

Intramural director seeks changes

Intramural tennis at A&M has seen changes this year and will change in the future, Aggie Intramural Director Les Palmer said.

"This year there are two divisions, upperclassmen and freshmen, playing preliminaries in 14 leagues," Palmer said in a private interview last week. "Because each meet is worth two points, we have had several ties to be broken with extra matches. If we still had a tie, the number

of games won would decide who would advance in a team bracket.

"But we realized that a team might have a singles player who won all his matches and doubles team who lost all theirs," he explained, "so there was a possibility that someone undefeated might not get to compete in the team championships. For that reason we also have individual singles and doubles brackets. Since the people in the individual tournament won in their league, the best player out of all those various leagues should be the best intramural player in the university."

Can outside players compete for a dorm or another team?

"The rules are that you play with the unit in which you live," Palmer said. "This is the basic rule. The only problem we run into at the present time are military students who are married and live with their wives, but are

attached to a unit. We have ruled that they can play with their unit as long as they are assigned to it. A civilian is supposed to play with his dormitory."

Since Fowler Hall is the campus residence for Aggie collegiate athletes, it doesn't have an intramural program. What about the men living there who didn't make the college team but want to play in intramurals for another dorm?

"We allow these people to try out for collegiate teams," Palmer explained, "and give them a time limit in which they must make their decision whether they want to be a candidate for a freshman or varsity team or whether they want to continue in intramural performance."

Why is there a division between corps and civilian units in most Aggie intramurals?

"We are changing from an all-male, all-military college to a coed, off-campus, weekend university. Tradition probably has something to do with that. In sports like tennis, track and swimming we put everybody together because we are seeking university champions."

What does Palmer think of the future of intramurals at A&M?

"I hope the intramural programs change a great deal. I have requested from the Board of Directors a new complex, a lighted area that will have eight lighted football fields that can be converted to four softball diamonds."

"It will be a first-class facility with first-class lighting and underground watering systems. None of the facilities we play on now are, in my opinion, adequate for a university of this type."

"The University of Texas just built four Laykold-covered light-

ed tennis courts for their intramurals. I have requested 11 lighted courts immediately, but that's only a request."

"The program we can make is just a matter of finances, more or less, and this is where the students need to help. The money for intramurals comes from student service fees."

"The budget for intramural administrative salaries at Texas Tech is about \$72,000 annually. Our budget should be in that range, but it is only about \$34,000 this year and I understand there won't be much of an increase next year."

"Tech sets aside \$1.75 per student for intramurals with no questions asked. Our budget is whatever the budget committee approves and that's it. If the students want a better program, they are going to have to make their wishes known."

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Rugby champ to be decided Saturday

For the second year running, the Rugby Club of A&M is up for the Northern Division Texas

Rugby Championship. Last year the Aggies swept this division, consisting of seven

clubs, to be the undefeated champions. The road in 1972 has been a little harder.

A&M is presently half a game behind Austin Gold who have completed play. Both A&M and the Golds have lost one game. San Antonio beat the Austin team and the Aggies lost to Austin.

Last Saturday, Austin Black tied Austin Gold while A&M beat San Antonio. This set up the championship game which will be held at A&M this Saturday.

Austin Black travels to College Station to meet the Aggies at 3:30 p.m. on the drill field. The

Aggies must win outright to retain the Northern Championship. A tie or loss will give Austin Gold the title.

Should A&M be victorious, they will face the Southern Champions, who have yet to be decided, for the Texas State Rugby Championship on April 29.

Prior to the Austin Black-A&M game on Saturday, the A&M White team will take on Austin Gold at 2 p.m.

The A&M club will be on hand to explain the rules of the game and to mend the wounded on the field.

Sonics coach has theory: fitness, defense make winner

SEATTLE (AP) — Tom Nissalke, newly appointed coach of the Seattle SuperSonics of the National Basketball Association, has a three-step theory: Physical fitness leads to good defense which means winning.

"And winning is all I care about," Nissalke said Thursday at a news conference called to announce he had signed a multi-year contract with Seattle. Terms of the pact were not announced.

Nissalke, 37, was named American Basketball Association Coach of the Year after leading the Dallas Chaparrals to a playoff spot in his first head-coaching job.

Defense was a major factor in the Dallas rise. The Chaps were last in defense the previous year but led the league in defense the past season. And before defense there was conditioning.

"I'm a firm believer in physical fitness," said Nissalke, who likes to run about 25 miles a week during the summer.

"There's no reason if a player wants to why he can't play until he's 38 or 40.

Nissalke, who served as an assistant to Larry Costello of the Milwaukee Bucks before going to Dallas, said it made no difference to him whether he was connected with the NBA or the ABA.

"I think there'll be a merger or consolidation within a year or two anyway," he said.

Nissalke succeeds Lenny Wilkens, who relinquished his coaching duties but will continue playing.

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Dierschke inks with Aggies

Two outstanding track prospects have signed letters of intent to attend Texas A&M University, it was announced Thursday by assistant track coach Ted Nelson.

Sammy Dierschke, two-time state champion in the 100 and 220dashes from Sealy, is a six-foot, 2-inch, 185-pounder who was sought by more than 30 major colleges.


Dierschke was named to the high school All-American team last year as a junior. He has times of 9.4 in the 100, 21.0 in the 220, 48.0 in the 440, and has run a 46.7 mile relay leg.

The other signee is Jack Graham, a 6-2, 196-pounder from Albuquerque, N. M. He was the state champion in the javelin and has thrown 245 feet.

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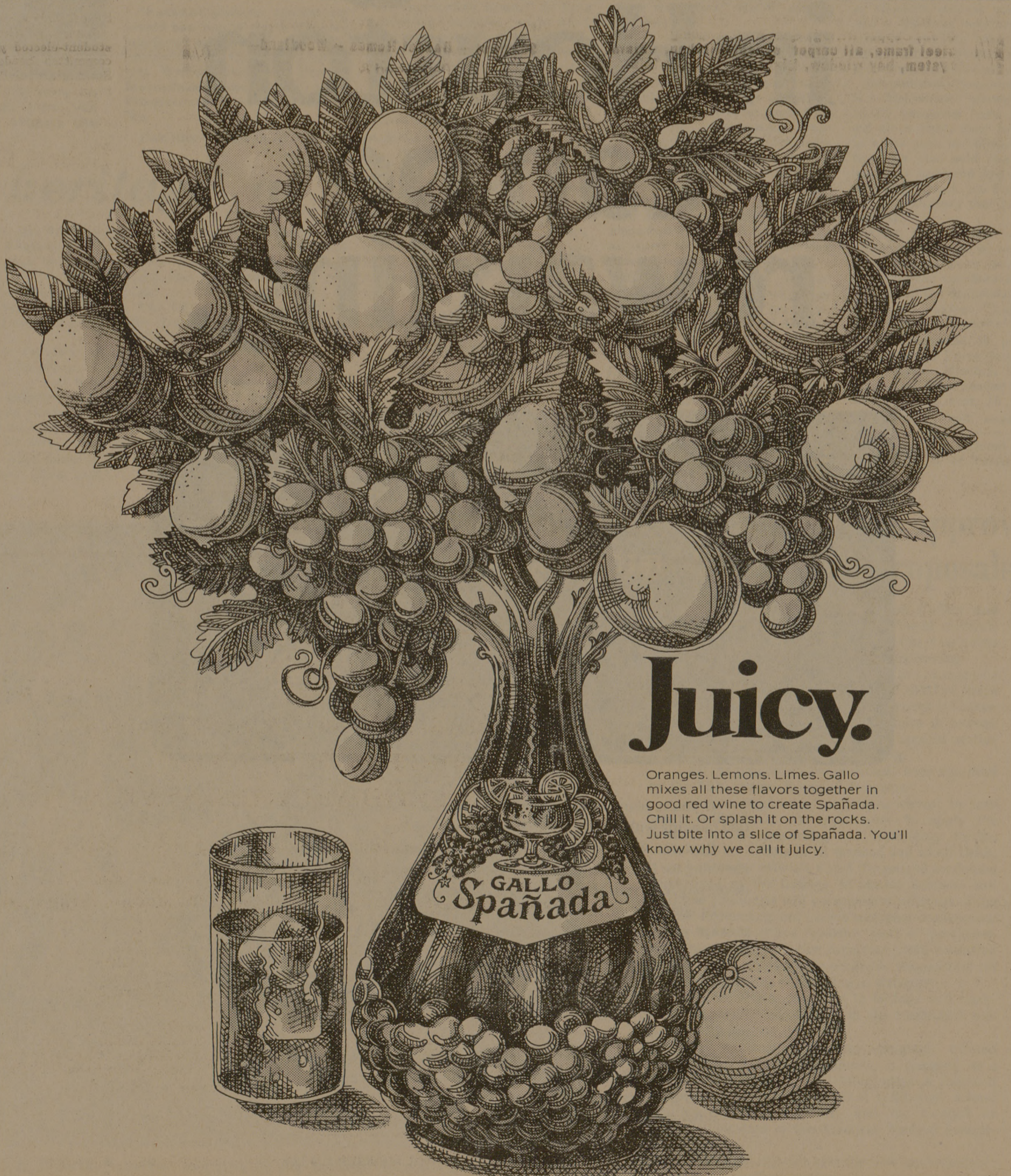
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