

Netters suffer first season loss

The A&M Tennis team, after running up an undefeated streak and a record of 49-1, including an 8-1 romp over Pan American on Friday, fell victim to the split set and dropped a 7-2 decision to Trinity on Saturday.

The Aggies, sporting a record free of match losses, entertained the Broncs and were kicked in the mouth by the guests when Paco Ceron outkicked and outsmarted Bill Hoover in the numbed one match, 6-4, 6-0. Plagued by cold winds and misfired returns, Hoover returned in great form Saturday to dispatch the nation's seventh-ranked Tigers top seed, John Burman, 6-3, 7-6.

Two upperclassmen and four freshmen teamed to dispatch the remaining Pan Am players all in

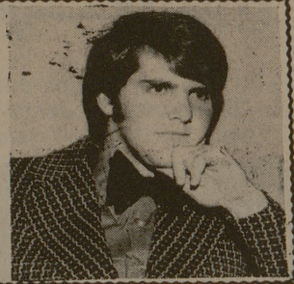
straight sets.

Most impressive over the weekend was Dan Courson, the only Aggie to win his matches both days. Courson beat Pan Am's Bill Hartmann 6-4, 6-4 and Trinity's Jim Timmons 6-4, 6-3 to stay undefeated in dual match singles competition.

Courson teamed with brother Tom to down Ceron and Joe Pester but met with defeat when they took on Trinity's Burman and Timmons Saturday.

The Aggies travel to two tournaments this weekend. On Feb. 28 and March 1 and 2 the first team will compete in the Corpus Christi Intercollegiate tourney in Corpus. A second team will compete in Kingsville at the Texas A&I Intercollegiate tournament.

Kevin's Korner



By KEVIN COFFEY, Sports Editor

Not many Generals retire at 22. But tonight the commander of "Arciniega's Army," the loveable Joe Arciniega, hangs up his white Texas A&M uniform.

About 7:05 Arciniega will lead the Aggie basketball team onto G. Rollis White's hollow floor for the last time. Another home season of cage action ends.

Arciniega is not your run of the mill basketball player. One reason is that he rarely plays. Not every bench warmer has his own fan club.

Being co-captain is also a rarity for a sub but like I said, Arciniega is rare.

Joe takes his duties seriously. "I just try and keep everyone happy on and off the court. Togetherness and team spirit is mainly what I try to instill."

How in the world does one become head of Arciniega's Army. "Well I came here trying to play ball but since they didn't let me," Joe says between grins, "I had to find something."

Coach Shelby Metcalf throughout the course of the season told of Arciniega's value. "Joe is a leader and stabilizing factor of the team. He is the sort of person you don't meet every day. He helps the team in his special way."

Joe has led a different type of life from the average basketball player. "It sure has been different," Joe said. "Not many players get in this situation. Even if coach Metcalf doesn't like me, the students do," he says, trying to hold back the laughter.

"Every team has to have something colorful. I guess I'm that something."

Arciniega came from the "hotbed of high school basketball, Los Angeles, Calif. Hotly recruited by some eight schools, Arciniega came to Aggieland because "of the overabundance of girls."

Arciniega is not alone in making his final appearance at A&M. C. W. Guthrie, Charlie Jenkins and Randy Knowles are finishing their respective college careers.

Jenkin's value tripled when Mike Floyd was injured. His ability to take control of the team was amazing.

Knowles is the teams leading scorer for the second straight year. He is looking for pro ball.

Guthrie was out most of last year with mononucleosis and has had trouble getting back into the swing. He holds one distinction in A&M basketball, he is the fastest dresser on the team.

Arciniega's career has "been one big memory". The 1971 fight with Baylor in Waco and the real establishment of his fan club stand most prominent in his mind.

"When I scored four points against Rice and the fan club signs started popping up was a real thrill," Joe said. "I have a lot to remember and a lot to be proud of."

"I have met loads of people both on and off the court. This will stay with me when I leave here. I guess I just really like people. You just can't have enough friends. College basketball last only four years but I've made friends that will last forever. Friends are the most important thing in my life."

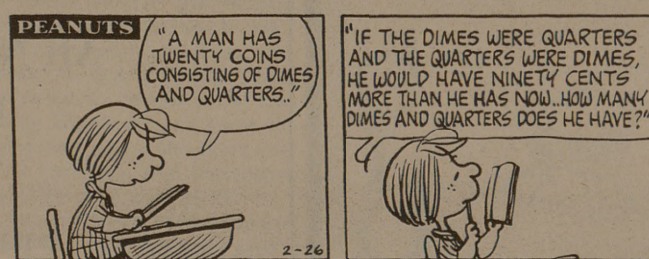
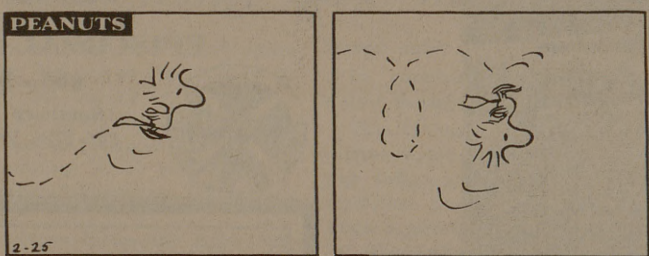
Joe's plans after graduation are still cloudy. "I'll wait until after the pro draft and then I'll make up my mind. If I can make a lot of money in the NBA, I'll keep playing."

Seriously, Joe plans to enter the Mexican food business with Eddie Dominquez. Dominquez owns the Tupinamba Restaurant in Dallas and serves the best Mexican chow I've ever eaten.

"I'm going to miss the fans and the association with all the players I met through the year," said Joe. "But I'll be back enough to give coach hell."

PEANUTS

By Charles M. Schulz



Army blasts Air Force in Elephant Bowl

By WILL ANDERSON

The senior Army cadets continued their dominance of the Elephant Bowl Saturday, beating the Air Force seniors, 14-0.

The Elephant Bowl is an annual football game played for charity which pits the Army "crunchies" against the "air crappers" of the other side of the military quad. Navy and Marine cadets team up with the Army.

Army won the first bowl in 1972, 21-20. Last year's game was a scoreless tie.

The name, "Elephant Bowl," symbolizes that the players are "dead elephants"—seniors who will graduate in the spring and be of no further use to the 12th Man.

One of the faculty members who served as an official was Dr. Jim Hennigan, professor of industrial engineering. "It's a terrific idea," he said, "for two reasons. It's played for a good cause and it's conceived and generated by the students."

Hennigan said all the faculty officials were qualified referees. Coaching is provided by seniors who played for the Aggie football team. Larry Ellis was head coach for the Air Force and his staff included Ronnie Goodwyn, Bud Trammel, Boice Best and Darrell Taliafero. Tim Trimmer headed the Army and was aided by Kevin Smith, Robert Dennis and Charley Murphy.

Army quarterbacks Hector Cavazos and Jim Greenwood played in the same high school district. Quarterbacks for the Air Force were Mark Richardson and Jerry Gomez.

Army took the opening drive from their 20 and controlled the ball for almost the entire first quarter. The Army attack showed itself early in the game to be the running of David Ridgeway, Ricky Starks and quarterback Hector Cavazos.

Army drove to a 4th and goal on the one in 10 plays but Starks'

plunge for the goal was stopped by Kent Hamilton, John Walker and Samuel York.

The second half began with a couple of exchanges, which set up the first Army score.

With a 4th and 7 on the 23, an AF attempt to punt was busted and the punter tried a desperation pass. Haass intercepted the pass on the 25 and returned it 10 yards before being tackled.

Cavazos carried the ball four plays for the score. Tom Shirk

added the extra point to make it 7-0.

The game developed into a series of punts, fumbles and interceptions. The Air Force drove to within 14 yards of the goal but the Army defense tightened and got the ball on downs.

A few minutes later, the Army took possession on their 47 with 59 seconds to play. On the second play, Cavazos hurled a pass to George Frels for the final TD.

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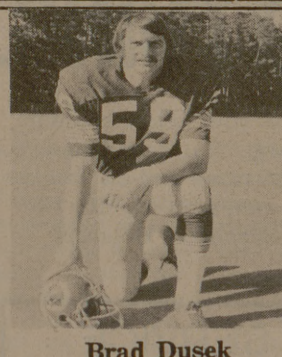
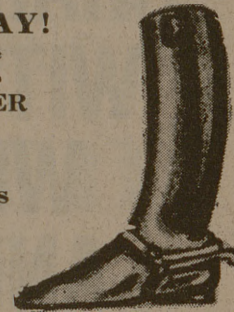
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