track schedule was

changed back to the old formula whereby each school determines its own schedule. The only mandatory requirement is that a school can compete only on 10 dates. Also, it was suggested that each school schedule at least two home meets per year.

—Limited tennis and cross-country travel squads to five men.

—Passed a resolution thanking

Dr. Davis and welcoming new conference President Harold Jeskey of Southern Methodist and Vice President Thompson of Texas into their offices.

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"HONEST ABE" Would Have Been Proud.
 Lincoln Union (the new & exciting Texas A&M Debating Society) Announces an organizational meeting Tuesday, May 4, 8:00 p. m. in the Birch Room, MSC. An audio tape of the famous Buckley-Galbraith Cambridge Union Debate will be played.

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